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Holiday service

L.J. Griffin Funeral Home presents its 18th annual holiday service 7:30 p.m. tonight (Thursday) to help families cope with the loss of their loved ones during the upcoming holiday season.

Pastor Drex Morton and the Rev. Jack Baker will lead spiritual reflections. The service is open to families served by Griffin Funeral Home, as well as others in the community.

L.J. Griffin Funeral Home is located at 42600 Ford Road (west of Lilley). For information, call (734) 981-1700.

Carrie Underwood contest

Enter our Facebook contest for a chance to win two tickets to see Carrie Underwood in concert Nov. 25 at The Palace. Share the contest link with a Facebook friend and get an extra five chances to win if they also enter the contest. To enter, go to our website, Hometownlife.com, and look on the right-hand side for a picture of Carrie Underwood in the Don't Miss module. Fill out a short form and you are entered for a chance to win.

Golfers call 'fore' on course decision

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

A decision by Canton officials to negotiate a contract with a Virginia-based firm to manage the Fellows Creek golf course has fueled a backlash from supporters of a family-owned Canton company that has operated the site for 34 years.

An estimated 75 people packed a Canton Township Board of Trustees meeting Tuesday night

to show support for a local company, Fellows Creek Golf Club, run by Canton resident Dan Ross and his family.

"What kind of message are you sending to the business community that you will only support them if it's convenient?" asked Jim Kelly, a Canton resident and former Redford Township supervisor.

But township officials defended their decision to start negotiating a contract with Bil-

ly Casper Golf, which manages 125 golf courses in the Midwest, including 70 municipal sites such as Plymouth Township's Hilltop Golf Course. A financial analysis indicates Canton could gain \$760,295 over five years by switching to the Virginia company, compared to just \$170,478 by staying with the Ross family.

Some risk

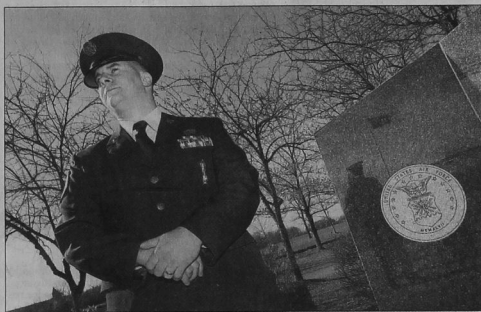
Trustee John Anthony conceded the change ushers in certain

risks, but he said it's worth it as Canton struggles to slash costs and generate new revenue. He said the township has to consider not only Ross family supporters, but what's best for more than 90,000 residents.

"Do we the board owe them something? You're damn right we do," he said during the meeting.

The board voted 7-0 to nego-

Please see **COURSE, A7**



Theodore Winnen signed up for another hitch during his re-enlistment ceremony Sunday in Canton's Heritage Park.

BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A time to reflect

Canton says 'thank you' to its veterans

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

When the Tom Cruise movie *Top Gun* came out in 1986, it proved useful as a recruiting tool for not only the U.S. Navy, but the military in general.

It sure worked on Ted Winnen, who was already envisioning a military career before he saw the movie, and who was convinced it was the road for him afterward.

Some 16 years later, Winnen, a Royal Oak High School graduate who took advantage of the delayed enlistment pro-

gram before ever graduating to join the U.S. Air Force, used Veterans Day in Canton as the backdrop to swear a re-enlistment oath that will take him past the age of retirement.

Winnen, currently stationed at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., and who was recently promoted to master sergeant, took the oath administered, in a touching twist, by his second cousin, retired Air Force Maj. Keith Hutcheson, in front of the Veterans Memorial in Canton's Heritage Park.

It was one of several events that highlighted annual Veter-

ans Day observances in Canton.

Winnen, who counts tours in Kuwait, Alaska and Korea among his many duty stations, said the Cruise movie "actually worked."

"That was a big influence for me," he said. "When I was a kid I was drawing pictures of me in an F-14."

Tough choice

He considered joining the Navy, but thought the Air Force "would give me more opportunity to work with air-

Please see **VETERANS, A7**

LaJoy: Second term will be driven by goals

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Starting his second four-year term, Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy faces challenges such as reducing a \$75 million price tag for employee legacy costs, reversing declining fund balances, settling contracts with six labor unions and boosting revenues — all while preserving levels of services residents have come to expect.

It's a tall order even for a seasoned leader who spent six years in the state House, 13 years as a part-time trustee and a decade on Canton's Merit Commission, which oversees non-union employee matters.

Yet, LaJoy appears confident that he, his six township board colleagues, administration officials and Canton's work force can tackle difficult issues rather than become bogged down by gridlock that has plagued higher levels of government.

"In four years, I'd like to be able to say, 'We did it,'" LaJoy said, during an interview in his third-floor Canton Administration Building office.

LaJoy, who was unopposed in his Nov. 6 re-election, revealed five main goals to steer his new term:

- Adhere to sound business principles to guide decision-making.
- "We have to be good stewards of the people's money," LaJoy said, a line he has often repeated.
- Grow the tax base by luring new companies and keeping Canton a place that attracts new residents.
- Continue strides already made to push for transparency in Canton government.
- Reduce debt, partly by refinancing old debt at lower interest rates; having employees pay more toward their health care and pensions; trimming township costs whenever possible; not filling certain job vacancies; and gener-

Please see **LAJOY, A5**



BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Phil LaJoy remains upbeat as he starts his new four-year term as township supervisor.

Diaper drive

After launching an ambitious campaign to collect 200,000 disposable diapers for Thanksgiving, Canton volunteer Marybeth Levine for a fourth season is drawing strong support for the Detroit Area Diaper Bank from one of her most ardent supporters, the Canton Public Library.

Local residents can still help support the "Stuff the Truck" drive by dropping off diapers from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. today (Thursday).

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Among the best

Plymouth-Canton's drum majors and guard members accept the award for being the 12th place finalist at Saturday's Bands of America grand national competition in Indianapolis. It's the first such honor for the band since 2008. For more on the accomplishment, please turn to page A10.



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Park Players tackle French farce

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Director Paul Bird likes to challenge his Plymouth-Canton Educational Park actors, and he thinks he's found a big one for the troupe's fall play.

The Park Players present the second weekend of performances of the French farce "Hotel Paradiso," by Georges Feydeau and Maurice Desvallieres, Friday and Saturday at the Gloria Logan Auditorium at Salem High School.

It's been described as "a mad French bedroom frolic (which) finds an assortment of refined people stealing through the halls and rooms of a cheap hotel comically

intent on assignations."

It's a genre Bird said the Players have never tackled, and they've handled it well.

"We've never done anything quite like it before," Bird said. "It was time to do something different. I like to challenge my actors, and they always rise to it."

According to Bird, the play centers around a woman (Marcel Cot) who thinks her husband is having an affair (turns out he isn't) and so arranges to have one herself. Eventually, the police raid Hotel Paradiso and the comedy ensues.

Bird likes the play not only for its acting challenge, but it's acting opportunities. There are

ON STAGE

What: Park Players production of *Hotel Paradiso*

When: 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday, Nov. 16-17

Where: Gloria Logan Auditorium at Salem High School

Cost: \$10

15 members of the cast. "It's a larger cast than we've been using lately," Bird said. "It was a chance for more kids to get on stage."

The troupe started rehearsing the play in September and put it on stage for the first time last weekend. They're hoping to draw—and entertain—large crowds



The cast of 'Hotel Paradiso' includes (front, from left) Plymouth High School senior Anna Hua (Angelique) and Canton High School sophomore Miki Somers (Marcel), along with (back, from left) Canton High School senior Paul Hofmann-Wellenhof (Boniface), Salem junior Paul DiNicola (Martin) and Canton senior Matt Whitehead (Henri Cot).

in the final two performances this weekend.

A big part of the responsibility for that falls to Canton High School sophomore Miki Somers, who plays Marcel. She said conveying the emotions Marcel is feeling has been the biggest challenge.

"I had to make sense of what (Marcel) wants to do," Somers, last on stage in the Spotlight Players' production of "Cheap-er by the Dozen." "She

loves her husband, but she's angry with him, too. I had to think about what she would be feeling and make that show (in her performance)."

Austrian exchange student Paul Hofmann-Wellenhof is playing Boniface, the best friend of Marcel's husband, Henri.

"My character hates his wife, loves his best friend's wife... it's hard," Hofmann-Wellenhof said. "There are a lot of lines, and everything moves

very fast." Bird said the plot line and the genre are going to be different from what audiences are used to getting from the Park Players.

"It's a style modern audiences aren't necessarily familiar with," Bird said. "It's difficult for teenagers to grasp, but they've done a good job of it."

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DISCOVER REMARKABLE

Canton board OKs tax bill fee

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Canton taxpayers will have to absorb a 1-percent administrative fee starting with their December tax bills after the township board voted Tuesday to impose it.

The move comes after the township board voted 7-0 Tuesday to impose the administrative tax fee to recoup the bulk of costs arising from certain assessment costs, such as collecting and distributing property tax levies and handling appeals on taxable values.

"I think it's the right thing to do, and I think it's something that should have been done a long time ago," Trustee John Anthony said.

The fee is expected to cost a typical residential taxpayer about \$25 a year, though officials say many homeowners likely won't notice the fee

because of an average 1.9 percent drop on the latest taxable values for residential properties.

Canton has never imposed the state-authorized fee, but Supervisor Phil LaJoy said 38 of Wayne County's 43 municipalities do. He called it necessary as Canton moves to recoup costs "to pay for governmental services."

The tax fee is projected to generate \$1.1 million a year for Canton and cover 85 percent of assessment-related costs. The decision to impose the fee comes as the township has lost \$2.7 million in tax revenues after property values started to decline in 2008.

Anthony pointed to a state law that says municipalities "shall" impose the 1-percent tax fee to cover assessment-related costs. Townships and cities have to pay all those expenses even though other government enti-

ties such as school districts and counties benefit from the tax levies.

Anthony said he believes the state law should be changed so that the other government entities have to pay a portion of the costs of handling assessments and tax levies.

Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin had indicated prior to Tuesday's vote that she intended to support the 1-percent administrative tax fee. She said Canton continues to struggle against falling revenues.

"This is a tool in the tool box that we (had) chosen not to use," she said, "and now it's time to sue it."

Finance Director Wendy Trumbull said a home with a \$2,000 tax bill faces an additional \$20 on the December tax bill. A residence with a \$4,000 tax bill would pay \$40.

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CORRECTION

Due to incorrect information given to the Observer, a story in Sunday's edition indicated the city of Plymouth charges a 1-percent administrative fee on its tax bills. It does not.

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GRAND OPENING

Thursday, November 15



art of bread

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Pastry chef Teresa Summers, head baker Bob Carter and bakery chef Kenneth Ilich will be mixing and stirring up fresh flavors daily. Our fresh breads will be coming out of our ovens just prior to the store's opening at 7am daily. All of our items are made from scratch using the finest ingredients and without preservatives. To compliment our freshly baked breads, we are offering a wide selection of sweet and savory pastries, olive oils, jams, soups and sandwiches. Our new store is located adjacent to Joese Meat & Seafood. Come visit us today and experience a freshness you can taste!

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with oils, vinegars, bread, jams, butters, dipping oil set and seasonings.

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- Italian
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Grand Opening Drawing
WIN Pastry Basket
with assorted pastries and jams

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Grand Opening Drawing
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Grand Opening Special
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Grand Opening Drawing
WIN Weekly Bread
FREE for a month

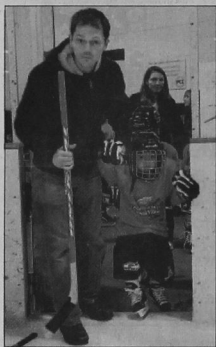
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"Experience a Freshness You Can Taste!"

Young skaters learn hockey basics in free event



PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN

Coach Ron Hayes (above) instructs the kids on the finer points of hockey. Plymouth resident Conlan Voss, 4, (top) takes a break on the team bench during the free hockey fun at the Plymouth Cultural Center.



Plymouth resident Adam Vincense brings his son, Adam, onto the ice for the Learn to Play instruction.



Coach Dan Hall encourages 6-year-old Addison Hoover as he runs through the many hockey drills. Hall is part of the Instructional Program in Plymouth.



Jack Saulsberry, an 8-year-old from Canton, listens to volunteer Salem High School hockey player Andy Posa during a visit to the penalty box for a tightening of the skate laces.



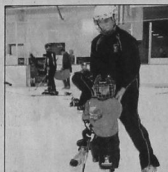
Five-year-old J.T. White of Grosse Pointe keeps his eye on the puck as he goes through drills.



Volunteer coach Christi Zink of Canton enjoys a laugh with 4-year-old Emma Trombley of Plymouth.



Learn to play instructor Robert Rais gives encouraging words to Bryce Fletemier.



Eric Lock (Canton) keeps a close eye on 5 year old Leah Alarie, who is on skates for the first time.

By Matt Jachman

Observer Staff Writer

A traveling hockey clinic visited Plymouth on a recent Saturday to offer young players some pointers and a little free ice time.

The play-hockey-for-free event drew about four dozen 4- to 9-year-olds — both boys and girls — to the arena at the Plymouth Community Cultural Center, where they were instructed by USA Hockey-certified coach Ron Hayes and members of the junior varsity hockey team at Salem High School.

Steve Anderson, the city's recreation director, said the response was among the biggest of any community in the area.

"When we offer something like this where it's completely free, they come out and just try it," said Hayes. "If we can get over 40 kids it's a success."

Hayes has been taking the free hockey lessons around the state on weekends for a couple of years. He's recently been in Chelsea, Alpena, Grand Rapids and Garden City.

The hour-long lesson in Plymouth offered one-on-one instruction for those who weren't comfortable on the ice, with the Salem players putting the novice skaters through their paces. "The main thing is just to get them moving," Hayes said.

Kids who had obviously been on the ice before, he said, were shown cross-ice skating drills, taught how to hold, pass, shoot and carry the hockey puck, and then got to scrimmage for about 20 minutes.

Equipment was available for use by the skaters, and each participant got to take home a free jersey.

Hayes said he was appreciative of the help from the Salem players.

"These kids do a wonderful job at that," he said. "They're at that age where they want to help the younger child."

Hayes is a former president of the Plymouth-Canton Hockey Association, and has run the association's youth instructional program for 38 years. The course for beginning players meets at the cultural center on Saturday afternoons from September through March.

"Everything is positive," Hayes said. "There is no negative to the programs at all."

Most players in the program, which is called the Mighty Mini Mites instructional program, are ages 4 to 8 or 9, but some have been as young as 3, if they're from a hockey family, or as old as 10, Hayes said.

"Gretzky didn't start skating until he was older, so we don't want to turn anybody away," he said, referring to retired National Hockey League great Wayne Gretzky.

Enrollment for Mighty Mini Mites fell sharply during the recent recession, Hayes said, but is starting to climb back up.

More information about the Mighty Mini Mites instructional program and registration forms are available at the Plymouth-Canton Hockey Association's website, www.pchockey.net.

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Board bids farewell to departing members

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Two departing Canton Township trustees bid their colleagues farewell Tuesday — their last meeting as elected officials following the Nov. 6 election.

Dr. Syed Taj is ending his four-year term after he waged an unsuccessful campaign to become a U.S. representative for the 11th District. He carried the Canton vote but lost to Republican Kerry Bentivolio in districtwide vote totals.

Trustee Greg Demopoulos, appointed 13 months ago to fill a vacancy, is leaving after he lost his Nov. 6 election bid. Taj and Demopoulos are being replaced by

board newcomer Steven Sneideiman, who replaces Taj as the lone Democrat on the seven-member township board, and former 20-year Supervisor Tom Yack, who is returning to the political scene after a four-year absence.

Supervisor Phil LaJoy lauded Taj and Demopoulos for their untiring efforts to help Canton Township and for always doing their homework on issues.

"We're going to miss you folks," LaJoy said.

Taj said he has enjoyed his board service, and he said he hopes Bentivolio will strive to represent all the interests of 11th District residents as he heads to the U.S. House. Taj and other board

members commended Clerk Terry Bennett and her office for running an efficient election. Taj, a Democrat, said he has learned much from Bennett, a Republican.

"I always say that she is my political teacher," Taj said.

Demopoulos had replaced former Trustee Todd Caccamo after Caccamo resigned for an out-of-town job move.

"I'm going to miss this," Demopoulos said Tuesday. "I just wish the township the best of luck."

Sneideiman and Yack are expected to be formally sworn in as township trustees next Tuesday.

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CRIME WATCH

Cut like a knife

Canton police arrested a 57-year-old Inkster man accused of brandishing a knife and cutting another man who tried to apprehend him after he allegedly tried to steal a 42-inch television from the Walmart store on Michigan Avenue west of Belleville Road, a police report said.

The incident happened just before noon Friday.

According to the police report, the suspect was trying to steal the television when two female loss-prevention employees tried to stop him. A Novi police officer who happened to be at the store investigating an unrelated credit card fraud case became involved, grabbed the suspect and took him to an office.

Inside the office, the suspect reached in his pocket, pulled a knife and began to resist the Novi officer, who was cut on the hand as he moved to kick the suspect in the buttocks to push him outside of the office, the police report said.

The suspect then fled the store and was found by Canton police inside a 2005 silver Cadillac XRS in the parking lot. He tried to resist officers but they managed to pull him out of the car and handcuff him, the report said.

Police found a knife under a seat in the car and also found a small pocket knife the suspect was carrying on a key chain, the report said. The suspect complained of chest pains and was taken for a medical exam before he was released to police.

The suspect was facing charges stemming from the incident. Police also learned he was wanted on warrants out of Inkster for possession of a controlled substance and possession of narcotic equipment.

Weapon possession

Canton police arrested a man and ticketed him for possession of a dangerous weapon after it was learned he was hiding a knife attached to his belt and concealed by a hooded sweatshirt.

The suspect also wasn't supposed to have any weapons after he had earlier been placed on probation in Plymouth 35th District Court for a domestic assault, a police report said.

The incident happened about 11:45 p.m. Saturday near the area of Haggerty Road and Michigan Avenue, not far from the Sherwood Village mobile home community where the 27-year-old man told police he had been staying with his mother.

Police noticed a white male lying on the ground next to a bicycle and stopped to investigate. As an officer approached the man, he stood up, turned away and said he was waiting to meet someone

after he rode his bike from Wayne. Police learned the man had a warrant out of Westland for no proof of insurance.

Police asked the man if he had any weapons after he was acting suspiciously, the police report said. Police learned he had a knife with a four-inch blade that was tucked in a green sheath attached to his belt.

The man told police he used the knife at work and also carried it for protection. Police handcuffed him and took away the knife.

Police took the man into custody for violating the conditions of his probation and also issued a ticket for possession of a weapon.

Vicodin swiped

A woman who lives in the 43200 block of Barchester, southeast of Warren and Morton Taylor, contacted police to report someone had stolen 78 pills of Vicodin from her purse.

She contacted police shortly before 6 p.m. Sunday. The 45-year-old woman said she usually takes two to three Vicodin a day for pain.

The woman told police she had gone to a fitness center where she left her purse in an unsecured locker. She later noticed the pills were missing.

Pot arrest

Police arrested a 55-year-old Canton man after going to a location southeast of Ford and Beck roads to execute a felony warrant out of 35th District Court for a marijuana-related incident.

The arrest was made in the 47100 block of Ford on Saturday. The man was taken into custody for a warrant for delivery and manufacture of drugs.

Leaving the scene

A 17-year-old Plymouth High School driver was ticketed for leaving the scene of a property damage accident after he allegedly struck another vehicle in the school parking lot and failed to report it, a police report said.

The incident was reported shortly after 8 a.m. last Thursday.

A police officer on duty as a school resource officer was approached by a female student who reported the incident, and police found two damaged vehicles in the parking lot. According to the police report, the male teen made a wide turn and hit another car, but told police he went to class because he didn't think the accident had caused any damage.

Compiled by Staff Writer Darrell Clem from Canton Police Department reports.

LAJOY

Continued from page A1

ating new revenue, such as imposing a 1-percentage administrative tax fee starting with December tax bills.

Bullet dodged

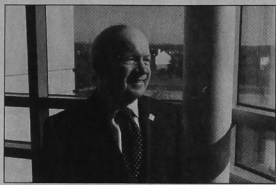
Officials couldn't discuss certain issues due to negotiations with local employee unions, which already had accepted concessions even before the latest round of talks.

LaJoy's administration already dodged one financial bullet. He announced that township officials two years ago foiled what had loomed as a potential \$14 million deficit by imposing a 1.75-mill public safety tax, securing employee concessions including unpaid furlough days and slashing spending across all departments.

Although Canton has fared better than many communities, financial challenges still loom as property tax revenues plummeted from \$10.3 million in 2008 to a projected \$7.4 million for 2013. Officials have held out hope that Canton's falling home values are positioned to rebound, albeit slowly.

One of LaJoy's biggest challenges as Canton's top official centers on \$75 million in retiree legacy costs, which have been described as "scary" by Trustee Pat Williams. Finance Director Wendy Trumbull has said she is confident Canton can reduce that amount, rather than significantly, during the next few years. By how much, she can't yet predict.

LaJoy has said new growth is needed to gen-



Phil LaJoy remains optimistic about Canton's future, despite some financial challenges.

erate additional tax revenues. Kristen Thomas, Canton's economic development and marketing analyst, has pointed to a still-pending marketing study intended to spur business growth along the Ford Road corridor between Lilley and Lotz, the Cherry Hill Village area and along Michigan Avenue.

Taking strides

Already, officials say, strides have been made to fill vacant industrial and commercial buildings.

"We're filling up our vacancies," LaJoy said. "I think our economic development efforts have been stellar."

On the residential side, Canton had issued 147 permits for new single-family homes through October of this year — up sharply from 61 for the same period a year ago — and other new development is pending.

To be sure, LaJoy first became supervisor as Canton and communities across the nation began to reel from a housing-market crash that hurt property tax revenues. Even as local home values appear ready to

rebound, an outside auditing firm, Plante Moran, has warned it will take years.

Meanwhile, LaJoy and other leaders hope to improve a general fund balance that, during the last year, has fallen from \$5.5 million to just over \$3 million — a projection that still reflects a fairly healthy balance for the \$26.1 million general fund.

During the same period, the fire department's fund balance fell from nearly \$2.3 million to \$1.6 million — and the police department's from \$1.9 million to \$1.7 million, according to the latest projections.

Despite the challenges, LaJoy remains upbeat and says Canton is following the right path as he starts his new four-year term. He said Canton has prospered when many communities didn't.

"I'm excited about the future," he said.

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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 bkadirich@hometownlife.com.

HEALTH CLINIC

Date/Time: Mondays, Nov. 17, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location: MCWS, 4040 Palmer (northwest corner of Palmer and Lotz roads)
Details: MCWS hosts its seventh annual Health Clinic/Seminar. Admission is free and everyone is welcome to attend. There will be lectures on healthy living and disease prevention throughout the day, free blood sugar and BMI testing, free flu shots and free physician consultations. Blood cholesterol testing by Garden City hospital staff for \$10. Breakfast and lunch will be served at no cost. Babysitting will be provided free of cost as well. Note: Please come fasting for blood sugar testing. Register online at: <http://www.mcws.org/workshop>

Contact: For more information, contact Dr. Sohail Hassan at (734) 788-4160 or e-mail soli786@yahoo.com.

BLOOD DRIVES

Date/Time: Various
Location: Various
Details: The American Red Cross has scheduled a variety of blood drives around the community: Sunday, Nov. 18, 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., St. Kenneth Church, 14951 Haggerty in Plymouth; Monday, Nov. 19, 1-6:45 p.m., St. John Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon in Plymouth, and 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Community Financial Credit Union, 500 S. Harvey in Plymouth; Friday, Nov. 23, 11 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. at the Summit on the Park in Canton; and Thursday, Nov. 29, 13:07-7:15 p.m., St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N. Sheldon in Plymouth.
Contact: To make an appointment for any of these drives, call Diane at (313) 549-7052 or email diane.risko@redcross.org

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For the location nearest you, call 1-888-889-9525

Company offers rides to disabled residents, seniors

Fare to Freedom Transportation, a non-emergency medical transportation company, has opened in Livonia. It was founded by Polly Swingle and Charlie Parkhill, owners of The Recovery Project, along with partners Josh and Zac Marshbanks of Canton.

The Recovery Project provides intensive physical therapy and rehabilitation to those with spinal cord and traumatic brain injuries.

Fare to Freedom was created to fill a growing need: door-to-door transportation for therapy and doctors appointments, shopping and errands for disabled individuals, seniors and others needing assistance who do not have regular or reliable transportation.

The diversified backgrounds of the owners and their personal histories make the company uniquely qualified in all aspects of transporting disabled individuals safely, efficiently and with the all-important "human touch," said Kate Anderson, marketing coordinator of The Recovery Project.

Parkhill and Josh Marshbanks both have spinal cord injuries. Since Josh's injury in 2001, his brother and business partner, Zac, has been an integral part of his care team and an inspiration in launching Fare to Freedom.

Their experience provided the company with its guiding light and mission statement: to provide respectful and sensitive service, using interactive skills and understanding of the physical and emotional needs of clients, Anderson said.

"Each of our drivers have physical therapy skills and training in rehabilitative therapy. They will take care of your door to door," Anderson said. "With Fare to Freedom, you can be assured that we understand your needs."

Fare to Freedom is at 20000 Victor Parkway. For more information on Fare to Freedom, call (855) 826-3273, visit www.faretofreedom.com or email info@faretofreedom.com. For more information on The Recovery Project, visit www.therecoveryproject.net.



Fare to Freedom Transportation owners, from left, are Josh Marshbanks and Zac Marshbanks of Canton, Polly Swingle and Charlie Parkhill.

Holiday shopping is nothing but a giant feeding frenzy

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Read that Walmart announced it is starting holiday sales — not on Black Friday as has become the tradition, but on Thanksgiving night. I have no doubt that other retailers will attempt to one-up Walmart and by the time you read this column, retailers will have already started their holiday sales.

This time of year has become a feeding frenzy as retailers fight for our holiday shopping dollars. Generally, I like when businesses fighting for



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

business because it generally means the consumer will get better deals. However, the reality is that all too often the results of this feeding frenzy are that people overspend.

During these trying economic times, it is more important than ever that you have a game plan for holiday spending. If you don't have a

strategy, I'm afraid you'll be like many Americans who overspend during the holiday season and find that it takes the next year to pay off the purchases. The result is the holidays become a period of anxiety. Even though retailers will encourage you to buy, buy and buy some more, you have to be smarter than that.

The first thing to do is set a budget for total holiday purchases. Everyone's going to have different amounts of what they can or cannot afford to spend for the holidays. One way to tell if you're overspending is if you

charge your purchases and cannot afford to pay the balance in full when the bill arrives.

Charge cards should not be a means of financing a purchase. They should be used as a matter of convenience and to take advantage of some of the perks. After all, the deals don't look so good if you add 20 percent to the purchase price. Twenty percent is about the average interest you'll pay when you carry a balance on your charge card.

Part of establishing a budget is itemizing how many gifts you're going to buy. After all, if you have to buy 20 gifts you don't want your budget running out after you've only purchased half.

The holidays should not be a time of increased pressure and anxiety.

Unfortunately, because of the pressures to buy gifts, it has turned out to be just that. I recommend that family and friends agree that gift giving be limited to children. It would help reduce the pressure. However, if you can't reduce the number of gifts, then agree to limit the amount you spend on individual gifts. Remember, people should look forward to the holidays so that they can spend time with their loved ones, not dread them because of the pressure it causes. These are difficult economic times and it doesn't appear that they're going to improve anytime soon. It can't be business as usual. We all have to make changes. Most people dread change, however, sometimes change is good. Just imagine if when the hol-

idays roll around you didn't have any economic pressure, you didn't have to worry about being shown up because someone bought a nicer gift than you. Wouldn't that be nice? Wouldn't it be nice if you actually looked forward to spending time with family and friends without any undercurrent?

There's nothing to say that you can't take the first step now to reach the goal of being able to enjoy the holidays as they were intended. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, please email him at rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

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WAYNE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES

NOTICE OF DENIAL
NATURAL BEAUTY ROAD

In accordance with the provisions of Section 324, subsection 35702 of Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, as amended, twenty-five or more freeholders had Petitioned the County of Wayne, Michigan ("County"), to designate a portion of Ridge Road between Joy and Ann Arbor Roads in Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan, as a Natural Beauty Road, being more particularly described as:

All that portion of Ridge Road in part of the SE 1/4 of Section 31 and the SW 1/4 of Section 32, T15, R9E, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan described as follows: Beginning at a point 60 feet North of the intersection of the centerline of Joy Road and the East line of said Section 31; thence Northerly along said East line and centerline of said Ridge Road approximately 1318 feet to a point 65.08 feet South of the intersection of the centerline of Ann Arbor Road and along said East line, Containing approximately 1318 feet of roadway, 0.250 miles.

In accordance with said Act, a Public Hearing was held on Wednesday, October 10, 2012 in the Town Hall Room within the Plymouth Township Hall located at 9955 North Haggerty Road, Plymouth Township, Michigan.

The Hearing Examiner of the County obtained all necessary facts and information concerning the advisability of either granting or denying said Petition and provided all findings of fact to the County's Natural Beauty Roads Evaluation Committee ("Committee") for their recommendation. The Committee made a recommendation to DENY the Natural Beauty Road designation request. The Hearing Examiner then accordingly provided his final decision within the thirty (30) day requirement as provide in said Act.

The Hearing Examiner's final decision is to DENY the Natural Beauty Road designation to a portion of Ridge Road between Joy and Ann Arbor Roads in Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan, as described above.

True copies of this notice are to be served, posted and published in accordance with the provisions of said Act, as amended.

WAYNE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES
Engineering Division, Real Estate
Attention: Sandra Martin
400 Monroe Street, 3rd Floor, Detroit, Michigan 48226
313.224.7772

CANTON CHAMBER BRIEFS



Rehab specialists

Michigan Rehabilitation Specialists, a leader in physical therapy and rehabilitation services in southeastern Michigan, announced the opening of its newest office on 17783 Haggerty Road in Northville, Michigan. The facility is conveniently located in the Northville Village Shopping Center on the corner of Six Mile and Haggerty and opened Nov. 7. The new MRS location shares space with Running Fit, Michigan's Premier Running Store. MRS will maintain 4,000 square feet of the 10,000 square foot store. The Northville location is the eleventh MRS facility to open since it was founded in 1999. Kristin Kessel and Michelle Krings are part owners and will serve as co-directors of the facility.

Networking coffee

The Canton Chamber of Commerce holds a networking coffee 7:30-9 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 15, at Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites.

Sponsored by Showroom of Elegance, the event is free to chamber members. Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites is located at 3950 Lotz in Canton.

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

Demmer event

Jack Demmer Ford is the local host for a nationwide event to introduce the all-new 2013 Ford Fusion today (Thursday), Nov. 15.

Demmer will make a donation to Starfish Family Services, and participants will be able to enter for a chance to win a 2013 Fusion. The event will feature a magician and a comedian from 6:30-7:30 p.m.; refreshments and food will be served.

Jack Demmer Ford is located at 37300 Michigan Ave., in Wayne.

Relief drive

Hurricane Sandy may be gone, but the disaster is still here. Local residents have a chance to donate and help in a community wide effort to gather, pack and deliver 500 buckets of cleaning supplies to UMCOR United Methodist Committee on Relief.

VETERANS

Continued from page A1

craft," and so he entered the delayed enlistment program in 1996.

At first, he said, he wanted the same things many people want from the military, including an education and a steady job. But he's stuck around, he said, because as his military career went on, his sense of duty has increased.

"As I've been in the service, my pride in this country has driven me," said Winnen, a quality assurance inspector with the 325th Maintenance Group at Tyndal. "I want to instill that in the next group of guys."

It's a pride evidenced by the group of family and friends who turned out for the re-enlistment ceremony. Along with Hutchesson were Winnen's dad, Randy Klebs, and his sister, Nicole Shaw. The one person who wasn't there was Winnen's mother, Pam, one of Winnen's biggest boosters who died from cancer in April.

"She'd be so proud," said Shaw, fighting back tears. "Her son being in the Air Force was always a bragging right for her. She really supported our country, and she definitely would have been proud."

Hutchesson said he was "honored" to be asked to administer the oath.

"Because he's such an outstanding NCO (non-commissioned officer), it means the world to me," Hutchesson said. "Not only is it a personal gift, it's a gift to the country."

Winnen's re-enlistment was book-ended by more traditional Veterans Day



TOM BEAUDOIN
Rich Mazurkiewicz, member of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 528 plays "Taps" at Salute to Service event.

events in Canton. First up was the ceremony honoring area veterans, also conducted at the Veterans Memorial in Heritage Park.

Day to reflect

John Spencer, a Vietnam veteran and president of the Canton Veterans Memorial Association, said Americans should use Veterans Day to "reflect on immeasurable burdens that have been borne by so few."

"We pay tribute to our wounded, our missing, our fallen, and their families — men and women who have known the true costs of conflict and deserve our deepest respect, now and forever," Spencer said. "We also remember that our commitments to those who have served are commitments we must honor not only on Veterans Day, but every day."

The day's observance finished up with Canton's Salute to Excellence ceremony at the Village Theater, an event recognizing military personnel currently on active duty, as well as veterans. The event included an exhibi-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Air Force Tech Sgt. Theodore Winnen is sworn in by retired Air Force Maj. Keith Hutchesson. Hutchesson, who is Winnen's cousin, said he was "honored" to be asked to administer the oath.

tion of military memorabilia for the audience to see before the formal program, which featured guest speaker Robert H. Miller, author of *Hidden Hell: Discovering My Father's POW Diary*.

The day served as a reminder of how much the country owes its veterans, according to Spencer.

"The freedoms we cherish endure because of their service and sacrifice, and our country must strive to honor our veterans by fulfilling our responsibilities to them and upholding the sacred trust we share with all who have served," he said.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-8899



TOM BEAUDOIN
Merrill Griffin of Canton looks at the different portraits on display from those featured in the book, 'Portraits in Service.'



TOM BEAUDOIN
Canton residents Mike O'Malley, Larry Frayer and John Spencer, president of the Canton Veterans Memorial Association, lead the Veterans Day Ceremony. All three men served in the Army.



TOM BEAUDOIN
The Pledge of Allegiance is recited during Sunday's Veterans Day Ceremony at Heritage Park in Canton.

COURSE

Continued from page A1

tiate a potential contract with Billy Casper Golf, which officials say ranked higher than Fellows Creek Golf Club and Bloomfield Hills-based Strategic Golf Solutions after the township sought proposals to manage the 27-hole golf course on Lotz north of Michigan Avenue.

Canton officials had considered outsourcing the management of the Pheasant Run Golf Club, on Summit Parkway, but has shelved that plan as talks continue with township employees who run it. Some of those employees also sat in the audience Tuesday.

Golf courses have struggled amid an economic downturn, but the Ross family had hoped for time to try to boost

revenues.

"We're very disappointed with the board's decision," Dan Ross said. "We still feel we are the best option."

The board faces final approval of a contract with Billy Casper Golf if negotiations work out.

"We are absolutely interested in what's best for Canton Township," Supervisor Phil LaJoy said Tuesday night. Canton Leisure Services Director Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz said Billy Casper's references gave the company high marks. She said all Fellows Creek events, leagues, outings and other events will be honored even if a management change is made.

Critics raised doubts that Billy Casper Golf could usher in the revenues it has indicated without substantial fee hikes. The company's

vice president of business development, Mike Cutler, said he believes the firm's proposal is on target, and he indicated greens fees could increase no more than 1 percent in any given year of a five-year contract.

Closure fears

Still, Ross family supporters and those who live near the Fellows Creek golf course chastised Canton officials for abandoning a local company. Resident Fran Roe, a longtime Ross family supporter whose backyard borders the course, said she fears the golf club will close if a new management company is brought in. She said her property values already have dropped more than \$100,000.

"My heart and soul is in that golf course out there," she told the town-

ship board, saying a switch to an outside company "is kind of like going to China to get your cars or going to China to get your products."

LaJoy sought to assure residents he won't allow the golf course to fail.

"I am not going to let that golf course deteriorate," he said.

Mary Nichols, a resident of Pebble Creek condominiums, said local officials should protect local jobs.

"We need jobs right here in Michigan, not in Chicago, not in Indiana or anywhere else," she said. Anna Ross, daughter of Dan Ross, was among those who questioned the financial comparison of golf management companies. She provided other financial data LaJoy promised to review.

Diana Ross, Dan's wife, broke into tears as she addressed the township

board, calling the golf course "a way of life" that will end if Canton switches companies.

"This won't define us," she said, "but it's hurtful. It's very hurtful."

Residents said the proposal to switch companies sends the wrong message from local officials who always encourage residents to shop Canton. Dan Ross said his company employs seven full-time employees and 45 part-time workers who

fear losing their jobs.

LaJoy said Tuesday's action is meant only to allow the township to negotiate with Billy Casper Golf.

"This is a beginning. It doesn't mean it's over," he said.

It wasn't clear how quickly a potential contract could come before the township board for a vote.

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OUR VIEWS

Goodfellows, Salvation Army need your help

For many people, being merry this season may mean a hot meal at the local soup kitchen or a warm place to sleep on a cold winter's night. For many, it's a fine line that separates them from being a have and a have not. They are struggling to make ends meet.

A protracted economic downturn, massive loss of jobs and a slow recovery has increased the number of families living in poverty. For these some families the happiness of Christmas is provided through the generosity of strangers. They are the people who buy Goodfellows newspapers, drop money into Salvation Army Red Kettles or unwrapped toys in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves Toys for Tot boxes.

For decades these nonprofits have been helping those in need. They rely on our support both financially and in donations of food, clothing and toys to help the less fortunate. And now is the time for us to open our hearts and our wallets to help them help the needy.

If there's no room under the Christmas tree for that present, think about giving it to the Goodfellows or the Salvation Army. Instead of dropping \$10-\$20 on a quick dinner out, drop it in a Red Kettle or send it to the Goodfellows. Use a good deal on food at the grocery store to buy a few extra cans and donate them.

And consider volunteering — and while at it, have children do their part. Let them drop money in the Red Kettle. Let them select toys to drop in the Toys for Tot boxes and help pack boxes for delivery by the Goodfellows. It's an important lesson that they will keep for life. The gift is the generosity, a life skill that needs to be learned as a child. It is taught through example and experience.

With the need for assistance remaining high, we need to take that extra step and help. So be sure to make an extra purchase for those less fortunate. It isn't shiny and bright, but that generosity is a gift that's well worth giving.

Deer hunting opener tradition like no other

For many people in the state of Michigan, today is an annual holiday like no other. It's not an official holiday, of course, but don't tell that to the people across the state who look just as much forward to the Nov. 15 traditional opener for firearms deer hunting season as children do to Christmas morning.

Beginning this morning at the crack of dawn, and over the course of the next couple weeks, more than a half million hunters will be hunkered down in the forests, swamps and farmlands across the state, with dreams of bagging a big buck. But that is not the only reason hunters from all walks of life look forward to deer hunting. Survey after survey have shown that hunters enjoy spending time with friends and family during their hunting trips, not to mention just getting outdoors and enjoying the state's natural beauty.

Deer hunting is particularly important to the rural areas of the state. In fact in many communities, schools are closed down for the day, and many businesses display "gone hunting" signs on their front doors as the proprietors have headed to "camp." There is no question, "Opening Day" and hunting in general are part of the fabric of life in rural Michigan.

It is also big business. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources estimates the more than 750,000 licensed hunters (including all hunters) ranks third in the nation. And they have a tremendous impact, adding \$1.3 billion annually to the state's economy. Of course hunters purchase hunting gear, but they also stay in motels, shop at stores and eat at restaurants while on their hunting trips. That especially means a great deal to small towns in rural Michigan.

Because of the mid winters we have experienced in recent years, wildlife biologists say deer numbers are up around the state. Hopefully that means many of our hunters will have a successful hunting trip.

We wish you all good luck, and hope you remember safety is the first priority out in the field. Happy hunting.

CANTON OBSERVER

A GANNETT COMPANY

Brad Kadrich,
Community Editor
Susan Roesik,
Executive Editor

Grace Perry,
Director of Advertising



LETTERS

Election bittersweet

The election results of Nov. 6 were bittersweet for me. I was happy to have served on the Canton Township Board of Trustees for the last 13 months as an appointee, but realize now that this will be coming to an end as I fell short by 83 votes. Falling short these few votes was not for lack of effort in my campaign.

I wanted to thank the 20,290 residents that voted for me. I want to thank all of those who supported me both in the primary and general election.

What I will miss most are the issues I was working on with the fine members of the board, supervisor, treasurer, clerk, township staff, public and employees.

The board is well under way in having a comprehensive plan including a possible water tower to ultimately reduce water costs. The board is also diligently working on tackling Road congestion, handling legacy costs and most importantly "keeping Canton, Canton" during these difficult fiscal times.

I will certainly miss my involvement in these and many other projects. I am not sure what involvement I will have in Canton in the future but I am sure something will develop as I have been involved in Canton government and Canton activities for all the 24 years I have lived here.

During the campaign I have gotten to know Mr. Sneiderman and his wife and wish him and his family the best as he takes on his new role. I praise Mr. Sneiderman and all the trustee candidates for running a fair and clean election.

After this long campaign season that stretched from April 2012 to the general election

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

Mail: Letters to the Editor, Canton Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226

Fax: (313) 223-3318

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.

Deadline: Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

I wish I could say I was going to take a few days off. Instead I returned to work at my law office in Canton the day after the election and look forward to allowing things to return to normal and not dealing with campaign issues.

Thanks for the chance, Canton!

Greg Demopoulos
Canton

Campaign thanks

First of all I should like to thank everyone who helped in my campaign for Canton Township trustee.

To all my friends, family and, in particular, my wife, I can never thank you enough for your effort, support and friendship. It is only with your assistance that I was able to win one of the four Canton Township trustee positions in the Nov. 6 general election. This has been a long

campaign and I was able to meet a lot of good, concerned individuals who care deeply about the quality of life in Canton Township.

Secondly, I should like to thank all the citizens of Canton Township who took time to cast their vote for me. I can promise you that I will work hard for all the citizens of Canton Township.

Canton Township is a great place to live, work and play. However, the board will face many challenges in the future. Declining revenue and increased costs for services will require that the board examine every aspect of the operation of the township to guarantee that taxpayer monies are spent wisely.

I look forward to working with all the members of the board to ensure that Canton continues to be Canton.

John Anthony
Canton Township trustee

Rude behavior

As a community activist and volunteer on election day for state representative candidate Tim Roraback at the Cultural Center polling place in Plymouth, I was appalled with the rude and arrogant behavior of current state representative Kurt Heise.

He interrupted Mr. Roraback talking to potential voters. Unfortunately, I had to reprimand Mr. Heise in public and remind him that Mr. Roraback has the right to his opinions and vice versa.

I think that an apology to Mr. Roraback and his constituents is in order. Civility and respect for differing views should be the norm. wouldn't you agree?

Gerri Klisdonk
Plymouth

STAFF COLUMN

Dinosaur learning new tricks, #olddog

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Here are two things I learned in my first real day monitoring my Twitter account:

- Veronica Belmont thinks someone named George R.R. Martin is a delightful dork in some video to which she posted a link.
- B.J. Mendelson liked a match WWE Smack-down general manager Teddy Long put together.

Now, I have two questions for more veteran Twitter users than myself, and these questions are at the heart of why I've stayed away from Twitter until now: Who the heck are Veronica Belmont and B.J. Mendelson, and how the ű did they get on my Twitter page?

I understand how people like Phil Allimen and Jay Grossman got on my Twitter account; I decided to follow them. They are respected members of my profession and my company; Gross-

man, in fact, is our newspaper group's top Twitterer (Twitter? Twitter-user?)

These are lessons I'm going to need to learn. I fear, if I want to satisfy my company's desire to take us into the 21st Century. The use of social media is exploding, and even dinosaurs are being dragged from the Stone Age into the Facebook age.

And they aren't the only lessons. First I had to learn some basic stuff, like ... how to load Twitter onto my phone. For this I turned to my 30-year-old daughter (my 15-year-old son wasn't available), who did the same thing she always does when I ask about technology: She rolled her eyes. And then she explained it to me.

Most of the rest is the 21st Century of the old hunt-and-peck typing technique. I haven't quite figured out how to add people for me to follow, and I definitely haven't figure out how people get added to following me.

For instance, I got a notice quite some time ago that Britney Spears is now following me on Twitter. I have no idea how that happened, since I don't follow her, and the only time I ever

went to see her in concert, my sons and I waited about 2-3 hours for her to come to the Pine Knob, and then watched as she played for 45 minutes, which was one minute for every dollar I paid for each ticket.

I'm sure once I've learned what there is to know, I'll embrace Twittering with the same enthusiasm with which I've gotten used to texting. I have, after all, used Facebook on several occasions to conduct interviews, which is another practice about which I was dubious until I tried it.

Like nearly all media outlets, our newspaper group is placing a strong emphasis on social media, recognizing it for what it is: An additional means of informing our readers, attracting folks to our website and our print product. It's a way to connect with our readers in a way we've never been able to before. And I'm happy to join the fray.

Just as soon as I can get my teenagers to show me how.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of the Plymouth and Canton Observers. He can be reached via e-mail at bkadrich@hometownlife.com and @bkadrich on Twitter.

Report details alleged abuse of special-needs preschoolers

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

An attorney retained by parents of two special-needs preschoolers described as atrocious and appalling the abuse they allegedly suffered while in former teacher Sharon Turbiak's Livonia classroom, as detailed in a report recently made public.

"It turned my stomach," said Jim Spagnuolo Jr. of Southfield, himself the father of a special-needs child.

Spagnuolo said he was disturbed by the conduct of Turbiak and the school district, as described in the report.

"No one reported this to the state; no one reported this to the authorities," he said.

He said he will be filing a lawsuit on behalf of multiple families.

Ven Johnson of Detroit, an attorney representing a Plymouth family whose son was at the center of the dispute, said he

too will be filing suit in U.S. District Court. "Our investigation revealed reprehensible misconduct and mistreatment," he said, adding state and federal laws were broken by school employees who suspected abuse but didn't report it.

The report was released Wednesday by Livonia Public Schools to those who had filed a Freedom of Information Act request after the Michigan Tenure Commission dismissed its case against Turbiak following her resignation.

Turbiak, who taught at Webster Elementary, remains on paid administrative leave until March 31, 2013, the effective date of her resignation. She was placed on leave in April. She has not been charged with any crime.

The report, conducted by the district's public safety administrator, Mark Schultz, includes witness statements saying Turbiak slapped and yelled at the children, let

them fall instead of supporting them when they were moved to the floor or a chair, and put a boy confined to a wheelchair in the bathroom for timeout for 15 to 20 minutes.

The report says a parapro in the classroom spanked a child.

The report says one witness "was told by Sharon (Turbiak) that it was a good thing that the administration believed she had a warm and nurturing classroom and didn't know that they hit kids around in the classroom."

"That really pushed me over the edge," Spagnuolo said.

The report says the first documented complaint against Turbiak was dated Oct. 24, 2011.

Turbiak denies any wrongdoing in the report. She did not return a reporter's phone call Wednesday.

The class was part of a Wayne RESA center program serving students from multiple districts.

All 12 of the children who were in the class are cognitively impaired and some also have physical impairments.

The report says the school's former principal, Shellie Moore, had contacted central office administrators, but "there was never any thought or discussion that this would be a Protective Service or police issue."

Schultz, a former police officer, went to Livonia Police Department on April 24, the day after he began the internal investigation.

Livonia police sought warrants from the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, but those warrants were denied and the case was closed.

The board voted June 18 to recommend the state tenure commission terminate Turbiak's employment. The tenure commission has the final say in a teacher's firing. The parapro was fired June 13.

Artists headline holiday craft show

A diverse group of local artists and crafters will gather to hold a holiday sale on Saturday, Nov. 24, at the Risen Christ Lutheran Church, 46250 Ann Arbor Road, in Plymouth. Julie Brancart, an award-winning paper craft artist from Canton, invited 11 other talented friends to join her for this one-day sale.

The collection of handmade items offered during the sale includes

beautiful textile work, stained and fused glass art, framed pressed flowers and jewelry.

Also included is a variety of decorative and decorative pottery created by a member of the Village Potters Guild.

To round out the group, Brancart asked a few friends to sell their homemade holiday cookies and candies.

"This is a larger version of the intimate sales

your friends hold in their homes, the one that you look forward to all year," Brancart said. "Instead of just one or two artists, though, there will be 12. This will be a wonderful, one-stop place to get your heart felt, one-of-a-kind gifts for the holidays."

The sale will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the fellowship hall of the church. Admission is free and refreshments will be available.



The holiday sale will feature textile work, stained and fused glass art, framed pressed flowers and jewelry.

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PHOTOS BY TERRI SAENZ

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band stands proud in the Bands of America honored finalist ceremony.

Marchers reach top 12 at nationals

By Peggy Fenwick
Correspondent

Congratulations are in order after the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Marching Band was named one of 12 national finalists in the 2012 Bands of America Grand National Championships Saturday at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

The hometown marchers were the only Michigan band to be included in the prestigious list of 12 high school bands. The last performance of the season was also the band's 22nd appearance as a national finalist in the 36-year history of BOA. More than 500 marching bands participate in Bands of America competitions leading up to the four-day event in Indianapolis.

Carmel (Ind.) High School was named the grand national champion.

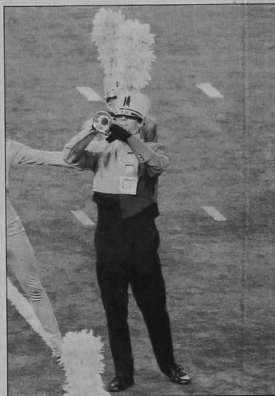
"A lot of excitement, a lot of tears, and a lot of dreams met for the kids today," Jonathan Thomann, associate director of bands, said afterward. "I couldn't be more proud right now. Kids are super happy right now, but I think we reached our goals well before being named a national finalist."

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band, led by Director of Bands David Armbruster and Thomann, came in 12th of 87 bands in Indy. The last time Plymouth-Canton made the top finals designation was 2008. The 172-member band wowed the audience with the nine-minute program titled "The Last Dance" particularly when a giant grey shroud depicting a dark cloud was pulled over the entire band and across the stadium field.

The entire program was designed to showcase the prophecy that the world will end this Dec. 21. The music in the program included "What a Wonderful World" by Louis Armstrong, and "Time in a Bottle" by Jim Croce. "Everyone's floating on cloud nine right now," exclaimed a jubilant Armbruster afterward. "It was a very good year for the band. They set some really high goals and they achieved them."

Canton senior Aldridge Gillespie, who plays the largest of the bass drums, was exuberant about the final placement of the band.

"I think we did pretty good," Gillespie said. "Twelfth out of 90 bands,



Senior trumpet player Collin Richter finishes the show with a solo of Louis Armstrong's "What a Wonderful World."



The band forms an hourglass during the song "Time in a Bottle."

SEASON FINALE

What: Holiday Arts & Crafts Ensemble
Who: Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters

When: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17

Where: Plymouth High School, 8400 Beck in Canton
Details: The 2012 marching band season ends with this large fundraising event. The Juried Holiday Arts and Crafts Ensemble features more than 100 exhibitors on hand to sell their handcrafted items. The public is invited to attend. Information: Visit www.pcmnb.net.

I'm pretty happy with that. Being a senior, I personally reached my goal of making it into Finals." Juniors Matt Duda and Nick Potter, both clarinet players, were very happy about the band's final run.

"I'm really happy we made Finals," Potter said afterward. Both juniors are looking forward to doing this again next year. "I think being in Finals is going to drive me more for next year," Duda said.

Next year's season begins in May when eighth graders from the local middle schools are encouraged to join

the extra-curricular activity. Practices run through summer, with autumn bringing about four rehearsals per week and competitions reserved for Saturdays.

The students returned from their trip to Indy on Sunday afternoon to cheer, banners, and car horns. With unseasonably warm weather, the Plymouth High School parking lot was transformed into a second celebration as the students disembarked the buses, unloaded equipment and props, gathered their luggage, instruments, and finally headed home. But not before the Plymouth-Canton Drumline did one final presentation for the crowd of students and parents gathered around.

This year's band season has been a successful one, with Plymouth-Canton reclaiming its Flight 1 State Championship status Nov. 3 at Ford Field. The PCMB also was named BOA Pontiac Regional Champions back on Oct. 6.

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1,200 will take a run, walk through Lightfest

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

OPENING NIGHT

The Wayne County Parks annual Lightfest kicks off with a bang this evening.

Opening ceremonies will be held at 6 p.m. on Hines Drive at Merriman Hollow Area in Westland. The traditional throwing of the switch to light up the display includes music, entertainment, light refreshments and fireworks.

The Midwest's largest and longest drive-through light show, Lightfest features more than 45 giant animated holiday-themed displays and more than one million lights. The display is open 7-10 p.m. now through Dec. 31. It's closed on Christmas Day. There is a \$5 fee per vehicle.

Tuesday, Dec. 4, 11 and 18, will be Toy Nights. Wayne County is committed to collecting and providing toys for children who are less fortunate. On these three nights, the community is invited to bring a new, unwrapped toy in lieu of the \$5 vehicle fee.

Remember to visit Santa's Workshop at Warrendale Park at the end of the Lightfest drive. Santa will be there starting Thanksgiving Day until Dec. 23. And don't forget to bring your letters to Santa. Outside of Santa's workshop there is a giant mailbox where kids of all ages can drop off their letters to Santa. Although Lightfest begins at 7 p.m., Hines Drive will be closed to traffic beginning at 5:45 p.m. nightly. Visitors enter Wayne County Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriman Road in Westland.

For more information on Wayne County Lightfest, call (734) 261-1990 or go online to www.waynecounty.com.

The runners and walkers were long gone when Tom Smith pulled up a chair beside the bonfire. The Westland resident had driven by and saw the pile of wood at Merriman Hollow in Hines Park and knew how it would be used.

"I'm here for the fire," said Smith. "I saw it and knew they were going to have a fire. They lit it up at 4 p.m. The fire is the best thing."

The fire pit was more than 6 feet across and provided warmth to some 1,200 runners and walkers who turned out for the annual 8K Fun Run/Walk, one of two pre-opening events for the 2012 Wayne County Lightfest.

Participants wearing glow-in-the-dark necklaces, twinkling lights and even jingle bells walked or ran or did anything in between through the 4½-mile light show that stretches along Hines Drive from Merriman Road in Westland to Warrendale in Dearborn Heights.

It was Brenda Phare's second time doing the run. The Westland resident was in the park with her friends, Jana Seals of Dearborn Heights and Tiffany Gluski of Novi, who, she said, got her into it two years ago.

"It was the first time I'd run a race, now I'm running a marathon," Phare said.

"This is like the beginning of the season for us," said Gluski. "It puts us in the holiday spirit."

The trio estimates it takes them 40-50 minutes to complete the route. At Warrendale, participants board buses that brought

them back to Merriman Hollow.

Some participants brought their children, pushing them in strollers, pulling them in wagons or carrying them in baby carriers like Laura Cain who had 3-month-old Nora in a carrier under her jacket and son Dylan, 3½, and Ada, 2, in a stroller being pushed by her mother Debby Rabe of Gibraltar.

"It's my first time. I brought the kids because I thought they would like it," she said.

"This is my third walk, and I did one ride," said Rabe. "I loved riding through the lights, but it's double because you have to go there and back."

The two women were joined by Michele Katz of Brighton, who was doing her second walk, and Jen-

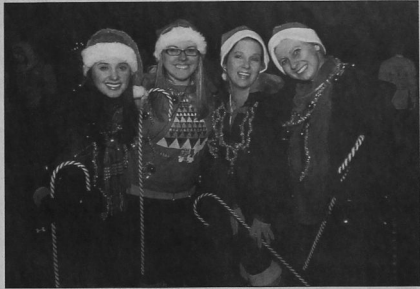
nine Kendzie of Livonia.

Kendzie pointed to Rabe for the reason she was walking through the lights, adding that "I'm also just trying to be healthy."

Friends of Brittaney Howe of Commerce teased her about her delicate condition. Nine months pregnant and 13 days away from her due date — not that she's counting — she was heading out with Joni Rousseau of White Lake, Katie Hill of Commerce and Kelly and Steve Lauderbaugh of Northville.

"We come to see the lights," said Steve Lauderbaugh. "We've done it for five years. It's like a family tradition."

Mother Nature served up a cold, but dry evening for the event, something the group appreciated.



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Katelyn Majeski of Plymouth, Samantha Bucher of Livonia, Tiffanie Barackman of Plymouth and daughter Carlee dressed festive for the pre-Lightfest event.

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SECTION B • (CP)
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SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR
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734-469-4128

Wildcats' march hits the wall

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Sequels don't always turn out as good, and Plymouth's varsity football team now knows from first-hand experience.

In 2010, the Wildcats bounced Novi-Detroit Catholic Central 9-7 in the regional finals and that turned out to be the launching pad to the Division I state finals. Saturday afternoon at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park came the rematch, with another regional title on the line.

Yet almost from the start, the Shamrocks (8-4) demonstrated they weren't about to buckle — parlaying 360-plus rushing yards into long drives en route to a 28-7

D1 REGIONAL FINAL

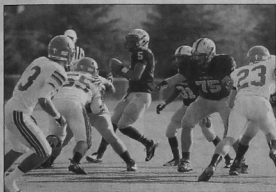
victory.

By comparison, Plymouth gained about 150 yards of total offense, including just over 33 on the ground in 23 attempts (with six plays going for negative yardage).

CC in control

"We made a lot of mistakes on the edge on defense and we didn't run the football, we didn't move the football," Plymouth head coach Mike Sawchuk said. "When you beat teams in the playoffs, you have to be able to grind the clock and, shoot, I bet they controlled the football the majority of the game."

Veteran Catholic Cen-



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Plymouth senior quarterback Jamarl Eiland (No. 5) tries to get away from defensive pressure applied by Catholic Central's Dan Bowen (No. 55) during Saturday's regional final. At right for the Wildcats are running back DJ Rossell (No. 31) and senior lineman Travis McCall (No. 75).

tral head coach Tom Mach said ball control was the team's game plan.

"All these guys who

run spreads, they put a lot of pressure on you," Mach said. "But what we like to do is keep them off the field.

"That's what we would like to do, all the time you can't do it. But today we did it at different times where we had long drives, got first downs, kept the clock moving." The Shamrocks didn't waver, even after giving up Plymouth's lone TD early in the third quarter to cut a 14-0 halftime deficit in half.

CC answered with a 59-yard scoring drive that took 6:19 off the clock and opened up a 21-7 lead.

Then for good measure, the Shamrocks finished the game on an eight-minute drive comprised of 14 running plays.

"Our focus (at halftime) was to come in

Please see WILDCATS, B3

Bring toys to hockey game

High school hockey fans have a chance to catch a game and give to Toys for Tots.

On Wednesday, Nov. 21, at Canton Arctic Edge Arena on Michigan Avenue near Belleville/Canton Center Road, the Canton Chiefs and Plymouth Wildcats will drop the puck in the KLAAS South Division opener for both squads.

Spectators, however, can get a \$10 discount coupon for an oil change at Dick Scott Dodge in Plymouth provided they bring a brand new toy to the 6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve game. (It is requested that stuffed animals not be donated.)

Other highlights of the evening will include a raffle with proceeds benefiting Plymouth-Canton Educational Park hockey programs) and Dick Scott-hosted "Score-O!" between periods.

With the latter, participants will be trying to score from center ice and win a 2013 Dodge Dart from Dick Scott in the process.

Salem euchre tourney

Salem Wrestling Boosters are holding the annual Fall Euchre Tournament, slated for Saturday, Nov. 24, at the Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road.

Doors open at 6 p.m. with games starting at 7 p.m. The cost is \$25 per player and participants must be at least 21 years old.

Awards will be given to the top three players with the highest scores. There also will be raffles and prizes.

Complimentary food and a cash bar also will be available. Walk-ins are welcome, but seating is limited. For more information, call (734) 981-7913 or (313) 706-3282 or send an e-mail to rkddox@aol.com.

CCHA lauds

Barber again

For the second time in four weeks, Miami University freshman forward Riley Barber (Livonia) has earned Central Collegiate Hockey Association Gonshov Rookie of the Week honors.

The Washington Capitals draft choice controls his stellar play with a goal and three assists as the No. 4-ranked Red Hawks earned a 5-2 win Friday (while earning first star honors) followed by 2-2 tie and shootout victory Saturday, both against Northern Michigan.

Please see FINALS, B2

Rookie of the year

Plymouth junior takes preps by storm

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Sarah Dombkowski decided to give high school swimming a try after some encouragement from friends at Plymouth High School.

"The other girls on the team, I talked to them and they convinced me to do it," the 17-year-old Dombkowski said. "I wanted a change from club. Abby (Humphries) said the girls are really nice and that I should try it out."

That decision has resulted in a tidal wave of accomplishments that so far include her time of 1:54.01 in the 200-yard freestyle at the recent KLAAS Kensington Conference meet at South Lyon — which bested the pool record held by U.S. Olympian Allison

Schmitt.

Dombkowski, a junior, set one of her five Plymouth records (including two relays) with that performance. Her All-America consideration time of 4:57.30 in the 500 free at the recent MISCA meet set another school mark.

"It's pretty cool," Dombkowski said about breaking the record set by Schmitt during her pre-glory days swimming for Canton High School. "People are like, 'Oh my gosh, you're going to be an Olympian.'"

With a laugh, Dombkowski recalled telling them "No, I'm not."

Next on the agenda

But who knows what the future might hold for such a driven, talented and highly competi-

Next on the agenda

Please see SWIMMER, B2



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Plymouth junior Sarah Dombkowski's transition from club swimming to the Wildcats has been a record-smashing success.

Holland-hosted finals await PCEP tankers

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth-Canton Educational Park swimmers will travel more than two hours to reach this weekend's Division I girls swimming and diving state finals in Holland. Yet the long trip won't stop youngsters from Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools from going after their dreams and the opportunity to stand on the awards podium at Holland Community Aquatic Center.

Canton

For the Chiefs, who are taking nine young ladies to the Friday-Saturday meet, all but freshman Emily Meier experienced the state finals in 2011 at Eastern Michigan University, said head coach Ed Weber.

"The girls have come together very well over the past few weeks," Weber said. "They have worked hard this season in preparation of this weekend."

"This experience will give the girls confi-

dence competing at high schools most challenging meet. We have some big goals in mind for this weekend, and it always starts with accomplishing personal bests."

Meier might ask teammates Hannah Jenkins, Delaney Adams and Destinee Barmore-Hicks about what it was like to compete last year at EMU. The quartet will compete in the 200-yard medley relay.

Meier, Barmore-Hicks,

Please see FINALS, B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton junior Destinee Barmore-Hicks, shown from a meet earlier this season, will compete at the state finals in several events including the 100-yard freestyle (above).

BOYS HOCKEY PREVIEW - PT. 1

Wildcats go to work

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

The Plymouth Wildcats will bring their lunch buckets to the rink if they are to have success during the 2012-13 varsity boys' hockey season, said second-year head coach Gerry Vento.

And the Wildcats look ready for the challenge, having earned a 4-2 victory over Dearborn Divine Child in Tuesday's

season opener at Redford Ice Arena. Plymouth (1-0-0) enabled the Falcons to even things up at 2-2 early in the third.

But true to the hard-working form Vento expects to see, the Wildcats bounced back with goals from junior forward Zach Tavierne on the power play and junior defenseman Kyle Bauer to salt away the victory.

"I thought we shut them down and didn't give them many chances, which is what we were looking for," Vento said. "I thought we were a little tight around their net. If we would have relaxed a little we could have put a few more in and maybe put them away earlier."

"But to give them a goal early in the third and kind of put our backs

Please see ICERS, B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

One of the top returns for Plymouth is senior defenseman and assistant captain Dean Gunther (No. 6), shown in this file photo from last season.



Members of Plymouth's varsity girls swimming and diving team competing at the Division 1 state finals in Holland include: (back row, from left) Caylin Waters, Alexa Earls, Emily Toro; (front row, from left) Sarah Dombkowski and Linda Erickson.



Members of Canton's varsity girls swimming and diving team competing this weekend at the DI finals include (from left) Emily Meier, Delaney Adams, Madeline Madison, Caitlin Orr, Hannah Jenkins, Abby Madison, Claire Green, Destinee Barmore-Hicks and head coach Ed Weber. Not pictured is Melissa Green.



Members of Salem's varsity girls swimming and diving team qualifying for this weekend's DI finals include (from left) Linda Zhang, Julia Suriano, Abby Aumiller, Stephanie Solterman and Lisa Zhang.

FINALS

Continued from page B1

Madeline Madison and Abby Madison also qualified in the 200-free relay.

Canton's third qualifying relay team (400 free) is comprised of Madeline Madison, Caitlin Orr, Adams and Barmore-Hicks.

The swimmers can only compete in two relays and two individual events (or three individual events and one relay), but options abound for Weber's lineup.

Canton's breakdown of swimmers and individual events they qualified for include the following: Barmore-Hicks (50 free-

style, 100 free); Adams (100 butterfly); Claire Green (500 free); Madeline Madison (200 free); Jenkins (100 breast-stroke); Melissa Green (1-meter diving).

Not to be outdone, both Plymouth and Salem will be taking five swimmers to Holland — most who competed at last year's finals.

Plymouth

Holland-bound from the Wildcats will be junior Sarah Dombkowski (qualifying in four events in her first season with the team), Linda Erickson, Emily Toro and Alexa Earls along with alternate Caylin Waters.

Dombkowski — ranked

No. 1 by MISCA in the 500 free and No. 3 in the 200 free — leads the way.

She also joins Erickson, Toro and Earls on the 200-free and 400-free relays, which both set school records this season.

(Emily Weiner was part of the latter but opted not to be an alternate, Schade said.)

Meanwhile, Erickson set a record at the KLA South Division meet in the 100 butterfly while Toro is the division's best in the 200 IM.

Earls set Plymouth marks in all three relays as well as the 100 backstroke.

Salem

Spearheading Salem's

quintet this weekend are freshmen twins Linda and Lisa Zhang.

Both Zhangs qualified in the 200-medley and 400-free relays. Individual events for Linda Zhang include the 200 IM and 100 breaststroke;

Lisa Zhang's other events are the 200 IM and 100 fly.

Also available for the 200-medley and 400-free relays will be Abby Aumiller, Julia Suriano and Stephanie Solterman.

Other events for those swimmers are as follows: Aumiller (200 free, 100 back); Suriano (500 free, 100 back); Solterman (100 back).

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SWIMMER

Continued from page B1

tive swimmer. This weekend, the longtime member of the Novi Sturgeons

club team will look to add a few more lines to her resume when she competes at the Division 1 state finals in Holland.

Dombkowski is slated to compete in two individual events (200, 500 free)

along with the 200 free and 400 free relays.

Joining her in both relays are Emily Toro, Linda Erickson and Alexa Earls. Plymouth also is sending Caylin Waters as an alternate.

"I'm pretty happy and I'm excited to go to state meet," said Dombkowski, described as a low-key person who flips the script when it's time to compete.

Also thrilled about that is Plymouth head coach Doug Schade, who said he is "really looking forward to this weekend because this is as big a meet as there is in high school. And I think she'll do really, really well."

Schade said the bright lights don't bother Dombkowski.

"I could say she is maybe the most competitive swimmer I've ever coached in my 22-year career," he said. "She's very athletic and she's very competitive. It seems like the bigger the meet we go to, the better she does."

"She's pretty quiet and pretty reserved. But when she gets in the water, I'm telling you I've never seen someone more competitive than her. I don't think I've seen her lose this season, to be honest with you."

Fitting in

The coach added that Dombkowski has meshed well with her Plymouth teammates, something that doesn't always happen when an elite-level athlete suddenly opts to give prep sports a whirl. "To her credit, she's fit right in and she's done really well," Schade said. "She's set a great example for the kids on the team as far as how to train and how to go about their business on a daily basis."

Of course, Schade admitted getting a kick out of Dombkowski breaking Schmitt's record.

"Everybody knows who Allison is, she's one of the best swimmers in the world," he said. "Anytime that someone puts you in the same category, then that's a pretty good thing."

As far as Dombkowski is concerned, the decision to swim this fall at Plymouth also has been pretty good. She did say there was an adjustment period, coming from the Sturgeons — her club team

since age 10 and the same program older sister Mary (a 2012 Plymouth grad) belonged to.

"The first couple days, it was different from club," Dombkowski said. "But I wanted to do it. It's more team-oriented. Club is more individual. At high school, everybody cheers for you."

"They've had good reason to do that. Dombkowski's maiden voyage into the high school waters has yielded individual school records in the 100, 200 and 500 free and a share of records in the 200 and 400 free relays.

Making her mark

Perhaps she will return to the Sturgeons during her senior season. But no matter what, her name will be up on the wall at Salem High School's natatorium (where Plymouth holds its home meets).

"I think that's really cool, just to have your name on a record board and knowing you accomplished that," she said. "I didn't really care about the records (when she joined). I just wanted to make friends and do the best I could do."

Meanwhile, whether or not Dombkowski swims again for the Wildcats next fall remains to be seen.

"You never know," Schade said. "I think she's had a great experience with our team. I think she's broken five or six records. She's had a fun season, she's done a lot of things and I hope she comes back."

"I'd like to see what she can do her senior year. But, like I said, when you have someone of her caliber, you can never say for sure what she's going to do."

What is certain is Dombkowski does want to swim at the collegiate level, taking after her mom (Sue) and older sister Mary, who currently is swimming at the University of Toledo.

"She (Mary) has helped me and we have pushed each other," Dombkowski said. "We're so competitive, so we both push each other."



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Football brotherhood soothes pain of loss

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

The football game had ended 15 minutes earlier and Novi-Detroit Catholic Central celebrated with the regional trophy.

Still, Plymouth Wildcats players and coaches did not want to leave, even though their season came to a disappointing end Saturday with a 28-7 loss to the Shamrocks.

Head coach Mike Sawchuk and assistant coaches exchanged heartfelt hugs with some of the team's veterans — players such as seniors Nate Emminger and Matt Janke, who were part of the

2010 ride to the Division I finals at Ford Field. Although the team's bid for another trip came up short, one gets the feeling nothing will diminish that as far as any of them are concerned.

"Amazing, it's the best coaches in the world here and the best brothers I could ask for," said Emminger, a heart-and-soul player who usually was in the middle of things for Plymouth on either side of the line of scrimmage.

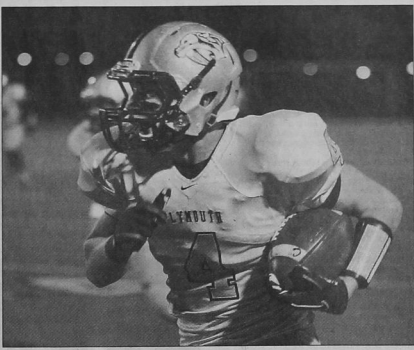
Emminger, moments after Sawchuk gave him a bear hug, said the coach had a special message for him.

"He told me I was the best player to ever come through Plymouth High School," Emminger noted. "And that meant more than anything in the world to me."

Sawchuk could have said something just like that to another team catalyst in Janke and it wouldn't have been a stretch.

"We played tough as a team, we all poured our hearts out," Janke stressed. "... I love my team. I built some of the best friendships from this team and I'll love those guys forever."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth senior Matt Janke (No. 4) is shown scoring on an interception return Nov. 2 against Livonia Churchill.

WILDCATS

Continued from page B1

and score and then get a three-and-out," Sawchuk said. "But I think at that point they might have wore us down a little bit... they converted a lot of third downs and kind of wore us out a little bit."

Giving credit

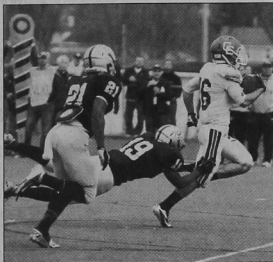
Two of Plymouth's remaining players from the 2010 game credited the Shamrocks for playing grind-it-out football.

"They play tough, they take it to you for sure," senior wide receiver defensive back Matt Janke said. "They don't try to out-scheme you, they just try to ram it down your throat."

According to Nate Emminger, another senior defensive back, "It didn't end the way we wanted it to, obviously, but that's a good team over there."

"It's probably the best team I've ever seen play football in high school. Hats off to them, but we didn't make plays when we had to and that's what killed us in the end."

One of the Shamrocks who was senior running back and quarterback Anthony Darkangelo, who said his team had extra motivation to get back at Plymouth for the 2010 regional final. He rushed for 128 yards on the ground (in 13 attempts), scoring the first touchdown of the game on a 70-yard run, and was in on numerous tackles as the Wildcats could not move the football.



DENNIS BARNES

Plymouth defenders Josh Dendard (No. 21) and Stefan Turentine (No. 19) can't stop Zack Bock (right) of Novi-Detroit Catholic Central from scoring during the second half.

On his TD, which made it a 7-0 Catholic Central lead with 11:19 left in the second quarter, Darkangelo bounced off a couple of Plymouth tacklers around the line of scrimmage. After breaking loose, he eluded more defenders near midfield and veered toward the front-left corner of the end zone.

In the open

"Everybody in the front was blocked right and once you get open field, you just got to be able to make people miss," Darkangelo said. "That's what I did."

Sawchuk pointed to that play as one of the turning points. "We had him stopped for a loss and he broke it all the way for a touchdown."

The Wildcats, who finished with a 9-3 record, nearly scored the equal-

izer the next time they had the ball.

Senior quarterback Jamaal Eiland fired a perfect spiral over the middle that Emminger reeled in near midfield and turned it into a 56-yard reception. For a few seconds at least, fans on Plymouth's side of the field had reason to cheer as Emminger sprinted toward the goal line.

But Shamrocks junior defensive back Zach Bock dove forward and tripped up Emminger at the 14. From there, the drive went backward and Plymouth could not even attempt a field goal.

"I don't know, I just saw him out of the corner of my eye and I tried to turn up and run, but he caught me," Emminger said.

Sawchuk emphasized that it's tough for any team in the playoffs to not get anything out of



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Plymouth's student section tries to pump up the Wildcats during Saturday's regional final.

such a premium scoring opportunity.

"Obviously, when Emminger made that play and we didn't get any points, you can't do that in the playoffs. You can't do that against good teams," Sawchuk said. "We got to come away with at least three there and we didn't come away with any."

Catholic Central upped the lead to 14-0 at half-time when senior quarterback Garrett Moores broke around left end for a 55-yard TD run.

On the board

Plymouth finally got on the scoreboard early in the third, scoring after a march of 80 yards in nine plays (helped along by a 15-yard penalty against the Shamrocks).

Junior tailback DJ Rossell ran for 9 yards and grabbed an Eiland throw for another 15. Then Eiland hit junior receiver

Connor Stella for 14 yards down to the CC 41.

Four plays and a penalty later, Eiland shot through the right side of the line for a 9-yard score with 8:02 left in the third.

That touchdown did not result in the momentum boost Sawchuk and the Wildcats envisioned.

The Shamrocks responded with a 59-yard scoring march, capped by senior fullback David Houle's 1-yard plunge. Houle rushed 17 times for 77 yards, working well in tandem with Darkangelo.

"It's tough," Emminger said. "I know those guys (Darkangelo, Houle) have been playing up there since they were real young. I know they're strong, I know they're powerful... we just couldn't get it done."

Another quick exit by Plymouth's offense ended the third quarter and

the Shamrocks tacked on another score early in the fourth. A 62-yard pass from Moores to receiver Dylan Roney set up a 20-yard scoring run by Bock.

Despite the disappointing finish, Sawchuk praised his players and assistant coaches for an outstanding season.

"I'm extremely proud of these kids and this coaching staff," he said. "They did a wonderful job. Remember, we only had four offensive returners and four defensive returners."

"Our coaches coached their tails off and the kids got it down in the weight room. We're going to be younger next year."

Meanwhile, Catholic Central will square off Saturday against Rockford in a D1 semifinal.

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ICERS

Continued from page B1

against the wall I thought they responded well."

Making some key stops down the stretch was sophomore goalie Eric VandenBosch, who will split netminding duties with sophomore Jared Maddock.

Their early season mettle will be tested with games Friday and Saturday at the Novi Invitational (against Farmington and Lake Orion) followed by a KLA South Division tilt Wednesday against Canton at Arctic Edge Arena.

"We got in to the Novi Invite so we're going to have four games really quick here," Vento said. "It's what we want, a tough schedule early to get them going right off the bat."

Also scoring Tuesdays were junior defenseman Colin Staub (unassisted to even the game 1-1 in the first) and senior forward and captain Mitch Claggett (from junior forward Mike Schultz and senior forward Nick Schultz) to temporarily give the Wildcats a 2-

1 edge in the middle stanza.

Assisting on Tavierne's marker was senior defenseman and assistant captain Dean Gunther.

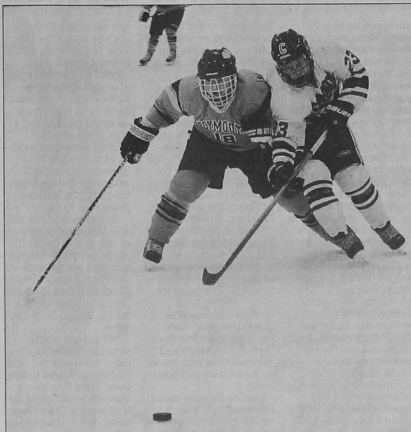
Strong on D

According to Vento, the Wildcats (14-8-0 in 2011-12 in the KLA South, good for third place) will go to work with a tough defense featuring Gunther, Bauer (also an assistant captain), senior Cam Nadell (out to start the season with an injury) and Staub.

Rounding out the D will be sophomores Jake Zabrowski and Ben Chabin.

"As the season develops I think our strength is going to be on the blue-line, we've got a lot of returners back. We got one guy (Nadell) out with an injury and I think once he get back our blue-line's going to be a strength."

"Besides that we're a good skating team, so it's a good combination." And a lot of that mobility comes from the defense, with Gunther and Bauer both capable of excelling at both ends of the rink — which they did against Divine Child.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Once senior defenseman Cam Nadell (No. 18) returns from an injury, the Plymouth defense will be a team strength.

"We look for him (Bauer) to be like that all year," Vento said. "He

had a great spring/summer playing for an MDHL (Michigan Development Hockey League) team.

"Same thing with Dean.

He worked unbelievably hard in the spring and summer, made an MDHL team which did a lot for his confidence and it's showing."

Up front, the lineup includes seniors Claggett, Nick Schultz, Ryan Theisen, Spencer Godin, Jordan Lopetrone, Joe Burke, Thomas Kelly, juniors Tavierne, Charlie Supernois, Connor Browne and Mike Schultz; sophomore Josh Smith.

"I've been very impressed with Josh Smith's early start," Vento said. "He seems to have adjusted real well to high school hockey. It's kind of an adjustment for some guys but they'll figure it out."

The players are definitely figuring out what Vento and his staff will expect of them, too.

"The returners know what the program is," he added. "They let the other guys know and they start to catch on."

"We're a lot further ahead this year than we were last year."

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Crusaders carriers produced

FIRST-TEAM

Kayla Kavulich, Jr., Salem: The accolades and recognition she is being given for the Salem junior, who made a remarkable return after missing her sophomore year due to knee surgery.

Kavulich set a Salem school record for 5,000 meters with a time of 18:15.6 and received selection to the all-KLAA, all-county and all-region first teams.

She was individual medalist at the Haslett, Linden and Holly Invitational, earned the national top championship at the Division 1 regional at Willow Metropark and qualified for the state finals for a second time as an individual.

At Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, Kavulich came in 11th and was named to the D1 all-state team while also helping the Rocks finish eighth overall in the team standings.

"Kayla is an all-around athlete who is competitive, determined and passionate about distance running," coach Dave Gerlach said. "She has again established herself an elite athlete who sets the best she can every competition."

"Kayla has very high goals and expectations for herself and works hard to achieve them every day."

Kerigan Riley, Sr., Liv. Churchill: The senior made her fourth appearance on the first-team, was the area's second-best placer in the Division 1 state finals (38th overall) with a personal best time of 1:16.5. Riley also took second in the regional (18:53.22) and Public Schools of Livonia Invitational, fourth at Monroe Jefferson (19:27.48) and was eighth in the Kensington Conference (19:12.1).

"Kerigan had an outstanding cross country career at Churchill," coach Sue Tatro said of the third-year MVP and two-year captain. "She peaked at the right time this season and ran her best races at the regional and state meets. She is a very talented, hard-working and determined young lady who loves to race."

Riley also carries a 3.8 grade-point average.

Marina DeBlasi, Jr., Plymouth: The junior is moving up the career charts at Plymouth, setting a new school record with her personal best of 18:49.5 at the D1 state finals — which earned 48th overall.

The previous week, DeBlasi finished third at the D1 regional at Willow Metropark with a time of 18:59.55.

Other big performances included sixth place at the Kensington Conference meet (19:03.7), fourth at the Gabriel Richard Invitational (18:53.51) and Autumn Classic (20:07) and 13th at the Wayne County meet (19:33.2).

"Marina is very humble and a pleasure to coach," coach Dale Maskill said. "Although she has worked hard to make herself a great runner, she has always been a team first runner. The entire Plymouth cross country family is proud of her achievements this season. This year marked DeBlasi's second straight appearance at the Division 1 cross country finals."

Sydney Anderson, Sr., Liv. Churchill: The senior wound up 100th in the state finals with a clocking of 19:17.4 after taking second in the Willow Metropark regional (19:09.34).

Anderson's best showing came in the Kensington Conference where she placed fifth overall (18:57.0). She was also Public Schools of Livonia Invitational champion and runner-up second at the Jefferson invitational (19:16.6).

"Sydney steadily improved throughout her four years and continuously ran with a lot of confidence and poise," Tatro said of the team captain and co-MVP. "Anderson, a three-sport athlete, also earned academic all-state honors (4.2)."

"She is a true leader who motivates her teammates by her outstanding example," Tatro said. "I am so excited watching her take her running to a new level this season. Not only is she one of the most coachable runners I have had the pleasure of coaching, but she is one of the most dependable and hard-working athletes as well."

Laura Arquette, Soph., Salem: In just her second year, the team made great strides as an individual runner and helped spark Salem's outstanding team success in the past season.

Her personal best of 19-minutes flat gave Salem's most valuable sophomore the third-best time in school history for 5,000 meters and the second-fastest posted by a



Kayla Kavulich Salem



Kerigan Riley Churchill



Marina DeBlasi Plymouth



Sydney Anderson Churchill



Lauren Arquette Salem



Anya Cho Salem



Alyssen Eads Mercy



Lindsey Gallagher Stevenson



Natasha Stevenson Canton



Mary Galt Canton



Alejandra Beltran Salem



Dave Gerlach Salem coach

2012 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY FIRST-TEAM

Kayla Kavulich, Jr., Salem
Kerigan Riley, Sr., Liv. Churchill
Marina DeBlasi, Jr., Plymouth
Sydney Anderson, Sr., Liv. Churchill
Lauren Arquette, Soph., Salem
Anya Cho, Soph., Salem
Alyssen Eads, Soph., Farm. Hills Mercy
Lindsey Gallagher, Soph., Liv. Stevenson
Natasha Stevenson, Sr., Salem
Mary Galt, Fr., Canton
Alejandra Beltran, Sr., Salem

SECOND-TEAM

Alexis Foley, Sr., Salem
Natalie Douglas, Fr., Liv. Franklin
Michelle Azar, Sr., Liv. Churchill
Jenna Wisner, Fr., Luth. Westland
Emily Bizon, Sr., Salem
Megan McFarlane, Jr., Liv. Churchill
Karlie Gallagher, Sr., Liv. Stevenson
Celeste White, Sr., Farm. Hills Mercy
Alycen Okedueju, Sr., Liv. Churchill
Sophia Farquhar, Jr., N. Farmington
Shelby Abbott, Soph., N. Farmington

COACH OF YEAR

Dave Gerlach, Salem

HONORABLE MENTION

Churchill: Jenna Hickox, Alexis Lombardo, Elysa Hoffman, Lauren Bernhardt, Franklin: Natalie Martinez, Anna Snider, Karlie Kovach, Stevenson: Barb Moore, Emily Chapko, Emily Kwanski, Livonia: Ladywood: Kit Taylor, Sarah Wilson; Westland: John Glenn: Shekiah Johnson, Barb Messis, Caroline Mahalik, Lutheran Westland: Michelle Greening, Jessica Drift; Canton: Jessica Siegel, Alicia McIntire, Charlotte McGroth, Laura Murphy, Keata Sullivan; Plymouth: Alexia Chion, Charolotte Clark, Shannon Shaver, Brianna La, Renee DeBrito, Salem: Katelyn Rebecca Lopez, Emily Marcer, Plymouth Christian: Tera Crown, Rachel Smith, Farmington: Jennifer Rogers, Harrison: Caroline Mahalik, Victoria Blaga, Mercy: Katelyn Toloff, Nicole DiPonio, North Farmington: Maria Vici, Christine Goodwin, Tori Innes, Garden City: Mariah Carter, Breanna Grant, Redford: Union: Erin Milley.

"Laura had a breakout year this season to provide Salem with a top second runner," Gerlach said. "She was one of the most consistent athletes who knew when to step up. Laura was a complete runner with her combination of intelligence, foot speed, endurance and determination."

Anya Cho, Soph., Salem: Another 10th grader making a huge impact for Salem was Cho, an individual state qualifier with her 13th-place showing at the D1 regionals. Cho's personal best of 19:35 was the third-fastest in Salem history by a sophomore and the fifth fastest overall. She also was named to the all-KLAA second team.

"We knew Anya had a ton of potential last season, but an injury sidelined her for the majority of the year," Gerlach said. "This season Anya worked incredibly hard and her potential became reality. Anya's persistence and determination to overcome obstacles are attributes that made her a top-notch runner this season."

Alyssen Eads, Soph., Farm. Hills Mercy: Eads became the 11th runner on the Marans as the season progressed, helping them finish third in the Catholic League and seventh in the Division 1 regional at State Park. Eads was the runner-up in the league meet at Kensington Metropark with a time of 20:24. She qualified for state with a 15th-place finish (18:36) at the regional, and she was 124th in the Division 1 race at the state meet (19:37).

After finishing third in the first league jamboree at Metro Beach, Eads won the next two at Huron Meadows and Gilbert Willis with times of 19:16 and 19:12, respectively. She also placed fourth at the Shamrock Invite (19:59), 10th at the Holly Invite (20:37) and third at the River Run (19:23). Eads, who was named the Mercy team's MVP, was 24th in the Oakland County meet at Kensington.

"Alyssen steadily improved throughout the year and set her 2012 PR at (Catholic League) jamboree No. 2 with a time of 19:16," coach Dave Gerlach said. "She improved on an outstanding freshman year with her second straight victory letter performance."

"We're looking for bigger and better things

from her next year now that she has been to the state finals in cross country and track."

Lindsey Gallagher, Soph., Liv. Stevenson: The 10th-grader qualified for the Division 1 state finals with a ninth-place finish at the regional (19:31.79).

Gallagher took a 32nd in Division 1 (19:40.8). She also posted a season-best 19:19.4 en route to a ninth-place finish in the Kensington Conference and the Public Schools of Livonia invitational runner-up.

After missing 11 states by one place her freshman year, Lindsey made sure she wasn't on the outside looking-in this year," Stevenson coach Chris Inch said. "Gaining state meet experience as a sophomore is an important step in her development. Lindsey has a lot more in the tank. Next year I expect she'll be that much tougher in the big meets."

Natasha Stevenson, Jr., Salem: Selected Salem's junior of the year, Stevenson posted a personal best of 19:24.5 and qualified for the D1 state finals by placing 44th at the regionals.

Other accomplishments for the third-year varsity runner included being named to the all-KLAA second team.

"Natasha has shown unlimited potential as a distance runner and has already experienced much success," Gerlach said. "She put it all together this season and was a valuable number one for us."

"This team is looking forward to her continued success and what else she can accomplish next season."

Mary Galt, Fr., Canton: The future is bright for the Chiefs, particularly thanks to the emergence of Galt.

The freshman probably would have qualified for the D1 state finals if not for late-season injuries. But she enjoyed a personal best 18:48.7 to finish fourth at the Kensington Conference meet.

"That was good for second on Canton's all-time varsity runner included being named to the all-KLAA second team."

Other highlights included finishing 14th at the Wayne County meet, earning second place in the 5,000-meter race at the county of 19:08. She also placed 23rd at the Coaching Legends Invite, finishing in 19:04.1.

"I think Mary is just starting to scratch the surface of what she is able to accomplish," coach Eric Pahl said. "If Mary can stay healthy for an entire season, I am excited to see the results."

Alejandra Beltran, Sr., Salem: The fourth-year senior had her best season, with a personal record of 18:23 posted for the county's fastest time in Salem history (5,000 meters). Also named the team's most valuable senior, Beltran tallied the 12th most career varsity points ever amassed by a Salem runner.

"Alejandra is a fun-loving athlete who provided Salem with a solid fifth runner this season," Gerlach said. "Alejandra was very raw when she started, but finished her career by making the most of her opportunities."

"The attributes of foot speed and an ability to meet her goals made Alejandra a terrific piece of the successful varsity unit."

Dave Gerlach, Salem: Success continues to follow Gerlach, a former state qualifier for Lutheran Westland who ran cross country and track at Eastland. Gerlach was the 2011's Observer Coach of the Year.

Awards is the second for Gerlach (he also won in 2009) — who continues to guide his teams by instilling values such as work ethic, determination and desire to be the best. Salem qualified for the Division 1 state finals for the seventh time in his 18-year career there, and the Rocks finished eighth overall. The Rocks also were Plymouth's second consecutive Park cross country champions for the ninth time during Gerlach's tenure.

"I have been truly blessed during my 18 years of coaching at Salem with some terrific, hard-working young ladies that have made my job extremely rewarding," Gerlach said. "We have tried to instill a tradition and quality program for these young ladies with experiences, friendships and memories that last a lifetime."

Gerlach said the 2012 Rocks were special because they "wanted to be good and had high goals. They were very passionate and worked very hard to achieve their individual and team goals."

According to Gerlach, a physical education teacher at PCB at Canton resident wife Kimberly, daughter Emilee and step-daughter Adriane, it was "a great pleasure to be a part of the lives of these young ladies deserve all the credit."

Crusaders turn attention to nationals

By Brad Emmons
Observer Staff Writer

After sweeping through the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference playoffs over the weekend, the Madonna University women's volleyball team is back on familiar turf.

The 15th-ranked Crusaders, 33-7 overall, will be making its first appearance in the NAIA Championships in the 2008 when they take on St. Xavier University (Ill.), the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference runner-up, beginning at noon Saturday at the MU Activities Center.

The volleyball match will be followed by a women's and men's WHAC basketball double-header between the host Crusaders and Indiana Tech at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m., respectively.

Madonna and St. Xavier met earlier this season on Aug. 25 at the UD-Dearborn Early Bird Challenge and the Crusaders came away with a 25-17, 25-15, 25-20 victory.

MU holds an 8-0 mark against the Cougars in the previous meetings between the two sides. This season marks MU's

12th appearance in 26 years under coach Jerry Abraham in the national tournament.

St. Xavier, which is making its second NAIA appearance in the last three seasons, comes into Saturday's match with a 31-12 record and went 18-1 in the CCAC.

The Cougars were a perfect 12-0 at home while posting a 9-4 mark on the road in the WHAC. Coach Bob Heersma is in his 26th season as the helm of the Cougars.

On Saturday night, 6-foot junior outside hitter Stacey Catalano third straight double-double with 15 kills and 11 digs to lead host MU to a 25-17, 25-20, 25-21 victory over Davenport for the WHAC Tournament title.

Madonna was the top seed coming into the WHAC playoffs after winning the regular season crown with a 10-1 record (which also guaranteed a spot in the NAIA Nationals).

"The biggest difference was that tonight we didn't get negative after we lost a point," Catalano said. "Our biggest problem in the past was going on huge downfall runs

that would excite the other team and we would get down on ourselves, but we did really well to not do that tonight."

Senior outside hitter Taylor Dziewit and sophomore outside hitter Samantha Geile each added 10 kills in the victory, while junior Evia Prieditis, the WHAC Player and Setter of the Year, had 43 assist-kills and 12 digs.

"This is the icing on the cake," Prieditis said. "This is everything we've been waiting for. We worked the entire season to get this far and we had to play every single game to accomplish it and we did."

"It means the world to me. I've been working for it since I've been here. I'm so happy and honored to be with these girls and have this opportunity."

Marcey DeHaan paced Davenport (32-6) with 10 kills, while Kelsee Moon had 14 digs for the Panthers, who also earned a spot in the NAIA Championship opening round.

Earlier in the day, MU swept Cornellians in the WHAC semifinals, 25-15, 27-25, 25-23, as Catalano

and Samantha Geile led the way with 13 and 10 kills, respectively, while Dziewit added nine.

Prieditis finished with 37 assists and a team-best 15 digs, while Amanda Obychski and Catalano contributed 12 and 11 digs, respectively.

Callie Johnson recorded 14 kills, while Kim Weaver dished out 33 assists for Cornerstone (28-6). Miesca also added 19 digs.

The winners of the 12 opening-round matches, along with the top 11 seeds and host Morning-side (Ia.) will advance to the Youth Events Center/Gateway Arena, Nov. 27, Dec. 1, in Sioux City, Ia., for the NAIA Championships.

"We need to continue to focus on what we can achieve, so we need to have achieved to this point," said Catalano, a transfer from Grand Valley State to Utica Eisenhower H.S. "If we're lazy in practice that won't get us anywhere, so we need to focus on working as a team and doing what we do to be successful."

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Plymouth girls lax meeting

For anyone interested in playing Plymouth girls lacrosse in the spring, there will be a mandatory parents and player meeting 7 p.m. Nov. 28.

It will take place at Salem High School in the Salem Presentation Room (No. 2112).

Parents are asked to park near the main Salem entrance off of Joy Road near the flagpole.

Salem girls track coaching spot

Salem varsity girls track and field coach Dave Gerlach announced he is looking to hire an assistant coach for the 2013 season.

The coach should specialize in sprints and relays. Gerlach can be reached at (734) 416-7774 or via e-mail at Rockcoachxc@yahoo.com.

WYAA volleyball

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association volleyball is underway and will last through mid-November for the following age

groups: 9-10 (freshman), 11-13 (JV) and 14-17 (varsity). Cost is \$130 (includes volleyball jersey with neon colors, shorts and knee pads).

Practices begin in mid-November and matches start in early December. You can register online at wyaa.org.

For more information, call Keith Demolay at (734) 722-1251 (leave a message).

Livonia Wrestling

The Livonia Wrestling Club, a unified wrestling club serving Livonia and surrounding communities for grades K-8, will be from 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Nov. 27 through March 28, at the Franklin High School wrestling room.

All coaches and volunteers will be under direct supervision of the Franklin coaching staff. Registration can be done at the first practice on Nov. 27 of the season. The cost is \$100 (includes T-shirt and registration into My-Way).

For more information, call Dave Chiola at (248) 752-2340, or e-mail chiola4@yahoo.com.



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RELIGION CALENDAR

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

November

BOOK SIGNING

Time/Date: Noon-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24

Location: A Mateja Church Supply, 30762 Ford Road, Garden City

Details: Pro-life activist Monica Migliorino Miller will sign her book, "Abandoned." The book is a first-hand account of the pro-life

movement and includes stories of victory and defeat in sidewalk counseling, a look at the inner workings of abortion facilities, and more. The book will be available for \$22, a discounted price. Contact: (734) 513-2950

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 18

Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: All you-can-eat pancake, French toast, scrambled eggs, applesauce,

ham, sausage, coffee, tea and milk. Adults pay \$3; children, 2-10, pay \$15. Sponsored by St. Theodore's Men's Club

Contact: (734) 425-4421

CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17

Location: Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Vendors, crafters, and prizes. The \$1 admission includes a chance on door prize of your choice. Profits from admission, food sales and 20 percent of vendor/crafter sales goes to our Kids' Hope USA Program, benefiting Livonia School children.

Contact: (734) 427-1414

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24

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

Details: Free clothing and shoes to anyone in need. Contact: (734) 927-6686 or (734) 404-2480

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 15

Location: Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield

Details: Norwegian pianist Knut Erik Jensen will perform works by Edvard Grieg, Geirr Tveitt, Richard Wagner and Franz Liszt and others. Suggested donation is \$10. Contact: (248) 354-4488

LADIES NIGHT OUT

Time/Date: 6-10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16

Location: St. Damian, 29891 Jop Road, Westland

Details: This vendor show also includes a raffle, snacks and cash bar. Admission is \$5. Tables available for \$15. Contact: Yvette Corey at

(734) 427-1680

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 21

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: The Rev. Gregory Gibbons will preach on the theme "Pray, Praise and Give Thanks"

Contact: (313) 532-8655 or (734) 968-3523

December

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Dec. 9

Location: St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia

Details: 31st annual concert featuring the St. Aidan Adult and Children's Choirs, and the St. Aidan Contemporary Ensemble. Minimum donation is \$5, along with two non-perishable food items. All proceeds will go toward food baskets for the needy.

Contact: (734) 425-5950

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8

Location: Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward Ave., Birmingham

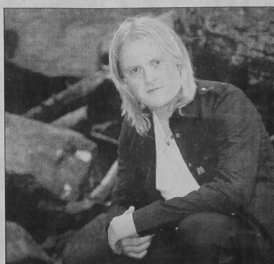
Details: Bernard Wong Ensemble performs on African percussion instruments, bridging Western orchestral music with the rhythms of African dance. Admission is a suggested donation of \$20 and will include the concert, followed by desserts, wine and conversation with the performers. Contact: (484) 647-2380

GRIEF WORKSHOP

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Dec. 14 and 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Dec. 15

Location: Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth

Details: The "Grieving with



Knut Erik Jensen will perform Thursday, Nov. 15, at Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church in Southfield.

Great Hope" workshop

for individuals who are mourning the loss of a loved one. Speakers will include the Rev. John Riccardo, as well as John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization. Registration forms are online at www.goodmourningministry.net or call OIGC. Contact: (734) 453-0326; olgcrparish.net

Ongoing

CLASSES/STUDY

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.

Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

Contact: John Shulenberg at (734) 464-9491

New Life Community Church

Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m. Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays.

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville

Contact: (734) 846-4615

Nicole's Revue

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Monday-Friday

Location: WCA Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand Rivers, west of Beech Daly, Redford Township

Details: KJV Scripture Reading, Communion and Prayer. Contact: (313) 531-1234

Our Lady of Loretto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m., Monday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Scripture study. Contact: (313) 534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 7:30-8 p.m., the first and third Tuesday.

Location: School Library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Catholic author and bible scholar, Gary Michuta, leads a study of the Gospel of St. Luke. The sessions are open to all, regardless of their faith or parish affiliation.

Contact: (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200, or www.livonia-st-michael.org

Passages

View Online: www.hometownlife.com

How to reach us: 1-800-979-7555 • fax 313-949-4968 • ecobits@hometownlife.com

Deadlines: Friday, 4:15 p.m. for Sunday paper

Wednesday, 9:45 a.m. for Thursday paper

DEO, THELLEN

Born June 1, 1923, 89 years old, passed away at Garden City Hospital on October 26, 2012. Preceded in death by husband, Edwin Deo, a builder in the City of Wayne. Cremation by Uth's Funeral Home, Wayne, Michigan. No services were held.



FISHER, MARGARET O.

Age 79, November 9, 2012. Beloved husband of Ann for 54 years. Loving father of Thomas (Cindy) Wassell and Tracy (Jim) Favaro. Dear grandfather of Roy and Daniel, John, Coley and Bethany. Bud was a retired supervisor at Rouge Steel and enjoyed spending time with family and watching sports. Visitation at Mt. Hope Congregational Church, 30330 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia, Saturday from 10 a.m. until time of Memorial Service at 11:30 a.m. Memorials contributions may be directed to Residential Hospice. Please share a memory at www.rgrharris.com.

WASSELL, "BUD"

Age 79, November 9, 2012. Beloved husband of Ann for 54 years. Loving father of Thomas (Cindy) Wassell and Tracy (Jim) Favaro. Dear grandfather of Roy and Daniel, John, Coley and Bethany. Bud was a retired supervisor at Rouge Steel and enjoyed spending time with family and watching sports. Visitation at Mt. Hope Congregational Church, 30330 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia, Saturday from 10 a.m. until time of Memorial Service at 11:30 a.m. Memorials contributions may be directed to Residential Hospice. Please share a memory at www.rgrharris.com.

May you find comfort in Family and Friends

Farmington church offers lifelong learning

Learn about women and Islam, dog training, and ancient aliens Thursday, Nov. 15 at Universalist's Unitarian Church of Farmington, 25301 Halsted, in Farmington Hills.

The sessions are part of the Lifelong Learning Forum series that runs from 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, October-November at the church. Classes are open to the public. A \$5 donation is suggested. Refreshments will be served at 7 p.m. "Understanding Dog Training" will feature Sherry Miller, who is trained

in the K-9 method. She'll have her dog on hand to demonstrate basic commands, sit, stay, come, down and heel. Participants should not bring their own dogs to class.

Iman Harp will present "Women and Islam," a forum designed to eliminate common misconceptions about Islam and the roles of women in Islam. She'll talk about what Islam is, who is God in Islam, the relationship between God and humans, and more. Harp immigrated from Lebanon in 1997 and holds

a bachelor of science degree in biochemistry and a master's degree in counseling. She is a guidance counselor and assessment coordinator at Frontier International Academy of Hamtramck.

Duane Townsend, an information technology consultant, will lead the "Ancient Aliens" session. He'll explore the idea of extra-terrestrial contact with earth and mankind.

For more information visit www.uuFarmington.org and click on "Lifelong Learning."

Your Invitation to Worship

<p>CATHOLIC</p> <p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH</p> <p>Tridentine Latin Mass</p> <p>St. Anne's Academy - Garden City Rd. 8810 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-1000</p> <p>Mass Schedule: First Friday Mass 7:00 p.m. Saturday Mass 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses 7:00 & 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Minister of Perpetual Holy Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</p> <p>Rosedale Gardens</p> <p>PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)</p> <p>9601 Hubbard of W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (Between Woodward & Farmington Hls.)</p> <p>(734) 422-0494</p> <p>Friends in Faith Service 9:00 a.m. Traditional Service 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs.</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>WARD CHURCH</p> <p>30000 Six Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 464-9491</p> <p>Traditional Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship at 10:30 & 11 a.m. Children's Program available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.</p> <p>The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM.</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</p> <p>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church</p> <p>14173 Farmington Road, Livonia, just north of I-96 www.christioursavior.org</p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional Staffed Nursery Available</p> <p>Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413</p> <p>Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Davenport, Bayer & Craeden 734-522-6830</p>
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<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p>800 W. Dearborn • (734) 493-1629</p> <p>Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>New members of Plymouth Holy Devotions (734) 493-1196</p>	<p>ASSEMBLIES OF GOD</p> <p>OPEN ARMS CHURCH</p> <p>Worship: Sunday 10:30 am</p> <p>Children's Programs Available</p> <p>Kid's Stop Preschool Now Enrolling 248.474.0001</p> <p>Min. New Pastor Gusty Jozak Assoc. Pastor Abe Fazzini</p> <p>33015 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia 48152 Between Farmington & Harrison Access from Jop's Pasture 248.471.5262</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</p> <p>St. Paul's Ev. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL</p> <p>17810 Farmington Road, Livonia 48150 • (734) 464-9491</p> <p>WORSHIP SERVICES Sunday 8:30 A.M. & 11 A.M. Tuesday 8:30 P.M.</p> <p>Website: www.stpaulslivonia.org</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church</p> <p>Adult Sunday: 9:30, 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</p>
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For Information regarding this Directory, please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011 ext. 247 or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

Saxophone soloist

Hometown favorite shares stage with Michigan Philharmonic

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer



Libby Larsen

Saxophonist Zachery Shemon returns to Michigan this week to help break ground on new music by composer Libby Larsen.

The Plymouth native, a graduate student at Indiana University, will guest solo on *Song Concerto* during weekend performances with the Michigan Philharmonic at The Carr Center in Detroit and the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton. Larsen, who has written more than 500 works — from vocal and chamber music to orchestral pieces and operas — will be on hand for the Midwest premier of her work.

"*Song Concerto* was written for Eugene Rousseau, a father figure in American saxophone playing, and combines the saxophone's history as a classical instrument with its unmistakable association with jazz," said Shemon in an e-mail to the *Observer*. "One of the cool things about the piece is that it uses both alto and soprano saxes and gives the audience a chance to hear the wide spectrum of colors the saxophone is capable of producing."

Shemon, a 2002 graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School, is in his final year of graduate school, finishing a doctorate degree in saxophone performance. He is also a member of New York-based PRISM Quartet, an ensemble specializing in contemporary concert music for saxophone.

"We regularly commission new works for saxophone quartet by some of the most highly-respected com-

posers in the world. In fact, Libby Larsen wrote a piece for PRISM, *Wait a Minute*, which we recorded and released on a CD of short works dedicated to the quartet," Shemon said. "She has written several pieces for saxophone and really understands the capabilities of the instrument."

Guest artist

Performing with the Michigan Philharmonic is a homecoming of sorts for Shemon who made his orchestral debut at age 18 with the Plymouth Symphony. He has performed as a guest soloist several times with the group, which is now called the Michigan Philharmonic. He has also soloed with the Ann Arbor Concert Band, performed with the Windsor Symphony in Ontario and was a featured musician when the University of Michigan Symphony Band played at Carnegie Hall in 2005.

Shemon has earned dozens of awards for his musicianship. Most recently he won first prize in the International Saxophone Symposium and Competition. As a student in Plymouth, he received 15 division one State Solo and Ensemble Festival ratings.

Shemon began studying



Zach Shemon will perform with the Michigan Philharmonic Sunday, Nov. 18 at the Village Theater in Canton.

saxophone in the band at Pioneer Middle School and later attained the principal alto saxophone position in the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band, Wind Ensemble and Michigan Youth Band.

"I played in the bands at the Park and was a member of the marching band in 1999 when we won BOA Grand Nationals," Shemon noted.

Paying it forward

He'll return to the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Friday, Nov. 16, to meet with Arts Academy music students at lunch. "It's a small thing I can do

to give back to a music program and community I owe so much to," he said. "I'm absolutely thrilled to be performing with the Michigan Philharmonic this weekend."

The program, "Dance Mix" will include a variety of dance music, in addition to Larsen's work.

The concerts are at 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17 at The Carr Center, 311 E. Grand River Ave., Detroit and 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 18, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton.

Tickets are \$25, \$20 and \$10. Call (734) 451-2112 or visit www.michiganphil.org.



LARRY SANDERS

Works by Andrea Anderson, such as this handmade scarf, and other members of the Michigan Weavers Guild, will be for sale Saturday, Nov. 17 at the Winter Market in Farmington Hills.

Woven, wearable art for sale at Costick Center

Looking for a special gift this holiday season? The artists of the Michigan Weavers Guild will offer a wide array of gift-giving options at a holiday trunk sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills.

Admission is free. Michigan Weavers Guild members make wearable pieces and accessories, framed wall pieces, home décor objects, sculpture, and jewelry.

The Winter Market, which will take place in the Costick Center lobby, is a cooperative effort by the Guild and the City of Farmington Hills Cultural Arts Division. A portion of all sales will go to support arts programs for children and adults in Farmington Hills.

The City Gallery at the Costick Center also will feature an exhibit by the Weavers Guild from Nov. 17 to January 3, 2013. Gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information, call the Cultural Arts Division at (248) 473-1856.

Symphony marks 40 years with dinner, auction

Livonia Symphony Orchestra will hold its 40th Anniversary Party Friday, Nov. 16, at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia.

The event, which will include dinner and a silent auction, will celebrate the history of the symphony, its musicians and supporters, and will honor Francesco DiBlasi, founder, Volodymyr Sheshtuk, music director and conductor, and Carl

Karob, associate conductor.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. for the silent auction, with dinner following at 7 p.m. Attire is "casually elegant."

Tickets are \$70 per person, of which \$40 is tax deductible. Reservations are required. For more information call June Kendall at (734) 425-1881 or visit www.livoniasymphony.org.

GET OUT!

Arts & Crafts

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Dates: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit

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

Exhibits: Picasso & Matisse exhibits all of the museum's drawings and prints

by the two artists, through Jan. 6, 2013; Fabergé: The Rise and Fall. The Collection of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, through Jan. 21, 2013; Hidden Treasures: An Experiment, through March 3, 2013

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

LIBERTY STREET BREWING CO.

Time/Date: Art on display through November

Location: 149 W. Liberty, in Old Village, Plymouth; in the upper hall gallery

Details: Maruica Rofick

shows her black and white photography in an exhibit called METROPOLIS. Rofick is an exhibiting member of Hatch, the Hamtramck artists collective, and her work has been shown at such galleries as the Carr Center, Lawrence Street Gallery and the Scarab Club

Contact: (734) 207-9600

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Gallery hours are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday

Please see GET OUT!, B8

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- Artist demonstrations
- International food cafe
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- Generation-Next young artist display

GET OUT!

Continued from page B7

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "Small Works," an all-media juried art exhibit, and "Celebrate," a Northville Camera Club exhibit are featured. Northville Art House's Holiday Gift Shop also underway

Contact: (248) 344-0497

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Time/Date: Through November; artist reception is 2-4 p.m., Nov. 17

Location: 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: "Mixed Musings" by Peggy Kerwan combines the artist's love of painting, music, and paper sculpture

Coming up: Ornament-making workshop will run 2-4 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 18. Participants will help fashion ornaments for the "Holiday Walk of Trees" PCAC pine in Kellogg Park and will make an ornament for their own tree. Youngsters under 7 must be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$5 at the door. Pre-register by e-mailing to Lisa@plymoutharts.com or call (734) 416-4278. Drop-ins welcome

Contact: (734) 416-4278

VAAL

Time/Date: Through Nov. 17

Location: Livonia Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: The Visual Arts Association of Livonia fall exhibit will include original art work done by VAAL members in watercolor, acrylic, oil, pastel and mixed media. The art work will be for sale. Ellen M. Moucoulis of Schoolcraft College is the show jury

Contact: (734) 838-1204; www.vaalart.org

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: Through Nov. 29; gallery hours are 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday and during public performances

Location: In Gallery@VT in the theater, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: The works of Alvey Jones, painter, print-maker, and book artist are on display

Contact: (734) 394-5300

Film

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 15

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "Trouble with the Coming up: "Won't Back Down," 7 p.m. and 9:15

p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 16-17 and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 18

Holiday Classics: "It's a Wonderful Life," 7 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 29-30 and Dec. 1-2; 9:25 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 30-Dec. 1; and 4:15 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2

Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday Nov. 16-17 and 2 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 18

Location: 17350 Lahser, Detroit

Details: "Since You Went Away," \$4

Coming up: "A Christmas Story," 8 p.m. Nov. 30 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 1, \$4. Santa will be on hand Nov. 30-Dec. 1 for photos

Contact: (313) 537-2560; www.redfordtheatre.com

Music

BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 17

Location: JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: Jeff London hosts the event; Pairadocs Trio is the featured performer; sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m. Eight open mic spots are available and



First place

This oil painting, "A Fine Place for Turtles," won top honors in the Visual Arts Association of Livonia's (VAAL) fall art show, which continues through Saturday, Nov. 17 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center. The artist, Kathleen O'Connell of Dearborn, painted the scene near the Rouge River in Dearborn. Juror Ellen Moucoulis said she awarded the piece first place because it was created with the "old master technique of layering paint." She also liked the "feeling of peace and serenity" portrayed in the landscape. Second place honors went to Allison Kardell of Novi for a mixed media piece. Regina Dunne of Northville took third place for a pastel. Five honorable mentions went to Fred Keebler of Livonia, Tom Lyons of Ann Arbor, Al Weber of Canton, Rosa Paulus of Northville and Gwen Senatore of Novi. For more information about VAAL call (734) 838-1204 or visit www.vaalart.org.

through May. **Contact:** (734) 416-4278

DETROIT THEATER ORGAN SOCIETY

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 18

Location: Senate Theater, 6424 Michigan Ave., near Livernois, Detroit

Details: Melissa Eidson, keyboard artist, will perform a pops concert on the Wurlitzer Theater Pipe Organ. Admission is \$12. Guarded parking is available in the lot directly

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last Tuesday of the month — except December

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

Details: Upcoming performers are Terry Lower Trio with Russ Miller. Miller is an assistant professor in the music department at Wayne State University and has played with several famous jazz artists. Lower will be on keyboard, Jim Ryan on drums, and Ray Tim on bass. 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



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Dion Burke, (left) Chuck Woolley and Mike Fillion get ready to carve at last year's Thanksgiving Day dinner at Newburg United Methodist Church.

Friendly feasts

Local churches welcome guests for Thanksgiving dinner

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Nancy Boyd will set the table for Thanksgiving dinner on Tuesday night.

"She'll prep some vegetables, decorate and maybe take a few photos.

Then, on the big day, she'll greet more than 200 guests and wash dishes after they dine on turkey, all the trimmings, side dishes and pie.

"I love doing this. It makes your heart feel good, especially for those people who don't have family or who have small families," said Boyd, 78. "It's a wonderful mission our church is doing."

The Canton woman is part of a volunteer crew that will make sure Newburg United Methodist Church's second annual community Thanksgiving Day dinner comes off without a hitch on Nov. 22. The free dinner, with seatings at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m., will be held at the church, located at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, in Livonia.

Sarah Nadeau Alexander, youth and young adult ministry coordinator, said Newburg's first holiday dinner last year drew more than 220 individuals and volunteers from as far away as Flint.

"This dinner is free to all and open to anyone who would like to attend, whether families cannot afford the huge dinner setting, or a few people do not want to go through the hassle of putting on a large dinner only for a few to eat," Alexander said, in an e-mail to the *Observer*.

She said the church this year is asking for monetary donations and for volunteers to help before or during Thanksgiving Day. Boyd recalls at least 15 volunteers who were not Newburg members pitched in last year.

"We had a fellow just come in from Afghanistan. He was home on leave and wanted to do something. What a delightful young man he was," Boyd said. "So many people just dropped in to help. It was wonderful."

"I'm thrilled by the whole idea of having a community family dinner for free. I don't have any family here and many times I've gone to friends' homes for Thanksgiving. I'm having two of my friends come to the 4 p.m. seating. And a neighbor is coming. I'll be a greeter at the first seating and I'll eat with them at the second.

"Newburg is my family here and it's a wonderful family."

Boyd said the church plans to place a television screen — turned to football — in the dining room, along with puzzles, coloring books and other activities for children.

Anyone interested in attending the free meal must RSVP by calling the church office at (734) 422-0149.

A handful of other area churches also plan dinners on Thanksgiving Day.

Our Lady of Loretto, 17116 Olympia, Redford will serve a Thanksgiving Day meal from 2-5 p.m. at its family center. The gathering is open to all, but designed for those who don't



Ragen Chick (left) watches as Michelle Hartmann prepares a salad at the community Thanksgiving Dinner last year at Newburg United Methodist Church, in Livonia.



Ray Odum and the Rev. Marsha Woolley get a close-up look at pies made by members of Newburg United Methodist Church last year at its first annual community Thanksgiving Dinner.



Andrew Perez and Jill Perez stock the pie table.

want to eat alone. A love offering will be accepted. Call the church to RSVP at (313) 534-9000. St. Mel's, 7506 Inkster Road, in Dearborn, also will serve dinner at 1 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day.

The focus is on individuals or couples without family or friends in the area, those that might otherwise eat alone on the holiday. RSVP to the church at (734) 422-0149.

Thanksgiving Day: Dine out or cater the turkey dinner

If you don't want to cook on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 22, but still want to feast, here's a sampling of establishments that will serve carry-out fare or will be open for business that day:

• **Morels**, 32729 Northwestern Highway, in Farmington Hills, will serve a take-out only Thanksgiving Day dinner, with pickup scheduled from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day. The minimum order is for six and cost is \$25 per person. The menu will include Organic Spinach Harvest Salad, which includes dried cranberries, roasted pear and red onion, pinenuts, blue cheese and Maple-Mustard dressing; Artisan Cranberry-Walnut Bread and Michigan Inspired Scones; Roasted Michigan-Raised Turkey; Apple & Cherry Savory Dressing; whipped potatoes; pan gravy; Michigan spaghetti squash; Braised Red Cabbage; and Jayme's Pumpkin Cheesecake. Customers can add on Jumbo Shrimp Cocktail with Atomic Cocktail Sauce for \$3.50 each and Morel Mushroom Bisque for \$8 per person. To order, call (248) 254-3840.

• **Genopolis Bar-B-Q Smokehouse**, 27815 Middlebelt Road, Farmington Hills will serve its annual Thanksgiving Day dinner, both carry out and in-house dining. In-house dining will run from noon to 8 p.m. Carry-out orders can be called in any day or evening and picked up starting at noon Thanksgiving Day. There is no order deadline. In addition to the restaurant's regular menu, the special holiday fare includes an oven-roasted turkey dinner with all the trimmings for \$18.99 for adults and \$7.99 per child. Other entrees: St. Louis Smoked Ribs, Honey Glaze Pork Tenderloin, New York Steak, "Greek-town Style" Marinated Lamb Chops, Baked Walnut-Enriched Chicken, Herb Gulf Shrimp Pasta, Stuffed Norwegian Salmon Florentine, and World Famous Montgomery Inn Ribs. Call (248) 851-8222 for carry-out or reservations.

• **Claddagh Irish Pub**, 17800 Haggerty, Livonia will serve a buffet 11 a.m.-7 p.m. The buffet closes one hour after the last seating. The menu will include baked breads and ribs, assorted fruit, carved turkey with trimmings, pan gravy and cranberry sauce, Irish bacon with honey, cherry and pineapple glaze, green bean casserole, candied yams, cranberry and apple stuffing, fresh seasonal vegetables, mashed potatoes, salad bar, balsamic-marinated chicken breast, pasta, an Irish specialty dish, soup and an assortment of desserts. Cost is \$22.95 for adults, \$9.95 for kids ages 5-10, and free for kids, 4 and under. Make reservations at (734) 542-8141.

• **Sweet Lorraine's**, 1700 N. Laurel Park Drive, Livonia, will feature a buffet from 1-6 p.m. Cost is \$34.95 for adults and \$11.95 for children 12-5. The menu will include an apple cider station, soup, carving station with roast turkey and prime rib, an omelet station, a pasta station, salads and sides, smoked salmon on platter, shrimp cocktail, tropical fruit, green bean casserole, butter-nut squash-stuffed pasta, mashed potatoes, herb bread stuffing, asparagus and main courses such as Baked Chick-

en Piccata, Late Harvest Oven-Baked Salmon, Williamsburg Ribs in a Sweet Molasses-BBQ Sauce, and light and dark turkey meat with gravy. A children's mini buffet also will include cocktail franks in puff pastry, pepperoni and cheese pizza stix, chicken fingers, mac & cheese, pretzels and Ted's Grahams. The dessert table will include cake, trifle, torte, a chocolate fountain and more. Make reservations by calling (734) 953-7480.

• **Sive**, at The Inn at St. John's, 44045 Five Mile, Plymouth, will serve a special four-course Thanksgiving Day meal from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Cost is \$49 for adults and \$19 per child. Entree choices include herb-crusted petite filet mignon, chateaufort-dusted sea scallops, braised short ribs, roasted turkey breast, wild boar chop, butter-poached sable, and a surf 'n' turf plated of herb-crusted scallops, lobster tail and crab. Make reservations online at Sive@st.johnsgc.com or by calling (734) 357-5700.

• **Golden Fox and Fox Classic restaurants**, 41661 Fox Hills, 8768 N. Terri-

torial, Plymouth will both offer buffets from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Golden Fox's buffet will include a breakfast station with such items as Pumpkin Cranberry French Toast and Fluffy Scrambled Eggs; a seafood station; soup station with Pumpkin Bisque; salad station; omelet station; carving station; "Old-Fashioned Thanksgiving" pot pie, oven-roasted turkey, beef brisket, tilapia, chicken cutlets and more; and a dessert station. Cost is \$34.95 for adults and \$12.95 for children, 3-12. Children under 3 eat for free.

The Fox Classic will serve cocktail shrimp, Butternut Squash Soup, salads, cranberry sauce, rolls and cornbread, mashed potatoes with gravy, green bean casserole, honey-glazed carrots, mac 'n' cheese, Beef Sheppard's Pie, cornbread stuffing, roasted turkey, ham, and desserts. Cost is \$24.95 for adults and \$10.95 for children, 3-12. Children under 3 eat for free. Call (734) 453-7272 for reservations.

• **Courthouse Grille**, 41661 Plymouth Road, Plymouth will include a roasted turkey dinner on the menu with other items. The turkey dinner costs \$17.99 and the stuffed turkey breast dinner costs \$18.99. Both come with cranberry sauce, gravy, a choice of mashed or sweet potatoes and a choice of green beans almandine or honey-roasted root vegetables. The turkey dinner also includes dried fruit and apple stuffing and the turkey breast comes with a rice and escarole stuffing. Other entrees include honey-roasted ham, scallops, risotto, walleye, prime rib and more. All entrees, include the turkey dinners, are served with rolls, and soup or garden salad. Make reservations by calling (734) 453-2002.

• **Epoch Catering in Novi** offers a Thanksgiving Dinner that serves 10-12 and includes turkey, potatoes, cornbread stuffing, orange-cranberry relish, green beans and rolls for \$159. Desserts are available at an additional price. Order deadline is Friday, Nov. 16. Pick-up times will be assigned between 8 a.m.-11 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day. Call (248) 735-7222.

Tasty tradition

Vegetarian event offers healthful cooking ideas for the holidays

It started as a way to share healthy holiday vegetarian recipes. Twenty-five years later, more than 650 guests sampled some 50 vegetarian and vegan offerings ranging from appetizers and main dishes to salads and desserts on Sunday, Nov. 11 at the Vegetarian Holiday Tasting Extravaganza sponsored by Better-Living Seminars and Metropolitan Seventh-day Adventist Church.

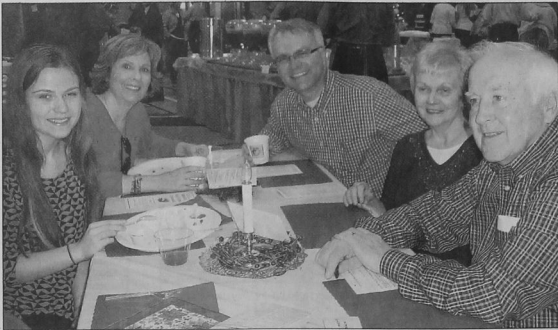
Guests from throughout western Wayne County and west Oakland County sampled home-cooked recipes prepared by volunteer chefs. Smiles, nods and lots of "this taste's great" were heard throughout the gymnasium, which was transformed into a holiday dining room at Metropolitan Adventist Church on Haggerty Road in Northville Township.

Chefs included Jeanie Weaver (event organizer), Ema Roma, Julie Verhelle, Marcia More, Lori Peach, Sue Cross, Rula Karapatsakis, Lucia Modiga, Margi Toppenberg, Heather Arvidson, Maria Matthew, Joy Hyde, Vera Bakewell, Kathy Dukaric, Shirley Brezzell, Stephanie Howard, Connie Vail and Pat Calisti.

Additional chefs were Dolly Diamond, Amber Bayer, Kelli Marquette, Chad and Melissa Higgins, Ellen Higgins, Anna Box, Janet Costew, Sue Parce, Rina Parce, Jonathan Janewski, Yusuke and Miko Kuramoto, Fumio Narita, Yuzuru Ito, Ayumi Uchino, Cheryl Gilbert, Jennifer Barkholz and Julie Chole.

Also contributing food was Charley's Deli Grille and Great Harvest Bread Co.

"The event started



Enjoying this year's Vegetarian Holiday Tasting Extravaganza are Plymouth Township residents and family members (from left) Katharine Rzepecki, Patty Rzepecki, Tom Rzepecki, Terry Rzepecki and Dick Rzepecki. Tom, Patty and Katharine marked their 10th year attending the event while Dick and Terry have attended the last three years.



Natalie Weaver has been a volunteer chef at the event since the taste fest began 25 years ago. Her helper is Ethan Karapatsakis of Canton Township.

because we had a desire to share recipes of good healthy food with friends from the community," said Dr. Arthur Weaver, M.D., and president of Better Living Seminars, a nonprofit organization dedicated to teaching the importance of healthy liv-

ing. "New nutritional research is being published regularly showing the advantages of a balanced vegetarian diet. Scientists are discovering new photochemicals and antioxidants in fruits, grains, vegetables, and



Jeanie Weaver (standing) heads the Vegetarian Holiday Tasting Extravaganza. Also pictured are her father, Dr. Arthur Weaver, of Northville and president of Better Living Seminars, along with taste fest guests Clay and Elnor Raybourn of South Lyon.

nuts that were previously thought nonexistent. These natural compounds have been shown to be anti-carcinogenic, to lower cholesterol, and to significantly reduce many

chronic disease processes such as diabetes, arthritis, and macular degeneration. Every available evidence now indicates that a well-balanced, total vegetarian diet is the



Leigh Diamond of Livonia dishes up samples of Uncle Dave's Biscuits and Gravy, a main dish prepared with soy products.



Hannah Arvidson of South Lyon prepares food in sampling cups for taste fest guests.

best food plan one can choose," wrote Weaver on the group's website.

The event is a family-affair for Weaver. His wife, Natalie, has prepared food for the taste fest since the event started. His daughter, Jeanie Weaver, coordinates the event and also prepared at least four selections at this year's Tasting Extravaganza.

Upcoming events include an International Thanksgiving Vegetarian Potluck at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17 in Metropolitan Adventist Church, and A Christmas Potluck on Saturday, Dec. 8 at 15585 Haggerty Road, Northville Township. For information, call (734) 420-3131 or (734) 420-4044.

Make Thanksgiving Day fare vegan-friendly

Got a vegetarian or vegan sharing your Thanksgiving Day dinner?

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) offers these tips to create a feast that will appeal to meat-eaters, vegetarians and vegans:

- Use vegetable broth in the stuffing.

- Vegans — who eat no dairy foods and no animal products — will thank you for substituting soy milk and margarine for milk and butter in mashed potatoes.

- If you're baking holiday bread, substitute egg replacer and soy milk for eggs and milk. Commercial egg replacers, such as Ener-G Egg Replacer, are available in health food stores and many grocery stores. Or try substituting one banana or ¼ cup applesauce for each egg called for in a recipe for sweet, baked desserts. Make sure bananas or apples are compatible with the other flavors in the dessert. Fruit purées tend to make the final product denser than the original recipe. For a light texture, add an additional ½ teaspoon of baking powder.

- Tofu is the perfect egg substitute for quiches, scrambles and custards. Replace one egg with ¼ cup of tofu purée.

- Save time in the kitchen by asking guests to bring a vegan dish to share.

- Be sure to keep vegan salad dressing on hand. Annie's, Girard's, Brianna's, Newman's, Kraft, and Whole Foods are among the brands that offer some vegan products. The dressing also can be as simple as oil



Apple Bavarian Torte

STEVE LEE STUDIOS

and vinegar.

- Try a vegan turkey alternative. Turkey Roast, Celebration Roast and Garden Holiday Roast are three options available from health food markets and some grocery stores. All contain wheat gluten, however, making them inappropriate for those on gluten-free diets.

Here are a few dessert recipes from PETA to top off your vegan- and vegetarian-friendly holiday meal:

Apple Bavarian Torte

Makes 6-8 servings

- ½ cup plus 1 tablespoon vegan margarine, chilled
- 3 apples, peeled, cored, cut in half, and thinly sliced
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon

½ cup plus ½ cup white sugar, chilled

- 1 teaspoon plus ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup flour, chilled
- 1 8-ounce package nondairy cream cheese (Tofutti or Galaxy brand)

- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- ½ cup sliced almonds

Preheat the oven to 400°F. Oil a 9-inch springform pan. In a skillet over medium heat, melt 1 tablespoon margarine. Toss the apples with the brown sugar and cinnamon and sauté for 2-3 minutes. Drain off and reserve the liquid. Cream together ½ cup margarine, ½ cup white sugar, ½ teaspoon vanilla, and the flour. Press the crust mixture into the bottom of the springform pan.

Set aside. In a food processor, blend together the nondairy cream cheese, lemon juice, ½ teaspoon vanilla, cornstarch, and remaining ½ cup sugar. Pour this mixture over the crust and spread the apples on top. Bake for 40 minutes. Drizzle with a couple of spoonfuls of the reserved apple liquid, avoiding the edges of the pan, and continue baking for 25 minutes. Sprinkle almonds over the top of the torte. Continue baking until lightly browned. Cool before removing from the pan.

Pumpkin Patch "Cheesecake"

Makes 8 servings

- 12 ounces firm silken tofu, puréed
- 8 ounces nondairy cream cheese (Tofutti brand at Tofutti.com)

- 1 cup canned pumpkin
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 3 tablespoons flour
- ½ teaspoon ground ginger
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- 1½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 1 prepared graham cracker crust

Preheat the oven to 350°F.

Purée all the ingredients except the pie crust in a food processor and pour into the graham cracker crust. Bake at 350°F for 50 minutes.

Allow to cool for 30 minutes, cover with plastic wrap or the top of the pie container, and refrigerate for 6 hours or overnight before serving.

Chocolate Bread Pudding With Rum Sauce

Serves 6

For the Pudding:
5 tablespoons cocoa
1 tablespoon hot water
2 cups soy milk
Egg Replacer equivalent of 2 eggs

- 1 cup sugar
- Dash salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 to 3 cups stale bread, torn into small pieces

For the Rum Sauce:
1 cup vegan margarine, softened (try Earth Balance brand)

- 1 cup confectioner's sugar
- ½ cup dark rum
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ½ teaspoon ground nutmeg

Combine the cocoa with the hot water until smooth. Add more water as needed. In a large bowl, combine the cocoa mixture, soy milk, egg replacer, sugar, salt, and vanilla. Mix in the stale bread. Pour into a prepared loaf pan. Bake at 350°F for 1 hour.

Beat the margarine until light and fluffy. Sift the confectioner's sugar into the margarine. Add the rum, vanilla, and nutmeg. Beat on high speed for 5 minutes. Pour over the pudding. Serve warm.

Orange-Cranberry Upside-Down Cake

Makes 6-8 servings

- 6 tablespoons vegan margarine, plus more for greasing the pan (try Earth Balance brand)
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon almond
- 1 tablespoon grated orange zest
- 1½ cups fresh cranberries
- Egg replacer equivalent to 1 egg

- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Juice of 1 orange
- ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1½ teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ cup soy milk

Preheat the oven to 350°F, making sure that a rack is in the center. Generously grease an 8-inch round cake pan with margarine and set aside. Whisk together ½ cup of the sugar with the cinnamon, allspice, and orange zest. Sprinkle evenly over the bottom of the pan. Arrange the cranberries in a single layer on top and set aside.

In a large bowl, cream the 6 tablespoons of margarine and the remaining ½ cup of sugar for several minutes with an electric mixer until well blended. Add the egg replacer, vanilla, and orange juice. Beat again.

In a separate bowl, sift together the flour, baking powder, and salt. With the mixer on low speed, add the flour mixture to the margarine mixture in three batches, alternating with the soy milk and blending well after each addition.

Pour over the cranberries and smooth the top. Place on a baking sheet on a rack in the center of the oven and bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, approximately 30 to 35 minutes. Remove from the oven and let cool on a wire rack for 30 minutes. Run a knife around the edge of the cake and invert onto a

REAL ESTATE

Builders, remodelers see outlook for 'cautious optimism'

Politics can surface on boards

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

A statewide survey of homebuilders and remodelers showed significant improvement in the building industry's outlook as the Michigan Housing Index (MHI) reached its highest level in the 2 and a half year history of the index. The MHI, covering the third quarter of 2012, showed a sharp increase from the second quarter index, and was significantly higher than the same period one year ago. The latest Michigan Housing Index covers the time period of July through September 2012.

"The trend lines have been positive, so it is encouraging to see an outlook for building continues to improve," said Robert Filka, CEO of the Home Builders Association of Michigan (HBAM), which conducts the monthly survey. "We've got a long way to go before we see anything near normal historical production, but things are definitely headed in the right direction."

The Michigan Housing Index (MHI) is a quarterly summary of building and remodeling

DETAILS

Following is a year-to-year comparison of the MHI Index:

	Sept. 2012	June 2012	September 2011
Builders Index	52	38	31
Remodelers Index	50	40	45

activity compiled by HBAM. The survey asks builders about the number of homes currently under construction and in the planning stages. Builders are also asked to evaluate their prospects for future customers. Totals are calculated in an index that is reported quarterly to provide a tracking mechanism for the industry's process. The survey breaks down builder/remodeler sentiment into three categories:

- Less than 45 (pessimistic)
 - 45-55 (cautious optimism)
 - Above 55 (optimism)
- "While it is good to note that Michigan homebuilders and remodelers are cautiously optimistic about the next few months, our overall economy has not seen more rapid and sustained growth for a complete

recovery of our housing industry," said Filka.

Filka also noted there remains much concern within the homebuilding industry over the possibility that Congress and the president could begin overhauling the federal tax code in 2013, which could threaten some of the most important tools that encourage home ownership, including the ability for consumers to deduct mortgage interest.

"We must protect the mortgage interest deduction," said Filka. "We shouldn't change the rules on the one tax break that has been most important in creating a stable middle class in America. A strong housing market is not only important to help more Michigan citizens realize the dream of homeownership, but is essential to revitalizing Michigan's economy. When builders are constructing homes that means jobs and investment, which provide a better quality of life and support for Michigan schools and municipalities."

The Michigan Housing Index combines results of a monthly survey of Michigan builders and remodelers along with a series of economic statistics including single family home permits, crude oil prices, automobile production and employment. The HBAM Michigan Housing Index is intended to provide an accurate projection of the future direction of the building and remodeling housing market in Michigan.

The Home Builders Association of Michigan is a professional trade association comprised of 27 local homebuilder associations around the state and their builder, subcontractor and supplier members. HBAM works to positively promote the building industry and impact legislative, regulatory and legal issues affecting housing affordability.

Q: I am a member of a board of a condominium where the majority is operating under their selfish best interests. As part of that, they hired a new attorney, instead of our old attorney who had represented the association in many areas including in an issue against the new-treasurer of our association. Now the new attorney is bad mouthing the old attorney and the board doesn't seem to care. What can I do?



Robert Meisner

A: Apparently, the new attorney, whether he or she has justification or not, should not be unnecessarily impugning the old attorney, and is probably doing so to gain the favor of the majority of the board who, from what you have said, had an ax to grind against the old attorney for their own self-serving purposes. Unfortunately, there are some associations who have directors whose ego and/or lack of knowledge supersede their best judgment and operate in their own selfish best interests. Get the co-owners to make a petition to remove these directors, pointing out that they are not operating in the best interests of the association, and are breaching their fiduciary duty, which includes hiring an attorney who lacks the demeanor of what is expected of a reputable attorney.

Q: I know this is somewhat of a complex question, but I am a designer of a biomass heating system and was hired by a contractor to install a boiler as part of a system of a high school. I wasn't paid and the contractor told me a Mechanic's Lien against the school. He claimed that his right to file a Mechanic's Lien turned on whether his materials and labor were intended to become a permanent part of the real estate. Although the boiler was physically annexed to the building and specifically adapted to the needs of the school, my agreement with the school provided that the property remained the property of mine and would be removed on termination of the agreement. Does the contractor have a right to claim a Mechanic's Lien?

A: Based upon a case on a similar fact pattern in Maine, the court held that because neither the designer nor the school intended that the system would become a permanent part of the real estate, the contractor had no right to file a Mechanic's Lien. You should check with your own state to determine what the results would be.

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 *Contract Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium*, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping/handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmesner@mesner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

Businessman in '40 Under 40' class

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) announced that Ben Templeton Building Co. in Birmingham has been named to *Professional Remodeler* magazine's 40 Under 40 Class of 2012. Templeton serves on BIA's Board of Directors and on the association's NAHB Regional Professional Remodelers Council where he will be chairman in 2013.

Templeton, 31, is vice president of his home building and remodeling company. He earned a bachelor of science degree in technical communication from Lawrence Technological University before beginning his career. A firm believer in the benefits of education, he not only holds a Residential Lead Painter License from the state of Michigan, but has enhanced his business acumen by earning industry-specific designations from the National Association of Home Builders including Certified Graduate Builder (CGB), Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR) and Certi-

fied Green Professional (CGP). Classes for these designations are offered locally at BIA offices.

"Ben is not only an up and coming professional in the eyes of *Professional Remodeler* magazine," said Michael Stumpf, CEO of BIA, "but one of the bright stars in our membership. Ben is always ready to contribute new ideas to the association and the remodelers council and to volunteer the time and energy it takes to implement these ideas. We are lucky to have him in our ranks."

Templeton feels that one of his most significant achievements to date is implementing a successful marketing program for his company that includes a mix of traditional strategies along with social media outreach. Additionally, he has opened Templeton Commercial Division to expand the company beyond its already wide scope that includes residential remodeling, new home construction, service and a

custom cabinetry and furniture division.

While these significant accomplishments continue to positively impact the success of Templeton Building, Templeton knows that another important tool to help his business grow is ongoing and impactful networking. "Staying in touch with other business people in the area, learning what they do and sharing what I do is one of the best ways I know of to keep my business on a growth path," he said. "To make this happen, the area where I live and work, I launched the Business Professionals of Birmingham Bloomfield Hills. It continues to be one of the most valuable ways to gain new business."

Ben is married to Kate Sielski Templeton. In February of this year they became proud parents to their first child, Zachary Benjamin Templeton.

Headquartered in West Bloomfield, Building Industry Association of SE Michigan (BIA) and Apartment Association of Michigan (AAM) are



Ben Templeton

trade associations representing nearly 500 builders, remodelers, multi-family property owners, developers and suppliers to the single family and multi-family residential construction industry. BIA is affiliated with the Michigan Association of Home Builders in Lansing and the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 6-10, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

42715 S1686.00
42715 Plymouth Dr \$242,000
5506 Empire State Dr \$235,000
7881 Hamlet Ct \$220,000
46848 Larchmont Dr \$238,000
42475 Lilley Court Dr \$55,000
45478 Millfield Dr \$133,000
3378 Niagara Ave \$224,000
8440 Orhan St \$111,000
2399 Premier Ln \$77,000
3271 Riverside Ct \$150,000

47660 Royal Pointe Dr \$195,000
15279 Rustic Ridge Rd \$110,000
1399 Stonebridge Way \$350,000
17050 Stonebridge Way \$395,000
GARDEN CITY
29701 Brandt Ct \$34,000
70561 Carlwell St \$63,000
6270 Henry Ruff Rd \$59,000
31682 Leona St \$38,000
61042 Lathurs St \$52,000
30840 Mosslyn Ave \$68,000
LIVONIA
33727 Angeline Ave \$215,000
14504 Fox Hills Dr \$80,000
14998 Arden St \$95,000
14918 Brookfield St \$170,000
32052 Cambridge St \$77,000
36250 Club Dr \$285,000
18262 Deering St \$69,000
17475 Doris St \$150,000
9941 E Clements Cir \$95,000
30123 Fairfax St \$65,000

31034 Fargo St \$165,000
8929 Floral St \$25,000
36095 Hees St \$120,000
17005 Houghton Dr \$235,000
10790 Laurel St \$80,000
14096 Mayfield St \$170,000
15611 Mayfield St \$140,000
18451 Pershing St \$60,000
14562 Ronnie Ln \$124,000
31615 Sunset Martins St \$162,000
16912 Surrey St \$124,000
NORTHVILLE
18078 Blue Heron Dr W \$362,000
16041 Brook Trout Ln \$235,000
42431 Cypress Point Dr \$50,000
42280 Old Bedford Rd \$250,000
39472 Sugar Spring Rd \$117,000
42654 Waterford Rd \$320,000
PLYMOUTH
49792 Cooke Ave \$375,000
44071 Pinetree Dr \$175,000
49463 Pointe Xing \$176,000

13390 Wendover Dr \$124,000
REDFORD
18728 Centralia \$28,000
9984 Park Ave \$61,000
15571 Kinloch \$35,000
5931 Creekside Dr \$45,000
25421 Pembroke Ave \$55,000
25510 Schoolcraft \$72,000
15828 Weston \$130,000
WESTLAND
32561 Benson Dr \$105,000
7650 Cherrywood Dr \$185,000
24761 Creekside Dr \$205,000
6411 Dehurst Dr \$55,000
310 Fisher Dr \$160,000
33546 Hivley St \$35,000
30365 Marshall Ct \$75,000
1703 N Crown St \$95,000
10177 Shoemaker Dr \$21,000
22710 W Miller Cir \$103,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 23-27, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS

19400 Beverly Rd \$350,000
31119 Old Stage Rd \$350,000
BIRMINGHAM
24078 Bingham Pointe Dr \$280,000
1019 Birmingham Blvd \$268,000
1919 Chesfield Ave \$850,000
1010 Chestnut St \$278,000
1173 Davis Ave \$414,000
24249 Rochester Rd \$421,000
473 E Southlawn Blvd \$285,000
1601 Forest Ave \$345,000
1901 Greenfield Rd \$80,000
542 Green St \$261,000
1932 Northlawn Blvd \$270,000
1927 Pembroke Rd \$595,000
1270 Pierce St \$291,000
18492 Ruffin Ave \$421,000
1735 Shipman Blvd \$324,000
471 Smith Ave \$227,000
13375 Steeles Blvd \$285,000
1678 Yosemite Blvd \$321,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

1635 Franklin Hills Dr \$328,000
2793 Brady Ln \$205,000
6946 Cathedral Dr \$130,000
11780 Kingsgate Blvd \$55,000
1155 Thurber Rd \$95,000
100 W Hickory Grove Rd #7, \$41,000
2091 W Valley Rd #1, \$1,825,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP
1370 Bramblebush Run \$157,000
1495 E Fox Hills Dr \$52,000
1231 Fox Chase Rd \$300,000
5304 Kellen Ln \$455,000
4879 Kingsgate Blvd \$250,000
4525 N Cranbrook Rd \$727,000
4527 N Cranbrook Rd \$725,000
4529 Cranbrook Cross Rd \$195,000
14249 Invercrest Dr \$287,000
3873 Topline Ct \$250,000
2905 W Hickory Grove Rd \$216,000
COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP
2253 Brigantine \$40,000
9171 Chaumont Dr \$91,000
1893 Cheshire Ln \$60,000
3754 Heartland Blvd \$195,000
242 Palmetto \$195,000
1083 Penarth St \$115,000
1486 Solon Dr \$50,000
FARMINGTON
23191 Farmington Rd \$77,000

FARMINGTON HILLS

36624 Lansbury Ln \$142,000
31700 Belmont St \$120,000
37046 Birchwood Ct \$306,000
37571 Burton St \$215,000
30712 Charleston Ct \$178,000
29739 Eldred St \$39,000
30175 Foxfire Ct \$107,000
111 Kimberley Ct \$235,000
26065 La Muera St \$138,000
1142 Riverside Dr \$230,000
23840 Scott Dr \$160,000
35887 Springvale St \$181,000
31200 Sturbridge St \$230,000
39521 Sugar Spring Rd \$155,000
37800 Wye Lee St \$75,000
LATHRUP VILLAGE
18117 Rosa Blvd \$91,000
MILFORD
1561 Murray Ct \$315,000
1142 Riverside Dr \$300,000
NOVI
41888 Aspen Dr \$96,000
27459 Belgrave Pl \$215,000
30981 Centennial Dr \$128,000
22187 Chase Dr \$440,000
41816 Chartman St \$250,000
5066 Chippewa Dr \$206,000
50721 Chesapeake Dr \$765,000
29344 Douglas Dr \$180,000
26304 Eaststone Dr \$286,000
23070 Harvest Ln \$185,000
28078 Haven Dr \$148,000

23546 Hickory Grove Ln \$190,000
24154 Loganberry Rdg N \$171,000
24502 Nottingham Dr \$280,000
24761 Creekside Dr \$205,000
24516 Simmons Dr \$195,000
44881 Stockton Dr \$84,000
44887 Stockton Dr \$84,000
30486 Tanglevood Dr \$152,000
24939 White Plains Dr \$320,000
28237 Wolcott Dr \$84,000
8384 Dixie Run \$235,000
24624 Brompton Way \$310,000
24707 Brompton Way \$324,000
59231 Creekside Dr \$205,000
23605 Country Club Dr \$135,000
556 Covington St \$105,000
57679 Deere Ct \$245,000
127 Easton Dr \$245,000
53741 Edgewood Dr \$25,000
52744 Trailwood Dr \$125,000
8384 Dixie Run \$235,000
Southfield
21180 Independence Dr \$112,000
24299 Lathrup Blvd \$59,000
18601 Providence Dr #10B \$80,000
16412 Stratford Dr \$45,000
20177 Wexford Dr \$143,000
White Lake
4642 Coastal Pkwy \$38,000
8950 Huron Bluffs Dr \$383,000
9122 Sandy Ridge Dr \$235,000
8010 Springdale Dr \$155,000

Help Wanted - General

Administrative/ Medical Staff Assistant
A small independent surgical vessel hospital is seeking a candidate with excellent communication skills, has experience transcribing, meeting minutes, maintaining credential files (CPCU/CNMA), has good organization and computer skills and is a team player. Start time position 8 days per week. Email resume at: hmacost@ah.org or fax to Quality Controller at 248-327-0915

AUTO PORTER
Gordon Chevrolet Used Car Dept. Full-time position. Come in to fill out application at 31100 Four Rd. Garden City.

CAR WASH HELP
FT in Plymouth. Must be mechanically inclined. Apply in person 15065 N. Snodgrass Rd, Plymouth

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Fax: (248) 590-5211

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Fax 734-456-3099

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Help Wanted - General

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Our downtown Detroit CPA firm is expanding and seeking highly motivated, hard working CPAs to join our team. If you are considering a job change and want an opportunity to be a leader in a CPA practice, we are looking for you. We need a top tier candidate at the senior and manager level. Qualified applicants must have recent CPA experience. Only working in a fast paced environment, be a self-starter and possess excellent oral and written communication skills as well as people skills.
An advance degree in accounting, along with knowledge in planning, mergers, developing a working relationship with clients and demonstrating leadership and communication skills prior and written are required for each position.

AUDIT MANAGER
The manager must have at least three to five years of experience and will be responsible for managing accounting and auditing engagements as well as relationships with clients. The manager will also participate in the planning process for engagements, coordinate activities with clients, supervise the performance of field work, review work papers and financial statements and ensure results to client management.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT
The senior accountant must have at least three years of experience and will be responsible for planning engagements, reviewing and analyzing client financials and preparing audit programs, identifying and resolving audit issues and developing a working relationship with clients. This position will serve as a mentor to other staff accountants.

Applicants should have prior experience in quality of employee benefit plans, government units, and not-for-profit organizations. In addition, experience in preparing and reviewing Form 990 and Form 5000 is a plus, but not a requirement.

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734-464-2211

Help Wanted - General

Early Education Position
Preschool in Farmington Hills, MI is seeking a lead teacher, assistant teacher & lunch coordinator.
Lead Teacher
Must hold pre-primary cert. from an accredited prog. & have 3 yrs high working in a Montessori classroom.
Assistant Teacher
Must have 2 yrs exp working as a Montessori classroom.
Lunch Coordinator
Should have some knowledge of preparing lunches or be willing to train.
Please send letter of interest and email to: chmsth@gmail.com

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

Engineer: Johnson Controls, Inc. is seeking professionals to fill Product Design Engineer positions in Plymouth. Will coordinate design and development and develop test and support during design reviews with Market, Purchasing, and Quality divisions, oversee integration of design development including all support groups, conduct DFMEA, identify deficiencies and incorporate corrective actions, and track cost of the design. US22 exp. & CAD language. Req. a BS of major U.S. exp. & up to 20% travel w/in North America. Send resume to Elizabeth Barz, JCI, 5727 N. Green Bay Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53209. Must reference job code PDE-PMF when applying EEO

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

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Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

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Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

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