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Concert time

The final concert marking the end of a week-long conference hosted by People International takes place Friday, July 13, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

People International is a nonprofit group which promotes a lifestyle with a "strong moral base" for which she's the national coordinator. The group strongly believes in what it calls "Four Absolutes": Unselfishness, Honesty, concerned Love and Self-discipline. The group promotes the kind of lifestyle that incorporates all four ideals.

The conference-ending performance features performers ranging from professional to amateurs who've never been on stage before. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for kids and seniors 60 and older. The Village Theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. For more information call Amy Wood, (734) 748-3828 or e-mail amymligan@comcast.net

Bark for Life

Anyone interested in raising money that can help create a world with more birthdays could consider creating or joining a team on the American Cancer Society's Canton Bark For Life web page. Bark For Life teams raise funds to celebrate survivorship and to contribute to the American Cancer Society's mission of helping people stay well, get well, find cures, and fight back against cancer. It's easy and there's no fundraising minimum required. Anyone raising \$100 or more will receive a 2012 Bark For Life T-shirt.

Bark For Life of Canton takes place 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, at Heritage Park in Canton. Pre-registration is available online. Find Bark For Life on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pages/Bark-For-Life-Canton/112774065475859.

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Canton faces 'scary' legacy costs

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Canton faces a staggering \$74 million price tag for long-term health care costs for retirees and current employees, if projections contained in a newly released audit hold true.

That marks a sharp increase over a \$53 million projection in 2008.

"It's a scary number," township Trustee Pat Williams said.

The latest figures came Tuesday as an outside auditing firm, Plante Moran, gave the seven-member Canton Township Board of Trustees its latest audit report for the fiscal year that ended last Dec. 31.

Canton has started to allocate money for so-called legacy costs, even as the township continues to struggle against declining property tax revenues and deficits in funds such as the golf course.

However, a move to allocate \$2.1 million last year for health care costs fell far short of the \$4.7 million a year local officials need to set aside to adequately address the issue.

Officials say the situation could improve if other factors, such as a better return on investments, surface.

Williams said the \$74 million health care tab "is a projection and should only be taken as a projection."

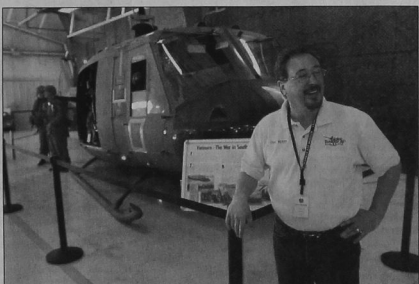
Still far better

Despite the gloomy news, Plante Moran representatives say Canton's finances still are far better than many of the 200 communities across Michigan for which the firm conducts audits.

Michael Swartz, a Plante Moran partner, said Canton fares "more positively than most" Michigan communities.

Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin

Please see LEGACY, A3



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bob Catalano of Westland, volunteer and assistant manager for collections at the Yankee Air Museum, is promoting adoption of the museum's aircraft, including the 'Huey' helicopter, as a way to get the community involved.

Yankee Air Museum puts planes up for 'adoption'

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

When Uncle Sam needed recruits in World War II, he pointed to the masses with his finger. Now that iconic finger is pointing again as the Yankee Air Museum looks for groups of people interested in "adopting" one of its airplanes.

It's a no-cost arrangement, and no need to worry about where to park the planes. They're on display at the museum and its air park on D Street at the Willow Run Airport.

Those who like their



Volunteer Bob Pilz of Lincoln Park works in the metal shop making parts for a French SPAD XII World War I fighter from being built from scratch.

ADOPT A PLANE

People can help the Yankees Air Museum preserve aviation history by adopting a plane.

To sign up or for more information, contact Bob Catalano in the Yankee Air Museum Collections Department at of the Yankee Air Museum, (734) 483-4030 Ext. 260, by cell phone at (570) 947-8790, or by email at bob.catalano@yankeeairmuseum.org.

More information and an application also can be found under the collections tab on the museum's website at www.yankeeairmuseum.org.

The Yankee Air Museum is 4788 D St., off Beck Road, south of Ecose, Ypsilanti. For more information, call (734) 483-4030 or visit the museum website.

"We want the community to get involved," said Bob Catalano, the assistant manager for col-

lections. "We're looking for families, businesses,

Please see YANKEE, A4

Canton, DIA partner to display art

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

When representatives of the Detroit Institute of Arts first started talking to Canton Township officials about partnering in the DIA's "Inside/Out" program, Kathleen Salla thought about some of the display art that lines Ford Road.

As it turns out, the art the DIA is talking about bringing to Canton as part of the program, the DIA's outreach project which installs replicas of its famous works in outdoor public places throughout metro Detroit, wouldn't work well for the kind of drive-by viewing the art on Ford Road gets.

That didn't deter Canton and the DIA from entering into the partnership. Canton was one of 13 local communities chosen for the program.

"We're doing lots of different things to promote the cultural arts in our community," said Kathleen Salla, Canton's DDA coordinator. "We like to promote partnerships and have the DIA know we're a culturally oriented community. We embrace these kinds of projects."

Now in its third year, this popular program sponsored by The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, continues to surprise and delight community members and visitors with strategically placed reproductions of famous works from the DIA's permanent collection.

A total of six weather-protected reproductions will be on display in Canton for residents and visitors to discover around town. On display will be:

- *Animals in Landscape*, by German artist Franz Marc, at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway.
- *Young Woman with a Violin*, by Italian artist Orazio Gentileschi, at the Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center.
- *Talking Oak*, by English artist William Maw Egley, at the Canton Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center.
- *The Merry-makers*, by French artist Carolus-Duran, at the Heritage Park Amphitheater, adjacent to the Canton Administration Building.

Please see DIA, A5



PHOTO COURTESY DIA

"Young Woman with a Violin" by Italian artist Orazio Gentileschi will be on display at the Canton Public Library.

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Appointed incumbent wants to keep seat

Canton resident Greg Demopoulos, appointed last fall to fill the remainder of Todd Caccamo's term, is seeking a return to his seat on the Canton Township Board of Trustees.

He recently offered opinions on a variety of questions:

Observer: Why are you running for a township board seat?

Demopoulos: Simply, I love this community. I'm proud of this community. It's a great place to raise a family. I want to maintain the quality of life and standard of living in Canton.

Observer: What are the three biggest issues facing Canton? How would you address them?

Demopoulos: 1) Budget and fiscal stability. Continue with multiyear budget to avert surprises. Continue with multiyear capital improvement and outlay budgeting. Continue with the philosophy in Canton government that every day is budget day and that if we do not need to spend money, even if it is in the budget, then don't spend it. Address legacy costs to avoid budget surprises. Creative thinking will continue to save money (such as the energy saving and capital improvement

THE DEMOPOULOS FILE

Name: Greg Demopoulos

Hometowns: Canton

Family: Married 24 years; two grown children attending MSU

Profession: Attorney, owner of Gregory Demopoulos PLLC in Canton

Education: Bachelor's in finance, Wayne State; J.D. from University of Detroit Law School

Previous experience: Canton Zoning Board of Appeals, Canton Planning Commission, Canton Township Merit Commission, recreational and golf course advisory committees.

Community involvement: Homeowners association board, coach and tournament director for Canton Cup, parish council at Holy Cross Church.

Website: www.cantontrusteereg.com



Demopoulos

program recently implemented). Strive and continue to be an innovative model community. 2) Roads Infrastructure- With the growth of Canton, now with over 90,000 residents the road infrastructure is a huge issue. Many of our county roads are overwhelmed at rush hour and the Ford Rd/275 corridor needs improvement. Canton is tirelessly working with MDOT to assist and has been pursuing federal "Tiger" grant money to that end. The township

has pursued this for 10 years and it appears that things are progressing in a manner where we may be able to attain these goals.

3) Quality of Life- People live in Canton because of the quality of life it offers. We are striving to maintain and improve the quality of life for our residents. We have a top Public Safety Department with very quick response times. We have a great leisure services program. Through our budget and fiscal

planning Canton looks to maintain this level of services without an undue tax on our residents. Strongly encouraged ban on K2, spice and bath salts. As a prosecutor, I saw firsthand what this was doing to our youth.

Observer: What strengths would you bring to the board that set you apart from the other candidates?

Demopoulos: Leadership, teamwork, knowledge of Canton government and the law. I am a very good problem solver which is what I do every day as a lawyer. I have 24 years of municipal experience in Canton and have worked my way through the ranks of appointed Canton government after being on many boards and commissions.

Observer: Much has been said about the need for communities to consolidate services to save money. What areas should Canton explore that aren't already in place?

Demopoulos: Consolidation is OK if it is properly studied and debated and does not reduce or impair our level of service, produces real tangible savings and Canton residents do not subsidize other participating communities. One possible area may be for police/fire/EMS dis-

patch. Canton has certified water inspectors and Westland does not. We share these inspectors for a fee with Westland. This makes sense. We also have mutual aid pacts with our neighbors that also makes sense in the event of an emergency.

Observer: Canton has taken steps — a public safety tax increase, employee concessions, budget cuts — to avert financial problems. Going forward, what steps are needed to guarantee Canton maintains the financial stability it needs to provide the level of services residents have come to expect?

Demopoulos: Canton needs to fight unfunded mandates that are imposed by the state without a system in place for replacement funding. The cutback or elimination of revenue sharing or the elimination of personal property taxes are an example of potential unfunded mandates. Canton taxpayers have paid several millions in the Proposal P county tax millage yet has seen a tiny fraction of that money come back to Canton. Canton deserves its fair share of this tax money for our citizens and our quality of life.

CORRECTION

The contact information listed with the candidate Q&A for Tom Yack in the Sunday, July 1, Canton Observer contained contact information for fellow candidate Joe Cafarelli. Yack can be reached at (734) 495-1137.

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

WRESTLING CAMP

Date/Time: July 16-19, 5:30-8 p.m.
Location: Salem High School

Details: Salem Wrestling is holding a summer wrestling camp for all 7-12th graders that are attending and/or going to be attending Salem High School. The cost is \$25 which includes a camp T-shirt. All current Salem wrestlers are required to attend and will concentrate on technique and conditioning. It will be run by current Salem Assistant Varsity Coach and High School State Wrestling Champion Jeremy Henderson.

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AROUND CANTON

GRIEF SUPPORT

Date/Time: Saturday, July 28, 9 a.m. to noon

Location: Room C-319 at Ward Church, 4000 Six Mile in Northville

Details: Ward Presbyterian Church sponsors a one-day grief seminar. From Grief to New Hope, presented by Cathy Clough, founder/executive director of New Hope Center for Grief Support and co-author of "Grieving Forward: Death Happened, Now What?" All adults who are learning to cope after the death of a loved one are encouraged to attend. There is no charge for the seminar.
Contact: Call New Hope at (248) 348-0115.



Robotics lesson

Plymouth-Canton robotics students get a visit from state Rep. Dian Stevens last week, giving the two-term Canton Democrat a tour of their workshop and lessons on how to drive Eddie, the robot the team built for the 2012 FIRST Robotics season. Team members provided a brief presentation about FIRST robotics, Team 862's involvement in the community and the importance of STEM principles in their education.

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Owners happy as Chevy Volt sales power up

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Some early buyers of the Chevrolet Volt from Lou LaRiche Chevrolet are giving the car rave reviews, and the Plymouth Township dealership is on pace this year to double its Volt sales.

The Volt is a General Motors Corp. plug-in electric hybrid that relies on both battery and gasoline power and has a listed range of over 350 miles. The gas engine kicks in when the battery charge drops to a certain level, but instead of powering the car through a transmission, the engine turns a generator that runs the electric motor, taking over for the battery. The Volt also features regenerative braking, which recaptures the energy used in braking to further recharge the battery.

"After doing the math, it paid for itself," said Dave Brown of Redford Township, who bought his Volt from LaRiche in April 2011.

A gauge on the dashboard of Brown's Volt shows the car has more



Dave Brown of Redford Township, who owns a metal-fabricating company in Canton Township, with his 2011 Chevrolet Volt, purchased in April 2011 from Lou LaRiche Chevrolet. Brown has put more than 17,000 miles on the car while using only 54 gallons of gasoline.

than 17,500 miles and has used just 54 gallons of gas.

'It's the technology'

"I love it. You have power when you need it," said Victoria Wheeler of Canton Township, who took delivery of a Volt last August. Wheeler used to drive a Chevrolet Suburban that got 13 to 15 miles per gallon; the Volt's gas mileage for her has been about 185 miles per gal-

lon, she said, and electricity costs are minimal.

"It's the technology," said Wheeler's husband Dennis. "This is where, I believe, everybody will be" with cars in the near future.

"He's been watching it ever since it came out as a concept car," Victoria Wheeler said.

The Wheelers own Dennis's Service, an automobile repair shop on Starkweather in Plymouth, and

Dennis Wheeler said he wants to see the Volt more time in order to understand it. Victoria Wheeler, who does office work at the shop, is the car's primary driver.

"The idea is to find out what goes wrong and learn how to fix it," Dennis Wheeler said. But so far the car has needed no maintenance and can even go many thousands of miles between

oil changes, although GM recommends the oil be changed every two years no matter the mileage.

The Wheelers said the Volt would make a good commuter car or small family car for anyone. Charging it hasn't been a problem, as the Volt can accommodate 110- and 220-volt systems. So far, they said, the electricity at public charging stations has been free, including the stations at Schoolcraft College, where Victoria Wheeler takes a class in American Sign Language. (The Wheelers paid a small fee for a card to access public charging stations, and expect that card to be debited for electricity at some point.)

Price vs. efficiency

Like Dennis Wheeler, Lou, who owns a metal-fabricating business in Canton, has followed the Volt for some time. He had also followed the EV1, a GM electric car from the 1990s that had limited availability, and had told himself that if there was ever another electric, he would get one.

His Volt is his first new car. "The car is ideal for me," he said.

The Volt isn't cheap; LaRiche general manager Scott LaRiche said they start at just under \$40,000 (a \$7,500 federal tax incentive is available).

However, Brown said that when he compared the Volt to the Chevrolet Cruze, a traditional gasoline compact, the Volt's fuel economy would make up the cost difference in about two years. "I'm way ahead of that right now," he said.

LaRiche said despite slower-than-expected sales, which caused GM to temporarily halt Volt production at its Detroit/Hamtramck Assembly Plant, interest in the car is picking up. Nationwide, GM sold 7,620 Volts in 2011, LaRiche said, and in the first six months of this year is on pace to double that. The same is true at LaRiche: The dealership has delivered 12 Volts this year, he said, compared to 12 in all of 2011.

"It's a unique vehicle that gives them excellent gas mileage," he said.

LEGACY

Continued from page A1

said some communities have issued bonds to cover long-term legacy costs and lock in a set amount to pay.

"They know they're going to be making like a house payment, basically," she said.

Yet, local officials are far from going that route.

"Everything's on the table," Supervisor Phil LaJoy said.

"We want to make sure we're doing the right thing with the people's money."

Among other highlights of the

2011 audit:

- General fund revenues rebounded to \$24.8 million compared to \$23.3 million a year earlier, though they still lagged behind the \$27 million figure of 2008. Canton received a boost in 2011 after an 18.1 percent population spike from the latest U.S. Census brought in an additional \$1.9 million in state-shared revenue.

- Canton's general fund balance — the amount it has for discretionary spending — plunged from \$5.3 million in 2010 to \$2.5 million in 2011, largely because local officials moved nearly \$1.9 mil-

lion ahead for the 2012 budget. Moreover, local leaders had to siphon money from the general fund to pay for shortfalls elsewhere, such as a \$570,000 deficit in the golf course fund.

- Plante Moran associate Marie Stiegel told the board that, even as property values rebound, Canton — like other communities — will see a two-year lag before tax revenues improve.

Spur development

- Based on modest projections, Canton is expected by 2018 to return to the taxable value it had in 2007. While that

seems a long way off, it's an improved projection over past audits.

McLaughlin and others have long said Canton needs to spur new development to grow its way out of declining property tax revenues.

- Canton's general fund balance of \$2.5 million for 2011 meant the township had discretionary dollars amounting to 0.3 percent of its budget — less than the 15 percent level it has sought to achieve but still better than many Michigan communities.

"I'm sure there are a lot of communities out there that

would love to see that (0.3 percent figure)," Trustee John Anthony said.

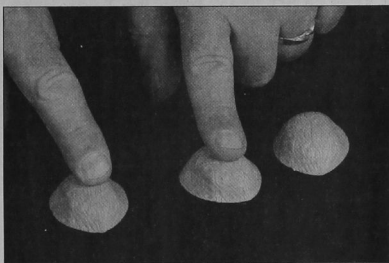
- Plante Moran audit manager Alisha Davis said Canton's state-shared revenue is expected to continue an upward trend for now, barring unforeseen forces.

However, Davis said Canton stands to lose money if the state eliminates the personal property tax paid by businesses.

"You would stand to lose a half million dollars if this goes through," she said.

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YANKEE

Continued from page A1

scout groups, veterans organizations, Civil Air Patrol, or ROTC groups to help clean the planes one day in the spring and one day in the fall, do painting as needed, and, as capable, do some minor repairs."

Catalano got the idea from the museum at the Selfridge Air National Guard Base. The museum curator "has a nice program like this in place" and a waiting list for adoptive groups.

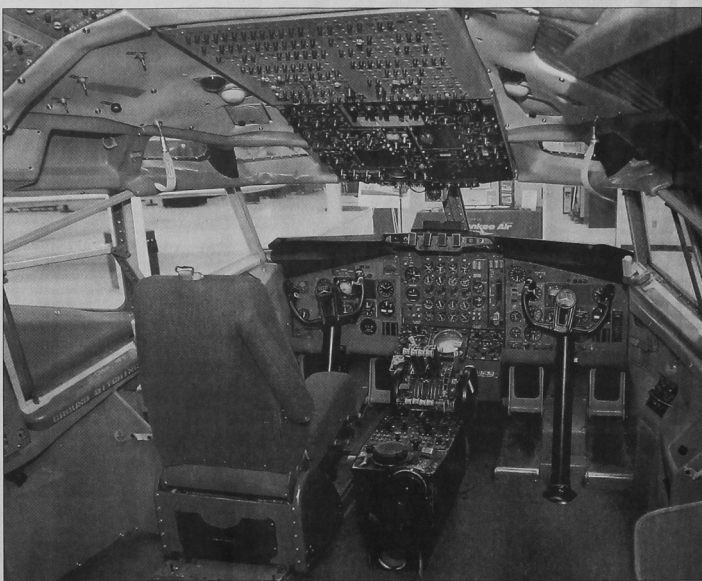
"I live in Westland and some of the people on that list are from Westland," he said. "There's people from Ohio on it. We figured if we did it here, it's closer, we can have them come here."

The Yankee Air planes are on static display in the air park outside the museum now located in the former Michigan Institute of Aviation and Technology on the north side of the airport.

Volunteers have been rebuilding the museum after its collection of artifacts, memorabilia and several planes were destroyed in a fire in 2004.

Catalano is worried that people don't realize the museum is still in existence. He hopes to introduce more people to the Yankee Air Force through the Adopt a Plane program and he might do just that, considering 100 volunteers showed up earlier this year for Bomber Buffing 2012, polishing the museum's B-17 would look its best for the flying season.

"I want to try to get this rolling," said Cata-



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A display is the museum lets visitors see the cockpit of a Boeing KC-135 Stratotanker, that was used for aerial refueling.

lano. "I want people to know about this museum. I lived in Pennsylvania and the only way I knew about the museum was through my wife, she was from Northville."

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A 'gunner' sits in the side door of the 'Huey' helicopter that's on display in the Yankee Air Museum.



One display pays tribute to Vina Greer, a Rosie the Riveter, and stands in front of a 1943 Stinson V77/AT-19 Reliant.



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Rick Bloom

Rick Bloom has served clients in the area of financial planning since 1984. He gives numerous seminars and speeches on financial planning and investments for a variety of professional, civic and business organizations. Rick has been selected as one of the Top 250 Financial Planners by Worth Magazine, and currently writes a financial column each Thursday and Sunday in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Rick has been quoted in the Wall Street Journal and other national publications on financial planning and the Stock Market. He is also a frequent spokesperson on financial matters on local TV and radio shows.



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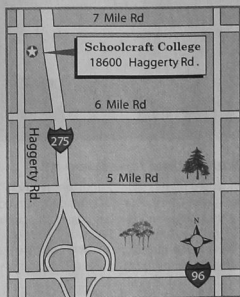
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Neighbors offered 'Block Party' challenge

This summer Canton Leisure Services is inviting area neighborhoods to face off against one another and take "the Ultimate Block Party" Neighborhood Challenge, where neighbors can band together and compete for a chance to win the ultimate summer block party.

Building on the momentum of the "Canton Come Out and Play" initiative, which promotes active outdoor fun, organizers hope to encourage residents to head outside with their neighbors, family and friends in an effort to win a special block party for their subdivision in 2013.

Neighbors need only attend various Canton Leisure Services outdoor events and programs this summer and "check-in" on behalf of your neigh-

borhood with event staff stationed near signs displaying "Canton Come Out & Play" logos. Available point values will vary by event and residents can earn extra points by creatively displaying neighborhood pride as they check in.

Attend any of the "Monday Music in the Village" concerts at the historic Cherry Hill School, located at 50440 Cherry Hill in Canton. There you can take part in the pre-show activities starting at 6 p.m.

Participation in other programs such as "Chalk Cherry Hill" and "Twilight Zumba" can also help neighborhoods earn bonus points.

"We are really hoping to ignite that competitive spirit at the heart of many of our residents," said Recreation Specialist

Jennifer Provenzano.

This year's Ultimate Block Party winner will receive a free Backyard Beats Concert in 2013, free use of a Canton Park Pavilion or use of a 20 x 40 tent at Cherry Hill School to host a picnic/barbecue; private VIP use of one of Canton's Splash Pads; plus a block of time with the recreation station and bounce. Dates and times are subject to availability.

The 2012 winner of "the Ultimate Block Party" will be announced on July 30 during the "Annual Ice Cream Social," at 6 p.m. at the Cherry Hill School, located at 50440 Cherry Hill.

For a complete listing of Ultimate Block Party Neighborhood Challenge events, visit www.cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.

DIA

Continued from page A1

• *Girl and Laurel*, by American artist Winslow Homer, in Preservation Park, 500 N. Ridge.

• *Saint Jerome*, in *His Study* by Netherlandish artist Jan van Eyck, at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road.

"I think it's a fantastic partnership," said Jill Engel, executive director of the Canton Partnership for the Arts & Humanities. "To be able to bring the DIA out into the communities is just amazing. We're enriching the lives of the people who live in Canton."

Celebrating the richness and diversity of the DIA's extensive collection, the InsideOut pro-



PHOTO COURTESY DIA

"Animals in Landscape," by German artist Franz Marc, will be seen at the Summit on the Park.

gram is aimed at inspiring audiences outside of the museum walls in these "temporary" open-air galleries. Close to scale to the original works of art, these brilliantly copied reproductions will remain on display through September 2012.

Canton officials hope the partnership will

spark more interest in the arts in Canton, and also inspire some trips downtown to the DIA.

"That's what it's all about," Engel said. "There are so many people who haven't been down there. It's bringing the DIA out into the communities, and hopefully it will get people to go down there, as well. It's very exciting."

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Local philanthropy

Women are key players in raising money for community projects

By Jill Halpin
Correspondent

Forget about "mommy wars" and coffee klatches; those are things of the past.

Most women these days are focused on something much more important: building better communities through philanthropy and charitable work.

Moreover, whether it is through their chosen careers or personal volunteer efforts, women are making a big impact in fundraising and community development, as well as teaching others about the importance of giving back along the way.

"The concept of volunteering and providing support is not new to women; they have just taken it to a new level," said Margo Gorchow, vice president for community relations, marketing and development at Botsford Hospital in Farmington.

"Women have been in volunteer roles forever, whether it is through their children's PTA or work with the Red Cross," she added.

As executive director of the Botsford Foundation, Gorchow has been responsible for raising funds for a variety of hospital projects including the building of a new cancer center and two significant projects in the emergency room winging area as well as increasing patient and caregiver education to promote better health within the community.

She has worked in the health care field for over 30 years, first as a nurse and then as a healthcare educator, eventually working her way into the development arena, which she says provides her with the opportunity to improve the overall health of the community through building partnerships both internally and externally.

"It is enormously satisfying and very motivating to know that you are making a difference for those around you," Gorchow said.

Sara Stauffer, director of development at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, agrees with that assessment.

She says that the ability to make a difference in her own community and positively impact her family and neighborhood is very rewarding, and what motivates her to keep going.

Since joining St. Mary Mercy in 2006, Stauffer has been behind several successful fundraising campaigns for a new cancer center, and a new heart and vascular center. She is also involved in the current campaign to build a new South Pavilion which will house a state-of-the-art Emergency



Women from Canton, Plymouth and Northville are part of The Giving Hope Women's Giving Circle, a fund of the Canton Community Foundation. This photo was taken at a past meeting of the group which lets area women combine socializing, education and philanthropy.

Center as well as 80 new private patient rooms and the renovation of the existing North Tower that will renovate semi-private rooms into private rooms.

"I am passionate about my work; it is something I truly believe in. I also give back personally because it feels good to be involved with these programs that are so beneficial to the whole community," she said.

Women givers grow

The trend in women becoming actively involved in philanthropy began in the 1970s as more women entered the workforce and began earning their own money, experts say, and it has continued to grow on both national and local levels. A 2010 study released by Indiana University's Women's Philanthropy Institute (WPI) at the Center on Philanthropy found that "women at virtually every income level are more likely to give to charity and to give more money on average than their male counterparts."

Gorchow also attributes the increased existence of women philanthropists to the rise of women to more powerful career roles.

"As more women become executives, the landscape has changed a bit. The majority of large contributions used to come from men, now we have more women of means looking at making philanthropic gifts at the major level," she said.

In fact, many area women have been a driving force behind a wide variety of local philanthropic projects, raising money for charitable causes and finding ways to give back to their communities in new ways.

Their projects span the gamut from building new hospital wings to starting and sustaining charitable foundations benefiting hundreds throughout the metropolitan Detroit area to building a facility for abused and battered women, their families and pets.

Longtime Canton resident and active community volunteer Loren Wadington agrees that women have become a stronger presence in philanthropic arenas. She believes that women are still generally the primary caregivers of their children, interacting more often with other parents and therefore often the first to become aware of the needs within their own community.

Grass roots concerns

"Historically, women are in tune at a grass roots level; more aware of what is going on at a community level... we tend to be the first ones to hear of a child or a family with a special need and then take action," said Wadington.

As a founding member of Giving Hope: Women's Giving Circle, a Canton and Plymouth based group of women aimed at providing assistance for a variety of needs within the community and a board member with First Step, which provides immediate assistance for abused women, Wadington has a long history of volunteer work.

She said she has seen firsthand the rise of women as philanthropic leaders.

"It is just in our nature. You have heard it said that when women get together, they know everything about each other within an hour, even if they

have never met. When we hear of a problem, we want to take care of it right away."

According to Marion Rozum of Canton, philanthropy used to be viewed as a "boys club."

As the roles of women have grown in the workforce, so has their place in the world of fundraising and community service, she said.

"Now that women have taken charge of their lives, they are finding a way to donate and give back," said Rozum, owner of MSA Delivery Service and an active community volunteer and contributor to a variety of local charities, including Chicks for Charity and Giving Hope: Women's Giving Circle among others.

Canton Community Foundation President Joan Noricks said that women combine passionate hearts with their fundraising efforts, often resulting in a very positive outcome.

"Women also excel at building relationships. Fundraising is not always about the money, it is about finding and matching the right volunteers and donors to the right cause," she said.

Rozum believes that helping people learn and teaching them how to give back is definitely an area where women excel.

"There are a lot of people out there that want to help out and donate their time and money. You have to teach people how to give. Most of the time if you open the door for them, they will jump through to help out," Rozum said.

Like most of the other women mentioned here, Rozum credits her mother with setting a strong example as an active community volunteer. It

is an example she has tried to set with her own children, now grown and active in the community themselves.

Setting an example

Debra Madonna of Plymouth agrees that setting a positive example is key to raising another generation of giving women and men.

Madonna has lived in Plymouth most of her life and has been an active volunteer in a wide variety of community projects, including the Plymouth Community Arts Council and Miracle League of Plymouth, a baseball league for children with special physical and emotional needs.

"We all set examples for our families and others as we do these things. Our children are in the car with us as we do the booster clubs, the helping out, and they learn from us and I think they are learning well," Madonna said.

Noricks, the mother of three grown children said, "I always knew that my children were watching me. I would take them along and they would hear me talk about the importance of giving back."

According to Madonna, it is a lesson that has been well-learned.

"I've worked with a lot of teenagers in our community and they are great at fundraising, pitching in and helping out. They hit the ground running and are very generous."

When it comes to giving, it all comes down to a very simple principle, Rozum said. "Love your neighbor as yourself," said Rozum. "It doesn't take money. Just open your heart and do."

Area women believe in giving back

Women are increasing their role in community fundraising. Here are examples of local women in the Observer area stepping up to the task.

Marion Rozum

Marion Rozum of Canton Township has been the owner of MSA Delivery Service in Canton Township for 20 years. For Rozum, the concept of "giving back" came naturally.

"My mother was a very caring person and so was my father. My mom was active with the Goodfellows and my father was always part of the local blood drives. They just firmly believed in the importance of giving back to your community," Rozum said.

Following her parents' example, she first began volunteering as a Girl Scout Leader before her children were even born and passed the "helping gene" along to her own children, now active volunteers in the community.

"It has a lot to do with how you are brought up. It is all about caring about other people," Rozum said. Rozum is involved with Giving Hope: Women's Giving Circle, an organization of the Canton Community Foundation which is focused on providing grants for immediate assistance within the Plymouth and Canton communities. Rozum is also active in Chicks for Charity, a hands-on group working with



Active volunteer Marion Rozum (center) of Canton with her daughter, Lisa, and son, J. Rozum. Marion Rozum believes in setting a good example of giving back to encourage the next generation of philanthropists.

a variety of organizations in the metropolitan Detroit area; and Angela Hospice, where she has served as a volunteer for the past 12 years. She also helps the Detroit Diaper bank, which provides diapers for families in need and has been active with the local Red Cross blood drive, First Step and Relay for

Life. She is also an active donor to Camp Able, which provides camping opportunities for those with special needs.

She is quick to point out that although she is a very active volunteer, there are many others in the community also finding ways to contribute to the community.

"I am constantly amazed by all of the people that I run into that have spotted a need and found a way to address it," she said. "Philanthropy starts with wanting to help someone else. You don't need money; all it takes is an idea," she said.

Her advice for women looking to get involved in helping out is simply this, "You just make up your mind that you are going to help and you make a commitment... it's just that easy. Soon you'll find that you just can't stop giving."

Joyce Pappas

Like Rozum, Joyce Pappas of Garden City credits her parents with setting a standard for community service as she was growing up in Garden City, where she has lived for the past 60 years.

"When we were very little, my father told us that we needed to choose something — some type of community service. It was our responsibility," Pappas said. "Giving back to the community is something that was stressed in our



Joyce Pappas is an active Garden City volunteer and a member of the Garden City Hospital Board of Trustees.

family. Clearly, it was a lesson she learned well. A member of the board of trustees at Garden City Hospital for the past 12 years, and sales manager at Orin Jewellers, a business started by her father, Pappas has a long history of community volunteerism and philanthropy. Her

Price: Improve accountability, oversight of executive

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer



Price

Shannon Price says he has a plan to improve accountability in Wayne County government at a time when it is awash in red ink, mired in controversy over pay packages and facing legacy costs estimated at \$2.1 billion over 30 years.

The Canton Township resident, long involved behind the scenes of local politics — he is a former county Republican Party chairman — wants a thorough audit of county finances, greater disclosure of potential conflicts of interest, an online county “checkbook” open for viewing by the public, and a charter amendment that would give the Board of Commissioners the power to impeach the county executive.

Price, a constituent services staffer for Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, is a Republican candidate for the 10th District spot on the county commission. The newly created district is made up of Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton Township.

“I think it’s imperative to get another conservative on the board who can second a motion,” said Price during a recent interview. Price was referring to the fact that Laura Cox of Livonia is now the only Republican on the 15-member commission.

Price, who faces attorney Richard Convertino in the Tuesday, Aug. 7, primary, said he was prompted to join the race because of what he sees as corruption in county

government and because the new district is a “donor district,” sending, for example, about \$2.5 million to the county annually through a parks and recreation tax but only getting a fraction of that back in recreation services.

Price says the commission needs the power to rein in County Executive Robert Ficano in the wake of the “golden parachutes” that have come to light since the disclosure of a \$200,000 severance package for Turkia Mullin, the former economic development director. Facing mounting public pressure, Mullin returned the money last fall, and Ficano, while apologizing for missteps, maintains he did nothing illegal.

Price says Ficano, who has said he will not resign, out of office, but favors an impeachment proceeding, with a court having the final say, rather than a recall. His primary opponent, Convertino, has started a petition drive to get a recall question on the November ballot.

“That’s been his campaign so far,” said Price. Convertino defends himself by saying Ficano’s ouster is more important to him than winning a commission seat.

Price says he hears frustration from voters while on the campaign trail. “Clean up Wayne County,” voters tell him, Price said. “I mean, it’s that simple: ‘Get that guy out.’”

He said he has grassroots connections and an ability to work with local officials sets him apart, and that his plan to guide the county out of fiscal crisis starts with “cleaning up the mess” through his proposed charter

THE PRICE FILE

Name: Shannon Price
Hometown: Canton Township

Family: married to Jacki; children Madeline, 9, and Braden, 6

Profession: constituent relations for Schuette; Attorney General Bill Schuette

Education: bachelor’s degree in computer science

Previous public-sector experience: constituent relations for Schuette; I have been responsible for responding to constituent requests, complaints and inquiries. I meet with local business, community, civic organizations and political leaders throughout southeastern Michigan on behalf of the attorney general.

Community involvement: member of First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, Graduate of Leadership Club, Canton Lions Club, Secretary of Miller PTO, former senior vice commander of Sons of the American Legion, former county Republican Party chairman.

Phone/website: www.PriceforCommissioner.com; 734-70-PRICE

amendment for greater commission oversight over the executive branch.

Price also said he favors:

- A lower overall tax rate that could help lure businesses, rather than targeted tax breaks.

- “Government can’t create jobs but it can create the environment to create jobs,” he said.

- A streamlined, 90-day permitting process for businesses trying to expand or gain a foothold in the county.

mjachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405

Convertino: Independence needed on county board

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer



Convertino

Richard Convertino is running two Wayne County political campaigns: One to kick County Executive Robert Ficano out of office and another to elect himself to the county Board of Commissioners.

But Convertino, who lives in Plymouth Township, doesn’t hesitate to put the former effort above the latter.

“I feel very strongly about the current county executive,” said Convertino during a recent interview, blasting Ficano for apparently agreeing to “profligate” pay for top county administrators at a time workers were taking concessions. The recall effort aims to get 150,000 voters’ signatures on petitions calling for a recall election.

Convertino, a former assistant U.S. attorney now in private practice, is running for the Republican nomination for the 10th District commission seat. The new district is made up of Plymouth, Canton Township and Plymouth Township; Convertino faces Shannon Price, who works for state Attorney General Bill Schuette, in the Tuesday, Aug. 7, primary.

Ficano, hurt by several controversies since the disclosure of a later-returned \$200,000 severance package for Turkia Mullin, the former county economic development director, has apologized for what he called mistakes, but says he did nothing illegal and will not resign. A spokesman said last month Con-

vertino’s recall drive is designed to bring attention to his commission campaign.

But Convertino defends his two-pronged approach, calling the county a “rudderless ship” with an ineffective government.

Convertino listed “gross mismanagement,” a looming budget deficit, a loss of confidence in county government and legacy costs estimated at around \$2 billion over 30 years as among the county’s biggest problems.

“What’s needed, I think, is a more stable and independent legislative body,” he said.

He said he’d favor drastically reducing the size of government. “There’ve got to be some really hard choices that have to be made,” he said.

County government, Convertino said, needs an improved system of checks and balances; to achieve that, the candidate proposed a full audit, an independent inspector general and an end to the political back-scratching he charges goes on between Ficano and many commissioners. Ficano’s financial support of many commissioners’ campaign funds, Convertino said, make it difficult for them to cross him.

Convertino said he entered the race because he was disappointed with voters’ choices and sees Price as a political insider and “exactly the opposite of what we need” to turn the county around.

Said Price of the charge that he is the establishment candidate: “I’d like to say I’ve got broad support.” Price also suggested Convertino’s candidacy is a publicity stunt to boost his legal practice.

He also touted his experience in fighting racketeering and fraud as a

THE CONVERTINO FILE

Name: Richard G. Convertino

Hometown: Endwell, N.Y.

Family: married to Valerie for 27 years; five children: Olivia, 25; Victoria, 21; Dominica 19; “A.J.,” 16; and Vinny, 13.

Profession: attorney Education: Valley Forge Military College, Wayne, Pa.; State University of New York, Binghamton, N.Y.; Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

Previous public-sector experience: assistant United States attorney, Detroit; federal prosecutor, U.S. Department of Justice; attorney-advisor, U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Community involvement: Initiated establishment of the “Blue Mass” in the Detroit metropolitan area, an annual, multi-agency sponsored liturgical celebration commemorating members of the law enforcement community who have been killed in the line of duty. 1998-2002; established program along with former gang members to reach out to local young adults about the dangers of drugs and gang affiliations; long-time athletic coach for several youth programs in baseball, football and basketball in Plymouth and Canton.

Phone/website: (734) 527-9900, www.rickconvertino.com

federal prosecutor, and said he “threw a monkey wrench” into county Republican politics by challenging Price. “I want to stir things up,” he said.

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July 13	Nate Harasim	Sam's Club Food at Loz	
July 20	Alexander Zonjic	Centre Village at Kroger Food at Canton Center	
July 27	Demetrius "Krayon" Nabors	Lowe's Food between Sheldon at Morrison Taylor	
August 3	John E. Lawrence	Willow Creek Shopping Center Food between Lilly at Haggerty	
August 10	Kimie Horne	Super Bowl Food between Canton Center at Sheldon	
August 17	Randy Scott	IKEA Food at Haggerty	
August 24	Lin Rountree	Home Depot Food at Loz	

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Carrabba's Italian Grill- 734-844-7400	Palermo's- 734-455-5210
Chili's- 734-844-9050	Parthenon Coney Island- 734-981-0200
Elite Pizzeria- 734-335-6716	Real BarBQ- 734-667-3996

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County Parks gets ready for 25th annual Mud Day

Wayne County Parks will transform the Hines Park's Nankin Mills Area into a giant 75-foot by 150-foot mud pit playground Tuesday, July 10.

From 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. children ages 12 and younger can get down and dirty. This marks the 25th anniversary celebration of Mud Day and plenty of surprises are planned.

Wayne County Parks is partnering with Radio Disney AM 910 for a live show from 10:30-11:30 a.m. At 11:45 a.m., thousands of kids will charge into the mud. Youngsters will be separated into age categories for events such as "Mud Limbo" and wheelbarrow races. Also, the King and Queen of



FILE PHOTO

Caked with enough mud to win Wayne County Parks honors for 2011 Mud Day King and queen went to Cole Argo of Novi and Queen Kathryn Hepp of Northville.

Mud will be crowned. Children should wear old clothes and shoes and bring a clean change

of clothes. There are no showers on-site, however, a cleanup area is available with hoses. Parents are also advised to bring towels. Plastic bags will be provided.

The Hines Park Nankin Mills Area is on Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland.

Sponsoring Mud Day are ITC Holdings, Community Alliance Credit Union, Clorox Plus and the Western Wayne County HMR.

For more information about the 25th Anniversary of Mud Day, call Kim Healy at (734) 261-9087. For more information about Wayne County Parks, call (734) 261-1990.

Parks offer nature programs at Nankin Mills

Wayne County Parks Nankin Mills Interpretive Center is offering daily programs for children relating to nature, science and history with themes such as Dinosaurs, Butterflies, Owls and Astronomy.

The programs will be held the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center on Hines Drive just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. The fees are \$30

per session, and children must be signed up for each session individually. All sessions are from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and include waterslide fun at lunch time. Youngsters should bring a lunch, bathing suit, water shoes and a towel.

The lineup includes: * For preschool, ages 3-5 - Mammals and Puppets on Friday, July 13, Insects on Friday, July

20, and Live Reptiles and Amphibians on Friday, July 27.

* For children who have completed kindergarten and first-grade - Dinosaurs on Tuesday, July 10, Butterflies on Tuesday, July 17, and Pioneer History on Tuesday, July 24.

* For children who have completed second- and third-grade - Wetland and Pond Critters on Wednesday, July 11, Craft Day on Wednesday, July 18, and Owls on Wednesday, July 25.

* For children who have completed fourth- and fifth-grade - Astronomy on Thursday, July 12, Science Experiments on Thursday, July 19, and Native American History on Thursday, July 26.

For more information, call Wayne County Parks event at (734) 261-1990.

Annuities favor salespeople, but usually not investors

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

I gave a talk regarding the Ford and General Motors buyout options and one of the questions concerned annuities. It's a good time to discuss them.

It is important to recognize that not all annuities are the same. There are different kinds and some are more favor-



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

able to investors than others. In addition, just like mutual funds — where not all funds issued by a company are good — the same applies to annuities. Some companies offer multiple, different types of annuities, some are investor friendly and the others are only meant to generate fees. Because of that, it is important to take your time and understand what you're getting involved in before you decide to buy an annuity.

Annuities can be divided into two main categories: fixed and variable. Variable annuities are essentially buying mutual funds with a band of insurance wrapped around them. On the whole, I believe investors should avoid these annuities. The great majority of them have high fees and limited investment options. In addition, despite what salespeople tell you, they have adverse tax consequences.

Yes, the money does grow tax-deferred, however, when the money is withdrawn it's taxed at your ordinary income bracket, not the favorable capital gain rate. If the money was invested outside the annuity, you would be taxed at a much lower rate on your gains. In addition, variable annuities tend to have very high penalties.

Duration Many of these annuities require you to lock up for seven to 10 years and some for even longer. Other than annuities issued by companies such as Fidelity and Vanguard, which have no penalties and have very low fees, I tell investors to avoid variable annuities.

The other type of annuity is known as a fixed annuity. There are two main types of a fixed annuity — a traditional and an equity-indexed.

The traditional fixed annuity is similar to a CD in that the investor is given a guaranteed rate of return for a set period of time. The rate of return depends on the annuity. At the present time, I'm not a fan of these annuities because the rate of return is so low. Like the variable annuity, a fixed annuity does require you to lock your money up for a period of time. Generally, you're committing your money for at least a five- to seven-year period. In today's low interest rate environment, I'm generally not interested in locking my money up for that length of time.

In an equity-indexed annuity, you get a guaranteed rate of return and then if the stock market

does well, your return can increase. The theory behind these annuities is that you can't lose money because you can participate in the stock market if it does well.

Unfortunately, the theory doesn't always work in the real world. The reason for that is some of these equity-indexed annuities have very high fees and some of their provisions make it difficult to make money.

Equity-index

The only type of annuity I recommend these days is an equity-indexed annuity, however, in this economic environment, I typically don't want to commit for more than five years. Too many things are changing and I don't want to be in a position where I'm locked into an investment that I cannot get out of without paying substantial penalties.

Annuities are one of the most oversold investment products around. The reason is quite simple — commissions. In many of these annuities, not only does the salesperson receive commission when you buy the product, but they also receive compensation every year that you're in the annuity.

My advice is if you are thinking about buying an annuity, take your time, deal with someone you can trust and, lastly, keep it short term. Good luck!

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

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CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

Premium service

As a business leader and an involved citizen in the Canton area, Allstate exclusive agency owner Jill Gale-Underwood has been designated an Allstate Premier Service Agent for 2012.

Bested upon less than one-third of Allstate's agency force, this designation is presented to agents who demonstrate a commitment to putting the customer at the center of their agencies' work.

Gale-Underwood, whose agency is located at 8130 Canton Center in Canton, can be reached at (734) 454-8888.

The Premier Service Agency designation is awarded to Allstate agency owners who have consistently demonstrated excellence in delivering an accessible, knowledgeable and personal customer experience, and in achieving outstanding business results.

Platinum car show

A summer tradition roars into Canton, featuring some glitzy bling and bumpers next month. The Power and Platinum Car Show, hosted by the Showroom of Elegance and the America's Most Wanted Car Club, rolls into Showroom's parking lot at 6018 North Canton Center July 19. The event will offer lots of food, and entertainment from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

"This car show is free to the public, and we'll be offering some great discounts throughout the event on some great jewelry pieces," said Linda Robb, owner of Showroom of Elegance. "We're also donating partial proceeds of all jewelry sales to the Autism Society of Michigan."

Some of the vendors will also be donating a percentage of their food

sales to the charitable organization which offers educational resources and materials, workshops, seminars and other services to Michigan families coping with Autism.

For more information, contact Showroom of Elegance at (734) 207-1906 or at info@showroomofelegance.com.

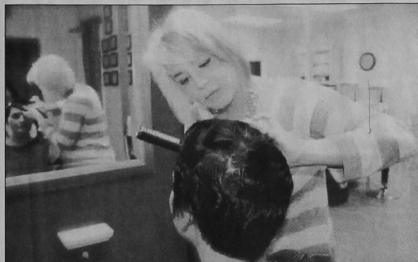
Marketing honor

Plex Systems Inc., provider of Plex Online, Cloud ERP for manufacturers, today announced it received two Renaissance Awards from the Detroit chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC).

Plex Systems and its agency of record, Market Strategies & PR, were recognized with an Award of Honor in Communication Management in the categories of Integrated Marketing Communication and Media Relations during a ceremony on June 21 in downtown Detroit.

IABC Detroit's 31st Annual Renaissance Awards honored the top business communicators and their programs from the Metro Detroit region. Submissions were reviewed by IABC members from around the country — this year, from St. Louis, Columbus, Ohio; Sacramento, Calif.; and Richmond, Va. — and awards were presented in the areas of Communication Management, Communication Skills and Communication Creative.

"This award illustrates what can be accomplished when a comprehensive, long-term marketing campaign is jointly undertaken between an agency and a technology company with a sophisticated understanding of marketing like Plex Systems," said Market Strategies Founder and CEO Peggy Fenwick. "We are very grateful for the recognition by IABC, but are most proud of helping Plex Systems succeed in the competitive manufacturing ERP marketplace."



Stylists at Clover Salon in Plymouth host a July 14 fundraiser to benefit Children With Hair Loss of Michigan.

Salon event benefits cancer patients

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

For about a year, stylists and staffers at Clover Salon in Plymouth have been planning an event near-and-dear to everyone's heart.

Now, it's little more than a week away. Clover Salon, located in the Charlestown Square Plaza, hosts a Children with Hair Loss of Michigan fundraiser Saturday, July 14, to benefit kids stricken with cancer.

"As hair stylists, we have the ability to make people feel happy and confident every day," said Samantha Holt, Clover Salon's manager. "Unfortunately, sometimes circumstances occur that can't be fixed with a pair of shears and a blow dryer. Cancer affects people of all ages, but it is especially difficult and unfortunately all too common in children."

Holt said Clover stylists chose Children with Hair Loss of Michigan because children who lose their hair due to chemotherapy "have enough to worry about" without feeling insecure and being teased in school.



Children with Hair Loss of Michigan takes donated hair and provides wigs for children who've lost hair to disease.

Children With Hair Loss of Michigan provides wigs and support to families who have children with diseases related to hair loss. They provide these things at absolutely no cost to the families, and have been "a wonderful help to local families in need for many years." Clover Salon hosts a raffle and cut-a-thon at the salon 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, July 14, to raise money and hair donations. On the day of the event, Clover will have snacks, beverages, prizes, and free hair cuts to everyone donating (whether they are dona-

ting hair or cash). "We would greatly appreciate any type of donation to this cause," Holt said. "Should you choose to help us, we will give you acknowledgement at the event, a write up on your business if you choose to donate a raffle item, and mention your business on our wrap-up page on our website." Contact Holt at (734) 338-8950 any day prior to or the event for more information. Find Clover Salon on the web at www.mycloversalon.com

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-8899

Deadline nears for grant applications

Michigan's Metro West Chapter of Credit Unions is reminding local non-profit organizations they have until Friday, July 13, to apply for grants of up to \$2,500 each to support local community improvement activities.

The money must be used to directly benefit the communities served by the Metro West Chapter of Credit Unions. These include Canton and Plymouth, among others.

Non-profit organizations that wish to apply must submit a written

grant request of no more than two typewritten pages by Friday, July 13. The request must include the name of the organization, contact information, website address if available, 501(c)(3) number, organization's mission, requested amount of up to \$2,500, complete description of how the funds will be used within 12 months of receipt, and the estimated number of people who will directly benefit from the grant.

Grant recipients will be recognized at the annual

Metro West Chapter Charity Golf Outing to be held at the Northville Hills Golf Club on Thursday, Aug. 16.

Organizations interested in receiving more details about grant submissions are requested to email metrowest@csccu.org.

The mission of the Metro West Chapter of Credit Unions is to support educational needs, community improvement and political advocacy for credit unions in the Metro West Chapter.

CANTON CHAMBER CHAT

Networking coffee

The Canton Chamber of Commerce sponsors its networking coffee 7:30-9 a.m. Thursday, July 12, in the Community Room at Saint Joseph Mercy Canton Health Center, 1600 S. Canton Center, in Canton.

There is no charge for members; a \$10 fee is required for non-members. Hosting and presenting sponsor is Saint Joseph Mercy Canton Health Center. Reservations are required and can be made by calling the chamber office at (734) 453-4040 or email admin@cantonchamber.com.

Grub Crawl

The Canton Chamber of Commerce, Charter Township of Canton and the Downtown Development Authority will be co-hosting Canton's 11th annual Grub Crawl Tuesday, July 17, from 6-10 p.m. This event is open to the public and participants must be 21 years of age or older.

The Grub Crawl is an opportunity for area restaurants to showcase their cuisine as well as promote Canton's diversity while having fun. In past years sponsors have had participation from about

14 restaurants in the community.

"The Grub Crawl is an exciting and fun event for the Canton community and businesses," said Thomas Paden, president of the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

According to Paden, last year almost 500 people attended this event. Tickets (T-shirt) are \$35 each and include transportation to and from participating restaurants. T-shirts are on sale now and can be purchased at the Chamber office. T-shirt sizes are on a first-come, first-served basis so reserve yours early.

Sponsors are also available and going fast! If you are interested in participating in the Grub Crawl, go to our website at www.cantonchamber.com click on forms/flyers to print a ticket order form and drop it by the Chamber office at 45525 Hanford Road. You can also call the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040.

Major sponsors for this event are Atchinson Ford Sales, Inc., Central City Dance, Conrad Insurance Agency, Jack Demmer Ford, Inc., Jade Child Development Center, Sunrise Family Dental Care, Republic Services, Schoolcraft College and TDS.

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GIVING

Continued from page A6

other past involvements include serving as chair for the local United Way Foundation drives as well as chairing the American Heart Association of Western Wayne County for two years.

"I think giving back is an important part of everyone's life. It is so important that if you live in a community, you need to be involved in helping to make it better. That is what helps build a strong community," Pappas said.

She said that supporting the community through Orin Jewelers has also been a priority, and the business offers many scholarships to local students as well as regularly donating to churches and other local charitable organizations.

However, it is her work with Garden City Hospital that strikes a chord in her heart, citing first-hand knowledge of the high level of care provided for local citizens.

"I really believe that the hospital is such an important entity within this community," Pappas said. "I have experienced the way that I have taken care of my family members... the doctors, the whole staff. They really care about their patients," Pappas said.

She believes that supporting the hospital provides her with the opportunity to help her fellow citizens by ensuring that they have access to good health care.

"This hospital serves a great need in the community. So many people do not have the funds for health care in this economy. This is my way of giving back: making sure that the hospital stays open so that everyone can have good care," she said.

Debra Madonna

Plymouth resident Debra Madonna says she first started her life as a volunteer in the "traditional way," helping out in her children's school.

"When you are helping out in schools, you really see the needs up front; it's kind of a unique thing. It makes you want to be ready to deliver right to the source. This is my way of giving back: making sure that the hospital stays open so that everyone can have good care," she said.

An occupational therapist, Madonna said, "I was fortunate that my job allowed me the flexibility to help out in my children's schools and I recognized that Madonna is a 1965 graduate of the original Plymouth High School, now Central Middle School in downtown Plymouth.

Madonna, the mother of three grown sons and one daughter, married to Marcel, is a well-recognized figure in the world of Plymouth fundraising.

She has been behind a variety of unique local projects, including the Sandra Sagar Wall of Courage and scholarship, honoring one of Madonna's former Plymouth High School classmates who was stricken with polio as a child. The scholarship supports Plymouth area graduates who have displayed courage, perseverance, spirit, and creativity in succeeding and achieving an education, despite a physical, mental or emotional barrier when they were a student.

Madonna well remembers her former classmates' challenges, something she calls "inspiring."

"There is nothing that changes you like seeing the struggles of people firsthand," she said.

Madonna is also one of the dynamos behind another large undertaking: the Miracle League of Plymouth, which offers children with special needs throughout the area the opportunity to participate in a baseball game complete with their own baseball diamond in downtown Plymouth.

She has been involved with numerous other charitable organizations and nonprofits and currently serves as president of the Plymouth Community Arts Council as well as the Plymouth AM Rotary Club.

"It is very important to Madonna that the goal is clear when fundraising and acting as a good steward is of equal importance."

"You have to be smart, be frugal when you are fundraising. I don't need surplus, just enough to get the job done," she said.

Sara Stauffer

Sara Stauffer, the director of development at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, started out her career in fundraising just 12 years ago after catching a first-hand glimpse of the impact of helping others.

Stauffer was managing a long-term patient care facility in Dearborn and building meaningful relationships with residents when she was struck by the impact that major gifts and donations can have on individuals in need.

"I saw that they can really make a difference, especially in the field of



Sara Stauffer is the development director at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

healthcare. I had worked at fundraising in other fields, but always came back to healthcare. I knew it was my career path," Stauffer, married and the mother of two daughters ages 4 and 8, said.

"When you look at the community programs, the amount of outreach and the difference you can make by helping people as a result of fundraising and development, it is really rewarding," she said.

As director of development, Stauffer has been a key part of St. Mary Mercy Hospital's most successful fundraisers, including signature events such as the annual "It's Up Golf Classic" and the annual gala held at Laurel Manor which together raise almost a half million dollars annually. She was recently elected president of the Michigan Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (MAHP).

Other projects she has been involved with include the building and completion of the Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, the heart and vascular center at the hospital and the new south pavilion scheduled to open in the fall.

She credits her family with setting a strong example in community service and instilling the spirit of giving for her as she was growing up.

"Giving back to the community was always stressed in our home. Working in fundraising has allowed me to see what is really important," she said.

Margo Gorchow

With a background in nursing and public health, Margo Gorchow's career path to her current position of vice president for Community Relations, Marketing and Development for Botsford Hospital in Farmington was more than a little circuitous.

Her time spent working directly with patients and their families promoting healthy living helped illustrate for her the strong need for community outreach, something she made her mission when she joined Botsford in 1983 as a health educator.

Recognizing a need for the local hospital to play an active role in the health of the surrounding community, Gorchow worked with the hospital administration to partner with the local community as well as create a formal fundraising arm, The Botsford Foundation, of which she currently serves as executive director.

The creation of the foundation and its fundraising efforts have helped Botsford become a leader in local healthcare, as well as increasing its presence as a health care provider within the community through the opening of smaller patient care facilities in the area, Gorchow said.

"The foundation serves as the facilitator and helps make these things possible, she added.

"Philanthropy has become an essential role in any hospital's strategic plan," Gorchow said.

"Successful fundraising helps do the important things that a regular budget cannot do."

Gorchow said that although the recent economic downturn has had an impact across the state, there has been an increase in gifts as individuals recognize the importance of giving back.

"It is enormously satisfying to volunteer and help out in the community and I think people realize that," she said.

Since joining Botsford, Gorchow has played a large role in several major projects. The mother of two children and grandmother of two "amazing" granddaughters, Gorchow also regularly volunteers in her community and is involved with Orchard Children's Services, a family preservation service that offers foster care, adoption and family counseling.

She acknowledges that her volunteer work is particularly gratifying because it allows her to use her professional background.

"To be able to give back to my community using my professional knowledge is so rewarding," she said.

Loren Wadington

Making a difference has always been important to Loren Wadington of Canton. In fact, she has made it a priority in her life; surrounding herself with friends and family that have the similar goal of helping those in need.

A graduate of Michigan State University with a degree in marketing and public relations, she has been actively involved in fundraising and philanthropy both in her professional and private life for many years.

The mother of three grown children, she said she first became aware of the needs within her own community when



Loren Wadington, a founding member of Giving Hope, Women's Giving Circle, and her husband, David Treadwell, are also very involved in raising money for First Step, which provides assistance for women and families experiencing domestic violence.

her children entered school.

"As mothers, we hear our children talking and learn to pay attention to it; what the needs are in the classroom and the school and right away we want to do something about it," she said.

"We hear all about the little issues within the community that need addressing," she added.

That was the impetus behind the founding of Giving Hope: Women's Giving Circle, a local fund of the Canton Community Foundation aimed at addressing immediate needs within the Plymouth Canton community.

Wadington, who helped start the group in 2006, said that not only was the group looking to help others but also draw attention to the needs within the Plymouth-Canton area in hopes of getting others involved.

"As we learned about the needs of the community, we were looking at a new form of giving: what can we do to help women right here?" she said, "I wanted to create a new vehicle for giving while offering a sense of camaraderie."

Since its inception, the group has been responsible for making donations to a variety of local organizations including the Plymouth Canton Community Schools GEMS Conference (Girls' Excel in Math and Science), the Salvation Army Food Bank, the Eldercare and Advocacy Center and New Hope Bereavement Counseling among many others.

Wadington and her husband, David Treadwell, are also actively involved with First Step, chairing the capital campaign for a new facility to serve abused women and their families.

She is proud of this accomplishment, she said, because the money for the project was raised during "...some of the worst economic times in history," she said, something that strongly illustrates the determination of the local community to help others in need.

"Everyone gives from the goodness of their heart but there is also the satisfaction in knowing that you are able to help out someone right in your own community," Wadington said.

Joan Noricks

A Canton resident for 32 years, Joan Noricks celebrates her 18th anniversary with the Canton Community Foundation, a charitable organization that helps donors create permanent funds to fulfill needs and improve the quality of life in the area, this year.

As executive director, Noricks has helped the community foundation grow by leaps and bounds through the creation of 40 funds and more than \$500,000 in scholarships provided to local college students.

For Noricks, fundraising is not always about the money, it's about the people.

"A lot of times it is about putting the right people together with the right cause to help solve a problem or address a need," Noricks said.

Helping people build relationships that benefit the community is very rewarding, she added.

The mother of three grown children, she began her career volunteering when her children were in school, always mindful of the example she was providing for them.

"It was always very important to be a role model for them and for the children to know about the importance of giving back," she said.

Now that her children are grown and "making a difference in the world," Noricks said that this is her proudest accomplishment.

"For them to have learned the benefits of contributing to the world in a positive way is very rewarding," she said.

Sue Methner

If you have any questions about the importance of volunteering, just ask Sue Methner, director of hospitality, volunteer services and special events at Garden City Hospital.

Last year, her service volunteers logged more than 56,000 hours of volunteer work at the hospital, assisting hospital workers in areas ranging from emergency rooms, various nursing units and the information desk to the X-ray and clerical departments.

"We always say that they are not supplements to the departments, they are complements to the department."

Methner said, "They can offer the extra little touches, the extra things that make it special for the patients."

A Livonia resident, Methner grew up in Garden City and joined the hospital 37 years ago. She started supervising service volunteers at the hospital in 1989. She said she has seen firsthand the benefits they bring to the hospital and its patients.

"They are key," she said of the volunteers, "they are part of the community and they represent the community. They see things that we don't always see."

Overseeing a cadre of volunteers ranging in age from 14 to 86 has its own rewards, she said.

"We have former volunteers come back that have become, doctors, nurses, physical therapists as a result of the volunteer experiences they had here," she said.

Volunteering at her local community library and the chamber of commerce has only driven home what she considers the most important part of volunteering. "We bring the community together by working with each other," she said.

Mary Denning

Mary Denning is a firm believer in karma.

"My mom taught us that what you give to others is what you get back," said Denning, owner of Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe in Westland for 20 years.

"If people have been good to you, you need to give back." It is a lesson she has learned the hard way through her business and serving as president of WOW (Women of Westland), a group that she and her friends started in 2000 in an effort to support area women and their families.

"I always wanted to help other people," Denning said of the impetus for starting the group. "I have been blessed to have been in business here for 20 years and I want to give back. I think it is really important."

WOW was originally modeled after professional organizations and focuses on helping women both personally and professionally, Denning said. The group has been active in supporting women returning to school, helping local Girl Scout troops and even built a playground for Starfish Family Services, a local charity offering support for area families and children among others.

"Anything to help women and their families," Denning said of the group. She said she has noticed that as more women enter the business arena, the group has expanded with women wanting to give back to the community.

"Now we are finally able to help others financially," Denning said.

Both a mother and grandmother, she has instilled the importance of giving back within her own family. When the WOW group participated in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life fundraiser recently, Denning's grand-children were alongside her.

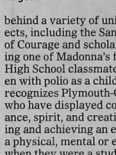
A pastry instructor at Henry Ford Community College, she also works to pass the importance of giving along to her students.

"Part of their class includes learning how to decorate a wedding cake, and they are always sure to donate their cakes to Lighthouse in Westland," a homeless shelter.

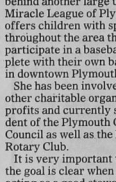
"It is so important for everyone to learn how to give back," she said.



Debra Madonna of Plymouth addresses the crowd during Opening Day of the Miracle League of Plymouth last August.



Margo Gorchow, executive director of the Botsford Foundation.



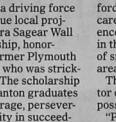
Joan Noricks, president of the Canton Community Foundation, is involved in many local fund-raising efforts. She is also a member of Canton Rotary Club and pictured here volunteering at Canton Liberty Fest.



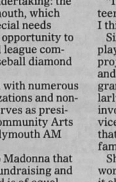
Sue Methner, director of hospitality, volunteer services and special events at Garden City Hospital.



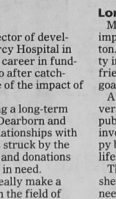
Loren Wadington, a founding member of Giving Hope, Women's Giving Circle, and her husband, David Treadwell, are also very involved in raising money for First Step, which provides assistance for women and families experiencing domestic violence.



Mary Denning, owner of Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe in Westland for 20 years, is a firm believer in karma.



Sara Stauffer, the director of development at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, started out her career in fundraising just 12 years ago after catching a first-hand glimpse of the impact of helping others.



Margo Gorchow, executive director of the Botsford Foundation.

Volunteers help rebuild Yankee Air Museum

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Rebuilding the Yankee Air Museum has been a labor of love for the members of the Yankee Air Force. With only four paid employees, including Executive Director Kevin Walsh, much of the work is done by the volunteers who painstakingly restore aircraft, create a resource library and organize fundraisers to benefit the museum.

Volunteers have been busy rebuilding the museum after its collection of artifacts, memorabilia and several planes were destroyed in a 2004 fire that leveled the hangar it had called home. The historic wooden building had been used by Henry Ford to build B-24s during World War II.

Luckily, the heart of the museum's collection — the B-17, C-47 and B-25 aircraft — were moved out of the building by volunteers before the fire reached them. Those three planes are the only flyable aircraft in the museum collection and are going somewhere every weekend. Museum volunteers serve as their flight crews.

"I don't get paid, but I get to fly, it's one of the perks," said volunteer Bob Catalano, who serves as the assistant manager of operations.

The fire was a setback for the museum, which didn't re-open until October 2010. Volunteers have been steadily adding displays and restoring aircraft. Many of its planes are leased from the U.S. Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio. However, one industrious group of volunteers is building a French SPAD XII World War I fighter from scratch. The plane will look as it did as part of 1034 Aero Squadron in 1918, complete with the recognizable Hat in the Ring emblem.

"We've been in the process of building it for 5-12 years," said Bill Rodgers of Brighton. "We bought the blueprints from a guy in California. We started with a pile of 4-by-8 blue prints, sheet metal and spruce."

The volunteers — Dale Burgess of Ann Arbor, Larry Arnett of Wayne, Joe Kosek of Westland, Chris Curran of Allen Park, Tom Isman of Huron Township, Ray Wall of Plymouth, Bob



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dale Burgess of Ann Arbor and Doug Imlach, formerly from Livonia, help out with building the French World War I fighter.

Pilz of Lincoln Park, Ken Hauser of Canton and Gene Blanchard of West Bloomfield — work on the plane three days a week and have done everything from scratch.

"Tammy Hassan of Livonia is helping out. Rodgers has taught her how to sew the fabric to the wings.

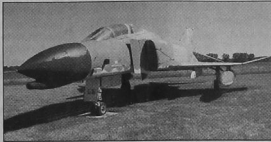
"It's secured with a square knot with a half-hitch, he's the only one who knows the actual stitch," said Hassan, a retired teacher who works in membership and education. Her husband Bob is the curator.

"I always wanted to do something like this. It shows children that things can be done with no power tools," she said.

"These men sanded the wood, glued on the fabric. They did it by hand."

The museum also includes the turret from a B-24 a flight simulator, a Link trainer and displays recognizing prominent figures in aviation history — Charles Lindbergh, Lt. Col. Alexander Jefferson, a Tuskegee airman, and Women in Aviation.

But the pride of the museum is the "Huey," a helicopter that was a gander fame during the Vietnam War. The heli-



An F4C McDonnell Douglas Phantom II is among the planes up for adoption at the Yankee Air Museum.

copter is set up in the museum as it looked in service in Vietnam. The helicopter was added to the collection last year and reflects the museum's shift to covering later armed combat.

"We need a new direction, it's time to pay tribute to the Vietnam and Gulf War veterans," Catalano said.

The display honors member Jerry Towler of Canton, who flew a Huey in Vietnam. Washtenaw County Viet Nam veterans painted it to represent Towler's helicopter — a blue square for B Company and the number two position, denoting his flying position.

"We marked it like a ship in Vietnam," said Catalano. "We're trying to show how it looked in a landing zone."

Support for the museum comes through the many fundraisers the YAF stages. At the top of the list is the Thunder Over Michigan Air Show Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 4-5, at Willow Run Airport. This year's event will include Mustang Mania with more than 20 P-51 Mustangs, a Sea Harrier, F15's B-26 Superfortress, the world's largest World War II air and ground battle reenactment and modern military displays.

Advance tickets purchased by noon Aug. 5 are \$25, and \$30 at the gate. Children age 15 and under are free. Advance parking passes are \$5 per vehicle and \$10 event day. Tickets and passes can be ordered online at www.yankearmuseum.org. The museum is open

to the public 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and closed Sunday and Monday. Admission is \$5 for walk-in visitors age 16 and older, \$8 for families (two adults and their children under age 18), \$3 for students with ID and children under age 18 free when accompanied by an adult. Guided tours, arranged in advance with events director, cost \$3.

smason@hometownlife.com
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VOICES & VIEWS:
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PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP SENDS OUT WATER QUALITY REPORT

The Plymouth Township Water and Sewer Department has sent out its annual drinking water quality report to consumers.

Among other things, the report discloses the amount of various materials in the water, including microbial and inorganic contaminants, and pesticides and herbicides. The annual report has been required by law since the U.S. Congress passed the 1996 Safe Drinking Act Amendments.

Most of the Detroit metro area, including Plymouth Township, gets its drinking water from the Detroit River. The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department operates the water treatment facilities and pumping stations that supply water to the township, which operates the pipeline infrastructure and acts as the retailer to area businesses and residents.

Residents or business owners who have not received the report or have further questions can contact the Plymouth Township Water and Sewer Department at (734) 354-3270.

Publish: July 1, 2012 & July 5, 2012

06070074 - 04-3

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on **Monday, July 16th, 2012 at 9:30 A.M.** at the Extra Space Storage facility located at:

6729 N. Canton Center Rd.
Canton, Michigan 48187
(734) 459-4821

The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.

B041 Sherrif Rabbah
I315 Bethany Tucker

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are stored as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

Publish: June 29 and July 5, 2012

0606707706 3x3



NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN 2012 SUMMER TAXES

Summer taxes are due July 1, 2012 and payable through August 10, 2012 without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement. MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CITY OF PLYMOUTH

Payments can be made at City Hall during regular business hours, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's office. After hours, payments can be placed in the DROP BOX located in the Church Street lobby of City Hall or use the DROP BOX located next to the book return behind the Library. For additional payment options, please check the City website at ci.plymouth.mi.us.

Teresa Cischke, CPFA/MICPT
City Treasurer

Publish: July 1 & 5, 2012

06070074 - 04-3

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OUR VIEWS

Steering clear Celebrate summer safe, sober, smart

This weeklong Fourth of July holiday has already brought plenty of fun for all — backyard barbecues, swimming, boating, camping and maybe even that cross-state trek to one of Michigan's best tourism towns. And because July 4 fell in the middle of the week — the fun continues through this weekend.

Unfortunately, it's also a time when, each year, we see tragedies happen on our local roadways and state highways because drivers have taken the fun too far by getting behind the wheel while under the influence.

Last year, during the Fourth of July holiday, eight people were killed in traffic crashes in our state — three of those deaths were alcohol-related.

Law enforcement agencies in 26 counties across the state, including those in Wayne and Oakland counties, are stepping up their drunk driving patrols during this holiday period.

The campaign, called, "Drunk Driving, Over The Limit, Under Arrest," is funded with federal money that's earmarked for traffic safety enforcement and is administered by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning. It's a great local, state and federal partnership, but don't forget, it also involves every motorist who chooses to celebrate and socialize with alcohol.

So, when you're at that backyard party or out on that boat this week — and every week — pay extra attention to who will be driving home at the end of that fun-filled summer day. Designate a driver in advance or make arrangements for a safe ride home if you've been drinking.

Motorists, this week, will see increased patrols throughout the metro Detroit area. They're on the lookout for impaired drivers.

Like Oakland County Prosecutor Jessica Cooper said this week, it's not worth the risk.

"State law penalties range from 93-day misdemeanors to five-year felonies, and drunk drivers who kill face 15 years in prison, or even, when called for, up to life," said Cooper.

In Michigan, a motorist can be arrested for drunk driving with .08 blood alcohol content or higher. Motorists arrested with a .17 blood alcohol content face increased penalties, including the possible installation of an ignition interlock device preventing the car from starting if the driver has been drinking.

It truly is a matter of life and death. According to the Criminal Justice Information Center, 319 Michiganders died in alcohol- and/or drug-related traffic crashes in 2011.

Drunk driving, unfortunately, is prevalent. In 2011, there were 37,540 arrests for drunk and impaired driving throughout the state — that's nearly 103 arrests a day.

And, that's not truly reflective of the actual number of drunk drivers there are on the roads — especially considering there are fewer road patrols on the streets these days, due to budget cutbacks.

It's one of the most often committed crimes in the United States, with more than 1.4 million people arrested nationwide in 2010.

Experts say the percentage of fatalities in alcohol-related crashes is eight times higher than in all crashes, and the percentage of the most serious injury level in alcohol-related crashes is almost four times higher.

But, those are just numbers, right? Wrong.

Those are lives that are taken or completely ruined because someone was too intoxicated to drive. It's a reminder that's worth repeating — don't drink and drive; plan for a safe ride home if you've been drinking.

Let's make sure the holiday ends on a positive note. Make it a fun and a memorable summer by staying safe, sober and responsible. We owe it to ourselves and to everyone else on the road.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What did you think of the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on the Affordable Care Act?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"I think it's wonderful. It's about time they did something for the people."
Bernadine Bennett
Canton



"Universal health care is something we need in America."
Dale Bennett
Canton



"I think it's good. I think it's going to benefit more people. There are too many poor people in this country, and this should help them."
Robert Domm
Garden City



"I'm against Obamacare. I'm a nurse, and I'm not in favor of socialized medicine."
Mary Gizicki
Canton

LETTERS

Work for average people

I find it amusing, but pathetic, that our protect, Sen. Patrick Colbeck, is quoting our Constitution to the U.S. Supreme Court ("Reaction mixed to court's health care ruling," Observer, July 1).

This man, and his tea party-backed, right-to-life zealots, are bought and paid for by the rich and powerful. Mr. Colbeck should spend more time working for the average people in our state instead of the Matty Mours and intolerant religious leaders.

I once wrote that these (people) made the Taliban look like a bunch of flaming liberals; however, the Taliban threatened to sue if I dared to compare them to these people.

James Huddleston
Canton

Romney's response

Mitt Romney's response to the Supreme Court finding that upheld the Affordable Care Act was at least consistent, in light of his past responses to most anything.

Begin with personal attacks on the president blaming him for whatever, make several false claims, toss in some exaggerations and mischaracterizations, end with silly platitudes

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

Web: www.hometownlife.com
Mail: Letters to the Editor, Canton Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226
Fax: (313) 223-3318
E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com.
Deadline: Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published Thursday.

minus any logical plan to reach any of the theoretical goals proposed and, of course, run like a deer from the podium when finished in order to avoid any questions.

While Obama speaks of covering millions and making life better for all, then visits Walter Reid Hospital to look in on wounded American servicemen and women, Romney, on the roof of the Heritage Foundation headquarters, with the Capitol dome situated strategically over his shoulder, pathetically panders for donations while whining about a non-existent tax that is really a penalty for

noncompliance, much like a ticket for launching one's boat without a required state sticker representing proof of payment of a use tax, the type of infraction that Mitt Romney has firsthand knowledge of.

The so-called "tax" will affect less than 3 percent of people, the free-riders who can afford to buy coverage but elect not to. The cost, a mere \$695 per year at first rising to 2 percent of gross adjusted income down the road. This is a bargain for scofflaws considering the average policy already contains an estimated up to \$2,000 in added costs that compensate providers for the care of so-called free-riders, constituting an invisible "tax" that those covered by insurance currently pay. Now Romney and the Republicans are trying to mislead by characterizing this penalty that Chief Justice Roberts dubbed a tax, the "largest middle-class tax hike in history." Well, at least Romney is consistent. He wrongly called the penalty he exacted upon citizens of Massachusetts for not complying with Romneycare a tax; however, he somehow failed to demagogue himself for it.

Mitch Smith
Canton

GUEST COLUMN

Social change requires collaboration

By **Joan Noricks**
Guest columnist

Sometimes, it really does take a village to create change.

This awareness and knowledge is driving the Canton Community Foundation's recent formation of a Local College Access Network in far western Wayne County.

The collaborative effort is designed with the single-minded goal of increasing access to college and other post-secondary education, particularly for first-generation, low-income and students of color.

It is wholly unrealistic to assume a single school district can resolve a large-scale social and economic issue as budget cuts and a less-than-stellar Michigan economy continue to ravage public education and undercut families' financial well-being.

Today, significant social change requires cross-sector collaboration among local and regional organizations and government institutions. A collective approach will exponentially increase the brain power and resources that the LCAAN can use to prevent students from dropping out of high school and to increase the number of students who go on to post-secondary education.

We are already working with significant leaders from school districts, colleges and universities, businesses and nonprofit organizations. These leaders will collaboratively and

passionately work to create a college-going culture in a LCAAN district that begins in Northville, encompasses Livonia, Garden City, South Redford, Plymouth and Canton and reaches to Belleville and Van Buren Township.

The foundation recently received a planning grant from the statewide Michigan College Access Network (MCAN). It will help us formalize the LCAAN's leadership and programming and create a common agenda that all partners will follow. Our goal is to not only secure our students' futures, but to create an educated work force to improve and sustain our changing Michigan economy.

MCAN's goal is to have 60 percent of all Michigan residents achieve some type of post-secondary education by the year 2025. Currently, Michigan's rate is 36.4 percent.

It is predicted that in 16 short years, approximately 62 percent of all Michigan jobs will require some type of post-secondary education. A high school education alone will no longer offer a promise or even a glimmer of gainful employment for younger generations.

Against that backdrop, retiring baby boomers will take 40-plus years of professional skills and education out of the market. "We will have a significant skills gap here in Michigan," announced Don Heller, dean of the Michigan State University College of Education.

Heller told a recent gathering of nonprofit organizations that Michigan is simply not producing enough educated and highly skilled workers who can replace

the aging Boomers or who can step in to jobs that truly require advanced knowledge.

As we use a collective impact approach to address the need for increased education, the foundation and its partners will piece together a map of what assets — programs and activities — already exist — and where there are gaps. The end result could be combining programs to use across the LCAAN district or could include developing new programs.

In particular, it will be the LCAAN's goal to work with parents of our targeted student groups to break social and economic barriers that have prevented children from stepping out of familial patterns and attaining brighter futures.

We have already heard from our participating school districts of the urgent need to increase the number of students who fill out the very important Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA can determine a family's eligibility to receive federal funding for higher education. The LCAAN leadership has already talked about a number of potential programs the network can institute to work directly with parents and students to complete these forms.

The foundation is looking forward to working with our existing partners and new champions who want to be a part of striking a significant change for our community and region.

Joan Noricks is president of the Canton Community Foundation. She may be reached at (734) 495-1200 or at jnoricks@cantonfoundation.org.

CANTON OBSERVER

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PRESIDENTS

"It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor."

- **George Washington: Commander-in-Chief in the American Revolution; Signer of the Constitution; First President of the United States**

"We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." - **John Adams: Signer of the Declaration of Independence; One of Two Signers of the Bill of Rights; Second President of the United States**

"Before any man can be considered as a member of civil society, he must be considered as a subject of the Governor of the Universe." - **James Madison: Signer of the Constitution; Fourth President of the United States**

"And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are of the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever." - **Thomas Jefferson: Signer and the Principal Author of the Declaration of Independence; Third President of the United States**

"Is it not that in the chain of human events, the birthday of the nation is indissolubly linked with the birthday of the Savior? - that it forms a leading event in the progress of the Gospel dispensation? Is it not that the Declaration of Independence first organized the social compact on the foundation of the Redeemer's mission upon earth? - That it laid the cornerstone of human government upon the first precepts of Christianity?" - **John Quincy Adams: Statesman; Diplomat; Sixth President of the United States**

FOUNDING FATHERS

"An appeal to arms and to the God of hosts is all that is left us!... Sir, we are not weak if we make a proper use of those means which the God of nature hath placed in our power... Besides, sir, we shall not fight our battles alone. There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us... Is life so dear, or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!" - **Patrick Henry: Patriot and Statesman**

"To the kindly influence of Christianity we owe that degree of civil freedom, and political and social happiness, which mankind now enjoys... Whenever the pillars of Christianity shall be overthrown, our present republican forms of government - and all blessings which flow from them - must fall with them." - **Jedediah Morse: Patriot and Educator, called "The Father of American Geography"**

"I've lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: That God governs in the affairs of men. If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We've been assured in the sacred writings that unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it. I firmly believe this, and I also believe that without His concurring aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel." - **Benjamin Franklin: Signer of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution**

SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

"The Bible is the best of all books, for it is the word of God and teaches us the way to be happy in this world and in the next. Continue therefore to read it and to regulate your life by its precepts." - **Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation, to select and prefer Christians for their rulers.**" - **John Jay: Co-Author of the Federalist Papers; First Chief-Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court**

"Human law must rest its authority ultimately upon the authority of that law which is Divine... Far from being rivals or enemies, religion and law are twin sisters, friends, and mutual assistants. Indeed, these two sciences run into each other." - **James Wilson: Signer of both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution; Original Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court**

"One of the beautiful boasts of our municipal jurisprudence is that Christianity is a part of the Common Law... There never has been a period in which the Common Law did not recognize Christianity as lying at its foundations... I verily believe Christianity necessary to the support of civil society." - **Joseph Story: U. S. Supreme Court Justice; "Father of American Jurisprudence," Placed on the Court by President James Madison**

CONGRESS

"We are a Christian people...not because the law demands it, not to gain exclusive benefits or to avoid legal disabilities, but from choice and education; and in a land thus universally Christian, what is to be expected, what desired, but that we shall pay due regard to Christianity?" - **Senate Judiciary Committee Report, January 19, 1853**

"At the time of the adoption of the Constitution and the amendments, the universal sentiment was that Christianity should be encouraged...In this age there can be no substitute for Christianity...That was the religion of the founders of the republic and they expected it to remain the religion of their descendants." - **House Judiciary Committee Report, March 27, 1854**

EDUCATION

"Let every student be plainly instructed and earnestly pressed to consider well the main end of his life and studies is to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life (John 17:3) and therefore to lay Christ in the bottom as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning. And seeing the Lord only giveth wisdom, let every one seriously set himself by prayer in secret to seek it of Him (Proverbs 2, 3). Every one shall so exercise himself in reading the Scriptures twice a day that he shall be ready to give such an account of his proficiency therein." - **Harvard 1636 Student Guidelines**

"All the scholars are required to live a religious and blameless life according to the rules of God's Word, diligently reading the Holy Scriptures, that fountain of Divine light and truth, and constantly attending all the duties of religion."

Yale 1787 Student Guidelines

SUPREME COURT RULINGS

"There is no dissonance in these [legal] declarations...These are not individual sayings, declarations of private persons: they are organic [legal, governmental] utterances; they speak the voice of the entire people... These, and many other matters which might be noticed, add a volume of unofficial declarations to the mass of organic utterances that this is a Christian nation." - **Church of the Holy Trinity v. U.S., 1892**

Unanimous Decision Declaring America a Christian Nation Significantly, the U. S. Supreme Court cited dozens of court rulings and legal documents as precedents to arrive at this ruling; but in 1962, when the Supreme Court struck down voluntary prayer in schools, it did so without using any such precedent.

"Why may not the Bible, and especially the New Testament, without note or comment, be read and taught as a divine revelation in [schools] - its general precepts expounded, its evidences explained and its glorious principles of morality inculcated?...Where can the purest principles of morality be learned so clearly or so perfectly as from the New Testament?" - **Vidal v. Girard's Executors, 1844**

Unanimous Decision Commending and Encouraging the Use of the Bible in Government-Run Schools

FOREIGNERS

"The Americans combine the notions of Christianity and of liberty so intimately in their minds that it is impossible to make them conceive the one without the other."

"Upon my arrival in the United States, the religious aspect of the country was the first thing that struck my attention; and the longer I stayed there, the more did I perceive the great political consequences resulting from this state of things, to which I was unaccustomed. In France I had almost always seen the spirit of religion and the spirit of freedom pursuing courses diametrically opposed to each other; but in America I found that they were intimately united, and that they reigned in common over the same country." - **Alexis de Tocqueville**

French observer of America in 1831, author of **Democracy in America**

There is no country in which the people are so religious as in the United States... The great number of religious societies existing in the United States is truly surprising; there are some of them for everything; for instance, societies to distribute the Bible; to distribute tracts; to encourage religious journals; to convert, civilize, educate... to take care of their widows and orphans; to preach, extend, purify, preserve, reform the faith; to build chapels, endow congregations, support seminaries... to establish Sunday schools... to prevent drunkenness, etc.

Achille Murat
French observer of America in 1832

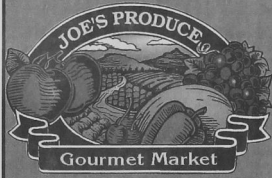
SCRIPTURE

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD
Psalm 33:12a

If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14





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Joe's Meat & Seafood

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Joe's Housemade Sausage Sweet Italian, Hot Italian & Polish Sausage \$2⁹⁹ lb. <i>Save \$1.00 lb.</i>	All Natural Boneless-Skinless Chicken Breasts \$1⁹⁹ lb. <i>Save \$1.00 lb.</i> Leg Quarters 99¢ lb.

All Natural Pork Butt \$1⁷⁹ lb. <i>Save \$1.00 lb.</i> Boneless Centercut Chops \$2⁹⁹ lb. <i>Save \$1.00 lb.</i>	All Natural Fresh Never Frozen Baby Back Ribs 3pk. \$3⁹⁹ lb. <i>Save \$1.00 lb.</i> Spare Ribs Single pk. \$2²⁹ lb. <i>Save \$1.00 lb.</i>
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Fresh Atlantic Salmon Fillets \$7⁹⁹ lb. <i>Save \$1.00 lb.</i> Ready to Grill Celebration Kabobs \$12⁹⁹ each	Michigan Cherry Glazed Salmon on Blackcherry Wood Planks or Brown Sugar Glazed Salmon on Sugar Maple Planks \$7⁹⁹ each
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Try Joe's Pies! Chocolate Silk, Lemon Meringue, Coconut Cream, Key Lime, Strawberry & Smores	

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Everyday GOURMET

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Bowtie Pasta Salad \$3⁹⁹ lb. <i>Save \$1.00 lb.</i>	Joe's Fried Chicken \$4⁹⁹ lb. <i>Save \$1.00 lb.</i>
Baked Beans \$2⁹⁹ lb. <i>Save \$1.00 lb.</i>	

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\$25 In Advance	\$30 At The Door

Call Mike or Pam for Details

SPORTS

Heptathlete Wade eyes 2016 return

Farmington graduate places fourth in Trials

By Dan O'Meara
Observer Staff Writer

All things considered, Bettie Wade competed well in the women's heptathlon and finished well at the U.S. Olympic Trials last week in Eugene, Ore.

But the final outcome was a big disappointment for the former Farmington High School all-stater and Big Ten champion from the University of Michigan.

Wade, attempting to make the U.S. Olympic team for the second time, had to settle for the best-of-the-rest title.

She finished fourth in the field of 20 competitors, but only the top three earn a place on the U.S. team.

It also would have been necessary for Wade, who scored 6,018 points in the seven-event competition, to achieve the Olympic standard of 6,150 to qualify for the Olympic Games later this month in London, England.

Hyleas Fountain, the silver medalist at the Beijing Games in 2008, won the heptathlon at the U.S. Trials with 6,419

points.

The next two finishers also met the Olympic standard: Sharon Day and Chante McMillan scored 6,343 and 6,188, respectively.

Two of Wade's best events are the high jump and long jump, and she did well in both. She was second in the long jump (20-4.5) and fourth in the high jump (5-11.25). Wade had made recent gains in the shot put, and she scored well in that event, too, with a second-place effort of 44-8.25.

None of her performances in any of the events matched her personal records, however, as she wrestled with the task of scoring a sufficient number of points.

Wade also was 10th in the 100-meter hurdles (13.72), 14th in the javelin throw (117.5), 17th in the 200 dash (24.84) and 18th in the 800 run (2:19.06).

Prior to the Olympic Trials, the 25-year-old Wade told the *Observer* she was entering her prime and just getting started in the sport.

Based on that statement, it's



KIM STURM

Please see WADE, B4

Bettie Wade walks her lane prior to competing at the U.S. Olympic Trials.

Schmitt 3rd in 100 free

Canton's Allison Schmitt wrapped up her successful 2012 U.S. Olympic Swimming Trials with a third-place finish Saturday night in the 100-meter freestyle at the CenturyLink Center in Omaha, Neb.

Jessica Hardy and Missy Franklin finished one-two in the event with times of 53.96 and 54.15, respectively. Schmitt, representing the North Baltimore Aquatic Club, took third in 54.30.

The 2008 Canton High grad, who took a year off to train from the University of Georgia, won both the 200- and 400 freestyle events earlier in the week and will represent the U.S. in both events later this month in the London Summer Olympics along with the 4 x 100 and 4 x 200 freestyle relays.

She was a bronze medalist in the women's 800 freestyle relay and took ninth in the 200 free at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Meanwhile, Livonian Caroline Arakelian, a recent Stevenson High grad, was 175th overall (2:22.88) in the Saturday 200 backstroke.

The 17-year-old from the Kingsfish Aquatic Club in Waterford was seeded 55th overall with an entry time of 2:15.73.

She will be heading to Queens University (N.C.) in the fall.

Knoph earns softball invite

Livonia Stevenson infielder Molly Knoph, who hit .511 this season, has been invited to play in the Michigan High School Softball Coaches Association All-Star Senior Softball Game for Division 1 seniors beginning at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 18 at Michigan State University's Secchia Stadium.

Witherspoon steps down

Livonia Stevenson athletic director Lori Hyman announced recently that varsity girls softball coach Rob Witherspoon has stepped down to take an assistant elementary school principal position in the district.

Witherspoon finished with an overall record of 187-116-1, including a Western Lakes Activities Association and Division 1 district championship in 2008.

Hyman also said that Brian Gulick will be unable to continue as varsity boys and girls golf coach due to increased work commitments in the South Redford Schools.

Moss takes flight to Phoenix

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

It didn't take long for Livonian Dave Moss to close one chapter of his National Hockey League career and start another.

The 30-year-old right winger, who spent the last six seasons with the Calgary Flames, wasted little time after the free agency period opened at noon Sunday by signing a two-year deal with the Phoenix Coyotes.

"Phoenix is the first team we talked to, we were able to work out a deal and it was somewhere I was comfortable going," said Moss, the former Detroit Cath-

olic Central High and University of Michigan standout. "I knew Jimmy Playfair, the assistant coach there, who was the head coach in Calgary my first year (2006-07). I know him really well. I think lot of the guys who I played with in Calgary that had gone there had really liked it, and had good things to say."

Financial terms of the deal for the unrestricted free agent were not disclosed.

"It's somewhere where I'm comfortable going," said Moss, who was represented by South-field agent Howard Gourtwitz. "It's one of those things, when you get to free agency — guys

like me — you don't want to wait too long before you go somewhere. Other guys are maybe in different situations, but I was happy to sign with Phoenix."

The 6-foot-3, 205-pound Moss was coming off a frustrating season with the Flames where he appeared in only 32 games registering just two goals and seven assists after undergoing ankle surgery.

"It was pretty much you just wait for teams to call," Moss said, "and Phoenix was one of the first ones. I liked the team they have and the coach."

Please see MOSS, B3



Livonia native Dave Moss left the Calgary Flames for a new contract with the Phoenix Coyotes.

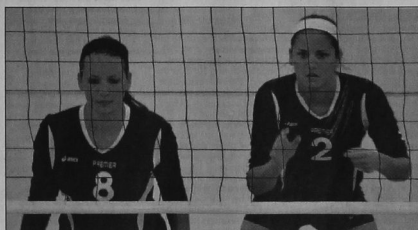
Wayne spiker Horton AAU All-American

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

With only three years of volleyball experience, Wayne Memorial High's Katie Horton continues to make a meteoric rise.

The 6-foot-middle hitter helped the Premier Volleyball Club of Maumee, Ohio earn a fifth-

place finish among 138 teams in the 18-and-under Club Division at the AAU Girls Junior National Volleyball Championships held last week in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. And in the process, Horton was only one of 14 players to earn All-



DAVID HORTON

Wayne Memorial's Katie Horton (right), along older sister Keri Horton (left), was named a Club Division All-American following the 18-and-under AAU Girls Junior National Volleyball Championships held last week in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

American accolades as Premier Onitsuka captured its first 10 matches in tournament play before falling to eventual

runner-up Mizuno Northern Lights in the quarterfinals.

"It was good experience, our team really

worked hard and it was a good tournament to be in," Horton said. "I feel like my back row has improved a lot as far as

being able to read the other hitters on the other side and seeing where I should be."

Premier Onitsuka's squad also featured Horton's sister Keri, who is bound for NCAA Division III Marietta College (Ohio), along with Livonia Ladywood's Alex Hines (Toledo) and Canton's Alaina Turner (Dayton).

Last fall, Horton helped Wayne reach the Class A regional semifinals. She finished her junior year with a team-best 537 total kills, 247 digs and 181 blocks as the Zebras captured a district title.

Horton, who has already committed to Ohio University and is a two-time first-team All-Observer selection, should be a strong candi-

Please see HORTON, B3

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Friedrichs bolts Chargers to take DeLaSalle position

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer



Friedrichs

mind will be missed. His rapport with the kids will be missed — they really liked him. He was a players' coach and it will be hard to duplicate. He was a student of the game. I wish him well, but I'm very happy to work with him during the girls season."

Friedrichs is replacing Thaur Mukhtar, who guided DeLaSalle to five state championships, 499 victories and 18 Catholic League titles in 30 years.

In a resignation letter in late May, the 53-year-old Mukhtar cited "a disagreement over the present and future direction of the De La Salle Soccer Program with the administration."

"It's some tough shoes to fill, it would be tough shoes to fill for anyone, but I'd like to reach out to him soon and do my best to keep going in the direction that he built," Friedrichs said. "The first thing I said to the athletic director at DeLaSalle (Brian Kelly) is that 'this is probably the only job that would have gotten me away from Churchill.' I value their program and this challenge."

The move, however,

didn't come without some reservation for Friedrichs, who teaches science and chemistry at Churchill.

"It was a very difficult decision," he said. "I really never wanted to leave. I like Churchill. I like coaching there. The support from the parents is unparalleled. They are some of the greatest parents I've ever been around in high school soccer. And the boys, too, have been great. I really enjoyed my time there and made some unbelievable connections and relationships with the boys."

Friedrichs, who has relatives on the east side, played high school soccer at Ann Arbor Pioneer and was an All-Big Ten goalkeeper at Michigan State (1992-96).

"The school (DeLaSalle) is out by where I live (Birmingham), which makes it more easier," Friedrichs said. "I've always had aspirations to coach in college and this is that type of atmosphere as far as getting to hire your own staff, you have a soccer budget and it's a good challenge for me."

"I always like to challenge myself and this is a nice step in that direction and for that direction."

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MOSS

Continued from page B1

es, found out what they thought, and were able to get a deal done."

Moss has accumulated 61 goals and 63 assists for 124 career points in 317 NHL games, but has suffered number of nagging injuries during his career.

"I feel like I'm back to 100 percent," said Moss, who was the 220th pick overall in the 2001 NHL Entry Draft coming out of Michigan. "I've been just getting back on the ice, working out and going full tilt all summer. Right now I feel 100 percent and ready to go."

Moss has played less than 65 games in all but one season with the exception of 2008-09 when he appeared in 81 games (his only injury-free season to date when he had his best year statistically with 20 goals and 19 assists).

"Getting older in my career, obviously I want to go some place where they have a chance to win certainly," Moss said. "I think Phoenix has that. They went to the (Western) conference finals this year. Hopefully I can

go there and help them build on that."

Moss could be a complementary fit for the Coyotes' checking line alongside Lauri Koprikov and Boyd Gordon.

"I think they see me playing a role as someone in their top nine forwards and probably getting some special teams time and just being solid," Moss said. "I think their whole team is built on playing that good system, playing well defensively and doing all the little things right. I think that's what I think they'll expect out of me."

And it was also quite a climate change for Moss, who is moving from Alberta to Arizona.

"I've never played in a warm weather state like this," Moss said. "It will be different for me. It looks like a nice city. Scottsdale — I know — there's lots to do. I really haven't been around too much, but from what I've seen it looks pretty nice. It's certainly different than Calgary, but I think it's good."

Moss, however, cherished his time in Calgary. "It will be nice to be going to miss the most is probably just the peo-

ple," he said. "The people in the organization, the staff, my friends at the rink, my friends away from the rink. I think that's what I'm going to miss the most about the city."

Moss' parents also gave a thumbs-up to the signing.

"I'll head out there a little bit early to see where I'll live and maybe if some other guys are out there meet some other guys and skate, maybe get myself established in the Phoenix area a little earlier than I normally would," he said. "I know my parents are really excited because they can make a trip out of it and hang out in the warm weather during the winter, which will be nice."

"The only request they have is that place I get down there has a pool. I think they would have been happy wherever I went, but through this whole process and talking with them, I think they're just happy that I can get to a place where I have a good opportunity to play and somewhere where I'll be happy."

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The soccer coaching carousel continues to revolve over the weekend when Livonia Churchill boys coach Reid Friedrichs announced he was stepping down to take the varsity job at Warren DeLaSalle.

Ironically, Friedrichs was hired just last month to replace Dave Hebestreit as the Churchill girls varsity soccer coach where he will start in the spring of 2012.

Friedrichs' departure comes on the heels of Churchill losing hockey coach Pete Mazzoni, who resigned just recently to take the assistant principal position at Livonia Stevenson High.

In 12 boys seasons with the Chargers, Friedrichs compiled an overall record of 151-85-29, including one KLAAs two conference, four division and two district titles.

"It's a big loss for us," Churchill athletic director Marc Hage said. "I'll recover from it and look immediately to replace him because the season is coming up and the kids want to know what exactly is going on. He was a very good tactician of the game. He knows soccer better than anybody I can think of given our league. His

Future Bronco



Plymouth High senior Reagan Engstrom recently signed an NCAA Division I letter-of-intent to compete in track and field at Western Michigan University. Engstrom, a first-team All-Observer selection as a pole vaulter, plans to pursue a degree in nursing and will join her older sister Kristen, who attends WMU in the pre-occupational therapy program. Reagan was a three-time state qualifier in the pole vault with a P-CFPS school record 11 feet, 9 inches. She is a three-year captain and two-time MVP in track, as well as a four-year team MVP, three-year captain and three-year state qualifier in gymnastics. She also has two other sisters including her twin Caitrin, along with Marin.

Life of Riley: Bulls hurler one-hits Rams

Riley Smith flirted with a no-hitter Monday as the first-place Michigan Bulls dominated the Michigan Rams, 2-0, in a Livonia Collegiate Baseball League game played at Bicentennial Park.

Zach Zott's single in the fifth inning broke up Smith's no-hit bid.

Smith, who had to settle for a one-hitter, struck out eight and did not allow a walk in going all seven innings for the 22-and-under Bulls.

Madonna University's Brad Linberry (Plymouth) was the difference offensively as he belted a 2-run homer off MU teammate Evan Picchotta (Livonia Stevenson) in the top of the fourth inning. Picchotta went all six innings and deserved a better fate. He allowed just four hits, walked one and struck out four as the 20-and-under Rams slipped to 11-12 in the LCBL.

RAMS 3-6, OUTLAWS 2-7: The Michigan Rams (11-11) continue to hover at the .500 mark after splitting a LCBL

double-header Saturday with the Michigan Outlaws (4-17-1) at Ford Field.

The 20-and-under Rams took the opener, 3-2, as Justin Sherman drove home Garrett Gordon with the game-winning run in the bottom of the sixth inning. Miles Sorise went 2-for-3, while Gordon and Zach Zott also drove in runs for the Rams.

Keith Palsean, who pitched the final 1.2 innings in relief, picked up the victory. Donnie Eaton came on to get the final out and the save.

Rams starter Mitch Patterson worked the first five innings allowing both runs on four hits and seven walks. He struck out four. Losing pitcher Taylor Eddy went all six innings for the Outlaws, allowing three runs on five hits and two walks. Travis Colchon and Kyle Johnson each collected an RBI for the Outlaws, who bounced back to win the nightcap, 7-6, in six innings (due to the 2-hour and 30-minute time limit. Cohoon went 3-for-4 and scored three runs for the Outlaws. Mike Lollo added two hits and two RBI, while Tyler Baker also knocked in a run for the Outlaws. Sorise paced the Rams'

seven-hit attack going 3-for-3 with a double and two RBI. Sherman also knocked in two runs, while Mark Wagner and Patterson also added an RBI each.

Cory Vander was the winning pitcher in relief, while Rams starter Jeff Sorenson, who went the first 4.2 innings allowing four runs on five hits, took the loss. **BULLS 2, RAMS 1:** Winning pitcher Mark Heard struck out 10 in 6.2 innings Friday at the Michigan Bulls (16-3) edged the Michigan Rams (10-10-1) in LCBL action at Ford Field.

Heard allowed seven hits and walked three before giving way to reliever Ryan Koph, who got the final out in the bottom of the seventh to pick up the save. Losing pitcher Josh Payzant allowed both Bulls runs in the top of the fifth. He allowed four hits, walked one and struck out five. Reliever Donnie Eaton pitched the final 1.2 innings and gave up one hit and one walk. Offensively, Nick Regier Kevin Conway went 2-for-2 and Nick Regier went 2-for-4 to lead the Bulls' six-hit attack. Josh Deek also had an RBI. Miles Sorise drove in the lone run in the sixth for the Rams.

HORTON

Continued from page B1

date for Michigan's Miss Volleyball honors next season.

But she's no longer a hidden gem or a well-kept secret. And there's a reason why she has made it a priority to be known more than just for her ability as front row attacker.

"Hopefully I'll play all the way around (at Ohio University)," she said. "That's what I'm hoping for."

On Tuesday night, Horton was traveling back from Michigan City, Ind. following a club sand volleyball match.

"I like both," she said. "They both help out in different ways to make you better at both. I just started sand this year and I'd like to play it some day."

Horton has one more high school season and one more club volleyball season on the horizon.

The trips back-and-forth to Maumee, while gaining national tournament exposure, has defi-

nately paid dividends.

"You have to work really hard because everybody is equal in position and you have to fight for your spot on the team and everything," Horton said of Premier Onitsuka. "But there will be one void once the fall prep season starts. Big sister (Ker) won't be around and I will be sorely missed. "She's always like there for me and everything, so it will be way different," Katie said.

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Gators topple Breakers in city meet

Glen Aquatic wins first all-Farmington swim championship

By Dan O'Meara
Observer Staff Writer

It was another close competition between the Farmington Glen Aquatic and Beechview Swim clubs in the fifth annual all-Farmington city meet Saturday.

But there was a new winner this year as the Glen Gators won for the first time and dethroned the three-time defending champion Breakers. Farmington Aquatic outscored Beechview at Kendallwood Swim Club, 561-526. Beechview won last year over Glen, 585-533. Woodbrooke Hills Swim & Tennis had 499 points last week and Kendallwood 403.

"It was another close one," Beechview coach Driska McCullough said. "Glen swam really well. They had some great swimmers. All the (Beechview) kids swam well; we had a lot of improvements."

"It was sad to see the (championship) flag leave, but we've had it three years and it's time to share. (The Gators are) getting better. They have the little kids who are pretty good, and that's where we're lacking."

The Gators, who edged Beechview by seven points in a June 25 dual meet, 291-284, had the individual winners in 15 of the 46 events. The Glen boys recorded eight first-place finishes, the girls seven.

Farmington Aquatic, which is particularly strong in the younger age groups, especially the girls lineup, also won both 40-and-under mixed relays.



Farmington Glen coach Drew Hans, sporting a Gators hat, accepts the championship flag from Beechview coach Driska McCullough. Meet director Mike McNece oversees the transfer.

Glen double winners included Jared Vissler (8U), 25 free and fly; Trevor Jones (9-10), 50 fly and free; Trevor Franklin (13-14), 50 back and free; Madeline Greaves (8U), 25 free and fly; and Emma Inch (9-10), 50 fly and free.

Single winners for the Gators were Julia Kowaleski (8U), 25 breast; Connor Halberg (9-10), 50 back; Julianna Petrak (9-10), 50 breast; Bella Feenstra (9-10), 50 back; McKenna Greaves (11-12), 100 IM; Bev Kowaleski (13-14), 50 breast; and Eric Gensheimer (15-18), 50 fly.

Inch and Madeline Greaves also teamed up with Lia Munson and Tanner Neill to win the 40U freestyle relay, and Halberg, McKenna Greaves, Inch and Feenstra won the medley relay.

Most of the Beechview winners were in the upper age bracket.

The Breakers had three double winners in Marina Borri (15-18), 50 breast and 100 IM; Emily Brunett (13-14), 50 fly and free; and Grant Borregard (15-18), 50 back and 100 IM.

Beechview also had three single winners — Olivia Rath (15-18), 50 back; Miranda Shelly (15-18), 50 fly; and Charlie Zink (13-14), 50 breast.

In the girls relays, Beechview's Madison Ruffin, Julia Borri, Brunett and Dayna Borregard won the 52U medley, and Marina Borri, Mikayla Doepke, Shelly and Rath earned first place in the 60U freestyle.

The Breakers also won the boys 60U freestyle with the all-Phoenix team of Matthew Peters, David Tyler, Peter Romero and Tyler Koshak.

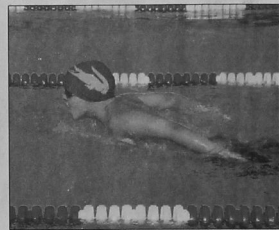
"It was a fun meet; it's been a fun season," McCullough said. "We've

had a lot of close meets; we're working on it. As long as the kids keep trying and improving, that's what is important."

The idea for the city meet originated with former Kendallwood coach Eric Newton since the Farmington clubs didn't always swim against each other in the large Northwest Suburban Swim League.

"He grew up at the Glen and was coaching at Kendallwood," Mike McNece, the meet director for the fifth straight year, said. "He always thought it would be great to have a city meet. I kind of ran it, and a lot of folks helped out tremendously."

"It's been a real hit with all the kids. It was a good idea to swim against just the Farmington kids who went to high school together and swam for different clubs during the



Trevor Jones won the 9-10 boys 50-meter butterfly and freestyle events to help the Farmington Glen Gators win the championship.

summer. All the kids and parents look forward to it every year."

Kendallwood won the first city meet and Beechview the next three. McNece had predicted Glenn was a team of the future last year with so many good, young swimmers in its program.

"They have a terrific team over there and a terrific coach (Drew Hans)," he said. "They're growing quickly. I think they'll be a team to be reckoned with the next couple years."

"Going into the meet, I figured it would be very close between Beechview and the Glen. I kinda thought Glen would pull it out, because sheer numbers and the fact that the most swimmers entered in the meet — 122) beat a lot."

"They just have a good mindset there at the club of fun, friendly competition. You can tell they really enjoy what they do."

A portion of the proceeds from the meet, which included the sale of special wristbands commemorating the fifth annual event, will go to the Cipriano Children's Trust Fund.

ADDITIONAL WINNERS:

The Woodbrooke winners were Hannah Chao (13-14), 100 IM and 50 back; Madeline Surowiec (8U), 25 back; Summer Edwards (11-12), 50 free and fly; Caroline Straus (11-12), 50 breast; Christopher Barron (11-12), 50 back and 100 IM; Keith Erichsen (13-14), 100 IM; Colin Caverly (11-12), 50 free and fly; Alden Kane (13-14), 50 fly; Michael Barron (8U), 25 breast; Christopher Barron, Erichsen, Kane and Sam Boyes won the 52U boys medley relay.

Kendallwood's winners were Nick Leshok (15-18), 50 breast and 100 free; Daniel Haus (8U), 25 back; Isaiah Erb (9-10), 50 breast; David Schmidt (11-12), 50 breast; Katy Fedurek (11-12), 50 back; and Lauren Folkert (15-18), 100 free.

Bucks take Windy City by storm

Talking about taking the Windy City by storm.

The Premier Development League's Michigan Bucks completed successful three-game road swing Sunday at Chicago's Toyota Park by extinguishing the host Fire, 2-0.

The first-place Bucks, who are unbeaten in their last 12 matches, improved to 10-0-2 (32 points) in the PDL's Great Lakes Division of the Central Conference.

The loss drops the Fire, who slipped to fifth place and currently looking on the outside of a playoff spot, to 3-5-3 (12 points).

The Bucks took the season series from the Fire PDL side with a record of 2-0-1 and won both games against the expansion Chicago Inferno. For good measure, the Bucks also beat the Chicago Fire of Major League Soccer in the US Open Cup to make the season record 6-0-1 against their Illinois neighbors.

After a scoreless first half, Anthony Grant notched his sixth goal of the year in the 51st minute off a feed from Nermin Crnkic, who then scored just two minutes later off an assist from Nate Boyden.

Bucks goalkeeper Sean Teepeen, who made seven saves, improved his

record to 5-0-1 while recording his fourth shut-out.

"We played some very nice soccer the past two games and I really like the way this team is coming together," Bucks coach Gary Parsons said. "We knew with our US Open Cup run that we had a special group in this year, but the more I have the pleasure of working with these guys, the more excited I get. We thought at the start of the season it would take twelve wins to defend our Great Lakes Division title and we have 10 with four to play so I really like where we are right now."

The Bucks return to PDL action at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 7 when they face the visiting Cincinnati Kings at Ultimate Soccer Arenas in Pontiac.

Tickets for the game are \$16 (adults) and \$7 (youth), but can be purchased for the special pre-sale price of only \$6 by visiting the Bucks web site at www.bucksoccer.com (click on the tickets link).

Grinwis excels

On Friday, the Bucks earned a 2-1 victory over host Forest City London (4-3-4, 16 points) as goalkeeper Adam Grinwis turned in a stellar performance with 10 saves.

Kenny Uzoigwe scored in the first half on a header off a corner kick in the 13th minute from striker Tommy Catalano followed by captain Steve Givens' successful penalty kick in the 57th minute after Catalano was taken down near the top of the penalty area.

"We played well in the first half and let them back into it in the second half," Parsons said. "They are a feisty team so we knew even a two goal lead wasn't going to slow them down. We needed to brush up on our closing out of games, as I never like to see last minute goals conceded as we have had the past couple of games. But taking four of six points against the two playoff caliber teams on the road is not a bad result for us."

Grinwis, who made several highlight reel saves, had his shutout bid spoiled during extra time in the 95th minute when FC London's Carl Haworth slotted home a PK.

"Adam Grinwis showed tonight why I believe he is destined for MLS when he finishes college," Parsons said. "This kid is not only a terrific athlete, but he reads the game extremely well back there. He was fun to watch tonight."

WADE

Continued from page B1
believed Wade will likely regroup and make another attempt to qualify for the U.S. Olympic team in 2016.

Her coach at Farmington High School, Charles Bridges, who attended the U.S. Trials and spoke with Wade afterward, indicated she planned to return to training and competition in the near future. "As her high school

coach, it was great to see her out there, competing at that level; that was a treat," Bridges said. "She had a lot of support. Her whole family and her coaches from the U-M were out there, and all were solidly in her corner."

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PHOTOS BY JOE CARZON

Bishop Francis Reiss and the Rev. Howard Vogan prepare to unlock the door and open the church to the members of the new parish.

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

July
ADULT ACADEMY
Time/Date: 7 p.m., Monday-Thursday, July 30-31 and Aug. 1-2
Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: The Rev. Paul Stunkel will lead adult learning. The series is "Theology for the Fearless: Who is God? What do we mean by 'incarnation'?"

RELIGION CALENDAR

and Other Conversations"
Contact: (734) 422-1470
CLOTHING BANK
Time/Date: 5-6:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 11 and 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, July 28
Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty, Canton
Details: Free clothing and shoes to anyone in need
Contact: (734) 927-6686 or (734) 404-2480.
CONCERT
Time/Date: 7 p.m., July 19
Location: St. Michael Lu-

theran Church & School, 3003 Hannan, Wayne
Details: Spoke Folk Christian music concert, free will donation
Contact: (734) 728-3315
FREE LUNCH
Time/Date: Noon-2 p.m., July 14
Location: First Baptist Church of Detroit, 21200 Southfield Drive, (northbound Southfield service drive), north of Eight Mile, in Southfield
Details: This is a free luncheon and all are welcome
Contact: (248) 569-2972

Parishes merge to form new church

St. Maurice and St. Genevieve, two Catholic churches in Livonia, held their final Masses as separate parishes, Saturday, June 30.

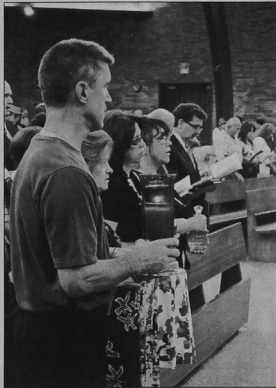
They were among four Catholic churches that merged congregations last weekend.

St. Genevieve-St. Maurice Parish — the church's new name — celebrated a Mass of Unity to mark the occasion on Sunday, July 1. Detroit Auxiliary Bishop Francis Reiss presided.

A Mass of Unity includes special elements, such as the renaming of the parish, a blessing for the new parish community and rites to combine sacred items and sacramental records from the former parishes.

The combined congregations will use the St. Genevieve campus at 29015 Jamison. The Rev. Howard Vogan will continue as pastor of the new church.

Other mergers last weekend were St. Clement Parish in Center Line and St. Teresa of Avila Parish in Warren, which was renamed St. Mary, Our Queen of Families Parish;



Parish members prepare to present sacramentals and parish records to the new, unified church.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in River Rouge and St. Francis Xavier Parish in Ecorse, which became St. André Bessette Parish; and St. Joseph and St. Elizabeth parishes, both in Wyandotte, which took the name St. Joseph Parish.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oeobits@hometownlife.com
 Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

MARTIN, RANDALL A.
 Age 58, June 24, 2012. Beloved husband of Holly. Dear father of Mark and Julie. Dearest son of Patricia and the late Albert Martin. Brother of Mark and Scott. Funeral Service Sunday, July 8, 2012, 2:00 p.m. at Crosspointe Meadow Church, 29000 Meadowbrook Rd., between 12 Mile and 13 Mile Road in Novi.

MICHELIS, JUDY ANN
 Age 69, June 30, 2012. Beloved wife of Richard. Dear mother of Matthew (Mary), Leah, Anne (Loving) and Valerie (Scott). Loving Nannie of Karlee, Karmy and Evan. Special friend of Danielle and Melanie. Memorial service to be held at a later date. Arrangements by Santeui & Son Funeral Home. www.santeuiFuneralhome.com

MEFFER, DONNA J. "YaYa"
 Willis, MI. Age 82. Died Friday, June 29, 2012 at her daughter's home with her loving family around her. She was born February 20, 1930, in Detroit, Michigan, the daughter of John and Madeline Smith. On April 26, 1947, she married Angelo Meffer and preceded her in death in May of 1987. Survivors include four children: William "Bill" (Bev) Meffer, Patricia Taylor, Catherine "Cathy" (Mark) Martin and Barb (Brad) Davidson; nine grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Funeral service was celebrated on Monday, July 2, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. at Knowiak Funeral Home with her son-in-law, Brad Davidson officiating. Burial will follow in Cadillac West Memorial Cemetery, Westland, MI. Contributions in her memory may be made to St. Joseph Mercy Hospice. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home where the family will receive friends on Sunday from 2-8 p.m.

POLICE, FRANK L.
 Age 83 of Livonia, passed away on June 30, 2012. Loving husband of the late Louise B. Beloved father of Frank Police, the late Daniel Police, Eva T. Police, Maria (Anthony) Kraska and David Police. Prud grandfather of Shannon Police, Steven and Angela Kraska. Funeral service Tuesday, July 10, 2012 from St. Michael's Catholic Church 11441 Hubbard Rd., Livonia. Mr. Police will lie in state beginning at 10:00am until time of mass at 10:30am. Friends may visit the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home 280 South Main, Plymouth on Monday, July 9, 2012 from 1-9pm with a Rosary service at 7:00pm. Frank will be buried next to his beloved Louise at United Memorial Gardens in Plymouth. Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital - Tribute Program P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 142 Memphis, TN 38148-0421. Share memories at schrader-howell.com

LEFLER, ROBERT "BOBBY", II
 Age 37, of Westland, died suddenly 06/30/12. Visitation Sat. 7/7/12 from Noon-5pm with the service beginning at 5pm at Caterline Funeral Home, 59255 10 Mile Rd., South Lyon.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



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 Traditional Service 10:00 a.m.
 Visit www.roseadalegardens.org
 For information about our many programs info@roseadalegardens.org

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 4800 E. W. Wood Northville, MI 48166
 www.wardchurch.org
 Traditional Worship at 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m.
 Contemporary Worship at 5:30 & 7 a.m.
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 Rev. Mary E. Biedron
 Senior Minister

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 Thursday: 6:30 P.M.
 website: www.stpaulslivonia.org

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Fellowship Presbyterian Church
 Adult Sunday School: 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.
 Children's Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
 Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire
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 www.fpcny.com • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org

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FOR INFORMATION

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

Popular gown exhibit returns to Plymouth Museum



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Emily Kirk is dressed as Abigail Adams. The shawl — called a fichu — cap, earrings and necklace are period pieces.

First Ladies are everywhere at the Plymouth Historical Museum. The dress on the left is a reproduction of Lady Bird Johnson's sable-trimmed coat. The one on the right represents the gown worn by Pat Nixon.



By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Lady Bird Johnson wore a yellow satin gown and sable-trimmed coat to her husband's inaugural balls.

Pat Nixon dressed in silk satin, embroidered in gold and silver and encrusted with Austrian crystals for her spouse's big day.

And Grace Coolidge celebrated in a flapper-style dress with velvet-trimmed gold metallic lace.

"It's red and red is my favorite color. It has a long waist. It's really pretty, and then it has some bling around the low waist," said Elizabeth Kerstens, describing the Coolidge gown — her favorite piece in current exhibit. "Inaugural Gowns of the First Ladies" at the Plymouth Historical Museum, where she serves as executive director.

The exhibit, like her line lengths at presidential elections, is cyclical. The museum borrows the 14 reproduction inaugural gowns from the Frankenthum Historical Association every four years for a display that coincides with the race for the White House.

The current exhibit runs through Nov. 7 at the museum, located at 155 S. Main, Plymouth. Hours are 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children, age 6-17; (734) 455-8940.

The Republican National Committee commis-



Debbie Elson, as Mary Todd Lincoln, with Honest Abe, himself.

sioned 22 inaugural dresses in the 1970s. A team of designers, directed by Don Nagel and David Zeese of Frankenthum, created the gowns from sketches they made while visiting the Smithsonian.

Research and design for each garment took approximately eight months.

"When the Republican Committee was done with them they sold them. The woman who came up with the original idea for them bought them and donated 14 of the dresses to Frankenthum."

Martha to Rosalyn

The collection, which has been shown nationwide, represents the inaugural gowns of Martha Washington (1789-1797),

Dolley (1809-1817), Louisa Adams (1825), Sarah Polk (1845-1849), Abigail Fillmore (1850-1853), Julia Grant (1869-1877), Helen Taft (1909-1913), Florence Harding (1921-1923), Grace Coolidge (1923-1929), Lou Hoover (1929-1933), Anna Eleanor Roosevelt (1933-1945), Lady Bird Johnson (1963-1968), Patricia Nixon (1969-1974) and Rosalyn Carter (1977-1980).

"They were worn by models, so the dresses are not built to the shape of the first ladies, they are built to the shape of the models," Kerstens noted.

She said the designers tried to match the fabric of the replica gowns as closely as they could to

Please see GOWNS, B8



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John Spence (center) of Livonia holds the photo, "The Man" that inspired him to write a winning entry for the Short on Words poetry and short story contest.

Local residents win prizes for writing, art

Local writers and artists took home honors in two inaugural events last month.

John Spence of Livonia won first place in the "Short on Words" short story and poetry competition at Arts and Acts in Northville.

Joe and Jennifer Rutherford won second place in the "People's Choice" award for their glass and metal carousel at Detroit River Artscape competition, held along the Detroit River during the annual Detroit River Days festival.

Short on Words challenged participants to draw inspiration from one of several pieces of art and write a story or poem. Spence chose a photograph of a man in a plaid suit for his piece.

Other Short on Words winners were Gene Brade of Northville, second place; Susan Glover of Westland, third place; and Joan Rayford of Livonia, special honors.

Arts and Acts ran June 22-24 in downtown Northville and included a visual arts exhibit in addition to a theater festival. That same weekend Detroit River Days festival celebrated the Detroit Riverwalk with family activities, live music and a first-time art exhibit.

The Rutherford family were among 10 artists invited to show their works and video for part of \$15,000 in prize money. The couple won \$1,500 for their life-sized fused glass and metal carousel. They're working on a larger version that will be shown at ArtPrize this fall in Grand Rapids.



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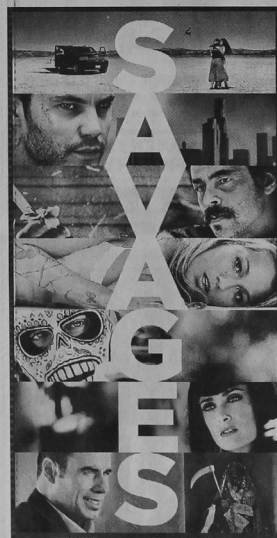
Treat yourself to a Delicious Sweet Crepe

Annual fashion show benefits art museum

Tickets are available for Fashion Bash, the annual fashion show presented by the Founders Junior Council (FJC) and Neiman Marcus.

The event starts at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16, at the Detroit Institute of Arts, (DIA) 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. The Founders Junior Council is a young professional auxiliary of the DIA.

fashion show. "Pret-A-Porter," is limited to 220 individuals and costs \$175 per tickets. It includes general seating at the fashion show. "Fashionably Late," costs \$75 per ticket and provides access to the pre-show cocktail party at 8:15 p.m. for a live feed of the fashion show on the steps of the museum. Ticket holders also may attend the post-fashion show "Paparazzi Party After Glow."



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GOWNS

Continued from page B6

the originals.
 "There are some discrepancies if you were looking strictly historically," Kerstens said.

Dolls and dresses
 Museum patrons, especially women, enjoy the popular display. Kerstens said patrons call in non-election years inquiring about the exhibit.

Four years ago the museum staff added first lady dolls to the exhibit. The mix of Madame Alexander and Brinn collection are back on exhibit with the full-sized mannequins.

"Yesterday, we just received a Michelle Obama doll in her inaugural gown," Kerstens noted. "The dolls add a lot. There are only 14 mannequins and a lot of first ladies. This helps us round out a lot of the history."

The current exhibit also includes furniture and other artifacts from the museum collection. Items highlight the time period of each gown or are directly connected to a president or first lady.

"We actually have Millard Fillmore's guitar. I don't know how we ended up with that, but we did," Kerstens said. "We also have a silver coffee server from his White House service. So, those are out there. And we've got inaugural invitations for several presidents that people have donated to us."

VOICES & VIEWS: COMMENT ONLINE



hometownlife.com

GET OUT!



"Glacier," by Royal Severs is part of the "Fire and Ice" exhibit at City Gallery in the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills.

Art

CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: July 10-Aug. 24; artist reception is 5-8 p.m. Friday, July 13
Location: Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: "Fire and Ice" exhibit features photos by Royal (Roy) Severs. Severs was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2001. His now-limited mobility, however, has not put a damper on his love for photography. He often uses a vehicle to get him to his subjects, whether on land or water

Contact: (248) 473-1800

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday
Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit

Family Sundays: 2 p.m. Sundays; storytelling, performances; free with admission

Exhibits: Patti Smith: Camera Solo, shows performer Patti Smith's photographs, through Sept. 2; Five Spanish Masterpieces features works by Picasso, Goya, Velazquez, El Greco and Dali, through Aug. 19; Picasso & Matisse exhibits all of the museum's drawings and prints by the two artists, July 11-Jan. 6, 2013

Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Time/Date: Exhibit runs through July
Location: 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: "Behind the Lens 6" includes more than 100 photos taken by Pioneer Middle School 8th graders during a trip to New York City

Contact: (734) 416-4267

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, through July 31
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton

Details: Photos by Bruce Giffin, former staff photographer at "Detroit Metro Times"

Contact: (734) 394-5300

Comedy

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB OF LIVONIA

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, open mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays
Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Matt McLowery, July 5-7; Nate Fridman, July 11-14; Mike Dambra, July 18-21; Dwayne Gill, July 25-28

Contact: (734) 261-0555,

www.kickerscomplex.com

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: Michael McDaniel, July 5-7; Kevin McCaffrey, July 12-14; Mike Baldwin, July 19-21; Andy Woodhull, July 26-28; Shen Wang, Aug. 2-4; James Evin Berry, Aug. 9-11

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak
Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

Dance

FAIRLANE BALLROOM DANCE CLUB

Time/Date: 7:30-10:30 p.m. every Thursday

Location: Lyskawa VFW Hall, 6840 Waverly, east of Telegraph, south of Warren in Dearborn Heights

Details: Singles and couples dance to live bands on a hardwood dance floor. Admission is \$7 for members and \$8 for nonmembers. Free refreshments

Contact: Jean Orleans at (734) 516-0500

MOON DUSTERS

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

Location: Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Livingston Road, Livonia

Details: Singles and couples; free refreshments. Dance lessons cost \$5; dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests, \$6.50 for associates and \$6 for Moon Dusters members

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

Film

ANN ARBOR SUMMER FESTIVAL

Time/Date: 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Thursday, July 5

Location: Michigan Theater, located on E. Liberty, just west of E. State, in downtown Ann Arbor

Details: "Cinematic Titanic" features the original cast and creators of "Mystery



Wild summer nights

Grievous Angel performs July 11 at the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak. Concerts take place 6:30-8 p.m. in the main picnic grove and are free with zoo admission.

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Contact: (734) 764-2538 or A25F.org

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Time/Date: Gates open at 7:30 and movies start at dusk; open nightly through Sept. 2

Location: 14900 Beck, Plymouth

Details: Listen to the film through a battery-operated FM radio or your car radio. Tickets are 69¢ for adults, \$6 for ages 4-12 and free for age 3 and under. Students with ID pay \$7 Sunday-Thursday

Contact: (734) 453-8300

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 6-7 and 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, July 8

Location: 760 Penningman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "The Lucky One," \$3

Coming up: "Bernie," 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 13-14 and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, July 15

Summer Cinema: All shows screen at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. "Harry & The Hendersons," Thursday, July 5; "Shrek," Thursday, July 12; "Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius," Thursday, July 19; "The Rookie," Thursday, July 26; "Raiders of the Lost

Ark," Thursday, Aug. 2; "Batteries Not Included," Thursday, Aug. 16; "Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit," Thursday, Aug. 23; and "Muppets from Space," Thursday, Aug. 30

Tickets cost \$3
Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. July 13 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. July 14

Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit

Details: "The Wizard of Oz," tickets \$4

Coming up: "Cool Hand Luke," 8 p.m. July 20 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. July 21; \$4; Abbott & Costello double feature, "Buck Privates," and "Abbott & Costello meet the Killer," 8 p.m. Aug. 10 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Aug. 11; \$5; "North by Northwest," 8 p.m. Aug. 24 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Aug. 25

Contact: (313) 537-2560

Museums

CHARLES H. WRIGHT

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday

Location: 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit

Details: Regular museum admission is \$8 for adults, 13-61; and \$5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admitted free.

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The macchiato and the quest for a great coffee shop

My Thursday Macchiato, courtesy of Astro Coffee.

I love to brew my own coffee at home, if you have read any of my previous columns — you know this by now.

However, brewing espresso at home is problematic in that it requires expensive equipment — so there is one day a week when I go out and treat myself. I call it Macchiato Thursday. Just a couple hours ago I had one of the best ever at Astro Coffee located in Detroit.

A macchiato is two shots of espresso served in a small, 2-3 ounce cup with just an ounce or so of silky smooth steamed milk. When crafted like it was this morning, it is a flavor sensation. It is sweet, creamy and intense.

A true macchiato is a coffee drink that separates the pretenders from the pros. If you want to know if your neighborhood shop should be on your "A" list for quality and commitment, ordering a macchiato is the best way to find out. Finding a place that can prepare this illusive delight, does take some work. But once you have found that place — know you have found a true gem.

The word espresso, a macchiato's main ingredient, conjured up many different images and responses from a macho-like grunt of toughness to a sour-face grimace when I offered a complimentary taste to customers. Those that took me up on the offer were almost always pleasantly surprised by the natural sweetness.

I have visited many shops over the years and even when I have vetted the shop for all the telltale signs that a great macchiato may be had, few produce what I consider a great drink. The good news is that the list in metro Detroit is growing and the search is well worth the effort.

Ask questions

To begin your quest for the illusive, but well-worth it search for a great macchiato, start at your favorite neighborhood coffee shop. Leave the smart phone holstered while standing in line and take notice of what goes on behind the counter.

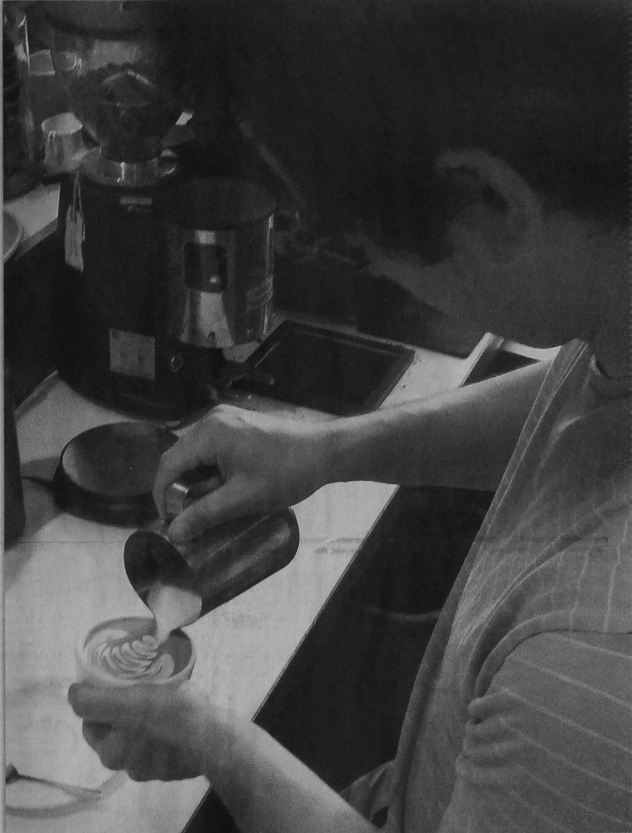
My best advice is to talk to the barista. Ask about the shop's macchiato and please know that a macchiato does not involve the use of caramel at any point during its preparation. A well-trained barista will more than likely be excited about an inquiry. It was always my favorite drink to make as it was received with great appreciation from customers. If the person behind the counter responds with a puzzled look, or lets on that she has never tasted a macchiato or that she does not like espresso — you can trust she cannot prepare it. Your search will need to continue elsewhere.

There are some clues to look for behind the counter that can give you an idea as whether or not you should drop \$3 for a chance at a great macchiato. But know that even those that look like they know what they are doing, in many instances do not, when it comes to espresso, milk and the macchiato. So conversing with baristas and of course tasting are the only true indicators.

• It should be obvious by now, but a well-trained barista will only grind coffee beans when the drink is ordered. There should be a separate grinder that is used to grind the beans and it should be done every time a new drink is prepared. Stay away from ordering a macchiato from a place where the barista pushes one button to grind and produce the espresso.

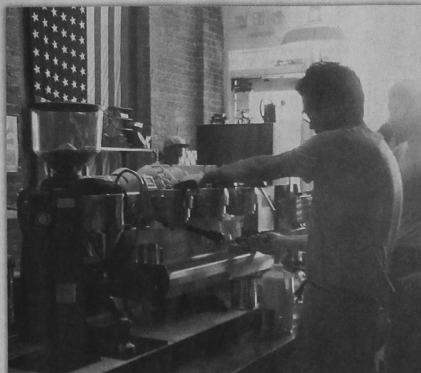
• If it looks like only fresh ground beans are being used — take a mental note of how long it takes the espresso to brew. It should drip out, thick and reddish brown in color. There should be a pause from the time the button is pushed on the machine and the time the coffee starts to drip. And the total time should be anywhere from 18 seconds to about 25 seconds. It should never be a real quick — push on — push off.

• While shops may differ on how the milk is added to a macchiato, the best I have found will steam the milk into silky-smooth microfoam and pour just a small amount into the cup containing the espresso. Some shops prepare a macchiato with a small spoonful of foam on top of the espresso. While this may



PHOTOS BY DAN DEAN

Talented baristas like Daisuke Hughes, owner of Astro Coffee in Detroit, know how to steam milk to a silky smooth consistency allowing them to create cool designs as they pour the milk.



Behind the bar at Astro Coffee. Watching how espresso is prepared and milk is steamed can give you clues as to whether or not you should consider ordering a macchiato at your favorite coffee shop.

be a more traditional approach, and is enjoyable when the espresso is spot on, I have found that more times than not

— the best baristas will prepare it with microfoam, even pouring the milk with a little design of a flower or heart.

• Do not discount the milk — it is just as difficult, if not harder to learn, than pulling great shots of espresso. The manner in which the milk is prepared is a great indicator of the talent and training of the person behind the counter. The stainless steel container of milk will be held at an angle under the steamwand as the milk is worked into a spinning motion to create a velvety smooth texture. There should not be loud noises and the container should not be set on the shelf of the machine with the steamwand in the milk as the barista tends to other duties. And lastly, watch the barista pour the steamed milk into the cup — it should be done in a slow continuous pour, no spoon needed.

So you have watched what is going on behind the counter and talked with the barista and you're confident this is the place. By all means give the macchiato a try. It should be a sweet, creamy and intense albeit very small cup of yummy goodness. If you agree, please tip your barista and let folks know of your discovery, and send me an email as I would love to hear about your experience as well. If it was a disappointment, it could simply be that it is not the drink for you or you may need to try another shop. Half the fun is the search. Chalk it up as a fun time to talk coffee and meet new people and continue the quest.

Dan Dean is assistant managing editor for the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weekly Newspapers and a former independent coffee shop owner. He can be reached at ddean@hometownlife.com.



Chicken and Mango Panini

Is your family tired of eating the same thing for breakfast, lunch or dinner? Not sure if trying a new recipe fits into your busy schedule? It's easier than you think to break out of the usual routine, especially when you have these quick, kid-friendly recipes that bring a taste of the tropics to your meals.

Mangos make the difference in these recipes — adding a splash of color and vibrant flavor to a savory breakfast burrito, hot panini or a tasty salmon and veggie dinner. And adding mango to the menu provides plenty of good nutrition. Mangos are an excellent source of vitamins C and A. Vitamin C promotes healthy immune function, while vitamin A is important for vision and bone growth.

For more quick and easy recipes for your busy weeknights, visit www.mangos.org. When choosing a mango, don't rely on color alone. Instead, gently squeeze the mango. A ripe mango will be firm with just a little give, like a ripe peach or avocado. If your mango isn't ripe, keep it out on the counter; it will continue to ripen at room temperature, becoming sweeter and softer over several days. Once ripe, move it to the refrigerator, where whole, ripe mangos will keep for up to five days.

Chicken and Mango Panini

Serves 4

- 1/2 loaf Italian bread, (8, 1/2-inch slices)
- 8 slices deli-sliced mozzarella cheese
- 1/2 cup whole basil leaves
- 1/2 red onion, sliced thin

- 1 large mango, peeled, pitted and sliced thin
- 2 cooked chicken breasts (about 1 pound total), sliced thin

Layer half of the cheese on 4 slices of bread; divide basil, red onion, mango, chicken and remaining cheese among bread slices. Top with second slice of bread.

Heat grill pan, panini press or large non-stick skillet over medium-high heat; spray with non-stick cooking spray. Place 2 sandwiches in pan (close lid or weigh down sandwiches in skillet with heavy pot). Cook sandwiches until bread is golden brown and cheese is melted, about 4 minutes per side. Repeat with remaining sandwiches.

Nutrition Information: Each serving (1 sandwich) contains 438 calories, 40g carbohydrate (13% Daily Value), 3g fiber (11% Daily Value), 40g protein (81% Daily Value), 12g fat (19% Daily Value), 6g saturated fat (28% Daily Value), 100mg cholesterol (33% Daily Value), 746mg sodium (31% Daily Value), and 644mg potassium (18% Daily Value).

Mango tango

Kid-friendly meals with a tropical twist

Making Panini Without a Press

Don't have a panini press? No worries — you just need a non-stick pan and one of these everyday items:

- Cast iron skillet
- Tea kettle weighted down with water
- Brick wrapped in aluminum foil
- Pot, weighted down with canned goods

All you need to do is: Preheat the non-stick pan. Spray the bottom skillet with non-stick cooking spray. Add sandwich. Spray bottom of weighted object with non-stick cooking spray, place on top of sandwich.



Salmon in Foil Packets with Mangos, Carrots and Sugar Snap Peas

Mango, Sausage and Potato Breakfast Burritos

Serves 4

- 9 ounces (about 5) small red potatoes, washed and diced
- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 8 ounces spicy sausage, casings removed
- 1 large mango, peeled, pitted and diced
- 6 tablespoons shredded Monterey Jack cheese
- 1 tablespoon chopped cilantro
- 4 small whole wheat tortillas

In medium microwave-safe bowl, toss diced potatoes with oil and cover tightly with plastic wrap. Microwave until cooked through, about 5 minutes. Drain potatoes, set aside.

In medium non-stick skillet, cook sausage until no longer pink and internal temperature reaches 170°F, about 10 minutes. Remove from pan with slotted spoon; drain and cool on paper towel-lined plate.

Heat same skillet over medium heat and add potatoes. Cook until golden brown, about 5 minutes. Transfer hot potatoes to large bowl and mix with cooked sausage, mango, cheese, and cilantro. Divide sausage and potato mixture among tortillas.

Nutrition Information: Each serving (1 burrito) contains 455 calories, 40g carbohydrate (13% Daily Value), 5g fiber (20% Daily Value), 19g protein (37% Daily Value), 26g fat (40% Daily Value), 3g saturated fat (15% Daily Value), 13mg cholesterol (4% Daily Value), 218mg sodium (9% Daily Value), and 390mg potassium (11% Daily Value).

Salmon in Foil Packets with Mangos, Carrots and Sugar Snap Peas

Serves 4

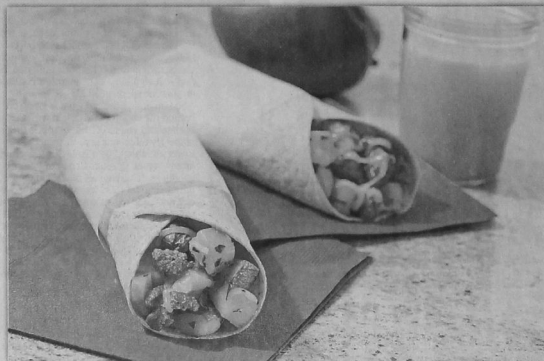
- 4 salmon fillets (about 6 ounces each), skin removed
- Salt and pepper
- 1 large mango, peeled, pitted and diced
- 1 cup matchstick cut carrots
- 1 cup sugar snap peas, stems snapped off and strings removed
- 4 tablespoons low sodium soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon butter, cut into 4 pieces

Preheat oven to 450°F. Cut 8, 12-inch squares of heavy-duty foil. Pat salmon dry and season with salt and pepper.

Place 1 piece of salmon on 1 piece of cut foil. Top each with diced mango, carrots and sugar snap peas. Pour 1 tablespoon soy sauce on top of salmon and veggies, top with 1 piece of butter. Place second piece of foil over salmon and veggies. Fold foil pieces together, sealing around all 4 sides, creating approximately a 7-inch square. Repeat with remaining ingredients and foil. Place on rimmed baking sheet and bake for 15 to 20 minutes, depending on desired doneness of salmon.

Note: Your favorite firm white fish such as tilapia can be substituted for salmon. Just purchase same size fillets and follow recipe.

Nutrition Information: Each serving (1/4 recipe) contains 439 calories, 13g carbohydrate (4% Daily Value), 2.3g fiber (9% Daily Value), 37g protein (74% Daily Value), 26g fat (40% Daily Value), 7g saturated fat (35% Daily Value), 101mg cholesterol (34% Daily Value), 868mg sodium (53% Daily Value), and 875mg potassium (25% Daily Value).



Mango, Sausage and Potato Breakfast Burritos

Report: Realtor incomes beginning to climb

By Julie Brown
OE Staff Writer

Making a living in real estate got challenging in metro Detroit these past few years. The 2012 National Association of Realtors Member Profile shows, however, that Realtor income/business is growing after years of decline.

The median income reported was \$34,900, a 2.3 percent gain, the first overall gain in nine years. Realtors with experience who have lived through the cyclical nature of the real estate market tend to earn more, according to the NAR. Those who've been in the business 16 years or more reported a median income of \$50,200. Realtors working 60 hours a week or more earned \$80,900, and 17 percent of NAR members earned a six-figure income.

Repeat business accounted for a median 19 percent of real estate activity in 2011 and is higher for those

with more experience — for NAR members with 16 years or more in the business, the number rises to 38 percent. Phyllis Pully is a Realtor with Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel in Northville. "I think especially this year there have been some changes. Houses have been selling faster," she said.

"The good houses go fast. The last three I had sold within two to five days." That's true in all price ranges. "I think this year is going to be really good for listing agents. They're going over the list price." One buyer of hers has been challenged to find a house. "I'm very busy with buyers. I think this year there's a lot of potential for making a lot more money," Pully said.

She has over 20 years in the real estate field. "It's very, very important to keep in touch with past clients. I have gotten a lot of referrals to clients' children."



"The prices will take a little while," she said of the current market. "It's certainly helping the neighborhood." People are putting in extra money to make the appraised price.

If a \$600,000 house is appraised at \$50,000, she finds sellers can put in the extra \$50,000 "because they wanted the house. The appraisals are still low and it's going to take awhile for prices to come back up."

Pully has advice for younger agents starting their careers. "Being thorough, keeping in touch with your clients and having a positive attitude at all times," she said. "You have to know what you're doing, you have to have experience."

"Yes, income is fine," she said. "I would say learn and talk to experienced agents. We have several new people in our office. They're doing open houses for experienced agents."

Some newer people at her office are doing well. Pully said. "You have to learn from the experienced agents and always talk to your manager." Her firm has a lot of resources and training for new agents. "Do what they do. If we have too many listings, we always ask a new person. Hit the experienced agents," Pully advised.

Tony Schippa is a Coldwell Banker Preferred of Plymouth Realtor and president of the Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors. He's been in the field since 2001.

"I'm hearing from our membership the market is starting to improve. When they (homes) sell, agents get paid," Schippa said.

Well-established agents "have definitely weathered the storm. You're just starting to see that activity increase." He finds word of mouth combined with newer avenues like Face-

book help to reach customers.

"Your sphere of influence and past clients definitely help you get through this," Schippa said. "It is the referrals from your past clients that keep you afloat."

"You need to write a business plan. You are an independent business," he said. "Try to get your name out" including using social media, he said.

"Do nice communications with your sphere of influence. You should be on your way to being successful. Keep a positive attitude. Try to stay away from negative people."

Schippa remained upbeat through the challenges of recent years in the housing market. "It's just a matter of how you look at it. We can make things happen, and they do happen," he said. "Just work on good communication skills."

jbrown@hometownlife.com

'Sunshine law' not for condos

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: We have a board that has stayed in power for seven years since we can't get a quorum at the meetings. They do not answer our questions, are not properly maintaining the community, keep hiring their favorite contractors, and do not allow us to go to the meetings of the board. Is there a sunshine law in Michigan? Do we have a right to go to the meetings of the board?

A: I have abbreviated your questions concerning the operation of your association, but what you need is a good association lawyer to pursue the board for what appears to be a breach of their fiduciary duties. There is no "sunshine law" in Michigan, and the Open Meetings Act does not apply to condominium associations. So, you have no absolute

right to attend board meetings. Nevertheless, the board's fiduciary duties include keeping the co-owners reasonably informed of the administration of the association of the Association. In addition, the Michigan Condominium Act does give co-owners an absolute right to inspect the association's books, records and contracts, and requires the books and records to be audited by independent accountants once a year. What your board is doing or not doing sounds to be improper and you should seek to remove the board in accordance with the bylaws or Michigan Non-Profit Corporation Act.

Q: I am a tenant in a condominium. I understand that the association has insured me as a co-insured and therefore, I cannot be sued by the insurer that pays a claim. Is that correct?

A: Yes. In a recent case out of Washington State, a condominium's declaration provided that the board to obtain and maintain fire insurance in an amount equal to the full insurable replacement value of the building for the benefit of the board and the owners. But after the insurer paid the claim, it sued the tenants, claiming they negligently caused the fire. In that case, the court found for the tenants on the basis that they were co-insured under the insurance contract and thus were not liable to the insurer on the basis of the subrogation. The appellate court in that case held that the law presumes that a tenant is a co-insured on a landlord's insurance policy unless there is an express agreement to the contrary.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition, available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping/handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping/handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit meisner@meisner-law.com.

This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 26-30, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON
7817 Charrington Dr \$138,000
171 Cherry Stone Dr \$189,000
39533 Dorchester Cir \$185,000
7016 Foxthorn Dr \$30,000
6000 Meadowsview Dr \$285,000
4231 Metairie Dr \$194,000
2028 Preserve Cir W \$133,000
43402 N Laurel Rd \$163,000
7245 Provincial Ct \$126,000
1984 S Cavalier Dr \$145,000
45936 S Stonewood Rd \$240,000

755 Stoneherge Dr \$155,000
GARDEN CITY
32911 Florence St \$74,000
442 Henry Ruff Rd \$65,000
32624 James St \$30,000
LIVONIA
27706 Buckingham St \$90,000
88225 Crown St \$28,000
14055 Derrne St \$140,000
18367 Foch St \$76,000
31554 Gable St \$35,000
18636 Gillman St \$45,000
9031 Harrison St \$65,000
9860 Harrison St \$115,000
15025 Hubbard St \$28,000
37516 Kingsbury Dr \$263,000
27616 Lyndon St \$113,000
37764 N Laurel Park Dr \$166,000
14175 Newburgh Rd \$175,000
14193 Park St \$118,000
31733 Perrin St \$127,000

26284 Pickford St \$144,000
NORTHVILLE
17848 Briar Ridge Ln \$737,000
44951 Broadmoor Cir S \$388,000
16237 Brook Trout Ln \$135,000
19250 Northridge Dr \$68,000
14689 Prestwick Cir N \$490,000
12658 Rockcrest Ln \$10,000
17577 Rolling Woods Cir \$485,000
39566 Village Run Dr \$196,000
PLYMOUTH
12749 Andover Dr \$280,000
13406 Andover Dr \$240,000
13540 Canterbury Ct \$402,000
40905 Greystone Blvd \$275,000
157 Hamilton Ave \$169,000
13047 Hollywood Dr \$446,000
8821 Northampton Dr \$265,000
41678 Riveroaks Dr \$185,000
REDFORD
18261 Centralia \$13,000

19916 Fox \$58,000
26511 Glendale \$71,000
19423 Glenmore \$15,000
20476 Kinloch \$24,000
9084 Riverdale \$75,000
WESTLAND
35724 Castlewood Ct \$45,000
2412 Cent St \$16,000
31738 Conway Dr \$73,000
1135 Craig Dr \$129,000
32553 Fernwood St \$28,000
38185 Hayward Dr \$175,000
1917 Mel Ct \$13,000
5862 N Carlson St \$80,000
28652 Shackett St \$93,000
34226 Sheridan St \$65,000
7341 Sorrell St \$130,000
6205 Traditions Dr \$120,000
6014 Wilmer St \$31,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 12-16, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS
1140 Evergreen Rd \$300,000
BIRMINGHAM
222 Arlington St \$1,308,000
1790 Birmingham Blvd \$226,000
1602 Elton St \$127,000
1340 Fairfax St \$1,255,000

2018 Hazel St \$400,000
1990 Maryland Blvd \$230,000
301 N Elm St \$55,000
1005 N Old Woodward Ave \$112,000
1785 Stanley Blvd \$573,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS
1965 N Hammond Lake Dr \$112,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP
450 Billingsgate Ct \$65,000
4811 S Chipping Gln \$530,000
2780 S Telegraph Rd \$450,000
6458 Thorncrest Dr \$319,000
631 Windsor Run \$340,000
37764 N Laurel Lake Dr \$256,000
COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP

2347 Brigantine \$225,000
3581 E Commerce Rd \$225,000
FARMINGTON
21132 Robinwood St \$145,000
35591 Tall Pine Rd \$230,000
FARMINGTON HILLS
29939 Club House Ln \$235,000
33722 Heritage Hills Dr \$200,000
23650 Montclair St \$117,000
30750 Springland St \$135,000
32723 Tall Timber Dr \$257,000
NOVATO
45667 Addington Ln \$325,000
22425 Alton Ct \$308,000
44474 Gwinnett Loop \$154,000
28669 Glen Lake Dr \$117,000
23190 Inverness Ct \$600,000

24775 Reeds Pointe Dr \$435,000
22822 Vasilios Ct \$258,000
22657 Waycroft Dr \$258,000
28243 Willow Dr \$84,000
SOUTH LYON
54495 Brentwood Dr \$286,000
22542 Lacy K \$345,000
24035 Prescott Ct \$61,000
23650 Glass Hill N \$405,000
SOUTHFIELD
26939 Fairfield Rd \$115,000
18220 Mount Vernon St \$78,000
30220 Rock Creek Dr \$59,000
WHITE LAKE
9565 Garforth St \$42,000
9108 Glasgow Dr \$74,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Seminar on Tuesdays
A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33019 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation.

Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Investors
Michael Jeffreys will speak Thursday, July 12. Sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland 5:30 p.m./9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, John R just north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to mem-

bers; \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742 (www.REIAofOakland.com)

Career Seminar
Learn about the \$50,000 income guarantee Thursday, July 19, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Keller Williams Realty, 4000 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. For more information, contact Mike Workman at (734) 459-4700 or mworkman@kw.com.

Investors
The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have

an open forum. Participants will discuss what they have learned. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update.

Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate. Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. Any questions or concerns, contact Wende Koehler, (313) 277-4168.

Free Foreclosure Tours

Free Foreclosure Tours are 1

p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail George@Add-evalvirealty.com or visit ForeclosureTour.com.

On Facebook
RE/MAX has launched a new Facebook page for customers and the public to get direct answers for their real estate questions from RE/MAX experts. The new site is a chance for the public to ASKRE/MAX and get clear, expert answers in real time. Visit www.facebook.com/ASKRE/MAX.

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Auction Sales
MILFORD
2741 Waianu Rd
Setting up July 6, Sale
July 7, 8am & July 8, 10am.
8:00am - 12:00pm. Includes 202 camping gear, tools, bird, Antiques, vintage game, pop machines, grandpa's things. DOWNSIZING!

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN VEHICLE AUCTION
40 lots including Dodge Charger + Ford Taurus + 100701 top up large truck. Mac Computer + Misc.
Tues., July 10th @ 6:00 PM
Hutson Farm South Shore Road
300 Sales Tax on Lot
No. 1000
Preview & Inspection @ 3:00 PM
Term: Cash and Check with 10% Buyers Premium
Browse at [BruceandDebbie.com](http://www.BruceandDebbie.com)
Bruce & Debbie's Auctioneers Inc.
David Helmer
734.368.1733

GARDEN CITY Estate Sale
July 4, 5 & 6. 1-800-6448
Numerous Wares/Memorabilia. Appliances, yard & office equip. EVERYTHING GONE. Must view.

Garage Moving Sales
SOUTH LYON JULY 6th/7th, 7th-8pm. July 8th, 10am-3pm. 4000 items. 1000s Household items. Toys, Christmas, crafts, books, antiques, old maps. Too much to list, to come check it out! Location: 74200 Douglas Drive, South Lyon. The sale is in the barn!

Household Goods
SOUTH LYON Moving Sale. July 5, 7, 8 & 9. 2 PM - 7 PM. In Lyon Twp. 8 Mile & Pontiac. Flat Furniture, clothing & other great stuff!

TWIN BED frame & mattress, \$500. Sofa/bed. Queen size \$1000. Recliner Chair. \$205. Sander Boxcoater \$75. End tables \$30. 447-5453

Exercise/Fitness Equipment
TREADMILL: Variable speed, great incline, new, rarely used. Best low price. Call: (248) 396-8055

Miscellaneous For Sale
Prestwick Village Golf Club membership. Immediate transfer without front-load costs. Call: (248) 396-8055

WINDOWS - Aluminum
JACOBS Utility Lvlty: windows, doors, interior windows, Aluminum door. Get good Best offer. 248-320-6386

LIVONIA
Garage Sale - Thursday and Friday, July 5 & 6, 9am-5pm, 18053 Renwick. Court Wain and Loran Ave. Golf items, clothing, books, 745-8511

LIWONIA, 7/5-7/8, 9am-5pm. 14513 Bluebell, in Kimberly Oaks, when Schoolcraft & M. Mile, Household items & some furniture.

LIVONIA, High Garage Sale, July 4-6, 9a-3p. 3236 Norfolk, S of Mile E. of Farmington. No dogs. Call: Mts of misc. stuff.

CATS: Fused spcaes & 2 male 9 wk old kittens, must stay together. No dogs. 248-320-4999

Pool Table: Free, Craftswill. Full size, mixed condition. Rugs & bats included. \$300. 734-958-8285

Cats: Fused spcaes & 2 male 9 wk old kittens, must stay together. No dogs. 248-320-4999

SINX 212 PUFS. A/C
View checked, shuts, solid black females, highly motivated. (734) 899-8525

NORTHVILLE Estate Moving. 63 years + EVERYTHING 114 West Street. 9am-5pm, July 5, 6 & 7. Furniture, linens, dishes, toys, etc.

SOUTH LYON
2-Home Garage Sale - 18 years worth of stuff! Friday-Sunday. See Street-South LYON, behind Martin's Hardware.

SOUTH LYON GARAGE
Sale. 730 & 425. A BABY STUFF/PIRAN 9-11. 2011 KIA MID. SUN. 312 24531 PARKVIEW DRIVE. SOUTH LYON 110 and 86th.

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to help with part time. Full time, and part time. Weekends. Must have transportation. Must have 3/4 car. Must be able to drive. Must be able to drive. Must be able to drive. Must be able to drive.

CUSTOMER SERVICE
Ideal for anyone who can't get out of work. Work from home. Pt. schedule. Weekly for Purple Heart. Call Mia-Fran. 953-734-0757 or email. phonereview@aol.com

DIRECT CARE STAFF
Work from home. 24/7. 315-575-7555

PLUMBER - Exp'd
Commercial. Reliable transportation. 248-320-5223

PLUMBER - JOURNEY
Full time, 40s hrs/wk. Must have clean driving record. Email: Milburnm1991@gmail.com

NEW HIRING
CANTON LOCATION. Immediate Sales Positions. Major Appliance, Audio/Video Sales. Motorola Electronics. High commission. Full medical benefits. 401k. Profit sharing. Employee discount. Training. Apply in person. 734-326-1320

SECURITY
We are currently accepting applications for full-time employment in the Plymouth, Michigan area. 248-320-5223

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
- Manufacturing
The Crown Group/Jornia seeks a self-motivated Maintenance Technician. Selected candidates will be offered a competitive wage and excellent benefits. 248-320-5223

TRAVELING ROUTE CLEANERS
Leads and trailers needed for full-time corporate accounts. \$9-\$11/hr, plus paid drive time and gas bonus. 248-320-5223

Qualifications:
- Minimum 2 years experience performing the essential duties in a manufacturing environment
- High School diploma or GED
- Proven skills in troubleshooting, diagnosis and repair
- Prefer candidates with experience in automotive supplier, painting/coating environment
- Must have basic hand tools

Qualified candidates
should send their resume and cover letter to: hr@tracgroup.com

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Help Wanted-General

MATERIAL HANDLER
Etsa Supply Company is seeking a full-time warehouse and/or planting office. This position is to be highly skilled in dealer truck accounting and bagging trucks and picking equipment. 248-320-5223

New Car Sales Assistant
Body dealership looking for a full-time. New Car Sales Assistant to support sales staff and handle vehicle technology training. 248-320-5223

RECEPTIONIST
Exp. needed. Must office. 248-320-5223

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Help Wanted-Office

Accounting Office Auto Dealership
Large Ford Lincoln Dealership is seeking an individual for a full-time position in the accounting office. This position is to be highly skilled in dealer truck accounting and bagging trucks and picking equipment. 248-320-5223

RECEPTIONIST
Exp. needed. Must office. 248-320-5223

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Help Wanted-Medical

RN NEEDED FOR A PROCEDURAL BASED CLINIC
We are seeking a highly motivated, experienced RN for our new procedural based clinic. The position is in a fast-paced, high-volume environment. 248-320-5223

RECEPTIONIST
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Help Wanted-Domestic

A Female Live-In Home Health Aide
for mentally stable 95 yr old female. Clean, caring, honest, reliable. 248-320-5223

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