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**PIANIST COMES HOME, B6**

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**Slavens' seats**

State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, has received her committee seats for the new legislative session.

Slavens, elected to her third and final term in November, will sit on the committees for family, children and seniors and for military and veterans affairs.

She had hoped for a minority chair spot, but she didn't get one.

She had also hoped to sit on the health policy committee, but was denied that seat, as well.

"Having a health background, I'd be a benefit to that committee, but they didn't choose to put me on it," Slavens said. "You'd think they'd want people with medical backgrounds, but that committee doesn't really have many people like that."

**Whalers blood**

The Plymouth Whalers are teaming up with the American Red Cross to host a blood drive from noon to 6 p.m. Friday at Computare Arena.

Anyone attempting to give blood will receive a \$12 Whalers ticket. More importantly, Whalers officials said, there is an urgent need of blood after Monday's bad weather canceled four blood drives just in the Detroit area.

Computare Arena is located at 14900 Beck in Plymouth Township.

**School board interviews**

The six remaining members of the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education will begin the task of finding a replacement for former trustee Barry Simescu with the first round of interviews Monday evening.

The board will meet 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 4, in the board meeting room at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Haney in Plymouth.

The board received 26 applications from Plymouth-Canton residents hoping to fill the seat Simescu vacated a couple of weeks ago due to increased responsibilities at work.

The board will do a short interview with each applicant on Monday. Trustees will then determine their top three finalists and bring them back for a second interview.

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**Lawyer: Charges against mom 'defy explanation'**

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

A Detroit attorney vowed Friday to file a motion asking a Wayne County Circuit Court judge to dismiss criminal charges against a former Canton mother whose 19-month-old son died after he swallowed a pill used for purposes such as treating heroin addiction.

Attorney Michael Rataj said he plans to file his motion by mid-February because he believes the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office erred by charging 20-year-old Andrea Nicole Rodgers with involuntary manslaughter and second-degree child abuse.

"We're going to fight this," Rataj said. "This case is so overcharged it defies explanation. They didn't pour salt in this girl's wounds. They poured acid in her wounds."

Rataj's remarks came as Rodgers and her former boyfriend, 25-year-old Ryan Keith Moody, face trial April 18 in Judge Gregory Bill's courtroom. The defendants face the same charges amid allegations Silas Rodgers died early June 9 after he ingested a prescription drug, Suboxone, that authorities say was carelessly stored in the Maben Road home where the couple once lived.

Moody's attorney, Jeffrey Osment, couldn't be reached Wednesday morning, but Rataj said he believes Osment intends to fight the charges against Moody.

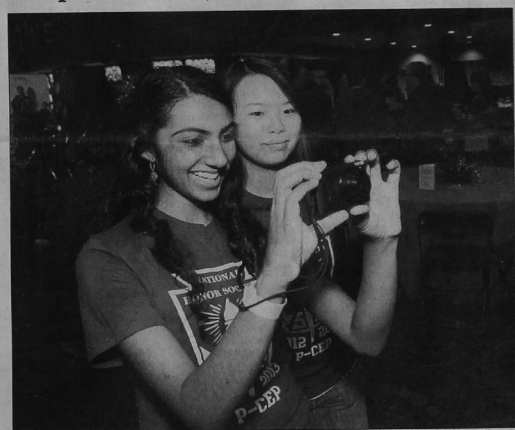
Rataj said his motion will ask Bill to dismiss charges that, with a conviction, are punishable by 15 years in prison. Rataj said Rodgers was a good mother who properly cared for her child.

Please see **CHARGES, A2**



Andrea Nicole Rodgers and Ryan Keith Moody appeared before 35th District Court Michael Gerou on charges they caused the death of Rodgers' 18-month-old son.

**Star power**



National Honor Society volunteers Rupa Ramanathan and Becky Situ photograph the "stars" at Canton's ninth annual Magical Night with the Stars fundraiser to benefit Gleaners Community Food Bank and Open Door Ministry. They are both juniors at Plymouth High School. For the story and more photos, please turn to page A6.

**Parks' friend headlines Black History program**

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Civil rights icons Rosa Parks and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will be celebrated as the Canton Public Library rolls out special programs and displays for February, Black History Month.

Detroit attorney and award-winning author Gregory J. Reed, who worked to secure Parks the Medal of Freedom and a postage stamp issued to honor the 100th anniversary of her birthday on Feb. 4, brings a wealth of knowledge after he



Reed

served as her lawyer, traveled with her and became her close friend.

Reed is set to speak at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 7, at the Canton library, 1200 S. Canton Center. The event is free and open to the public.

"The presentation will cover the inner person Mrs. Parks was, what she stood for and her relationship to all people — the many sides of her that

some people have never seen," Reed said during a telephone interview.

Parks, her struggle for civil rights and her refusal to give up her bus seat to a white man touched off a boycott of public buses in Montgomery, Ala., and, ultimately, a larger push for equal rights. She continues to inspire young people even now, Reed said.

"The story lives on," he said. "People recognize that we should all be treated as human beings."

Please see **HISTORY, A2**

**Foundation chief plans to retire**

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

After a 19-year stint leading the Canton Community Foundation and helping to raise money for initiatives ranging from student scholarships to food pantries, CCF President Joan Noricks has confirmed she plans to retire.

Noricks hasn't announced her departure date, saying she intends to remain to help the 15-member board develop a transition plan for a foundation she said has \$1.7 million in assets.

Yet, she publicly revealed her plans Sunday night during the foundation's Magical Night with the Stars fundraiser at the Canton Emagine Theater to benefit the Gleaners Community Food Bank and a Canton-based food pantry, Open Door Ministry.

Jerry Grady, who chairs the 15-member CCF board, lauded Noricks for her efforts to make the foundation a viable organization that has made a tangible difference in Canton.

Please see **NORICKS, A2**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton Community Foundation chair Jerry Grady announced Sunday at Canton's Magical Night with the Stars that Executive Director Joan Noricks is retiring from the foundation.

**NORICKS**

Continued from page A1

"I think Joan has delivered our message and our vision effectively," he said Monday. "She has been a strong leader in that area."

**Veteran help**

Grady credited Noricks with uniting nonprofits, spearheading a summit to help war veterans learn of benefits available to them and helping the CCF improve its financial position despite tough economic times.

"She's done a very good job at the helm," he said. "She convinced people to stay the course with her vision. She knew we were trying to be the philanthropic leader in the community, and she made sure she delivered on that message."

Noricks began as the foundation's executive director in 1994 and was named president four years later. Even before she was hired, she had worked over two years as a volunteer bookkeeper and intake worker for CCF.

Open Door Ministry Director Steve Darr recalled nearly a decade ago when he and wife Jackie sought out help for the then-fledgling food pantry. He said Noricks has consistently helped their way from the foundation and by spreading the word of

**Open Door's mission.**

"She's been a huge help to us," Darr said. "It has been a very good relationship. There were so many people contacted with us talking with Joan Noricks. She has been a behind-the-scenes person to let people know about Open Door Ministry." Darr recalled a time when the foundation and donors Jim and Linda Demmer bought a walk-in cooler to help Open Door Ministry with storage space for its food. Noricks, meanwhile, said she has decided to retire and spend more time with her husband of 40 years, Dennis, their three children and four grandchildren. "I want to spend more time with my family," she said Monday.

Noricks also wants to focus on her hobbies of sewing and gardening. During her stint as president, she made an unsuccessful bid for Canton Township elected office, but she lost in 2008 to Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin who became a contentious race.

As the stock market started to plummet around 2008, Noricks said foundation donations began falling off compared to better years when corporate donations were stronger. "It's difficult to fund raise, there's no doubt," Noricks said.

**Maintaining ground**

Moreover, a tough economy has been coupled with a decision by state officials to eliminate the tax credit for donors. Despite the challenges, Grady said the foundation has maintained its assets.

Noricks said the foundation has assets around \$1.7 million, compared to a slight debt she said she inherited when she became executive director, at a time when she described the board as "fractured."

She said it wasn't just her efforts — but the board and the foundation's supporters — that gradually led to a turnaround for the foundation.

Noricks said the foundation has donated over \$500,000 for scholarships for some 600 students, and it was involved in efforts such as funding a \$20,000 feasibility study for what was to become the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

After advising the CCF board of making her public announcement that she is leaving, Noricks said she has begun to send out letters to foundation fund-holders and significant stakeholders. Grady, meanwhile, said the board has begun discussions about the foundation's future should be.

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**35th court exec moves to new jurisdiction**

By Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

Through more than two decades working in places where many "customers" don't want to be, Debra Kubitsky has maintained a calm demeanor and a businesslike approach to her job.

Now Kubitsky, a 35th District Court employee for nearly 20 years and the court administrator for eight, is taking that professionalism to Livingston County, where she is the new administrator in 53rd District Court.

Kubitsky, whose last day in the Plymouth court was Friday, recently spoke of her love for the area, and her job, while also saying it was time for her to move forward.

"After almost 20 years here, you develop friends," Kubitsky said. "I love Plymouth. I love Northville. The downtown area is great, so I'll miss that."

"You've seen everybody grow up," she added. "A lot of people have had grandkids or had kids. It becomes a family almost."

**Back again**

That would apply to Kubitsky herself, who started in 35th District Court as a college intern, returned as a volunteer probation officer and then returned again as a regular probation officer in 1993 after more than three years as a probation officer in Oak Park. She also met her husband Tom Kubitsky, a retired Westland police sergeant, when he worked as a court security officer.

"He's Mr. Mom," she said of her husband. "He's retired again." In the local court, which serves the cities of Plymouth and Northville plus Plymouth, Northville and Canton townships, Kubitsky, with the help of the District Court Authority, oversaw about 40 employees, a budget of a little more than \$4 million and a workload of about 35,000 cases a year. The court handles smaller civil cases, traffic offenses, misdemeanors and felony arraignments and preliminary hearings.

Falling revenue has led to some budget cuts in recent years, and Kubitsky's own



BILL BRESLER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Debra Kubitsky, the court administrator at 35th District Court in Plymouth, which serves Plymouth, Canton and Northville, is leaving for a similar job with Livingston County's 53rd District Court.

job has been part time for about four years.

"I love what I do. I work with a lot of great people," she said. Kubitsky said she knew in college — she majored in public administration at Central Michigan University — that she wanted to work in the legal system. She earned a master's degree, also in public administration, from Eastern Michigan University in 2004.

"I knew at some point I wanted to grow into court administration," she said.

**Bang-up job**

Judge Ron Lowe, the court's senior judge, said Kubitsky has "done a bang-up job all the time" and has a professionalism that "demanded performance" from employees, judges and everyone with whom she worked.

"I'm going to miss her professionalism when she was handling things," Lowe said. "I felt she was organized in knowing what was going on... We had things run better here."

Kubitsky was a probation officer when the former district court building was destroyed in a July 1997 fire; the cur-

rent building opened three years later on the same site. The court had to rebuild the paper files destroyed in the blaze, with the help of electronic records, and set up temporary quarters, but Kubitsky doesn't remember it as a chaotic time.

"There were answers quickly," she said. "The leadership was quick to resolve where we were going to be, what we were going to do."

In her new job, Kubitsky will manage a court with a jurisdiction made up of all of Livingston County. Her new court, like 35th District Court, has three judges and a similar case load, but has two locations, one in Brighton and another in Howell.

"She's real excited about the opportunity, and I think it's going to be a great one for her," Lowe said.

Pam Avdolous, the court controller, has been named interim court administrator until a permanent replacement for Kubitsky is chosen, Lowe said.

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**CHARGES**

Continued from page A1

"I'm outraged by this (case)," he said. "This is ridiculous. This was an accident. This isn't manslaughter. She loved that baby."

Yet now-retired Canton Detective Tim Wright testified in November during a preliminary examination in 35th District Court that June 9 wasn't the first time the child had gotten his hands on Moody's prescription drugs, which Wright

said were kept in a plastic storage container near a bed.

Moreover, Wright said Rodgers had previously taken Silas for medical treatment after he ingested a pill.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Keisha Glenn has called it "gross negligence" that Moody and Rodgers didn't keep prescription drugs out of the child's reach. Glenn said the boy's death could have been easily prevented.

Rataj said Rodgers had been "misled" about why

Suboxone is used. He also said she trusted her then-boyfriend to properly store his medication.

Rataj called it unconscionable that authorities charged Rodgers "when she had just lost her baby."

In ordering Rodgers and Moody to stand trial, 35th District Judge Michael Gerou said in November the couple "had a duty to properly store toxic medication."

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**HISTORY**

Continued from page A1

Reed also has traveled to South Africa, where he served as a personal escort for anti-apartheid activist and former President Nelson Mandela. Reed plans to bring to Canton books he penned about Parks, such as Qui-

et Strength; the Faith, the Hope and the Heart of a Woman Who Changed a Nation. One of Reed's new books is Obama Talks Back Global Lessons: A Dialogue With America's Young Leaders. Laurie Golden, the library's marketing and communications manager, said Black History Month also is being celebrated with

a Dr. King march-to-freedom display on loan from the Detroit-based Charles H. Wright Museum of African-American History.

Many people aren't aware that King debuted his "I Have a Dream" speech in Detroit before he delivered it in Washington, D.C. For more on Canton Public Library programs, go to www.cantonpl.org or call (734) 397-0999.

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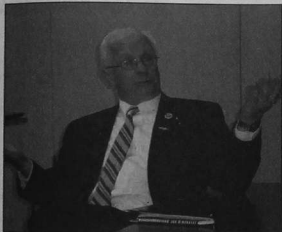
# Bentivolio talks small business at roundtable

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

Kerry Bentivolio is taking his act on the road. Bentivolio, the freshman 11th District U.S. representative from Milford, brought what he called his "listeners tour" to the Plymouth District Library, where he talked with a couple of dozen visitors about debt, the business climate and a variety of other issues at his first Small Business Roundtable.

In the first weeks of his term, Bentivolio has been given a seat on the House Small Business Committee, charged with "protecting and assisting small businesses" and dealing with issues related to small business financial aid, regulatory flexibility and paperwork reduction.

Bentivolio is beginning to embark on a quest to find out on which issues his constituents would like him to focus. "This is one of the things we want to do, to get these roundtables



U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio, recently named to the House Small Business Committee, hosted the first of what he hopes is a series of "small business roundtables" Monday night. The first one was at the Plymouth District Library.

started," Bentivolio told those gathered for the first one. "I don't want to do the talking. I want to hear from you where you think my focus should be."

He spent nearly 90 minutes talking about business regulation, the national debt, the fiscal cliff and other issues. Attendees peppered him with questions about

paperwork and taxes, small business loans and other issues.

And, while answering those questions, Bentivolio held court on several issues:

- **Obamacare.** The freshman congressman said he's developing an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would prohibit the government from taxing Americans

who do not participate in commerce. He said the amendment would keep the government from the tax included in Obamacare for those who don't get health insurance.

- **This would basically defeat U.S. Supreme Court Justice (John) Roberts's decision,** said Bentivolio, who said the amendment is still being vetted and would be rolled out "soon."

- **The fiscal cliff.** Bentivolio said he supported the vote to extend the deadline three months, but that he wants to see definite cuts when the 90-day extension is up.

- **The debt ceiling.** "I don't want to raise the debt ceiling without serious cuts," Bentivolio said. "They're not coming up with cuts."

- **Government's role in business.** "Government interference is a problem," he said. "You've got to get the government to let you do your thing."

- **He also said he's working to introduce legislation formerly introduced by Rep. Ron Paul.** The Protect Small Business Jobs Act would, according to Bentivolio, give small businesses found in violation of a federal regulation a six-month grace period to comply before being sanctioned.

While Bentivolio said he'd hoped for a larger crowd, most of the people in attendance seemed to like what they heard. "I thought it was useful," said Mark Wira, a business owner from Plymouth. "He's hop-

ing to improve the Small Business Administration, hoping to make the government a little more transparent. He's working to bring some stability to government to give people more confidence about investing in the future."

Bentivolio's office is planning more roundtables throughout the district, though spokesman Matt Chisholm said Tuesday no schedule had been solidified. Anyone interested in hosting or participating in future roundtables can contact Melanie Collinsworth in Bentivolio's district office, either via email at melanie.collinsworth@mail.house.gov or calling (248) 859-2982.

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## Seniors celebrate with High Tea

Community members of all ages are encouraged to attend the Canton Senior Center Valentine's High Tea Event 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, in the Summit on the Park's Maple Room.

Participants can enjoy a special Valentine's celebration at this afternoon tea party, which will feature finger sandwiches, cream scones, desserts and, of course, tea—all provided by Victoria's Tea Salon.

Organizers point out the term "high tea" is often used in the United

States to refer to afternoon tea or a "tea party," which most often is a festive, ritualized gathering where tea, thin sandwiches and little cakes are served. Registration for this Valentine's Day High Tea is \$16 for Canton residents and \$21 for non-residents. Sign up at Cantonfun.org or by calling (734) 394-5460.

The Canton Senior Center provides year-round social, recreational, and educational activities and also serves as an information resource for those 55 and older. The center is

operated by Canton Township and offers a wide variety of programs, trips and special events, activities and classes for free or at low-cost.

Through the Senior Alliance, Canton's Senior Center also plays an advocacy role for seniors at the local, state and federal level.

The Summit on the Park is located at 46000 Summit Parkway. For more information on this Valentine's High Tea Celebration, hosted by Canton Leisure Services Senior Center, call (734) 394-5485.

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# PUBLIC SAFETY

## Serving Plymouth

Firefighter Scott Rice has been with the Northville/Plymouth fire department for three years. Before that, he served 21 years as a paid-on-call firefighter for both the Plymouth City and Plymouth Community Fire Departments. Over the years Rice has immersed himself in the Plymouth community, volunteering countless hours to numerous local causes. Rice is respected by his peers for his attention to detail, motivation, and love of the fire service. Rice began working as a vehicle mechanic with the United Parcel Service in 1986, and rose to his current position of Fleet Manager. He graduated from Plymouth-Salem High School and Ferris State University. Rice is married and has two children. He is certified Firefighter 1&2, Hazmat Operations, Medical First Responder and Fire Pump Operator 1&2.



## CANTON CRIME WATCH

### Too much 9-1-1

Canton police took a 59-year-old man into custody Sunday amid allegations he made numerous 9-1-1 calls to the police station and then refused to answer the door when officers arrived, a police report said.

Police received a call about 11:45 a.m. for a well-being check at a residence on Iron Gate, northeast of Sheldon and Warren. A police report indicated the resident had made 15 calls to the police station.

When officers arrived, they heard him yelling from inside the house for them to get off his property. They initially left but began receiving other 9-1-1 calls a short time later.

Officers returned to the house along with firefighters and finally forced their way into the house. The resident was taken into custody because he had earlier warrants for assaulting a police officer and missing 9-1-1 services.

### Home invasion

A 49-year-old Canton man told police he learned he had been the victim of a home invasion on Muirfield, southwest of Cherry Hill and Canton Center, before he returned home late Sunday night from an out-of-town trip.

The man notified police that he found his garage door open and went inside to find the front door of his home also was open. A police report indicated that someone had gone upstairs and taken a safe containing money. The victim also told police other cash and jewelry had been taken.

In surveying the house for missing items, police noticed the man had numerous cardboard boxes in his basement that were labeled as flammable. He told police he owned a nail salon in Westland and was storing products for his business. Authorities warned the man of the potential fire hazard.

### Here illegally

Canton police turned a 24-year-old man over to U.S. border authorities after learning he may illegally be in the United States.

The incident began when police stopped to question a man walking west-bound alongside Michigan Avenue near Morton Taylor. He told police he was trying to get to a bus station to get back to Chicago, a police report said.

The man didn't have identification, and the police report said he had a difficult time remembering his date of birth. He ultimately told authorities he had been in the United States for two months from Mexico, though he later told border officials he had been here for 10 years, the police report said.

### T-Mobile tampering

The manager of a T-Mobile store on Canton Center north of Saltz contacted police Saturday morning after he arrived and found the door to the store was unlocked, a police report said.

The manager said he noticed that someone had tampered with the lock and the door was open. He canvassed the store and learned that an undisclosed number of cell phones had been taken. A police report indicated a similar incident had happened in Troy.

### Credit card fraud

A 68-year-old woman who lives on Alton, southeast of Joy Road and I-275, notified police after she was advised by her bank that two charges had been made in Denmark with one of her credit card numbers. She contacted police Monday evening to document the incident.

### Shoes swiped

A 32-year-old man told police his shoes were stolen while he was inside the Shuttlewood Commons northwest of Canton Center and Hanford.

He said he was assisting his child in a play area and had taken off his shoes and placed them at the bottom of a ladder. When he finished, he said his shoes, described as black and yellow Nike Shox, were missing.

— By Darrell Clem

## Tips offered for winter safety

RepairClinic.com, the popular online store for replacement parts for home appliances, outdoor power equipment and HVAC equipment, shared warnings about home appliance dangers during the winter season and tips to keep families safe.

"In many homes, appliances and HVAC equipment are used most frequently during the winter months, increasing the threat to family safety," said Chris Hall, president and co-founder of RepairClinic.com. "There are simple steps to keep this equipment working well and prevent dangerous accidents and injuries."

### Dryer, fire clothes

Every year, starter dryers cause thousands of major residential fires in the U.S. People are often surprised to learn of the primary culprit: Lint. Dryer venting can become clogged with lint, causing a dangerous buildup of heat and an instant fire that spreads fast. A venting system should be cleaned out

from inside of the dryer to the outside vent cap at least once per year.

### Snowblower power

"People suffer serious hand and arm injuries when they attempt to clear snowblower jams with their hands," said Jeff Linderman, RepairClinic.com's on-staff outdoor power equipment expert. "Snowblower augers will continue to spin for a while after the bale arm located near the handle has been released. Therefore, one should never place a hand or arm inside of a chute."

To reduce clogging, use a snowblower nozzle spray on areas that come into contact with snow. Children and pets should remain indoors when a snowblower is in operation because the cloud of snow created by the snowblower or snowthrower while in operation hinders visibility.

### Carbon monoxide

Carbon monoxide, produced by furnaces, gen-

erators, grills and other fossil fuel-using appliances, is a colorless, odorless gas. Carbon monoxide from these sources can build up within enclosed or semi-enclosed spaces inside or outside a home. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reports that carbon monoxide causes hundreds of deaths and thousands of illnesses every year.

"Every home should have carbon monoxide detectors positioned closest to bedrooms and living spaces where families may sleep or relax for long periods of time," said Hall.

### Space heaters

Space heaters often cause accidental fires. A space heater's compact size makes it particularly vulnerable to accidental tipping over. Fires are often started when they're too close to furniture and walls. It's best to keep space heaters at least three feet away from flammable objects and fabric.

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## PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

### Nothing stolen in clinic break-in

Nothing was reported stolen Saturday in the break-in of a Plymouth Township clinic.

Plymouth Holistic, on General Drive near Ann Arbor Road, had been entered through a window that had been smashed out, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report. The break-in occurred between Friday afternoon and Saturday afternoon, police said.

Drawers had been rifled through, police said, and it appeared the would-be burglar or burglars had been looking for something specific.

An interior door to an adjoining suite for another business had been forced in, police said, and person or persons who broke in left through an exterior door in that suite.

Police found shoeprints in the snow outside the building as well as a pair of black latex gloves.

Police said the clinic had been broken into in December when the same window was pried open. The window frame had since been reinforced, police said.

### GPS larceny

A global-positioning system unit was reported stolen from a Ford Escape in the township on Saturday night.

The vehicle had been sitting in the driveway of a house on Harvest Court, in the area of Ridge and Powell roads, when the theft occurred between about 6:15 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday, police said. The Escape had been left unlocked.

— By Matt Jachman

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED USE OF THE 2013 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS FEBRUARY 12, 2013

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM WILL BE HELD BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE MEETING ROOM OF THE TOWNSHIP HALL WHICH IS LOCATED AT 9955 N. HAGGETT ROAD ON FEBRUARY 12, 2013.

The purpose of the public hearing will be to afford the public the opportunity to place before the Board any proposed use of the 2013 Community Development Block Grant Funds.

Preliminary indications from the Wayne County Community Development Block Grant Program are that the estimated 2013 funding allocation for the township will be approximately \$88,000. Wayne county requires for 2013 that our request for public service projects not exceed 15 % of the total allocation. Based on that special requirement the projects are proposed as follows:

ESTIMATED 2013 ALLOCATION BASED ON 15% PUBLIC SERVICE CAP			
PUBLIC SERVICES		\$13,358	Allocation
Senior Services	Council on Aging	\$4,558	\$2,334
	Senior Alliance		\$2,224
Senior Transportation	Senior Transportation	\$8,800	\$8,800
ADMINISTRATION	Administration	\$8,800	\$8,800
BRICK & MORTAR	ADA Township Park Improvements	\$65,842	\$65,842
	TOTAL ALLOCATION	\$88,000	

If Wayne county determines after all applications are received that additional funds shall be available for public service projects the proposed allocations shall be as follows:

ESTIMATED 2013 ALLOCATION BASED ON TOWNSHIP PREFERENCE			
PUBLIC SERVICES		\$43,120	Allocation
Senior Services	Council on Aging	\$11,440	\$9,216
	Senior Alliance		\$2,224
Senior Transportation	Senior Transportation	\$30,800	\$30,800
ADMINISTRATION	Administration	\$8,800	\$8,800
BRICK & MORTAR	ADA Township Park Improvements	\$36,080	\$36,080
	TOTAL ALLOCATION	\$88,000	

The Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth, upon completion of the public hearing, will determine the use of the 2013 funds.

Any written comments regarding the proposed use of the 2013 funds should be directed to Susan Vignone, Community Development Block Grant Coordinator, Charter Township of Plymouth, 9955 N. Haggett Rd, Plymouth, MI, 48170 and must be received by Friday, February 8, 2013.

NANCY CONZELMAN  
Clerk, Charter Township Of Plymouth

# Air Museum goes to moon with NASA exhibit

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

The Yankee Air Museum, known for its collection of artifacts dating back to World War I, is going to the moon without leaving the earth.

For the first time ever, the museum is hosting a traveling exhibit of space artifacts, kicking it off with a NASA Fly Me to the Moon Launch Party Saturday, Feb. 9.

The exhibit includes items on loan from the Johnson Space Center in Texas and Marshall Space Center in Alabama as well as the Air Zoo in Kalamazoo and will showcase items of astronaut, and Michigan native, Jack Lousma who was member of the astronaut support crews for the Apollo 9, 10 and 13 in the late 1960s and 1970 and pilot of the Sky Lab-3 mission in 1973.

"This is our first travel exhibit and our first educational exhibit," said Rachel Krumwiede, the museum's director of education. "We wanted to start having formal education programs, but we needed exhibits that tie in with what students are learning. We can do World War II, but what about the space race and the Cold War? We decided on Project Apollo and went for it."

The Fly Me to the Moon Launch Party is in addition to the exhibit, there will be special activities such as a bungee run, Velcro wall and moon walk. The first 200 youngsters will receive a goodie bag.

The University of Michigan Astronomy Club will be there to do telescopic experiments — weather permitting — and there will be a VEX robot station where guests can try their hand at picking up simulated moon rocks and complete different tasks.



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Rachel Krumwiede, director of education at the Yankee Air Museum, shows off the space suit worn by astronaut Jack Lousma as part of a 1973 mission to the Sky Lab.

The special guest for the evening will be Lousma, who will speak about his experiences and be available for a one-hour photo session.

The exhibit will include the full space suit with helmet and gloves that

### On loan

The museum went through the loan application process and was able to get the exhibit free of charge. It also was able to find a donor to cover the shipping costs of the exhibit pieces which have been arriving almost daily.

"This is kind of like Christmas," said Krumwiede. "We've always been able to window and shop, but now we can say 'buy.'"

"We'll have a one-third



Among items that will be on display is Jack Lousma's Sky Lab 3 inflight suit.

Lousma wore during two spacewalks while on Sky Lab, the precursor to the Space Station, and his inflight suit. There will be a panel display about Project Apollo, covering all of the Apollo missions including Apollo 11, the first manned landing on the moon's surface.

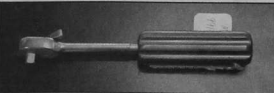
scale model of the command and lunar modules," said Bob Catalano, member of the museum's collections department. "There will be cutouts to look into the command module and see three astronauts inside in the position when they take off. The lunar module people won't be able

### FLY ME TO THE MOON

**What:** NASA Fly Me to the Moon exhibit  
**Where:** Yankee Air Museum at Willow Run Airport, 47884 D St., Belleville  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, Feb. 12 through May 10  
**Details:** Exhibit is included as part of museum admission — \$5 for adults \$3 for senior citizens and \$8 for families (two adults and two children).  
**Information:** Call the museum at (734) 483-4030.



Even in outer space there's a need for tools like these metal pliers.



Among the NASA artifacts is this socket wrench.

to look inside." There also will be a pop-up display on the Hubel space telescope. While it isn't Apollo related, it's being included in the exhibit "because Hubel is awesome," said Krumwiede.

### Space artifacts

Artifacts from space exploration include tool kits, meal pouches, a urine collection device and items from Catalano's personal collection by Neil Armstrong, Gene Cernan and Lousma and an Apollo 12 photo signed by the crew - Charles Conrad Jr., Alan Bean and Richard Gordon Jr. - and first day covers for astronauts Sally Ride and Judy Resnik. "We wanted to include them because of women being involved in NASA,"

Catalano said. The museum is offering a display as an educational program for school groups and boy and girl scout troops throughout the three-month exhibition. Educators and scout leaders interested in visiting the exhibit can contact Krumwiede at (734) 483-4030, ext. 227, or by email at rachel.krumwiede@yankeeamuseum.org for more information.

"Jackson had all the air stuff until the museum closed, then it went to the west side of the state, we believe this is may be the first NASA display in southeast Michigan."

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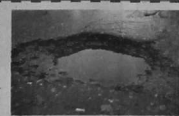
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# Disco provides magical night

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Disco is back. Perhaps not, but the 1970s made a comeback of sorts Sunday evening in Canton — along with a few polyester shirts, leisure suits and a disco-worthy dress here and there.

Fortunately, patrons didn't zip around in disco roller skates for the ninth annual Magical Night with the Stars, an event inside the Canton Emagine Theater to raise money for Gleaners Community Food Bank and Open Door Ministry, a Canton-based food pantry that feeds some 460 families every week.

This year's disco-themed event by the Canton Community Foundation drew about 125 people — a smaller crowd than in some past years.

"We had a lovely time. Our numbers were down, but it's such a fun event," CCF President Joan Noricks said.

A few patrons actually managed to find leisure suits and other disco-era attire, though others settled for more modern clothing as the foundation rolled out the red carpet



Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy selects a Lucky Star for the evening.

for its latest fundraiser. Steve and Jackie Darr, directors of Open Door Ministry, were among the crowd. Steve Darr said the foundation has been an untiring supporter of the food pantry, which recently marked its 10th year of helping hungry people across a wide swath from western Wayne County into Washtenaw County.

Noricks had earlier lauded the Emagine Theater for making Magical Night with the Stars "very special for the foundation and its guests."

The night included a cocktail reception, a strolling dinner and a

movie — all to raise money for food banks.

"Unfortunately, hunger is still real in the community," Noricks had said prior to Magical Night.

Early this week, organizers hadn't finished tabulating the funds raised, though Noricks acknowledged she would have preferred a larger crowd.

Still, she said Gleaners and Open Door will receive their share of the proceeds.

"We will do our best," she said. "We try to keep our expenses as tight as we can."

dclem@hometownlife.com  
(313) 222-2238  
Twitter: @CantonObserver



Canton's Stars come out for the annual fundraiser.



Steve Sneideman and Kelli Lauria have that '70s look.



Gail Grady presents '70s icon Jerry Grady, saying, "I'm his stylist."



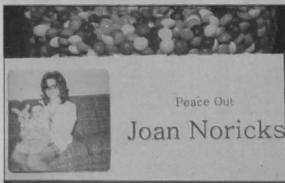
It looks like the giant from the upcoming film "Jack, the Giant Slayer" is trying to take cuts in the buffet line.



Community Foundation Director Joan Noricks, with Steve and Jackie Darr, of Open Door Ministry. The food pantry feeds thousands and offers job hunting assistance, among other services.



Sarah and Mike Cousineau, left, and Kathleen and Hunter Hinchliff check out the photo booth.



Canton Community Foundation Executive Director Joan Noricks hasn't changed much in 30 years.



Applause for retiring Canton Community Foundation Director Joan Noricks.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER  
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



The Spotlight Players bring Shakespeare to life on the Village Theater stage starting Feb. 15.

# Spotlight Players take on the Bard

Theater-goers can shake off the winter doldrums with the hilarious play "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)." The Spotlight Players present the play Friday, Feb. 15, through Sunday, Feb. 24, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

"We intend to take you on a merry romp through all of Shakespeare's tragedies, comedies and history plays," said director Shannon McNutt. "This show may not elevate Shakespeare to the point where every hotel room has a copy of 'The Complete Works of William Shakespeare,' but it is a dizzy, affectionate mocking of the world's best-known playwright, peppered with great effect with pop-culture references and local jokes."

The cast includes from Plymouth-Canton: Bethany Basanese, Tim Chanko, Tommy Fafalios, Julie Franklin, Hannah Sayre Fox and Kyle Kimlick, from the Plymouth-Canton area. From Garden City: The production also features Dave Durham of Garden City and Leanne Young of South Lyon.

It's directed by McNutt and produced by Judy Cannizzaro.

"In the past week I've had two acquaintances tell me that Shakespeare just isn't their thing," said McNutt, an English and drama teacher for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. "It's so boring... one whispered shamefacedly. 'Oh, the language!' another boldly exclaimed. 'Who can understand it? I want to direct this show

because it is such an irreverent romp through the Bard's plays."

"I love the improvisational aspect to it... the show is never the same twice," she added. "I also love ensemble shows, where everyone has the chance to shine. It is a very collaborative experience."

The show plays Fridays, Feb. 15 and 22, at 8 p.m.; Saturdays, Feb. 16 and 23, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; with Sunday matinees Feb. 17 and Feb. 24 at 2 p.m.

All performances are at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. Tickets are \$19 for adults and \$17 for seniors and students under 19. Tickets are available by calling (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460, or by going online to [www.spotlight-players.org](http://www.spotlight-players.org).

# Keep your guard up; scams take many forms

By Rick Bloom  
Guest Columnist



Money Matters  
Rick Bloom

The Better Business Bureau recently released its top scams of last year. When you read about them, the first reaction is how could anyone fall for that? However, keep in mind that scam artists are good at what they do and even smart people occasionally let their guard down. Remember, Bernie Madoff scammed a lot of very smart people.

I wish I could tell you the one thing that you could do to avoid being scammed, but I can't. These scams take on many different forms and that's why it's always important for us to never let our guard down. If something sounds too good to be true it generally is. In addition, always take your time and check that out independently and be leery of high-pressure sales tactics.

Some of the scams on the BBB list include one geared towards grandparents. In this scam, grandparents are contacted by e-mail and other forms of social media and told their grandchild has been in some sort of accident or had some legal problems and needs money. The message also generally says something like "please don't tell my parents." Of course, in the notice there is information about how to send wire money and unfortunately, many people do. Not only do they lose the

money that they send, but a crook now has their banking information.

Grandparents, if you receive this type of message the first thing to do is contact your grandchild to see what's up.

Another very popular scam is one that says you can make money by having some sort of advertising sign on your car. What the scammers do is send a check and tell you that half that money needs to be immediately wire transferred to a graphic artist to draw the advertisement for your car. What inevitably happens is the check that they have given you bounces and you've lost the money that you sent to the so-called graphic designer.

There is no graphic designer; it was a way of scamming you out of money and once again, getting sensitive bank account information. The solution here is if you are sent a check and you're supposed to send some of those proceeds somewhere else, at a minimum wait for that check to clear before you do anything.

A scam that was very popular in the Detroit metro area dealt with people receiving notices, whether via email, telephone calls or even per-

sonal visits telling them of a new federal program where President Obama would pay their utility bills.

In order to register for the program you had to turn over sensitive information such as bank account and Social Security number. Unfortunately, many unsuspecting people turned this information over to the crooks. With that information, a scam artist can do severe damage to your finances. The bottom line is be extremely cautious before offering any sensitive information, particularly over the phone.

When anyone asks me for my Social Security number or bank account information, my automatic answer is no. It's amazing once you say no how many people will come back and say well, "we didn't need the information anyway."

Scams take all forms but the common thread that runs through all of them is greed. The government doesn't have the resources to protect us, we are our own last line of defense. Therefore, we have to use common sense. Remember what President Ronald Reagan once said, "trust but verify." Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like Bloom to respond to your questions, e-mail him at [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).

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The most live sports	YES	NO
WatchESPN app so you can watch your favorite ESPN content anywhere on your iPhone® or iPad®	YES	NO
The fastest Internet	YES	NO
The fastest in-home Wi-Fi with the most coverage in your home	YES	NO
More Internet protection included at no additional cost with Norton® Security Suite, IDENTITY GUARD™ and Comcast Security Backup & Share	YES	NO
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# Open house showcases career technical programs

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

Steven Kay couldn't have been happier with the throng of people who turned out for the William D. Ford Career Technical Center's annual open house Tuesday evening.

Students and staff were on hand to talk about the different programs and activities available to high school students and adults at the Wayne-Westland facility.

"It's absolutely excellent to see the number of people who came out to check out our programs," said Kay, the center's principal. "This is a chance to open the doors for the community to come in here. Students are beginning the registration process for next year, so this is an opportunity for 10th-graders to get to explore the programs before they come."

Guests were treated to food prepared by culinary arts students and were able to visit classrooms. Representatives of colleges, like Davenport and the Wayne County Community College District, which has articulation agreements with the center, manned information tables in the commons to talk to families about their institutions.

### 'Exciting job'

Twins Devin and Michael Gibson brought their parents, Tom and Lisa, to the center to check out the firefight-



Ashleigh Goddard of Westland and Monica Martinez of Dearborn Heights, under the supervision of pastry chef Mary Dobbs, prepare Banana Fosters to serve to guests at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center Tuesday evening.

er program. Sophomores at Wayne Memorial High School, they plan to attend the center in the fall.

"I've always wanted to be a firefighter, it's an exciting job and no two days are alike," said Devin.

"I'm looking at law enforcement, I want to do something different," said Michael. "I want a job where I wake up and enjoy going to work and helping people, instead of waking up and not wanting to go to work."

While mom Lisa prefers the brothers try a safer career, she believes they'll come out of the center with a well-round-

ed education. "From the time they were little, they've wanted to help people, so it's perfect that they want to go into a service career," she said.

In Auto Body Repair, guests got to see the wing tips of the Yankee Air Museum's B-17 bomber that the students painted bright red, as well as bowling pins, bowling balls and sheet metal that showed off their painting skills.

"It's nice, there's a lot of different designs," said Ricky Crisler Jr. of Belleville. Enrolled in the evening firefighter class, Crisler and his father were checking out other

programs at the center. "This is pretty interesting," said his father, Ricky.

For Troy Hughes of Belleville, the firefighter class seemed "like something nice to do and nice career."

"This is the only reason I come to school," he said. "It's motivation, it makes me want to work harder."

Abbas Ayoub, a student at Crestwood High School in Dearborn Heights, also "loves" coming to the center for the class. He's like firefighters since he was little.

"I've seen all the movies and I love it," he said. "It's what I want to do when I get out of school."



Ricky Crisler Jr. (left) and his father, Ricky Crisler, look over the display in Auto Body Repair at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center. Crisler, from Belleville, is enrolled in the firefighter program at the center.



Abbas Ayoub (from left) of Dearborn Heights, firefighter instructor Cary Thompson and Troy Hughes of Belleville stand in front of the center's fire truck used to show students how to do such things as pack hoses.

### Coming back

Jill MacBlain of Canton was a student in the center's Auto Technology program in 1997. She comes back to the center to see her former instructors.

"I love these guys," she said. "When people have an impact on you like

these guys, this is what happens."

MacBlain took the class because her father and brother were always working on cars and she didn't want to be out of the loop. "I wanted to learn things, I wanted to be the girl who knew about cars," said MacBlain who works in a cardiologist's office in Farmington Hills.

MacBlain was talking about James Schirmer and Mark Batko who were talking to potential students throughout the evening.

"We have a lot of girls take auto tech," said Schirmer. "I like having the girls in the class because they read the manuals before they tear something apart. Girls are willing to do the research."

In the commons, Meghan McGowan and Lucas Climie of Westland were sharing information about the student i-SAVE program at the center. McGowan is president of the student group which focuses on helping the district reduce its energy costs.

"Last year, we switched all the light bulbs to 13-watt energy efficient ones and saved the district several thousands of dollars," she said. "This year, we plan on planting a tree."

For Kay, the highlight of the evening was the honor society ceremony involving 138 students of the center's students.

"They're the top 14 percent of the school," he said. "This honor is based on career tech and academics. These are the kids who will go onto college and be career- and college-ready."

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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
In the Matter of the MITCHELL PAWLAK REVOCABLE TRUST. Dated October 26, 1999. As Amended To ALL CREDITORS: The Grantors, Mitchell Pawlak, (Date of Birth: July 22, 1920, who lived at Brighton Gardens Assisted Living, 15870 Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170, died January 24, 2013. At this time there is personal representative of the Grantors estate to the date of this publication notice. Creditors who have been assigned and notified that all claims against THE MITCHELL PAWLAK TRUST, Dated October 26, 1999, as amended, will be forever barred unless presented to: Dennis M. Pawlak, the Successor Trustee, within four months after the date of this publication notice. **NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to the same on or before January 31, 2013. **THE MITCHELL PAWLAK REVOCABLE TRUST** (Dated October 26, 1999, as Amended, Dennis M. Pawlak, 33484-E, Mile Rd., Livonia, MI 48152) (734)522-3144.



## IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Unique offers a wide selection of affordable gifts for all occasions with a focus on Made in Michigan and Made in the USA items.

## Hunting for a deal Unique offers large selection of American-made products

Record: Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature?

Bob Wisdom: We offer a wide selection of affordable gifts for all occasions with a focus on Made in Michigan and Made in the USA items. Select from our Custom Gift Baskets, or those for who like the experience, we invite you to personalize your own gift basket for any occasion from our large selection of everyday household items.

We have a large selection of in-stock and custom order party supplies, greeting cards, wrappings, paper supplies and balloons. We also provide services such as gift wrapping, party favor assembly and party packages that we can help you personalize for any event.

Record: What makes our business unique?

Bob Wisdom: We provide a clean, organized, well-stocked store that is large enough to have a great selection, yet just the right size for customers to get personalized, friendly and prompt service. We feature items from local artists and crafters, providing an outlet for them to sell and promote their hand-crafted items to the community. Wherever possible, we purchase only USA and Michigan made items. Every item in the store has been personally checked for quality. We don't stop hunting for special items until we find the best possible price to offer to our customers. As local business owners, we love a good challenge.

### UNIQUE DEALS.SERVICES.GIFTS

Address: 15374 Haggerty Road on Northville/Plymouth/Livonia border (northwest corner of Five Mile and Haggerty across from Hillers)

Your name/Title: Bob Wisdom, owner

Business opened where: Nov. 8, 2012  
Your business specialty: Unique gifts for every occasion, party supplies, favors, balloons, custom gift baskets and gift wrapping services.

Hours of operation: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday  
Phone/website: (734) 335-7991; unique dealsandgifts.com; also on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google Plus

When a customer requests a specific item, we search the planet to find it for them (of course starting here in the USA).

Record: How did you decide to open your own small business?

Bob Wisdom: After a career with large retailers, I have learned a few things about buying merchandise and I know that prices just don't need to be as high as they are. There is actually a huge selection of items that are made here in the USA and in Michigan that are available for purchase at excellent prices that we can pass on to our customers. Most retailers just need to look harder for them. I am very passionate about keeping things local and affordable. Keeping our overhead costs down and passing forward every good purchase that we make will ultimately save our customers a lot of money without having to run around chasing sales all over town. My staff and I want to provide a smaller scale retail environment where customers can get the personal service they can't get at a larger retailer. We still offer a great selection

and of course, you will be able to find that perfect gift you won't find anywhere else.

Record: How did you decide on your location?

Bob Wisdom: This community is full of busy families that deserve a nice, local place to be able to stop in on their way to any event (even at the last minute) and know that we will be able to help them find that perfect gift. I wanted to give back to the community that I have lived and worked in my whole life and help my neighbors save money, too.

Record: Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business owner?

Bob Wisdom: I sure do. I have learned that you can't iron balloons. When we received our foil patterned balloons and went to display them they were created from being in the package. We wanted to display them flat on the wall. We decided that if we put the balloons in between towels and iron them they will flatten out. Do not try this at home. And please excuse the creases in our balloons on display.

## Best technology of 2013

By Jon Gunnells  
Guest Columnist

The new year is under way, but a host of new innovative devices and technologies have already been unveiled at the International Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas.

More than 3,000 exhibitors packed halls and conference rooms to showcase approximately 20,000 new products. Among those products are much of what you would expect: new cell phones, computers, televisions and cameras. But the CES show also providing a glimpse to the future in areas that many wouldn't expect, such as health and fitness, sports and even gadgets for children.

The products shown at the convention will impact every aspect of our lives and even the sports world. During the first day of the conference, for example, Major League Baseball and T-Mobile announced a multi-year deal to put T-Mobile cell phones in bullpens and dugouts.

The mobile phones will plug into wall units that serve as their own cell phone tower to ensure coaches in bullpens and dugouts don't experience communication problems as they have in years past.

T-Mobile also used the event to announce some new service offerings. The cell phone service provider said it will soon move all cell phone



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

plans to new value-based plans. T-Mobile subscribers will no longer pay high costs for new phones up front.

Instead, T-Mobile plans to allow subscribers to pay for the device in short loans over the duration of owning the device. As soon as a phone is paid off, users will be eligible for new devices.

Fisher Price hit the show floor with products for the youngest tech fans. Their new "Appitivity" products for users up to 5 years old are essentially interactive tablet toys for youngsters.

Tablets and mobile applications were also a big part of the CES 2013, as many manufacturers showcased faster, sleeker and more durable offerings.

Panasonic introduced two new "rugged" Toughpad tablets — one that runs on Windows 8 and one using the Android operating system. The Toughpads are resistant to fluids, extreme temperatures and, of course, being dropped. They have between 8GB and 16GB of memory and come with Bluetooth and WiFi connectivity. Of course, these durable machines come at a price — the smaller Android version starts at \$1,300, while the Windows version will cost about \$2,900.

Panasonic also made headlines with a 56-inch 4K OLED TV prototype. Sony unveiled a similar television of its own. An OLED TV is said to have a crisp-er and broader spectrum of colors because the screen is made using a red, blue-green printing technology. (I won't pretend I know what that means, but we can all agree it sounds impressive.)

An electronics expo wouldn't truly be complete without a flurry of new technology that you would never have thought possible. One of the most mind-bending displays to come out of the CES 2013 is a mind-controlled helicopter.

The PuzzleBox Orbit by NeuroSky is operated through a Bluetooth enabled headset. The user, or the pilot, sends brainwaves to the Bluetooth sensors, which make the PuzzleBox Orbit maneuver. Not exactly the flying car we expected in this digital age, but a mind-control device is not a bad start, especially for only \$189. One other cool gadget from the show: A Bluetooth-enabled refrigerator from a company called Coolvox. The device will keep your milk cold, your vegetables fresh and even stream your music.

Jon Gunnells is a freelance writer and social media planner. Comments or suggestions for future columns? Email: jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com.



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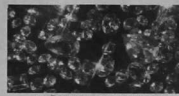
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## CHAMBER CORNER

### After Hours mixer

The Canton chamber hosts its first After Hours mixer of 2013 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31, at Compuware Arena in Plymouth.

The event is sponsored by the Plymouth Whalers and Bovitz, CPA, P.C. Compuware Arena is located at 14900 Beck Road in Plymouth Township. To RSVP or for more information, call (734) 453-4040.

### First Friday

Those who haven't had a chance to participate in a Canton Chamber of Commerce First Friday Club meeting get their chance Friday.

There are a few spots available for the February First Friday Club, bring your brochures, business cards and samples of what your business does to showcase what you do.

The event is limited to 10 Chamber Members and no business category will be duplicated. The club will meet this Friday at the Chamber Office, 45525 Hanford Road, at 8:30 a.m. Reservations are first come, first serve. To reserve your place call the Canton Chamber of



## Cellular Connection

The Cellular Connection, the largest Verizon Premium Wireless Retailer in the U.S., recently opened its first store in Canton, marking more than 50 locations for the company across the state. The new store is located at 46554 Michigan Ave. next to the Toyota dealership, and offers guests the ultimate experience in interactivity while shopping for wireless devices and accessories.

Commerce office at (734) 453-4040. The chamber will provide coffee and tea and bagels or donuts are compliments of Horton Plumbing. Showroom of Elegance is sponsoring the event.

# OPINION

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

## FROM THE EDITOR

# State rep pays price for opposing Speaker

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

After a Wayne County judge dismissed felony charges against staffers accused of election fraud in the Thaddeus McCotter debacle last year, and sentenced them to probation, Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette's office issued a statement.

Joy Yaurer, spokeswoman for Schuette, said the attorney general's office is reviewing options for an appeal on Judge Margie Braxton's ruling to dismiss the charge of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner.

"The message here is very clear—if you break the law, there are consequences," she said in a prepared statement. "We'll review the dismissal of the conspiracy charge and make a decision about appeal."

The part of the message left out was this: "Unless you're the Speaker of the House and you're of the same party and political leanings as the Attorney General."

That must be the conclusion drawn after Schuette declined to even slap Jase Bolger on the wrist admitted role in advising former Rep. Roy Schmidt of Grand Rapids to rig a state legislative race by defecting to the GOP and paying a fake Democrat to enter the contest.

It was certainly the conclusion drawn by state Rep. Dian Slavens and, for that matter, state Rep. Doug Geiss, D-Taylor. They were the only two Democrats with the courage to vote against Bolger's re-election as the speaker.

"I just couldn't do it," said Slavens, a Canton Democrat.

I don't blame her, but at least one colleague does. Not surprisingly, state Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, wholeheartedly supported Bolger and criticized Slavens for her lack of support. Heise noted state House minority leader Tim Greimel, D-Auburn Hills, seconded the motion to nominate Bolger in an attempt to start the new session with a renewed spirit of bipartisanship, after a contentious lame-duck session late last year.

Of course, overall House "unity" wasn't much in demand during the lame-duck last session, when Republicans ran roughshod over the process and ramrodded bills through with little regard for bipartisanship.

This is more about the incredulous fact of Bolger's status. This is a guy who is sworn to uphold laws and ethics, who knows right from wrong and admitted he violated all of it (OK, a grand jury will decide whether he violated the law). None of that mattered to Heise, who said Bolger "has admitted he made mistakes and was overzealous in his actions, and he has apologized."

But they mattered to Slavens, whose vote came with a price, one she knew she was going to pay. Before the vote, Slavens said, she was told that if she opposed Bolger's re-election, there'd be a political price. And when committee assignments came out, Slavens got only two, and couldn't get a minority leadership position, despite her seniority.

She's back on the family, children and seniors committee, and she got a seat on the military/veterans affairs committee. But the one she really wanted—a leadership spot on the health policy committee—was withheld, she says, because of her vote on Bolger.

"We were warned if we voted against the speaker, that would be taken into consideration" when it came to committee assignments, Slavens said.

I believe had McCotter and Bolger been Democrats, Schuette's position would have been much different. McCotter should have been, at a minimum, charged in the petition scandal that caused his abrupt departure from political life.

He ended up resigning in disgrace. Where is Bolger's penalty? Heise described the dissenting votes cast by Slavens and Geiss as "not well thought out" and said the decision set the wrong tone for the new legislative session.

If one is to believe Slavens, though, Bolger's idea for creating "unity" means threatening those who oppose him. Seems to me, then, Slavens' dissension fits right in.

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

## COMMUNITY VOICE

# If you could choose an all-expenses-paid winter getaway, where would you go?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"Florida."  
Charles Jonas  
Canton



"I'd go to Hawaii. I've always wanted to go there."  
Joyce Silagy  
Canton



"Somewhere out west, like the Grand Canyon or Wyoming."  
Bob Brancart  
Belleville



"Maui."  
Toni Quick  
Canton

## OUR VIEWS

# Join the challenge: Go Red for healthy hearts

Tomorrow (Feb. 1) marks the 10th anniversary of the American Heart Association Go Red For Women movement.

The AHA estimates since the campaign began more than 627,000 women's lives have been saved, but more needs to be done.

While other diseases get a lot of attention, heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women. It affects more women than men and is more deadly than all forms of cancer combined. One in three women dies of cardiovascular disease each year.

What can you do? First, if you or someone you know shows signs of a heart attack or a stroke, call 9-1-1 immediately. Do not wait.

The sooner EMS arrives, the sooner treatment can begin. Also, heart disease can be prevented by making the right choices. A healthy diet and regular exercise are key.

And if you smoke—quit. Know your cholesterol levels, blood pressure and glucose levels. These are the risk factors that individuals can control.

Age, gender, family history and race can't be controlled, but they can be understood so those with a higher risk can take action and seek treatment.

The American Heart Association's Go Red for Women Movement is a call to action to educate and engage in the fight against heart disease.

How can you participate? Go to [americanheart.org](http://americanheart.org) to learn more about fighting heart disease. Go to [www.detroitgoforwomen.org](http://www.detroitgoforwomen.org) to read about local sponsors and local events which are part of this year's campaign.



## LETTERS

### Pandering to NRA

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, wrote a letter to the editor Jan. 17. In the letter, he revealed the passage of a bill that would examine state government and see if the taxpayers were getting value for their tax dollars.

I found it ironic that Sen. Colbeck is also sponsoring a bill that would attempt to nullify federal law in the area of gun control. Such a law would be unconstitutional. The Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution provides that federal law trumps state law. The Constitution also specifies that the federal judiciary have the sole responsibility to pass on the constitutionality of federal law. The idea of state nullification has been rejected by the Courts many times in the last 200 years.

Sen. Colbeck knows this, of course. He and the other sponsors of this bill are pandering to the NRA. It is a shame that the tragic events in Sandy Hook have not prompted a more rational response from our elected officials.

Thomas M. Harnett  
Canton

### Guns already there

I have been sitting quietly aside as the guns-in-school debate rages on; however, I have now been moved to interject some logic and facts to the narrative.

I am particularly surprised that people do not realize the extent that we have guns in school already and I am not referring to the criminal element, either. A number of school districts across the United States already have police officers roaming the halls, fully locked and loaded. In Michigan alone, schools from the Soo

### 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:

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E-mail: [bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com)

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com).  
Deadline: Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

to Monroe have officers.

The Flint school district was among the first in the nation to welcome a regular police presence to campus when it instituted its liaison officer program in 1958. At least nine of the 21 public districts in Genesee county employ some form of regular armed security in school buildings, either through a liaison program or an armed security firm. You would be hard-pressed to find one college campus that does not have campus police. Also, many states and countries allow their teachers to be armed with great success.

I believe what really has gotten me upset is the hypocrisy from the anti-gun crowd led by our president. They deny the need for our children to be protected while simultaneously protecting their own. The very school where many

of D.C. representatives (including our president) send their children (Sidwell Friends School) has 16 security personnel (with firearms) in addition to an entire Secret Service team (also with firearms). I am of the belief my children rank equally under God and deserve the same opportunity of protection. I would hope you would too.

G. Gordon  
Canton

### Delightful dining

I have enjoyed watching the Canton area evolve over the last 23 years. Now I'm thankful that I don't have to travel to Dearborn any more to enjoy a high quality Middle Eastern dining experience. To my surprise and delight, the new Shish House restaurant located on Lilley Road south of Joy Road is wonderful.

I don't choose Middle Eastern cuisine very often but the owner attended a Canton Newcomers and Neighbors meeting this month and brought samples of the food they serve. The food is just delicious and the menu has a wide variety of options. When I went there to eat, I expected a covey island type of place. Instead, it is upscale inline with white linen table cloths and a warm, inviting atmosphere. The staff made me feel like a part of the family. The lamb chops and the garlic sauce were the best I've ever tasted. And, the menu prices fit my tight budget, especially my favorite hot chicken shawarma sandwich.

I encourage everyone else to give them a try.

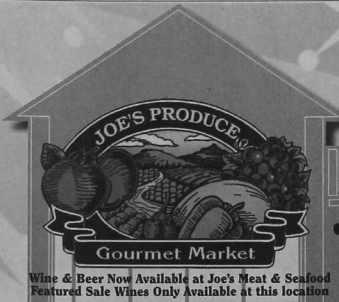
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# SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR  
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734-469-4128

## BOYS HOOPS

### Zone no problem for 'Cats

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

The first time Plymouth and Livonia Franklin hooked up this season, the Wildcats had trouble with the Patriots' zone defense.

So ahead of Tuesday's rematch, Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup accelerated the chalk talk.

The extra attention paid dividends with the Wildcats' 56-31 victory over their KLA South Division rival.

"Franklin came out and played the zone, like they typically do," Soukup explained. "We were able to come out and do really well against it this time."

"We put in some hard work on it in practice and were able to execute some of the things that we (had) drawn up."

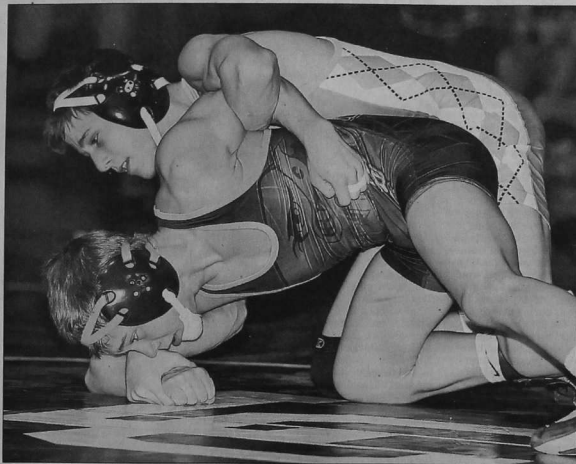
Getting after it at both ends of the floor were seniors Brian Schmid and Sid Acharya.

"They both did a nice job of competing for second opportunities and looks," Soukup said. Plymouth's physical play and second efforts helped to build a 24-13 half-time lead. It was 34-19 after three quarters.

The top scorer for the Wildcats (6-7, 4-3) was senior Josh Priebe, with 17 points. Helping the cause with nine points and five rebounds was Acharya.

Other players to chip in included senior Brendan Swanson (five points), sophomore Randall Aikens

Please see HOOPS, B4



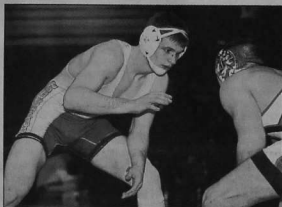
Plymouth's Mohamad Youssef (top) takes control over Farmington Harrison's Mike Volyanuk in the championship bout at 103. Youssef won 10-0 to garner the Observerland championship in that weight class.

PHOTOS BY DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

## Wildcats show fight

### Plymouth fourth, Salem 11th at Observerland

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer



Squaring off in the 171 title matchup at Observerland are Salem's Tyler Gross (left) and Redford Union's Collin Rankin.

Going into the finals of Saturday's annual Observerland Tournament, Plymouth had four wrestlers still alive with a chance to lead the Wildcats to the top of the team standings.

"Last year we went in with four and came out with two champs," Plymouth head coach Quinn Guernsey said prior to finals at Livonia Churchill. "We're hoping this year we can go 3-for-4, or 4-for-4." That didn't happen,

despite gallant efforts by Plymouth's quartet.

One victory — by Mohamad Youssef at 103 — and three losses later, Plymouth wound up fourth with 13.5 points behind champion Westland, John Glenn, Livonia Franklin and Wayne Memorial.

Meanwhile, Salem's Tyler Gross also lost in the finals, at 171, as the Rocks tallied 65 points to finish 11th overall.

Youssef rolled to a 10-0 triumph over Farming-

Please see WRESTLING, B3

### Give blood, catch Whalers

Hockey fans have the opportunity to help others while getting to enjoy a Plymouth Whalers game at Compuware Arena.

The Whalers are teaming up with the American Red Cross to host a blood drive from noon to 6 p.m. Friday. Anyone attempting to give blood will receive a \$12 Whalers ticket to that evening's game against Sault Ste. Marie.

There is an urgent need of blood in the area, as Monday's bad weather forced the cancellation of four scheduled blood drives in metro Detroit.

Friday's Whalers-Greyhounds game will be broadcast on WSPD-FM (88.1) at 6:45 p.m. and on Comcast 900/Xfinity television starting at 7 p.m.

### Trocheck top OHL player

Speaking of the Plymouth Whalers, recently acquired forward Vince Trocheck was named Ontario Hockey League Player of the Week for the week ending Jan. 27.

Trocheck scored four goals and five assists for nine points over four games to lead OHL players including a big two-goal, three-point effort Saturday against Sarnia in a game that put Plymouth in sole possession of first place.

Entering this weekend, Trocheck is fifth in the OHL with 29 goals and 56 points.

The 19-year-old from Pittsburgh, Pa., a third round selection of the Florida Panthers in the 2011 NHL draft, was part of the U.S. team that recently won gold at the World Junior Championships.

## Record-breaking duo leads 'Cats

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

It remains to be seen whether Plymouth's talented gymnastics team can rise to the level of defending champion Grand Ledge and finalist Canton among the very best squads in the state.

Yet no matter what happens, the Wildcats are in the discussion, sparked by senior co-captains Jane McCurry and Sarah Uhljan.

"Jane has the ability to see ahead," Plymouth coach Pam Yockey said about McCurry, a third-year varsity gymnast in her second year as a captain and owner of a 4.0 grade-point average. "She works strongly ... to give aid and advice. She's patient and a real team player. We will miss her leadership."



Yockey also had glowing praise for Uhljan, in her third season as a captain with the Wildcats. "Sarah is willing to step up and fill in for any open-

Listening as judges announce her score at a recent dual meet is Plymouth senior co-captain Sarah Uhljan, who holds the school record on balance beam with a 9.5 tally.

ing in the lineup, putting forth her strongest effort," Yockey said. "As a three-year captain, she sees the potential of each gymnast and is encouraging for

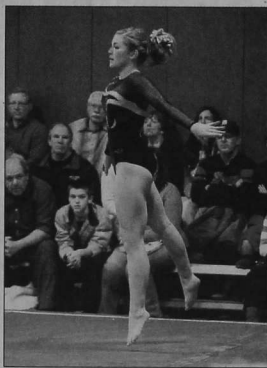
them to do their best." Both McCurry and Uhljan are versatile and able to score high in any event. But McCurry and Uhljan shine brightest on floor exercise and balance beam, respectively.

McCurry is leading the team on floor with an average score of 9.4 (she holds the team record of 9.5), while Uhljan's average of 9.35 on beam leads the Wildcats in that category (her personal best of 9.5 is Plymouth's record for beam).

At the recent Jeanne Caruss Invitational, McCurry finished fifth on floor with 9.325; her score of 9.275 was third best in Division I at the Fraser Invite.

Meanwhile, Uhljan's 9.025 score at the Fraser Invite placed her second

Please see GYMNASTS, B4



PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Performing her floor routine during a recent dual meet is Plymouth senior co-captain Jane McCurry. She holds the school record in that event, with a 9.5 score.

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# Whalers rout Sting for division lead

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

When Plymouth Whalers coach and general manager Mike Vellucci made a Jan. 10 trade with Saginaw to obtain center Vince Trochek, he knew he was getting a pretty good player.

Trochek is doing everything and more to prove his new boss right. He scored two goals and added an assist in Saturday's 6-2 victory over the Sarnia Sting before 2,907 at Compuware Arena.

"We always thought he was one of the best players in the league, if not the best, when we traded for him," Vellucci said. "We gave up a lot (forward Zach Bratina and draft picks), but he's proven that he's a good player."

Also tallying a pair of goals and an assist for Plymouth was winger Corey Payne.

The win gave the Whalers sole possession of the OHL West Division over the Sting, who Friday briefly moved into a first-place tie with a 5-4 shootout win over Plymouth.

Plymouth (25-14-5-4, 59 points) scorched the Sting in the first of a five-game home stand, a stretch where the Whalers could pull away from the pack.

## OHL HOCKEY

Sarnia now stands at 27-18-0-3 for 57 points, while Sault Ste. Marie has 56 points.

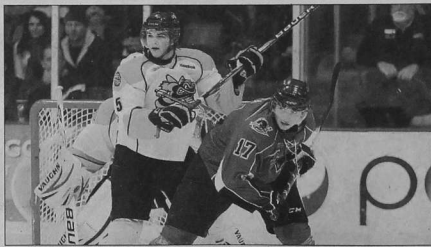
"We're down to the last third of the season," Vellucci said. "We have a good home record and so we're going to make sure we continue to do that." Next up for the Whalers look to continue enjoying home cooking are 7 p.m. games Friday against Sault Ste. Marie and Saturday against Peterborough.

A key reason why is Trochek, who has elevated Plymouth's offense over the last eight games. Since the trade, the Whalers have posted six wins and a shootout loss in eight games — scoring 39 goals during that span.

And the Florida Panthers prospect keeps racking up points since joining the team. Saturday's output upped his eight-game tally to five goals and 11 assists for 16 points. His goals against the Sting give the former Saginaw captain 29 for the season.

## Changing momentum

The Whalers did not get going against Sarnia until midway through the first



Plymouth Whalers forward Sebastian Uvira (No. 17) vies with Sarnia defenseman Tyler Hore (No. 5) for position in front of the Sting net Saturday night at Compuware Arena.

period, after the Sting went into 1-0 on a goal by Taki Pantziris.

But Mitchell Heard — who spent most of the season with Colorado's AHL affiliate during the NHL lockout — deadlocked the contest with his fourth Plymouth goal of the season at 12:23.

"We came out real slow in the first five minutes, but once we got our first goal we changed the momentum," Vellucci said.

Trochek then put Plymouth up 2-1 at 13:58, converting a feed from defenseman and captain Colin MacDonald.

Before the period ended it was a 3-1 lead, followed by defenseman Connor Carrick's goal (from Heard).

The onslaught against Sarnia goalie Nick Dawe (34 saves) continued the first shift of the middle period as forward Garrett Meurs needed just 17 seconds to make it a 4-1 advantage. Setting up the goal were forward Matt Mistle and Trochek.

Sarnia sliced that to a two-goal deficit, when Craig Duinbeck beat Plymouth netminder Matt Mahalak (23 saves) at 2:12.

Getting it right back

five minutes later was Heard, from winger Cody Payne. Trochek lit the lamp again at 8:49 on the final goal of the night. Defenseman Austin Levi assisted.

## Impressive trio

Meanwhile, Trochek isn't the only Whalers newcomer to fortify Plymouth's offensive attack. Forwards Zach Lorentz and Sebastian Uvira also have played well since trades from Windsor and Oshawa, respectively.

"We still only played 10 forward tonight, but Lorentz and Uvira have

## WHALE OF A HOMEMAND

Saturday's 6-2 win over Sarnia was the first of a five-game home stand for the Plymouth Whalers.

The remaining games during the stretch include: 7 p.m. Friday vs. Sault Ste. Marie; 7 p.m. Saturday vs. Peterborough; 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8, vs. Barrie; 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9, vs. Owen Sound.

Call (734) 453-8400 for more information or go to [www.plymouthwhalers.com](http://www.plymouthwhalers.com).

come in and played real well offensively and defensively," Vellucci said. "Uvira's a big, big body of 6-2, 200 pounds. He gives us a lot of size up front."

The Whalers are waiting to find out whether center Rickard Rakeil will be sent back from the NHL Anaheim Ducks, where he is making a favorable early impression.

Also out of the lineup again Saturday was rugged right wing Tom Wilson, who is serving a suspension.

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# Prep icers gear up for MIHL Showcase

The Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League will team up with the city of Trenton and Trenton Public Schools to present the 13th annual MIHL Prep Hockey Showcase, set to take place Feb. 7-9 at Kennedy Recreation Center.

Over that span, 43 top-

ranked high school hockey teams from Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin and Ontario will compete.

Among those squads are several from the Observerland area: Plymouth, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Stevenson, Farmington Hills Unified and Novi-Detroit Catholic

Central.

Dearborn Divine Child will be appearing in the Showcase for the first time, while four teams outside Michigan have been added: Culver Military Academy (Ind.), Notre Dame Prep (Wis.), Upper Canada College (Ont.) and a second team

from Ontario-based Hill Academy U16.

Capital Mortgage Funding is the corporate sponsor for the Showcase, which is dubbed a continuation of the MIHL mission.

## Growth spurt

"Originally the MIHL was formed to promote high quality high school hockey, strong competition and sportsmanship," MIHL president Andy Weidenbach said. "The Showcase was a natural offshoot of that mission. The first 12 Showcases were great successes and we are very optimistic about this year's event."

"High school hockey in Michigan has experienced tremendous growth in the last few years, both in the number of teams participating and in the quality of play. According to our numbers, we have expanded the Showcase so that we can continue our mission of providing exposure for the best of high school hockey."

Weidenbach noted the increase in participating teams from 12 in the debut Showcase to this year's 43 teams.

"The Showcase, the 'biggest high school hockey event of the season,' is designed to benefit prep hockey programs, players, college/Junior A scouts and hockey fans."

The MIHL continues the practice of scheduling the games in mid-January to insure competitive games.

"We were very pleased with the matchups that were scheduled the last four years and decided to do it again this year," Weidenbach continued.

Several college coaches and scouts have com-

## MIHL SHOWCASE FACTS

**What/when:** The 13th annual MIHL Prep Hockey Showcase, sponsored by Capital Mortgage Funding, will take place from Thursday, Feb. 7 through Saturday, Feb. 9. Forty-three top prep squads from the Midwest will compete with scouts from colleges and Junior A programs on hand.

**Where:** Kennedy Recreation Center in Trenton.

**Who:** Area teams include Plymouth, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Stevenson, Farmington Unified and Novi-Detroit Catholic Central.

**Plymouth sked:** The Wildcats will square off

against Detroit Country Day 5:20 p.m. Feb. 7 at the Teifer Rick and Macomb Dakota at 10 a.m. Feb. 8, at the main rink.

**Ticket prices:** Adults, \$6 per day, \$10 for a week-end pass; seniors and students, \$4 per day, \$6 for a week-end pass. Assist duty military personnel and their families will receive free admission with uniform for family ID.

**Info:** For more information go to: <http://mihl.pointstreakites.com/view/mihl/prep-showcase> or contact Pat Ronayne (248) 225-1264 or [PRonayne@comcast.net](mailto:PRonayne@comcast.net).

reasons Michigan high school hockey players are showing up in growing numbers on the rosters of junior teams and Division I colleges.

Catholic Central head coach Todd Johnson said feedback from coaches and scouts at all levels "is that the Showcase is organized and well managed — it is very accommodating to their schedules and it is well run. We are proud of that."

The 2001 Showcase attracted only a few scouts from junior hockey teams — there were over 83 scouts in attendance at the 2012 Showcase.

Every USHL and NAHL team was represented as were several Division III college hockey teams. Many of the leading Division I college hockey programs had one or two representatives in attendance and there were eleven NHL teams represented.

mented that they've seen some positive developments in Michigan high school hockey in recent years, as proven by the high quality of games at the Showcase.

## Chance to evaluate

"Along with the increased number of teams participating, the quality of the competition and the overall skill level of the players has improved," said Tom Anastas, head coach of Michigan State University and former commissioner of the CCHA. "The MIHL Prep Hockey Showcase is a very well-organized event and provides an excellent evaluation opportunity for college hockey programs across the country to identify prospects. It's an event that we look forward to attending every year."

Anastas went on to state that events like the Showcase are one of the

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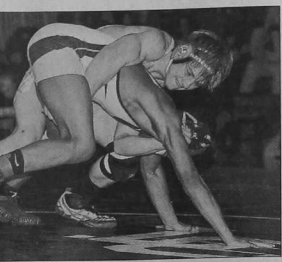
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## THE WEEK AHEAD

- PCS Penguins v. Walled Lake at Suburban Ice, 7:30 p.m.
- Churchill vs. Salem at Ft. Cultural Ctr., 8 p.m.
- PREP WRESTLING Saturday, Feb. 2**
- Adrian Middlebury v. TBA, KLA A Championship at EMU Bowen FH, 9 a.m.
- Western Wayne Co. meet at Summit Academy, 10 a.m.
- BOYS SWIMMING Thursday, Jan. 31**
- Churchill at Canton, 6:30 p.m.
- Plymouth at Franklin, 6:30 p.m.
- Glenn at Wayne, 6:30 p.m.
- Stevenson at N'ville, 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, Feb. 1
- Stevenson, Salem at A.A. Pioneer, 6:30 p.m.
- PREP BOWLING Thursday, Jan. 31**
- Clarencville vs. Oxford at Collier's Lanes, 3:30 p.m.
- John Glenn vs. Plymouth, Canton vs. Northville at Town 'N' Country, 3:30 p.m.
- Friday, Feb. 1
- Ladywood vs. Regina at Sterling Lanes, 3:45 p.m.
- GIRLS GYMNASTICS Saturday, Feb. 2**
- Canton Invitational, 9:30 a.m.
- GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER Saturday, Feb. 2**
- KLA A Championship at W.L. Northern, 9 a.m.
- WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS Saturday, Feb. 2**
- Davenport at MU, 3 p.m.
- WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS Saturday, Feb. 2**
- Davenport at MU, 1 p.m.
- Wayne Co. at Stratf., 1 p.m.
- TBA — time to be announced.

One of four Plymouth Wildcats to reach the Observer-land finals is Alec Breckenridge (top), shown against Allen Park of Wayne Memorial in the top bout at 140.



PHOTOS BY DOUGLAS MARGESTOCK

WRESTLING

Continued from page B1

ton Harrison's Mike Volyniuk to improve to 37-20 on the season, showing strength and resilience in getting out of a few jams in the process.

"Just don't stop moving, keep wrestling through it and hopefully you get the take-down," Youssief said, describing his blueprint for successfully emerging from precarious situations.

Learning experience

The Wildcats almost had another champion, in the 119-pound weight class. In fact, Terry Berry was up 6-5 with seconds left in regulation when Livonia Churchill's Josh Perez got up off the mat to force a OT. Perez then earned an 8-6 win with a take-down. Berry's 3-1 showing upped his overall record to 29-10.

"Perez dug deep and got the escape," Guernsey said. "I can't fault him (Berry). Berry wrestled tough, he's a good kid and he got that take-down in overtime. They'll see each other a few times before it's over."

Guernsey said the bout illustrated the importance of grinding it out to the finish.

"We can't give up at that point with a couple seconds left," he said. "There's a lot of lessons there."

Also falling in 0-1 was Breckenridge at 140, losing 8-6 to Allen Park of Wayne Memorial.

Jon Conn missed a chance to repeat as Observerland champion at 135, dropping a 10-7 decision to Harrison's Andrew Filaka.

Breckenridge and Conn now stand 33-5 and 32-8 for the season, respectively.

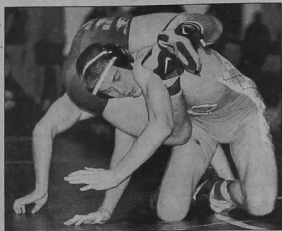
Guernsey, however, called it a good day with many strong performances despite several wrestlers battling illness. "We still beat up a little bit," he said. "So we're hoping we'll be winning those matches in regulation in another week or so."

In addition to the finalists, other Plymouth wrestlers that placed were Hussein Youssief (third at 145), Spencer Schifert (fifth at 125) and Joey Shaver (sixth at 160).

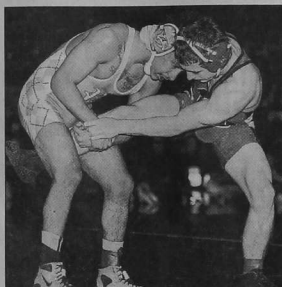
"Hussein Youssief had a great day, he wrestled really tough," Guernsey said. "He beat two good kids and the one loss he had was a close match to an opponent really good kid."

We're hoping he can build on that. He's wrestling really well for the right time, at the end of the year."

The KLAIA individual meet is set for Saturday,



In the Observerland finals at 135, Plymouth's Jon Conn upends Andrew Filaka of Farmington Harrison. Filaka earned a 10-7 decision.



Battling it out in a close match at 119 are Plymouth's Terry Berry (left) and Josh Perez of Livonia Churchill. Perez would win in overtime.

with the Division I individual districts Feb. 9.

"Overall, I'm pretty happy with the day," Guernsey said. "A lot of guys outperformed their seeds. Mo (Youssief) keeps looking really good, Jon (Conn) took some steps today as a wrestler. Al (Breckenridge) and Trey (Berry) looked good."

"We had a lot of guys who haven't had a lot of success so far this year who also looked good and won a lot of matches. We had very few kids go out in the first two rounds."

Salem's Gross squared off against Rankin in a rematch from the 2011 Observerland tourney, which Gross won. It was a hard-fought, low-scoring bout, with Rankin up 2-0 entering the third period. Gross couldn't turn things around, falling 5-0 to drop to 24-2 for the season.

The Rankin kid was just good," Rocks head coach Pete Israel said. "Tyler couldn't get off the bottom during the second period and that ended up to be the deciding factor."

Israel said Gross and Rankin have taken turns making it to the state finals over their career. "This year, hopefully they'll both go," he said. "They won't see each other because Redford Union is D2."

Setting it up

Other Salem wrestlers to place included Mitchell Gross (third at 189), Tony Agostini (third at 215) and Caleb McCabe (fifth at 130).

"Caleb McCabe did really well at 130. He's only a sophomore and this is a pretty tough tournament," Israel said. "I was really happy with Tony Agostini, he took third. And Mitchell Gross, he's a young sophomore in a tough 189 here. Taking third is pretty respectable for a sophomore in a big-guy weight."

"Tyler of course is disappointing, but I think it will inspire him to work just as hard for leagues and districts coming up."

Both Guernsey and Israel said the top-caliber opponents at Observerland will be good warmups for the league meet and individual districts.

We set up our season to end with a lot of individual stuff to get them ready for individual districts," Guernsey said. "So this week is the precursor to next week and KLAIA's probably a step up (from Observerland) with a lot of teams there."

"And hopefully they'll be ready to go at individual districts."

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Rockets grab Observerland crown

By Brad Emmons, Observer Staff Writer

Westland John Glenn had shared two previous Observerland Wrestling Tournament team titles, but on Saturday night the Rockets had their first-place trophy all to themselves.

Glenn, boasting four individual champions, scored a team-high 180.5 points and walked out of Livonia Churchill's gym with the ought champion's title.

Livonia Franklin, which tied for the title last year with Glenn, placed runner-up with 149 points followed by Wayne Memorial (143), Plymouth (133.5) and the Novi Detroit Catholic Central 'B' varsity team (120) rounding out the top five in the 16-school field.

"We started out well," Glenn coach Bill Polk said. "First round we had a lot of pin points and a lot of wins. It kind of gave us a boost. It can switch. The second round you can drop them all and be in fourth place. We had one bad round—the placing round. For third, fourth, fifth and sixth, we only won one of those matches. But the finals we won every one."

The Rockets held a 21.5-point lead over Franklin and Wayne heading into the championship rounds and they went a perfect 4-for-4 led by 112-pounder Kyle Gillies, a senior who remained undefeated (33-0) after scoring a 7-1 decision over Belleville's Austin Koehler.

Senior Travis Mann (12-2) then took the 152-pound crown when he pinned Franklin's Nick Prazier in 1 minute and 45 seconds. Glenn closed out the meet by taking the 215- and 285-pound titles, respectively, as junior Jordan Atienza (160) and Allen Steele (189), but lost arguably their best

wrestler when 130-pounder Danny Martinez, who had just one loss all season, suffered a broken arm in the finals against Farmington's Immanuel Govantes, the Oakland County Champ.

Martinez, a senior who had never taken an injury timeout during his four-year career, was a threat to win Franklin's first-ever individual state title.

He is expected to be out six-to-eight weeks after being taken for X-rays at St. Mary's Hospital in Livonia.

"I'm just sick," Franklin coach Dave Chioia said. "He's the nicest kid I've ever coached. Best of the nicest, smartest, most humble. The whole team is broken up."

The Patriots took second, but couldn't leapfrog Glenn.

"We had five guys not score any points," Chioia said. "Every match we won we were supposed to win. We didn't win any matches we were not supposed to win. So that's never good. We let a lot of guys off their backs. We did not wrestle well."

Wayne Memorial put three in the finals with senior Allen Parker winning the 140-pound crown after earning a hard-

fought 8-6 overtime decision over Livonia's Alec Breckenridge.

"I can't complain. I'm walking out with a trophy for the first time since I've been coming to this tournament for eight years," Wayne coach Steve Vasiloff said. "The team wrestled tough. I had some kids I thought do better, but did not do as well. But I had some kids that I didn't think would do as well, do really well."

"Overall, I'm not complaining. No one in particular surprised me, but the kids went out there and won the matches that they needed to win to get to the finals. We had three kids in the finals that I'll never complain about either. It was a great win by (Allen) Parker, and I think we were very happy about that one."

Tournament coaches voted Churchill junior Perez (119) the lower-weight champ, while senior Josh Perez won the 140-pound crown over Glenn's Kevin Huynh in the semifinals followed by an 8-6 triumph over top seed Terry Berry of Plymouth in the championship

OBSERVERLAND MAT RESULTS

- 125: Jordan Atienza (160) def. Kyle Gillies (112).
130: Kyle Gillies (112) def. Austin Koehler (130).
135: Caleb McCabe (130) def. Mitchell Gross (135).
140: Josh Perez (140) def. Alec Breckenridge (140).
145: Hussein Youssief (145) def. Spencer Schifert (145).
152: Travis Mann (12-2) def. Nick Prazier (152).
160: Jordan Atienza (160) def. Kyle Gillies (112).
189: Allen Steele (189) def. Adam Drucz (189).
215: Mitchell Gross (215) def. Tony Agostini (215).
285: Kyle Gillies (112) def. Kyle Gillies (112).

Signups set for PCLL, baseball clinics

Registration is underway for Plymouth-Canton Little League's 2013 spring/summer baseball season and new offerings of baseball clinics.

Families can register their children for the season and the clinics at PCLL's website, www.plycanton.com, or at in-person registration 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10 at Plaza Landes, 42001 Ann Arbor Rd. in Plymouth.

PCLL's baseball season runs from April through

early July, and participation is open to boys and girls ages 5 through 14.

Divisions include T-ball (ages 5-6), Machine Pitch (ages 7-8), Minors (ages 9-10) and Juniors (ages 11-12) and Juniors (ages 13-14).

Players ages 8 and older are eligible to qualify for and participate on post-season tournaments selected in June, playing in July and August.

history, PCLL is offering a series of clinics on hitting, fielding and pitching.

The clinics will take place at Total Baseball in Wixom (30990 S. Wixom Rd., Wixom, Mich.), and the cost of each clinic is only \$18 per participant. The schedule is as follows:

- Saturday, Jan. 26: Hitting, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.; 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 23: Pitching, catching,

infield/outfield from 12 noon to 1 p.m.; infield/outfield, 2:30-3:30 p.m.; hitting, 3-4 p.m.

Saturday, April 21: Hitting, 4-5 p.m.; infield/outfield, 5-6 p.m. and 6-7 p.m.

For more information, visit PCLL's website or email info@plycanton.com

Rockettes to take part at UDA National

The Salem Rockettes are going to Disney World — having excelled at the recent Southern Michigan Dance Challenge at Royal High School in Orlando. Disney is hosting the UDA National pom competition, Feb. 2-3.

On Jan. 6 at the southern Michigan event, the veteran Rockettes com-

peted in pom (finishing fifth out of more than 20 teams) and hip hop.

Meanwhile, the junior varsity Rockettes also performed well, finishing in the top 11 teams. After the Florida event will be the Salem Rockettes Kids Clinic on March 16. Go to www.pompon.com for more information and registration forms.

# Canton girls cagers blitz Zebras, 63-29

Tuesday's 63-29 win by Canton over Wayne Memorial wasn't as easy as that score would indicate, according to Chiefs coach Brian Samulski.

"Overall, I wasn't real pleased with the first half," Samulski said.

"I thought we turned it over way too much and we didn't handle simple things defensively."

Still, Canton had a 32-11 lead at halftime of the KLAAs South Division varsity girls basketball game and really took it to the Zebras in the third quarter.

Canton enjoyed a 19-5 edge in scoring in that frame, to enjoy a 51-16 edge going into the fourth.

"To the kids credit I thought they played an outstanding third quarter," Samulski said. "We were definitely better and we got better as a team and that's what I like so much about these girls."

"There is no quit in them and they are always trying to figure out what we are doing," Samulski said. "Playing another solid all-around game for Canton (9-4 overall, 5-2 in the KLAAs South) was Paige Aresco, who registered 16 points and four steals. Taylor Humley chipped in with 11 points and six



JOHN KEMSK | EXPRESS PHOTO

One of many Canton players to contribute to the Chiefs victory over Wayne Memorial was Annie McDougall (right), shown from a game earlier this season.

rebounds.

Other offensive contributions were made by Annie McDougall (seven points), Rachel Winters and Natalie Winters (six points each).

Shannon Perry also scored six points and was Canton's top rebounder with 11.

**SALEM 43, S. LYON EAST 31:** Visiting Salem (5-8, 4-3) stifled South Lyon East (6-7, 1-6) with defense and rebounding Tuesday night to post this KLAAs Central Division girls basketball victory.

The leading scorer for Salem was Janyra Wilson, with 10 points.

"We rebounded the ball, defended the ball," Brooks head coach Fred Thomann said. "We only had five turnovers at halftime."

Balanced offense also helped the cause. In addition to Wilson, Bre Brewer (nine points), Kelly Whalen (seven points), Shayra Kavulich (six points) and Kyla Kaul (five points)

made nice contributions.

Leading Salem in rebounding was Hayley Rogers, with 10. Chipping in with five boards were Whalen and Brewer.

Gabby Bird paced the Cougars with 15 points.

**PLYMOUTH 58, FRANKLIN 27:** Strong work around the basket Tuesday lifted Plymouth (6-7, 5-2) to this impressive victory at Livonia Franklin (7-7, 3-5).

The Wildcats tallied 52 points in the paint and held a 38-21 rebounding edge en route to the victory.

Plymouth enjoyed leads of 15-4 after one quarter and 33-10 at halftime, and coasted from there.

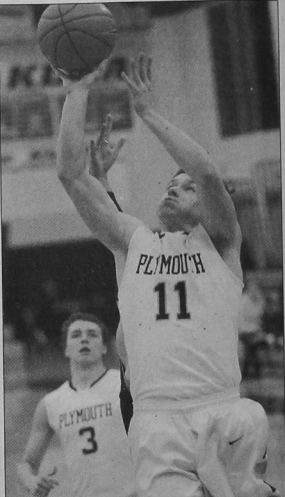
Leah Kiczinski keyed the Wildcats with 11 rebounds along with eight points, while junior center Shelby Cherven was a force with 17 points, nine boards and five blocks.

Also contributing to the victory were Jada Woody (10 points), Faige Robinson, Tionne Johnson (seven points, eight boards), Paige Slominski (seven points) and Kylie Robb (five points, five assists, three steals).

The leading scorer for Franklin was Katelynn Devers, with 15 points.

"We had contributions from everyone which makes it the best type of win," Plymouth head coach Bob Bear said. "Leah Kiczinski scored eight points and brought a ton of energy. Tionne Johnson got us started with five first quarter points."

"We were able to get the ball inside and that was the key. Brooke Senbell continues to bring a strong floor game. She is becoming a 'glue' player for us which is something that every good team has to have."



PHOTOS BY BILL BRASLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth senior Josh Priebe (No. 11), shown from a game earlier this season, led the Wildcats Tuesday with 17 points. In the background is Brendan Swanson (No. 3).

## HOOPS

Continued from page B1

(five points), sophomore Deji Adebiji (four points, five boards), Schmid (five boards) and senior Tyler Gamblin (four points).

"We were very aggressive from the get-go," said Soukup, whose team hosts Canton at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the second half of a girls' boys varsity doubleheader.



Connor Cole (No. 32) tallied 13 points for Salem in Tuesday's victory over South Lyon East.

**SALEM 78, S. LYON EAST 38:** Host Salem (11-3, 6-1) outrebounded South Lyon East 53-27 Tuesday night and rolled to this KLAAs Central Division victory.

The Rocks came out firing on all cylinders and led 21-11 after the first quarter. It was more of the same in the second, with Salem's 19-8 edge making it a 40-20 halftime cushion.

Twelve player made the scoresheet, with Chris Dieker leading the way with 15 points (along with 15 rebounds).

Also in double figures for the Rocks were Connor Cole (13 points) and Nate Sals (10 points).

Jake Burns had a solid night, with six points and eight rebounds — six on the offensive end.

Ahmad Khalid registered eight points, while Kevin Mack and Brady Cole each chipped in with six.

Salem visits Livonia Stevenson on Friday night.

**CANTON 63, WAYNE 16:** Jordan Nobles and Josh Mayberry each scored 14 points Tuesday to spearhead host Canton (8-5, 6-1) to a lopsided KLAAs South Division victory over Wayne Memorial.

The Chiefs wasted no time getting the upper hand, rolling out to a 24-3 advantage after one quarter. It was 45-9 at halftime and 55-14 after three frames.

"I was happy with our defensive effort and energy tonight, especially in the first half," Canton head coach Jimmy Ruddy said.

Canton also had the offense going, connecting on 23 of 44 shots (52 percent) — including five of nine from behind the three-point arc.

Contributing six points each were Adnan Bayz, Ryan Plymley and Jaffer Ahmad. Greg Williams scored five.

Bayz also led the Chiefs in rebounding, with seven.

The Chiefs outrebounded the Zebras 43-13.

**PCA 52:** Visiting Plymouth Christian Academy (8-4 overall, 3-4 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference, Blue Division) dropped a tough conference matchup against Oakland Christian on Tuesday night.

Mick Noel led the Eagles with 21 points, while Drew Ibach added 10 points.

## GYMNASTS

Continued from page B1

In D2, the Wildcats' prospects of being a state contender along with elite teams such as Grand League and Canton do not rest solely on the shoulders of McCurry and Uhlin.

They do set the tone and lead by example for teammates, including Haley Metz, Katie Salanga, Brenna Connolly and freshman Rebecca Simu.

Count Canton coach John Cunningham among those impressed with the Wildcats.

"Among the teams that I really know about, they (Wildcats) are the only ones that can challenge us (in the Kensington Division)," Cunningham said earlier this month. "Pam (Vockey) is one of those coaches that sort of holds things back, so I know they'll be gunning for us."

Plymouth did just that Jan. 9 against the No. 2-ranked Chiefs, but was defeated 143-53, 138-5 in a very competitive dual meet. In that meet, Simu set a new school freshman record on uneven parallel bars with a 9.0 score.

The Wildcats later cracked the 140-point barrier Jan. 15 against Huron Valley, winning 140.525-140.175.

## Warriors continue hot streak

The Lutheran High Westland boys basketball team continued its winning ways Tuesday with a convincing 54-24 victory over Ypsilanti Calvary Christian.

The Warriors, who got 12 points apiece from Brandon Wyman and Nick Andrzejewski, improve to 4-4 overall and 5-2 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Red Division.

Nick Flanery also added 11 points, while Wyman pulled down a team-best nine rebounds

as Lutheran Westland took charge from the start jumping out to a 23-1 first-quarter lead.

"We had a commanding lead at the half, but we weren't playing both ends of the floor like I felt we should be," said Lutheran Westland coach Jim Hoef, whose team has won five-of-six.

"Our movement was better in the second half. We got more open shots. However, we're missing a lot of really good looks in the paint. We need to go a lot stronger to the basket."

Lutheran Westland shot 40 percent from the floor (23-of-58).

"Our field goal percentage is poor lately because we're missing those easy opportunities," Hoef said.

"Regardless, the biggest thing is that we're playing as a team, and that's what I like to see. We're stringing some wins together now heading into the second half of conference play."

Calvary (1-10, 1-6) got six points apiece from James Bergier and Blake Garner.

## Crusaders win third straight

Sophomore guard Yazmeen Hamid scored a career-high 12 points to lead the Madonna University women's basketball team to its third straight win Saturday against host Marygrove College, 83-63, at Highland Park's Ford Fieldhouse.

Lee McGrath (Livonia Stevenson).

Rachel Melcher came off the bench to add 11, while Michelle Lindsey and Kristie Porada added 10 apiece as the Crusades shot 57.6 percent from the floor (34-of-59).

MU's bench outscored Marygrove 43-6.

The Mustangs (2-20, 0-15) got a game-high 21 points from Arielle Edwards and 19 from Ciara Moore.

Community College (13-5, 5-3) to an MCCA Eastern Conference victory over Schoolcraft College (5-13, 2-6).

The Bears rallied from a 26-20 halftime deficit by going on a 10 run to tie the second half.

Brianna Berberet (Salem) scored a team-high 13 points for the Lady Celts, who shot only 14-of-52 from the floor (27 percent) and committed 31 turnovers.

Ajai Meeks added 12 points and 15 rebounds.

Twelve of MU's 14 players scored as the Crusaders improved to 14-8 overall and 10-5 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

Also adding 12 points was senior center Kay-

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

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| Edith Falls       | B27    | Household furniture                                    |
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| Melvin Steed      | A44    | Household items  |
| Julie Constantine | D6     | General household items                                |
| E-Enterprises LLC | A56    | General household items                                |

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January

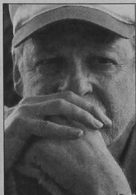
**OPEN HOUSE**  
**Time/Date:** 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31  
**Location:** St. Genevieve Catholic School, 28933 Jamison, Livonia  
**Details:** Tour the school, talk to other parents and staff during this open house for the school, which includes classes for preschool through middle school, CYO sports, bus transportation for Livonia residents, and flexible payment plans. Registration packets will be available at the open house  
**Contact:** www.saintgenevieve.org or call (734) 425-4420

February

**CONCERT**  
**Time/Date:** 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10  
**Location:** Sacred Heart Banquet & Conference Center, 29125 Six Mile, east of Middlebelt, Livonia  
**Details:** Christian concert for children starring Rob Evans, "The Donut Man" and his sidekick, Duncan. The musician is nationally known for Bible stories. Admission is \$5 per person. Kids, 3 and under are admitted free  
**Contact:** Rev. Joseph Marquis, Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church, at (734) 522-3166

**CLOTHING BANK**  
**Time/Date:** 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2  
**Locations:** Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty, Plymouth  
**Details:** The clothing bank is closing its doors. It will sell items on its final day. Shoppers should bring their own bags and boxes  
**Contact:** (734) 927-6686

**DINNER DANCE**  
**Time/Date:** 6-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16  
**Location:** Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** This Valentine's Day event will include a sit-down dinner, DJ and dancing, and photo booth for special memories. Tickets are: \$35 per couple or \$20 per person.



Danny Siegel is the guest speaker at the annual Rabbi B. Benedict and Ada S. Glazer Memorial Lectures on Judaism for the Catholic, Protestant, Eastern Orthodox, Muslim and Jewish Clergy, Feb. 8-9 at Temple Beth El in Bloomfield Hills.

They're available by calling the church office  
**Contact:** (248) 553-3380

**DIVORCE SUPPORT**  
**Time/Date:** 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 14  
**Location:** Our Lady of Good Counsel School, Junior High Commons, 1062 Church Street, Plymouth  
**Details:** New Beginnings, support group for divorced Catholics, holds its next monthly meeting which will include a talk by the Rev. Ben Luedtke. Participants will meet in small group discussions, giving them the opportunity to discuss issues related to divorce and faith in a safe, confidential, and prayerful environment. Pre-registration for this event is recommended and free of charge  
**Contact:** newbeginningsolc@gmail.com

**GRIEF SUPPORT**  
**Time/Date:** 7-8:45 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5-March 26  
**Location:** Faith Covenant Church, 35415 W. 14 Mile, at Drake, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** "From Grief to New Hope," an eight-week seminar and support group for individuals who are grieving after the death of a loved one, is presented by New Hope Center for Grief Support. Register online or by calling the church  
**Contact:** The church at (248) 661-9191; amanda.heltrman@4fccc.org; www.4fccc.org

**GRIEF SUPPORT**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13 and 20  
**Location:** St. Michael the

Time to pray



Works by Detroit artist, Sabrina Nelson, will be on display Feb. 1-24 at Gallery@VT, in the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, in Canton.

Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia  
**Details:** The church and L.J. Griffin Funeral Homes present "Grieving with Great Hope," a five-week grief support series that offers a prayerful, practical and personal approach for people who are mourning the loss of a loved one. Presenters will include the Rev. Bill Tindall as well John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry  
**Contact:** St. Michael's at (734) 261-1455 or www.goodmourningministry.net

**LECTURE**  
**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 11  
**Location:** The Berman Center for Performing Arts, on the campus of the Jewish Community Center of Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield  
**Details:** Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, columnist and author of "The Fed-up Man of Faith," argues against Rabbi Harold Kushner's best-selling "Why Bad Things Happen to Good People" and boldly guides listeners to the conclusion that challenging God and his actions is not just a right but also a foremost obli-

gation for human beings. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$25 at the door  
**Contact:** (248) 661-1900 or www.theberman.org  
**LENTEN SERVICE**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 13-March 20  
**Location:** Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford  
**Details:** Free soup and sandwich supper served at 6 p.m. before the Ash Wednesday service on Feb. 13 and free treats after the other services.  
**The theme is:** "Names of Wondrous Love"  
**Contact:** (313) 532-8655 or (734) 968-3523

**SOLANUS CASEY CENTER**  
**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9  
**Location:** Met Hotel, 5500 Crooks, Troy  
**Details:** The Capuchin ministry will hold its ninth annual wine, dinner, and auction featuring a cocktail hour with appetizers, a sit-down dinner, exquisite wines from around the world along with a silent auction and live auction. Tickets are \$75 per person  
**Contact:** www.SolanusCenter.org or (313) 579-2100, Ext. 153

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 for all ages at 9:45 a.m.

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## Livonia native returns home to perform Chopin concerto

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Anthony Bonamici plays piano as though he lived during the 19th century Romantic era.

The former Livonia native can't help it. He's immersed in the history of the period every time he steps out of his apartment in St. Petersburg, Russia.

"The biggest influence of being over there is being in a historic city. That influences me, just to be in that atmosphere. It makes me feel closer to the Romantic era," said Bonamici, who is back in his hometown this week to perform at a Livonia Symphony Orchestra 4 p.m. concert. "You can't really know how they played, the Romantic pianists from that era... but I think I try to play more in that style rather than a modern style."

Bonamici chose Chopin's *Piano Concerto No. 1 in E minor* for his solo performance at the LSO concert, Saturday, Feb. 2, at Clarensville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, Livonia. The Symphony, conducted by Volodymyr Sheshuk, will perform *Egmont Overture* by Beethoven and *Liedertanz, Op. 13* by Prokofiev in the first half of the program, which starts at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for students, \$5 and up, and \$15 for groups of 10 or more. Call (313) 538-2536 for more information or visit [www.livoniasymphony.org](http://www.livoniasymphony.org).

**Celebrating 40**  
Although he visits his mother, Carol, in Livonia every year, Bonamici has played only one other concert with the LSO since moving in 1994 to

### ABOUT ANTHONY BONAMICI

**Musical education:** Took music lessons at age 5 with a family friend and later at a music store. At age 10, began studying piano with Donald Morelock at Schoolcraft Col-



lege and as a teen studied composition with Andrew Meade at the University of Michigan. Spent a year at Rice University in Texas after graduating in 1993 from Stevenson High School. Began studying at Moscow State Tchaikovsky Conservatory in 1994. Transferred to St. Petersburg State Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory four years later.

**Degrees:** Bachelor's degree in composition awarded in 2004 and master's degree in piano performance, in 2011, both from St. Petersburg State.

**Employment:** Teaches piano and chamber music at the Herzen State Pedagogical University in St. Petersburg. Also performs chamber music with members of the Mariinsky Theater Orchestra and is called on to adjudicate competitions and offer master classes. He speaks fluent Russian.

**Business:** Builds harpsichords at his "Bonamici Clavecin's" workshop in St. Petersburg.

**Musical preference:** Classical, but occasionally listens to jazz or electronic music.

Russia, where he teaches piano and chamber music to university students.

"I'm here to help the Livonia Symphony celebrate its 40th anniversary," said Bonamici, Monday during an interview at his childhood home. "Of course, I'm glad to see my mother. It all comes together at the right time."

Bonamici also said the timing was right for him to play the Chopin piece.

"I was thinking of playing either Beethoven or this. I decided on this,"

he said, referring to Chopin's concerto. "I've always wanted to play it. I said, maybe it's time to play this one."

"I think it's a joy to play. It's very beautiful music. I have enjoyed working on it, definitely, just spending a year with Chopin."

The music is in three movements, Bonamici described the first as "dramatic and emotional" and the second as "lighter" and in a major key. The final movement is bright and cheerful.



Anthony Bonamici plays the piano at his mother's house in Livonia.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Practicing a highly-emotional piece of music can be exhausting and influence mood.

"I imagine you are practicing that piece eight hours a day. You're in a certain mood because you've been in that piece for eight hours," he said. If Bonamici tires of rehearsing a particular piece, he sets it aside and works on another.

"You work on these in waves, in stages," he explained, adding that he enjoys practice time. "Sometimes it's work. If you want to achieve anything it's a ton of work."

### Building harpsichords

In Russia, Bonamici primarily performs in chamber music ensembles and occasionally as a soloist. In addition to rehearsing, performing and teaching,

he also builds harpsichords.

"I studied the harpsichord for a year. I really enjoyed it and was looking for a harpsichord to buy. I met a man who had built some small ones. So, we got into this partnership."

Bonamici continued the business, Bonamici Clavecin's, after his partner died. Since then, he has hired employees to help with production.

"You don't make it from scratch. I get a kit. It has all the parts and they are machined to size. So, all the big woodworking is done. You still have to fit them together and there is a lot of musical work that has to be done. I concentrate on the musical aspect of it all."

He said the business side of Bonamici Clavecin's — dealing with lawyers, accountants and

contracts — helps keep him balanced and "up to date on what's going on in the world."

On work days, he generally spends five to six hours at the harpsichord workshop, and another four or five hours teaching, before heading home to practice piano and relax.

Leisure days involve drinking lots of tea, practicing his choice of music on piano, and going out with friends.

"An ultra-leisurely day is when I am not practicing and I'll cook something," said Bonamici, whose baking specialty was croissants while growing up. "That happens once in a while, too."

For more information about upcoming Livonia Symphony Orchestra concerts, visit [livoniasymphony.org](http://livoniasymphony.org) or call its hotline at (734) 421-1111.

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### Arts Crafts

#### DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

**Time/Date:** 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 Sunday:** 2 p.m. Sundays; storytelling, performances; free with admission.  
**Exhibits:** Hidden Treasures: An Experiment, through March 3; Motor City Muse: Detroit Photographs: Then and Now, through June 16; Shirin Ne-shat, includes eight video installations and two series of photos, April 7-July 7  
**Contact:** (313) 833-7900, [www.dia.org](http://www.dia.org)

#### GALLERYQVT

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, Feb. 1-24  
**Location:** Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton  
**Details:** Mixed media by Sabrina Nelson  
**Contact:** (734) 394-5308

#### LIBERTY STREET BREW PUB

**Time/Date:** Artist reception, 5-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8; exhibit through March 30; pub hours are 3 p.m.-midnight, Monday-Thursday, 3 p.m.-1 a.m. Friday; 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Saturday, and noon-midnight, Sunday.  
**Location:** 149 W. Liberty St., Plymouth; Upper Hall Gallery  
**Details:** Second annual group show by Art Circle Six. This year's show features the artist challenge — "Icons, Myths and Legends"  
**Contact:** (734) 207-9600

#### NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

**Time/Date:** 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, Feb. 1-23; artist reception is 6-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 1  
**Location:** 215 W. Cady, Northville  
**Details:** 7th Annual Member Exhibition is an all-me-

### GET OUT!

#### PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and during public events, through Jan.  
**Location:** Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth  
**Details:** Realee Edgar's realistic paintings feature classic and vintage autos.  
**Contact:** (734) 416-4278

#### MAPLE THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, Feb. 6-7  
**Location:** 4136 Maple, west of Telegraph, Bloomfield Township  
**Details:** Meet seven survivors of profound loss in the documentary, "Transforming Loss," by Judith Burdick, licensed psycho-therapist. Learn what the human spirit is capable of in times of trauma and tragedy. Burdick will be on hand for the premiere of her new film. The screening is sponsored by Temple Beth El. Tickets are free and available by pre-registering online at [www.transforminglossdocumentary.com](http://www.transforminglossdocumentary.com). Click on the "register" tab  
**Contact:** (248) 808-5569

#### PENN THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 1, 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, and 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 3  
**Location:** 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth  
**Details:** "Rise of the Guardians," 53  
**Coming up:** "Life of Pi," 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 7 and 14, 7 p.m. and 9:25 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 8-9, and 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10  
**Contact:** (734) 453-0870; [www.penntheatre.com](http://www.penntheatre.com)

#### REDFORD THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Feb. 8, and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 9  
**Location:** 17350 Lahser,

Detroit  
**Details:** "Pillow Talk," 44  
**Contact:** (313) 537-2560; [www.redfordtheatre.com](http://www.redfordtheatre.com)

### Historical

#### PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

**Time/Date:** 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday, Jan. 25-June 9  
**Location:** 155 S. Main, Plymouth  
**Details:** New "Made in America" exhibit highlights America's contributions to industry, with a special emphasis on Michigan-made products. Visitors will find iconic American-made products throughout the Museum's "Main Street," including a 1931 Ford Model-A pickup truck belonging to Margaret Dunning, the Museum's major benefactor. Other notable items include eight pedal cars from the collection of Greg Glacki of Westland, and a 1960s vintage Texaco gas pump that keeps the pedal cars fueled. Many more items from the Museum's collections are scattered throughout the exhibit, giving visitors a full sense of American ingenuity. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, 6-17  
**Contact:** (734) 455-8940

### Music

#### 10 NORTH BAR & GRILLE

**Time/Date:** 9 p.m. to approximately 1 a.m.  
**Location:** 24555 Novi Road, Novi  
**Details:** Free live music series with The Rocks, female-fronted cover band, Feb. 1, The Party, '80s cover band, Feb. 8, Soul Hustler, Motown, classic covers and current hits, Feb. 16. All ages welcome. Food and drink specials all night long  
**Contact:** (248) 365-4720; [10northbar.com](http://10northbar.com)

#### BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

**Time/Date:** Sign up for open mic, 6:15-6:45 p.m.

### Please see GET OUT!, B7

**GET OUT!**

Continued from page B6

performances, 7 p.m., the third Saturday of the month.

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

**Details:** Admission is \$5. Individual and family annual memberships also are available

**Contact:** Scott Ludwig at B5President@aol.com or call (734) 453-0869

**BERMAN CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS**

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31

**Location:** 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

**Details:** The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center performs; tickets are \$46 for adults and \$36 for Jewish Community Center members

**Contact:** (248) 661-1900;



The Band of the Scots Guards will perform Feb. 9 at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts in Detroit.

**www.theberman.org**  
**CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF DETROIT**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8

**Location:** Max M. Fisher Music Center, located at

3711 Woodward Avenue (next to Orchestra Hall) in Detroit

**Details:** The inDepth Series continues with performances by two quartets — American and Aeolus String Quartets. Each quar-

ter also will discuss works by composers they have worked with. The audience will have the opportunity to ask questions. All seats priced at \$20 for adults. Students pay \$10. A cash bar and refreshments will be available

**Contact:** (248) 855-6070 or visit [www.ChamberMusic-Detroit.org](http://www.ChamberMusic-Detroit.org)

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

**Contact:** (734) 453-1780 or e-mail to [pymouthelks1780@yahoo.com](mailto:pymouthelks1780@yahoo.com)

**MUSIC HALL**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9

**Location:** 350 Madison, Detroit

**Details:** The Band of the Scots Guards and The Pipes, Drums, and Highland Dancers of the Black Watch 3rd Battalion perform. Tickets are \$27, \$37, and \$47.

**Contact:** (313) 887-8501 or [www.musicall.org](http://www.musicall.org)

**PENN THEATRE**

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

**Location:** 760 Peninman, Plymouth

**Details:** Plymouth Community Band performs a free concert

**Contact:** (734) 453-0870

**PLAYERS BARN THEATRE**

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Feb. 8

**Location:** 32332 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Metro Jazz Voices perform "Songs to Celebrate Love." Tickets are \$19 for adults and \$17 for seniors and students

**Contact:** (248) 473-1848; [https://recreg.fhgov.com](http://https://recreg.fhgov.com)

**TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE**

**Time/Date:** Most shows start

at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

**Details:** The Motor City Troubadors, Feb. 1. The Delta Twins with Four Block Empire, Feb. 2. Empty Chair Night with Annie and Rod Capps, Joel Palmer, and Cello Bella, Feb. 3. The Unwieldy Show with John Latini, Dave Boutette and Jamie-Sue Seal, Feb. 8. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted

**Contact:** (734) 464-6302

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**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily

**Location:** I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

**Details:** Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free.

**Contact:** (248) 541-5717



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## Sweeten up Valentine's Day with red velvet

Few things show you care more than a treat made with love. Whether saying "xoxo" to family or "be mine" to a new Valentine, there's one dynamite flavor that fits the bill: red velvet.

In recent years, the love of red velvet has blossomed beyond its traditional Southern roots into a popular dessert with mass appeal. In fact, last Valentine's Day, enough Red Food Color was sold — more than 550,000 ounces — to make enough red velvet cupcakes to circle the Earth 23 times. That's why the McCormick Kitchens turned to red velvet to inspire new Valentine's Day recipes this year.

"Amid a sea of pink holiday confections, red velvet stands alone with its vibrant hue and rich taste. It has a unique flavor that is not quite vanilla and not quite chocolate," said Mary Beth Harrington of the McCormick Kitchens. "Red velvet is also surprisingly versatile, inspiring a range of creative presentations, from creamy hot chocolate to decadent breakfast pancakes to cream-filled cupcakes. Simply said, people love it."

For treats that will turn your Valentine's Day into a celebration kids of all ages will enjoy, try these six fresh takes on red velvet. For more recipes, visit [www.mccormick.com](http://www.mccormick.com).

### Red Velvet Brownie Conversation Hearts



### Red Velvet Brownie Conversation Hearts

Makes about 24 servings.  
Prep Time: 30 minutes  
Cook Time: 25 minutes

1 package (family-sized) fudge brownie mix  
½ cup sour cream  
2 eggs  
1 bottle (1 ounce) red food color  
8 cups confectioners' sugar (2 pounds)  
½ cup water  
2 tablespoons light corn syrup  
2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract  
Assorted food colors & egg dye  
Decorating gel or 1 ounce white baking chocolate

1. Prepare brownie mix as directed on package with sour cream, eggs and red food color. Spoon batter in greased 13- by 9-inch baking pan.

2. Bake and cool and directed on package. Cut out cooled brownie with heart-shaped cookie cutters. Place brownies on wire rack set over baking sheet.

3. For the icing, mix confectioners' sugar, water and corn syrup in medium saucepan. Cook on medium-low heat until sugar is melted, stirring occasionally. Stir in vanilla. Tint with desired food color. Spoon or pour icing over top and sides of brownies. (If icing becomes too stiff, gently reheat to

pouring consistency.) Let stand until icing is set. Use decorating gel to write on brownies. Or melt white chocolate as directed on package. Pour into small resealable plastic bag. Snip off a tiny piece of the corner. Squeeze chocolate through hole in plastic bag to write on brownies.

**Test Kitchen Tip:** For easy clean-up, line pan with foil with ends of foil extending over sides of pan. Use foil handles to remove brownie from pan. Place on cutting board and cut out with cookie cutters.

**Easy Pink Frosting:** Brownie may be frosted with Easy Pink Frosting instead of prepared icing. Stir 6 drops desired McCormick Assorted Food Color & Egg Dye into 1 container (16 ounces) white frosting until well blended. Add additional drops of food color until desired shade is reached. Spread on cooled brownie. Cut out with heart-shaped cookie cutters.

**Nutrition information per serving:** 263 calories, 3g fat, 58g carbohydrates, 19mg cholesterol, 83mg sodium, 1g protein

### Red Velvet Cream-Filled Cupcakes

Gale Gand, a nationally acclaimed pastry chef, restaurateur, cookbook author and television personality, likes to fill and frost cupcakes so that you get delicious frosting with every bite.

Makes 30 (1 cupcake) servings.  
Prep Time: 20 minutes  
Cook Time: 20 minutes

2½ cups flour  
½ cup unsweetened cocoa powder  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened  
2 cups granulated sugar  
4 eggs  
1 cup sour cream  
½ cup milk  
1 bottle (1 ounce) McCormick Red Food Color  
2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract  
Red Colored Sugar  
Vanilla Cream Cheese Frosting (recipe follows)

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Mix flour, cocoa powder, baking soda and salt. Set aside. Beat butter and granulated sugar in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed 5 minutes or until light and fluffy. Beat in eggs, 1 at a time. Mix in sour cream, milk, food color and vanilla. Gradually beat in flour mixture on low speed until just blended. Do not overbeat. Spoon batter into 30 paper-lined muffin cups, filling each cup ¾ full.

2. Bake 20 minutes or until toothpick inserted into cupcake comes out clean. Cool in pans on wire rack 5 minutes. Remove from pans; cool completely.

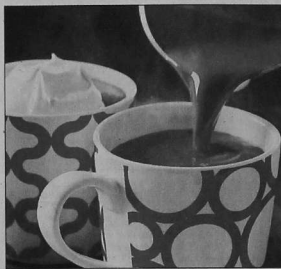
3. Meanwhile, prepare Red Colored Sugar and Vanilla Cream Cheese Frosting.

4. Make an indentation in the center of each cupcake using the handle of a wooden spoon or a straw, making sure not to break through bottom of cupcake. Spoon about ½ cup Frosting into resealable plastic bag. Cut a small piece off one of the bottom corners of bag. Pipe about 1 teaspoon Frosting into each cupcake. Spread top of cupcakes with remaining Frosting. Sprinkle with Red Colored Sugar.

**Vanilla Cream Cheese Frosting:** Beat 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened, ¼ cup (½ stick) butter, softened, 2 tablespoons sour cream and 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract in large bowl until light and fluffy. Gradually beat in 1 box (16 ounces) confectioners' sugar until smooth.

**Red Colored Sugar:** Place ¾ cup white sugar crystals in large resealable plastic bag. Add ½ teaspoon red food color. Seal bag. Knead sugar until the color is evenly distributed. Spread colored sugar on large rimmed baking sheet. Let stand 25-30 minutes or until sugar is dried. Store in airtight container. Makes ¾ cup or 24 (1-teaspoon) servings.

**Nutrition information per serving:** 292 calories, 12g fat, 43g carbohydrates, 64mg cholesterol, 1g fiber, 3g protein, 181mg sodium



### Red Velvet Hot Chocolate

Makes 5 servings  
Prep Time: 5 minutes  
Cook Time: 5 minutes

4 cups whole milk  
½ cup granulated sugar  
10 ounces semi-sweet baking chocolate, coarsely chopped  
2 teaspoons red food color  
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract  
Vanilla Whipped Cream, recipe follows (optional)  
Miniature marshmallows (optional)

Stir in chocolate with wire whisk until melted. Stir in food color and vanilla.

3. Pour into serving cups. Serve with Vanilla Whipped Cream and marshmallows, if desired.

**Vanilla Whipped Cream:** Beat ½ cup heavy cream, 2 tablespoons confectioners' sugar and ½ teaspoon pure vanilla extract in medium bowl with electric mixer on high speed until stiff peaks form. Makes about 1 cup.

### Red Velvet Pancakes

Makes 4 servings  
Prep Time: 10 minutes  
Cook Time: 12 minutes

Treat your family to a Valentine's Day breakfast with these red velvet tinted pancakes. Serve with your choice of a sweet Cream Cheese Topping or Spiced Syrup.

2 cups pancake mix  
2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder  
2 tablespoons granulated sugar  
1 cup buttermilk  
2 eggs, lightly beaten  
1 tablespoon pure vanilla extract  
1½ teaspoons red food color  
Cream Cheese Topping, recipe follows (optional)  
Spiced Syrup, recipe follows (optional)

1. Mix pancake mix, cocoa powder and granulated sugar in large bowl until well blended. Stir in buttermilk, eggs, vanilla and food color just until blended.

2. Pour ¼ cup of batter per pancake onto preheated lightly greased griddle or skillet. Cook 1 to 2 minutes per side or until golden brown, turning when pancakes begin to bubble. Serve pancakes with Cream Cheese Topping or Spiced



Syrup, if desired.

**Cream Cheese Topping:**

Mix 4 ounces (½ package) cream cheese, softened, and ½ cup confectioners' sugar in small bowl until well blended. Stir in 1 tablespoon milk, a little at a time until smooth. Stir in 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract.

**Spiced Syrup:**

Mix 1 cup pancake syrup, 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract and ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon or pumpkin pie spice in microwaveable bowl or measuring cup. Microwave on high 1-2 minutes or until warm, stirring once.

## CITY BITES

### Charity fundraiser

**LIVONIA** — Sample fine wines and craft beers during a benefit for the Community Opportunity Center (COC) 6:30-10:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15, at Laurel Manor, 3900 Schoolcraft, west of Newburgh. Livonia. At Jonna of the Picnic Basket Market in Plymouth is sponsoring the tasting for the COC, a nonprofit organization that provides housing and supportive services to individuals with developmental disabilities in western Wayne County. He has lined up vendors of both domes-

tic craft beers and wines from around the world for the tasting. The event also includes hours d'oeuvres, a live auction, silent auction and music by a trio from the Livonia Symphony. The live auction will include such items as a week in a Frankfort vacation condo; beer-making lesson by Frankemuth Brewery; Detroit Tiger game tickets, hotel and dining accommodations in Chicago, Ill.; hot air balloon ride; Red Wings hockey tickets; a diamond tennis bracelet; and dinner for six prepared by Chef Larry Jones.

The silent auction includes gift baskets, gift certificates, art, wine and more. Tickets are \$65 per person or \$120 per couple and are available by calling Diane or Larry Jones at (734) 422-5525 or Pat at COC at (734) 422-1020.

**Healthy cooking FARMINGTON HILLS** — Learn how to make healthier food choices at a cooking demonstration on healthy casseroles and one pot dinners with Busch's Chef Rebecca Waudron and Botsford Hospital's

dietitians, 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, at Busch's Fresh Food Market, 24445 Drake, Farmington Hills. Cost is \$10 and will include recipes, samples, cooking tips and a \$10 Busch's coupon. Seating is limited. Register at (248) 427-7400 or sign up at Busch's Guest Services Counter.

**Under 550 calories NATIONWIDE** — Applebee's has introduced new menu items to help diners keep their "healthy eating" resolutions. Jessica James, Applebee's execu-

tive chef, created dishes that were not just low in calories, but also packed with flavor. She used a variety of "smart cooking" tips such as marinating meat for up to 12 hours to tenderize it; using natural oils found in citrus zest for calorie-free flavor; and incorporating vegetable-based sauces rather than cream-based. New items include Zesty Roma Chicken & Shrimp and Lemon Parmesan Shrimp. Applebees is located at 36475 Warren Road in Westland, 43500 Ford Road, Canton, 17101 Haggerty in Northville.



## Building Industry Association readers see housing in activity

No direct right to evict woman

Based on preliminary data provided by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) for November, a total of 236 single-family home permits were issued in Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair and Wayne counties. Permit activity in November decreased by nearly 31 percent from October 2012 (341) but is 3 percent higher than November 2011 (229).

The November permit decline is consistent with 42 years of historical data in which October-to-November permit declines for single-family homes have fallen every year except two: 1971 and 1977.

"While the November decline is a little disappointing, it has clearly been a great recovery year for the region," according to Michael Stoskopf, CEO of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan. "January through November 2012 marks the highest level for permit activity year-to-date since the first 11 months of 2006. While we still have a ways to go to return to 40-year average permit activity, the recovery we've seen since 2009 continues and is even beginning to accelerate."

"That's just single-family home permits," he said in an interview. There are only two permits in last 40 or so when permits did not go down.

"They go down for all the things you could think of. It's really just seasonal." Basically just after the holidays and in account for the drop, Stoskopf said.

"The profile of activity this year, while not as large in magnitude as the good old days, looks a lot more like the good old days" of 2002-03, he said. In 2008-09, observers "could barely see a bump."

"It absolutely is," he said of good signs in the more general economy improving. "When a plant adds a third shift, the guys on the second shift say, 'Hey, I'm a little more secure.'"

Many cars are produced here, Stoskopf said. "The volumes of things being produced on those shifts is pretty exciting. It's because people have that discretionary income. That typically tracks to housing sales as well."

He's been with the BIA almost five years. "We're looking for great things in 2013 as well. Hopefully a good year for the economy in general," Stoskopf added.

November 2012 also marked the end of a streak where permits exceeded 300 each month from April through October 2012. Prior to 2012, the last time we experienced over 300 permits per month was May through November 2006. Year-to-date in 2012, permits have exceed 200 permits per month for nine consecutive months.

From a trailing 12-month



perspective, permit totals rose to 3,358, which is over 30 percent higher than it was in November 2011 (2,571) and is at its highest point since August 2007 (3,505).

The BIA's New Housing Permit Forecast for December through May 2013 shows expected seasonal slowdowns and then steady growth in activity as Spring arrives. For the six-month forecast period, BIA leaders believe that overall activity will outpace the same period in 2012 by nearly 20 percent.

This report is based on an algorithm created by Stoskopf. It is issued monthly by the association including a

six-month forecast and a trailing 12-month perspective.

Headquartered in West Bloomfield, Building Industry Association of SE Michigan (BIA) and Apartment Association of Michigan (AAM) are trade associations representing 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 Home Builders Association of Michigan in Lansing and the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C.

Staff writer Julie Brown contributed to this report.

Michael Stoskopf

Robert Meisner

By Robert Meisner  
Guest Columnist

**Q:** We have a co-owner in our condominium that has threatened to sue the Board. Directors and has violated almost every bylaw provision. We are seeking injunctive relief through our attorney, but I am wondering whether we have any basis to evict the co-owner or have her permanently removed in some other fashion.

**A:** Since it is not a co-op or an apartment, you have no direct right to evict her. You may have a right to sue an injunction which imposes various constraints on her conduct and if she violates any pronouncements of the Court, she could be held in contempt of Court and possibly jailed. I am aware of one case, however, out of Ontario, Canada, where the conduct was so egregious that the court literally demanded that the co-ops be removed from the premises, but that is a harsh remedy which a court in the United States is not likely to utilize, but as in any case, you are not likely to wish to step outside of the box and pursue a remedy removing the co-owner from the premises.

**Q:** I have a very expensive home in a luxury subdivision and I am planning to host a party where I will have an author read a book and possibly be interested in buying some real estate. Do you think it is a violation of any doing business restriction in our subdivision documents?

**A:** That is a difficult question and it depends on a number of factors including the specific language in your deed restriction. I would be particularly concerned if there will become a parking problem as a result of your "book reading" and, to the extent that you are also combining it with the possible sale of real estate, it might well be deemed a commercial enterprise and/or business out of your condominium unit which may well be in violation of the deed restrictions. You are best advised to consult with a community association attorney before you undertake this event.

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

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 1-5, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
41785 Echo Forest Dr	\$298,000
6523 Greenwood Rd	\$120,000
6930 Epping Dr	\$165,000
44529 Fair Oaks Dr	\$165,000
49560 Garfield Ln	\$370,000
46977 Glenhurst Dr	\$234,000
47722 Golf Ct	\$64,000
51104 Gold Ridge Ln	\$285,000
45381 Graystone Ln	\$191,000
44034 Harndale Dr	\$153,000
47924 Jake Ln	\$390,000
17056 Janham Ct	\$252,000
80776 Lillian Ct	\$380,000
7190 N Lilly Rd	\$80,000
7111 Newgate Ct	\$275,000
3381 Niagara Ave	\$246,000
1762 Northbrook Ct	\$176,000
41948 Old Bridge Rd	\$97,000
48139 Park Lane Ct	\$353,000
389 Princess Dr	\$149,000

1476 Ranier Blvd	\$155,000
6223 Bunyamee Dr	\$123,000
3044 S Canton Center Rd	\$63,000
45652 S Stonetown Dr	\$165,000
445 S Swoody Dr	\$32,000
47485 Scenic Circle Dr N	\$203,000
47608 Scenic Circle Dr S	\$230,000
73 S Swoody Dr	\$72,000
4144 Simcoe Dr	\$113,000

17542 Francavilla Dr	\$240,000
9617 Horton St	\$183,000
28543 Lyndon St	\$119,000
14000 Melvin St	\$85,000
43986 Menefeboro St	\$173,000
28995 Minton St	\$82,000
36512 Northfield Ave	\$91,000
34056 Orangelawn St	\$38,000
17540 Rougeway St	\$115,000
31139 Roycroft St	\$120,000
31314 Roycroft St	\$117,000
14445 Summerside St	\$137,000

9275 Corinne St	\$195,000
9191 Old Pond Cir	\$86,000
11699 Parkview Dr	\$144,000
49041 Pine Bluff Ct	\$470,000
163 Pinewood Cir	\$53,000

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 17-21, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
19125 Devonshire St	\$280,000
11943 Elizabeth St	\$195,000
31060 Marlin St	\$129,000
31265 Stafford Ct	\$189,000
31805 Westclay Dr	\$194,000

135 Overhill Rd	\$368,000
5630 Roundhill Rd	\$352,000
15333 Lundy Hill	\$118,000
8603 Sylvania Dr	\$78,000

21935 Purdue Ave	\$93,000
22055 River Ridge Trl	\$148,000
28466 Rollicker Rd	\$131,000
29731 Sierra Pointe Dr	\$150,000
31160 Sturbridge St	\$250,000
20300 Tulane Ave	\$110,000
24523 Winderbaria Dr	\$107,000

43330 Windmill Ct	\$305,000
28236 Wolcott Dr	\$89,000
28422 Wolcott Dr	\$279,000
21928 Worcester Dr	\$290,000

### REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

**Investors**  
Real Estate Investors Association will meet 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20, at Rod Lobster, Eureka Road and Trenton, next to the 7-Eleven in Southgate. Speaker Edwin Kelley will discuss using an IRA for buy-

ing houses. Call Wayne Koehler, president, at (313) 819-0919 for information.

#### Short sales

If you own more than what your house is worth, you may be inter-

ested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures and what it takes to get started. Many sellers are misinformed or not sure about how the procedures work. Organizers will also discuss the internal workings of short sales and the different steps involved. Bonnie David, broker/owner

of Quantum Real Estate is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon. Additional parking across the street in back. Please call the office at (248) 782-7130 or email jane.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.





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Ford Escape 2008
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BUCK LUCERNE 2009
BUCK GMC
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Chevrolet Malibu 2011
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