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CLASSIFIED, SECTION C



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Schmitt party

A Canton community rally in honor of hometown Olympic gold medalist Allison Schmitt is set for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 14, at the Heritage Park Amphitheater, located next to the Summit on the Park at 1150 S. Canton Center.



Residents and well-wishers are invited to join in the celebration of Schmitt's five 2012 Summer Olympic medal wins during this free special event, which will feature a special presentation to this world-class athlete by Canton Supervisor Phil Laloy.

The Beckridge Choral will also be on hand to perform the United States National Anthem. In addition, the Pom Squad from Canton High School, Schmitt's alma mater, will also be performing during the festivities.

Canton residents shouldn't expect water rates to plunge even if Detroit carries out a consultant's plan to save \$900 million by slashing the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department's workforce, outsourcing other jobs and improving efficiency.

Despite a backlash from critics, the far-reaching report released Wednesday by the consulting firm EMA drew a warm response from local and regional officials who have long blasted water rates that — for Canton alone — spiked 32 percent during a five-year period ending in 2011, before edging downward 2.3 percent this year.

James Fausone, a Canton resident who chairs the regional Board of Water Commissioners for DWSD, said the recommended cuts, though painful for hundreds of workers, could help to overhaul a department long

plagued by deep financial problems.

Moreover, DWSD has long been under fire for allegations of corruption and mismanagement.

"The suburban residents have seen water rates increase 7-10 percent on average for the last five or six years," Fausone said. "What we expect is this reorganization will reverse that trend and we'll have smaller increases or a flat rate once the report is implemented."

Over a five-year period, EMA's

plan calls for slashing DWSD's workforce from 1,978 to 374, though an additional 361 jobs could return due to an outsourcing plan. Union leaders have vowed to fight what they consider draconian cuts, though Detroit Mayor Dave Bing and officials such as Fausone have applauded the plan viewed by many as long overdue.

"We think this is a legitimate plan put forth by a national

Please see **RATES, A2**



Leah Barringer dumps the water over her head as brother Eric tries to catch it in his cup during one of the games at Canton's Night Out event in Heritage Park. The kids are from Westland.

Game's afoot following primary vote

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

As the lone Democrat seeking a Canton Township trustee seat in the Nov. 6 election, Steven Sneideiman didn't muddy the political waters by starting an aggressive campaign prior to the Tuesday primary he automatically won as an unopposed candidate.



Sneideiman

Now facing three incumbent trustees and a former township supervisor who scored decisive Republican victories Tuesday, Sneideiman said he plans to escalate his efforts by knocking on doors, mailing out campaign literature, holding fundraisers and using his website

and social media. "I'm going to be trying to get people to understand the importance of having a balanced board so it's not held by one party," he said.

Race is on

Sneideiman, seeking one of four seats that carry four-term terms, faces GOP incumbents John Anthony, Pat Williams and Greg Demopoulos and former Supervisor Tom Yack in the Nov. 6 race.

The Republican candidates plan to run their own campaigns but, as in the primary, have indicated they may share some resources

Please see **ELECTION, A3**

Haggerty work

A project to resurface part of Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile roads begins Monday (Aug. 13).

During construction, Haggerty Road will remain open to traffic. In addition, driveway access to all businesses, including Schoolcraft College, will remain open throughout construction.

Fight against crime

'Night Out' event brings watch groups, residents together

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

John and Amy Sullivan took their children, Hannah and Max, to Canton Township's annual Night Out event Tuesday because they thought it would be fun, and an excellent chance to meet some neighbors they might not otherwise meet.

"We went a couple of years ago and the kids had a lot of fun," Amy Sullivan said. "It's a good chance to maybe meet some other neighbors in the area."

And that's exactly what Canton Police Special Services Lt. Pat Sullivan (no relation) wanted people there. Canton's sixth

Please see **NIGHT OUT, A6**



BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Tajmann Kaur, who is 6 years old, was at Wednesday's service.

Vigil at Sikh temple calls for understanding after shootings

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

People from an array of faiths reached out to the Sikh community Wednesday to call for healing in the wake of the Aug. 5 mass shooting at a Sikh temple in a Milwaukee suburb.

And local Sikhs reached back, opening the doors at Gurdwara Sahib, a temple in

Plymouth Township, to those who don't share their religion but do share a belief in a common humanity. Gurdwara Sahib, nicknamed Hidden Falls, hosted a traditional Sikh evening meal and worship service, which were followed by a candlelight vigil.

"We want people to come and see what

Please see **VIGIL, A2**

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VIGIL

Continued from page A1

we practice," said temple member Amrit Gill. The event was organized by the temple and the Interfaith Leadership Council of Metropolitan Detroit in response to last Sunday's killing of six worshippers at a temple in Oak Creek, Wis. The gunman, Wade Page, opened fire in the temple as a meal was being prepared and, wounded by a responding police officer, also killed himself, police said. Three people were wounded, including Oak Creek Lt. Brian Murphy, who was shot multiple times while tending to a victim.

Breaking bread

At Gurdwara Sahib on Wednesday, Sikhs and about a dozen non-Sikhs gathered in the dining room and sat on the floor, many cross-legged, to be served dal, or bean stew, lentil soup, and flat bread. Sikhs normally eat before worship, and Gurdwara



Candle-light vigil for the victims of the Wisconsin Gurdwara shooting.

Sahib's member families rotate the cooking duties, said member Mandeep Singh. "It's a community meal. It's just a normal, everyday meal we eat at home," Singh said. Sitting on the floor, he said, is meant to symbolize equality among people. "It doesn't matter who you are, rich or poor. God created everybody equally," he said. Chairs are available for the elderly or those with physical problems, however.

Later, in the worship hall, Sikhs lined up to pay respect to the Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh holy book. Singh said the book is the compiled writings of the 10 Sikh gurus, or holy men, and that it offers Sikhs guidance for their lives. Sikhs are encouraged to visit the temple daily to worship the book and read the passage for the day, he said.

500,000 U.S. Sikhs
Sikhism is a monotheistic religion that originated

in the Punjab region of India in the 15th Century; the faith has an estimated 30 million followers around the world, an estimated 500,000 in the U.S. Sikh men and women cover their hair; the men often wearing turbans, and men are instructed not to cut their hair or shave their beards. Shoes are not worn in most parts of Sikh temples.

During worship, Sikhs and their guests sat on the floor, men on the right, women on the left,

as musicians performed Shabad Kirtan, or singing of the scripture, in the Punjabi language. "I don't see enemies in others and I don't see anyone as a stranger," read one verse, projected in English on a screen above the musicians. Bhai sahib, or priest, Raja Singh then offered prayers for the souls of the Oak Creek victims, and for those recovering from the attack, mentioning Lt. Murphy by name.

Shared prayers

Around 8:30 p.m., hundreds of people, many holding lighted candles, stood outside Gurdwara Sahib as sunset approached to again pray for the Oak Creek victims and call for healing and understanding.

"We're here to let you know that we stand with you," Steve Spreitzer, of the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, told the crowd. "We pray especially at this time for peace in the world and in our neighborhoods," said Victor Beggs, chairman emeritus of the Council of Islamic Organizations of Michigan.

Beggs remembered the six who died in the shooting. "To God they belong and to heaven they'll

return," he said.

Beggs blamed the killings on what he called "a growing culture of intolerance." Page, the gunman, had reportedly been active in the white supremacist movement.

Also speaking Wednesday were representatives of Christian, Baha'i, Hindu and Jain faiths.

Sense of identity

Temple members said the event was an important part of the healing process.

"It gives us a sense of assertion of our identity. It helps us come together," said Parvinder Mehta of the gathering.

Mehta, a professor of English, read a poem she wrote after the shooting that touched on a range of emotional responses to it: anguish, mourning, seeking and giving comfort, forgiveness, and gratefulness for the gifts of life.

Mehta said she also looked toward the commonalities between religions rather than emphasizing differences.

"Sometimes we get carried away by our differences but I think it's the similarities we need to focus on," she said.

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RATES

Continued from page A1

expert that has done over 400 similar evaluations of water utility plants and companies across North America," Fausone said, adding later, "This is the right direction, and it really is sort of a game changer."

The latest developments come as Canton has embarked on a \$9.800 feasibility study by Livonia-based OHM to determine whether a water storage tower might be a cost-efficient way over time to curb water rates that have long been a sore point with local consumers who pay the tab.

Canton already has stepped up efforts to convince consumers to water lawns and common areas between midnight and 6 a.m. to ease demand during peak-usage hours in mornings and evenings. Canton Township Trustee John Anthony, an outspoken critic of DWSJ, called EMA's report encouraging alongside other developments such as last fall's appointment of a new DWSJ director, Sue McCormick.

"I'm cautiously optimistic. It's a movement in the right direction—a movement I haven't seen in years," Anthony said.

Moreover, he lauded McCormick for "reaching out to the suburbs and being very inclusive in her decisions" while trying to reform DWSJ, which Anthony said had become "a dumping ground for political hacks over the years."

EMA's report calls for reducing the workforce, improving technology

and other measures to make DWSJ more efficient.

"Does it go far enough? Absolutely not," Anthony said. "It's the (DWSJ) culture that needs to change."

Township Trustee Pat Williams said the long-range effects of the report aren't known.

"I think what they're doing is an attempt to stop the bleeding and hemorrhaging, and they're hitting the low-hanging fruit," he said. "Will the department become more efficient? Only time will tell."

Williams held out hope the report could rein in water rates, though he said he hopes the full set of recommendations don't have an unanticipated negative effect on service to communities such as Canton.



Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said the report doesn't necessarily mean water rate increases will be halted. He said DWSJ still has to spend money for costly capital investments and to improve technology.

Yet he, like others, is hopeful DWSJ can begin to overhaul a bloated structure. He said the recommended changes would reduce an exorbitant number of job classifications from 257 to just 31.

Officials say the recommendations, if carried out, will come in phases, so water consumers shouldn't expect an overnight fix.

"This really is a long-term plan," Faas said.

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Ballots on way for special election

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Canton voters requesting absentee ballots for a special Sept. 5 primary election, which occurs after U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter resigned, should start receiving their ballots in the mail by Aug. 20, township Clerk Terry Bennett said. The election, expected to cost Michigan taxpayers \$650,000, will pluck a Republican nominee from among five GOP hopefuls to challenge lone Democrat David Curson in a Nov. 6 election to fulfill the remaining weeks of Republican McCotter's term, which expires at year's end. Canton Township Trustee Pat Williams counts himself among enraged voters — Democrats and Republicans alike — who view the Sept. 5 primary as ludicrous.

"I will not be voting out of protest," Williams said. "It is a complete waste of taxpayer money."

One Republican seeking the interim post is former teacher Kerry Benivolio of Milford, whose name also appears on the Nov. 6 ballot against 11th District Democratic nominee Syd Taj of Canton for a full two-year term in the newly redrawn 11th District.

Other GOP hopefuls on the Sept. 5 ballot include Nancy Cassis, a former state senator who lost her write-in candidacy to Benivolio in Tuesday's primary; Richard, a former

Livonia school board member; Carolyn Kavanagh of Livonia, daughter of 16th District Judge Sean Kavanagh; and political newcomer Kenneth Crider.

In what local officials concede is a confusing election season, the Sept. 5 primary arose when McCotter resigned amid a petition-signature scandal that has led to charges against four people who worked as McCotter's staffers.

Bennett's office hadn't gotten past Tuesday's primary before employees had to start focusing on the Sept. 5 election. Bennett had one word to describe the election season — "grueling."

She urged absentee voters to return their Sept. 5 ballots as quickly as possible.

"There will be a very short turnaround time," she said.

In another development, voters in Canton Precincts 6 and 32 who normally vote at LifeChurch at Hagertry and Warren have been moved to the Sept. 5 election to the Canton Township Administration Building.

LifeChurch can't accommodate the Sept. 5 polling place due to events already scheduled, though voters will return to that location for the Nov. 6 general election.

Voters affected by the Sept. 5 change have been notified by mail.

"Every voter was sent a letter," Bennett said.

ELECTION

Continued from page A1

or volunteers. Though they fared well in Tuesday's race, they say they aren't taking the November election for granted.

"I believe that Steve Sneideman is a viable candidate and he's not to be taken lightly," Williams said. "None of us are going to go to sleep on it."

Sneideman served nearly six years on the Plymouth-Canton school board, including a stint as president. Though he lost his last school board race, Demopoulos, like Williams, said the Democrat can't be shrugged off in the township board race.

"I agree that Steve is a worthy opponent," Demopoulos said.

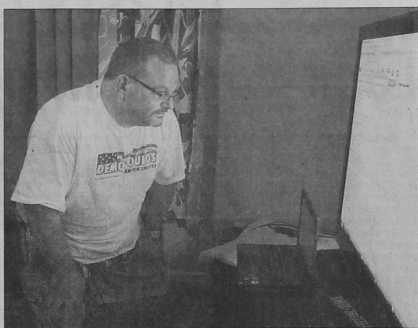
Demopoulos placed fourth among the Republican candidates who advanced to the Nov. 6 election.

"I want to continue running a clean campaign," he said, "and I'm going to work as tirelessly and diligently as I did in the primary."

Deep breath

Yack emerged as the Republican top vote-getter in Tuesday's election, followed by Williams, Anthony and Demopoulos, who was appointed to the board last fall.

The foursome defeated Deborah Whyman, a former state legislator,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Greg Demopoulos, an appointed Canton Township Board of Trustees incumbent who advanced to the Nov. 6 general election, watches election returns during a gathering at Trustee Pat Williams' house.



Trustee Pat Williams finished second in the balloting for one of four trustee spots.

and political newcomer Joseph Cafarelli.

"The first thing," Williams said, "is to take a deep breath from the primary and then develop a November strategy."

Sneideman has said he hopes to replace the township board's only Democrat, Dr. Syd Taj, who won his party's primary Tuesday as nominee for the 11th District Congressional race against Republican Kerry Benivolio of Milford.

As a one-term township trustee, Taj forged positive relations with his Republican counterparts — and Sneideman said he believes he could

do the same.

"I know them all, and I think I can work with them very well," he said, but "I do think having both parties represented is important."

If the Republican candidates aren't taking their campaigns for granted, neither is Sneideman, who isn't convinced being the sole Democrat necessarily increases his chances of victory.

"I don't think it's that big of an edge — if it's an edge at all," he said.

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RECORDS

We are in the Olympics, but I am not talking about breaking records, chasing records or equalling records. I want to discuss keeping records.

The records I have in mind are health records. Physicians seeing a patient for the first time or seeing a family patient presenting with a new problem, acquiring having that patient bring out past data that applies to the present problem.

For the physician, the best data comes from laboratory test results or reports of x-rays, MRIs, or CT scans done within the last year. It may seem easy for the doctor to call other offices or hospital radiology departments and ask for a fax of the information. But often, gathering that information is difficult because the lab slips are lost, the person sent to get the information can't find it, the office is closed, or the person at the other end of the line is annoyed over honoring the request. The result is delay that leaves the appointment incomplete or the patient waiting possibly for hours for the fax with the information to arrive.

The alternative is for the patient to obtain a copy of test results and imaging reports, and when seeing a new physician take a folder with that information to the appointment.

The point of a large part of health technology is to bring all patient information to one site and to allow physicians access to that information whether the appointment takes place in Michigan, California, New York or Washington. The process to bring this access into being proceeds slowly. In the meantime, patients should continue to ask for a copy of results, save the papers, and bring them to the next doctor's appointment.

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Local schools end up on state Focus list

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

All but one school in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district reached Adequate Yearly Progress status on the report card issued under the federal No Child Left Behind act this year.

But that wasn't enough to keep five of them off of a new list produced by the State Board of Education designed to track progress on eliminating the gap between a school's highest- and lowest-achieving students.

The five schools on the list include Discovery Middle School, East Middle School and Farrand, Field and Miller elementary schools.

Two of those schools — East Middle School and Miller Elementary School — house the district's Talented and Gifted program.

Focus Schools are

schools that reflect a significant gap between the performance of the top 30 percent and the bottom 30 percent of its students (based on MEAP and MME Results).

"It is important for the community to understand that we have recognized the achievement gap and have been working on solutions," said Superintendent Jeremy Hughes.

"Even before the state announced the Focus school designations, the Board of Education created an achievement goal to deliver 133 percent growth this year for non-proficient students.

Our board is insisting we raise the floor and close the gap. It's also important to recognize that we are a high-performing district, and large numbers of our students do very well on state assessments," added Hughes.

Lots of others
Plymouth-Canton,

whose students routinely score about county and state averages on standardized tests, wasn't alone on the list. It was among dozens of districts around the state — including Northville, Troy, Utica, Livonia and Ann Arbor schools — with buildings on the list.

Also included among state Focus Schools were Canton Charter Academy and Achieve Charter Academy, National Heritage Academies charter schools based in Canton. Officials from those schools couldn't be reached for comment.

"We believe teachers in the classrooms every day have important responsibilities and they work tirelessly to help students learn," state Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan said. "We will help the schools and teachers who need support to meet the unique needs of every student who depends on them."

Plymouth-Canton officials point out they've already been addressing the achievement gap, including focusing on raising the achievement in its subgroups (English Language Learners, special-education students, etc.).

"Since No Child Left Behind, we've been raising student achievement," said Jeannie Arina, Plymouth-Canton's assistant superintendent for instruction. "We know we have significant differences in our sub-group performers, and we've already been looking at it. It has gone through different iterations, but we had been looking at it."

In addition to instructional adjustments, the Focus Schools designation could cause some issues in other areas. One of the obligations imposed by the state says students who wish to transfer from a Focus School must be allowed

to do so, and the district must provide transportation. In a district that has already set its bus routes for the 2012/13 school year, for instance, that could cause significant problems.

Forcing changes

"We've already designed our routes, made our determination of how students will efficiently do that," said Phil Freeman, Plymouth-Canton's assistant superintendent for facilities and operations. "Now we have to figure out how best to handle these (potential) moves. There's a great deal of uncertainty about what those numbers will look like."

Districts that don't have an alternative will have to bus students who opt out of a Focus School to a building in another district. For instance, both of Northville's middle schools are on the Focus list, which means North-

ville would have to transport a student wanting out of either of their middle schools to another district.

Plymouth-Canton Director of Community Relations Frank Ruggerio said this week the district has already been approached by at least one other district for such a partnership, should the need arise.

Farina said the five Plymouth-Canton schools will remain on the Focus list for at least four years, the length of time the state mandated data collection for review.

"We are going to address in our school improvement plan making intervention more consistent throughout the district," Farina said. "We're looking at all the data. We want to make our student achievement more visible."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-8899

Coco Jones headlines annual Back 2 School celebration

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Two years ago, Coco Jones thought being on Disney's *N.B.T.* was a "big thing to do," but she discovered that it was the first step on her way to stardom.

The 14-year-old Jones, who is criss-crossing the country this summer doing concerts and making appearances, will be in Westland Saturday, Aug. 18, for Radio Disney AM-910 Detroit's Back 2 School celebration at Westland Shopping Center.

"The funny thing is I didn't win *N.B.T.* (Next Big Thing), I was only a finalist," Jones said. "Everyone thinks I won. I thought being on it was a big thing, but it's gotten better as it progressed."

Jones will be performing a free concert at the shopping center. This is the fourth year that Radio Disney has joined with the Westland Shopping Center and Wayne-Westland Community Schools to stage the family friendly event.

From noon to 3 p.m., parents and their children will be treated to

Jones's concert and a Q & A and interactive entertainment featuring the JROTC program, cheerleaders and marching band. Representatives from transportation services, preschool program and schools of choice will be on hand, and the culinary arts program from the William D. Ford Career Technical Center will be giving out dessert samples as part of the event. There also will be face painting and a mall gift baskets and gift cards will be given away.

Derrig estimates that 500 to 1,000 people will

attend.

"It's a celebration of the Wayne-Westland Schools," said mall marketing director Patrick Derrig. "This will be one-stop shopping to learn about Wayne-Westland. This school district is amazing. We proud to have them in the mall to showcase their programs. The purpose behind this event is to bring brand awareness of Wayne-Westland and let people have a first, second and third look."

Jones, 14, plans to "do a couple of covers and a couple of my songs that nobody has heard" for her appearance at the mall. Described as a singer and rapper, she has become popular with tweens and teens since she first appeared on *N.B.T.* in 2010. While she didn't win the show, it helped launch her music career. She has guest starred on the Disney Channel's *So Random!* as herself, and as player Roxie, a teenage singing sensation, in the film *Let It Shine*. She also released a self-titled debut CD, *Coco Jones*, which led to her concert series, *UBU-Stop the Bullying*.

She has gotten support from her parents, professional football player Mike Jones and session vocalist Javonda Jones,



Singing sensation Coco Jones will headline the Back 2 School celebration, hosted by Radio Disney, the Wayne-Westland Community Schools and Westland Shopping Center at the mall on Saturday, Aug. 18.

and found inspiration in another Disney star, Raven-Symoné, in pursuing her "dream job."

"The great thing about my parents is they let me choose my career and are standing behind me," she said. "When I told them I wanted to do this as a career, they said OK, but if you do this, you do it 100 percent, and I've been doing it 100 percent ever since."

"And Raven-Symoné inspired me to go after my dream and to be myself," she added.

Jones compares her style to Beyoncé and is developing a following among kids ages 8-16. Her goal is to grow with her music like Justin Bieber has.

"He got his little girl

and then he grew up and his music matured," she said. "I do have fans, but I'd like more."

While Jones is doing back to school events, she won't be headed back to school when the concert tour ends. Instead she will be heading to the recording studio to finish her first album and then focus on promoting it.

"I do get home, but rarely," she said. "My family has sacrificed a lot for this life. My mom travels with me."

Westland Shopping Center is at 35000 W. Warren Road, at Wayne Road, in Westland. For more information, call the mall at (734) 421-0291.

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AROUND CANTON

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

BLOOD DRIVE

Date/Time: Friday, Aug. 24, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: Canton Public Library
Details: The Canton Public Library will host an American Red Cross blood drive. You may walk in or reserve a spot. Donors in the month of August are automatically entered in a raffle for a \$500 gas card. You must be 17 and capable of giving an entire pint. Hospitals in southeastern lower Michigan use 900 pints of blood per day; we hope to collect 31 pints.
Contact: Call Kathie Gladden at (734) 397-0999, Ext. 1071 or emailing gladdenk@cantontpl.org

GIVING BLOOD

Details: The American Red Cross hosts blood drives at a variety of locations this month. Blood drives are scheduled for 1-6:45 p.m. Monday, Aug. 13, Canton Municipal Complex; 2:45 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15, Connection Church; 1-6:45 p.m. Friday, Aug. 17, at Plymouth High School; 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 18, Living Word Church; 1-6:45 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 22, City of Plymouth; 1-6:45 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 23, First United Methodist Church of Plymouth; 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Friday, Aug. 24, Canton Library; 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 26, St. Kenneth Church; 2:45 p.m. Monday, Aug. 27, VFW Post 6695 in Plymouth; 1-6:45 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 28, Salem High School; 1-6:45 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30, Plymouth District Library. Donors will be entered into a monthly drawing for a \$500 gas card.
Contact: Call Diane Risko at (313) 549-7052 or email Diane.Risko@redcross.org to set up an appointment.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Date/Time: Sunday-Thursday, Aug. 19-23, 6:30-8:45 p.m.
Location: Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321 S. Ridge, Canton
Details: Cherry Hill United Methodist Church hosts Vacation Bible School, including Adventures on Promise Island, where kids discover God's lifesaving love. There will be bible stories, crafts, snacks, games, music, skits, and more. For children 4 years old - 5th grade. Registration on or by Aug. 12 is \$5 per child or \$10 maximum per family. Registration after Aug. 12 is \$8 per child or \$15 maximum per family.
Contact: Call the church office at (734) 495-0035.

SLAVENS COFFEE

Date/Time: Monday, Aug. 20, 5-6 p.m.
Location: Daydream Cafe, 47192 Michigan Ave., in Canton

Details: State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, invites residents to join her for a cup of coffee and conversation at one of her upcoming coffee hours. Slavens hosts regular coffee hours and town hall meetings throughout Canton Township, Belleville and Van Buren Township.
Contact: Call (888) 347-8021 or send an email to DianSlavens@house.mi.gov

COLBECK AIDE HOURS

Date/Time: Wednesday, Aug. 15, 6-7 p.m.
Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: State Sen. Patrick Colbeck's district manager, Ryan Eggenberger, will hold office hours and be available to talk with residents and to assist with any problems related to their interactions with state government. In addition to meeting with residents, Colbeck's office will also accept donations for the new Freedom Center at Metro Airport. Contact: For more information or to schedule an appointment during the in-district office hours, call Colbeck's Lansing office (734) 335-0673.

Lions Club brings circus to town

By Brad Kadrich
 Observer Staff Writer

Fred Field knows the idea of a circus coming to town has been an American small-town tradition for a century or more.

That's why he's excited his Plymouth Lions Club is bringing the Kelly Miller Bros. Circus back to town this week.

The circus will be at Central Middle School Tuesday, Aug. 14, with 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. performances, all preceded by the traditional tent-raising activities set for 9 a.m. the same day.

"Many of us remember as children attending a circus with our parents, and taking our children to a circus," said Field, who serves as the circus co-chairman. "Typically it is the younger children who are most impressed with a circus. We want to continue these memories for the next generation."

The Kelly Miller Circus is celebrating its 74th anniversary this year, bringing its show featuring elephants, horses, llamas, camels, clowns and international circus stars to its two Plymouth performances.

It starts when the trucks pull into town Tuesday morning and start setting up for the tent-raising. Once the first of the four main poles are in place, the public is invited to step into the tent and see men and beasts complete their work.

The Plymouth stop is part of a 10,000-mile journey that will see the circus perform in some 200 cities through October.

In addition to delighting the crowds, the circus serves as a fund-raiser for



The Plymouth Lions Club brings the Kelly Miller Bros. Circus to town Tuesday, with 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. performances. The tent-raising starts around 9 a.m., all at Central Middle School.

the Plymouth Lions Club.

"We spend it back into the community on many community oriented projects," Field said.

Tickets are available at Kroger, Dairy King and Wiltz Pharmacy. Tickets bought in advance cost \$10 for adults, \$6 for children. Show-day tickets are \$15 and \$7, respectively.

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The Chronic Pain and Fatigue Research Center (CPFR) is currently recruiting women (ages 40-50) to participate in their study of:

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Volunteers who are found eligible for participation will be asked to complete questionnaires and a series of research measures. Compensation (between \$40 and \$220) is provided and is commensurate with time/effort.

UM/IRB study # HUM0003296



For more information about this study and/or to schedule a screening appointment, please contact Gabriela at: (734) 998-7021 gmrnir@umich.edu

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Mosque offers free program

The Muslim Community of Western Suburbs has extended an offer to the public to attend a free program and dinner, or Iftar, that refers to an evening meal when Muslims break their fast during the month of Ramadan.

The MCWS Outreach Committee has set the event for 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16, at the Canton Mosque, 40440 Palmer Road at Lot. The meal is scheduled for 8:34 p.m.

The invitation and ways to sign up can be found at www.breakfastatthesunseteventbrite.com. More information also is available by sending an e-mail to mcws-outreach@gmail.com.



Max and Hannah Sullivan play on the bouncers during Canton's Night Out in Heritage Park.

NIGHT OUT

Continued from page A1

annual event, held Tuesday in Heritage Park, is part of the 29-year-old National Night Out effort staged in hopes of strengthening ties between vigilant neighborhood groups, police officers and firefighters.

He said the event, which annually draws hundreds of people, is a kind of reward for neighborhood watch programs (he estimates there are a couple hundred such groups in Canton), and a way for people in those programs to network.

"We want to unite the community and their them involved in crime prevention," Lt. Sullivan said. "We want them to be our eyes and ears in the community. We can't be everywhere."

"It's a good opportunity for people to meet their neighbors, and expand

their friend base outside their own groups," he added. "They can talk to each other and get some ideas from each other."

This year's event featured a hotdog picnic, inflatable bouncers, a disc jockey, several displays such as police cars and fire trucks, crime-prevention handouts, child identification kits and other activities.

Target is the national corporate sponsor of this year's event. It's run in partnership with the Canton police and fire departments and the township's Leisure Services Department.

Ginger and Eric Barringer brought their children, Leah and Eric, for the second straight year.

"The kids are super excited to come to this," said Ginger Barringer, formerly of Canton and now living in Westland. "They like the interaction of the games."

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Alexandria Milevsky, with dad Walter, gets a look at the Special Operations Team vehicle. The Milevskys are from Westland.

Can-do spirit to aid band

Returnable pop cans and bottles piling up in the pantry or the garage? Take them to Plymouth High School on Thursday, Aug. 16, and help send the Plymouth Canton Marching Band to a national competition this fall.

The Plymouth Canton Music Boosters, a parents organization that supports the marching band, will be collecting returnable pop cans and bottles from 7:30-9 a.m. at the school at 8400 Beck Road, just south of Joy Road, in Canton Township. Donations should be put in a plastic bag and brought to the yellow trailer in the school lot. Parent and student volunteers will be on hand to assist.

The money raised will go toward the marching band's planned trip to November's Grand National Band Championships in Indianapolis.

GE helps with trail cleanup

Canton Leisure Services, the Friends of the I-275 Metro Trail, and the Michigan Department of Transportation joined forces with over 120 General Electric (GE) employees from GE's Advanced Manufacturing and Software Technology Center — a state-of-the-art IT and research facility in Van Buren Township — for a special volunteer trail clean-up project along the I-275 Metro Trail.

The Metro Trail clean-up project was one of the five GE Community Day projects with a total of 320 GE volunteers helping organizations across the metro-Detroit region.

As part of GE's commitment to giving back to the communities where its employees live and work, GE volunteers cleaned up hundreds of bags of litter and debris, removed non-native plants, and provided general habitat management along a stretch of the I-275 Metro Trail from Joy Road to Van

Born Road in Canton.

This marks the third year GE volunteers have contributed community service to a trail clean-up project in Canton. Additional support for this project was provided by the Canton Home Depot, located on Ford Road, which donated several tools, including four loppers for tree trimming.

"These dedicated individuals enjoyed the outdoors and giving back to the community," said Brad Sharp, Parks Manager. "Time after time our volunteers tell us how much fun they experience while meeting new people, working on a project together as teammates, and accomplishing the task of improving our wonderful trail system."

For more information on this special clean up project or to find out about additional volunteer opportunities available in Canton, contact the Canton Parks Division at 734/394-5310 or visit www.cantonfun.org.

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Professional help always a good idea when facing audit

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: I just received a notice from the Internal Revenue Service that it is going to audit my return for two years. I think it's auditing me because I had some large deductions in those years. I have all the backup documentation, so I'm not overly concerned. Do you think I need to bring someone to help me or do I do it on my own? I should mention that I used someone to prepare my return, but I think I know more about taxes than they do.

A: I love your attitude that you have nothing to fear. When we get notices from the IRS, we shouldn't shake in our boots; even the IRS has rules it has to follow. However, that being said, we should all take notices of an audit seriously.

I believe it makes sense to bring a professional along with you. If nothing more, a competent qualified professional knows the rules which the IRS has to follow and won't be intimidated.

It's sort of like going to a court of law. Whenever you go to court, in order to make sure you are fairly treated, it pays to have an attorney on



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

your side to represent your interest. The same can be said about an audit.

Having the proper documentation is only half the battle. The IRS can also claim that even though you have the documentation, you're not entitled to the deductions.

A professional can help craft your argument in such a way that you have a better chance of resolving the issue favorably. Even if it turns out that you owe money for one reason or the other, a professional can better deal in negotiating with the IRS.

If nothing more, a professional won't be emotional in the same way you will be. When it's your own tax return, you tend to take it a little more personally.

Many consumers think that the only people who handle audits are tax attorneys. Although tax attorneys are certainly qualified, they're not the only ones that can

assist you with an audit. Many certified public accountants specialize in audits and can be helpful. In addition, there are enrolled agents who also are very qualified to deal with IRS audits.

One bit of advice—whenever you hire a professional, make sure you have an understanding of fees. Any qualified and competent professional in any profession should have no problem discussing fees. Understanding how you are going to be billed up front is essential in developing a good relationship with your professional.

Most of us will never be audited and, certainly, that's a good thing. If, however, you do get a notice from the IRS or the state of Michigan, take it seriously and don't procrastinate.

One thing I can assure is that the IRS does not like to be ignored and it won't go away. 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.

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com



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Sea Cadets drop anchor in Garden City

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

For Edward Brennan, moving the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet program from Ferndale to Garden City has been a dream come true.

The James M. Hannan Division had been meeting at the Royal Oak Recreation Center in Ferndale for two years before finding a new home at the Henry Ruff School in Garden City. On Saturday, the cadets in their dress whites held their first drill in their new home, a classroom at the former elementary school.

"It was an old building, it had a lot of problems," said Brennan, the division's executive officer. "We were looking around for something new and found this. We moved in on July 1."

The Hannan Division is the oldest continuously serving sea cadet unit in the state, and Brennan believes the second oldest unit in the United States. It got its start almost 48 years ago, offering youth ages 11-18 the "unique opportunity to experience what it's like to be in the military without making a four-year commitment."

The unit called the Broadhead Army in Detroit home for 40 years until it closed. It then moved to Redford Presbyterian Church for five years until it closed because of declining membership and has been based in Ferndale for two years. It will mark its 48th year of operation in October.

The U.S. Navy Sea Cadet Corps is a federally chartered non-profit edu-

cational organization sponsored by the Navy League of the U.S. and supported by the Navy Department and U.S. Coast Guard. The Sea Cadet Corps has two units: The League Cadet Corps, supported entirely by the Navy League, for youth ages 11-13 and the Sea Cadet Corps for 13-18-year-olds.

The Hannan Division meets twice a month—8:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. the second and fourth Saturdays. The cadets learn about naval history and customs, seamanship, close order drill, naval terminology, decision making, personal responsibility and physical fitness.

The cadets have to complete basic training at the Great Lakes Naval Station in Illinois before they can take the advance training—53 one- to three-week programs sponsored by the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Coast Guard.

"It's a 10-day miniature boot camp," Brennan said. "It's taught by the Navy, and all cadets have to take it before they go on the programs. The cadets do 10 days, Navy recruits do 16 weeks."

This summer, the division has cadets taking advanced training with the Navy SEALs in Virginia, attending submarine school in New England, taking master at arms classes at Central Michigan University and doing aviation training on the West Coast.

There's also the opportunity to take a two-week cruise aboard the USS Greyfox, a 120-foot former naval ship that cadets run, from steering it and cooking the food to plotting the

courses, standing watches and learning what it's like to sail on a Navy ship, Brennan said.

And cadets can also take part in an exchange program with 16 other countries. They can spend two, three or four weeks in countries like Russia, Japan, England and Scotland.

The Hannan Division serves southeast Michigan and has about 40 cadets from throughout the metropolitan area—Detroit, Downriver, Warren, Howell, Ypsilanti, Dearborn and Dearborn Heights. Brennan, who lives in Milford, hopes the new location will help grow the program.

He's been involved in the Sea Cadets for 10 years. He served in the Navy during the Korean War and was active in the Boys Scouts as an adult. He lost that connection but found out about the Sea Cadet program after moving to Milford.

"Sea Cadets is one of the best kept secrets in the world," said Brennan who holds the rank of lieutenant and is the unit's recruiting officer, executive officer and administrative officer. "I stumbled on the program, joined and I've never looked back. Imagine a kid spending three weeks with the Navy SEALs, it's an experience of a lifetime."

Parents and you who want to see what the Sea Cadet program is all about can stop by Henry Ruff School during the drill. The school is at 30300 Maplewood, east of Merriman, in Garden City. They can also call Brennan at (248) 685-9568.

smason@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6751



Members of the U.S. Navy Sea Cadet Corps perform some drills aboard ships like the USS Greyfox.

FILE PHOTO

Reward offered in case of stolen urn containing soldier's ashes

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

Livonia police and Crime Stoppers are asking for the public's help in locating a stolen urn containing the ashes of a soldier killed in Afghanistan last year.

The urn was stolen from a 2012 white Ford Mustang parked in a driveway at 14977 Arcola at Hard Road between 3-7 a.m. Sunday, July 8. The urn contained the ashes of Brian Backus, a private in the U.S. Army from Harbor Beach, Mich., who was killed June 18, 2011.

The urn is described as teal green and black in color. The urn, which was inside the glove compartment of the car, was stolen along with a GPS, iPod and an Army uniform.

"We don't have any leads. That's why we're here today," Officer Dan McCulley of the Livonia Police Department said at Friday's press conference. "Maybe it was taken by mistake," said John



Brian Backus was killed in Afghanistan on June 18, 2011.

Broad, president of Crime Stoppers. "It means a great deal to many people."

The car belonged to Mike Oliver, a close friend of Backus, who was staying at his father's home in Livonia. Mike Oliver said his son Mike and Backus were best friends as the boys grew up in Harbor Beach, located in Michigan's thumb area along Lake Huron. The elder Mike Oliver moved to Livonia about a year ago.

CrimStoppers is offering a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to an arrest.

Backus, the 22-year-old father of a 3-year-old son, had also attended the University of Michigan and

planned to become a doctor.

Oliver said his son and Backus were best friends throughout childhood and their teen years, serving in the Boy Scouts together. Both were in the Army in the spring of 2010 in Fort Campbell, Ky., and both had tattoos put on their chests that read "Burn wood" which is what Backus would yell at Oliver when the two camped. "My son was in charge of building the fire and Brian would yell, 'Burn wood, Michael, burn wood!'"

Today, Oliver is a mortician, and soon to become a sergeant Sept. 1. He is stationed in Fort Campbell.

Oliver was also serving in Afghanistan when Backus was killed. Oliver could not attend the funeral. "Brian's father was gracious enough to let me carry his son's casket because my son was in Afghanistan," the elder Oliver said.

Oliver is part of the

Backus family, visiting them when he is on leave and during holidays, Mike Oliver said of his son. On one of his trips home on military leave, the young Oliver received a surprise from the Backus family when they offered him an urn with some of Brian's ashes, the elder Oliver said. Oliver also kept a memorial table dedicated to Backus.

Oliver had just visited Brian's relatives and friends in Harbor Beach during the July 4th holiday, then returned to his father's home in Livonia when the theft occurred. "My son is just totally devastated," Oliver said. "Whoever has it or knows who has it, call Crime Stoppers. My son is totally devastated by not having this."

"Maybe (the thief) didn't know what they had," Oliver said of the urn. "It's only of value to my son and the family." Anyone with information can call Crime Stoppers at (800) SPEAK UP. All calls and cash rewards are anonymous. The Livonia Police Department also can be contacted at (734) 466-2470.

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH LEGAL NOTICE

Public Test of the M-100 Optic Scan Voting System
For the
Special Primary Election
Wednesday, September 5, 2012

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: A public accuracy test of the M-100 Optic Scan Voting System will take place at 1:00 p.m., on Tuesday, August 14, 2012 at the Charter Township of Plymouth, Clerk's Office, 9955 N Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170, for the September 5, 2012 Special Primary Election.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer program used to tabulate the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of law.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

For further information contact the Clerk's Office. Phone (734) 354-3224.

Joe Bridgman, MMC
Township Clerk

Published: August 12, 2012

CHARTERTOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH



CITY OF PLYMOUTH ACCURACY TESTING FOR VOTING EQUIPMENT FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 2012, 11:00am

The City of Plymouth has scheduled and will be conducting the Accuracy Testing for the Optical Scan Voting Equipment, as well as the Hearing Impaired Equipment, for the Special Election to be held on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2012, at 11:00 a.m. The testing is scheduled for Friday, August 17, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

This is an open testing session and any interested person is encouraged to attend. Election Source will be conducting the testing to assure that the voting equipment has been programmed appropriately.

If there are any questions, please direct them to the City Clerk's office at 734-453-1234, ext. 234. The Plymouth Cultural Center is in compliance with the American Disabilities Act and is handicapped accessible.

Linda Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk

Published: August 12, 2012

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AG: McCotter not charged, but he was 'asleep at the switch'

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

Former U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter was admonished Thursday by state Attorney General Bill Schuette for McCotter's lack of control over his staff, but Schuette added that his office did not have evidence of his involvement in the alleged signature fraud.

"McCotter was asleep at the switch," Schuette said. "He did not mind the store. There was no guidance or supervision whatsoever."

Three members of McCotter's staff were arraigned Friday in two separate district courts in connection with alleged fraud surrounding nominating petitions filed in May required to declare McCotter's candidacy to run for reelection.

On Thursday, Schuette announced the following charges:

- Don Yowchuang, 33, deputy district director, of Farmington Hills faces 17 charges, five counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail.
- Mary Melissa Turnbull, 38, district representative, of Howell faces two charges filed in Troy's 52-4 District Court: one count of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner, a five-year felony; and one count of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail.
- Lorianne O'Brady, 52, former scheduler employed by McCotter at the time of the alleged crimes, of Livonia faces five charges filed in Livonia's 16th District Court: two counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail. She is expected to be arraigned next week.

No evidence McCotter involved

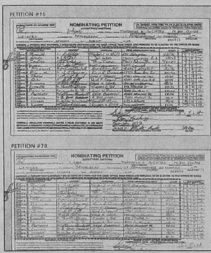
McCotter was not charged. Schuette said his

to 93 days in jail.

• Paul Seewald, 47, district director, of Livonia faces 10 charges filed in Livonia's 16th District Court: one count of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner, a five-year felony; and nine counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail.

• Mary Melissa Turnbull, 38, district representative, of Howell faces two charges filed in Troy's 52-4 District Court: one count of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner, a five-year felony; and one count of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail.

• Lorianne O'Brady, 52, former scheduler employed by McCotter at the time of the alleged crimes, of Livonia faces five charges filed in Livonia's 16th District Court: two counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail. She is expected to be arraigned next week.



Examples of some of the petitions that resulted in charges.

office "did not have specified, direct evidence" of his involvement.

Schuette alleges that these four members of McCotter's Michigan staff were involved in a deliberate fraud involving a pattern of copying and altering petitions in order to qualify the five-term congressman for the 2012 primary ballot. Schuette revealed examples of petitions that were allegedly manufactured electronically by transposing signatures collected in previous election years on to 2012 nominating petitions. In several cases, the fraudulent petitions were also copied and submitted to the Secretary of State

as originals. Schuette indicated that everything on the petition forms appears to be exactly the same except for the dates, which appear altered. Schuette's investigation also revealed evidence that duplicate petitions were knowingly submitted to pad signature numbers and that multiple petitions were falsely certified by defendants who did not actually circulate them.

The charges came about as the result of an investigation by the Attorney General's Public Integrity Unit. The investigation lasted 10 weeks; it included interviewing 75 witnesses, procuring sworn

statements from nine people and reviewing thousands of records, including 136 nominating petitions filed with the Secretary of State.

Constituents 'got stiffed'

Schuette called it a "cut-and-paste job that would make an elementary school art teacher cringe." "This was not simply keystone cops run amok ... it was a blatant attempt to commit fraud," Schuette said.

Schuette said the "McCotter crew" acted above the law like the law "didn't apply to them." "They were sadly mistaken," he said. Schuette added that McCotter has "resigned in disgrace." People in the 11th District McCotter represented "got stiffed," Schuette said. "He is responsible for the conduct and misconduct of his employees. In this case, Thad was asleep at the switch."

McCotter could not be reached for comment as there was no answer at his home. He issued a statement via email through spokeswoman Randall Thompson.

"I thank the Attorney General and his office for their earnest, thorough work on this investigation,

which I requested, and their subsequent report," McCotter said. "For my family and I, this closure commences our embrace of the enduring blessings of private life."

The alleged election fraud investigation began an ignominious exit for the five-term congressman. The nominating signatures were turned into the Secretary of State Bureau of Elections office, and the petitions were checked.

Bureau employees determined that the filing contained numerous duplicate and triplicate copies of petitions and that the filing was padded to obscure the fact that the petitions did not contain the necessary 1,000 signatures.

The Secretary of State's office contacted McCotter on May 25, saying there were not enough valid signatures to qualify him for the ballot. McCotter announced May 29 that he was conducting a write-in candidacy, but then dropped his candidacy June 2. He later resigned from office.

Read the attorney general's investigative report here: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/ag/08.09.12_AG_Investigative_Report_and_Chart_394714_7.pdf

3 McCotter staffers arraigned on fraud charges

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

Three members of former Congressman Thaddeus McCotter's staff were arraigned Friday morning in connection with alleged fraud surrounding nominating petitions filed in May on McCotter's behalf.

Don Yowchuang, 33, deputy district director in McCotter's office, of Farmington Hills and Paul Seewald, 47, district director, of Livonia stood mute in 16th District Court in Livonia.

Magistrate Dennis Epler entered not-guilty pleas on their behalf. They were released on \$50,000 personal bond each, meaning they will have to pay that amount if they do not show up for scheduled court appearances.

Yowchuang was required to give up his passport as a condition of the bond, and both were told to contact the court if they leave the state. Yowchuang and Seewald are scheduled for a pre-exam Sept. 18 and a preliminary exam Sept. 20 in 16th District Court.

Mary Melissa Turnbull, 38, of Howell turned herself in to officials Friday morning and was arraigned in Troy's 52-4 District Court. Turnbull was given a \$5,000 personal bond. Her pre-exam was set for Aug. 16.

Yowchuang faces 17 charges, including 10 counts of election law forgery, a five-year felony; one count of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner, a five-year felony; and six counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as

circulator, a misdemeanor or punishable by up to 93 days in jail.

Seewald faces 10 charges: one count of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner, a five-year felony; and nine counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor or punishable by up to 93 days in jail.

Turnbull, a district representative in McCotter's office, faces two charges: one count of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal

manner, a five-year felony; and one count of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor or punishable by up to 93 days in jail.

Lorianne O'Brady, 52, of Livonia is expected to be arraigned on charges early this week in Livonia's 16th District, according to Attorney General Bill Schuette's office, who brought the charges against the suspects. O'Brady, a former scheduler employed by McCotter at the time of the alleged crimes, faces five counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail.

At Friday's court hearing, both Seewald and Yowchuang sat at the rear of the courtroom before their arraignment. Then as they were arraigned by Epler, they responded yes when asked if they understood the charges and their rights.

Defense attorney Timothy Dinan, who represented both Seewald and Yowchuang, requested a court waiver of the usual 14-day period between the arraignment and preliminary examination to review evidence.

William Rollstin, first

assistant attorney with Schuette's office, said the attorney general's office had no problem with the waiver. Rollstin appeared in court with Special Agent John Buck, who assisted in the arraignment.

Neither Buck nor Rollstin would comment further on the case, referring all questions to the attorney general's communications office.

Rollstin requested that Yowchuang turn in his passport to the court because he believed that Yowchuang had traveled overseas recently. Yowchuang agreed to do so.

Both Seewald and Yowchuang left the court without talking to reporters.

Dinan said after the arraignment that his clients had no prior criminal history and provided details early in the attorney general's investigation. "My clients are presumed innocent; they deserve that," Dinan said. "They cooperated fully with the investigation."

Dinan said Schuette's press conference Thursday "went beyond what was necessary" in outlining the accusations against his clients.

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Mon-Wed.....	Aug 20-22.....	6-8 pm
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Labor Day Session
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'64 Olympic champ gains Hall of Fame

Farmington's Cawley honored in Michigan

By Dan O'Meara
Observer Staff Writer

As a former teammate of Rex Cawley at Farmington High School, Dave Catherman is pleased to know the 1964 Olympic champion is finally going to receive due recognition in his home state.



Rex Cawley

Cawley, who won the 400-meter hurdles at the Tokyo Games, will be inducted into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame Thursday evening at the Gem Theater in Detroit.

He is one of 24 former athletes and sports figures to be honored at the 56th Induction Event,

which is planned as a homecoming for many Michigan-bred stars who achieved success elsewhere.

Cawley, 72, starred for the University of Southern California after an outstanding prep career at Farmington and became an NCAA champion for the Trojans.

He still resides in California but is expected to be in attendance Thursday. Catherman, who also was a star athlete for the Farmington Falcons, and Jerry Young, the school's former boys cross country and track coach, plan to attend the event.

"I ran with Rex, when I was a senior and he was a junior, on two (all-state) relay teams," Catherman said. "I was a hurdler with him in high school. We both were tall and could run the same step patterns. We had a wonderful team; we were undefeated and league champs."

"Rex was really versatile. He probably tried seven or eight events. Toward the end of the (1958) season, he wanted to try the long jump, and he had to get one jump in to qualify for the regional, which he did. He won the league meet and the regional, and he was all-state in the long jump as well as the hurdles and the (sprint) relays. He did the high jump pretty well, too."

Catherman, who was an all-state foot-

Please see CAWLEY, B3



Hauling in a sideline pass during the Polish AFL is Josh LeDuc (No. 5), who then takes it in for an haunting touchdown for the Gdynia Seahawks.

European play-cation

LeDuc goes long — to Poland — for pro football success

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Josh LeDuc just wants to play professional football, and he's proven he'll go to great lengths — and distances — to do just that.

The Baltic Sea anyone? Yes, the 22-year-old Canton resident and 2006 grad of Plymouth High School recently finished playing with the Gdynia Seahawks, helping that team win the title game of the Polish League of American Football.

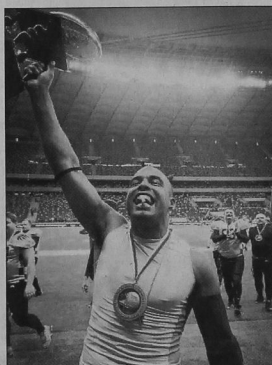
"It was happy to go there and do what I did," said LeDuc, during a phone interview from his family's home last week. "I haven't been on a winning team since I was in high school, so it was something different."

"It was like you played freer, more carefree, and it was just a fun time."

Winning a championship certainly was the caper to a season where he grabbed 55 passes for 1,200 yards and tallied 20 touchdown receptions.

In front of a raucous crowd of 25,000 in Warsaw, Poland on July 15, the 6-4, 240-pound receiver scored a key touchdown as the Seahawks

Please see LEDUC, B2



PHOTOS COURTESY GDYNIA SEAHAWKS

Canton's Josh LeDuc is ecstatic after helping the Gdynia Seahawks to a 52-37 win in the championship game of the Polish American Football League last month in Warsaw.

Whalers hire two scouts

The Plymouth Whalers have added Jim Debenham and Norm Robert to the Ontario Hockey League team's scouting staff.

Debenham, in a sense, is coming home to Plymouth. He worked as the Whalers scouting director from 2002-09 before moving to Sarnia in the same position for the past three seasons.

Robert worked in Peterborough as a scout from 1996-2010 before going to Sudbury as the Wolves' scouting director for the past two seasons.

"We welcome Jim back," said Mike Velucci, coach/GM of the Whalers. "He brings a lot of experience and he already knows what kind of player we want to play. Whaler hockey. Norm has a ton of experience in the Toronto area. I look forward to getting to know him and working with him."

Debenham and Robert worked for the Central Scouting Bureau before moving on to the OHL.

The Whalers finished 47-18-1 last season, winning their 10th West Division title in 22 years while making the OHL playoffs for the 21st consecutive season.

Plymouth opens training camp the last week of August. Tickets for Whalers games can be purchased by calling Computrue at (734) 453-8400.

Mary Angela Run No. 10

The 10th annual Mary Angela Run starts at 9 a.m. Sunday at Mercy High School in Farmington Hills.

The race is conducted in memory of the late Mary Angela DiGiovanni, a 23-year-old Mercy alumna and University of Michigan student.

Proceeds will benefit Angels' Place, a nonprofit which provides housing and services for people with developmental disabilities.

The event offers chip-timed 5K and 10K runs, a one-mile fitness walk and a children's run.

"Mary Angela was a caring and dedicated person who wanted to help many different people, and we believe that Angels' Place has the same ideals," race coordinator and Mary Angela's aunt Sue Vincent said.

"We have had a great turnout every year with nearly 500 people attending, and we're hoping to have another great event this year."

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Sunday. The entry fee is \$25. For more information, visit www.angelsplace.com.

Paul Soucy of Livonia won his fourth title belt in the Ringside World Championships Aug. 4 in Kansas City.



CHAD JAQUILLARO

Livonia senior boxer wins fourth title belt

By Dan O'Meara
Observer Staff Writer

Paul Soucy still packs a potent punch for a man his age.

Not only does he remain active in the boxing ring, the 73-year-old Livonia resident continues to win title belts.

Soucy became a four-time winner in the Ringside World Championships Aug. 4 at the KCI Center in Kansas City, Mo.

That's a pretty fair achievement for a guy who, as Soucy himself states, had heart bypass surgery eight years ago, has metal plates in his ankle and neck and is diabetic.

"Outside of that, I'm in good health," he said.

The RWC is billed as the largest boxing tournament in the world with six rings in use simultaneously and fighters from 16 countries participating.

Since there aren't many pugilists in his age group, Soucy had just one bout

in the 165-pound weight class.

He defeated Bill Crize, also 73, with a standing-8 count in the third round of a scheduled three-round fight.

"They took the two oldest guys in the tournament and matched us up," Soucy said. "He's from Missouri. If anything he was the hometown favorite, so I could not let it be close."

"When you get in my age bracket, it's not as highly competitive, because there's not too many people still boxing. We wear headgear and they make us wear 16-ounce gloves (as opposed to the regular eight)."

Soucy also defeated Crize in 2005 to win his first RWC title. He won his next two in 2006 and 2008.

"This was a last-minute decision," Soucy said. "I was going down there to be the coach. Two or three days before we left, I decided I was going to give it

Please see BOXER, B3

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LEDUC

Continued from page B1

defeated the Warsaw Eagles 52-37 to clinch Superfinal VII.

Throwing the touchdown pass was Gdynia quarterback Kyle McMahon — LeDuc's former teammate at Eastern Michigan University.

"There was a play where I was wide open, but he threw it somewhere else," LeDuc said. "I told him 'Let's go back to that later because there's nobody covering me.'"

"We ran it again and he hit me (with the pass). There was someone probably at the 10-yard line that was in my way so I went around him and just jumped from like the five and dove in."

With a successful pro season in Europe on his resume, the former Plymouth Wildcats prep star is hopeful that he'll soon get an opportunity to play closer to home. Maybe in the United Football League or Canadian Football League.

But if a North American-based team doesn't call the rest of this year he wouldn't mind returning to Poland in 2013 — to play American rules football in front of enthusiastic fans who pretty much treat players like royalty.

Enthusiastic fans

"People are excited when they watch it, they stick around after our games," LeDuc said. "They want to take our pictures on the field."

"Sometimes we're on the field for a half an hour or hour after games having our pictures taken."

THE LEDUC FILE

Who: Josh LeDuc, 22, member of the 2012 Polish League of American Football champion Gdynia Seahawks.

Grid background: The 6-4, 240-pounder is a 2006 graduate of Plymouth High School, where he starred in football and made the All-Observer team. LeDuc then played four seasons as a tight end at Eastern Michigan University. He first started playing football at age 10 with the Canton Lions.

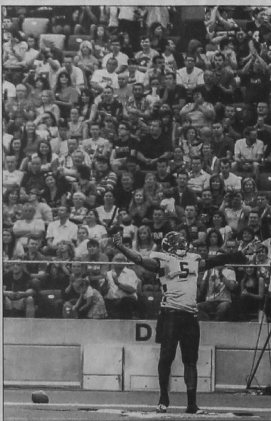
Whirlwind: After being out of football last winter, he hooked up with a semipro team in California before moving on to another squad in Tacoma, Wash. A month later, he was recruited by ex-UMU teammate Kyle McMahon to join the Seahawks.

Family: He lives in Canton with mom Carol Hennells and stepdad Jeff Hennells and sister Samantha.

LeDuc added that he was thrilled with the experience, which included sharing an apartment with McMahon, eating kabobs and traveling all over Poland.

"They have these things they call kabobs," he continued. "When I thought of it I thought of like shish kabobs, but they're not, they're just pita wraps and stuff like that."

"It's basically like how money islands are in Michigan, that's how they are in Poland. They are right next to each other, that's one of the things they have everywhere, these little kabob stands and shops and stuff like



Soaking in the cheers after scoring a touchdown in the Polish AFL title game is Josh LeDuc.

you can get here?"

Actually, several things had to happen in the weeks before that for LeDuc to show up on the Seahawks' radar.

Last December, he worked in Novi at a pizza restaurant, thinking his career finally was over.

"I didn't know if I'd be playing football," LeDuc recalled. "I was trying to find an actual real job, to grow up. 'All right, football is done now. I'm going to have to go and be an adult now and not play a sport anymore.'"

A second chance

Then in January, a California semipro team



'Obviously, the NFL is always the primary goal and the top goal everyone's trying to get to. But I just want to be able to move up the ranks.'

JOSH LEDUC, pro receiver

gave him a tryout but that didn't work out.

"When I went out there it wasn't as competitive as I thought it was going to be," LeDuc went on. "A couple coaches from a different team were watching me."

By February, he was playing for that team (Tacoma Cobras), albeit briefly thanks to McMahon's invitation to join Gdynia.

Since football is in LeDuc's blood, and it has been ever since he suited up as a 10-year-old player for the Canton Lions, it didn't surprise anybody when he accepted the invite.

He'd do it all over again if he had to.

"Over there it's a little different because football is new to them," LeDuc noted. "They just started playing American-style football six or seven years ago."

"But the people who come watch the games, they understand the rules for the most part, and outside of the game, they all are real, like nice to us. ... it's like they're the nicest people in the world. They'll do anything for you and they don't want anything (in return), they just accepted us as soon as

we got there."

Staying the course

Make no mistake though, LeDuc's ultimate career objective isn't about the Polish AFL, even though some players there do have big-league ability.

"Obviously, the NFL is always the primary goal and the top goal everyone's trying to get to," he stressed. "But I just want to be able to move up the ranks. Hopefully I can get into the UFL or the CFL or something around here so I'm not in Europe and so far away from my family."

"But next year, I just don't want to stop playing. So wherever I can play, I'll play."

That objective's always been on a Page 1 of his to-do list.

"Josh has worked since he was 10 years old to get where he is," Carol Hennells said. "... His dream is to get to the NFL and he's a very determined young man. I'm sure he will get there."

If LeDuc does, he's already guaranteed it will come at the end of a long, winding and wonderful football journey.

tmth@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128

Thunderbirds soar



The 10-and-under Plymouth-Canton Thunderbirds softball team captured the Gold Division in the Western Wayne County league this summer by posting a perfect 13-0 record. Pictured are (bottom row from left) Allison Hale, Hagley Gagnon, (middle row from left) Kara Zink, Ariel Anderson, Cassidy Brendtke, Angela Schmidt, Bethany Ross, (back row from left) Stephanie Schmunk, Kiernan Metz, Jordan Hazel, Avery Kilgore and Hailey DeChalk. Not pictured are manager Rick Schmidt and assistant coaches Paul Ross and Andy Gagnon.

First ace

Livonia resident Ron Siefman, 76, registered his first career hole-in-one on July 25 in South Lyon. Playing the second hole at Tanglewood Golf Course, Siefman knocked his tee shot in the cup using a hybrid six iron. He was playing with longtime friends Bill Patterson, Paul Orsick and Rich Lustig.



Draft skate

The Canton Victory Hockey Association will be having its 2013-14 house league draft skate on Saturday, Aug. 18, at the Arctic Edge Ice Arena.

There will be conditioning skates prior to the draft skate on Tuesday, Aug. 14 and Thursday, Aug. 16. For more times and information, please call the Arctic Edge at (734) 487-7777.

Franklin cheers

The Livonia Franklin varsity cheerleaders will host a pair of skills clinics 6-7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 27, and Wednesday, Aug. 29, in the school's cheer room.

The camp is for ages 4-13. The fee is \$30 and includes a T-shirt, pizza party and game performance. Participants will cheer at the home football game 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30.

Registration will be 5:30-6 p.m. Aug. 27. For more information, send an email to bizbizzy@yahoo.com.

Glenn golf outing

The Westland John Glenn wrestling program will stage its 15th annual golf outing fund-raiser on Saturday, Sept. 15, at Livonia's Idyl Wyld Golf Course.

Included in the \$85 cost is golf, cart, lunch at the turn and steak dinner.

Hole sponsorship and raffle donations are also being accepted.

For more information, e-mail Glenn wrestling coach Bill Polk at rockertw@glennwrestling@gmail.com, or call Judy at (734) 634-4595.

Hilltop glow golf

Hilltop Golf Course, located on Beck Road just north of Ann Arbor Trail, in Plymouth, is hosting Glow Ball each Friday night through Sept. 1 for just \$25 per player.

The fee includes nine holes of golf, glow ball, neon necklace. Plus there are food and drink specials available.

For more information, call (734) 453-9800 or go to www.hilltopgolf.com.

Reds need players

The Farmington Hills-based Oakland Reds Baseball Club is seeking players to fill remaining 8-and-under through 18U spots on its 2013 rosters. Go to www.oaklandreds.com for additional information and to request a tryout.

WYAA football

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association football will be 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays and 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays at the WYAA Lange Compound, 6050 Farmington (north of Ford).

The WYAA offers two football units, the Comets and Meteors. Each unit has four squads divided by age and weight restrictions for junior freshmen (7-8), freshmen (8-10), junior varsity (11-12) and varsity (13-14).

In addition, both units have four cheer-leading squads (ages same as football). For more information, call the WYAA at (734) 421-0640.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

CVO volleyball

Registrations are being accepted for the Livonia St. Edith fall volleyball program (grades 2-8).

Members of St. Edith, St. Kenneth, St. Aidan and St. Columba are eligible to play in the Catholic Youth Organization.

To register, e-mail Gary Smart at smart5959@scbglobal.net, or call (734) 432-5959.

Thirst for Life Run

The Thirst For Life 5K Walk/Run will take place Saturday, Sept. 8, at Bicentennial Park in Livonia to benefit Team World Vision.

Registration begins at 7:45 a.m., the race at 9. Bicentennial Park is on the north side of 7 Mile Road, between Gill and Newburgh roads.

All of the money raised will be used to fund water and sanitation projects in the villages of Mayo and Hamandu in Zambia, Africa.

For more information and to acquire a registration form, go to www.ThirstForLife.org. World Vision is a Christian relief and development organization dedicated to helping children, families and communities worldwide.

GC boys tennis

Tryouts for the Garden City High School boys tennis team will be 9-11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 13, at the school's tennis courts.

For more information, contact head coach Ron Pummilr at pummilr@gardencityschools.com.

RU boys soccer

Open practices for the 2012 Redford Union boys soccer teams will be 5:30-7:30 p.m. Aug. 13-15 at McGowan Elementary School in Redford.

Any RU student interested in playing varsity or junior varsity soccer should attend. Players are encouraged to bring water bottles.

For more information, contact head coach Jim Gibbs at oneamecaminio@yahoo.com.

Bulldogs tryouts

The Michigan Bulldogs will have tryouts for their 9U, 10U and 11U travel baseball teams 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 12, at Bicentennial Park Field No. 2. For more information, contact Mike Heard at (734) 834-6950 or mikeheard34@yahoo.com.

Meet the teams

Livonia Stevenson High School will have a Meet the Team Night for athletes, parents and coaches involved in a fall sport 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15, in the school auditorium.

Freshman and sophomore athletes and their parents should attend an introductory meeting 7-7:45 p.m. Junior and senior athletes and parents should attend 7:45-9 p.m.

The introductory meeting at 7 p.m. in the auditorium is optional for junior and senior athletes and parents, but their attendance is encouraged.



Farmington's Rex Cawley won the 400-meter hurdles at the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo.

CAWLEY

Continued from page B1

ball player and trackman, also was the teammate of Hayes Jones, another U.S. Olympic hurdler and gold medalist, at Eastern Michigan University.

"It was very unique to train with both," he said. "Both were wonderful hurdlers. I felt blessed to be able to follow them across the finish line."

"I used to tell my son (Steve), who became a hurdler at Harrison High School, I still had little imprints of cinder on my chest, because I was beaten by two Olympians."

As a college freshman, Catherman recalled going to the Class A championship track meet to see Cawley compete.

"I watched him make that glorious final leg when he anchored Farmington's winning team in the 880 relay," he said. "He got the baton and was in fourth place. He caught everybody coming around the curve. It was remarkable. Don Canham (the former U-M coach and later athletic director) started recruiting him right at the meet."

Late AD's effort

Catherman added the late John "Jack" Cotton would be thrilled to know Cawley is going into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame.

Cotton was Farmington's longtime district athletic director, and he lobbied for years to have Cawley considered for inclusion in the Hall of Fame.

"Jack was also very involved with the Michi-

gan High School Hall of Fame," Catherman said. "He was very diligent about making sure due justice was served. We all felt Rex was deserving, and Jack took the lead on that."

When Farmington High started its hall of fame in 2001, Cotton was co-chairman of the selection committee, which included Catherman, also a former football and track coach for the Falcons, and Young. Cawley was the No. 1 nominee.

"His induction was a big moment for Jack," Catherman said. "Rex made such a wonderful impression and had an inspiring speech for the athletes in attendance, about being proud of their heritage and Farmington. He was very graceful and presented a very strong and credible voice for being a student-athlete."

Claim to fame

Cawley, who was named the 1960's Hurdler of the Decade by Track & Field News, set a world record of 49.1 seconds in the 400 hurdles at the 1964 Olympic Trials. He subsequently won the gold medal with a time of 49.6.

Cawley was the NCAA and USA outdoor champion in 1963, and he won the USA title again in 1965. Track & Field News twice ranked him the world's No. 1 hurdler, and he also received rankings in the 400 dash and 110 high hurdles.

He will join Farmington Hills resident Rick Leach and Mercy High School grad Meg Mallon in the Hall of Fame. Leach is a former U-M quarterback and Major League baseball player; Mallon a star on the LPGA Tour.

For ticket and other information about the 56th Induction Event and the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame, visit the web site at www.michigansportshof.org.

Roller skaters earn national awards

Twelve roller skaters from the Riverside Arena in Livonia received top placements at the recent USARS National Roller Skating Championships in Lincoln, Neb.

Livonia residents Ryan Heersink and partner Sofia Cueva earned gold medals in Juvenile/Elementary Team Dance, and Ryan Heersink was a silver medalist in Elementary C Boys Figures.

Taking home bronze medals were Ian Heersink of Livonia and Amanda Smyser of Westland in Freshman/Sophomore B Team Dance, Pirro Marko and Emma Chapell, both of Livonia, in Juvenile/Elementary B Team Dance and the Riverside RAScals Junior Precision Team.

The members of the Junior Precision Team are Chloe LaMay of Plymouth, Hanna Denes of Garden City, Andrew Esser and Tina Stadnik of Northville, Smyser and Jade Ross, Ian and Ryan Heersink, Stephanie Cueva and Sofia Cueva, all from Livonia.

The Riverside RAScals are coached by Lawaun Modrich and Jillian Heersink, who is a national competitor in Sophomore A Ladies figures and loops.

This is the first year in the skating club's history that every skater who entered the national championships either medaled or coached a medalist, according to Modrich, who has been with the club for five years.

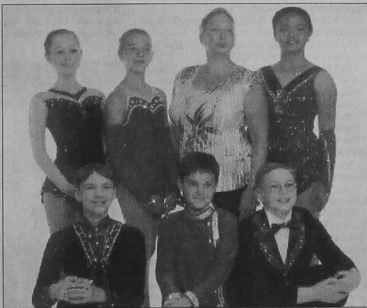
"Six members of the club — Stephanie and Sofia Cueva, Hanna Denes, Andrew Esser, Jade Ross and Amanda Smyser — are first-time national competitors, which bodes well for the upcoming season," Modrich said.

"Every skater, from the newest to the most experienced, performed to the best of his or her ability, which is all any coach can ask. I couldn't be happier with our results, and I fully expect to double our medal count next season."

The Riverside RAScals practice at Riverside Arena, 36635 Plymouth Rd. in Livonia. For more



Members of the Riverside Arena precision skating team are (front row, from left) Hanna Denes, Andrew Esser, Amanda Smyser, (middle row) Jade Ross, Chloe LaMay, Ryan Heersink, Sofia Cueva, (back row) coach Jillian Heersink, Stephanie Cueva, Ian Heersink, Tina Stadnik and coach Lawaun Modrich.



Members of the Riverside Arena dance team are (front row, from left) Ian Heersink, Pirro Marko, Ryan Heersink, (back row) Amanda Smyser, Emma Chapell, coach Lawaun Modrich and Sofia Cueva.

information on the team, go to riversidearena.com.

Tax-deductible sponsorships are available to businesses and individuals who would like to assist

the club with its travel expenses to the 2013 championships in Albuquerque, N.M. For more information, contact Modrich at lawaunm@gmail.com.

BOXER

Continued from page B1

one more shot."

After winning a fourth belt, he's already planning to enter next year's tournament.

"I've got five children," Soucy said. "I want to leave each one of them a belt, (although) it might be easier to buy one."

Soucy stays in fighting shape by training and developing young boxers as the owner and operator of the Dynamic Boxing Club on Warren Avenue in Westland, between Inkster and Middlebelt roads.

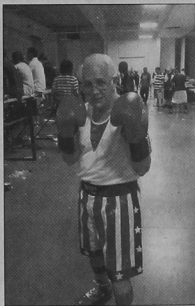
"I've been doing this 53 years," he said. "I'm in

the gym every day with these kids. I'm on my bike. I watch what I eat."

An average of 80 people visit Soucy's gym in the course of a week. There might be two dozen or more training there on any one day.

"It's a very busy gym," he said. "I do a lot of work with the kids on the mitts — some days 20 to 30 people. It's an awesome workout. That's why I think I was ready for this fight."

The Dynamic Boxing Club is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization. Donations or a major sponsor to support the club would be welcome. Soucy can be reached at (734) 341-6086.



Paul Soucy of Livonia displays the fighting form he used to win another boxing title.

CHAD JAQUILLARD

Cruise Woodward before the cars

By Marty Budner
Eccentric Staff Writer

Before cruising Woodward in cars, cruise it on your feet. That's the footnote to the 2012 Woodward Dream Cruise.

The highly popular and internationally recognized classic car bash is officially scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 18. The 18th annual Woodward Dream Cruise will be preceded by the inaugural Cruise in Shoes 5K Run/Walk which begins 7 a.m. near

Royal Oak Shrine High School.

"It's exciting and it's really taking off," said Woodward Dream Cruise Executive Director Tony Michaels. "I mean, how often do you get to run down the middle of Woodward."

"It starts early and we'll be long gone by the time the cruisers come along," he said. "We think we're adding something really exciting to the Woodward Dream Cruise."

According to Michaels, the WDC executive committee had

been "toying around" with the idea for the past couple of years. With the help of the Royal Oak City Council and police department, and the financial backing of primary sponsor Fifth Third Bank, the event became a reality this year.

"The Woodward Dream Cruise is a family event and it's all about enjoying yourself," said Michaels. "The idea was to add another family event that would not get in the way. People can come dressed up in their 50's

costumes and we thought a run of this kind would be a lot of fun."

The Cruise in Shoes activities are based in the 13 Mile and Woodward area.

The Fun Run/Walk begins on Yorba Linda Blvd. and ends at Shrine High School. Besides Woodward, the 5K-certified course snakes through surrounding Royal Oak neighborhoods.

The costume contest kicks off the festivities at 7 a.m. and prizes will be awarded.

CRUISE RUN

WHAT: Cruise in Shoes 5K Run/Walk
WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 18
WHERE: Royal Oak Shrine High School
TIME: 7 a.m.
MAIN EVENT: Fun run and walk through streets of Royal Oak, including historic Woodward Avenue.
RACE DAY AGENDA: 5K Run; 5K Walk; Kid's Fun Run (8 years and younger).
REGISTRATION AND EVENT INFO: www.CruiseInShoes.com/registration

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WOMEN'S GOLF RESULTS

The Michigan Women's Golf Association sponsored a two-woman, four-ball tournament Aug. 4 at Dunham Hills Golf Club in Hartland.

The field of 56 players was divided into two flights, and prizes were awarded to the top three gross and net scoring teams in each flight. The winners were:

FLIGHT 1

First low gross: Sue Macinkowicz (Chesterfield) and Lori Rogers (Washington Township), 70.
First low net: Ellen Howell (Livonia) and Arlene Shields (Livonia), 62.
Second low gross: Shelly Weiss (Southfield) and Susan Bach (Keego Harbor), 75.
Second low net: Debra Horning (Bloomfield Hills) and Yvette Gagnon (Bloomfield Hills), 64.
Third low gross: Cindy Hill (Ypsilanti) and Ruth Wilson (Chandler, Arizona), 78.
Third low net: Tina Callewaert (Chesterfield) and Ann Mikek (Royal Oak), 64.

FLIGHT 2

First low gross: Shirley Estabrooks (Commerce) and Nancy Serrra (Clarkston), 82.
First low net: Belinda Fries (West Bloomfield) and Donna Zick (Riverview), 60.
Second low gross: Myra Janabet (Macomb) and Sue Cherry (Roseville), 86.
Second low net: Lois Heikinen (Plymouth) and Pat Shelton (Farmington), 61.

Third low gross: Peggy Steffan (Farmington Hills) and Joan Cleland (Bloomfield Hills), 87.

Third low net: Harriett Forniss (Lathrup Village) and Monica Oliver (Farmington Hills), 61.

Other contest winners included:
Closest to the flagstick, Flight 1: Jane Kersjes (Plymouth), Macinkowicz, Wilson and Steffan.

Closest to the flagstick, Flight 2: Barb Coury (Plymouth), Zick, Forniss and Peggy Mahoney (Chesterfield).

Chip-ins: Carol Durkin (Dearborn), Wilson, Macinkowicz, Oliver and Estabrooks.

Skins: Flight 1: Weiss and Bach, Hill and Wilson, S Macinkowicz and Rogers.

Skins: Flight 2: Kathy Brennan (Livonia) and Lori Moore (Dearborn Heights), 2 Jody Chapa (South Lyon) and Barb Coury (Plymouth), 2 Estabrooks and Serrra.

The next MWGA event is the match play quarter-finals Sunday, Aug. 12, at Springfield Oaks Golf Club in Davisburg. All female golfers are welcome. For information about this event and the league, contact Pat Witek at witek@mwgaf.org or 248-417-1190.

The MWGA will have another event Aug. 21 at Edgewood Country Club in Commerce Township. The format will be a four-woman Chula, Cha, Cha.

The competition is open to all women golfers with a USA index; without an index, they will play at scratch. To enter go to www.mwgf.org.



The Flight 1 winners in the Michigan Women's Golf Association tournament Aug. 4. Dunham Hills Golf Club are (seated, from left) Ellen Howell, Livonia; Debra Horning and Yvette Gagnon, Bloomfield Hills; (standing, from left) Arlene Shields, Livonia; Ruth Wilson, Chandler, Ariz.; Cindy Hill, Ypsilanti; Ann Mikek, Royal Oak; Tina Callewaert, Chesterfield; Shelly Weiss, Southfield; Susan Bach, Keego Harbor; and Lori Rogers, Washington Township.



The Flight 2 winners in the Michigan Women's Golf Association tournament Aug. 4 at Dunham Hills Golf Club are (front) Nancy Serrra, Clarkston; (kneeling, from left) Pat Shelton, Farmington; Lois Heikinen, Plymouth; Harriett Forniss, Lathrup Village; Belinda Fries, West Bloomfield; (standing, from left) Monica Oliver, Farmington Hills; Sue Cherry, Roseville; Myra Janabet, Macomb; Donna Zick, Riverview; Shirley Estabrooks, Commerce; Joan Cleland, Bloomfield Hills; and Peggy Steffan, Farmington Hills.

2nd loss ends Rams' AAABA tourney run

The Michigan Rams were eliminated from the All-American Amateur Baseball Association tournament Friday morning when they lost to the New Brunswick (N.J.) Matrix, 4-3.

The Rams, representing the Livonia College Baseball League, finished with a 3-2 record in Johnstown, Pa.

New Brunswick (4-1) advanced to play the undefeated Chardon (Ohio) Blizzard from the Cleveland area in the final round Friday night.

The Matrix took a 3-0 lead over the Rams after scoring twice in the second inning. The Rams got a run in the third when a batter was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded.

Michigan failed to fully capitalize on the opportunity, and the half inning ended with the bases still full.

The Rams made it 4-2 with an RBI double in the seventh. They could've had another run, but the trail runner missed third base and was ruled out on appeal.

The Rams stayed alive in the tournament Thursday with a 16-5 victory over the Columbus (Ohio) Hawks. The Michiganians pounded 20 hits, including four home runs.

Matt Pribe accounted for two of the dingers and six RBI. Garrett Gordon and Logan Curtis hit the other home runs.

Relief pitcher Jake Paulson shut down Columbus over the final five innings, holding the Hawks to one hit and one unearned run.

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Help Wanted-General

CUSTOMER SERVICE

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Help Wanted-General

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PAINTERS NEEDED

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Help Wanted-General

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS

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Send description for consideration to:

Plymouth artist pens colorful children's book

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Keith Mazur hopes his latest art project appeals to preschoolers.

And that's quite a stretch for the Plymouth artist, who studied special effects at The Art Institute of Pittsburgh, in Pittsburgh, Pa.

"Anybody who knows me would tell you this is the last thing you'd expect to see out of me. I grew up with monster movies and sci-fi movies and all that stuff," he said.

"It was a struggle for me not to want to throw a werewolf or something in there," he said, with a laugh.

Youngsters and their parents will find birds and butterflies, monkeys and clowns, a girl and a boy — but no werewolves — within the pages of Mazur's first book, *Lily & Louie's Colorful World*.

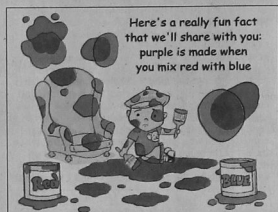
2 Moon Press, a small publishing company in Marshall, published the book, which is available for \$9.99 from the company online at 800publishing.com and from Amazon.com. Mazur expects Barnes & Noble to sell it online.

Mazur, who is also a musician, wrote the verse and drew the illustrations for the book that takes readers on a trip through the world of color.

"I've always thought of doing a children's book but I always figured it was one of those things I would do when I retired," said Mazur, who works



The cover of Keith Mazur's book



A page from Keith Mazur's book

for a company that leases laundry machines to apartment complexes. He spends most of

his "day job" on the road inspecting the machines, and devotes time to art on weekends.

"A couple of years ago I just started sketching out some pictures and I thought, well, I will give this a shot," he said.

"I sketched out the little girl and little boy one day and started thinking, how can I apply a little story to this? I was in between projects ... so I figured it was a good time to sit down and try something different."

"It took me a lot longer than I expected. It took a year from start to finish. It's a 34-page book and the publisher added a few pages."

Pictures and rhyme

Mazur drew his ideas on a tablet of paper with colored markers, later editing and "cleaning up" some of the illustrations on computer.

He considers himself primarily a sculptor, producing mostly three-dimensional work in clay or resin cast pieces.

"When it comes to two-dimensional drawing, it's usually pencil, ink or marker. I don't really do a lot with paint," he said.

Mazur said he developed the images first and then came up with

rhymes to fit the pictures.

"I like to write like I'm writing music. I like for everything to fit a certain rhythm pattern."

Mazur said he first became interested in art as a child while growing up in Plymouth. Whenever a cousin babysat him and his siblings, she would draw for them. Mazur said he was fascinated by her pictures and tried to mimic them.

At Plymouth Salem High School, he took art classes, and at age 21, headed to Pittsburgh in 1993. He studied special effects, which at that time consisted mostly of make-up, masks and props for the movies.

Doing what he loves

"Nowadays everything is so geared to computer imaging. A lot of what I know — it's not that it's outdated — it's just not as much in demand," he said.

"I still do a lot of props and things like that, especially around Halloween. I get people asking me to make them masks or props. Every now and again I get a call from someone who wants me to build something."

He also does custom work on guitars.

"You've got to do what you love to do, so I still keep up with it," he said, referring to his special effects work.

Mazur is toying with another book idea that would use the Lily and Louie characters.

"There are always a million projects in my head that I want to get started on. If the book does well I'll look at doing another one. I'll have to wait and see how it goes."

GARDEN & NATURE

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

Butterflies

"Backstage Pass: Brenda's Butterfly Habitat," is the theme of the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association's next meeting, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15. Meet in the Habitat, located at Barson's Greenhouse, to see dozens of beautiful butterflies fluttering about the host plants that support them, and learn about the life cycle of many of Michigan's native butterflies. The greenhouse will be open for purchases. Barson's greenhouse is located at 6414 N. Merriman, Westland, between Ford and Warren roads. Park in the church lot across the street. \$3 for non-members. Questions? Call (734) 326-0578 or visit www.semabutterfly.com

Master Gardener

Become a Master Gardener volunteer by taking a 13-week series of classes, 4:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, beginning Aug. 14 at the Venoy Annex building, 5454 Venoy, Wayne. The application fee is \$25 and reg-

istration and materials fee is \$300. Contact Anita Callender at callen12@anr.msu.edu or call (734) 729-3632 ext. 103 for an application.

Plymouth Nursery

"Sales at Sunset," runs 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16, at the store, 9900 Plymouth-Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth and will include sales, vendors, refreshments and door prizes.

English Gardens

• Find out how to preserve the harvest in a free presentation, 10 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 18.

• Learn about plants that help create privacy in your backyard at a free presentation, 10 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 25.

• Get ideas on creating interest in the garden during every season. Learn about plants that provide color all year long and get a month-by-month bloom chart; 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 1. Free

• A free presentation includes tips on including cold-tolerant annuals and perennials in containers, 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 8.

Let's PAWS to applaud extraordinary kids!



Do you know a child or teenager who goes above and beyond to make your community, neighborhood, or family better?

Tell us your story in 500 words or less.

One winning essay will be chosen each month to receive:

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Email your essay to: cbjordan@hometownlife.com
Subject line: "PAWS FOR APPLAUSE"

Please include the child's name, age, phone number and address.

Game Date:

Sunday,
September 2



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Interested in a career as a Pharmacy Technician?

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- 14 week class

FREE INFORMATION SESSION

- Tuesday, August 28th 6:00-7:30 p.m. Schoolcraft College, Biomedical Tech Center, room 100
- Meet instructors, review class offerings, course curriculum and certification requirements

ALREADY WORKING THE PHARMACEUTICAL FIELD?

Join us for our Information Session on Sterile Compounding on Wednesday, August 29th from 6-7:30 p.m. Schoolcraft College, Biomedical Tech Center, room 170



www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd/pharmacy

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Plymouth potters offer classes, raku workshop

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Spend a few hours — or several weeks — learning about pottery next month at the Village Potters Guild in Plymouth.

The Guild is registering now for 15-week pottery classes and for a series of two-hour raku workshop that will celebrate the organization's new raku kiln.

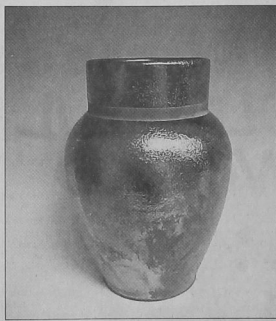
"The Plymouth Community Foundation gave us a grant for a new raku kiln. Part of the grant request was to do a workshop for the public," said Carolyn Hook, Guild president.

The workshop will run 5:30-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 21. It will repeat from 7-9:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 21 and from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, at the Guild, 340 N. Main, Plymouth. The 2 1/2-hour session costs \$10. Un glazed pottery will be available at the workshop for \$10-\$35.

"We're making a lot of pots ahead of time. They'll be at the bisque stage," Hook said, adding that participants will choose a glaze and apply it. "We will do the actual firing. When you pull the pots out of the kiln you have an open flame and a lot of smoke. They come out of the kiln red hot. It's real dramatic."

Potters will place the fired pieces into garbage cans filled with combustible material, such as sawdust or newspapers, where they cool.

"You get a lot of interesting results."



Workshop participants can glaze a take-home raku pot next month at the Village Potters Guild in Plymouth.

The process can produce copper, green or white crackle finishes, depending on the glaze. "You can't use raku pieces for food because they don't get to a high enough temperature (in the kiln) and they're still porous," Hook said.

Participants will get a chance to produce two pieces. Children under 15 must be accompanied by an adult.

Students in the Guild's fall pottery classes will not only fire ceramic pieces, but get a chance to work with clay and firing.

Classes run 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, beginning Sept. 5. A class for

advanced students runs 6:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday. Cost is \$350 for 15 weeks of instruction and eight hours of additional lab time.

Hook said night classes will fill soon. The Village Potters Guild has 30 members and accepts new member applications in January and August. New members often are former students who have completed a year-long guest membership and are competent in pottery design and production.

To register for the raku workshop or for pottery classes, call (734) 207-8807 or visit www.villagepottersguild.org.

Spread the word on dehumidifier recall

By Joe Gagnon
Guest Columnist

In June a lady wrote me that her dryer was acting up and from her description I thought it might be a very serious fire hazard.



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

I replied to her and asked her to call me on my cell phone but to no avail, which meant I went into worry mode.

My next effort caused me to include her letter in my column which did the trick. She reads this column and the end result was my son Mark going to her house and fixing this fire hazard of a clothes dryer. Now she is safe and I am relaxed again.

Recently, Ellen Roseman wrote her column for the *Toronto Star* about a kitchen range she owns which had the inner door glass shatter when she wasn't even using the range. The range being three years old was well out of warranty range but the manufacturer fixed it at no charge. Her experience caused her to receive several letters from homeowners who had the same thing happen to them. These people were generally not well

treated by the manufacturers in trying to get this problem resolved. There seemed to be no logical explanation as to why the glass on an oven door would break on its own. On this subject I have written before and so I will say it once again. It is the four-letter word that I use to describe the quality of many products today: JUNK!

My good friend Diane Armstrong who writes a column for the *Timmins Times Newspaper* will many times write about a thing that is missing in the world today. It's called good, old-fashioned service and customer satisfaction the way it used to be. She has a heart of gold which makes it hard for her to understand why this modern world seems to have lost the "golden rule." Take the quality out of products, eliminate the happy customer and what do you have left? I will let you answer this question.

Now, let me give you an example of how this newspaper has helped so many readers. In these past 25 years of writing I have met so many people who say to me in person, "I have cut out every article you've written and saved each one of them. I send copies to my kids and family. I refer to them many times when a question comes up." Everyone has scissors nearby and I know that

coupon clipping is a big thing these days and what I would like you to do is clip this article and put it in a safe place. In recent days there was a recall on some 800,000 dehumidifiers sold by Sears. You may have seen it on television or heard about it on a radio show but you couldn't clip it. It may have been a one-time thing as these recalls usually are or maybe you have not heard a thing about it.

Now, how about helping me inform members of your family and friends about this massive recall on dehumidifiers which might be running in their very basement. All you have to do is write "recent dehumidifier recall" in the search engine of your computer and you will have all the facts. By the way, while you are researching, pay attention to how many dehumidifiers have been recalled in the past five years alone. Here is another alarming fact: There are 195 million recalled appliances in circulation today and the question is, do you have one in your home? Go to Sears, other products go and find out for yourself. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAR 1600. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldi@twi11.com



Zeus needs your financial help.

Check out fundraiser, shot clinics for pets

Zeus Crowley of Westland needs your financial help.

The 6-year-old rottweiler was diagnosed in May with a rare genetic disease called Immune Mediated Polyarthriti, an allergic reaction to antibiotics that has caused his immune system to attack his joints. Prednisone helps to keep him comfortable, but isn't a long-term solution. Veterinarians at Michigan Veterinary Specialists in Southfield want to do digital x-rays and joint taps to figure out what else may be hurting his joints. The tests and treatment are estimated at a total \$5,000.

Melissa Crowley says that she and her husband have spent some \$20,000 on Zeus — who has allergies — since they brought him into their family as a 7-week-old pup. She decided to reach out to the community through social media and the press because she says they can't afford to pay for his next round of medical testing, which costs \$2,000.



PET PROJECTS

She plans a fundraiser — Putt for a Cause — and Save These Paws — from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 26, at the Putting Edge, 44225 W. 12 Mile, Novi. The event will include 18 holes of miniature golf, arcade games, pizza and pop, prizes for the most holes in one and the game score, in addition to a 50/50 raffle. Advance tickets are \$20 and \$25 the day of the event. Tickets are available by calling Crowley at (248) 755-0550 or at melissacrowley66@att.net.

Visit Crowley's fundraising page at www.giveforward.com/SavingZeus. Read her blog at www.savingzeus.wordpress.com. And visit her Facebook page at www.facebook.com/#!/SavingZeus.

bookcom/#!/SavingZeus.

Low-cost vaccinations

Tail Waggers' 1990 continues its low-cost vaccination clinics 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 12 at Shesby Animal Hospital, 18790 Middlebelt, Livonia. Rabies, bordetella and distemper vaccines cost \$12 each, or three for \$30. Microchipping will be offered and heartworm testing will be available for \$18. Wags to Wiskers, 44707 Five Mile, Plymouth will wrap up its schedule of Tail Waggers' 1990 clinics, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 25. No appointments are necessary for the clinics, although the organization welcomes RSVPs to help organizers plan for vaccine supplies.

To RSVP or for more information, call Tail Waggers' 1990 at (734) 560-4660 or e-mail to vaccinationclinic@yahoo.com. Visit its website at www.tailwaggers1990.org.

— Sharon Dargay

REUNIONS

BELLEVILLE

CLASS OF 1957

55-year reunion, Sept. 21-22, at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites, I-94 and Belleville Road. Informal gathering starts at 6 p.m., Friday. Social time starts at 5 p.m., Saturday, followed by dinner. For more information, call Donna (Watkins) Gots at (734) 331-9180 or e-mail to donnagots@aol.com for more details.

CLASS OF 1977

35-year reunion, 7:30 p.m. Aug. 18 at Ernie's in Clinton Township. \$25 per person. E-mail to chris1977@hotmail.com

DEARBORN FORDSON

CLASS OF 1946

66th reunion luncheon is planned for 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 13 at Nankin Mills Pavilion in Hines Park. Dearborn. Reserve a place by sending a \$20 check to Sadie Zehra Bondy, 1515 Mason #403, Dearborn, MI 48124. For more information call her at (313) 274-3929.

CLASS OF 1948

The January and June classes will hold a 64-year reunion lunch, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 20, at the American Legion, Carl E. Stitt Post, 232 Warren Road, Dearborn. For more information call Rose Marie Listwan Kopelkin at (734) 421-1485.

CLASS OF 1952

60-year reunion planned for Sept. 15 at Park Place in Dearborn. For more information e-mail Al Orloff at alorloff@att.net or phone him at (734) 432-9308 or e-mail Marvin M. Smyth at mmsmyth@juno.com or call him at (313) 562-4378.

DEARBORN HEIGHTS ANNAPOLIS

CLASS OF 1982

For information about the 30-year reunion on Saturday, Oct. 20, at Fr. Patrick O'Kelley Knights of Columbus in Dearborn, visit the "AHS Class of 82" page on Facebook, or contact Diane Goodreau at dianeshoffield@sbgloball.net or (313) 363-0523; Jim Linaras at godofozz@yahoo.com; or John Zadikian at zadmo754@aol.com.

DEARBORN HEIGHTS ROBICAUD

CLASS OF 1962

50th class reunion, Sept. 29 at the 1-Under Bar & Grill Banquet Facility in Livonia. The committee is looking for classmates and contact information. All classes are welcome to attend. Send names, contact info and questions to the reunion committee website, robicaud62@yahoo.com. Check out "Robicaud 50th Reunion Class of 62" on Facebook and on classmates.com. Or call Paula (McGue) at (517) 304-9755.

DETROIT CITY

CLASS OF 1962

Looking for classmates from January and June graduations for 50th reunion, 6 p.m. Sept. 29, at the Holiday Inn, 17123 Laurel Park Dr. North, Livonia. Call Neal and Barb Gehring at (248) 568-2254; NGB&B@comcast.

net.

1950S, 1960S

Annual Cody 50s-60s picnic, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 19, Nankin Mills Pavilion in Hines Park, located at Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive. Music, camaraderie, memorabilia, door prizes, hot dogs, chips, water, baseball hats, T-shirts, sweat shirts, beads, music CDs are all available. Special parking for classic cars. Bring chairs and pop-ups. No need to register. Questions? Call Phil Varilek at (313) 562-2579 or e-mail to Pvarilek@wowway.com; Jerry Marszalek at (313) 532-0134 or e-mail to Jmarsares@sbgloball.net

DETROIT MACKENZIE

CLASSES FROM 1950-69

A second annual picnic is planned, noon-6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 23, at Nankin Mills Pavilion in Hines Park, located at the corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive in Westland. Music, memorabilia, great camaraderie. Bring your own picnic or purchase Michigan-made hot dogs, chips, pop, water and ice cream at the event. T-shirts and sweatshirts also will be available. A raffle will be held. Seating will be available under the shelter, or bring your own chairs and pop-ups. No need to pre-register. Questions? Call Janet Cable at (734) 377-4009 or email mackenzie50s-60s@hotmail.com

DETROIT MUMFORD

CLASS OF 1962

50-year reunion, 6-8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25, at the Somerset in Troy. Make reservations at www.mumford62.com.

DETROIT WESTERN

ALL CLASSES

Friday, Sept. 14 at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 11800 Merriman, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia. Family-style luncheon plus prizes and plenty of school spirit. \$25 per person. Phony Mildred (Lois) Carpenter at (248) 427-0673 for tickets. Deadline is Aug. 25.

CLASS OF 1962

Looking for classmates from January and June classes for 50th class reunion Saturday, Sept. 22 at Western Golf and Country Club, Redford. Cost is \$62 per person. Other week-end activities include tour of school, evening icebreaker and Sunday brunch. For information call Judy Alegnani Murray, (313) 399-0507, Judy Hull Rakowski, (734) 459-3832, Helen Knight Tucker, (734) 285-4927 or Ralph Brighton, (734) 513-7499.

FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1962

The 50th class reunion will be held Saturday, Sept. 22 at Farmington Hills Holiday Inn, 37529 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills; (248) 477-7800. The \$60 per person cost includes a welcome reception from 2-5 p.m. and an evening dinner dance with cash bar. Cocktails will be at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Reservations deadline is Sept. 1. For more information call Michele Cook Hoffmeyer at (602) 290-6006 or e-mail to russmichele@yahoo.com. Check classmates and Facebook FHS class of 62 reunion pages for more information.

MILESTONES

Rembacki-Mach

Elizabeth Rembacki and Joseph Mach announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Colleen Connolly and Jim Rembacki of Livonia, is a 2004 graduate of Mercy High School. She graduated from Aquinas College in Grand Rapids with a bachelor of arts degree in elementary education and teaches kindergarten at Our Lady of Victory in Northville.

Her fiancé, son of Lynn and Tom Mach of Redford, graduated in 2003 from Detroit Catholic Central High School. He earned a bachelor of science degree in physi-



cal education and health education from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and teaches at

Detroit Catholic Central High School in Novi. The couple plans to wed in June 2013.



Serrico-Slatina

Jillian Serrico and Scott Slatina announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Richard and Stephanie Serrico of Livonia, graduated in 2000 from Stevenson High School in Livonia. She is a nurse at Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Her fiancé, son of Tim and Janet Slatina of Penton, graduated in 1999 from Harrison High School in Farmington. He manages a Ruby Tuesday restaurant.

The couple plans to wed in May 2013 at Meadowbrook Hall in Rochester.

Weaver-Xu

Kimberly Ann Weaver and Kunning Gabriel Xu announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Kirk and Ginny Weaver of Canton, is a 2001 Canton High School graduate. She earned a bachelor of science degree in 2005 from Michigan State University and a master of science degree in 2007 from Iowa State University. She expects to receive a PhD in December 2012 from Georgia Institute of Technology.

Her fiancé, son of Frank Xu and Rebecca Wang of Lake Saint Louis, Mo., received a bachelor of science degree in 2006, a master's degree in 2009 and a PhD in 2012, all from Georgia Institute of Technology. He is an assistant pro-



fessor in mechanical and aerospace engineering at University of Alabama in Huntsville.

A December 2012 wedding is planned at Academy of Medicine, in Atlanta, Ga.



Vroman-Pohl

Ashley Elizabeth Vroman and Benjamin Andrew Pohl announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Deborah and Daniel Vroman of Westland, is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University, with a double major in elementary mathematics and elementary social studies. She is employed by IKEA.

Her fiancé, son of Linda and Michael Pohl of Canton, is a graduate of the University of Michigan - Dearborn, with a major in supply chain management. He is employed at TATA Technologies, on assignment to Ford Motor Company.

An October 2012 wedding is planned in Canton.

Pages

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Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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

BOOTH BALLANTYNE, CYNTHIA CAROLYN.

Age 79, of Harbor Springs, Michigan, died August 8, 2012 at her home. She was born on February 5, 1933, in Bloomfield Hills Michigan, the daughter of Henry Scripps Booth and Carolyn Farr Booth. She was a member of the 1950 graduating class of Kingswood School Cranbrook for girls and attended both University of Colorado in Boulder and Purdue University. She is survived by daughters Carolyn Lee Ballantyne Eckhold (Scott Eckhold) and Deborah Elizabeth Ballantyne (Deborah Kannejgerizer) and was predeceased by her son, Philip Booth Ballantyne. She has two sons, Christopher Reed Eckhold and Duncan Booth Eckhold. She is also survived by her beloved black cat, Zachary. She had a wonderful zest for life, was an avid reader, a lifelong volunteer, a member of the Tau Beta Association and the Junior League of San Francisco. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the North Shore Animal League, 25 Davis Avenue, Port Washington, NY 11050; Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, 5001 Angel Canyon Road, Kanab, UT 84741; or a charity of your choosing.



FORBES, WILLIAM F.

Age 92, August 6, 2012. Beloved husband of June. Loving father of William, the late Irene, Ron (Kathy) and Cindy Hale. Grandfather of Shelley, Robbie, Jessica, Scott and Brandon. Great-grandfather of Skyella and Gage. Brother of the late May Nelson. Proud veteran and bugler of WWII. William worked as head maintenance man at Cabrini Parish in Allen Park for 30 years. He loved to joke and always had time for his family. We all share great memories of our many camping trips and we will miss him very much. Visitation Sunday, August 12 from 1-9 PM at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 1451 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Funeral Mass Monday 10:30 AM (Instate at 10 AM) at St. Michael Catholic Church, 11441 Plymouth Rd., Livonia. Share a memory of Bill at www.rgharris.com



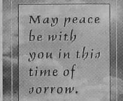
KUYKENDALL, MARTHA

Age 76 of Livonia. Beloved wife of James. Loving mother of Beth (Steve) Carlson, and John (Jeff) Tyeon. Cherished grandmother of Chelsey Carlson. Dear sister of Kay Fluckey, Linda Nicholson, Dorothy Stuart, and Nancy Carreon. A memorial service will take place at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard in Livonia, Thursday, August 9th 10:00 AM gathering, 11:00 AM service. Memorial Donations may be made to Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Red Wood Funeral Home, Livonia.



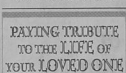
McWATT, CHRISTINE H.

Age 61 of Plymouth, passed away on August 5, 2012. Born in Baltimore, Maryland to parents Frederick and Ruth Hoegrich. Survived by her loving and devoted husband Robert. Dearest stepmother of Stephanie Smith, Maggie McWatt and Derek (Cammie) McWatt. Proud grandmother of Madison, Aubrey and Abigail. Also, survived by her mother in law Ruth McWatt. Dear sister of Susan (Lawrence) McGee and F. Michael (Carolyn) Hoegrich. Christine received her B.S. from Western Michigan University and Masters of Arts degree from Eastern Michigan University. Christine was devoted to her faith and had a passion for teaching. She was a longtime Art Teacher for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. She also had the opportunity to teach in Japan. Christine was a member of the Great Lakes Beadworkers' Guild, and she enjoyed traveling around the world. She was extremely devoted to her family. A memorial gathering will be held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home this Friday August 10th from 2 - 9pm. The Funeral service will be held (also at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home) on Saturday, August 11, 2012 at 3:00pm, located at 280 South Main St., Plymouth, MI. Memorials may be made to the Salvation Army, 9451 S. Main St., Plymouth, MI. Share memories at Schrader-Howell.com



CUTRELL-FARLEY, CLAUDE

August 9, 2012, Age 78 of Westland. Beloved wife of the late Howard B. Loving mother of William Hickey, James Hickey, Georganna Smokovitz, Kimberly Maloney, Tammy Rak, Jessie Buzzelli, R.D. Cutrell, Kandy Cutrell, and niece June Collins. Proud grandmother of Odette, Kassie, Quinn, Michael, Deanna, Dana, Heather Jo, Jessica, Victoria, Krista, and Antonio. Great-grandmother of Jake, Darian, Courtney, Shelby, Kelsie, Michael, Olivia, Ella, Bradley, Chanté, and Brooklyn. Visitation Fri. 5-9 PM, Sat. 2-9 PM with Funeral Service Sun. 11 AM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., (btwn Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth. Memorial contributions may be made to Karmanos Cancer or Muscular Dystrophy Association. Interment: Cadillac. Memorial Gardens-West, Westland. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com



PAYING TRIBUTE
TO THE LIFE OF
YOUR LOVED ONE



DAVID, MARY ANN

Age 89, of Brighton, previously of Garden City, passed away peacefully August 8, 2012. She was born May 3, 1923 in Cincinnati, Ohio, daughter of Harold and Anna (Mittler) Murray. She was raised in Northville and graduated from NHS in 1941. Mary Ann was united in marriage to David Sam David on December 31, 1945; they spent 32 loving years together until his death in 1977. During World War II she worked the Willow Run Bomber Plant. She also taught dance lessons at Arthur Murray Dance Studio in Detroit. Mary Ann was a secretary for Kruger for over 25 years. She was a dedicated mother and a wonderful homemaker. She loved to bake homemade bread and can her own jelly and jams. Mary Ann also enjoyed cooking, painting with acrylics, and travelling. After she retired she travelled all over the world. Mary Ann is survived by her children David (Barbara) David of California, Don (Wanda) David of Georgia, Ann Cox of Brighton, Gwenn (Randy Hodges) David of Colorado, and Suzanne (Robert) Kaatz of Texas; her sister Margaret Tina of Arizona; nine grandchildren; and two great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; her brothers, Robert Murray and James Murray; and her grandson, Tad Cox. Visitation will be held Friday from 5-8pm. A funeral service will be held Saturday at 1pm with visitation beginning at Noon at Caterline Funeral Home, 122 West Dunlap, Northville. Mary Ann will be laid to rest at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. In lieu of flowers, donations suggested to the Tad Cox Memorial Scholarship Fund, established by Mary Ann in loving memory of her beloved grandson, c/o Garden City Schools, attn: Business Office, 1333 Radcliffe, Garden City, MI 48135.

JOHNSON, JANE ADELAIDE

Age 87, of Waterford passed away peacefully on July 29, 2012. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Tove and Samuel Jackson, grandchildren Jenna Jackson, Joshua and Tara (Meyer) Jackson, and Kelsey Jackson; sisters, nephews, cousins and friends. She was preceded in death by husband, Wesley, and sister, Vernie. She was a devoted member of Central United Methodist Church (CUMC) for 67 years and retired from Bloomfield Hills Schools, having worked for both the Board of Education and Andover High School. For the past 1 1/2 years she was lovingly cared for, as a resident at Clare Bridge of Troy. A memorial service will be held at her church, CUMC, in Waterford on Sunday, August 26th at 2pm. Please make donations, in her name, to CUMC in lieu of flowers.



TROUT, GERALD L.

Age 83, August 8, 2012. Born April 21, 1929 in Detroit. Raised in Carmi, IL and Princeton, IN. Gerald graduated from Michigan State University. Joined the U.S. Army in 1952 in Civil Engineering. He received his Professional Engineering License in 1956. Beloved husband of Caroline since 1954. Loving father of Perri Frankovik, Michael (Nancy) Trout, Michael Frankovik, Gina (Joe) Curran, Ruthann Trout (Bart Van Bloemen Waanders), Paul (Alechia) Trout and Christina (Jason) Horowitz. Dear grandfather of 16. Brother of Janina (Fred) Martin, Charles Trout, Norman and his brother Hubert. Memorial service Saturday, August 11, 2012 at 11:00 am at Unity Church of Livonia 28660 Five Mile Rd., Livonia, 48154. Donations appreciated to the church or to Angela Hospice.



May you find
comfort
in Family and
Friends

Pack healthful items in school lunch

It's that time again — the new school year is just a few weeks away.

With the return of school comes the return of school lunches. The nutritional quality of foods and beverages in schools has been a hot debate, largely driven by trends in childhood obesity in this country. Since 1980, according to the CDC, the obesity rate for children and teens has nearly tripled.

While kids eat plenty of foods outside of school, the foods and beverages available at schools are an important consideration because it's been estimated that for some children, 50 percent of the calories they eat in a day are from school meals. Packing lunches and snacks can help provide healthful and filling meals that pack a nutritious punch without overloading on the bad stuff. But coming up with a variety of healthy options that kids will actually eat, won't get bored with, and that can survive (from a food safety perspective) with insulated lunch bags, freezer packs, and/or a thermos, can be a challenge for any parent.

Colleen Doyle, director of nutrition and physical activity for the American Cancer Society, offers some guiding principles:

- Always include at least one fruit and one vegetable.

- Choose grains are mostly whole grains.

- Proteins should be lean and/or sources of healthy fats.

- Dairy products — and peanut butter, for that matter — should be low in added sugar.

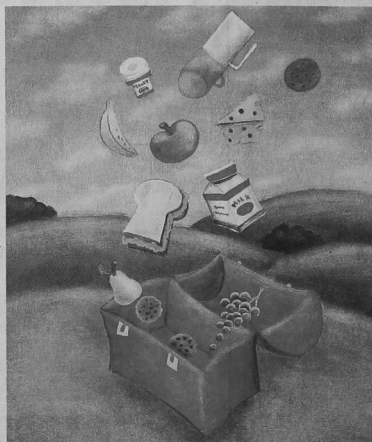
Here are some easy lunch box foods that can be mixed and matched:

Easy 'entrées'

- String cheese or cheese cubes and whole grain crackers

- Hummus and whole wheat pita bread

- High-fiber, low-sugar cereal, eaten with milk from school. Look for cereals with at least 3 grams of fiber and less than 8 grams of sugar per serving.



Sandwiches and wraps

- Whole wheat tortillas smeared with low-fat refried beans or filling with black beans and/or leftover rice, with salsa for dipping

- Whole wheat tortilla with turkey, cheese, and apple or avocado slices

- Peanut or almond butter sandwich on whole grain bread with banana slices or raisins

Fruits, vegetables and salads

- Single portion-sized cups of unsweetened apple sauce or fruit packed in its own juice, without added sugar

- Carrots, pepper strips and celery sticks with ranch dressing to dip

- Celery sticks stuffed with pea-

nut butter and sprinkled with raisins or other dried fruit, such as cranberries and blueberries

Other "sides" and snacks

- Individual serving-sized packages of low-fat, low-sugar yogurt. Look for no more than 20 grams of sugar per 6 ounces; about 12 grams of that is naturally-occurring sugar found in dairy products.

- Baked tortilla chips and salsa

- Trail mix made with cereals, nuts, pretzels, dried fruit, or raisins

Healthy drinks

- Freeze small bottles of water to help keep your child well hydrated and his/her lunch cool.

- If you pack juice, make sure it's 100 percent juice. Freeze these also to help keep the lunch cool.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

August

COOKING CLASS

Learn how to incorporate Michigan-made products into your cooking at Chef Rebecca's live cooking class, 6-7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 13 at Busch's Fresh Food Market, 24445 Drake, Farmington Hills. A registered dietician will discuss the nutritional value of these foods. Cost is \$10 for this class, presented by Busch's and Botsford Hospital, and includes recipes, samples, cooking tips and a \$10 Busch's coupon. Call (248) 427-7400 to register.

FUNDRAISER

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKFMI)—Detroit branch office will present its 6th Annual Cool Blue Monday fundraiser 5:30-9 p.m. Monday, Aug. 13 at the MGM Grand Detroit—Grand Ballroom, 1777 Third Street, Detroit. Attire is stylishly chic and the event will feature an elegant strolling buffet, live entertainment, and cocktails, along with silent and live auctions. All proceeds from the event will support the prevention programs and patient services of the NKFMI—Detroit branch office. Tickets are \$125 per person. For more information or to purchase tickets, please call the NKFMI—Detroit office at 313-259-1574 or visit www.nkfm.org.

NUTRITION WORKSHOP

A dietician from Botsford Hospital will teach children, 8-13, about healthy lunches and after-school snacks at a workshop, 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 15 at Busch's Fresh Food Market, 37083 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 779-6100 to register.

September

JAMBOREE

Dawn Farm's annual event celebrates recovery from chemical dependency. This 39th annual gathering, 1-6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 9, will include entertainment for the entire family, live music by NoteWorthy, hayrides, silent and live auctions, a children's tent and midway, food, beverages and farm animals. The Dawn Farm gift shop also will be open. Admission and activities are free. Dawn Farm is located at 6633 Stony Creek Road, Ypsilanti. For more information call (734) 485-8725.

PROSTATE CANCER SYMPOSIUM

The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, Wayne State University School of Medicine and The Prostate Net will present the second annual Prostate Cancer Symposium, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit. Keynote presenter will be sexual health expert Jeffrey Albaugh, Ph.D. The symposium is free and will offer two educational tracks — one for patients, families and advocates; and one for medical professionals, including social workers. The program is free. Pre-event registration is required because space is limited. Call (800) KARMANOS.

J. Albaugh will speak at a prostate cancer symposium next month in Detroit.

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*Must pick up FREE tickets in Woodhaven office by Aug. 13, 2012

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Course	Start Date	Days	Location
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• Paramedic Evening Class	9/4/12	T-Th	Southfield
• EMT-S Bridge Class	9/9/12	Sundays	Taylor
• EMT Day Class	9/17/12	M-W	Taylor
• Paramedic Evening Class	10/8/12	M-W	Southfield
• EMS I/C Evening Class	10/9/12	T-Th	Taylor
	10/16/12	T-Th	Southfield

Late Registrants Accepted

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

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

Attorneys Bleske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

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

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

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

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

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

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

www.ssfighters.com

12 tips for making small talk

A study at the Stanford University School of Business tracked a group of MBAs 10 years after they graduated. The result? Grade point averages had no bearing on their success -- but their ability to converse with others did.

Being able to connect with others through small talk can lead to big things, according to Debra Fine, author of 'The Fine Art of Small Talk.' A former engineer, Fine recalls being so uncomfortable at networking events that she would hide in the restroom. Now a professional speaker, Fine says the ability to connect with people through small talk is an acquired skill.

Fine and her fellow authorities on schmoozing offer the following tips for starting -- and ending -- conversations:

1. As you prepare for a function, come up with three things to talk about as well as four generic questions that will get others talking. If you've met the host before, try to remember things about her, such as her passion for a sport or a charity you're both involved in.

2. Be the first to say "hello." If you're not sure the other person will remember you, offer your name to ease the

pressure. For example, "Charles Bartlett? Lynn Schmidt... good to see you again." Smile first and always shake hands when you meet someone.

3. Take your time during introductions. Make an extra effort to remember names and use them frequently.

4. Get the other person talking by leading with a common ground statement regarding the event or location and then asking a related open-ended question. For example, "Attendance looks higher than last year, how long have you been coming to these conventions?" You can also ask them about their trip in or how they know the host.

5. Stay focused on your conversational partner by actively listening and giving feedback. Maintain eye contact. Never glance around the room while they are talking to you.

6. Listen more than you talk.

7. Have something interesting to contribute. Keeping abreast of current events and culture will provide you with great conversation builders, leading with "What do you think of...?" Have you heard...?" What is your take on...?"



on...?" Stay away from negative or controversial topics, and refrain from long-winded stories or giving a lot of detail in casual conversation.

8. If there are people you especially want to meet, one of the best ways to approach them is to be introduced by someone they respect. Ask a mutual friend to do the honors.

9. If someone hands you a business card, accept it as a gift. Hold it in both hands and take a moment to read what is written on it. When

you're done, put it away in a shirt pocket, purse or wallet to show it is valued.

10. Watch your body language. People who look ill at ease make others uncomfortable, even when you're not.

11. Before entering into a conversation that's already in progress, observe and listen. You don't want to squash the dynamics with an unsuited or ill-timed remark.

12. Have a few exit lines ready, so that you can both

gracefully move on. For example, "I need to check in with a client over there," "I skipped lunch today, so I need to visit the buffet," or "you can offer to refresh their drink."

When should you exit a conversation? According to Susan RoAne, author and speaker known as the "Mingling Maven," your objective in all encounters should be to make a good impression and leave people wanting more. To do that, she advises: "Be bright. Be brief. Be gone."

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Need for local schools. \$9/hr. to start. 2nd shift. Part-Time. Mon-Fri, with home transportation, pass #18000 finger print/background check & drug screen. EOE
Apply online at: www.grsinc.com

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Minimum 2 yr exp. Excellent wage & benefits. Company in Novi. Send resume to: jma@hvacreserv.com or call: 248-476-9496

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Exp req'd. Must have valid driver's license & transportation. Background screening req'd. Hourly rate of pay plus overtime and benefits. Fax resume to: callandp@hwy80.com Westland-734-729-1300

PLUMBER - JOURNEY
FT min. 5 yrs experience residential & commercial. plumbcom@att.net

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Full-time position open in Sterling Heights. Position includes quoting and purchasing electrical equipment & lighting for commercial projects. College degree required.
Call: 585-843-2113

Help Wanted-General
INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS NEEDED
Twice a week Thursday mornings & Saturday afternoons

Deliver the Observer Newspapers to homes in Western Wayne County
Must have vehicle, valid driver's license & insurance
Please call 734-582-8690 for more information

Help Wanted-General
School Crossing Guards
Part-Time
Charter Township of Redford
Call 313-387-7261 or visit our website at: redfordtp.com/dept/hr EOE

TEACHER ASSISTANT
Canton Children's Center looking for full time exp'd teacher assistant for privately owned childrens center. Call: 734-415-1500 betw 9-5pm.

TITLE INSURANCE PROCESSOR
Needed for Birmingham based agency. Must have industry experience. Send resume to: 266 Elm Street, Birmingham, MI 48009, att@personal

TRAVELING CLEANER
Must have reliable transportation within 90 miles of home. Pass, background check \$10/hr. plus paid travel time, bonus mileage. Second shift Mon-Fri, EOE. Call our HR hotline for IMMEDIATE consideration: 800-415-1181

TRUCK CLIMBER
Exp'd. Only Part-Time to start. Call for interview. 734-346-9155

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

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