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Road work

Wayne County Department of Public Services Roads Division will be closing the Michigan Avenue ramps to I-275 to traffic on Thursday and Friday, Sept. 6-7, weather permitting.

The eastbound ramp will close on Thursday and the westbound ramp will close on Friday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. so aggregate can be placed on the shoulders. Ramps will reopen to traffic after 4 p.m. each day.

Election forums

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County hosts a pair of candidate forums in the next few weeks to give voters a chance to learn about candidates for state House and U.S. congressional seats.

A forum for candidates in both the 20th (which serves Plymouth and Canton) and 21st (Canton) House districts takes place 7-8:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 24, at the Canton Public Library.

Candidates for the 11th U.S. congressional district have been invited to an LWV forum 7-8:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 1, at the Plymouth District Library.

Ballet auditions

The Plymouth-Canton Ballet hosts auditions for the 2012-13 dance season Sunday, Sept. 9. Auditions take place noon to 1 p.m. for dancers ages 7-9; 1-2 p.m. for dancers ages 10-12; and 2-3:30 p.m. for pointe dancers and boys ages 13 and older. Selected dancers will perform in the holiday performances of *The Nutcracker*. Auditions will be held at Joanne's Dance Extension, 42020 Koppernick, Suite 200, in Canton. Dancers must wear appropriate dance attire, bring a resume and picture. An audition fee of \$10 is required.

For more details, call (734) 676-7233 or email pcbc@comcast.net.

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**Taj election team splits
convention, campaign duties**

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

While the Democratic National Convention carries on in Charlotte, N.C., Dr. Syed Taj is continuing his first campaign for national office, but now with a little more weight from the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee behind him.

Taj's race for the 11th U.S. Congressional seat being vacated by the scandal-plagued Thaddeus McCotter has been added to the DCCC's "emerging races" list as Democrats aim at taking

at least 25 seats and regaining the majority in the House.

Taj's race was one of three added to the "emerging" list by the DCCC. With a lot of attention coming on the race, Taj decided to skip this week's convention in Charlotte and focus instead on pushing his campaign forward. His campaign manager, Natalie Mosher, was also elected a delegate. With her in Charlotte, Taj



Taj



Mosher

decided to stay home.

"I couldn't afford to leave both of us have the district, so we're up here campaigning every day, talking to people,"

Taj said. Mosher, meanwhile, was pushing not only Taj's campaign in Charlotte, but also said she was doing what the thousands of other convention-goers were there to do: get President Barack

Obama re-elected. She said she was impressed by the first-day speakers, including First Lady Michelle Obama.

"She gave the most moving speech," said Mosher, who actually lost to McCotter for the 11th U.S. House seat in 2010. "She is a truly, truly incredible, inspirational woman. I'm proud of her as the first lady."

Mosher has spent a lot of time with the Michigan delegation, and with U.S. Sens. Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow. Mosher

Please see CONVENTION, A2



Young 5 kindergarten student Joseph Sanabria hangs up his backpack on the first day of school.

**Back to
business**
Students dive right in
as new year arrives

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

More first-day photos, A6.

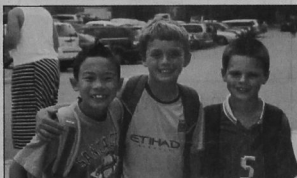
Fifth-graders at all 15 Plymouth-Canton elementary schools were greeted on Tuesday's first day of school with all the usual greetings, from bus drivers and teachers, volunteers and administrators, and friends not seen over the summer months. Fifth-graders at Hoben Elementary School got one additional greeting, first

thing out of the box.

"Ni hao," teacher Lish-yu Jia told the kids in Leo McManimon's classroom.

That's "hello," in Chinese, which is being taught — along with exploratory programs in Spanish, German and French — for the first time at the elementary level in an effort to increase

Please see STUDENTS, A5



Buddies Anthony DeRuvo (from left), Colin Kittnel and Dillon Kittnel pose for a shot before school begins.

Most voters ignore special primary election

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Special election results were not available at press time. Please go to www.hometownlife.com to find out the results.

Clerks all over the area were predicting a very low voter turnout for Wednesday's special election to fill the last couple of months of scandal-plagued Thaddeus McCotter's term representing the 11th U.S. House District.

While final turnout numbers weren't available because polls didn't close until after press time, middle voter totals seemed to provide one thing.

The clerks weren't wrong. According to Canton Township Clerk Terry Bennett, only 125 voters had cast ballots township-wide by 10 a.m. Wednesday.

"It's not surprising," said Bennett, who has predicted low voter turnout all along. "This is not a usual election day (Wednesday by Tuesday), a lot of peo-

ple aren't aware there's an election and some don't understand what it's for. There are those who participate, and those who intentionally choose not to participate."

They weren't participating much at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, where Precincts 3, 10 and 21 are housed. As of noon, only 21 total voters (not counting absentee ballots) had visited the polls in those three precincts. Precinct 10 led the way with an even dozen voters, while Pre-

cinct 3 only had one.

"It's been slower than usual," acknowledged precinct worker Sylvia Vitale. "I don't think enough people know about the election, to be honest. Maybe they're just not interested in filling the position."

The election was made necessary when McCotter's re-election campaign imploded among a slew of petition signature collectors emerged. Several McCotter

Please see PRIMARY, A2

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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.

HEISE HOURS

Date/Time: Monday, Sept. 10, varying
Location: 10-11 a.m., Northville District Library, 212 W. Candy, Northville; 1-2 p.m., Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe Road, Wayne; and 3-4 p.m., Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth.

Details: State Rep. Kurt Heise invites his constituents to office hours at these times and locations. Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office.
Contact: Residents are invited to call toll-free 1-855-REP-KURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

COLBECK COFFEE

Date/Time: Monday, Sept. 10, 8:30 a.m.
Location: Greek Islands Coney Restaurant, 306 S. Main in Plymouth.

Details: State Sen. Pat Colbeck, R-Canton, invites the general public to his coffee hour at Greek Islands. Colbeck will be on hand to answer questions and respond to concerns any residents of his district may have. This will be an opportunity for local residents to meet with Colbeck to address issues related to state government. No appointment is necessary.
Contact: For more information or to contact Colbeck, visit www.senatorpatrickcolbeck.com or call (734) 335-0673.

ALANO CLUB

Date/Time: Sunday, Sept. 16, 9 a.m.
Location: Hickory Creek Golf Course (Napier and Ford Road)
Details: Plymouth/Canton Alano Club is having their fifth annual fundraising Fall Golf Outing. The Alano Club is a non-profit facility providing resources for recovering alcoholics including space for meetings of groups of Alcoholics Anonymous and other 12 step groups such as Alano and



New Horizons open house

The New Horizons Band of Canton invites all adult "come-back players" to open house 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 18, at Evola Music located at 7170 N. Haggerty Road (between Joy and Warren) in Canton. Bring your instruments and sit in with the band or just come to find out more. Open to anyone who ever played an instrument before and would like to play again. The band consists of adults ages 20 to 80-somethings who get together each week to play their instruments in a "learning environment." They prepare music for 2-4 concert a year with some outreach events in the community including Family Nights at the Canton Library. To learn more, contact band director Lauren Erickson, (734) 453-5791.

Alateen, whose focus relates to alcoholism. Many Prizes, games, raffles etc. Cost is \$85 per player, or \$320 per foursome includes 18 hole scramble, cart, range balls, snacks at dinner, at finish. This is a no alcohol event.

Contact: Call Rick Talbot at (734) 751-8030 or send check payable to RC Alano Club to 45924 Rockledge Dr. Plymouth, MI 48170, with names of player(s).

DANCE AUDITIONS

Date/Time: Sunday, Sept. 9 or Sept. 16, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: Central City Dance, 6700 N. Canton Center, Canton

Details: Central City Dance is holding open auditions for the 2012 Central City Christmas Spectacular Show. Auditions are open to the public and to all area dancers ages 6 to adult, gymnasts of all ages, and singers age 10 to adult. There is a \$10 fee to audition. Dancers will be taught a dance combination as a group, and performers will be chosen

not only on their dance skills, but ability to listen. Gymnasts should be able to demonstrate three different passes across the floor and will be chosen based on their technique and originality. Singers are encouraged to bring along a DVD of their favorite holiday music and be able to perform for one minute.

Contact: For specific information regarding the 2012 open audition process for the Central City Christmas Spectacular Show, please visit www.centralcitydance.com, click on the Christmas Spectacular tab, and 2012 Open Auditions Process. To contact them via phone, call Central City Dance at (734) 459-0400.

FRIENDS OF MILLER WOODS

Date/Time: Wednesday, Sep. 26, 7 p.m.
Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: In our corner of Wayne County there is a remnant of a forest landscape that once

greeted pioneers to this area in the early 1800s. This gem is a designated nature preserve and the objective of the Friends of Miller Woods is to protect and preserve it for future generations. The Friends extend an invitation to anyone interested in learning more about Miller Woods, including volunteer opportunities. Individuals or groups who want to become involved in big or small ways are encouraged to come to this meeting.

Contact: Call Joyce Holmes (734) 453-8457 or visit www.miller-woods.com.

DIETSEL RETIRES

Date/Time: Thursday, Oct. 18, 11 a.m.
Location: Laurel Manor, 3900 Schoolcraft, Livonia
Details: The Detroit Diesel Retiree Club will host its annual luncheon and business meeting. It's primarily a social club that provides information to its members about items which may impact all retirees of Detroit Diesel Corporation from GM, through the current ownership. Guests enjoy social interaction beginning at 11 a.m., a buffet luncheon at 12:30 p.m., and brief business meeting with discussion on any topics of current interest to the attending guests.

Cost to attend the lunch is \$25.
Contact: For information on the luncheon and pre-registration you can contact Robert Pavol, membership director, at (734) 455-2668, e-mail rpavol46@prodigy.net or John Ledwith, president, (313) 863-8850, e-mail dieselmi@aol.com.

DIPLACIDO EXHIBIT

Date/Time: Through Sept. 25, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton
Details: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill will showcase the works of artist Amy DiPlacido, including more than 20 works of art that explore experimental approaches in the presentation of contemporary art. DiPlacido's works explore language and perception through non-traditional fiber techniques and have also been exhibited internationally.

DiPlacido finds humor in phrases that reveal man's compulsion to compartmentalize monotony. Her drawings heighten this irrationality and also pay tribute to her artistic training in fiber art.

Contact: For additional information about Amy DiPlacido's works, please visit www.amydiplacido.com.

HOLIDAY ART FAIR

Date/Time: Dec. 1, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Location: Connection Church in Canton, MI.

Details: Connection Church in Canton hosts a Holiday Art Fair. If you have a craft and are interested in renting a table (\$35 & \$25).

Contact: For more information please email Katy at chchoiyart-fair@gmail.com.

AMERICAN SEWING GUILD

Date/Time: First Thursday of each month, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location: First Presbyterian Church, 701 Church St., Plymouth
Details: The American Sewing Guild-Plymouth-Canton Neighborhood Group is open to all sewists of all levels. Demonstrations at upcoming meetings include "Soft Baby Grab Ball; Sept. 5: "Sewn Yarn Scarf" Oct. 1; and "Purse-together juggling and holiday gift ideas" Nov. 1.

Contact: For more information, email asp@comcast.net

GENEALOGICAL MEETING

Date/Time: Monday, Sept. 17, 6:30 p.m.
Location: Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Western Wayne County Genealogical Society will be meeting. The program will be WWCS President, Stephanie Smith, explaining the process of navigating the Society's new website. She will also include an explanation of how members can include their own personal information, such as surnames. The main speaker, following the 7:30 p.m. business meeting will be Forgyon Bailey presenting "The Forgotten War - the War of 1812." The meetings are open to the public. Guests are always welcome.
Contact: For further information, visit our website @ www.rootsweb.com/~mivwgc/

PRIMARY

Continued from page A1
 staffers are now facing charges in the scandal.
 The resulting special election, required by state constitution, is expected to cost about \$650,000 statewide.
 Diana McLean of Canton said she came out to "fulfill my civic duty."
 "I understand people

protesting is not voting, but I wanted to show up for these poor people (the election workers), stuck here all day with no one coming," McLean said. "It's an unfortunate waste of money. It's ridiculous."

It wasn't any better in Plymouth. Shortly before noon, only 52 actual voters had cast ballots in the city's four precincts, all housed at the Plymouth

Cultural Center. The turnout was so low that Clerk Linda Langnesser put all four precincts in the same room, rather than separating them as is usually the case.

"It's definitely been slower," said Precinct 2 chair Pam Vella. "I just think people are not bothering with it."

One woman who did bother was Plymouth resident Lisa Williams, who wasn't about to waste an

opportunity millions of people — and women — don't get.

"I understand why they have to do it, but it's pretty expensive," Williams said after casting her ballot. "There are lots of places around the world where a woman couldn't do this. There are places people would kill to have a democracy."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
 (313) 222-8899



Election workers outnumbered voters at Canton's St. John Neumann Catholic Church, where three precincts had drawn just 21 voters by about 11:30 a.m. Here Diana McLean of Canton casts her ballot while precinct workers Dean Bunting, Marisa Rovinelli, Aaron Hudson and Sylvia Vitale take note.

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CONVENTION
 Continued from page A1

said every one is "committed" to getting the president re-elected.

"There's a lot of energy here," Mosher said. "It's been wonderful. We know we have our work cut out getting the vote out. I feel very positive and very energized."

Like Mosher, Michigan AFL-CIO President Kara Swift is attending her first convention.

"President Obama has shown that he understands what working people are up against," Swift said. "He's earned the support of working families and personally I am looking forward to showing my support for him."

On Tuesday morning, Swift spoke to the Michigan delegation at breakfast about the proposal before voters Nov. 6 to protect collective bargaining rights in Michigan.

Swift said she is passionate about that topic.

"From the response I

have received, it is clear to me that other working family activists see it as a priority, too," she said. "Corporate CEOs are making millions of dollars in salary and bonuses, yet the people who actually do the work have seen their wages stagnate and even cut."

"Workers need protections from corporations that arbitrarily cut wages, benefits and pensions — and ship jobs overseas — just to squeeze out more profits for themselves. Collective bargaining helps

level the playing field for employees so CEOs aren't the only ones benefiting from a company's success. By leveling the playing field between corporations and workers, collective bargaining rights help ensure good working conditions and improve the quality of life for all Michiganders."

Observer Staff Writer Ken Abramczyk contributed to this report.

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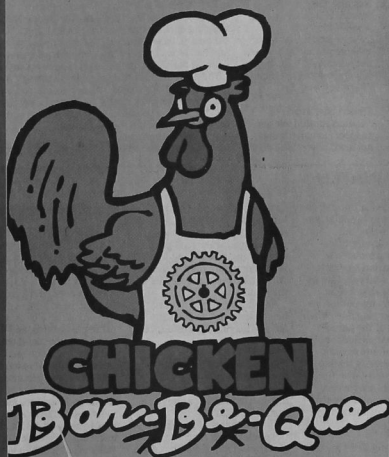
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Police suspect teams in pharmacy break-ins



Canton Police believe two teams of two men each are targeting local pharmacies in a rash of five break-ins over the last two months.

By Brad Kadrich
and Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writers

Canton police believe they are looking for two crews of two men each in a rash of pharmacy break-ins that have seen five burglaries since July 4.

According to Canton Police Sgt. Patrick Sullivan, one of those pharmacies — Canton Pharmacy on Lilley north of Cherry Hill, has been hit four times.

Sullivan said surveillance video shows there may be a pair of teams stealing

from the pharmacies. What they don't know, he said, is whether the teams are working together.

"We don't know that yet," Sullivan said. "We're hoping releasing photos and videos will get us some leads."

Police said the teams are striking primarily between midnight and 5 a.m., the last one coming at Canton Pharmacy Aug. 24.

Usual method

Police pointed out the suspects usually break out a window on the door

and only spend a few minutes in the store.

One set of suspects consists of two white males. The two white males appear to be approximately 5-foot-6 in height.

In video footage, they are wearing dark clothing, ski masks, baseball caps and bandanas in order to conceal their identities.

The other team consists of two black males who also wore dark clothing, baseball caps and bandanas. In the latest break-in, there were two white males and two

black males also similarly dressed.

Police said the two white males appear to be driving a light colored, four-door, mid-sized sedan, possibly either a Pontiac G6 or Dodge Neon.

In addition to Canton's rash of pharmacy break-ins this year, authorities have reported scores of pharmacy burglaries across metro Detroit.

Experts say it's a growing problem across the nation.

Please see BREAK-INS, A5

Pot arrest

Canton Police stopped a white Buick on Hanford, east of Sheldon, when they noticed the driver-side headlight was not working.

The driver could not produce proof of insurance, and when police checked out the names of the two passengers, discovered both had outstanding warrants.

One passenger was arrested on a warrant for felony dangerous drug possession. The second passenger was arrested on three outstanding misdemeanor warrants. While that passenger was being searched, police discovered a silver grinder with suspected marijuana residue on it. He admitted he does not have a medical marijuana license.

In addition to his outstanding warrants, he was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Breaking and entering

A neighbor told Canton Police she'd heard a loud bang coming from a home on N. Canton Cen-

ter, which was at the time unoccupied.

A witness told police he saw four white males, approximately 15- to 18-years-old, running from the residence, wearing shorts, black shirts and baseball caps.

Police saw where four cinder blocks were knocked over. They had apparently been stacked up against an egress window.

No damage appeared to have been done to the property.

Gun charge

Police were dispatched to a residence on Addison where witnesses said a man had been pounding on the door and screaming. Upon arrival, police were told the suspicious person was a black male who had been out there approximately one hour.

When police arrived, the suspect had left. While checking the surrounding area, police saw a red GMC Yukon travel slowly past the residence. It pulled into a driveway two doors down, turned around and drove slowly back past the residence.

Police stopped the driver, who

told them he lived at the address with the mother of his child, but that he'd been locked out.

When asked for identification, the driver produced a driver's license and a permit for carrying a concealed weapon. When police asked if he had a weapon on his person, he admitted to carrying one. When he stepped out of the car at officers' request, officers noted a strong odor of intoxicants.

After field sobriety testing, the suspect blew a .08 on the breathalyzer. He was arrested for possession of a firearm while under the influence.

Stop, thief

A homeowner called Canton Police to report a possible burglary in progress on Remington Court.

She said she got home from work at 11:30 p.m. and found her front door unlocked and her dog in the bathroom, both of which she said was "unusual."

She said she watched television for awhile then went to bed. She told police she later heard someone come up the stairs, then head back down the stairs and run out the front door.

Police interviewed the wom-

an's roommate, who said he'd left the house around 4:30 p.m. and everything was locked.

The homeowner took police downstairs, where they found a television unplugged, covered with a blanket in the middle of the floor.

Nothing appeared to have been taken, and no one saw anyone leaving the residence.

Funny money

Police were called to the Emagine Theater on Ford Road when the theater manager reported having received a fraudulent \$20 bill.

The manager told police his ticket clerk had received the phony bill from a man buying a ticket. The suspect was seated outside the manager's office.

He told police he'd gotten the bill from his brother, who worked at a sub shop. He said he had no idea it was fraudulent. Police noticed the \$20 bill was quite old.

As it turns out, the markers used by theater employees to check for counterfeit money don't work on bills manufactured in 1959 or earlier. The bill may not have been fraudulent after all.

Heroin possession

Canton Police initiated a traffic stop at Michigan Ave. and Haggerty when they noticed the passenger in the vehicle wasn't wearing her seat belt.

Police noticed the car's ignition had been punched out. The driver said he'd broken the key off in the ignition, and the only way to get the car started was to punch the ignition out. He said the car belonged to a friend, who had given permission to punch it out. Police called the friend and verified that.

A check on the driver's record showed his license was currently suspended. He also was the subject of a Personal Protection Order to keep him away from the woman who was riding as his passenger.

He was arrested for driving with a suspended license and violation of the personal protection order.

The female passenger, meanwhile, was found to have a needle in her purse, and eventually produced a small foil packet of suspected heroin she'd hid hidden in her bra.

She was arrested for drug possession.

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FREE BUS PASSES Available for Out-of-District Students!



Chinese teacher Lishuai Jia calls on students on the first day of world language for fifth-graders at Hoben Elementary School. Fifth-graders across the district are being introduced to Chinese, Spanish, German and French.

STUDENTS

Continued from page A1

interest among, and better prepare, students in world language curriculum at the middle school and high school level.

"It's based on the idea kids learn another language better the younger they are," said Jeremy Hughes, Plymouth-Canton's superintendent, who saw similar programs work when he worked in Dearborn. "It's probably the most effective way to embed a second language. It becomes second nature to them."

The world language classes will be taught in 18-week courses. Students will get a half-hour a week in Chinese. The district has hired Jia, a Beijing, China, native who helped pilot the program in a couple of schools last year. The 28-year-old Jia will move between 10 of the district's 15 elementary schools.

Jia, who got his degree in linguistics from Beijing Normal University and has taught at Michigan State and in the How-



Speech Pathologist Mickey Edell greets students as they climb off the bus at Hoben Elementary School.

ell school district, is excited to get the opportunity.

"Young children can absorb it," said Jia, in his sixth year of teaching. "If they start young, they gain experience. It's better to start them early."

Liz Vartanian-Gibbs, the principal at Hoben, said the elementary world language program is designed to do a couple of things. First, it introduces students at a younger age not only to the language, but to the history and culture of the country. That allows the lessons, she said, to stretch to all areas of the curriculum, including English and social studies, among others.

She said the hope is having world language in fifth grade will "pique their interest" and convince them to continue it through the middle school and high schools.

"Kids who learn at an early age have a much better chance of being successful later in life," said Vartanian-Gibbs, whose own children were exposed to the pilot program at Workman last year. "Elementary students can absorb anything. If you have high expectations for them, they'll definitely reach those expectations."

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BREAK-INS

Continued from page A4

"It's a big problem," said Mike Warren, risk manager for Iowa-based Pharmacists Mutual Insurance Co., which insures mostly independent pharmacies in 47 states, including Michigan.

That company alone is seeing 350-380 pharmacy robberies and burglaries a year, "and 91 percent of those are burglaries," Warren said.

Prescription drug problems have steadily increased in recent years, he said, with an increasing number of people using and selling pain medications such as OxyContin and Hydrocodone.

For profit

"What we're seeing with the liberalization of pain medications is that more and more people are using these drugs and becoming addicted," Warren said. More people also are obtaining the drugs and selling them for profit, leading to an uptick in pharmacy robberies and burglaries, he said.

"The worst thing is, the pharmacist is left holding the bag," Warren said, adding later, "We're seeing the dollar losses creeping up."



The suspects have been wearing dark clothing and ski masks to hide their identities while committing five break-ins since July 4.

Warren commended businesses — such as Canton Pharmacy — that have reported burglaries to their local police departments. Many pharmacies don't even report break-ins for a variety of reasons, he said, estimating that as many as 40-50 percent of such incidents go unreported.

Sullivan said anyone who has information about the latest Canton Pharmacy incident is urged to call the Canton Police Department at (734) 394-5400. Anonymous tips for a possible cash reward may be made to Crime Stoppers of Michigan by calling (800) SPEAK-UP, logging onto www.1800-speakup.org or texting CSM and a tip to 274637, or CRIMES.

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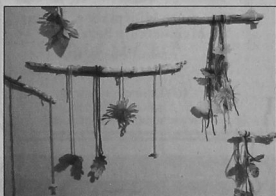
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Luc Offer, 10 years old, shows his ceramic bird feeder.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PCAC puts young artists' works on view



Campers made wall hangings.

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Budding artists and their parents filled Plymouth's Joanne Winkelman Hulce Center for the Arts on Friday to celebrate a summer of self-expression.

It was the Plymouth Community Arts Council's youth arts camps exhibit, a combination art show, reception and family picnic.

Each of the hundreds of participants in the 2012 PCAC's visual arts camps — in photography, painting, drawing, pottery, animation and more — had at least one piece in the show, and young artists and their parents got to view their finished works, professionally displayed, as well as those of classmates and other fellow art campers. Refreshments were served — hot dogs, veggies, punch and crackers.

"This was a lot of fun," said Sylvia Nowakowski of Northville Township, whose son Filip attended the week-long construction art camp, creating things with clay and everyday objects. "It was nice, working, building with the clay," she said.

Nick Sowizral of Plymouth, an eighth-grader at West Middle School, said he learned a lot in the two camps he attended — acrylic painting and advanced pottery. "I like to put art down on paper and make things myself," said Nick, who had a clay Hopi water bowl and an "owl fetish" — a hollow figurine with wings and a beak — displayed Friday.

Nick has long made art, but with little for-

mal training. His drawing of a Yokuts (an American Indian group) elder found success in a nationwide contest recently and was published in a book of the contest's top entries.

Nick's mother, Justine Sowizral, said Nick loves all art.

"It's given him more structure to his art, because he's for the most part self taught," she said of art camp.

Nick wants to become an anthropologist, but said he can envision a career in which he puts artistic talent to use. As an anthropologist, he mused, he might have reason to sketch ancient objects he uncovers in the field.

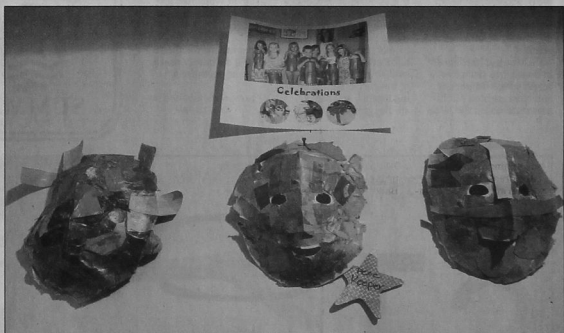
Friday's exhibit also included paintings, drawings, abstracts made from yarn and other materials, and photographs.

Many of the PCAC's youth arts camps this summer were fairly specialized, like landscape painting, for example, or drawing the face. Others had campers working in several media, or studying and imitating the art styles of various cultures.

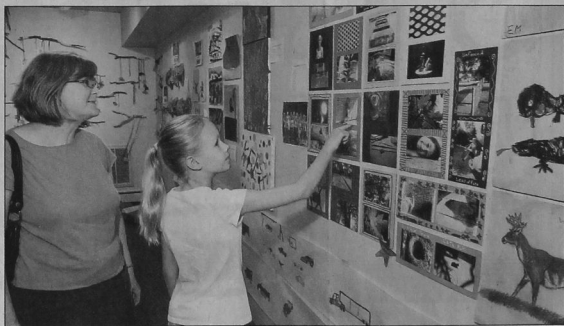
Photographer Elizabeth Wight led the digital photography camp for 8- to 16-year-olds. Each of the 16 students had a different digital camera, she said, but that potential obstacle was quickly overcome, and students proved to be motivated and helpful.

"They loved it," said Wight, a first-time PCAC teacher who also teaches at the Ann Arbor Art Center. "I had a lot of fun teaching it."

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Celebration masks are displayed on the walls of the Arts Council.



Emily Meyer, 9 years old, shows Mom, Jennifer Meyer, the digital photos she learned to make at camp.



Six-year-old Elizabeth Miller and her dad, Jason Miller, look at ceramics on display. Elizabeth travelled from Milford to attend arts camp.

12 festival will be prez's last

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Colleen Brown made her Plymouth Community Fall Festival debut on a rainy weekend 13 years ago, and she's had her eyes on the early September weather ever since.

A member of the Canton High School Softball Boosters — daughter Melissa, then a new graduate, had played, and a younger daughter, Jonelle, was entering the program — Brown teamed with another softball mom, Lila Coultas, to launch the Boosters' fund-raising corn-dog booth.

Their first time was a rainout. "That year, it rained cats and dogs that weekend," Brown, of Plymouth Township, remembered on Tuesday. "We had a lot of leftover corn dogs."

But they regrouped and played the next year, coming up with contingency plans that included boots and umbrellas.

"We learned a lot and it went much better the next year,"

Brown said. The booth, still run by the Boosters, continues to be part of the festival.

Stepping aside

Fast-forward to 2012, and Brown is approaching her seventh Fall Festival this weekend as committee president, a job she inherited in 2006 from Mark Baldwin.

She will be stepping aside after this year.

"It's still fun," Brown said. "It's just, you know, time constraints." Brown has two jobs and a new grandson, Brandon Detroit Tolhurst, her and husband Craig's first grandchild, with whom she plans to spend some time. She does plan to continue organizing the festival's craft show.

The sense of community the festival brings — it is largely a collection of local service organizations that stage events and sell meals and refreshments to raise money for their causes — keeps Brown motivated.

"It's a wonderful event that the community groups put on,"



Brown

she said. "They all come together. They're all doing their part for the community... That's the kind of what it's all about."

So many groups are represented in the festival, she said, that the event has probably touched the lives of most people who attend it.

Brown said leading the festival, which is planned months in advance, isn't really a lot of work until showtime — the festival is always the weekend after Labor Day — means. She starts thinking about it in February, she said, but it only requires a few hours a week until it's just a few weeks away.

Then, she said, the emails flood in and the phone rarely stops ringing.

"You get anxious and tired beforehand, but then the festival comes, and all the fun," she said.

Lots of help

But volunteers from the various community groups involved, she said, deserve the most credit.

"The groups are really the ones who put in all the hard work," she said.

The festival took a big turn in 2002, Brown said, when Baldwin brought in carnival rides, the profit from which helps foot the bill for the city's services, such as portable toilets, cleanup and security.

The city had been writing off much of its cost as an in-kind donation, but with ever-tightening budgets, city officials decided the festival should pay the freight, and the bill — nearly \$34,000 last year — would've negated participating groups' fundraising, she said.

"Without the carnival, we wouldn't be able to have the festival," said Brown, who was festival committee secretary, then treasurer, before becoming president. "It's worked out great."

Brown said the number of

community groups involved in the festival fluctuates, and is probably down a bit over the last few years.

"We would actually love to have more organizations," she said.

One of Brown's paid jobs also has a festive theme — she is a guest services representative at Comerica Park, working most of the Detroit Tigers home games. She greets and directs fans and takes tickets for those riding the stadium's carousel and Ferris wheel.

"It's a happy place to work," she said. "Better when they're winning."

Brown is also the office manager for Triton Fire Group in Livonia, which designs and installs fire-suppression sprinkler systems.

She will be succeeded as festival committee president by Eric Joy, an officer with the Rotary Club of Plymouth and a sales representative at Christensen's Plant Center in Plymouth Township.

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Festival offers carnival, entertainment, food and more

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

The 2012 Plymouth Community Fall Festival, a fundraising effort by service clubs, athletics boosters, churches and other local organizations, begins at noon Friday and continues through 6 p.m. Sunday in Kellogg Park and on the streets of downtown Plymouth.

The festival, which originated with a Rotary Club chicken barbecue in the 1950s, offers a carnival, a craft fair, a classic car show and live entertainment as well as the meals and food booths sponsored by groups that raise money and spread the word about their projects.

Festival hours are noon to 11 p.m. Friday, 7 a.m. (beginning with the pancake breakfast at The Gathering) to 11 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

Festival events this year include:

- Carnival rides: Rides open at 3 p.m. on Friday and 11 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are four for \$5; most rides are two to four tick-

ets each. Ticket packages are available, and all-day wristbands are available on Sunday for \$25 each. Ann Arbor Trail is the center of the festival's carnival.

• Taste Fest: 6-8 p.m. Friday in the parking lot at Station 885 on Starkweather in Old Village. More than 20 participating restaurants, live music and a cash bar. Tickets are \$15 each and are available at Station 885 and at the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce. A free shuttle service from 5-9 p.m. will take visitors between Station 885 and downtown Plymouth.

• Live music: The Randy Brock Group will appear on the Fall Festival Stage, on Penniman in front of the Penn Theatre, 7-11 p.m. Friday. On Saturday, the Shawn Riley Band will take the stage 7-11 p.m. at Old Village, Gia Warner and Bobby Lewis will appear 11 a.m.-1 p.m., and Motor City Soul will appear 4-6 p.m.

• Car show: Classic cars from 1982 and earlier. Saturday and Sunday on Main Street between Penniman and Church. Same-

day registration (cash only) is available for one or both days. Sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528.

• Entertainment: Saturday's lineup on the Fall Festival Stage will include the Optimist Club of Plymouth pet show, 9 a.m.; the Plymouth Fife and Drum Corps, 10 a.m.; the Polish National Alliance Centennial Dancers, 11 a.m.; various high school pompon squads, noon; and a demonstration by Midwest The Kwan Do, 3 p.m. Sunday will feature, also on the Fall Festival Stage, Synergy Dance Academy, 1 p.m.; and O'Hare School of Irish Dance, 2 p.m.

• Kwanis pancake breakfast: 7-11:30 a.m. Saturday at The Gathering. Tickets are \$6 in

advance, \$7 at the gate, children 5 and under free. For advance tickets, e-mail Mark Kiegal at markkrie@comcast.net or buy them at the festival ticket booth at Main Street and Penniman during the festival.

• Spaghetti dinner: 4-8 p.m. Saturday. Kellogg Park, rain or shine. Pasta with meat or marinara sauce, salad, garlic bread,

cookie and water, coffee or tea. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. Tickets are \$7.50 in advance, \$9 at the event. Buy advance tickets at the festival ticket booth at Main and Penniman. Children 12 and under eat free when accompanied by an adult.

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Sharon Borrocci of Canton Township (center) with Diana Lewis of WXYZ-TV and Larry Alexander, president and CEO of the Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Canton woman honored with ROSE award

Sharon Borrocci of Canton Township was recognized as the 2012 Overall Service Champion at the Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau's Recognition of Service Excellence (ROSE) Awards on Aug. 23 at the Max M. Fisher Music Center.

The ROSE Awards is an annual event hosted by the DMCVB to commend front-line hospitality workers throughout the region who deliver outstanding customer service in their industries. This year more than 130 nominations were received.

Borrocci is a Gallery Host at the Hyatt Place Auburn Hills who makes an instant connection with every guest she meets. She makes her guests feel comfortable by recommending dining options and asking if she can assist in any way, but goes above and beyond what is required of her by

remembering each guest by name — even guests who have returned to the hotel after several months — and treating them as if they are her friends.

"I've travelled extensively around the globe, and Sharon was certainly the most friendly, helpful and hospitable host I've met," said one hotel guest of Borrocci's services.

Often surprising visitors with her thoughtfulness, Borrocci goes out of her way to ensure that her guests have a memorable stay, which is what makes them feel at home, even if they are far from it. Her supervisor describes such an instance: "There was a bride and groom who stayed at the hotel and Sharon went out and spent her own money and time to decorate the room so beautifully, all just to give them a memorable experience at the Hyatt Place."

In another instance,

Borrocci knew that a guest was celebrating her 50th birthday, so she put a birthday card under the guest's door, signed from her and other staff members.

Borrocci's bubbly personality makes guests want to return to the hotel again and again, and they enjoying seeing her when they do. "It felt like a friend was welcoming us into her house," said one returning guest.

Borrocci received two Delta Air Lines tickets for domestic travel, a VIP lunch with DMCVB President & CEO Larry Alexander, a crystal award, two dozen red roses, Detroit Tigers tickets with fun money to spend at Comerica Park and \$200 in spending money.

This year's ROSE Award sponsors were Delta Air Lines, the Detroit Tigers and Delta Air Lines.

CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

Charity funds

Twelve local non-profit organizations, including the Canton Community Foundation and the Detroit Area Diaper Bank, were this year's recipients of funds raised through the Metro West Chapter of Credit Unions annual charity golf outing.

The chapter's 21st annual golf outing, held Aug. 16 at Northville Hills Golf Club in Northville, attracted a record number of supporters, including 24 major sponsors, 44 hole sponsors and 144 golfers.

The outing included award presentations to representatives of the three charities receiving the top grants this year.

According to Lisa Fawcett, vice president of marketing for Co-op Services Credit Union and Metro West golf outing co-chair, the Chapter received a record number of 47 grant applications.

"With so many incredible organizations doing noteworthy work within our communities, it was a very difficult task for the committee to narrow down our choices to just 12 recipients," Fawcett said.

The Canton Community Foundation and Detroit Diaper Bank received \$500 each.

Pampering moms

Local business owner Melissa Kirkpatrick-Huetter of Indigo Spa, Salon and Boutique, located at 50545 Cherry Hill in Canton's Cherry Hill Village, has announced a promotion that caters to mothers who have kids going back to school.

The entire month of September is 'Back to Spa' Mid-Day Getaway at Indigo, offering a guest list of premiere select services that can be purchased in a bundle of three services.

"We believe every mother deserves a break and what a better time than back to school? A Mid-Day Get Away has been tailored towards our hard working moms," Kirkpatrick-Huetter said.

The offer cannot be combined or used with other gift cards and promotions, valid Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. only. Only select technicians are available for this promotion, which is why Indigo requests calling ahead to schedule your appointment. All of the three services must be completed in the same day and one 'Back to Spa' Mid-Day Getaway promotion is available per person.

For an appointment or more information call (734) 961-3245.



Fitt for duty

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce helped cut the ribbon for the one-way entry of the Fitt Factory located at 724 N. Haggerty in Canton, just south of Plymouth. The facility provides training to get people into outstanding condition using individualized programs tailored to each person.

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CANTON CHAMBER CHAT

Golf outing

Each year the Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts an Annual Golf Outing, and this year's takes place Thursday, Sept. 13, at Pheasant Run Golf Club of Canton. This event is open to the public and there are various packages available for purchase.

• Golf for Four Package, \$600 - Includes golf with cart for four, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, buffet dinner, prizes, gift package and more.

• Golf for Four Sponsorship Package, \$650 - Includes golf for four with cart and a hole Sponsorship, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, buffet dinner, prizes, gift package, signage at the course, recognition at the dinner.

For more information, call the chamber at (734) 453-4040.

• Individual Golf, \$150 - Includes golf with cart, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, buffet dinner, prizes, gift package, and more.

• Dinner Only, \$35.
The Ryder Cup style format was a big hit last year with team Barone being the big winner. The Chamber Cup focuses on the larger team accomplishment. Teams are formed and pairings are created where everyone is on a level playing field for two 9-hole match plays. This allows all golfers, regardless of their skill level, to contribute points for their team in the hopes of winning the Canton Chamber Cup.

First Friday

The Canton Chamber of Commerce 1st Friday club meets 8:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 7, at the chamber office, 45525 Hanford.

It's an opportunity for one-on-one networking in a small group setting. This networking event is limited to 10 separate businesses plus a sponsor. Participants should bring business cards, flyers, etc., to share with the group. Participation in this networking event is limited to one quarter.

To make a reservation, call (734) 453-4040 or email admin@cantonchamber.com. Bagels or donuts compliments of Anthony Pomerson, Lagines Insurance Agency. Sponsor for the event is Showroom of Elegance.

Business education workshop

The chamber's Business Education Workshop is set for 8-9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 18, at the chamber office, 45525 Hanford in Canton.

The topic of the workshop is "Landing Bigger Deals with Bigger Companies," presented by Jan McDermott. Sponsor of the event is Yazaki North America, Inc. Admission is free to chamber members and first-time guests.

To make reservations call chamber office at (734) 453-4040 or email admin@cantonchamber.com.

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Love to sing? Join the Livonia Civic Chorus

The Livonia Civic Chorus will begin its 2012-13 rehearsal and performance season on Tuesday, Sept. 11, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Livonia. Rehearsals will continue weekly from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. through the fall (September-December) and winter (January-May) sessions.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church is at 34567 Seven Mile Road, near Gill Road. Livonia Civic Chorus members represent a wide range of occupations and musical training. The only requirements are the ability to carry a tune, a love of singing and the willingness to have fun.

New members are welcome. Membership is not limited to Livonia residents.

The Chorus was founded in 1965 by a group of adults who loved to sing. Sponsored in part by the Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation, the Chorus is now celebrating its 48th season of providing musical entertainment to Livonia and surrounding communities.

The Chorus will perform two major concerts this year. The first is at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at Clarenceville High School. The spring concert is at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 5, also at Clarenceville.

In addition, the Chorus will perform with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at Clarenceville.

The Chorus is also a featured guest at the city of Livonia Tree Lighting Ceremony, Greenfield Village, Greenwood Historical Village, Knights of Columbus, and assorted other community venues.

Those interested in joining the Chorus may consult the website (www.livoniacivicchorus.org), call (734) 542-9071, or email info@livoniacivicchorus.org for membership information.



The Livonia Civic Chorus welcomes new members. The only requirements are the ability to carry a tune, a love of singing and the willingness to have fun.

Youth symphony auditions

Building on a strong 53rd season, the Livonia Youth Symphony Orchestras of Michigan is getting ready for fall auditions and the start of another concert year of musical education and fun.

Auditions will be held by appointment Sept. 15 and 22 at Madonna University, Livonia.

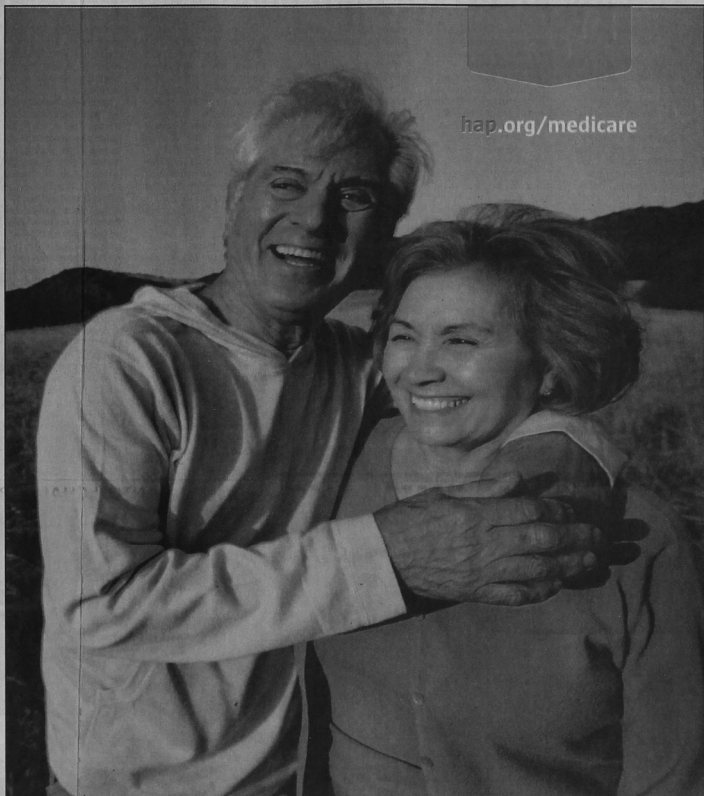
Returning this year to help guide and direct the LYSO will be Karen Holmes Danke, bringing with her enthusiasm and high energy to the young strings programs, Carl Karoub with his knowledge of band pieces and an ear for "balancing" the musicians and Timario Wilkins with his passion for the musical pieces.

Tying it all together is Linda Ignagni, the string specialist and director of the Chamber Music Groups. Ignagni has been with the LYSO, both as student and later instructor, almost from the group's beginning. New this year, the Flute Choir will be under the direction of Anjali Martin, an alum of the LYSO and a music student at Eastern Michigan University.

To schedule an audition, send an email to auditions@lysom.org or call Dave Lindenmuth at (734) 634-5250.

Opportunities abound for young musicians in the LYSO with smaller groups such as the Flute Choir, Brass Ensemble, Reed Choir and especially this year with the formation of the new Livonia Chamber Music Society.

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As summertime slips away we should be thankful we live in Michigan

Why does it always seem to jump up on us so fast? If Labor Day weekend isn't the harbinger of summer's demise, surely the first day of school is. For my family, and for most around the state, "doomsday" (as it is sometimes referred to in my household) came on Tuesday.



Kurt Kuban

The day began as my wife and I had to rustle our three children out of bed shortly after 7 a.m. No more sleeping in until 10. As we shook their beds to wake them, part of me felt like conjuring up one of those maniacal laughs from an old Vin-Cent Price film, but I'm

not sure my wife would've found that too funny. And I have to say, I was fairly impressed by their lack of complaining as they dragged themselves out from beneath their blankets. They got pretty excited about getting to school and meeting their new teachers and classmates.

Besides they seemed pretty resigned to their fates not 24 hours before we drove home from northern Michigan after one of those beautiful weekends only here in the Great Lakes state can truly appreciate. Nothing but sunny skies and temps in the upper '70s and lower '80s. As we made our way south on I-75, my oldest son, who is 8 and just started third grade, began to fret that yes, summer was about to come to an abrupt end.

"This was the shortest summer ever," he bemoaned. He then went on to complain about how he hadn't done "anything" during the summer break. After chucking to myself, I reminded him about all the trips we took this summer. We camped in Hawatha National Forest in the Upper Peninsula, where he caught lots of snakes and frogs. We spent two days at Pictured Rocks National Park, where we braved the cool waters and large waves of Lake Superior. I reminded him about how we swam in the rushing waters of Ocoee Falls, one of the coolest swimming holes in the state. We also were able to go swimming several times in Lake

Michigan and Lake Huron. In fact, one day while swimming in Lake Huron, we did battle with a surf that was reminiscent of the ocean. And then I had to remind him about several trips we took to Greenfield Village and the Henry Ford, certainly one of the best history parks in the nation. What about the time we went to the Detroit Institute of Arts, I asked. After about 10 minutes of these reminders, he gave up. I had won the battle.

"OK, it was a good summer," he admitted. Of course, while I bombarded him with the details of our many little trips, it dawned on me that a great summer it truly was. And the fact that we never once left the state of Michigan, even though one of our trips

(to Pictured Rocks) took about eight hours — one way. The bottom line is we are so fortunate to live in Michigan. Our summer included driving thousands of miles traversing the Mitten and UP, and frankly we didn't even scratch the surface. One could spend months and months discovering little gems around our state. Our lakes are second to none, of course, but we have so much more to offer.

And it seems we are finally starting to get some national attention other than the usual drivel about Detroit's decay. Last year, ABC's *Good Morning America* named Sleeping Bear National Park the "most beautiful place in America." And earlier this summer, I read a good travel

piece from a *New York Times* writer in which he wrote northern Michigan was a regional secret that the rest of the nation should be in on.

I have to say as I dropped my children off at school on Tuesday and drove away, I had a bit of sadness come over me, because I realized, yes, summer is over even if the calendar doesn't know it yet. But then I remembered that autumn, my favorite season, is right around the corner. And there is there a lot to do in Michigan during the fall. I'll have to tell the kids when they get home from school.

Kurt Kuban is community editor of the Northville Record. He welcomes your feedback at kkuban@hometownlife.com or (248) 437-2011 ext. 245.

Having an estate plan benefits beneficiaries

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

I saw an article the other day that talked about Sherman Hensley's estate. Sherman Hensley was the iconic George Jefferson from the TV series, *The Jeffersons*. Hensley died about a month ago and has not been buried. The reason is there is a fight over his estate. His will is

being contested and the court has ordered that his body be kept on ice until the dispute is resolved. Hensley was a famous person and when there is a dispute within a well-known person's estate it tends to get more publicity. However, don't assume that it doesn't happen to everyday people because it does. Even though everyday disputes may not make the

papers, the effect can be equally as devastating to a family. There is no one reason why an estate is contested. However, some of the more common reasons are that someone does not have an estate plan or it is out of date. The numbers are startling as to how many Americans do not have a will. A will is a basic estate

planning document that sets forth the distribution of property and who is in charge of an estate. This is a document that every adult — rich or poor — needs. A fair number of disputes within families that occur upon death could have been easily resolved, if the deceased had a will. I scratch my head every time I read statistics that say upwards of 70 percent of Americans do not have a will.

For people who don't have an estate plan, what they really are saying is "let the state of Michigan decide who gets my property, who should be in charge of my estate, and how my estate will be administered." I think most of us would rather make that decision ourselves.

The bottom line is that every adult needs to do something with regards to estate planning. Whether it's a simple will, a trust or making sure that beneficiaries are properly named, estate planning is not something done once and forgotten about. It is something

to be reviewed on an occasional basis. After all, we don't live in a static world and it's important that our estate plan changes with the times.

Not only do laws change, but family situations also change. That is why your estate plan needs to be up-to-date. If you have not reviewed your estate plan in the last couple of years, now is the time to do so. After all, having an out-of-date estate plan can be worse than not having an estate plan at all. I have seen situations where people have ex-spouses or deceased people as beneficiaries and that could cause problems.

Some will say that even with an up-to-date estate plan there can be controversy and problems. True. However, by having a plan that reflects what you currently want, you reduce the risk of problems.

There is only one reason for an estate plan. It's not to avoid probate or to save on taxes (although those are admirable goals). An estate

plan protects your family and your loved ones after you are gone.

Having an effective and up-to-date estate plan won't benefit you when you're six feet under, however, it will make life easier on your loved ones. And after all, isn't that what it's all about? Don't think that everyone needs an attorney to draft an estate plan, because that's not the case. Obviously for people with means, where estate tax issues are involved, an attorney is needed. However, in many situations with some of the free fill-in-the-blank forms that are now available, many people can do their estate plan on their own.

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



Rick Bloom

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Published August 30 & September 6, 2012

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4 PM THE ALLIGATORS (Rocky Blues)
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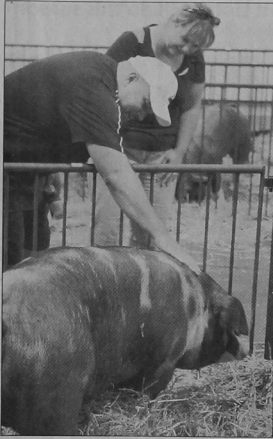
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State fair exceeds all expectations



Michael and Kimberly Rosen of Taylor check out some of the residents of the pig pens at the Aug. 31 Great Lakes State Fair in Novi.



Christine and Willis Plant trim their Romney sheep on Aug. 31 at the Great Lakes State Fair at Novi's Suburban Collection Showplace. A trim doesn't cut as much wool as a sheering - and is done to mostly keep the animals cool in warm weather. The Romney sheep, although sharing the same last name as a certain well-known Michigan native, are actually native to Kent, England and are recognized as a prized "long wool" species.



Devin Box, 6, center, and other kids leap up for a basketball while at the Aug. 31 Great Lakes State Fair. The basketball was being launched by a high school robotics team from Orchard Lake.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

By **Lonnie Huhman**
Staff Writer

"Exceeded expectations" is how Suburban Collection Showplace President Blair Bowman described the first Great Lakes State Fair, which took place this past weekend.

"It was incredible," Bowman said of the event. "The question of whether or not we would get support was answered with a resounding 'yes.' The state fair has found a home in Novi."

Held in Detroit for more than 150 years, the Michigan State Fair ended in 2009 because of financial challenges. However, it came back to life at the Suburban Collection Showplace on Grand River Avenue in a scene that included a circus, a midway, an entertainment stage and live-



A pig exhibited at the Great Lakes State Fair examines a photographer's camera.

stock exhibition areas that were set up on the complex's more than 80 acres.

Bowman was happy to hear positive reviews of his facilities. One agricultural exhibitor said it was the cleanest, nicest open barn they had seen, Bowman said.

However, there were some internal bumps in

the road. The main challenge was accommodating the number of people that showed up and moving them into the venue in a timely manner. Event organizers planned for large numbers, but didn't quite expect the big turnout.

Bowman said originally the event planners thought "if we reached 50,000, this would be a good effort" for attendance.

"The final attendance counts have not come in yet, but it was clear after Saturday that these numbers would be easily met or exceeded," he said.

He said there were no traffic or parking prob-

lems, and in general things went smoothly. Because of this success, event planners expect next year to be even better and bigger. With only four months to prepare for this year's fair, Bowman said an extra eight months will help greatly with the preparation.

The planning will wait until after the post-event meeting, which organizers and participants will do soon to give input on how to make the event better.

As of Tuesday morning though, Bowman said the

main lesson learned was, "Take a chance and try something new — and if you put your best effort out there, then success should come."

lhuhman@hometownlife.com
(248) 437-2011



The Great Lakes State Fair at Novi's Suburban Collection Showplace featured an indoor farm animal exhibit, lots of Michigan produced goods, an outdoor Shrine circus tent and this colorful midway with lots of rides and food booths.

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OUR VIEWS

Be smart

Do your part to protect against West Nile virus dangers

While panicking isn't the best way to deal with the news that Michigan has now reached epidemic status in deaths from the West Nile virus, a bit more precaution when spending time outdoors is certainly appropriate.

There have been five deaths confirmed from the virus in our state, more than any other year. The number of cases reported have reached around 100, but that number is only those that have been reported.

Our communities are doing what they can to combat the mosquito-borne virus, by treating storm drains with larvicide, but it's up to each individual to take further precautions.

The West Nile virus outbreak is expected to peak right about now, then taper off as the temperatures turn cooler and mosquitoes stop breeding for the season. In the meantime, during this peak, we urge everyone to follow the recommended precautions issued by our local, county and state health officials.

Here's a recap of those precautions:

- Reduce areas where mosquitoes breed. Eliminate standing water that collects in toys, buckets, tires, unused pools, clogged roof gutters, birdbaths, and other containers.
- Repel against mosquitoes. Use insect repellents. Follow manufacturers' guidelines and don't use on children younger than 2 years of age.
- Wear protective clothing such as long sleeves and pants when spending time outdoors.
- Report the location of any dead bird to the Oakland County Health Division at (877) 377-3641 or to the Wayne County Health Department at (734) 727-7077.
- Avoid shady and wooded areas during daytime hours.

All property owners are also urged to evaluate water on their own property. If the water is in a creek or retention area that's healthy, running, or non-stagnant, then it's not considered a prime area for mosquito breeding and doesn't need to be treated.

But if the water is stagnant, such as in a private storm sewer catch basin located in a driveway, backyard, side yard, or subdivision open space, it can be easily treated with a drop-in larvicide from a local retailer.

Symptoms of the West Nile virus can vary widely. Some symptoms include: headache, stiff neck, high fever, disorientation, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, vision loss, numbness, paralysis and coma.

Less severe symptoms include body aches, nausea, vomiting, swollen lymph glands or a skin rash on the stomach, chest and back. According to health officials, about 80 percent of people who have West Nile virus do not show any symptoms.

Symptoms can last for as short as a few days, though even healthy people have become sick for several weeks. Those at greatest risk are age 50 and older, pregnant women and people with weak or compromised immune systems. All five of the Michigan deaths occurred in people over age 50.

Communities, such as Canton and Livonia, have reported residents who have tested positive for West Nile virus.

Locally, public officials in Farmington and Farmington Hills have treated storm water catch basins with slow-release, 150-day larvicide that's known to kill mosquitoes.

This virus should be taken seriously by everyone. Take the precautions offered by health officials who have seen, firsthand, the effects. Do your part, as a good neighbor, to take care of any standing water on your property.

Summer's last days — and the beautiful autumn days ahead — shouldn't be hampered by pesky mosquitoes and a potentially dangerous virus, especially if we can all do our part to prevent it from spreading further.

COMMUNITY VOICE

How do you think the Detroit Lions will do this season?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"I think they're going to be a great team."
Traudy Collins
Canton



"I think they'll get in the playoffs."
Mary Murray
Canton



"I never hold out great hope for the Lions. I'm a Tigers fan."
Barb Baches
Canton



"I'm hoping much better."
Sekrette Burbank
Romulus

LETTERS

Extended family

Have you heard about (former Plymouth Whaler) Mitchell Heard's extended family?

With heartfelt thanks and great gratitude, our family, the Heards, would like to thank Dan, Sue, Riley and Kelly Stechschulte for being such a kind and loving family who supported and helped guide Mitchell with his success to being drafted to the Colorado Avalanche.

They say it takes a village to raise a child, but in this case it took a village to be the best fans with their great support to help raise a future NHL hockey player and a wonderful billet family to be there as his second family. We were blessed to have Dan and Sue watch over our son when we could not attend.

And for all those future hockey players who have the honor of staying with them as a billet family, we need not wish you luck, being you have just won the lottery of the best extended family you could ever hope and pray for.

Thank you, Plymouth Whalers, we will always be grateful that you opened your doors to our son, Mitchell, and let his dreams come true.

Thank you, Dan and Sue.
Mitchell Heard and family
Bowmanville, Ontario

Kohl's lot unsafe

On Sunday, around 3:45 p.m., my daughter and I were walking to the front doors from the parking lot. As we crossed the main median a lady driving a Black Ford Edge made a turn from the lane and was not looking at the road. Luckily I was and I moved very fast with my girl and was missed by about a foot.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

Web: www.hometownlife.com
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Deadline: Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published Thursday.

The lady stopped, put her hand to her mouth and started screaming from her car. I could not get her license plate number but witnesses were aghast at the incident. She drove off toward Sheldon Road after yelling at me.

This parking lot needs to be investigated and possibly patrolled by police. People need to start paying attention driving in parking lots. Chances of catching this reckless driver are slim to none. The lady was middle-aged, white with reddish, blond hair.

Be careful in parking lots.
Khalil S. Kandah
Canton

Political discourse

On Sunday, Aug. 26, Rev. Dr. James Skrimis, of First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, spoke about positive Christian relationships. He mentioned the increasingly negative and vile political messaging, and specifically, that our political parties

have become extremely polarized. Dr. Skrimis informed the congregation that pastor Rick Warren, of Saddleback Church of California, has cancelled his forum for the presidential candidates this year. Four years ago, he hosted both Sen. John McCain and then-Sen. Barack Obama.

The expressed reason was because of the vile, negative and polarized discourse that is occurring in our country. Brad Kadrich, editor of the Plymouth and Canton Observers, has repeatedly implored all of us to stick to the issues and provide civil discourse as to what is relevant in our representative democracy.

At the state level, Bill Ballenger's "Inside Michigan Politics," Aug. 27, has published an analysis of strategic votes which define our current State Legislators. Mr. Ballenger's evaluation utilizes a continuum with "0" — most Conservative and "100" — most Liberal. Many of our State Legislators vote at the extreme left or extreme right.

Campaign Finance Reports can be viewed at the Secretary of State's website. Significant contributions to legislators clearly indicate that Special Interest groups run Lansing, Well-funded Super PACs are misleading us with the sole intent of pay for TV ads — not informing — the voters.

I would like to encourage everyone to attend the League of Women Voters Forum on Monday, Sept. 24, at the Canton Public Library. Listen to what the candidates have to say on the issues. Hopefully, they will focus on the needs of the people and not divisive party politics.

John C. Stewart
state representative 2000-06
Plymouth

GUEST COLUMN

Americans need more footprints

By Patrick Colbeck
Guest Columnist

On July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the surface of the moon. On Aug. 25, 2012, Neil Armstrong left our earthly bonds for the heavens once more.

His departure reminds us of an era when we not only set big goals, we accomplished them.

When the Soviet Union launched Sputnik in 1957, it was a wakeup call for America. Our Cold War enemy owned the skies over our country and we were unable to do anything about it. We were the most prosperous nation in the world, yet our prestige took it on the chin from a tiny satellite. Sputnik woke us up.

Thankfully, President Kennedy revved us up. In 1961, he issued a challenge for our entire nation: "I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to the Earth." He issued this challenge "not because it was easy, but because it was hard." We

responded in true American style — with success.

The success of the Apollo program truly did not come easy. There were monumental risks of all kinds. Our failures were by suppressing the belief that they were also heartbreaking, as was the case with the loss of the Apollo 1 crew. The Apollo program touched the hearts of all Americans as it tapped into our salient yearnings to push past the problems we face today and seek a better tomorrow.

In contrast, the prime directive of our government today is to preserve the status quo, not launch into new frontiers. Our government today has paralyzed America by suppressing the belief that there is any greatness within us as individuals.

Many of today's leaders believe that they know how to run our lives better than we do. The dramatic increase in the size and scope of our government has fostered dependence not independence in a vain attempt to eliminate all risk and discomfort from our lives. The Apollo program, on the other hand, was evidence that the best successes in life, the ones that are remembered with pride throughout the ages, are not easy ... they are hard. Success is born of blisters, not bluster.

It is remarkable to note that, in today's America, the promo-

tion of innovation is more of a slogan than a way of life. We should all realize that the preservation of the status quo is antithetical to the concept of innovation. Innovation is born of risk. Many of the hardships or challenges that we face in life are what provide the motivation and insights that result in innovation. Eliminate risk and you eliminate innovation.

The Soviet Union was famous for its central planning. Government elites would prepare elaborate plans dictating the path that all of its citizens needed to follow. America took a different approach. We championed the unalienable right to liberty in our pursuits of happiness. Freedom is the key to blazing new trails. In the Space Race, as in all other worthy endeavors, freedom wins.

So as we reflect upon what is arguably the crowning technical achievement of our nation, let us not forget that Neil Armstrong's "trip to the moon was only one small step" on our journey as Americans. I believe it is time for us to come together and pursue the greatness that lies within each and every one of us. It is time to make some more footprints.

Patrick Colbeck is the state senator for the 7th Michigan District, which serves Canton, Plymouth and Plymouth Township.

Inspire School of Theatre Arts to stage Dickens' classic

Filing the stage with ghosts, orphans, and redemption of the human soul, Inspire School of Theatre Arts has announced its new semester with three new exciting classes and a production of Charles Dickens classic, *A Christmas Carol*.

A Christmas Carol tells the story of a man, embittered by the past, given a second chance at life. Being warned in a visit by his dead business partner, Jacob Marley, he is told of appointments he must keep with three supernatural specters. Student will fill the recognizable roles of Scrooge, Marley, the three ghosts, Bob Cratchit, and, of course, Tiny Tim.

The three classes are Theatre for the Advanced Student, Introduction to Theatre for the Beginner, taught on Saturday mornings, and Theatre for Homeschoolers on Monday and Tues-

days. During the 10-week classes, students will be introduced to many of the aspects of theatre, both on stage and behind the scene. Along the way they will be exposed to set and prop work as well as training for the stage. Those students who have had stage experience will be given instruction to build on the skills they already possess.

Classes will focus on building characters, tapping into emotion, stage directions, finding their voice, confidence in public speaking, interpreting roles, characterization, projection, as well as improvisation and "being real."

Inspire Theatre began in 2005 and has produced such plays as *The Wizard of Oz*, *Father of the Bride*, *It's a Wonderful Life* and this year's opening production of Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap* as well as many original productions.

IT enjoys the status as



Among the shows students in the Inspire School of Theatre Arts have presented are *A Merry Christmas Charlie Brown*.

Westland's only live theatre. As the theatre grew, the need for children's program became apparent. Out of this need, Inspire School of The-

atre Arts was born. Inspire School of Theatre Arts began in the fall of 2010 as an outreach from Inspire Theatre to the community

as an outlet for local creative children to learn the elements of theatre in a safe, nurturing environment. This is ISTA's third season. Past class-

es have presented *A Merry Christmas Charlie Brown*, *It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown*, plus two original productions, *The Wolf Chronicles* and *Enchanted Forest*. Students come from Garden City, Westland, Livonia, Canton, Farmington Hills and Redford.

Inspire Theatre in the Warren Road Light and Life Church at 33445 Warren Road in Westland.

Registration for classes will be 10:30 to noon Saturday, Sept. 8. Classes will begin on Saturday, Sept. 15, and run for 10 weeks, concluding with the production. Auditions will hold the first week of class and parts will be assigned the following week.

Classes cost \$20 per class or \$150, if paid at registration. Class size is limited. For more information, contact Len Fisher at inspire@inspiretheatre.com or at (734) 751-7057.

Tunnel to Towers 5K run will remember 9/11

On Sept. 11, 2001, firefighter Stephen Siller just got off the late shift at Squad 1. He was on his way to play golf when his scanner told of the first plane hitting the World Trade Center.

Hearing the news, he called his wife to tell her he would be late, then drove to the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel. It was already closed to traffic, so with 60 pounds of gear on his back, he ran just over three miles through the tunnel and to the Towers. He lost his life that day saving others.

On Saturday, Sept. 8,

Michigan will remember 9/11 with a Tunnel to Towers 5K run. The event to honor Mr. Siller and all of our first responder heroes. The 5K run/walk also will commemorate 19 people with Michigan roots who were lost in the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

This is the second year for the Detroit event, the only one in Michigan. The fundraiser will send Eric Snyder and Trevor Sanford, members of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department, to New York City to compete in the National Tunnel to Towers Run on Sept. 30, as

well as assist several local and national charities that support first responders, military personnel, veterans and their families.

The event takes place at the Wildwood Amphitheater in Civic Center Park in Oakland County's Orion Township and will start with a flag ceremony at 8:36 a.m. and the race will begin at 9:11 a.m.

Online registration and further information available at www.T2T-Run.org/Detroit. Contact Scott Watkins (517) 862-4258 from the Michigan Remembers 9-11 Fund for more information.

Applications accepted for Miss Wayne County pageant

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2012 Miss Wayne County Scholarship Pageant, an official Miss America preliminary.

Any woman age 17-24 who lives, works full-time or attends school full-time in Wayne County is eligible to apply.

Contestants will compete in the five categories: interview, lifestyle and fitness in swim-

suit, evening gown, talent and on-stage question. The winner will receive a cash scholarship and will represent Wayne County at the 2013 Miss Michigan Pageant which will be held in Muskegon.

The application deadline is Sept. 16. To apply online, visit www.misswaynecounty.org. For more information, call (734) 367-0560 or send an email to Shei-

laMae116@aol.com. Applications also are available for the Miss Wayne County Princess Program, a non-competitive pageant experience open to girls ages 4-12. Visit www.misswaynecounty.org to apply.

The Miss Wayne County Scholarship Pageant is scheduled for Oct. 6, at St. James Presbyterian Church in Redford.



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Balancing act

Anastos thrives on both rink and court

By Brad Emmons
Observer Staff Writer

Whether she's on the ice or on the basketball court, Andie Anastos is going to get your undivided attention.

The Livonia Ladywood High senior from Farmington Hills, who recently earned a roster spot on USA Hockey Women's Under-18 team and played against Team Canada in an intense three-game series, is winter sports' answer to a modern-day Babe Drikskon.

While juggling the two sports, the daughter of Michigan State University head men's hockey coach Tom Anastos has sharpened her hockey skills as a longtime member of the Honeybaked program where she played a key role on the 2011 16-and-under National Championship squad.

But her basketball prowess doesn't take a back seat where the fearless 5-foot-9 point guard, a two-time first-team All-Observer selection, is a double figure scorer (12.5 ppg) who generally leads the way for Blazers in rebounds (6.6), assists (4.5) and steals (2.4).

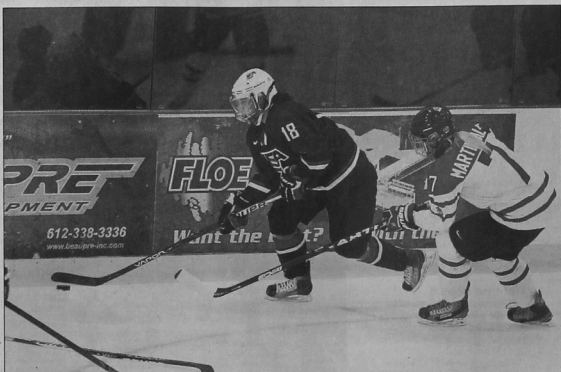
"When she's at basketball, you can't even tell she plays another sport because she's 100 percent basketball," Ladywood coach Anthony Coratti said. "She's just completely focused and cares about the kids around her. It's really all about making the people around her better."

Anastos has committed to play Boston College to hockey, but there's still some unfinished business at Ladywood where all three of her older sisters played hoops.

Basketball season

"I figured it was my last year," Andie said. "I want to play and I just don't want to leave my team behind because I love them all, my coach and everything like that. I was planning on playing either way. I think we'll have a pretty good team."

After making the cut and earning an spot on the all-star team fol-



Andie Anastos (18) of Farmington Hills, a senior at Livonia Ladywood High, played all three games earlier this month in the USA-Canada Under-18 series in Blaine, Minn.

lowing at a tryout camp held in July in St. Cloud, Minn., Anastos caught the attention of USA Hockey scouting staff.

"No surprises with Andie," said head coach Jeff Kampersal, who is also the Princeton University women's coach. "She had a solid U-17 camp in St. Cloud and followed with a hard-working effort against Canada. What you see, is what you get with Andie—that's a good thing."

Anastos, who plays center, was one of 12 forwards to make the final cut on a squad of 22. A total of 28 players were considered with one goal, two defenses and three forwards being let go.

Making the grade

Despite her modesty, Anastos admitted she was surprised she made the grade. "I really wasn't expecting to... but I wanted to," she said, laughing. "I was more confident going into this one. Last year was the first camp that I went to and I really didn't know what to expect. This year I was more confident and knew more what was going on. I just felt stronger out there. I played U-19 last year



OBSERVER FILE PHOTO

Ladywood point-guard Andie Anastos, a member of the USA Hockey Women's Under-18 team, is also looking forward to her senior basketball season.

(with Honeybaked) as opposed to U-16 the year before that. I just felt stronger and adjusted to the quicker game. You move faster and the puck moves much quicker, too."

The USA-Canada series, held Aug. 16-19, in Blaine, Minn., went right down to the wire.

In the first game, Anastos drew an assist in a 3-2 loss. In Game Two, Team USA evened the series with a 3-1 victory.

In the deciding game, Canada built a three-goal lead only to have Team USA tie it 4-4 before losing in a shootout, 5-4.

"That was a bummer, considering we came back from a three-goal deficit," Anastos said. "I thought I played pretty well for the most part. We rolled four lines and I was kind of on the third and fourth lines. The (head) coach at BC (Courtney Kennedy) was also an assistant coach with the USA team. I talked to her a couple of days ago and she told me I was really strong in the defensive zone."

Anastos also got first-hand taste of the intense and sometimes bitter Olympic women's hockey rivalry between the U.S. and Canada. There is a long history of no love lost between the two countries.

Border war

"It's a big rivalry," Anastos said. "Once they got there I did not like them at all. They couldn't even stay in the dorms. They had to go to a hotel. I said, 'Come on, the dorms are nice, good food and stuff like that.' I didn't like them from that."

Anastos' ultimate goal to keep her spot on the USA Women's Under-18 squad, which will compete over the Christmas holidays in the World Junior Tournament in

Finland.

"This fall we will receive every player that played in the series vs. Canada, plus those that were close but did not make it, to find the right group of 22 to win a gold medal in January," Kampersal said.

And the Team USA coach likes what he sees so far in Anastos.

"Andie is a class act individual," Kampersal said. "She works hard, her teammates love her, she always seems happy, and she has a willingness to learn. As a player, she is a sturdy center, who is dependable, smart, and can make plays."

Anastos, who carries a 3.8 grade point average, had entertained thoughts about going to Harvard. This summer, she made a visit to the Ivy League school by Boston, but also decided to give Boston College a look as well.

College choice

"It's a really good school, first of all, I really like the coaches and the campus was really nice," Anastos said of B.C. "It also helped that they have a good hockey team. I visited other schools and I thought I was going to go to Harvard first, but when I



Two-sport Livonia Ladywood High athlete Andie Anastos earned a roster spot on the USA Hockey Women's Under-18 team this summer.

visited Boston College I decided to go there."

With another dual-sport winter season approaching, it's business as usual for Anastos, who will juggle her Honeybaked and Ladywood schedules, while going to school.

"I'm so used to it that I'm really not that tired," she said. "I get tired from time to time, but it's not that hard. I've had games, and then a practice, but I don't know if I've had two games on the same day."

Despite the long days, Anastos has been able to balance things out. "Obviously you know she plays hockey, but the last couple years we've been lucky because we haven't had any conflicts," Coratti said. "It's been a good situation."

Coratti said Anastos could easily have gotten a basketball scholarship, but there was one caveat.

"I think people were kind of afraid of hockey, but I don't know why," he said. "Given the opportunity, she could play at any level."

But the Ladywood coach is thankful he has his stellar point-guard for another season.

"I could never say anything but positive things about her," Coratti said. "Her attitude is incredible. Not only does she have a great attitude, but she'll work her tail off, every opportunity she gets."

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Whalers 2-0 in preseason

The Plymouth Whalers built a 5-0 lead into the second period and went on to defeat the Windsor Spitfires, 5-3, in an Ontario Hockey League pre-

season game played Monday afternoon at Windsor Family Credit Union Centre.

After beating Windsor, 3-0, on last Saturday

in Wyandotte, Plymouth is now 2-0 in preseason. Windsor is 0-2.

Garrett Meurs led the Whalers attack with a pair of goals, his first two

goals of the preseason. Ryan Hartman and Mitch Jones scored a goal and an assist each, while Stefan Noesen added a single-

goal. Goaltender Riley Corbin stopped all 13 shots he faced through the first half of the game for Whalers.

Alex Nedeljkovic made his Plymouth debut in goal and stopped 13-of-16 Windsor shots over the final 31:21 of the game.

Plymouth led, 2-0 after one period and 5-1 after 40 minutes.

The Whalers complete the preseason Friday night in London and will play the Knights on Saturday night in St. Thomas, ON.



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Giordano captures his first O&E trophy

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Never underestimate a good caddy.
Tom Watson leaned on Bruce Edwards. Phil Mickelson can always count on Jim "Bones" Mackay, while Jack Nicklaus spent 26 years with Angelo Argea.
Adam Giordano, a 2011 Livonia Stevenson High grad who just finished his first year in Ferris State's Professional Golf Management program, won his first-ever tournament Sunday at Livonia's Whispering Willows with a three-shot victory in the Observer & Eccentric Men's Golf Open.
The 19-year-old was one of six players tied for the lead after Saturday's opening round at Fox Creek with a 2-over 73 and came back Sunday to card a 3-over 74.
His high school buddy Sean Wallace, a student at Grand Valley State, was there every step of the way carrying his bag.
"He (Wallace) did a lot more than people would think," Giordano said. "He definitely kept me on an even keel out there."



O&E Men's Golf Open championship flight winner Adam Giordano (right) credits his caddy (left) Sean Wallace for capturing his first-ever tournament.

I started out with four bogeys in a row (Sunday). I could just go to him and make sure that we were just going to get the next one and keep on chugging along. He always said, 'Let's get the next one' and he always helped me out there."

Livonia's Ben Proben (75-75-150) and Chris Kiehlert (73-77-150) tied for runner-up low gross honors, while another Livonian Brian King (75-76-151) and John Olejniczak (76-75-151) tied for fourth.
Giordano overcame seven bogeys by carding birdies on the No. 4, 351-yard par-4; the No. 6, 390-yard par-4; and the No. 16, 489-yard par-5.

Couldn't believe it
He was totally surprised to come home with the first-place trophy.

"I didn't come home thinking I was going to win," said Giordano, who played varsity golf at Stevenson. "I just miss competition golf. I thought I'd get in this and bring a buddy along, and he helped me a lot, and contributed to the win."

On Saturday, Giordano posted four birdies, four bogeys in one double-bogey at Fox Creek en route to a 73 where he was tied with Kiehlert, Matt Robinson, Joe Johnson, Kenny Lee and Ron Herczak.



Individual O&E Men's Golf Open winners included (from left) Livonia's Kyle Thom (first flight), Livonia's Austin Harris (junior flight) and Southfield's Liaryl Stephens (senior).

"My putter was really good the first day and today the putter didn't go very well, but I made up for it second shots and drives," Giordano said. "I just stayed mentally strong and got through it."
Giordano is targeting a career in golf. During the summer he did an internship at Eagle Pointe Golf Club in Bloomington, Ind. "I worked about 80

percent inside the pro shop and 20 percent outside just doing carts and stuff," he said. "I learned a lot this summer and look forward to my next internships."
"Eventually I'd like to become a head pro, just run a course one day and make it a living... wake up on a golf course every day."
A total of 64 players competed in four different

divisions.
First flight
Livonia's Kyle Thom pulled a Rory McIlroy with an eight-shot victory after carding rounds of 78-74 for a 152 total.
He was followed by Southfield's Zoz Compagnari, 82-78-160; Livonia's Peter Mianowski, 79-82-161; and Canton's Craig Tripp, 79-83-162; and Kevin Moreno, 82-80-162.

Senior flight
Two Southfield residents battled for the 55-and-over senior flight crown with Liaryl Stephens making a par on the first extra playoff hole to beat friend J.B. Brown.
After shooting an 80 the first round at Fox Creek, Stephens rallied Sunday at Whispering Willows for a 75 and a 155 total.
Brown, who bogeyed the playoff hole, shot 75-

O&E MEN'S GOLF RESULTS

SENIOR FLIGHT

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEN'S GOLF RESULTS Sept. 2 at Fox Creek G.C. Sept. 3 at Whip. Willows Championship flight: 1. Adam Giordano, 73-76-147; 2. (tie) Chris Kiehlert, 73-77-150; Ben Proben, 75-75-150; 4. (tie) Brian King, 75-76-151; John Olejniczak, 76-75-151; 6. (tie) Ron Herczak, 73-79-152; Roz Boghikian, 76-76-156; (tie) Matt Robinson, 73-80-153; Kevin Ryan, 77-76-153; Joe Johnson, 73-80-153; 11. Kenny Lee, 73-82-155; 12. (tie) Dan Tacker, 82-75-157; Leo Martin, 76-81-157; 14. Andrew Baron, 81-77-158; 15. Dave Reese, 80-79-159; 16. Nick Proben, 82-78-160; 17. Nick Griswold, 84-76-160; 18. (tie) Nolan Peterson, 83-78-161; Matt Willey, 76-85-161; Matt Les, 83-78-161; 21. Andrew Rozusz, 80-82-162; 22. (tie) Kevin Thomas, 84-80-164; Steve Butcher, 80-84-164; 24. Tim Proben, 82-83-165; 24. (tie) Dave Roman, 87-79-166; Marino Apollinari, 84-82-166; 27. (tie) Brad Leith, 88-89-177; Shaun Maher, 86-91-177; 29. Roscoe Sloan, 81-no card; 30. 31. Jim McComb, 85-withdraw; 32. Jim Allie and Kirk Osler, both withdrew.
Low net: 1. Olejniczak, 145; 2. (tie) Robinson and Ryan, 145 each; 4. Boghikian, 148.

First Flight: 1. Kyle Thom, 78-74-152; 2. Zoz Compagnari, 82-78-160; 3. Peter Mianowski, 82-78-161; 4. (tie) Craig Tripp, 79-83-162; Kevin Moreno, 82-80-162; 6. (tie) Ronald Ambrose, 82-85-167; Matthew Rybinski, 84-83-167; 8. Sam Williams, 80-88-168; 9. Matthew O'Neill, 85-84-169; 10. Bryan Boyd, 96-83-179; 11. Mitchell Hosh, 88-83-181; 12. Ron Sobczak, 85-99-184; 13. Darryl Essex, 93-no card; 14. Stephen Connolly, withdrew.
Low net: 1. Moreno, 134; 2. Mianowski and Rybinski, 139 each.
Senior Flight: 1. Liaryl Stephens, 80-75-155 (won playoff); 2. J.B. Brown, 75-80-155; 3. Bruce West, 79-78-157; Dennis Kitchen, 80-85-165; 4. (tie) Keith Girard, 85-81-166; Rick Wheeler, 81-85-166; 6. Lew Jeffries, 86-81-167; 7. Doug Harmala, 90-81-171; 8. Tim Kennedy, 86-86-172; 9. Mark Johnson, 90-84-174; 10. John Harrison, 86-94-180; 12. Bob Reid, 90-93-183; 13. Patrick Cannon, 101-101-201; 14. Dan Boyd, 108-100-208.
Low net: 1. Wheeler, 142; 2. Kitchen, 143.
Junior Flight: 1. Austin Harris, 83-76-159; 2. Jimmy Ryan, 80-84-164; 3. Alec Kondrath, 87-82-169; 4. Michael Blasser, 84-91-175; 5. Adam Radke, 88-89-177; 6. Justin Legel, 93-91-184; 7. Jay Hopson, 100-101-201.

SOCCER

Continued from page B1

efforts."
chiefs shot hot
Bobby Budlong scored a pair of goals to lead the defending Division I state champion Chiefs (5-1-2, 1-0) to a KLA

South Division triumph Tuesday over visiting Livonia Franklin (0-4-1, 0-1).
Dan Ovesea, Aidan Shennan and Cody Widlak also tallied goals for Canton, which led 3-0 at intermission.
"Two were 'own' goals," Franklin coach Vic Rodopoulos said. "What killed us was

that we had a hard time marking their forwards in their through balls, especially in the first half."
"The second half we had an even amount of possession. We had opportunities, but we couldn't finish."
Franklin goalkeeper Spencer Lewandowski started and made nine

saves before giving way to Hunter Farren, who had one save.
Warriors blanked
Freshman goalkeeper Jordan Williams made nine saves, but it wasn't enough Tuesday as host Lutheran High Westland (0-4, 0-4) fell to Southfield Christian (2-2, 2-2) in a Michigan Inde-

pendent Athletic League B Division match.
The Eagles got goals from Aaron Harting (17th minute), Frank Holocoe (26th) and Parker Brose (35th).
Lutheran Westland first-year coach Bob Regan singled out the play of center-midfielder Nick Flanter, along with center-back Daniel

Roberts, who was filling in for the injured Noah Huffman.
Eagles grounded
Plymouth Christian Academy dropped its first two games last week, 3-1 to Southfield Christian on Aug. 28 and 3-1 to Grosse Pointe Woods University on Aug. 30.

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Continued from page B6

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8
Location: Seligman Performing Arts Center, 22305 West 13 Mile, at Lahser, Beverly Hills

Details: The Juilliard String Quartet opens the 69th season of the Chamber Music Society of Detroit, a non-profit organization based in Farmington Hills. Tickets are \$30-\$60.

Contact: (248) 855-6070 or www.ChamberMusicDetroit.org

CULTURAL CONCERT SERIES

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8



Progressive folk trio, Chimney Choir, performs Sept. 29 at Trinity House Theatre in Livonia. The group is based in Denver, Colo., and includes Detroit-area native Kevin Larkin.

Location: Farmington Players Barn Theatre, 32332 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Cut Time Players kicks off the series with a program of light classics, such as "The Sorcerer's Apprentice," Ravel's "Bo-

lero," and more. Cut Time Players is an ensemble formed in 1995 by an enthusiastic group of Detroit Symphony Musicians. Tickets are \$19 for adults and \$17 for students and seniors.

Contact: (248) 473-1848;

recreg.fhgov.com

FARMINGTON CHORUS

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, 11, 18
Location: Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, just east of Middlebelt in Farmington Hills

Details: The Farmington Community Chorus will hold open auditions for new members. All voice parts will be considered, age 18 and over. The 70-plus, mixed-voice chorus is composed of singers from throughout the metro Detroit area. Beginning this month, the group started rehearsing a repertoire of popular music for its holiday concert

Contact: Shelly Addison at (248) 250-1447 or www.farmingtonchorus.com

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last

Tuesday of the month

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds from Jazz Elks goes toward special needs and disadvantaged children and veterans

Contact: (734) 453-1780 or e-mail to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Friday, Sept. 7

Location: Lake St. Clair Metropark, located on Metropolitan Parkway (16 Mile) at Jefferson Ave., in Harrison Township

Details: Free concert celebrating the bicentennial of the War of 1812. The U.S. Navy Band performs

at 6 p.m. Fireworks follow both bands at 9 p.m.

Contact: www.michigan-phil.org

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Nicholas Barron, Sept. 7; Melissa Greener, Sept. 8; Empty Chair Night, Sept. 9; Dr. Swing featuring Joel Palmer and Friends, Sept. 14; Sarah McQuaid, Sept. 15; Drew Nelson, Sept. 21; Chris Proctor, Sept. 22; Seth Glier, Sept. 28; Chimney Choir, Sept. 29. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted

Contact: (734) 464-6302



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Game day plan

Tailgating goes gourmet

Game day is no time to be sidelined in the kitchen.

Do a little pre-game planning so you can spend less time cooking and more time cheering on the home team.

Keep it simple: Instead of taking up space with a lot of dishes to hold condiments, use muffin pans. Each well in the pans can hold a different topping for burgers, hot dogs or chili. Put a spoon in each for easy dipping. It's simple and fun and you'll have fewer dishes to clean up after the game.

Set up a dipping station: Offer a selection of dips, guacamole and salsas. In addition to chips set out bell pepper slices, shrimp, pita chips, bagel chips, jicama sticks and mini rice cakes.

Make sure you have enough: Don't disappoint guests by running out of munchies or drinks. Here's how to figure out how much you need to prepare:

- If you're having eight to 10 guests, figure on three different appetizers. For up to 16 guests, figure on four to five appetizers.
- For non-alcoholic drinks, plan for two 16-ounce cups per person. Plan for two glasses of wine or three beers per person.
- To have enough ice for drinks, as well as to keep drinks cold in a cooler, get about a pound and a half of ice per person.

While keeping the serving utensils and munchies simple, you can transform your traditional tailgating menu into a crowd-pleasing feast that will have your game day friends thinking you've gone gourmet. Whether you're rooting for the home team or away, you can serve up these savory dishes for friends around your backyard grill or with fellow fans at the field.

To up your gourmet game, fire up the grill and fix this quick and easy chipotle marinated Grilled Skirt Steak.

A Roasted Corn Salad embodies the fresh and zesty flavors of the season to keep you at the edge of your seat. Add lime juice to a mixture of corn, tomato, red onion, basil and avocado. Then shake in as much chipotle-flavored pepper sauce as your taste buds desire for a smoky finish. Mexican Caviar, Peppery Artichoke Bruschetta and Touchback Snap Mushroom Dip will give a gourmet twist to your appetizer station.

For more tailgating ideas, visit www.TABASCO.com.

Grilled Skirt Steak with Roasted Corn Salad

Makes 4 servings

- Skirt Steak:
- 1 cup Tabasco's Chipotle Pepper Sauce
 - 1 tablespoon ground cumin
 - 1 large garlic clove, crushed
 - 1½ pounds skirt steak, cut into 4-inch pieces
- Corn Salad:
- 4 ears corn on the cob, shucked
 - 2 large tomatoes, chopped
 - 1 small red onion, diced
 - 1 ripe avocado, peeled, pitted and diced
 - 2 tablespoons fresh chopped basil
 - 2 tablespoons lime juice
 - 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
 - 1 tablespoon Tabasco's Chipotle Pepper Sauce
 - ½ teaspoon salt

Prepare skirt steak: In large bowl, combine chipotle pepper sauce and garlic; add skirt steaks. Toss to mix well; cover and refrigerate at least 30 minutes or overnight.

Prepare corn salad: Preheat grill to medium. Grill corn about 5 to 10 minutes, turning frequently, until tender-crisp. When cool enough to handle, cut corn from cob. In medium bowl, combine corn, tomatoes, red onion, avocado, basil, lime juice, olive oil, chipotle pepper sauce and salt; toss to mix well.

Preheat grill to high. Grill skirt steak about 5 minutes, or until of desired doneness, turning once.

To serve, plate steak with corn salad.

Mexican Caviar

Makes 8 cups

- 1 cup olive oil
 - ½ cup red wine vinegar
 - 1½ teaspoons Tabasco brand Original Red Sauce
 - ½ teaspoon salt
 - 2 (16-ounce) cans black beans, drained and rinsed
 - 2 (11-ounce) cans corn, drained and rinsed
 - 2 large tomatoes, chopped
 - 2 ripe avocados, pitted, peeled and diced
 - 4 scallions, sliced
 - 2 tablespoons fresh chopped cilantro
- Corn chips
- Combine oil, vinegar, Tabasco sauce and salt in large bowl; mix well. Stir in black beans, corn, tomatoes, avocados, scallions and cilantro; toss until well blended.

Let stand about one hour before serving.

Serve with corn chips.



Grilled Skirt Steak with Roasted Corn Salad

Touchback Snap Mushroom Dip

- Makes 4
- 2 tablespoons butter
 - 1 pound mushrooms, chopped fine
 - 6 pieces pita bread
 - 2 tablespoons olive oil
 - ½ teaspoon salt
 - 2 teaspoons garlic powder
 - 2 tablespoons finely chopped red bell pepper
 - 2 tablespoons finely chopped green onion
 - 2 tablespoons Tabasco's Original Red Sauce
 - 1 cup ricotta cheese
 - 3 tablespoons Parmesan cheese
 - 8 ounces cream cheese

Preheat oven to 425°F. Melt butter in a skillet over medium high heat. Add the mushrooms and sauté until they are soft and all liquid is evaporated. Transfer to a bowl to cool and set aside.

Slice pitas into 8 wedges each and transfer to a baking sheet. Brush with olive oil and toast in the oven until crisp, about 15 minutes. Add the remaining ingredients to the cooled mushrooms and mix well. Serve with toasted pita wedges.

Peppery Artichoke Bruschetta

Makes 24

- Bread Croûtes
- 24 1-inch thick slices crusty French bread (12-ounce baguette), cut diagonally
 - 2 tablespoons olive oil
 - 1 teaspoon Tabasco brand Original Red Sauce
- Artichoke Topping
- 1 jar (12-ounces) marinated artichoke hearts, drained and chopped
 - 1 large scallion, sliced
 - 1 teaspoon Tabasco brand Original Red Sauce
 - 1 teaspoon fresh chopped rosemary
 - 3 ounces goat cheese, crumbled

Preheat oven to 350°F. Combine olive oil and Tabasco sauce in small cup. Brush one side of each bread slice with Tabasco mixture; place on ungreased baking sheet. Bake until lightly toasted, about 8 to 10 minutes.

Preheat broiler. Combine artichoke hearts, scallion, Tabasco sauce and rosemary in small bowl; toss to mix well. Spoon artichoke topping on each toasted bread slice; top with crumbled goat cheese.

Broil 3 minutes until goat cheese is slightly melted and lightly browned.

Michelada

Makes 1 serving

- 1 fresh lime
- Small plate of coarse kosher salt
- ½ teaspoon soy sauce, or to taste
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce, or to taste
- 1 teaspoon Tabasco brand Original Red Sauce
- 1 (12-ounce) can beer

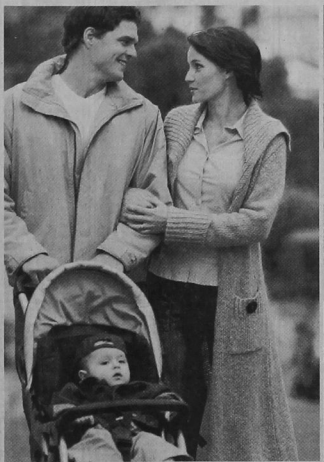
Cut lime in half and rub half around rim of a 16-ounce beer mug to moisten; dip rim lightly in salt. Fill mug half-full with ice.

Squeeze juice from remaining lime and add to mug along with soy sauce, Worcestershire sauce, and TABASCO® Sauce. Fill mug with beer and stir just enough to combine well.

Courtesy of Family Features and www.tabasco.com



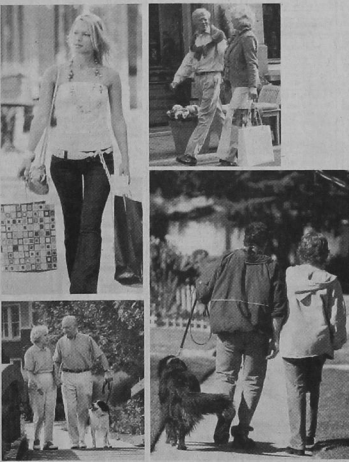
Residents, businesses flock to walkable communities



By Julie Brown
O&E Staff Writer

Traci Sincok of Plymouth knows the value of walkable neighborhoods. Sincok is associate director of the Northville Chamber of Commerce, a community like Plymouth known for its walkability. She was out on a recent Saturday in downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park for the Susan G. Komen 3-Day, a 60-mile over three days to combat breast cancer. "Accessibility everywhere," she said of her home and work communities, which are neighbors. "You can walk to events. It's so good for exercise." In Northville, there are neighborhoods with sidewalks great for walking. Sincok noted Northville Township is working on access and walkability, including the new Sheldon Road path used by the breast cancer walkers Aug. 18. "I do feel like I get the best of both worlds," said Sincok,

whose husband, Paul, is Plymouth city manager. "I'm really lucky." Walkable neighborhoods are more popular among consumers than ever. According to a new study conducted by the Brookings Institution, people prefer to live in communities that allow them to walk to shops, parks and other destinations and will pay more for a home that allows them to do that. The study used the Washington, D.C., area as a test location for the research. The more walkable the community, the more the price per square foot increased. Rental properties in walkable areas averaged \$300 per month more than rentals in other areas, and house values averaged \$82 more per square foot in walkable areas when compared to homes in less walkable areas. Traci Sincok was in Kellogg Park that Saturday with Mariana Peres, 17, a Rotary



exchange student from Brazil. Peres will attend Plymouth Salem High School. "This is very different," said Peres, looking around the leafy downtown Plymouth park. "I like here." Her community has some 600,000 people, which is a small city for Brazil. Peres lives in an apartment building with 15 floors. Agreeing that communities like Plymouth are walkable and great for living and working in is Tony Bruscato, director of operations for the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority. Bruscato, a Canton resident, was also in Kellogg Park as the breast cancer walkers were cheered on. "I think it all starts at Kellogg Park where a lot of people enjoy seeing friends, and then of course we've got a lot of neighborhood parks," he said. "A lot of people in Plymouth know their neigh-

hors because they get out to walk," said Bruscato, adding events, dining and shopping bring people out. Bruscato's not a Realtor, but he believes Plymouth has been less hard hit by the recession in terms of properties. He sees some properties with new homes which are larger going in on the lots. "I think that shows the stability of Plymouth, the desirability of it. We're very fortunate," he said. He finds there were fewer foreclosures in Plymouth and not as many job losses. Commercial districts have a low vacancy rate, Bruscato said, "where many communities have struggled to keep their businesses. We don't have to hardly sell Plymouth, that's the great thing about it. I think it almost sells itself, especially with the businesses. People are calling us, asking what's available."

jbrown@hometownlife.com

Collection agency has drawbacks

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: Our association's managing agent just suggested that we hire a collection agency to collect our assessments. I am wary of it, so I am looking for some additional reasons. Do you have any comment?
A: Using a collection agency, that does not necessarily have expertise in community association law, is like using a carpenter to give you a knee replacement. Many times delinquent co-owners will ignore the collection letter from a collection agency, just as they do in any other environment, as opposed to getting a letter from the association's attorney, which has legal ramifications, including having to pay the association's legal fees and costs in the collection matter. Moreover, the attorney for the association, who is knowledgeable about the new issues confronting condominium associations in collections, should be better able to effectuate a resolution in a more timely and fruitful fashion. The old notion that you can get what you pay for still rings true.



Robert Meisner

Q: I understand that Fannie Mae just came out with changes in condo unit mortgage guidelines. Can you help me with that?
A: Under Guide Section 42.3, mixed projects with commercial units occupying more than 20 percent of the total square footage are ineligible, which may cause a problem for residential condominiums having problems getting local loans, but that is something that should be handled through experienced local counsel for the developer.

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

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of May 29 to June 1, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

GARDEN CITY	34593 Navin Ave	\$276,000	9111 Columbia	\$47,000
511 Deering St	33359 Norfolk St	\$163,000	26032 Dover	\$64,000
47451 Bedford Ct	8907 Roseland St	\$35,000	17190 Gaylor	\$35,000
50491 Colchester Ct	9356 Stonehouse Ave	\$224,000	8888 Grayfield	\$48,000
46821 Creeks Bend	3783 Summers St	\$120,000	18720 Indian	\$32,000
45416 Gleggary Blvd	13960 Susanna Ct	\$150,000	15070 Inkster Rd	\$33,000
48894 Greenwich Cir	NORTHVILLE		11338 Lenore	\$15,000
1959 Lincoln Dr	19409 Althea Ct	\$100,000	11720 Marion	\$55,000
1106 Longfield Dr	44457 Broadmoor Blvd	\$334,000	14372 Salem	\$75,000
45631 Morningside Dr	16589 Cottonwood Ct	\$340,000	25900 W seven Mile Rd	\$25,000
8499 Orhan St	44009 Deep Hollow Cir	\$613,000	19455 Woodworth	\$25,000
45623 S Stonewood Rd	12133 Cavell St	\$23,000	WESTLAND	
48955 Sultz Rd	36238 Club Ct	\$293,000	7470 Afeldt St	\$32,000
47014 Sherstone Dr	18090 Curtis Ct	\$35,000	39281 Armstrong Ln	\$110,000
2859 Stanton St	36367 Dardanella St	\$210,000	8112 August Ave	\$86,000
40026 Woodale Way	15118 Fairfield St	\$22,000	223 Bedford Dr	\$85,000
	29683 Greenland St	\$104,000	2212 Bertram Dr	\$70,000
	16311 Inkster Rd	\$98,000	32327 Bertram Dr	\$162,000
	18044 Levain Rd	\$156,000	7369 Manor Cir	\$25,000
	14190 Melvin St	\$120,000	30806 Steinhauer St	\$60,000
	9971 Merriman Rd	\$109,000	1330 Windham St	\$62,000
	34160 Navin Ave	\$218,000	REDFORD	

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the weeks of May 14-18, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	21402 Riverwalk Ct	\$247,000	SOUTH LYON	
2358 Brenthaven Dr	27500 Spring Valley Dr	\$153,000	1008 Birchway Ct	\$251,000
4693 Coachmaker Dr	28351 W 14 Mile Rd	\$450,000	825 Brick Ln	\$169,000
1940 Klengenmuth Rd	FRANKLIN		223 Brookwood Dr Unit 7	\$45,000
2830 Rossmor Cir	30033 Hickory Ln	\$499,000	1113 Shetland Dr	\$329,000
2311 Rutherford Rd	MILFORD		26442 Shumans Way	\$30,000
742 Westbourne Dr	1777 Bristol Dr	\$450,000	241 Wellington Dr	\$153,000
344 Tibury Rd	3020 E Maple Rd	\$155,000	SOUTHFIELD	
COMMERCER TOWNSHIP	816 Knolls Landing Dr	\$215,000	30406 Everett St	\$46,000
2016 Alpha St	2294 S Hickory Ridge Rd	\$350,000	17412 Gateway Cir	\$85,000
4210 Rolling Pines Ct	1297 Yellowstone Valley Dr	\$25,000	21650 Hidden Rivers Dr	\$25,000
5496 Shelton Dr	\$25,000		19101 Jeanette St	\$49,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	NOVI		19025 Melrose Ave	\$28,000
25091 Arden Park Dr	43050 12 Oaks Crescent Dr #5	\$120,000	19434 Melrose Ave	\$32,000
37630 Burton Dr	24177 Brentwood Ct	\$390,000	19712 Midway Rd	\$30,000
2830 Rossmor Cir	24564 Cavendish Ave E	\$359,000	17414 New Hampshire Dr	\$34,000
30092 Fernhill Dr	41603 Chattman St	\$315,000	16425 New Jersey St	\$84,000
22115 Indian Creek Dr	44723 Elynn Ln	\$81,000	17070 New Jersey St	\$111,000
21960 Leyte St	28849 Henriestone Dr	\$206,000	29960 Pleasant Trl	\$39,000
21332 Mulberry Ct	44578 Lenox Park Dr	\$240,000	30280 Southfield Rd # A112	\$29,000
25885 Chapelweigh Dr	40825 Lenox Park Dr	\$246,000	19775 W Nine Mile Rd	\$20,000
31722 Nuttingwood St	2454 Simmons Dr	\$225,000	WHITE LAKE	
31514 Orchard Crk	39884 Village Wood Cir	\$36,000	9091 Penfield Ave	\$69,000
30712 Richmond Club Dr	45350 W 10 Mile Rd	\$169,000	11107 Sudden Rd	\$160,000
6435 Dakota Cir	42599 Whitman Way	\$240,000		
6393 Thorncrest Dr				

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Short sales
If you own more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures and what it takes to get started. Organizers will cover the internal workings of short sales and the different steps involved. Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quanta Real Estate is the presenter. It will be 6-9 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon. Additional parking along the street in back. Please call the office at (248) 782-7130 or e-mail jane.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or information.

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THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

WHEELS... cars.com

Mini-Vans... CHEVY VENTURE 2003... North Bros. Value Lot

Vans... FORD ECONOLINE E-250 2011... North Brothers Ford

4 Wheel Drive... HUMMER BAEZ 2006... BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC

Sports Utility... BUICK ENCLAVE CXL 2009... BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC

RV/Campers/Trailers... CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LT 2002... North Bros. Value Lot

Auto Misc... CHEVY SILVERADO 2008... BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC

CHEVY EQUINOX 2010... North Brothers Ford

CHEVY SILVERADO 2008... BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC

CHEVY SUBURAN LT 2009... BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC

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Sports & Imported... BMW X3 2007... Lou LaFitte

Convertible... CHEVY CORVETTE 2000... Lou LaFitte

Mini Cooper... MINI COOPER 2007... Lou LaFitte

Pontiac Torrent... PONTIAC TORRENT 2006... Lou LaFitte

Subaru Forester... SUBARU FORESTER 2009... Lou LaFitte

Subaru Legacy... SUBARU LEGACY XT... Lou LaFitte

Subaru Impreza... SUBARU IMPREZA... Lou LaFitte

Subaru Impreza... SUBARU IMPREZA... Lou LaFitte

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Chevrolet... Corvett 2007 Convertible... Lou LaFitte

Chevrolet... Impala 2008... Lou LaFitte

Chevrolet... Impala 2008... Lou LaFitte

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Challenging fun for ALL ages! Thursday PUZZLE CORNER CROSSWORD PUZZLER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER ACROSS 1 Well-ventilated 5 Violin-stringed material 8 Gray matter 12 La -- tar pits 13 Cooper source 14 Sunbuck 15 Weigh anchor 16 Comes apart 18 Links champ DOWN 1 Sit-ups 2 Fruught 3 Out of reach 22 Teen hero 23 Slippy 31 Make 32 Reservations 33 Wild blue yonder 34 Breath-taking 36 Mooches 37 Airline to Stockholm 38 Sprinter's prize 40 Santa -- winds 41 Jiffy attempts 45 Festive occasions 49 Palette 50 Assortment 51 Big pitcher 52 Flight dir 53 -- matter 54 Low voice 55 Summer hts. 56 Brief upturn

WANT MORE PUZZLES? Check out the "Just Right Crosswords" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

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

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

Word Search - On the Hunt. CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE. arrow camouflage game pheasant stealth deer duck hunting lure rifle shotgun bear deer dog trap wildness bow

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FORD FLEX SEL 2009
 FWD, Ice Blue, 100k miles.
 \$19,995
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Lincoln
FUSION SE 2011
 V6, Blue, 22K, Best buy.
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

FUSION SEL 2008
 127825M - 4 dr, sedan (A),
 Blue, 53,903
North Bros. Value Lot
734-402-8774

Taurus 2010
 Shimmer Silver limited,
 chrome, and sport Top
 Bottom loaded! Reduced to
 \$21,991
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GMC
ENVOY S4T 2002
 4wd, power, LOCKS & runs
 great! \$8995
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BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

TERMINI 2011 - S4T
 Silver, 100K, 20K, Only
 \$27,999
BOB JEANNOTTE
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Honda
ACCORD EX 2006
 Black, 71K, very nice!
 \$11,995
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BUICK, GMC
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MONTE CARLO 2006
 Victory Red, leather, sunroof,
 and nav. start! Super Sport
 model! Only \$15,943!
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Chrysler-Plymouth
CHRYSLER 300 2006
 127825M - 4 dr, sedan,
 black, 300K, \$14,980
North Brothers Ford
734-402-8774

CROSSFIRE 2005
 60K, Black on Black,
 Only \$11,000
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BUICK, GMC
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PT CRUISER 2001
 Red, great shape, 100k
 only \$5995
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Dodge
CHALLENGER 2009
 Blue Strata, Hemi, and RTT
 Get it, build off
 Just \$24,991
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LIBERTY SPORT 2008
 120269M - 4 dr, sedan,
 Red, \$14,988
North Brothers Ford
734-402-8774

Maxima
MARK VII 1998
 1311025M - 2 dr, 60k,
 North Bros. Value Lot
734-402-8774

MAXZ 2011
 1271025M - 4 dr, sedan,
 AWD, Black, \$25,989
North Brothers Ford
734-402-8774

MAXZ 2011
 Black, AWD, BK, Must see!
 Loaded \$18,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Nissan
MAXIMA 2001
 120269M - 4 dr, sedan,
North Bros. Value Lot
734-402-8774

MAXIMA GXE 1996
 4 Dr, 60, Auto, P, 100, sun-
 roof, 2nd owner, runs great,
 clean inside, 129K miles, great,
 begin \$1595, 248-683-8541

MORANO 2003
 AWD, SE, Loaded, 48K
 miles, \$11,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Pontiac
GRAND PRIX SPORT 2008
 Red, 51K, loaded, must see!
 \$14,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Saturn
AURA 2007
 Ocean Mist, V6, leather and
 sunroof! Enjoy the ride!
 Only \$12,995
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AURA 2007
 Ocean Mist, V6, leather and
 sunroof! Enjoy the ride!
 Only \$12,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
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SKY 2007
 Red, Loaded, 40K,
 Hard to find, \$17,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Vaux 2008
 Model, Only \$13,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Toyota
SOLARA 2007
 Pearl White, SLE, leather, sun-
 roof! Hard to find!
 Reduced to \$14,123!
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 \$999 DOWN

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 LEASE FOR **\$98²⁴ MO** BUY FOR **\$25,445**
 \$995 DOWN **SPECIAL OFFER**



2012 CHEVY TRAVERSE LS
 LEASE FOR **\$69²⁴ MO** BUY FOR **\$22,078**
 \$799 DOWN **SPECIAL OFFER**

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