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# CANTON OBSERVER

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## Core values

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education last week approved core principles designed to make sure students in the district were getting a quality character education.

The core principles — respect, responsibility, honesty and integrity and acceptance — were the result of work done by a committee made up of teachers, administrators, parents and community members.

It was the response to a goal set by the board in August 2012 to deliver a formal and consistent district-wide character development curriculum for all grades.

## Bark for Life

Bark for Life of Canton hosts a bowling fundraiser 3-6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 24, at Super Bowl in Canton.

The fundraiser, a battle in the fight against cancer, includes two games of bowling, shoe rental, two slices of pizza and pop. The cost is \$20 per person. Super Bowl of Canton is located at 45100 Ford Road.

To register, call (734) 645-3048 or email bfi-canton@gmail.com

## Central issue

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education has made the decision to close venerable Central Middle School and build a new middle school in Canton, if voters pass the \$114 million bond the district will seek in May.

Central Middle School is the oldest building in the school district, having served as the original Plymouth High School. School board members have begun to debate what to do with the building, and over the years options have been discussed ranging from selling the property to converting it to board office space.

What would you do with Central Middle School? Please email your thoughts to Canton Observer editor Brad Kadrich at bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

# Property value hike snaps four-year drop

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Canton's new residential property values have increased an average of 3.6 percent, snapping a four-year decline as local officials and market analysts cautiously embrace signs the besieged housing market has begun to rebound.

Assessor Doug Shaw con-

firmed the long-awaited uptick, which reflects an average of property assessments for 28,500 homes based on sales for a one-year period ending last Sept. 30.

"The assessments are based on what's going on in the market," Shaw said. "It's an indication residential property values have begun to rebound."

Homes priced more than \$200,000 appear to have fared

better, he said, while higher-density housing such as attached condominiums continue to suffer. Residents are expected to start receiving their property assessment notices by mail within days.

Bartley Patterson, Realtor for RE/MAX Classic in the Willow Creek Shopping Center on Ford Road, estimated Canton has only 200 houses on the market com-

pared to a one-time high of 500. "(Homes) are definitely moving," he said. "We have a very limited amount of inventory right now. We're seeing higher prices. That puts us in a situation where we have buyers who are competing for homes right now."

However, Patterson said home appraisals still can deflate the

Please see PROPERTY, A3



BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ready to donate, Canton resident Ivan Speers is prepped by Red Cross nurse Pam Cirroco during a blood drive at Plymouth Church of Christ.

# Blood brother

## Faithful donor has touched literally hundreds of lives

By Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

Ivan Speers is a quiet, unassuming man who lives in Canton Township with his black Lab, Willy.

But he got the red-carpet treatment Monday afternoon at the Plymouth Church of Christ, when he donated his 120th pint of blood during a church blood drive.

Nurses fussed, fellow donors gawked and church members and a local American Red Cross executive were on hand to thank him.

"I didn't think it'd be anything like this," Speers, halfway through donating his pint, said of the attention he was receiving. "I never really thought of it that much."

Speers, 75, said he's been donating blood for more than 50 years. At 120 pints, he's given the equivalent of 15 gallons and, with each pint having the potential to be used in treating up to three people, has touched hundreds of lives.

"Anytime you get over 15 gallons, that's doing a lot," said Diane Risko, a Red Cross donor resources representative. "You find that people aren't always that committed."

## Helping a neighbor

For Speers, it started out in the 1950s, he said, when neigh-

bors in Plymouth's Old Village — then called Lower Town — got together to help an ill neighbor by donating blood. The idea was, he said, that with enough donors, enough compatible blood would be found the help the neighbor.

Then there were blood drives during his stint in the U.S. Army, 1961-63, and Red Cross drives. Speers gave at his own church, Plymouth Church of the Nazarene, until it stopped hosting blood drives, and has also given regularly at Church of Christ for years. Now, he faithfully attends each of the Church of Christ's five yearly drives.

"He's always here," said church member Diane Johnson of Redford Township, who organizes the drives. "We're so proud of what he does."

The church, with about 250 members, hosts what are considered smaller drives, with around 40 pints donated each time. But the Red Cross relies on the church's consistency, Johnson said.

"Doing it five times a year gives them the volume they need," she said.

Speers said he donates blood regularly because others can't. "I just got into it," he said.

Please see DONOR, A2

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# Owners fear pets becoming targets

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Residents of a Canton subdivision have new fears for their pets' safety after yet another piece of food laced with needles was found in a common area where they walk their dogs.

Clarence Baker III made the latest find last Thursday while walking Casey, a West Highland white terrier, and Armani, a Cairn terrier, his wife, Carol, said.



Residents in Central Park South, a neighborhood near Geddes and Beck roads, again fear their pets are being targeted after tainted pieces of meat were found.

Please see PETS, A2

# MDOT narrows options for Ford Road solution

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

A long-touted proposal to reshape the I-275/Ford Road interchange to ease Canton traffic congestion has been ruled out as a viable option by Michigan Department of Transportation officials.

MDOT officials and consultants confirmed the decision Wednesday morning, saying U.S. transportation authorities rejected the idea as too disruptive to the interchange and failing to qualify for federal funding.

Please see FORD ROAD, A3



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## PETS

Continued from page A1

"It's not right to target innocent animals," Carol Baker said. "It's cruelty geared toward animals. Obviously someone has an agenda."

It marked several times since last October residents have found meat, whitefish and chocolate laced with needles and other sharp metal objects.

Anastasia Bremmer's two pit bull mix pets, Renee and Cody, had emergency surgery at the Huron Valley Humane Society to remove needles they swallowed after eating pieces of sausage they found on the ground in Central Park South, a neighborhood near Geddes and Beck roads.

## Police reports

Frustrated residents have reported the incidents to Canton police, who have urged anyone with information about potential suspects to call (734) 394-5400.

Anonymous tips may be made to Crime Stoppers of Michigan at (800) SPEAK-UP or by going to [www.1800speakup.org](http://www.1800speakup.org).

Residents are hopeful someone will report the perpetrator. Clarence Baker III notified police of his latest finding.

"To me this is really serious," Carol Baker said. "These needles and other sharp metal objects have been found in chocolate, meat and fish. When I'm driving in my car, I have been stopping to warn the neighbors."

Bremmer has said targeted common areas include the Wall Street

and Fifth area, along with Empire State Drive where a creek crosses under the road.

"It is unfortunate that nothing seems to have changed," Bremmer said this week in an e-mail to the *Canton Observer*.

She said residents continue to report their findings to police. Moreover, she said the subdivision's homeowners association is expected to include a notice when it sends out mailings for residents to pay their dues.

"That should ensure everyone in the sub knows about it, if they don't already," Bremmer said.

## Weeks apart

The incidents seem to occur about every three weeks, she said.

"I'm beginning to wonder if that doesn't mean something — like the person is only related to someone in the sub and visits every three weeks," Bremmer said.

Residents just aren't sure, but they're hoping the suspect or suspects can be caught before other pets are harmed. Bremmer and her husband spent \$2,000 on surgeries for their dogs.

Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner has said the activity amounts to criminal behavior that should be reported. He said anyone caught could potentially face charges of animal cruelty.

Schreiner said the incidents also could place raccoons, woodchucks, foxes and other animals that run wild at risk of harm.

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## CORRECTION

A story on the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' search for a new superintendent should have said that, prior to joining the district, executive director for business services Brodie Killian spent several years as a municipal bond investment banker and investment adviser.

## OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Readers in an unscientific poll conducted by the Observer have a variety of ideas of what to do with Central Middle School if the district closes it and moves the students to a new school building.

# Readers offer ideas for Central

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

In a continuing and totally unscientific poll conducted by the *Observer*, readers have a variety of ideas for what the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education should do if and when they close Central Middle School.

District officials are using a May 7 election to try to pass a \$11.4 million bond with which, if it passes, they'll build a new middle school in Canton and close Central Middle School, home to nearly 900 students, most of them from Canton.

One of the central issues — no pun intended — is what the board will do with the Central Middle School building and property.

Plymouth resident Laura Foss said she would combine the Central Middle School land with the Plymouth Cultural Center on Farmer (the land on which it sits is owned by the district) to create a full-service community recreation center.

## Look around

Her plan would be similar to Canton's Summit on the Park or what Livonia did when Livonia Public Schools closed Bentley High School, building a \$25 million rec center.

Foss' plan would happen in two phases. Phase 1 includes Community Education classrooms on one side where it's carpeted and quiet; two pools to support swim lessons, as well as lap swimming. Possibly a wade pool for kids and/or seniors; a workout room with mem-

berships to generate more revenue; and a large gym with multiple floors.

Phase 2 would convert the Cultural Center to support hockey and figure skating by installing a second rink in the side where the community classes used to be. Developers could sink the rink to make it easier to control the climate, and the area above the rink could be used for the elevator down, a sports gift shop, and an arcade.

Canton resident Thomas Donnelly said he supports the bond, and has a few ideas what to do with the property, including:

- First, the park in front of Central Middle School should be preserved for all the tributes to veterans. "That is a must," Donnelly wrote.

- Downtown Plymouth has no comprehensive grocery store. My guess is that the CMS property is currently zoned residential or some other non-commercial status.

- Preserving the school property by converting it to condos is a romantic idea (not unlike the fate of old Ypsilanti High School) but the makeup of the building would require massive rehab, the cost of which would be a waste. It is a tired old building that needs to come down. The football field should go, Donnelly said.

- "I would hope that no one tries to preserve a wall or other portion of CMS like what was done at the former Daisy Air Rifle site," Donnelly wrote. "What may have been a nostalgic idea has become an eyesore."

Denise Muench's solution is simple: Donate the building and the

adjoining property to the City of Plymouth.

"The city can refurbish the building into a Rec Center which can be utilized by the community," wrote Muench, a Plymouth resident.

"Think of it — a real pool in Plymouth, a decent fitness room, a gym, soccer fields, etc. What's not to like about this idea?"

## What not to do

Plymouth resident Bill Huppenbauer said he isn't sure what to do with Central, but he knows what not to do with it: Use it for office space for the district's administration.

"If Central Middle School doesn't efficiently house students, why would the board spend money to 'fix' the many problems that the building has rather than leasing board office space at a commercial office building? Also, could the board possibly need as much space as Central Middle School has?"

Steve Bracey, a 27-year resident of Plymouth Township, said the district should keep the gym and the pool, eliminate parts of the building that are problem areas and renovate the rest to create a cultural/fitness/recreation center serving Plymouth and Plymouth Township. "It would be another great reason for people and businesses to move to this great community," Bracey wrote. "The hard part would be the money, and getting the city and township to agree on anything." It could be beautiful.

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## DONOR

Continued from page A1

He's aware of the Red Cross's need for blood — about 700 units a day in southeast Michigan, according to Risko.

"You hear it on the radio, see the ads," he said.

## Familiar face

The donation procedure is routine for Speers, who jokes that he should have a small spigot put into his arm. He's become familiar with the Red Cross workers and church volunteers, and even stopped by with Willy, the black Lab, for a visit at the greeter's desk during

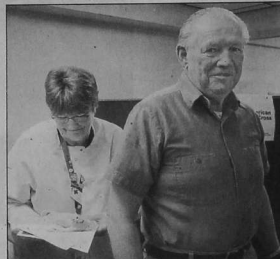
one drive.

Speers spent a career working in lumber yards and for a Plymouth home builder, after his time in the Army. He retired from N.A. Mans & Sons in Canton.

Along with his post-donation snack Monday, Speers also received a goodie bag from the Red Cross — with an official-looking Red Cross jacket, a baseball cap, a certificate and an ornament, all presented by Risko. He's due a 15-gallon pin as well.

"This is something I never even dreamed of," he said.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ivan Speers of Canton is fit to donate his 120th pint of blood, this time at Plymouth Church of Christ. Behind Ivan is nurse Joan Cordina.

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## PROPERTY

Continued from page A1

ultimate selling price, even though he is confident the market has improved.

"It's definitely improving," he said. "I really think we have turned the mark here."

### Commercial down

Commercial and industrial property values haven't yet reached the turning point, however.

Property values fell another 0.5 percent for commercial properties, a smaller decline than the previous year's 3.6 percent decrease, Shaw said. Industrial properties fared the worst, plunging 13 percent compared to 10 percent one year ago as sectors such as manufacturing and warehousing struggled to rebound.

Commercial and industrial property values tend to lag behind the residential sector, Shaw said.

Township Trustee Pat Williams said Canton receives the



Canton real estate values are on the uptick.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

bulk of its property tax revenues from housing, though outside auditors have warned there could be a two-year lag time before Canton reaps the financial benefits of improved home sales.

Even so, Williams called the latest residential property val-

ues "great news" that offers evidence the Canton housing market has begun a rebound, however gradual.

"It's evidence the local economy has hit bottom and we're starting to come back," he said. "Homeowners can now get more money for their property,

so it's a win-win."

Still, Williams cautioned it will be "at least a decade" before Canton returns to the property values of just five years ago.

"We've gone through an extended period of contraction," he said, but he said with employee concessionary contracts and the latest housing market news, "it just means there is light at the end of the tunnel."

Despite the 3.6-percent increase for residential property assessments, Shaw said most taxable values should increase no more than 2.4 percent for most homeowners. That's because Michigan law limits the increase in taxable values to the rate of inflation or 5 percent — whichever is less.

### Banks tight

However, taxable values could increase more if a home was sold or if owners built additions such as decks or a new room.

Patterson, meanwhile, said

some market analysts have indicated that 50 percent of all sales in southeast Michigan are handled with cash rather than mortgages.

"People would rather handle their own money," Patterson said, "and banks are still tighter on mortgages."

As Canton property owners receive their latest notices, they may choose to appeal their assessments, but they need to provide research showing their homes are assessed higher than similar homes in their neighborhood, based on sales during the one-year period ending Sept. 30.

The assessor's office confirmed Board of Review sessions have been scheduled at township hall, 1150 S. Canton Center, for 9 a.m. to noon and 1-4:30 p.m. Monday, March 11; 1-4:30 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, March 12; and Wednesday, March 13; and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, March 14.

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## FORD ROAD

Continued from page A1

The revelation was made public by officials from MDOT and a consulting firm, Wilbur Smith Associates, came to Canton for talks with Downtown Development Authority officials.

The news could explain why Canton lost out four times in trying to secure a federal economic-recovery grant to reshape the interchange, partly by adding new ramps from the southbound I-275 exit to Haggerty Road and allowing drivers to avoid Ford.

That proposal was identified years ago after MDOT and the township commissioned a study by a consulting firm, Parsons-Brinckerhoff, which then-Supervisor Tom Yack said cost \$500,000. He is upping the plan appears dead.

"I am so ticked about this I can't tell you," Yack said Wednesday morning, reached by telephone after the DDA meeting. "Talk about a waste of money."

Yack, now a township trustee, said MDOT should try to persuade federal officials to reconsider.

MDOT also has ruled out another option of adding two new interchanges to I-275 at Cherry Hill and Warren roads — proposals deemed the most costly and intrusive on the environment.

### Three options

Corette Yung, MDOT project manager, and Matt Wendling, senior engineer for Wilbur Smith Associates, said efforts to address Ford traffic woes have been narrowed to three options:

- Do nothing, which many officials and motorists view as unacceptable.

- Efforts such as adding a westbound through lane on Ford Road, partly by connecting what are now right-turn lanes.

- Convert Ford Road into a boulevard with eastbound and westbound lanes separated by green space.

MDOT and consultants say the boulevard concept could be accomplished as Ford undergoes a massive reconstruction expected within a few years as the road deteriorates.

No specific time line has been announced. Yung projected the boulevard would take one to two construction seasons and likely cost \$20 million to \$40 million.

Yung and Wendling indicated the proposal could provide a suitable fix to Ford Road traffic woes through 2035, easing traffic congestion and reducing crashes along one of Michigan's most accident-prone thoroughfares.

DDA board member Dave Wisniewski indicated tentative support.

"If it can improve traffic flow up to 60 percent, I think it would have a great impact on the community, reduce accidents and allow for the better flow of traffic," he said.

Township Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin, who chairs the DDA, said the boulevard

plan could improve safety, though she said it could undo streetscape work already completed along Ford Road.

"It's like shoot me now, we just did that," she said.

Yung said MDOT hasn't adopted the boulevard proposal as the final plan among the three remaining options.

### Study continuing

MDOT still is conducting an environmental study. Meanwhile, MDOT is expected to have its next community meeting on Ford Road in March or April at Summit on the Park, though no date has been confirmed.

Among highlights of the boulevard plan:

- It would stretch from the Ford I-275 area to west of Sheldon Road.

- Landscaped areas, or green space, would separate eastbound and westbound traffic.

- Ford would be widened to three lanes from I-275 to Haggerty Road.

- Haggerty would be converted

ed into a boulevard for 1,000 feet in both directions from Ford Road.

- Left turns from Ford Road onto north-south roads such as Haggerty and Lilley would be eliminated.

- Turnaround lanes, similar to those on Michigan Avenue, would be installed for automobiles and larger trucks.

Some widening of Ford Road would occur, encroaching on what is now the right-of-way.

DDA officials are hopeful any fix will be as least disruptive as possible to businesses.

Of the three remaining proposals, Yack said doing nothing may be a better alternative than a boulevard.

"I think doing nothing is the best course of action unless MDOT can show us something in Michigan that emulates what they're proposing for Ford Road," he said. "I wouldn't want Canton to be the experiment."

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## CRIME WATCH

## High-speed chase

Canton police chased a silver Toyota Corolla before abandoning the pursuit Monday night in Westland after the driver reached speeds of 90 mph, a police report said.

The incident started about 10:20 p.m. Monday when an officer on patrol near Ford Road and I-275 saw a vehicle with a license plate registration sticker that had expired in October. Police tried to stop the female driver as she headed across the Ford Road bridge into Westland, but she accelerated at speeds initially recorded at 85 mph, the report said.

The woman ignored a red traffic light at Newburgh Road and turned northbound, racing at speeds of 90 mph before Canton police terminated the chase at Newburgh and Warren.

An investigation led police to the vehicle's owner, a man who was working at the Kroger store at Ford and Canton Center when the incident occurred. He indicated to police that his girlfriend had his car.

Police learned the 25-year-old woman's license was suspended and that she was wanted for a felony warrant involving a controlled substance in Romulus.

The investigation was continuing.

## Money scam

A 43-year-old man notified Canton police after he apparently became the victim of an identity scam, according to a police report.

The man, who lives on Norwood, northeast of Hanford and Canton Center, told police Saturday afternoon he had been contacted by someone alleging to be from Dish Network about a promotion. He said he had used

the company's service for years.

He said he was advised he owed \$890 and that he needed to have the money transferred to a bank account, which he did, according to a police report. He moved the money from his bank to a New York bank, but he was notified a few days later that his money hadn't been credited. Moreover, he received a new bill from Dish Network for \$341, the police report said.

The man was told the company had never received the original \$890. Dish Network advised him he had been a victim of fraud and to file a police report.

## Pursuit and capture

A 61-year-old Ann Arbor man was facing charges following allegations he led Canton police on a high-speed chase that ended in Plymouth Township, where officers used a tire-deflating device to end his attempt to flee, a police report said.

The incident started about 2:30 a.m. last Thursday when Canton police noticed the driver traveling northbound on Sheldon at Joy at a high rate of speed, the report said. The man stopped abruptly at a red light at the intersection, locking up his brakes and skidding into the intersection, police said.

With police trailing him, he turned east on Mayville and pulled over, but sped off as the police officer started to get out of his car, the report said. The officer activated his siren and chased the man north on Brookline, where he was seen driving off the roadway and nearly hitting a fire hydrant and a parked

car, the police report said.

The driver failed to obey a stop sign at Brookline and Judson, then turned left on Judson and ran a stop sign at Sheldon as he fled at 75 mph in a 45 mph zone, police said. He then ran a red light at Ann Arbor Road, swerved and drove through Penniman at 85 mph before Plymouth Township officers deployed the tire-deflation device.

The man was stopped a short distance later. He was suspected of using alcohol and drugs after police found Vicodin at the scene. The man had prior alcohol-related driving incidents out of Ontario and Romulus. The man complained of pain and was taken to Oakwood Hospital, where it was learned he had earlier suffered a broken femur and had a hip replacement. His blood was drawn and authorities were awaiting the results for possible charges.

## Identify theft

A 62-year-old woman contacted police after she learned she was the apparent victim of a tax-filing scam.

The woman, who lives on North River Woods, northwest of Beck and Geddes, told police Feb. 13 that her taxes had been filed a few days earlier electronically by a certified public accountant.

The woman told police she was contacted the next day by the CPA, advising her that her tax return had been denied. She then learned someone had used her Social Security number earlier this year to file taxes.

She notified the Social Security Administration for an investigation. — By Darrell Clem

# Booze heist at second CVS store reported

## Vodka theft

A woman fled a Plymouth Township drug store Friday afternoon with 10 bottles of vodka for which she hadn't paid, and police said it was the second such theft at a local store that week.

The theft occurred at the CVS store on Sheldon Road at Ann Arbor Road just after 4 p.m. Friday, a Plymouth Township Police Department report said.

A clerk told police he was working a cash register when a woman exited with a big bag or purse, and the shoplifting alarm sounded. He called for her to stop, he said, but she ran to a maroon-colored two-door Chevrolet Cavalier, which then headed west on Ann Arbor Road, he said. The Cavalier was being driven by another person, the clerk said.

Police said a review of in-store surveillance video showed the woman putting 10 bottles of vodka into a shopping cart. The store manager told police the same woman is suspected in a similar theft of liquor Feb. 11 at the CVS at Five Mile and

Sheldon.

## Phone sniped

An employee on Feb. 11 reported the theft of his cellular phone and its case from the men's locker room at Aunt Millie's Bakery.

The Westland man told police he hung his coat in the locker room at the bakery on Port Street at around noon Feb. 10 when he arrived for work, and checked on it during a break about 90 minutes later, finding the phone was gone. Another man, the victim said, reported that cigarettes had been stolen from his coat during the same time frame.

## Mail theft

A man reported the theft of mail on his street, Southworth Road near Ann Arbor Road, to police in the township on Monday.

According to a police report, the man called police to report that he had just seen someone in a gold-colored full-sized sedan, which he thought was a Chrysler product, reach into the mailboxes

at two neighboring houses. The witness was not able to describe the driver of the car, nor did he get the car's license plate number, police said.

A responding officer didn't find the car in the area, but did find two letters, torn open, in the street. Police kept the letters, as no one answered the door at the houses to which they had been delivered.

## Fraud

A township woman reported the unauthorized use of a debit card to police earlier this month. Police said the card had been used to make large purchases at Office Depot, the Apple Store and a Chili's restaurant, among other places.

The debit card, from an area credit union, was canceled.

The victim told police she contacted the credit union after being refused a cash withdrawal at an automatic teller on Feb. 3. An employee at the credit union told her about the suspected fraudulent purchases, she said.

By Matt Jachman

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to federal guidelines, the Charter Township of Plymouth decided on February 12, 2013 to submit the following projects for funding from the 2013 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program:

LOCATION	2013 PROJECTS	ESTIMATED ALLOCATION
201 South Main	SENIOR SERVICES	\$ 4,558
3850 2nd, Wayne, MI	TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM	\$ 8,800
1160 Sheridan	ADA Accessibility Improvements to Township Park	\$ 65,842
46640 Ann Arbor Tr.	ADMINISTRATION	\$ 8,000
9955 N. Haggerty Rd		TOTAL \$ 85,000

If Wayne County determines after all applications are received that additional funds are available for public service projects the proposed allocations submitted are:

LOCATION	2013 PROJECTS	ESTIMATED ALLOCATION
201 South Main	SENIOR SERVICES	\$ 4,558
3850 2nd, Wayne, MI	TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM	\$ 8,800
1160 Sheridan	ADA Accessibility Improvements to Township Park	\$ 65,842
46640 Ann Arbor Tr.	ADMINISTRATION	\$ 8,000
9955 N. Haggerty Rd		TOTAL \$ 85,000

Publish: February 21, 2013

40700002 - 5018

## CITY OF PLYMOUTH 2013 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Plymouth Board of Review will be conducting the 2013 March Board of Review and will convene in the City Commission Conference Room, 201 S Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The regular Board of Review schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, March 5, 2013 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING 3:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, March 6, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Thursday, March 7, 2013 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Monday, March 11, 2013 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. Hearings are by appointment only. COMPLETED 2013 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY, and must be submitted to the Front Office located on the First Floor of City Hall prior to your appointment. The "Deadline" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Monday, March 11, 2013.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. Written petitions must be received by Monday, March 11, 2013 by 9:00 p.m. Postmarks are not accepted.

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted and published in the local newspaper.

All Board of Review Meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's Office at (734) 453-1234, ext 253.

Linda J. Langness, CMC  
City Clerk

Publish: February 14, 17 and 21, 2013

40700107 - 5043

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF HEARING ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE OF HEARING given that the Plymouth Township Board of Review will meet on the following dates and times:

Hearings are by appointment, please call 354-3269, between 8 am and 4:30 pm for an appointment.

Tuesday, March 5	9 am - Noon	Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 11	2 pm - 5 pm 6 pm - 9 pm	Hearings by Appointment Hearings by Appointment
Wednesday, March 13	9 am - Noon 2 pm - 5 pm	Hearings by Appointment Hearings by Appointment
Thursday, March 14	9 am - Noon	Hearings by Appointment
Saturday, March 16	9 am - 11 am	First Come - First Served

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed.

All persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. Written protests to the Board of Review must be received by mail or delivered in person to the Assessor's office by the close of business on Monday, March 25, 2013 at 4:30pm.

The Board of Review will be held in the Board Meeting Room of Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Please come prepared as a ten (10) minute time limit before the Board of Review will be strictly adhered to.

Publish: February 14, 17 and 21, 2013

40700040 5018

# Allied Health and Nursing Job Fair

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February 27, 2013  
1-3 pm

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email ctc@schoolcraft.edu

02/20/13

# Barefoot stages retro romance

A handsome, successful diplomat conceals the truth about his wedded bliss (or lack thereof) in *Kind Sir*, running through Feb. 24 at the Barefoot Productions Theatre in Plymouth.

For the cast and crew at Barefoot Productions, *Kind Sir* is as much a comedy of errors as a sophisticated love story. Director Craig A. Hane cast his leads — the commitment-phobic diplomat and the presence-commanding actress who loves him — to sell the central romance. Yet much of the play's charm comes from playwright Norman Krasna's sharp dialogue and the hilarious act of revenge in the final scene.

Film fans may recog-

nize the play as the inspiration for the 1958 movie *Indiscreet*, directed by Stanley Donen (*Singin' in the Rain*) with Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman in the leads. As a fan of both versions, Hane used the film as inspiration for recreating the high-society glamour of 1950s New York City. This stage version features Adam Weakley of Whitmore Lake and Maureen Paraventi of Redford in their breakout roles on the Barefoot Productions stage. Paraventi narrated readings of *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* and *A Christmas Carol* earlier this season; Weakley, a regular in Ann Arbor theater, will perform with Barefoot Productions for the

first time. Chris Steves of Woodhaven, David Alexander of Redford and Ann Arbor residents Eric Bloch and Linda McCallister round out the cast as two couples who conspire to bring the protagonists together.

Audiences have one last chance to see *Kind Sir* this weekend at the Barefoot Productions Theatre (240 N. Main Street, Plymouth). Shows on Friday, Feb. 22, and Saturday, Feb. 23, run at 8 p.m.; the run closes with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, Feb. 24.

Tickets are \$16 for general audiences and \$14 for students and seniors. To reserve tickets, call the box office at (734) 560-1493 or visit [www.justgobarefoot.com](http://www.justgobarefoot.com).



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The P-CEP Marching Band color guard hosts three open rehearsals Monday March 4, Wednesday, March 6 and Friday, March 8, from 3:30-6 p.m. All rehearsals held at the Plymouth High School band room, 8400 Beck in Canton.

## Color guard hosts open rehearsals

The Color Guard program affiliated with the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. The open rehearsals are looking for new prospective members to participate in three open rehearsals to see what the program is all about.

The rehearsals are open to current eighth through eleventh graders in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. The open rehearsals will be held Monday March 4, Wednesday, March 6 and Friday, March 8, from 3:30-6 p.m. All rehearsals held at the Plymouth High School band room, 8400 Beck in Canton.

Color guard members dance, spin flags and perform

alongside the 180-member marching band during the fall competition and football season. Those with dance experience are encouraged to attend. Participants should wear comfortable clothes and be ready to move.

Current eighth graders and other incoming performers interested in joining the Color Guard are encouraged to attend all three rehearsals. The Color Guard program is now under the direction of guard director Jeffrey Cash. Cash is a nationally acclaimed color guard specialist hailing from North Carolina. He has worked with some of the top independent guard programs in

the Nation. Direct any questions to Cash at [your.jeffrey@gmail.com](mailto:your.jeffrey@gmail.com).

The 2013 Marching Band begins practicing in May and continues through the summer with camps, rehearsals, and fun. The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band is recognized as one of the premier high school bands in the country and the only band in the nation comprised of students from three separate high schools. Last season, the PCMB was named a Grand National Finalist, finishing 12th out of more than 500 bands, at the Bands of America national band championship held in Indianapolis every November.

## U-M, MSU athletic directors to speak together at four-chamber luncheon

University of Michigan's David Brandon and Michigan State University's Mark Hollis, both regarded as innovative leaders in collegiate athletics, will appear together to speak at a multiple-chamber luncheon Friday, April 26, at Laurel Manor in Livonia. The event will run from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m.

The athletic directors from the rival Big Ten schools will speak at the event that will involve the Livonia, Westland, Northville and Plymouth chambers of commerce. The program is presented by Bill Brown Ford, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Trinity Health, and Edward Jones Investments; Robin Whitfield, Financial Advisor.

Brandon has been at the helm of the Michigan Athletic Department since March 2010. He is a U-M alumnus who played football for Coach Bo Schembechler and was elected in 1980 to serve an eight-year term on the school's Board of Regents. He previously worked as chairman and CEO of Domino's Pizza and chairman, president and CEO of Valiasis Communications, headquartered in Livonia. He also serves in leadership roles for a number of non-profit organizations.

Hollis has led the Michigan State Athletic Department since January 2008. The MSU alumnus has played in various executive and strategic planning roles for Spartan athletics since 1995. Before returning to his alma mater, he worked as an assistant and associate athletic director at the University of Pittsburgh, and he worked for the Western Athletic Conference, eventually earning the title of assistant commissioner. He has won numerous awards for his work in collegiate athletics.

Both gentlemen led programs engaged in one of the nation's fiercest collegiate sports rivalries, but they also work together on initiatives that support the Big Ten Conference and NCAA as they adapt to the ever-changing world of collegiate athletics. They are scheduled to discuss their pro-

jects, trends in collegiate athletics, unique challenges of their business, and answer audience questions.

This is the first time the Livonia, Northville, Plymouth and Westland chambers have teamed to coordinate a major luncheon. The four western Wayne County-based chambers combine to represent more than 2,200 members. Seats to the luncheon are \$30 for chamber members, \$40 for non-members. Chamber members can purchase tables

of 10 for \$300 and receive preferential placement. Each chamber has a limited number of seats they can sell.

Those interested in attending this program can contact their community's respective chamber for details on the event and to reserve seats. Contact the Livonia Chamber at (734) 427-2122, the Westland Chamber at (734) 326-7222, the Plymouth Chamber at (734) 459-1540, or the Northville Chamber at (734) 349-7640.



Hollis

Brandon



SAVE THE DATE MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2013 TIME: 11:00 A.M.- 1:00 P.M.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
 Volunteer Diane Johnson has organized the blood drives at Plymouth Church of Christ for about 15 years. She also feeds the crew at the blood drive, and is famous for her sloppy joes. Helping Diane is Jessica Bone.

# Red Cross: Blood donations vary, but need is constant

By Matt Jachman  
 Staff Writer

Blood donations fluctuate with the seasons — and the economy — but the need for blood in southeastern Michigan is constant, according to American Red Cross officials.

The Red Cross' southeastern Michigan chapter, based in Detroit, provides blood products to patients in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw and St. Clair counties, where the demand from clinics and hospitals is about 700 units of blood every day.

That means the Red Cross needs about 900 people to show up daily at its donor centers and blood drives, with the extra numbers needed to ensure the minimum is reached, as some potential donors find they cannot give because of risks to their health or the health of others.

Bridget Tuohy, a Red Cross spokeswoman, said that donors like Ivan Speers are rare indeed. Speers, of Canton Township, donated his 120th pint of blood Monday at Plymouth Church of Christ. The 75-year old says he has been giving blood for more than 50 years; church and Red Cross officials said he donates at each of the church's five annual blood drives.

Tuohy said very few people donate that frequently in a year, and that even fewer donate that frequently over a period of many years, as Speers has. Donors can give only once every eight weeks.

Many donors, Tuohy said, started donating while in the military; Speers said he first donated to a blood drive organized for an ill neighbor, and later participated in drives during a two-year stint in the U.S. Army.

Tuohy and Diane Risko, a Red Cross donor representative, said the summer months and the Christmas holidays typically represent the low point for blood donations. Risko said a smaller blood drive in, say, August, will be, extreme-



The man of the hour, 120 pint donor Ivan Speers, heads for the cubicle to give his history and see if he's well enough to donate.

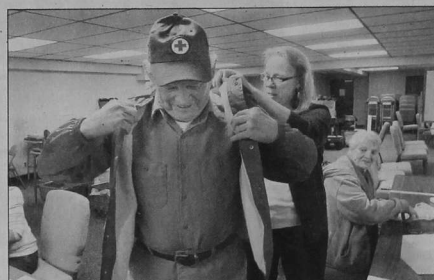


Joanne Sonnenberg is a retired RN who now volunteers for the Red Cross. She's prepping blood collection bags for the crowd that will come through the door.

ly valuable for the Red Cross because donations tend to be lower then. The soured econo-



Done! Pam Cirocco, RN, reads Ivan's donation for processing.



As a thank you for his 120th pint of blood, Ivan Speers of Canton receives a cap, jacket and other gifts, presented by church volunteer Diane Johnson.

my, too, has affected donations, as workplaces, especially automobile plants, have fewer people on hand for blood drives, Risko said. Some autoworkers who left the plants during the downturn were long-time donors, she said. "Now, it's not as convenient for those donors," she said.

Whole blood donated to the Red Cross is typically divided into three components: red blood cells, platelets and plasma.

Tuohy and Risko said innovations in medicine have both increased the need for blood donations and decreased it. At the same time that transplants have become more commonplace and cancer survival rates



Ivan Speers rolls the bandage in hand to keep the blood flowing well.

are increasing, trends that increase the need for blood products, hospital blood management has also improved, conserving supplies, and the greater use of less-invasive surgeries has reduced the need for

blood in many surgical procedures. "Over time it's pretty much evened out," said Tuohy. "The need is fairly consistent."

mjachman@hometownlife.com  
 (313) 222-2405

# Know details of homeowner's policy; good to shop around

By Rick Bloom  
Guest Columnist

The big news last week was that a large meteorite slammed into the earth. Thankfully, it did so in a relatively rural area in Russia and caused no major damage. As I read about the event, I wondered if our insurance companies would cover the damage if a meteorite crashed into our homes. Or would they try to get out of paying the claim?

After doing some research, I'm happy to report that meteorites are covered just like other falling objects. Although the chance of something falling on our



Money Matters  
Rick Bloom

homes is relatively minor, it was nice to see that they are covered. That being said, my question is: Do you know what is covered by your homeowner's insurance?

Most people buy homeowner's insurance when they purchase their home and then just automatically renew it on a year-by-year basis.

The philosophy is, if it ain't broke don't fix it. The problem with that is when it comes to insurance policies, you never know if they're broke until you need them. That's why it makes sense to be proactive with any type of insurance coverage.

Insurance policies are written by lawyers for lawyers. In other words, they are difficult to understand. That is why it is important — on an occasional basis — to sit down with your agent and review the policy. If your insurance agent is not willing to sit down with you, then it is time to get a new agent.

Review what is covered, what is not covered and your policy limits. Things change and your insurance coverage needs to change too.

Whether it is the amount of coverage you're carrying on your home or the riders that you have, make sure your policy is up to date. Your family situation may have changed. For example, if you have a child that is going to college and living away from home, you should know if they are covered under your policy.

Don't forget that costs do matter. Always look for ways to make your policy more cost-effective. For example, maybe you don't need that rider on your jewelry or maybe you should consider raising your deductible. Cost matter but that doesn't mean that you should look for the

cheapest policy because that isn't always the best. The reverse is also true. Just because you're paying more money for insurance doesn't mean you're getting better coverage.

I also recommend shopping your policy around every few years. Once you have met with your current agent and reviewed coverage, it will be easier to comparison shop. It is surprising how much money people can save on insurance coverage once they start shopping around.

In that regard, when you shop your insurance policy around, ask about discounts. In any insurance policy, companies offer a variety of discounts.

counts. It is a fair question also to ask your current agent.

While it is unlikely our homes will be hit by a meteorite, storms and other disasters can happen in Michigan. Therefore, it's always important to have your policy up to date. Football season is over, baseball hasn't started yet so it's a great time to call your agent and review your policy.

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, please e-mail him at [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).

## Village Theater hosts Chinese festival

The Chinese Festival Committee of the Canton Multicultural Subcommittee, in partnership with the Chinese Association of Greater Detroit, presents its first Chinese Cultural Festival at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill on Saturday, March 30, from 7-9 p.m.

All tickets are \$5 and include cultural displays, a reception and program that will entertain and educate the entire family. While learning about Confucianism, the Chinese ethical and philosophical system developed from the teachings of the philosopher Confucius, enjoy traditional music and dance performances coordinated and produced by the committee and CADG.

Using traditional Chinese instruments like the guzheng, which was made popular in Confucius' time over 2000 years

ago, several award-winning players will perform exquisite music. The Peking Opera, which is a well-loved style of Chinese opera made popular during the Qing Dynasty, will be featured with its colorful instrumentals, singing, and costumes.

Organizers said this audio-visual spectacle is "widely regarded as one of the cultural treasures of China." Full of Chinese cultural facts, the opera will give the audience a taste of Chinese culture, as well as grand stories, ornate makeup, exquisite costumes, graceful gestures, and martial arts.

Many metro Detroit-based Chinese dancing troupes will perform Chinese dances with themes ranging from the time of Confucius to Mulan to the present, and with origins from Mongolia in to the "River South" area in Southern China. Pro-

fessional Chinese singers and local choirs will also perform some very popular Chinese songs.

An ancient concept from China, Tai Chi is a Chinese term for the "supreme ultimate" state. The "supreme ultimate" state generates Yin and Yang, which produce all things. The Ann Arbor and Canton Chinese Tai Chi Groups together will present a special demonstration of Tai Chi movements, involving fans.

This program is supported in part by a grant from Community Financial Credit Union. To purchase reserved seat tickets, visit [www.cantonvillage-theater.org](http://www.cantonvillage-theater.org) or phone (734) 394-5460. Tickets can also be purchased one hour before the event at The Village Theater box office.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton.

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**Paul R. Makela, MD**  
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## Beginner's guide to Twitter

By Jon Gunnells  
Guest Columnist

One of the most common reasons I'm subject to as a social media professional is that people don't like or understand Twitter.

I liken this to someone saying "I don't like or understand words on the Internet."

Without this column, it would be none of my concern whether readers or nonreaders like Twitter or any other social site. But as an ambassador to the local technologically challenged (and it's OK to be technologically challenged), I feel it is my duty to explain Twitter.

Twitter is a social network designed in 2007 that asks one question: what's happening?

Users who sign up for the free service have 140 characters to answer Twitter's question from a computer or mobile device. Why 140 characters? Because in 2007, smartphones weren't so smart—and 140 characters was the maximum length of a text message. In its infancy, mobile Twitter users sent their 140 character messages to the Twitter servers



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

by texting a unique Twitter number. With the rise of mobile applications, sending Twitter messages via text

has fallen out of practice.

Most people who complain to me about Twitter also point out they don't care to hear about "when others are brushing their teeth or eating a bagel." I couldn't agree more. While some use Twitter to tell followers about toothpaste and strawberry cream cheese others provide much more valuable content.

I use my personal Twitter account (@GunnShow) to share informative links about digital media, talk about sports, share funny photos and quickly message friends. Some of those topics may interest you, some may bore you, but everyone is different.

Each Twitter user can choose who he or she follows. If you follow me on Twitter (and some of you already do) that's cool. If you don't follow me on

Twitter—I won't cry—and neither will others.

One of the greatest benefits of Twitter is finding new users that share your interests and being exposed to new information that creates new interests. Some Twitter users follow celebrities, gossip blogs, news sites, comedians or strangers. Some users only follow friends, some users protect their Tweets so only friends can see them.

Twitter's protected Tweets is a great security feature for folks that don't want to have their content seen. Additionally, private messages called "direct messages" can be sent, and users can be blocked.

So why is the site called Twitter? I can't actually say, but Twitter does have a noticeable avian theme. The Twitter logo is a bird, the message are called Tweets (birds Tweet) and the homepage on Twitter's mobile app is a bird house.

Jon Gunnells is a freelance writer and social media planner. Comments or suggestions for future columns? Email jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com or follow him on Twitter at @GunnShow.

## CHAMBER CHAT



### Seniors get help

Mary Ribeiro and the team from Seniors Helping Seniors, along with Chamber Ambassador Bruce Webb, cut the ribbon at their grand opening. The company matches seniors who need in-home support with loving, caring, kind, compassionate, volunteer-minded seniors who want to help throughout eastern Washtenaw and western Wayne Counties. Those interested in caregiving must be over the age of 50. To contact Senior Helping Seniors call (734) 996-9570.

### Chamber scholars

The Plymouth and Canton chambers are accepting donations to the 2013 Student Citizenship Scholarships. The Plymouth Community and Canton Chambers of Commerce, on behalf of contributors, will reward up to five Plymouth/Canton students with scholarships based on community service only, not grade point.

There will be a selection committee who will pick one student each from Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools, Starkweather Alternative High School and a non-PCCS high school student who lives in the district. Companies and individuals are asked to give contributions that generally range from \$25 to \$500 and the contributions are tax deductible. Last year we had 55 businesses and individuals contribute to the fund that rewarded 5 students each with \$1,000 scholarships. Contributors will be recognized on the Chamber's web page and in our Ennewz letter. Donations need to be received by April 26. You can download the donation form at [www.plymouthmich.org/chamber/student-citizenship-scholarships.html](http://www.plymouthmich.org/chamber/student-citizenship-scholarships.html).

### Networking Coffee

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts a networking coffee 7:30-9 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 28 at the Hampton Inn & Suites, 1950 Hagerty in Canton. Call (734) 453-4040 to RSVP.

### Development workshop

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts a Business Development Workshop, "Building Your Net Worth Through Your Network," 8:30-9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26, at the chamber office, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth. The workshop features Greg Peters, "The Reluctant Networker," who will help participants learn:

- Two simple keys to a productive networking mindset
- Why selling at the event is so hard and what to do instead
- Why 95 percent of people fail at their net working

There is no cost to attend, but the event can only accommodate 30 people.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Pharmacist award

The American Pharmacists Association announced Plymouth resident Douglas A. Miller as the 2013 recipient of the APHA Gloria Niemeyer Francke Leadership Mentor Award.

Miller, a Wayne State University faculty member, was selected in recognition for his exceptional mentorship

in leadership, as evidenced by the large cadre of former students, trainees and colleagues who have served as leaders within the profession.

Miller is a professor in the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Wayne State University, where he teaches courses dealing with professional practice and patient care. He earned his BSPharm from the Ohio State University College of Pharmacy and his PharmD from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. His pharmacy experience includes practice in community, long term care and hospital settings. For more than 20 years, he was part of a team that conceptualized and implemented innovative clinical pharmacy services at Detroit's Henry Ford Hospital.

Miller

Miller

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Miller

Arbor. Simon Property Group, Inc., the world's largest owner, developer and manager of quality retail real estate, will detail specific renovation plans and renderings will be revealed for the first time at the press conference. Following the announcement, and Trade Show, held last month in Clearwater Beach, Fla.

Speakers will include Ida Hendrix, mall manager; Andrew Cottrell, lead architect and others.

### Franchise honor

Franchise owner Todd Valmassei from Once Upon A Child of Canton was recently honored with a Sales Excellence Award at the franchisor's Annual Conference and Trade Show, held last month in Clearwater Beach, Fla.

"The idea behind Once Upon A Child is so simple," said Valmassei. "Kids continually outgrow their stuff, often before it is worn out. So it makes sense to have a place where families can turn their children's outgrown items into cash, and buy the next round of clothing, toys or equipment in next-to-new or gently used condition, all at the same time. Once Upon A Child of Canton is that place, and I'm proud to have so many customers from our community support us."

For more information about Once Upon A Child of Canton, located at 44540 Ford Road, contact Valmassei at (734) 459-6669 or [OnceUponAChild.CantonMonroe@gmail.com](mailto:OnceUponAChild.CantonMonroe@gmail.com) or visit [www.onceuponachildcantonmi.com](http://www.onceuponachildcantonmi.com).

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# 'Embrace of Aging'

## Famie film shares men's perspectives

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

On his 53rd birthday recently, local filmmaker Keith Famie had some thoughts on aging.

The 10-time Michigan Emmy award-winning director/producer and Novi resident is looking forward to the Sunday, Feb. 24, premiere of his *The Embrace of Aging: The Male Perspective of Growing Old*.

"I thought, 'Well, I should try to do a documentary on this,'" he said.

Famie, a 1978 Farmington High School graduate, is doing a three-part series, the first on men and aging, then women and aging, and dying. Work is under way on the women's portion, part of which will be shown at the Feb. 24 premiere.

"It becomes chasing the Holy Grail, if you will, in a sense," he said of the extensive filming and interviews. It started with personal curiosity.

Famie was adopted at age six weeks, and lost his adoptive father in 2003 to Alzheimer's.

"That did have a profound effect on me, no question," he said. The documentary has a lot on Alzheimer's.

His mom is going on 93. Famie met his biological parents at 35, his biological dad died at 92, and that mom's alive in Florida.

"Things start to change with our bodies," he said of middle age. With "comorbidity," we realize, "things start to stack up. The dominoes start to fall. That's what takes you out of the game of life, really."

Famie sought both health experts and everyday men for *The Embrace of Aging*. His heart expert

### PREMIERE

Tickets for the Feb. 24 premiere at Shriners Silver Garden Event Center in Southfield are available for \$75 each. Contact Visionalist Entertainment Productions at (248) 869-0096. Doors open at 5 p.m. For more information on "The Embrace of Aging," including the trailer, photos, stories of elements in production, visit [www.embraceofaging.com](http://www.embraceofaging.com).

is in cardiology at the University of Michigan — and has heart disease himself.

### Many facets to work

Famie has done earlier documentaries on ethnic groups in metro Detroit, Italian, Polish, Arab-American, Asian-Indian and Greek. He's also explored veterans' issues for World War II and Vietnam veterans.

Men face issues like prostate cancer, and Famie said men also can lack social networks that women enjoy. "These are things women figure out a lot earlier than men."

Some men retire from work. "Then they're kind of lost. They don't have friendships."

As a baby boomer, Famie (also known for his time on *Survivor* in the Australian Outback) sees much interest in aging and mortality. "It's like a tsunami of aging population growing."

Some products marketed to boomers are essentially "snake oil," he said. "It really comes down to a lifestyle. It's hard, common-sense work."

He made a lot of great

friends filming. One man is a clinical psychologist from Albuquerque who faces both bladder cancer and the loss of his wife to cancer.

Famie filmed at the 9/11 Memorial in New York City with a police captain and a well-known restaurateur.

"It'll touch different people in different ways," Famie said of his film. He hopes people will live healthier lives, and that women will understand what men go through.

He's glad Chuck Gaidica of WDIV TV Channel 4, a Northville native,

will serve as master of ceremonies for the Feb. 24 premiere. "A great guy," Famie said. "Happens to be a very close friend."

The aging documentary will be shown on Detroit's public television later this year, he said, likely late summer or early fall. He also wants men to see the women's film, on how women adapt to aging.



Gaidica



Filmmaker Keith Famie's excited about his "The Embrace of Aging: The Male Perspective of Growing Old" premiering Feb. 24.

Men may say, "Oh, wow, I need some new friends." I think that's going to be a big impact."

He'll take a global approach on the dying portion, different countries and faiths. That will likely start closer to the end of the year.

Famie's son, 20, and daughter, 22, have worked with dad on films, including travel. His son wants to be a biogenetic engineer, while his daughter studies criminal justice.

### 'Cherish friendships'

Famie has stopped eating gluten, and works out with more discipline than in the past now. "I think the other thing is I've really learned to cherish friendships," he said. He calls friends right away: "I really go out of the way spending time with my guy friends."

He praises his co-executive producers, Tom Rao of the Brighton area and Russell Ebeid. "Those guys are really important; as are our corporate sponsors," Famie said.

The premiere will be at Shriners Silver Garden Event Center in Southfield. Stewart Francke, also featured in the film, will perform. Comedian Bill Mihalic, who has written for Jay Leno, will share thoughts on aging men. The event will highlight the work of the Bo Schembechler Heart of a Champion Research Fund and Alzheimer's Association of Michigan.

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## OUR VIEWS

# Yes on bond

## Equity, technology needs too important to pass on

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education will seek a \$114.4 million bond issue May 7 officials say will allow them to build a new middle school, bring the district to the cutting edge of technology use and replace, over a 10-year-period, an aging vehicle fleet.

Voters served by the district should approve the bond. There are a lot of good reasons:

- It finally — after more than a decade — addresses the issue of the equitable education of students attending Central Middle School. From extreme cold temperatures in winter months to oppressive heat in spring and summer, to its lack of electrical infrastructure and sight lines that make the building all but unsupervisable from a student safety aspect, it's long past time to send Central Middle School to educational pastures.

You shouldn't need to see studies that show the environment at Central isn't conducive to learning, but if you do, Principal Anthony Ruela can show you a few. Common sense will tell you students at all of the district's middle schools should have the same opportunities to learn, and that simply isn't the case right now.

One speaker said at a recent meeting that even if the bond fails, the students will still be getting a quality education in Plymouth-Canton, and that's true. But it would be sort of like people saying at the turn of the 20th century, "Hey, even if we don't get one of those new-fangled motor cars, we'll still be able to get around on this really nice horse."

And make no mistake about it: Without the bond, this inequity will not be addressed. The district has neither the \$24 million it would take to bring improvements to Central, nor the \$38 million it would take to build a new school. With no bond, the district is stuck adding Band-Aids to a situation that long ago needed major surgery.

- It gives the district a chance to put together a replacement plan for its aging vehicle fleet. Over a 10-year period every vehicle would be replaced. It doesn't address, as some board members would have preferred, continuing replacement plans after that period, but that's a question for another day.

- It aligns Plymouth-Canton with 21st-century thinking in terms of technology by, among other things, providing a 1:1 ratio of electronic learning devices to students. In five years, if the bond is approved, every student and teacher in the district will be using an iPad to teach and learn.

Among the other technological advantages the bond will bring are the ability to develop digital curriculum resources needed to prepare students to be college- and career-ready, a wireless network solution to allow digital access anywhere throughout the buildings and grounds and district-owned fiber wireless networks for voice and data.

But the 1:1 device to teacher/student ratio is the biggest advantage. Everyone agrees it's how kids learn these days. Teaching from textbooks is going the way of the mimograph and the overhead projector.

This has been the area that has caused board members the most consternation. They've delayed agreeing to seek the bond with valid questions — "How are we going to insure the devices?" — and silly ones — "Why should we invest in technology that's going to be obsolete in five years?"

That last one is true no matter what they do. Technology is designed to be obsolete soon after it's invented. What's the district to do? Not invest in technology? In today's electronically advanced age, that would be folly.

There are concerns about the bond, the most salient being what would happen to the Central Middle School property if a new building is built? It's a valid question and needs an answer, but it's not a question that should delay or derail the bond.

Administrators say they can sell the bond without having taxpayers pay any more. It is true, however, that they'd be paying fewer taxes without the bond, because the district's debt levy, and therefore the amount of taxes Plymouth and Canton voters would be paying, is scheduled to top.

There's a cost to maintaining quality.

In this case, that cost comes in the form of a bond. The district has made its case for its approval.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

# What are your thoughts on the idea of a part-time state legislature?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



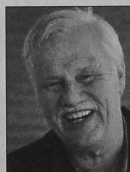
"They're not even working full time now. It's something to look into."

**Bill Coleman**  
Canton



"I think full time is always best."

**Nikki Calhoun**  
Canton



"It seems to me it would be a full-time job. They should work the 80 hours a week that I do."

**Clark Brown**  
Ypsilanti



"They can't really get it done (working) full time, can they? I would say possibly a combination of full time and part time. They work for the people. That's who pays their paychecks."

**Mike Wisniewski**  
Canton

## LETTERS

### Thankful for police

Thank you for the article in the Thursday, Feb. 7, newspaper titled "Police ticket owners of ailing Wolfhound."

I think that it's terrific that we live in a township that cares about the animals, not just the people. I personally call the Canton police every winter, because I have a neighbor with a year-round outside dog that lives in a dog house. There are always a few days every year that the temperature gets drastically low and they don't care enough to bring the dog indoors.

If you don't want the animal in your house, at least bring them into a garage for shelter or find them a better home with people that actually care.

I am very thankful for our Canton Police Department taking the time to follow up on animal cruelty.

**Jill Engel**  
Canton

### Cream always rises

The cream always rises to the top. In this particular case, the cream would be the elementary teachers from Plymouth-Canton.

At Hoben School on Feb. 11, Plymouth-Canton teachers presented their case to the community as to why public education has been and will always be one of the very best ways for children to learn.

The event was arranged to share the story that seems to be getting

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lost in all of the clutter about school choice, privatization, charter schools and schools for profit. And that story is this: In this community, the best and brightest teachers are in the classrooms of our public schools.

Citizens were invited to hear about every curricular topic taught in PCCS. As I listened attentively to three of the presentations I swelled with pride. The magic of teaching and the joy of learning were described to me and many others in great detail.

It is understandable that parents want only the very best for their children when it comes to education. Searching for the best brought

many of these parents to Hoben School on Monday night. What they saw and heard were master teachers working together, studying the research, attending professional development conferences and implementing instruction based on Best Practice.

On that night, the story was made very clear — what occurs in Plymouth-Canton classrooms is good for kids. I hope mightily that parents who have been searching can finally rest. Consider your search over. You have found that special place for your children to learn and grow — the Plymouth-Canton public schools. Enroll now, before all the seats are taken.

**George Belvitch**  
Plymouth

### Hats off to Slavons

I take my hat off to Rep. Dian Slavons, who chose not to endorse Jase Bolger for another term as State House Speaker.

While just about all the other representatives, including Rep. Kurt Heise, chose to turn a blind eye to the election-rigging scandal, Rep. Slavons embraced a higher code of ethics and refused to cave to political peer pressure.

Bravo! That's more than I can say for Rep. Heise, who I feel is best characterized by the three monkeys who "see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil."

**John M. Vraniak**  
Plymouth Township

## GUEST COLUMN

# DIA reaccréditation affirms commitment to excellence

By **Graham W.J. Beal**  
Guest Columnist

As stakeholders in the Detroit Institute of Arts and in the well-being of our cultural community, I want to share some excellent news with the residents of Wayne County. After a two-year review and thorough evaluation of every aspect of DIA operations, the museum

has again earned reaccréditation from the American Alliance of Museums, the foremost professional organization for museums in the United States.

Accreditation is a high-profile, peer-based validation of the DIA's operations, accomplishments and impact, and affirms that we are fulfilling our obligation to the public trust. It certifies that the museum meets the highest professional standards of operation and public service, and brings national recognition of our commitment to excellence.

The reaccréditation process is

a long and arduous one. We compiled a comprehensive self-study report, analyzing every operation from care of the art collection to accounting and investment policies to exhibition programs and evaluation methods. The report was reviewed by an independent, autonomous Accreditation Commission consisting of museum professionals. An Accreditation Visiting Committee then spent two days on site interviewing staff and board members.

Accreditation is a testament to the hard work and dedication of DIA staff and volunteers. Their efforts made the Visiting Committee's decision to grant reaccréditation easy — in their words, a "no-brainer." Here are some of the glowing accolades from the committee's report:

- The DIA is one of the nation's great museums, and a global resource for cultural and visual-arts education, with first-rate, compelling programming that is varied and focused.

- The DIA is extremely well-run, and policies and procedures are carefully considered.

- The DIA has a cogent plan with clear direction based on sound museological practice

and philosophy.

- Volunteers, supporters, patrons and audiences have a palpable pride in the museum.

- The DIA has the most elaborate demographic study of its diverse audiences that the Visiting Committee members have seen.

- Teaching is a paramount concern.
- The DIA's public areas are well-maintained, clean, inviting and helpful in assuring a good visitor experience.

- The 14,774 visitors on school field trips and 50,759 others who have enjoyed free admission since last year's millage vote can attest to the report's findings that the DIA has met its goal of "making its collection accessible to all who wish to visit and learn," with displays "geared to various learning styles as well as to multiple ages."

You can read the entire report at <http://www.dia.org/support/newsletter.aspx>. We hope you will experience the museum for yourself very soon.

**Graham W.J. Beal** is director of the Detroit Institute of Arts.

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## Awrey sold; official says company will hire back 'many workers'

By Ken Abramczyk  
Staff Writer

Awrey Bakeries has been purchased by Minnie Marie Bakeries for an undisclosed price in a last-minute deal that helped save the bakery.

The sale was finalized over the last several days and news of it was released Wednesday. The new company planned to continue to produce Awrey products and expected to hire back many workers in the upcoming weeks, according to a press release.

Approximately 200 employees were terminated within the last two weeks at the Awrey facility at 12301 Farmington Road.

Awrey is known for its thaw-and-serve, finished baked goods including Danish, cakes, brownies, biscuits and muffins, produced and distributed at its 218,000-square-foot facility. Their primary customers include food service distributors, national chains and contract sales.

John Awrey, family member of the original founders and director of sales and marketing, said he was pleased that the new owner "will preserve the Awrey's Brand and tradition of fine products."

"It is also gratifying that the new owner will be able to hire back many of our hard working associates in the coming days and weeks," Awrey said. "The investors in the new owner of Awrey's assets are Michigan residents with backgrounds in operating family-run businesses and bakeries. They know Michigan is a good place to do business and will



Charlotte Colbert prices items in the Awrey Bakery store. She has worked for Awrey for 20 years. Colbert lives in Garden City.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

expand our focus to develop a local supply chain of farmers, millers and producers of Michigan grown wheat, soybeans, sugar and other ingredients."

"We look forward to launching a number of new products in the year ahead," Awrey said, "including a line of gluten-free products produced from Michigan ingredients. We also intend on returning the Awrey brand to the shelves of grocery stores for its loyal, longtime customer base."

There was no information available online in an Internet search for Min-

nie Marie Bakeries. The company is owned by Jim McColgan. The business will continue to be headquartered at the site of Awrey Bakeries.

kabramc@hometownlife.com

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## Statewide auto thefts decline again

H.E.A.T. (Help Eliminate Auto Thefts) commented Wednesday on the 2011 auto theft statistics released by the Michigan Automobile Theft Prevention Authority (ATPA) in its annual report. Although the statistics continue to show a decrease in the number of vehicle thefts, Michigan is once again ranked as the state with the sixth highest total motor vehicle thefts in the nation.

"We're always pleased to see the number of statewide vehicle thefts decline," said Terri Miller, executive director of H.E.A.T., based in Livonia. "However, that doesn't mean thieves aren't trying new ways to target drivers, their belongings and personal information. Thefts may

be down, but fraud, car-jackings and other auto theft-related crimes continue to rise in Michigan communities."

Those auto theft-related crimes include online/Craigslist fraud with the sales of vehicles and parts; catalytic converter and tire and rim thefts; and re-tagging/cloning vehicles (swapping or duplicating VIN numbers).

2012 ATPA Annual Report Highlights: (Note: This data, which is the most recent available, is from 2011. Data for the 2012 calendar year will be available from the ATPA in February 2014).

• Auto thefts in Michigan declined 6.5 percent from 2010. In 2011, 25,948 vehicles were reported

stolen in Michigan, compared to 26,875 in 2010.

• From 1986 to 2011, Michigan auto thefts dropped by 62.2 percent, compared to a decrease in auto thefts nationally of 41.6 percent.

• In 2011, Wayne County topped the list of Michigan counties with the highest reported motor vehicle thefts at 14,880 (59 percent of total state thefts). Oakland and Macomb counties accounted for 1,943 thefts (8 percent) and 2,201 thefts (9 percent), respectively.

• The 2000 Dodge Caravan topped Michigan's list of most stolen vehicles in 2011. Thieves' top color preferences for vehicles to steal were once again black, followed by white and red.

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# SPORTS

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## KLAA KENSINGTON CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT

# Clutch Chiefs move on in tourney

By Jeff Theisen  
Staff Writer

Canton and South Lyon played to a deadlock for 31 minutes and 59 seconds Tuesday night, but everything changed in the final second.

Canton's Scott Gring hit a jumper just before the

final buzzer went off for a 45-43 road win to reach the KLAA Conference final.

"It felt amazing," said Gring. "It was probably the most intense basketball I've ever played in my life. This gym is loud. Our fans were crazy, their fans were crazy, it was a sweet atmosphere."

The game looked as though South Lyon was going to roll into the finals with a nine-point lead heading into the fourth. That's when Canton caught fire. Jordan Nobles started

the fourth off with Canton's first three of the night.

After South Lyon regained the nine-point edge, Josh Mayberry hit another three. A bucket by South Lyon's Luke Short would put South Lyon back up eight, but it would quite

some time before the Lions would score again. A 11-2 run capped off by an inside hoop from Nobles put Canton in the lead for the first time since the first quarter and with under a minute to play in the game.

Please see CHIEFS, B2

## PCLL clinics

For the first time in the organization's history, Plymouth-Canton Little League is offering a series of clinics on hitting, fielding and pitching.

The clinics will take place at Total Baseball in Wixom, 39990 S. Wixom Road, and the cost of each clinic is \$10 per participant. The schedule is as follows:

**Saturday, Feb. 23:** pitching, catching, infield/outfield from noon to 1 p.m.; infield/outfield, 2:30-3:30 p.m.; hitting, 3-4 p.m.;

**Saturday, April 13:** hitting, 4-5 p.m.; infield/outfield, 5-6 p.m. and 6-7 p.m.;

**Sunday, April 21:** hitting, 4-5 p.m., infield/outfield, 5-6 p.m. and 6-7 p.m.

# Rocks hopes fade to Black

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

Dre Black proved to be the trump card in Westland John Glenn's 65-52 KLAA boys basketball semifinal victory Tuesday night at Salem.

The 6-foot-1 junior guard hit 7 of 8 shots from the floor, including a pair of key three-pointers in the third quarter, to catapult the 16-2 Rockets to the Kensington Conference championship game Friday against KLAA South co-champ Canton, which also advanced Tuesday with a 45-43 semifinal win at South Lyon.

Black helped pick up the scoring slack for the injured Richard Roberts, the team's second leading scorer who sat out his second straight game with an ankle injury.

Black finished with a game-high 21 points, while fellow senior guard Nick Daniels added 20 and junior forward Isaac Everette chipped in with 15.

"Dre normally plays a lot and he's hit some big shots for us all year," Glenn coach Dan Young

said. "He hit the game-winner to beat Muskegon in the (holiday) tournament. He made some plays tonight, and in the third quarter, it was big boost for us to bank it in like that. It gives you a big boost going into the fourth."

What Young was referring to was Black's three-pointer at the buzzer from just inside halfcourt to give the Rockets a 46-42 cushion.

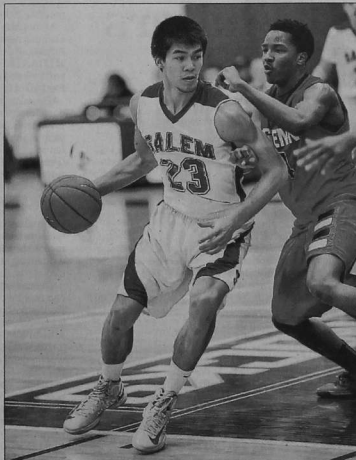
Black had 10 of his points in the third quarter as Salem made a charge behind 6-6 senior forward Chris Dierker (19 points), who converted back-to-back three-point plays within a span of 28 seconds to give the Rocks a 38-37 advantage.

But two free throws by Black, two more from Everette and Black's three-point bomb—all during the final 1:51 of the third—put Glenn ahead to stay.

## Telltale stretch

The Rockets then outscored Salem 19-10 in the final period to win going away as Black's steal

Please see ROCKS, B2



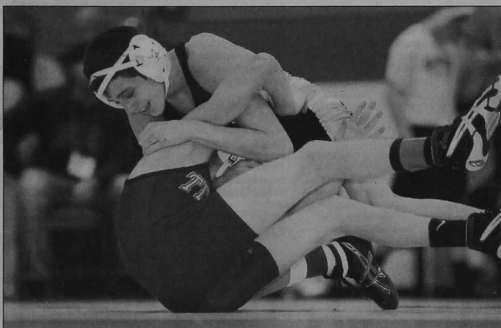
Salem's Chris Dierker (No. 23) tries to make his way to the hoop despite defensive pressure from Westland John Glenn's Isaac Everette during Tuesday's contest.

## Salem girls lax meeting

There will be a parent/student information meeting for all returning student athletes and future players for the Salem girls lacrosse team to be held 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, in Room W212. Salem is looking for new players as it plans to add its first junior varsity team. No previous playing experience is required, just desire to learn and play the sport.

Tryouts will begin 5:30 p.m. Monday, March 11, at East Middle School. Please go to [www.salemgirls.org](http://www.salemgirls.org) for contact and season information.

## D1 INDIVIDUAL REGIONALS



ANDREW RUBENSTEIN MD

Plymouth's Mohamad Youssef (top) subdues one of several opponents he defeated at 103 to win the Division 1 individual regional championship Saturday at Canton High School.

# Six going to the Palace

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

The Palace of Auburn Hills will welcome a contingent of six wrestlers from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park—including four from Plymouth High School—to the Division 1 individual finals slated for Feb. 28 through March 2.

To qualify for the D1 finals, wrestlers needed to finish in the top four at Saturday's Canton-hosted individual regional.

Plymouth junior Mohamad Youssef leads the pack, having earned the individual regional championship at 103 pounds with his takedown of Ann Arbor Pioneer's Billy Cobb-Gulley at the regional. Youssef, needing 2-29 to pin Cobb-Gulley, improved to 49-3 for the season.

"Mo looked really good this last weekend fighting through a tough semifinal and final

match," Plymouth head coach Quinn Guernsey said. "In both he had to overcome some challenges, but was able to win both matches with pins."

"He has really separated himself as one of the premier 103-pounders in the state and has put himself in a great position to place very highly in two weeks."

In the semifinals, Youssef pinned Temperance Bedford's Tyler Rogaliner in 4:15.

The lone PCEP wrestler to finish second was Canton 125-pounder Ben Griffin, who lost by injury default to Bedford's Mitch Pawlak to fall to 49-4 for the season.

Salem senior captain Tyler Gross (38-7) defeated Mickey Sutton of Woodhaven in the bout for third place at 160.

"Tyler changed his game plan and avenged a loss against Woodhaven's Mickey Sutton from a year before

to place third," Salem head coach Pete Israel said. "Tyler has been working very hard to make adjustments and I think now he is well-tuned for a great showing at The Palace."

Israel lamented that Tyler's younger brother, Mitchell, fell just short of also qualifying for the D1 finals.

Mitchell Gross lost the "blood round" matchup at 189 to Bedford's Codie Betten-court, losing 5-4.

"Mitch had a really good season," Israel said. "I hope the feeling he had carries forth a great drive for him. With hard work this summer, Mitch should have no problem next year making it to states."

## Also Palace-bound

Meanwhile, three other Plymouth grapplers placed

Please see GRAPPLERS, B4

# Toledo's calling

Plymouth's Woody happy with college choice

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Not many would choose a "rust bucket" city such as Toledo over an Ivy League setting.

Plymouth High School junior Jada Woody did, and she's thrilled with that decision.

Woody, a talented forward with the Wildcats, recently made a verbal commitment to play basketball at Division I University of Toledo—passing up major eastern colleges such as Princeton, Dartmouth and Colgate.

Woody—who carries a 3.8 grade-point average—will receive a full scholarship and go after a career as a neurologist the same way she won't say no to getting in there for an offensive rebound or putback.

"I got offers from other schools, but Toledo was the best well-rounded school," Woody said. "They had what I want academically, they're close to home, they have a really good basketball team and the athletic facilities are really good."

And don't expect her to change her mind between now and her senior year, when she can officially sign an NCAA D-1 letter of intent.

"I've heard lots of stories, especially in girls basketball, of kids getting recruited a lot earlier," Woody said. "But I'm pretty firmly committed to Toledo. I'm not looking to go anywhere else."

She might have been tempted, however.

During the recruiting process, Woody was contacted by Princeton about a scholarship there. She was encouraged to seriously consider that by her mom, 1992 Canton grad Julie Nicastro-Tan-kard—a starting center with

Please see WOODY, B3



Happily modeling her future University of Toledo women's basketball jersey is Plymouth junior Jada Woody.

JOHN KEMSKI  
EXRESS PHOTO



Celebrating his goal Saturday against Guelph is Plymouth Whalers forward Rickard Rakell (No. 24, right). Rakell returned to the Whalers last week after spending a month with the Anaheim Ducks of the National Hockey League.

## Rakell's return sparks Whalers

A seven-goal second period Monday afternoon spearheaded Plymouth to a 10-2 rout of host Sarnia in an Ontario Hockey League contest.

Leading the way was forward Stefan Nosen, who registered three goals (21 for the season) along with defenseman Gianluca Curcuruto, who set up three of the goals.

Also scoring for the OHL West Division leaders were Austin Levi, Cody Payne, Tom Wilson (one goal, two assists), Ryan Hartman, Matt Misteale, Rickard Rakell and Connor Carrick (one goal, two assists).

Rakell, in just his third game back with the Whalers (32-16-5-4, 73 points) following a stint with Anaheim of

### OHL HOCKEY

the NHL, also chipped in with an assist as Plymouth extended its win streak to six games.

Helping the cause was Vince Trocheck.

Making 13 stops for the victory was Plymouth's netminder Matt Mahalak. Plymouth will play back-to-back home games Friday and Saturday, against Windsor and Sarnia, respectively. Both games at Compuware Arena begin at 7 p.m.

### PLYMOUTH 7, GUELPH 4

Rickard Rakell's return to Compuware Arena from the National Hockey League was a triumphant one Saturday, as he collected one goal and two assists to key Plymouth's victory before 2,970 at Compuware Arena.

After the storm scored three goals in the first 15:44, Whalers' coach Mike Vellucci pulled starting goalie Matt Mahalak in favor of Alex Nedeljkovic (21 saves on 22 shots) and the tide turned in the middle stanza.

Plymouth responded with five unanswered goals to take a 5-2 lead into the third. Vince Trocheck's 42nd goal of the season tied the game at 12-41 on the power play and Rakell — who spent the past month with the Anaheim Ducks before returning Friday at Kitchener — broke the deadlock at 17:56 with a shorthanded tally, his 14th goal of the year.

Stefan Nosen (one goal, two assists) broke a personal scoring slump with his 18th of the season at 19:32 of the second and Matt Misteale finished the scoring in the final frame with his second and third goals of the game, giving him 29 for the campaign. Contributing three assists for the Whalers was Mitchell Heard.

## Numbers game

MHSAA grid playoffs may undergo makeover

By Brad Enmons  
Observer Staff Writer

A new postseason football playoff format for the 2013 season appears to be gaining some legs according to sources contacted by *The Observer*.

According to those sources, a group within the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association has proposed an Enhanced Strength of Schedule System that will be up for review and possibly a vote at the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Representative Council's annual meeting in May.

Among the proposed changes under the Enhanced SOS for the MHSAA 596 schools that participated in 11-man football in 2012 include:

- Based on enrollment, equal divisions will set prior to the season with each of the eight divisions having 74-to-75 teams. (Previously the MHSAA set the 256-team field on Selection Sunday following the ninth game of the regular season.)

- Automatic qualifiers will need seven wins now instead of six (or five wins with an eight-game schedule).

- Teams with four wins can now be considered for the postseason (or five wins with an eight-game schedule).

- Additional qualifiers will be determined by playoff points filling spots until each division has 32 teams. (Previously additional qualifiers by playoff points were added from Class A team, then Class B, then Class C, then Class D, etc....)

- The point system for a win will change to: Division 1 (88 points); Division 1 (88 points); Division 2 (80); Division 3 (72);

Division 4 (64); Division 5 (56); Division 6 (48); Division 7 (40); and Division 8 (32). Previously wins were awarded for Class A (80 points), Class B (64), Class C (48) and Class D (32).

- Teams will receive bonus points for each of its opponents victories regardless whether or not your team defeated an opponent or not. Previously teams received eight points for each win by an opponent but less points (1) for each victory by an opponent that defeated you.

- The bonus point multiplier will change depending on the size of the opponent as opposed to the former 8 or 1 multiplier.

- Out-of-state opponents will be placed into a division (instead of class) based on enrollment.

If the Enhanced SOS formula had been in effect last season, Division 1 runner-up Novi-Detroit Catholic Central would have earned a spot in the state playoffs along with three 6-3 teams — Temperance Bedford, Davison and Traverse City West.

In Division 2, Milford would have earned a spot in the 32-team field with a 4-5 record.

A total of 21 six-win teams from across the state would fail to qualify for the playoffs.

### Jury's out

According to Canton coach Tim Baechler, winning seven games under the proposed plan would be "a very tough accomplishment, but I do like the fact that we would be rewarded for our strength of schedule."

Baechler noted the fact the Chiefs play in an ultra-competitive division and typically open the season playing a Division 1 play-

off team.

"Now that Salem has dropped us from its Game 9," Baechler said, "we now have a one-year contest with Ann Arbor Pioneer, another very good program."

Salem coach Kurt Britnell said "At first thought, I don't really care if it. I like the idea of get to six and you're in. I can see why some coaches would want to add it because of some soft scheduling for other teams."

"We'd probably have to do some re-aligning of our division because of the South Lyon's until they combine schools again."

Livonia Franklin, a member of the KLAAs tough South Division, has qualified as an additional playoff qualifier three different times with a 5-4 record.

"I don't know if that would be better or worse for us in our situation," Franklin coach Chris Kolbert said. "We're playing all Division 1 (teams) and seven of our nine games every year are against teams that are in the playoffs."

The fact that Catholic Central would have not made the postseason last year was an eye opener for coaches such as Baechler.

"I would have to dig in and do some math to really know if it is the best system for our state," Baechler said. "The fact that C.C. would not have made the playoffs this year makes the system seem ridiculous as they made it to the state championship game."

"If the best teams are the teams qualifying for the playoffs, then I'm in favor of it."

— Tim Smith contributed to this report.

## CHIEFS

Continued from page B1

South Lyon would get a chance to retake the lead with Luke Short getting fouled on a drive with 15 seconds remaining.

He missed both, but the Lions got the rebound and Short was again fouled with 10 seconds left. He hit his second free throw to tie it.

Canton came down and eventually found Gring for an outside jumper that hit nothing but net for the Chiefs.

"A heckuva high school basketball game and a heckuva come-back by us," said Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy. "Our guys showed a ton of poise and a lot of urgency when they had to. It feels great."

### Back and forth

The first half saw both teams control the lead.

Canton's Greg Williams hit for eight points in the first quarter as the teams remained deadlocked at 12 heading into the second.

The Chiefs hit a pair of free throws to open the

second but did not change the scoreboard again until 1:30 remained in the half.

South Lyon opened up a 21-14 lead, but Canton trimmed the lead to 22-18 by the half.

Lion senior guard Short did the most damage with eight points. He finished with a game-high 20.

Mayberry and Greg Williams led Canton with 10 each. Gring hit all eight of his points in the second half.

Neither team shot well in the opening 16 minutes with Canton making 8 of 23 shots and South Lyon just 6 for 22.

## ROCKS

Continued from page B1

and layup to start the fourth led to the uprisings.

"Yes, he hurt us," Salem coach Bob Brodie said of Black. "We knew he could shoot the ball, but when you make a couple of shots like that, it's just a snowball effect and he had a good night for them."

Brodie could only marvel about the 40-foot shot by the Glenn guard.

"I heard him call it," Brodie chuckled. "I thought, 'Oh, not now.' The momentum is a big thing, and like I said, we started to get our dobers down and all of the

sudden we give up a lot of points and we don't score."

Glenn jumped out to a 12-2 lead at the outset and led 21-14 after one quarter.

But Salem was able to stay within striking distance at the half, trailing by six, 32-26, thanks to a 1-3-1 zone defense.

In the third quarter, Dierker's eight points enabled Salem to take a one-point lead on two different occasions.

But the Rocks — unable to successfully defend their 2012 KLA championship — turned it over six times in the fourth and made only 5-of-12 shots from the floor.

"We've fallen apart a lot late in the season,"

said Brodie, whose team slipped to 12-6 overall.

"We've been playing in spurts. We've made runs at teams. We made a nice run tonight and suddenly go back to our old ways, allow them to score and get enough stops."

Senior Ahmad Khalid added 10 points, but starting point guard Kevin Mack did some score picking up three quick fouls in the second quarter and his fourth in the third period.

"He never got into the game offensively or defensively," Brodie said of Mack. "We've got to get some points from him, some hustle and some leadership. Can't do that too much when he's on the bench with us."

## Plymouth boys best Brighton

### BOYS HOOPS

led by Josh Priebe, who scored 21 points. Chipping in with 11 points was Brendan Swanson, while Jake Divens and Sid Acharya added five each.

"We were able to put good hard quarter together and a great half," Plymouth head coach

Mike Soukup said. "I was hoping that the momentum would stay going after halftime and it did for us."

"We put four quarters together and played really well tonight, so it's good that we're kind of peaking at the end of the year."

The Wildcats will host Howell at 7 p.m. Friday.

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# Chiefs' comeback bid falls short

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Westland John Glenn's varsity girls basketball team could rocket its way all the way to Breslin Center in the upcoming Class A state tournament.

But whatever obstacles it might face getting there likely won't be any more taxing than three hard-fought victories over Canton — including Monday night's take-of-two halves 44-39 win in the KLA A Kensington Conference title matchup.

"Canton is an excellent program," John Glenn head coach Eric Kovatch said following the contest at John Glenn. "They get everything out of those kids. We beat them three times this year, which is a tribute to our girls."

What seemed like a blow-out at halftime turned into an intense slugfest in the final minutes. The Chiefs (14-5) continued a second half rally that lifted them out of a 21-10 halftime hole to being one triple away from forcing overtime in the final seconds.

After Rachel Winters buried a jumper from the left corner with just under a minute left, the Rockets (17-1) hung on to a precarious 40-37 edge.

With 29 seconds remaining, a foul shot by Paige Aresco made it 41-39.

Glenn tucked on a point thanks to a free throw by Raven Bankston (eight points) and Canton then rebounded the ball under the Rockets' basket with 14 seconds left.

Winters (10 points) elected not to shoot from behind the arc, perhaps not comfortable with her look to the Rockets' frantic defense.

Unusually late for the Chiefs, any opportunity for overtime ended when standard Shaleya Graves (18 points) stole the ball and took it in for a layup and time elapsed.

"I thought Rach was open, but she didn't let it go," Canton head coach Brian Samulski said. "But that didn't have anything to do with the (final) score."

## CONFERENCE FINAL

It was a play here, a play there.

"The main thing is we said we didn't care about the scoreboard, what the scoreboard was going to say. But we weren't going to lay down in the second half and let them roll over us."

## Rockets build lead

John Glenn parlayed 23 Canton turnovers in the first half into the big-half time lead.

The Rockets led 10-2 after one quarter, with the lone points by the Chiefs a bucket by junior power forward Taylor Hunley (11 points, eight boards) at the 5:25 mark.

A trey at the halftime horn by Graves from beyond the top of the arc padded the lead to 21-10 at the intermission.

It was more of the same to start the second half, as Raine Bankston (10 points) turned a Canton steal into another layup just 17 seconds into the third.

"Glenn, they are so athletic," Samulski said. "They make you do things that you're not used to doing. Last time we played someone that quick and fast was when we played Glenn."

After being blanked in the first half, Aresco got untracked, scoring her team's first six points of the third to make it 24-16 with 4:52 remaining.

Samulski also wanted to change things up a bit in the paint, teaming up Hunley and junior forward Shannon Perry (six points, seven rebounds). Both players came through with some low-post points to boost Canton's offense.

Then a driving layup by Aresco (10 points) made it 33-25 at three.

Winters buried a 3-ball from the left flank with 5:30 to go in regulation to make it a 34-30 game and signal to the Rockets that the comeback was over just yet.

But as was the case all night, the Rockets answered with a putback and foul shot by Graves and Kierra Jordan's free throw bumped the lead back up to 37-30.



JOHN KEMSKI EXPRESS PHOTO

During Monday's conference title contest, Canton's Taylor Hunley (No. 5) tries to escape the defensive clutches of Westland John Glenn's Kierra Jordan (No. 24).

to 38-30.

With 2:50 left, the Bankston twins got into the act. Raven picked off a Canton pass and fed the ball to Raine, who raced in for the layup, opening up a 40-33 advantage.

Canton kept pushing, but could not finish what was a gallant comeback bid.

"We turned it over 15 times in the first half," Samulski said. "But to the kids' credit, they hung in there, they came out and they battled. They gave that team everything that they could handle."

"We had an opportunity down the stretch to see what we could get done. We just came up a little short."

## Taking control

According to Kovatch, as tough as the Chiefs bounced back, he had complete confidence the Rockets would finish what they started.

Leading the charge was Graves, who was injured the last time John Glenn and Canton faced each other.

"She (Graves) makes a big difference, she's the leader of the team," Kovatch said. "She's a D-I baller going to DePaul (University). She's been doing it for three years and I always feel comfortable with Shaleya in the game, controlling the tempo."

Meanwhile, Samulski (whose team faces Waterford Kettering Thursday) said the Chiefs will benefit from playing the likes of John Glenn. "It's important to play good games down the stretch. That's what it's all about this time year."

Winters buried a 3-ball from the left flank with 5:30 to go in regulation to make it a 34-30 game and signal to the Rockets that the comeback was over just yet.

But as was the case all night, the Rockets answered with a putback and foul shot by Graves and Kierra Jordan's free throw bumped the lead back up to 37-30.

# P.O.P. gymnastics teams sweep top three spots

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

The "Red, Black and Blue" dominated Saturday's KLA A Kensington Conference girls gymnastics meet at Walled Lake Central High School.

Canton — as has been the case all season — took the No. 1 spot in the team standings with 148.600 points.

But they had company at the top from their Plymouth-Canton Educational Park rivals. Plymouth and Salem finished 1-3 with respective scores of 142.025 and 141.550.

In fourth with 140.075 points was Livonia Blue. "We're peaking at the right time," noted veteran Canton coach John Cunningham. "We hit beam with only one fall for seven routines."

Cunningham added that Canton's second-highest team score of the year featured just two of 16 individual scores below the 9.1-point mark.

Capturing first in two of the four routines was Canton's Jocelyn Moraw (9.125), who prevailed on uneven parallel bars (9.450) and floor exercise (9.500, tied with Pinkney's Ashley Hestall).

Erica Lucas placed

first on vault with a 9.450 tally.

Also outstanding for the Chiefs were Melissa (9.375 on vault), 9.350 on floor), Maddie Toal (9.550 on beam), Nicole Lasecki (9.4 on beam), 9.325 on floor), Ellie Bachman (9.350 on beam) and Haley Hodgson (9.250 on vault).

## Wildcats shine

Plymouth's sparkling showing was led by senior co-captain Sarah Uhlian, who tallied a personal best all-around score of 34.44.

Uhlian also broke the school record with a 9.6 score on beam, good for a fifth-place tie.

"Sarah showed her consistency and leadership," Plymouth coach Pam Yockey said. "She is a hard worker who never drops her smile."

Several other Wildcats also had outstanding performances, including Katie Salanga (9.450 on beam, eighth), Brenna Connolly (9.150 on floor), freshman Rebecca Simu (9.0 on bars) and Haley Metz (9.0 on floor).

"We had strong performances from all," Yockey said.

Unable to take part with senior co-captain Jane McCurry, who was visiting a Wisconsin college

about a track and field scholarship.

Others helping the cause were Samantha Fontana (8.9 on beam), Kayla Janewski (8.9 on vault) and Molly McSwen (8.1 on bars).

## Solid Rocks

For Salem, all five performers hit the 9.0 mark in at least one event. The top individual score for the Rocks was posted by Andrea Merlotti, with a 9.550 on beam (good for a fifth-place tie).

Morgan Soper registered a 9.325 on floor (fifth-place tie) while Paulette Martino chipped in with scores of 9.075 on floor and 9.000 on beam. The team was joined by Brooke Allgeyer (9.025 on vault) and Brittany Ramirez (9.0 on vault).

"I'm very proud of the team," Salem coach Dana Driscoll said. "The girls had a great meet it was good to see them do well and be confident."

"They have been working very hard and routines are coming together at the end of the season. It was nice to see the Park compete well and sweep the top three spots."

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## GIRLS GYMNASICS RESULTS

### KLA A GIRLS GYMNASICS CONFERENCE MEET FEB. 16 AT WALLED LAKE CENTRAL

**TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Canton, 148.600 points; 2. Plymouth, 142.025; 3. Salem, 141.550; 4. Livonia Red, 140.075; 5. Brighton, 139.650; 6. Milford/Lakeland, 138.400; 7. Howell, 138.350; 8. Livonia Blue, 138.225; 9. Green Oak, 132.700; 10. Northville, 128.600; 11. Walled Lake Central, 128.500; 12. Waterford Kettering, 114.850; 13. Pinkney, 37.350.

**Vault:** 1. Erica Lucas (C), 9.450; 2. (tie) Catrina Malysz (M/L), Ashley Hestall (P), 9.375; 3. Haley Hodgson (C), 9.350; 6. Margie McKiernan (B), 9.200; 7. (tie) Brianna Rhoad (B), Paige Blythe (H), 9.150; 9. Jocelyn Moraw (C), 9.125; 10. (tie) Maggie Nicowan (L/R), Emily Guicciardo (B), Annie Martini (B), 9.100; 13. Brooke Allgeyer (S), 9.025; 14. (tie) Brittany Ramirez (S), Marisa DeCamp (H), 9.000.

**Bars:** 1. Moraw (C), 9.450; 2. Rhoad (L/B), 9.250; 3. Green (C), 9.100; 4. Rebecca Simu (P), 9.000; 5. (tie) Nicole Lasecki (C), Madison Paske (M/L), 8.800; 7. (tie) Andrea Merlotti (S), Ramirez (S), Hestall (P), 8.750; 10. (tie) Maddie Toal (C), McKiernan (B), 8.700; 12. Haley Metz (P/L), 8.600; 13. Rhoad (L/B), 8.550; 14. Marissa McVey (L/R), 8.500.

**Beam:** 1. Hestall (P), 9.700; 2. (tie) Moraw (C), Blythe (H), 9.650; 4. Sarah Uhlian (P), Merlotti (S), McVey (L/R), 9.550; 8. Katie Salanga (P), 9.450; 9. Lasecki (C), 9.400; 10. Ellie Bachman (C), 9.350; 11. (tie) Lasecki (C), Sammi Pulgini (W/L), 9.250; 13. (tie) Katie Kretschmar (L/R), DeCamp (H), 9.200; 15. Guicciardo (B), 9.125; 16. (tie) Martini (B), Taylor Shotwell (M/L), 9.100; 18. Rhoad (L/B), 9.050; 19. Paulette Martino (S), 9.100.

**Floor:** 1. (tie) Moraw (C), Hestall (P), 9.500; 3. Pulgini (W/L), 9.375; 4. Green (C), 9.350; 5. (tie) Lasecki (C), Morgan Soper (S), 9.325; 7. Talaki (M/L), 9.300; 8. Rhoad (L/B), 9.250; 9. (tie) Lucas, Shannon Diaz (L/R), 9.225; 11. Blythe (H), 9.175; 12. (tie) DeCamp (H), Brenna Connolly (P), 9.150; 14. Emily Guicciardo (B), 9.100; 15. (tie) Uhlian (P), Merlotti (S), 9.075; 17. (tie) Martino (B), 9.025; 18. (tie) Metz (P), McKiernan (B), 9.000.

# 'Cats, Rocks win KLA A consolation games

When Jada Woody plays for Plymouth's varsity girls basketball, noted Wildcats' head coach Bob De Bear, the team has a pretty good chance of winning.

Such was the case in Monday's KLA A consolation bracket game against host Grand Blanc, won 48-39 by Plymouth (8-10 overall).

Woody led Plymouth with 15 points, and chipped in with four rebounds and 14 points under pressure to spark the victory.

"Jada Woody had a great game," De Bear said. "She scored, she rebounded, she brought the ball up against pressure."

"She contributed in the huddle and at half-time. When she has a good game we are usually pretty good."

Several others also made big contributions, however.

Junior center Shelby Johnston led Plymouth with seven rebounds along with three blocked shots.

Junior point guard Kylie Robb scored 14 points, sophomore Leah Kliczinski tallied 10 points and played well on defense, as did junior Tionne Johnson.

Plymouth will host Howell 7 p.m. Thursday in another KLA A consolation game. It will be Senior Night for the Wildcats.

## GIRLS HOOPS

### SALEM 29, HOWELL 20

Breanne Beaver and Jamyra Wilson each tallied double-doubles Monday night to spark the Rocks (9-10) to a KLA A consolation bracket victory.

Beaver registered 12 points and 10 rebounds, while Wilson scored the cause with 11 points, 10 boards and four blocked shots.

Salem led 19-9 at halftime and took control in the third, outscoring Howell by a 10-2 margin. Rock's head coach Fred Thomann complimented his team's defense, taking care of the basketball and handled rebounding duties.

### STEVENSON 52, W.L. CENTRAL 8

Eleven of 14 players scored Monday as host Livonia Stevenson (9-10) romped to a KLA A consolation bracket win over visiting Walled Lake Central (1-18). The Spartans, who led 19-3 after one quarter, outscored the Vikings 16-3 in the second as junior guard Abby Knapp scored all 12 of her points, including four 3-pointers.

Kyra Johnson chipped in with eight points.

**SOUTH LYON EAST 56, FRANKLIN 40:** Gabi Bird poured in a game-high 24 points Monday as host South Lyon East (10-9) downed Livonia Franklin (8-11) in a KLA A consolation bracket encounter.

Sydney Jones chipped in with 13 points for the victorious Cougars, who trailed 14 after one quarter before outscoring the Patriots 22-9 in the second.

Katelyn Gevers scored a team-high 23 for Franklin, while Caitlin Millican added six.

Franklin made 12-of-19 free throws, while South Lyon East hit only 8-of-21.

## WOODY

Continued from page B1

the Chiefs and at Saginaw Valley State University.

It only took some face time with Toledo women's basketball coach Tricia Cullop and visits to the campus to decide it was where Woody wanted to go.

"The staff at Toledo just had that charisma," Plymouth girls basketball coach Bob De Bear said. "Their head coach is very charismatic. They also have the (academic) program that Jada wants. Jada thinks that far ahead."

## Perfect fit

Jada's parents (Roy and Julie Tankard of Plymouth City) eventually realized Toledo was the perfect fit. "They really like Toledo a lot and it's a really good school, too," Woody said. "It was a little overwhelming during the recruiting process, but really exciting."

"I know my mom ... when I didn't want to commit to Princeton, she kind of was like, 'Are you sure you don't want to go to Princeton?'"

Woody didn't waver, taking care of her college choice while juggling schoolwork and basketball.

"I think it showed me how much I can handle at how," Woody added. "I felt it was a really big test in life."

Nicastro-Tankard said she is glad her advice didn't pan out.

"I will definitely love

the fact that she will be close because I can definitely see more of the games," said Nicastro-Tankard, part of two Final Four Canton teams (coached by Bob Blohm).

"It'd be weird not really being able to see her play. With Toledo, I'm very, very happy. It was all her choice. I told her if I felt she was making a bad choice for herself, I'd definitely let her know."

Having support at her home played a key role in her choice, first and foremost talks Nicastro-Tankard had with her about what to expect playing college basketball.

"We definitely had conversations about the basketball experience and playing for a coach and what kind of relationship I had with the coaches I played with," Nicastro-Tankard said. "And there's the family feeling you get with your teammates, who end up being your family away from home."

"You're traveling with



JOHN KEMSKI EXPRESS PHOTO  
Competing during a varsity girls basketball game earlier this season is Plymouth's Jada Woody (No. 20).

them, living with them, you're on the road eating together. All that interaction. It's like having another family."

Then there is the burden of managing books and hoops, something at which Woody already is excelling.

"She's on a much better road than I was," Nicastro-Tankard said. "I was

more about basketball and school came second, and I think that is definitely number one (for Jada), the academic part of it."

Wherever a student-athlete opts to bridge the gap between high school and adulthood, that reality is all any parent wants to hear.

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# Wildcats win KLAAs Southboys swim meet

Plymouth's varsity boys swim team captured the KLAAs South Division meet championship Saturday at Westland John Glenn, with 594 points.

The Wildcats, under the watch of first-year coach Kenn Forbes, finished ahead of second-place Canton (428) with the host Rockets third with a 366 tally.

Senior co-captains Cameron Earls and Nick Weber were the catalysts, each winning one individual event (100 butterfly, 200 IM, respectively) and sharing in two of Plymouth's three relay wins.

Also prevailing in an individual event for the Wildcats was Ben Yang in the 100 backstroke. Earls and Weber teamed up on the victo-

rious 200-medley relay (with Garrett Beaupre and Alex Wilson) and 200-free relay (with Ryan Heinze and Wilson).

Finishing first in the 400-free relay was Plymouth's tandem of Yang, Beaupre, Alex Johnson and Wilson.

Meanwhile, Salem finished fourth at the KLAAs Central Division meet, with 340.5 points — well behind first-place Livonia Stevenson (605).

According to Rocks head coach Chuck Olson, he thought his team swam well and now looks for "some big drops in times" at this weekend's Kensington Conference meet at Novi.

Undoubtedly, so will Plymouth's Forbes and Canton coach Dave Le.

## BOYS SWIM RESULTS

**KLAAs SOUTH DIVISION BOYS SWIM MEET**  
Feb. 15-16 at John Glenn  
**TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Plymouth, 594; 2. Canton, 428; 3. Westland John Glenn, 366; 4. Westland Memorial, 316; 5. Livonia Churchill, 273; 6. Livonia Franklin, 213.

**200-yard medley relay:** 1. Plymouth (Cameron Earls, Garrett Beaupre, Nick Weber, Alexander Wilson), 1:46.78; 2. Plymouth (B), 1:49.49; 3. Canton, 1:53.44; 4. Chubbuck, 1:53.65; 5. Canton, 2:02.02; 6. Franklin, 2:01.48.

**200 freestyle:** 1. Josh Wakeford (WIG), 1:52.42; 2. John Stover (WM), 1:54.2; 3. Beaupre (P), 1:55.47; 4. Alexander Johnson (P), 1:56.23; 5. Franklin Qiu (LC), 1:57.56; 6. Aaron Alho-lonia (WIG), 2:00.44.

**100 individual medley:** 1. Weber (P), 2:05.87; 2. Justin Larkins (P), 2:09.54; 3. Benjamin Yang (P), 2:11.2; 4. Salem Niernann (Canton), 2:16.39; 5. Aniketh Vissal (P), 2:26.95; 6. Aniketh (WM), 2:28.48.

**50 freestyle:** 1. Cody Hodges (WIG), 23.49; 2. Ryan Heinze (WIG), 23.65; 3. Wilson (P), 23.86; 4. Devin Gibson (WM), 24.16; 5. Jacob Buricki (WIG), 24.74; 6. Travis Majlata (Canton), 25.89.

**100 butterfly:** 1. Earls (P), 56.2; 2. Weber (P), 56.87; 3. Wakeford (WIG), 58.65; 4. John Kukula (WIG), 1:00.08; 5. Brandon Burger (P), 1:02.6; 6. Majlata (Canton), 1:04.03.

**100 freestyle:** 1. Hodges (WIG), 51.25; 2. Heinze (P), 51.73; 3. Qiu (LC), 52.92; 4. Johnson (P), 53.12; 5. D. Gibson (WM), 54.47; 6. Michael Gibson (WM), 55.26.

**500 freestyle:** 1. Stover (WM), 5:09.89; 2. Beaupre (P), 5:10.95; 3. Earls (P), 5:15.37; 4. Aholonia (WIG), 5:34.12; 5. Jacob Forgas (P), 5:40.24; 6. Nathan Benjamin (Canton), 5:41.59.

**200 freestyle relay:** 1. Plymouth (Earls, Weber, Heinze, Wilson), 1:33.6; 2. John Glenn (P), 1:34.46; 3. Wayne, 1:37.25; 4. Canton, 1:40.66; 5. John Glenn (B), 1:43.17; 6. Plymouth (B), 1:43.33.

**100 backstroke:** 1. Yang (P), 59.42; 2. Daniel Salzman (WIG), 1:01.9; 3. Nikolas Salzman (LC), 1:02.74; 4. Jackson Norwood (P), 1:06.51; 5. Keegan Kendall (P), 1:06.94; 6. Bronson Knowles (P), 1:07.08.

**100 breaststroke:** 1. Larkins (P), 1:03.7; 2. Alex Bourdeau (Canton), 1:08.36; 3. Niernann (Canton), 1:09.55; 4. Vissal (P), 1:10.39; 5. Michael Wilyard (C), 1:13.32; 6. Kyle Reppenbach (LC), 1:16.26.

**400 freestyle relay:** 1. Plymouth (Beaupre, Johnson, Wilson), 3:33.08; 2. John Glenn, 3:33.3; 3. Wayne, 3:37.16; 4. Canton, 3:44.6; 5. Chubbuck, 3:45.93; 6. Franklin, 3:48.85.

**KLAAs CENTRAL DIVISION BOYS SWIM MEET**  
Feb. 15 at South Lyon  
**TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Livonia Stevenson, 605 points; 2. Northville, 559; 3. Novi, 397.5; 4. Salem, 340.5; 5. South Lyon Unified, 296.

**FINAL EVENT RESULTS**  
**200-yard medley relay:** 1. Novi (Gucci Onimura, Dennis Kim, Tanner Venn, Andrew Aol), 1:47.96; 2. Stevenson, 1:48.69; 3. South Lyon, 1:42.88; 4. Stevenson (B), 1:44.07; 5. Northville, 1:44.35; 6. Salem, 1:44.7.

**200 freestyle:** 1. Nick Arakelian (LSU), 1:47.96; 2. Jackson O'Dowd (LS), 1:49.4; 3. Austin Hunt (NVille), 1:51.02; 4. Matt Laporte (LS), 1:53.08; 6. David Prashnik (LS), 1:53.25.

**100 individual medley:** 1. James Xue (NVille), 2:04.82; 2. Scott Wang (NVille), 2:06.07; 3. Grant McNamara (LS), 2:06.9; 4. Charles Liu (Salem), 2:07.35; 5. Bradley Bielski (LS), 2:07.4; 6. Max Wilkinson (LS), 2:08.2.

**1-meter diving:** 1. Westphal (NVille), 22.9; 2. Andrew Westphal (NVille), 22.9; 3. Onimura (Novi), 22.9; 4. Sam Boyea (NVille), 23.18; 5. Jake Goeddeke (LS), 23.25; 6. Jerry Bai (Novi), 23.25.

**1-meter diving:** 1. Alex Canadi (LSU), 406.40 points; 2. Lee (LSU), 406.40; 3. Jacob Schlus (LSU), 328.50; 4. John Schmidt (LSU), 317.60; 5. Matt Meadows (LSU), 309.85; 6. Anton Travis (NVille), 306.60.

**100 butterfly:** 1. Vincent (Novi), 54.43; 2. Ao (Novi), 56.13; 3. Prashnik (LS), 56.39; 4. Bai (Salem), 56.65; 5. Frank Zhang (NVille), 57.09; 6. Wang (NVille), 57.76.

**100 freestyle:** 1. Westphal (NVille), 48.88; 2. O'Dowd (LS), 49.72; 3. Matt Paitz (Salem), 50.14; 4. Boyea (NVille), 50.5; 5. Parker Belmore (LS), 50.86; 6. Lee (LS), 51.4.

**500 freestyle:** 1. Laporte (LS), 4:50.84; 2. John Ferrara (LS), 4:53.94; 3. Turner Solterman (Salem), 5:01.47; 4. Hunt (NVille), 5:07.25; 5. Liu (Salem), 5:07.04; 6. Eric Ferrara (LS), 5:07.3.

**200 freestyle relay:** 1. Northville Westphal, Boyea, Alan Ruan, Hunt, 1:29.96; 2. Stevenson, 1:31.11; 3. South Lyon, 1:31.78; 4. Novi, 1:33.74; 5. Salem, 1:35.14; 6. Salem, 1:36.57.

**100 backstroke:** 1. J. Ferrara (LS), 53.42; 2. Onimura (Novi), 53.42; 3. Ruan (NVille), 56.58; 4. Patrick Casey (Salem), 57.75; 5. Goeddeke (LS), 57.97; 6. Arakelian (LSU), 58.64.

**100 breaststroke:** 1. Gorda (LS), 1:00.88; 2. Kim (Novi), 1:02.56; 3. Ruan (NVille), 1:02.64; 4. Tommy O'Donohue (LS), 1:02.85; 5. McNamara (LS), 1:02.92; 6. Nathan Luo (Novi), 1:02.93.

**400 freestyle relay:** 1. Stevenson (Arakelian, O'Dowd, Belmore, Ferrara), 3:14.96; 2. Northville, 3:19.44; 3. Novi, 3:19.56; 4. Stevenson (B), 3:28.69; 5. Northville (B), 3:28.75; 6. Salem, 3:29.29.



Salem players play Evan Patton (No. 11), Kyle Downey (No. 20), Alek Zultowski (No. 2) and Jake Fedel (No. 15) honor Max Merget (center) before Friday night's game at Plymouth Cultural Center. Merget is battling brain cancer.

# To the Max.

## Salem icers honor Merget, then win 11th in a row

By Derrick Vergolini  
Correspondent

Salem's varsity boys hockey team made Friday's "Senior Night" one to remember, on and off the ice.

The Rocks won their 11th in a row with a 9-5 victory over Howell and also honored Salem senior and varsity boys tennis player Max Merget, who recently was diagnosed with brain cancer for the fourth time in his life.

As part of the program was a 50/50 raffle that raised money to go to pediatric brain cancer research. The raffle winner donated her money back to total the earnings at nearly \$500.

"For it to be our senior year and on Senior Night [with] a lot of the seniors chipping in and every-

one just digging deep and working hard, it definitely felt good to keep a streak going," said assistant captain Jake Fedel about what the streak means to the seniors.

Senior assistant captain Alek Zultowski — a long-time friend and tennis teammate of Merget's — carried the team by tallying six points (3 goals, 3 assists) that included a hat trick that was completed 14 seconds into the third period of the KLAAs crossover matchup.

"It's cool to get points especially on Senior Night, but really getting one in the win column, that's all that matters," said Zultowski, who now leads the team with ten points.

Other Rocks weren't shy when it came to offense.

Forward Taylor Burris

tallied his first two goals of the season with both coming on plays where the junior crashed the net to find a loose puck. Noah Saad (two assists), Jake Sealy (three assists), Adam Marthaler (one goal) and captain Kyle Downey (two assists) all contributed to the score sheet.

Junior forward Jason Newel scored two goals 1:41 apart in the first period to give Salem a 2-1 lead. Newel's first goal came only 29 seconds after Howard's Nolan Arendt opened the scoring just over three minutes into the game.

Howell scored two goals with under two minutes left in the first to tighten it to 4-3 at the intermission.

The Rocks scored on a 5-on-3 power play just 39 seconds into the second

period for a 5-3 lead and cruised from there.

With 3:55 left in the game, Fedel (1 goal, 2 assists) topped off the scoring when he scored high glove-side on an odd-man rush.

Heading into the state playoffs coming up soon, Downey said, "skating, getting the puck out, setting up the cycle" will help them continue to play at a high level.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:** Merget, who played four years on Salem's varsity boys tennis team with Zultowski, was jointly honored by the hockey team and tennis team.

In addition to the 50/50 donation, Max was presented with two Rocks' hockey shirts emblazoned with his tennis nickname, "The Punisher." According to Rebecca Zultowski (Alek's mom), "Max got his nickname from his energetic net play on doubles."

## BOYS WRESTLING RESULTS

**MSHAA INDIVIDUAL REGIONAL WRESTLING TOURNAMENT RESULTS**  
(Top 4 qualify for state finals, March 13-14 at Palace) DIVISION 1

Feb. 16 at Canton

**130 pounds:** Alec Mally (Southgate Anderson) d. Nathan Amine (Novi Detroit Catholic Central), 5-4; 3rd place: Jordan Harkin (Tusculum Lincoln) won by major dec. over Jake Helmski (Temperance Bedford), 14-2.

**135:** Ken Bade (CC) pinned Quentin Santiago (Waydotted), 3-28; 3rd: Nate O'Sullivan (Saline) d. Jon Conn (Plymouth), 6-3.

**140:** Malik Amine (Plymouth) won by major dec. over Allen Parker (Wayne), 15-3; 3rd: Jordan Parks (Southgate) d. Alec Breckenridge (Plymouth), 5-1.

**145:** Alex Mally (Westland John Glenn) won by major dec. over Kody Roy (Livonia Stevenson), 21-8; 3rd: Josh Lockwood (Southgate) v. Victor Lindsey (Dearborn Fordson), 4-10.

**152:** Jordan Allenza (Livonia Franklin) won by major dec. over Mike Babitz (CC), 13-4; 3rd: Alex Cornelius (Saline) d. Alec Cole (Northville), 6-2.

**160:** Logan Marcelli (CC) p. Yahya Taha (Canton), 2-37; 3rd: Tyler Gross (Salem) d. Mickey Stoner (Woodhaven), 10-4.

**171:** Drew Garcia (Novi) d. Derek Hillman (Woodhaven), 4-28; 3rd: Sam Ekman (Wayne) d. David Ljwewski (Bedford), 9-4.

**189:** Allen Steele (Franklin) d. Nick Giese (CC), 5-3; 3rd: Code Bettencourt (Bedford) d. Jimmy Russell (CC), 3-1.

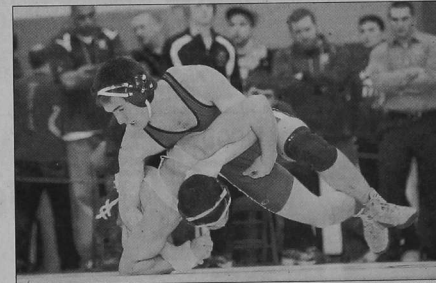
**215:** Brandon Snyder (Bedford) d. Jahl Hillard (Novi Arbor Pe), 7-3; 3rd: Jordan Brandon (John Glenn) d. Vincent Patti (Waydotted), 7-2.

**285:** Robert Coe (CC) p. Manny Haddad (Livonia Churchill), 2-54; 3rd: Adam O'Brien (Bedford) won by injury default over Dylan Morantes (John Glenn).

**310:** Mohamed Youssif (Plymouth) p. Billy Cobb-Gulley (Pioneer), 2-29; 3rd: Jake Nava (Franklin) d. Chase Spanos (John Glenn), 4-3.

**330:** Mitch Rogalski (Bedford) d. Trevor Zdebski (CC), 9-5; 3rd: Raven Smith (Southgate) p. Troy Berry (Plymouth), 1-51.

**352:** Mitch Pawlak (Bedford) won by injury default over Ben Griffin (Canton), 3rd: Evan Toth (CC) d. Immanuel Govantes (Farmington), 8-3.



The lone Salem wrestler to qualify for the Division 1 individual finals is 160-pounder Tyler Gross, shown during one of his bouts at the DI individual regionals.

## GRAPPLERS

Continued from page B1

fourth to earn a ticket to The Palace: Jon Conn (135), Alec Breckenridge (140) and Trey Berry (119).

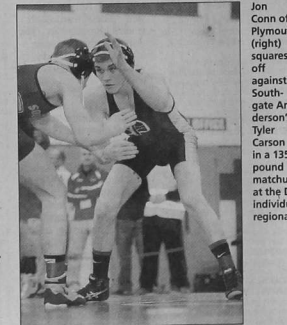
"The rest of the team also wrestled very well," Guernsey said. "Trey Berry has been very close to being a state qualifier in the past and it was nice to see him achieve that goal."

"Jon Conn has competed with some of the best kids in the state and he and he displayed that in his match against (Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's) Ken Bade in the semis, only losing 8-4."

"One-forry was a very tough weight and having Alec take fourth is a bit misleading. The guys from this region could fill a lot of spots on the (Palace) podium."

Guernsey added that it was "tough to swallow as a team" to watch three others fall just short of qualifying.

"The good thing is that two of them, Hussein



Youssef (145) and Joey Shaver (160) will be back next season," Guernsey said. "It's a very emotional day to see returning state placers and senior Chase Kallil (130), who has battled injuries all season, fall in the blood round and not have a chance to improve his eighth-place finish from last year."

Another plus was the way 145-pounder Sofus Nielson competed. "He also got a lot of experience after not being a starter for most of the year by qualifying for the regional tournament," Guernsey said.

tmh@hometownlife.com  
(734) 469-4128

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### Salem Rockettes host kids clinic

The Salem Rockettes are hosting their annual Junior Rockettes' Kids Clinic from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 16.

The event is open for all kids grades K-8. It is a great opportunity for older kids them to spend time with the Rockettes and ask questions and information about try-outs for the 2013-14 season.

The clinic includes: learning routines for all levels. Rockettes T-shirt, pomps, snack/drink and an invitation to perform in the Salem High School

Rockettes Variety show. The cost of the clinic is \$30.00 in advance. Registration forms for the kids clinic and Rockettes try-out information can be found at [www.pompon.salemrockets.com](http://www.pompon.salemrockets.com).

**Lineman school**  
The Michigan Youth Athletic Association is offering a football lineman school (grades 3-12) from 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 26, March 5, 12 and 19 at Precision Baseball, located at 7835 Market Drive, Canton. The cost is \$85. For more information, visit [www.miyaa.org](http://www.miyaa.org), or e-mail [info@miyaa.org](mailto:info@miyaa.org).

# Holy time: Orthodox churches observe Lent

The Council of Orthodox Sharon Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC) will observe the first Sunday of Orthodox Great Lent with a service of Great Vespers at 6:30 p.m. March 24 at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 707 E. Lafayette Blvd., in the city's Greek-town district.

The service will be part of the cathedral's observation of its patronal feast, the Annunciation of the Theotokos (Virgin Mary), which occurs March 25 on the Orthodox

**For more information about the Great Vespers on March 24, call the cathedral at (313) 965-2988. For more information about the COCC, visit [www.coccdetroit.com](http://www.coccdetroit.com).**

liturgical calendar.

The Most Rev. Nicholas, metropolitan of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit, will preside at the service, assisted by the Very Rev. Dean Hountalas, vicar general of the Metropolis and

pastor of Holy Cross Church, Farmington Hills, and the Very Rev. Roman Star, pastor of St. Innocent of Irkutsk Orthodox Church, Redford, and president of the Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of St. John Chrysostom of Metropol-

itan Detroit.

Services are open to the public. Refreshments will be served afterward.

The COCC, a 56-year-old clergy and lay association that represents various canonical Orthodox churches in metropolitan Detroit, traditionally conducts its own series of Lenten Vespers services on the five Sundays of Great Lent beginning with the Sunday of Orthodoxy. The next service in this year's series will be held March 31 at St. Michael the Archangel Rus-

sian Orthodox Church, Redford, followed by services April 7 at the Assumption of the Theotokos Greek Orthodox Church, St. Clair Shores; April 14 at St. Lazarus Serbian Orthodox Cathedral Ravanica, Detroit; and April 21 at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, Detroit.

For more information about the Great Vespers on March 24, call the cathedral at (313) 965-2988.

For more information about the COCC, visit [www.coccdetroit.com](http://www.coccdetroit.com).

## RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at [sdargay@hometownlife.com](mailto:sdargay@hometownlife.com).

### February

#### CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

**Time/Date:** Noon-2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 24

**Location:** St. Damian Catholic School, 25892 Joy, Westland

**Details:** Take a guided tour of the school, which includes preschool-eight grades, meet the staff members who will be available to answer questions/concerns and have conversation with other parents and students. St. Damian has interactive Smartboards in every classroom, Apple iPads and a technology lab. St. Damian offers latchkey programming, CYO sports, foreign language, music, computers, art, and physical education with more than 3 acres of outdoor sports fields. Bus transportation is available for Livonia residents and Westland residents within the Livonia School District.

**Contact:** (734) 427-1680; [www.stdamian.com](http://www.stdamian.com)

#### FILM

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 22

**Location:** Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills

**Details:** See the movie, "Gifted Hands" for free at the church Fellowship Center. The film tells the true story of Dr. Benjamin Carson. A special dinner of breaded catfish, mac & cheese and more will top off the evening, which is designed to celebrate Black History month. Free will offering will be accepted for the meal. Call the church if you plan to attend the dinner.

**Contact:** (248) 553-33809

#### GRIEF SUPPORT

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Feb. 27, March 6, 13 and 20

**Location:** St. Michael the 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. The series began Feb. 20. Presenters include the Rev. Tim Tindall as well John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry.

**Contact:** St. Michael's at (734) 261-1455 or [www.goodmourningministry.net](http://www.goodmourningministry.net)

#### LENTEN SERVICE

**Time/Date:** 5:30 p.m. prayer service, 6:30 p.m. soup dinner, Feb. 27-March 27

**Location:** Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 35300 W. Eight Mile, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Topics for the Wednesday night program are: "We were planned for God's pleasure," Feb. 27; "We were formed for God's family," March 6; "We were created to become like Christ," March 13; "We were shaped for serving God," March 20; "We were made for a mission," March 27.

**Contact:** (248) 478-6520; [belcfh@gmail.com](mailto:belcfh@gmail.com)

#### LENTEN SERVICE

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesday, through March 20

**Location:** Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

**Details:** Free treats served after services. The theme of the series is "Names of Wondrous Love."

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

#### LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. soup followed by service at 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Soup suppers and service are held Wednesday, through March 20

**Contact:** (248) 553-3380

#### LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. supper, 7 p.m. reflection, Tuesday, Feb. 26

**Location:** St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

**Details:** Robert Fastiggi, professor

of theology at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, will talk about "Growing in Dependence on Christ during Lent." Reservations are required and there is a charge of \$5 per person. Felician Sisters will serve on Feb. 26.

**Contact:** (734) 261-1455, Ext. 207; [www.livoniamichael.org](http://www.livoniamichael.org)

#### SINGLES MEETING

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28

**Location:** First Presbyterian Church of Northville, 200 East Main, Northville

**Details:** Single Place is a social organization for mature singles that meets at the church, Dave's. This will talk about her trip to Machu Picchu in the Andes Mountains in Peru. Ice cream will be served. Donation is \$5

**Contact:** [www.singleplace.org](http://www.singleplace.org)

### March

#### LENTEN LECTURE

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 19

**Location:** St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 44800 Warren Road, Canton

**Details:** Dr. Patricia Cooney-Hathaway, author, lecturer, and professor at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, will present "The Spirituality of Vatican II: What it means for the People in the Pew." This is a free event and light refreshments will be served. Call the church office to register.

**Contact:** (734) 455-5910

#### PARENTING SEMINAR

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. March 2

**Location:** Marian Center, located on the campus of St. Mary Orthodox Church, 18200 Merriman, Livonia

**Details:** Parenting seminar features Dr. John Chirban, an author, advisor to the "Dr. Phil Show," researcher and clinical instructor in psychology at Harvard Medical School. The \$10 registration fee includes lunch. Register online at <http://saintmarylivonia.com>

## Passages

Obituary, News & Remembrance

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**Deadlines:** Friday, 4:15 p.m. for Sunday paper  
Wednesday, 9:45 a.m. for Thursday paper



ACOSTA, MELINA (LYNN)

Age 64, of Canton Michigan passed away on February 15th, 2013. The Celebration of Life will be held at 10:30 AM Saturday, Feb. 23 at St. John Neumann Catholic Church with Father Theo of St. Presilla's officiating. Please join us for a luncheon and social time after the mass. Lynn was born in Cabadhar, North Agusan, Philippines. She was married to Alfredo (Fred) Acosta on June 17th, 1972. They have been married 40 years. The couple had one son, Maj. Allen D. Acosta and one grandchild, Tsunami Acosta. Lynn worked for Sybron-Kerr as a quality assurance specialist for 34 years. She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, cooking, playing mahjong, shopping and traveling. Lynn is survived by many family members both in the U.S. and the Philippines who love her dearly. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be sent to St. John Neumann Church at 44800 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan, 48188. The family of Lynn Acosta would like to thank the University of Michigan Oncology Center, especially Dr. Carolyn Johnston as well as her team at Arbor Hospice who provided excellent care to her.

**JOHNSON, MICHELLE L.**  
Age 33 of Livonia, passed away surrounded by her loving family, [www.casterlinefuneralhome.com](http://www.casterlinefuneralhome.com)

**SMITH, RODGER W., Jr.**  
Age 65 of Anchorage, Alaska (formerly of Canton, MI), on February 11, 2013 went to be with the Lord. Beloved son of Marge and the late Rodger Smith. Loving Father of Jessica (Tim), Dear Brother of Roxanne (Ron), Rock (Tammy), the late Rodney, and the late Ron.

**TRASKOS, HELEN**  
Age 92, died Feb. 12, 2013. Graduate of Fordson High, Dearborn. Attended Wayne State Univ. Retired 1983, employed by AMA MMVA for 43 years. Service at 11:00 a.m., Wed., March 6th at Ward Presbyterian Church, Northville. Gifts to Ward Church, Deacon FD, 248-374-7400

May you find comfort in Family and Friends

### CATHOLIC

**ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8  
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Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3300  
and 20  
Mass Schedule:  
First Friday Mass: 7:00 a.m.  
Saturday Mass: 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Mass: 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.  
Confession: Please Prior to Each Mass  
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions  
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

### PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

**Rosedale Gardens**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)  
2401 Hubbard Dr. (Canton/Livonia, MI between Merriman & Farmington Hills)  
(734) 422-0494  
Friends in Faith Service  
9:00 a.m.  
Tridentine Latin Service  
10:30 a.m.  
Visit [www.rosedalegardens.org](http://www.rosedalegardens.org)  
For information about our many programs

### EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

**WARD CHURCH**  
40000 Six Mile Road  
Northville, MI 48168  
248-274-3400  
www.wardchurch.org  
Traditional Worship: 10:00 & 11:15 a.m.  
Contemporary Worship: 10:00 & 11:15 a.m.  
Children's Programs available at 9:00 & 11:15 a.m.  
The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11:15 a.m. on 980 AM

### LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

**Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia, Just north of I-96  
[www.christsavior.org](http://www.christsavior.org)

**Sunday Worship**  
8:30 & 11:00 a.m. - Traditional  
+ Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am  
Early Childhood Center Phone 734-913-8413  
Staffed Nursery Available  
Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ  
Pastors: Dwight Beyer & Cecelia  
734-522-6830

### CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

**PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
10000 E. John Arthur Road • (734) 463-1010  
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.  
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.  
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.  
[www.pcn.us](http://www.pcn.us) or [www.pcn.org](http://www.pcn.org) (248) 237-1000  
(734) 455-3196

### ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

#### OPEN HEARTS CHURCH

Worship: Sunday 10:30 am

Children's Programs Available

Kid's Stop Preschool Now Enrolling 248-474-0001

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Assistant Pastor Alex Paszali

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248-471-5262

### LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

**St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & School**  
17810 Farmington Road  
Livonia Church • 1980  
Worship Services  
Sundays: 8:30 A.M. & 11 A.M.  
Tuesdays: 8:30 P.M.  
[www.stpaulslivonia.org](http://www.stpaulslivonia.org)

### UNITY WORLDWIDE MINISTRIES

**Friends of Unity**  
774 North Sheldon Road  
Plymouth, MI  
(Plymouth Community Arts Building)  
[www.friendsofunity.org](http://www.friendsofunity.org)  
Sunday Service and Youth Programs 10 a.m.  
Plymouth Friends, Plymouth Unity Center  
734-454-0015

### PRESBYTERIAN

#### Fellowship Presbyterian Church

Adult Sunday: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.

Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church

16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road

Nursery provided • [www.fellowship-presbyterian.org](http://www.fellowship-presbyterian.org)

### EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

#### Antioch Lutheran Church

13 Miles & Farmington Rd.  
(248) 626-7006  
[www.antiochella.org](http://www.antiochella.org)

Lentens Mid-Week Services  
Wednesdays through March 20  
1 and 7:30 p.m.

Sunday Worship Services  
at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Open Holy Communion at all services

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011 ext. 247 or e-mail: [ssare@hometownlife.com](mailto:ssare@hometownlife.com)

## Choir entertains, brings 'hope' to listeners

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

The Therapy Choirs of Michigan has sung more than 160 free concerts over the past five years.

It has recorded five CDs, performed at Detroit's Fox Theatre, and belted out the national anthem at Comerica Park.

Early next month it will entertain listeners at the Capitol in Lansing as it has annually for 14 years.

But as director, Leonard McCulloch notes, the performances are "about more than just singing."

The organization, made up of choirs in Farmington Hills and Auburn Hills, is therapy for its members, many of whom have suffered brain injuries from traumatic accidents. Singing is one way to help them regain communication skills and self-esteem.

"Music therapy isn't new. For many years it has been used to help in healing. Choir therapy is our own creation. It's a twist on music therapy," said McCulloch, a Farmington Hills therapist and founder of the Therapy Choirs of Michigan. McCulloch also writes a regular column, "Our Mental Health" for the *Observer & Eccentric*. "We're finding it (choir) helps with the emotional healing." It also improves speech for those with communication difficulty as a result of stroke or brain injury, improves socialization skills, choir members quickly bond—and gives members a chance to feel appreciated.

### UPCOMING CONCERTS

• **15th annual TCM Capitol Concert:** The group will perform noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 5, in rotunda of the State Capitol building, 115 W. Allegan St. #400, Lansing. Free and open to the public; the concert celebrates Choir Therapy Awareness Week in Michigan.

• **5th annual Concert for Careforwards' "Carnival of Care,"** noon Saturday, March 16, Macomb Community College Sports Arena, 14500 E. 12 Mile, Warren. The concert is free and open to the public. The Carnival is aimed at survivors of catastrophic injury, their families, caregivers, nurses, social workers, caseworkers and those interested in learning more about the support community for catastrophic injury survivors.

"We don't want to produce a musical masterpiece," McCulloch said. "They have the ability to relate socially in a universal way through music."

### Volunteers

Sherry Cantrell is vice president and has managed much of the "behind the scenes" work since the Farmington Hills choir began in 1998. She obtained a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) status for the organization in 2007 and coordinates Volunteer Voices, a group that assists with the therapy choirs.



The Therapy Choirs of Michigan performs in the rotunda at the Capitol in Lansing.



Len McCulloch is founder and president and Sherry Cantrell is vice president and treasurer of the Therapy Choirs of Michigan.

Regulars, like Terry Gonda and Kristi Reeve, sing at performances. The Rev. Renee Machinik of The Church of the Holy City in Royal Oak is the organization's chaplain and gives an inspirational introduction at many of the concerts. Karen DeChiera, co-founder of the Michigan Opera Theatre, wrote an original song about friendship

for the group. Other volunteers turn pages for choir members and assist where needed.

"With our choirs, it's therapeutic but (members) don't realize that. They come every other week for an hour and a half and have fun singing," Cantrell said. "This is good for their spirit and self esteem and they are having fun."

Cantrell, a Royal Oak resident, said she has enjoyed watching members improve their skills. She recalls one young autistic boy who wanted to sing, but couldn't bring himself to join the Auburn Hills choir. He sat in an adjacent room and sang along as the choir rehearsed. "As weeks progressed he came closer and closer and then joined us. To me, that's an accomplishment," she said.

### Singing together

The Auburn Hills choir, based at the Macomb Oakland Regional Center, includes developmentally-disabled and mentally ill members. The Farmington group consists

mostly of brain-injured individuals. Together, the choirs number approximately 40 singers.

McCulloch started the Farmington choir after discovering that one of his clients preferred to sing rather than speak.

The man, who had spent 18 years in a state hospital, along with four other patients formed the first therapy choir. Two of the original five still sing with the organization.

"We borrowed five robes from the Methodist church. We sang our first show for an annual dinner," McCulloch recalled. "We were shaking in our boots. Five little songs is all they knew and we waving my wand in front of them."

It didn't take long for the group to develop a saying that reflected its new confidence: "When we take the stage, we own the place."

Over the years the group has sung with confidence on six public television shows. It even drew interest from the producers of the television show, *Glee*, who were looking for a therapy choir to portray a chorus of disabled veterans on the show.

"Unfortunately the idea was put on a back shelf," McCulloch said.

Developing a veteran's choir is among McCulloch's goals.

### Starting young

The former Detroit and graduate of St. Francis de Sales High School, had little formal training

in music.

"I had an uncle who was a priest and he travelled. He stored his stuff in my mom's attic. I came across his guitar and I took it to school for show and tell."

He eventually learned one song and performed it at school talent shows. "Ever since I've gotten benefit out of music, now with these folks for 15 years."

What benefit does the audience receive?

In addition to hearing a wide variety of folk and traditional songs, "they walk away with awareness and that is huge," Cantrell noted. "We talk about awareness and prevention of brain injury."

McCulloch said audience members also may feel hopeful as they clap along to such familiar tunes as *Michael Rowed the Boat and You Are My Sunshine*.

"Let's face it, at some point in life all of us have to deal with overcoming something hard. They see these people overcoming some of the most horrific challenges," he said, referring to traumatic injuries. "At our annual Christmas shows at Detroit Rescue Mission, you can almost feel the hope being transferred. We call our tour, a tour of hope."

For more information about the Therapy Choirs of Michigan, visit [therapychoirs.org](http://therapychoirs.org), email Cantrell at [cantrell7031@comcast.net](mailto:cantrell7031@comcast.net) or call McCulloch at (284) 476-9329.

## Garage sale offers scary cinema items

Need a few ghoulish decorations for your annual Halloween party? Or a scary set for the local community theater troupe?

Wolfman Mac, aka Mac Kelly, may have just what you need.

The creator of the *Chiller Drive-In!* television show is throwing in the towel and selling sets, props, memorabilia, stickers, Halloween decorations, scripts, posters, antiques and more at a garage sale, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23, at the show's studio in Erebus Haunted Attraction, 18 S. Perry, Pontiac.

Kelly began broadcasting *Chiller Drive-In!*, originally *Nightmare Cinema*, in 2007 on public access television. The *Observer & Eccentric* caught up with him in 2008 on the show's set, after *Nightmare Cinema* was picked up

by Detroit's MyTV 20. A year later the show, which includes horror movies, retro commercials, music videos and a zany cast, went national on The Retro Television Network and can be viewed at 10 p.m. Saturday.

According to *Chiller's* Facebook page, new episodes of the show have been discontinued, although it will continue to air on The Retro Television Network and the Monster Channel.

Items from the show—as well as some of Kelly's personal treasures—will be sold.

Shoppers should bring boxes and help to load purchases. Kelly said he doesn't plan to price many items.

"It's going to be a make an offer and take it kind of thing," Kelly posted.

Free parking is available in the garage at Perry and Lawrence.

## Students to sell thousands of records, CDs

88.1 The Park, the student radio station for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, will sell records, CDs, import-only releases, 45s and 78s, T-shirts, posters and other collectibles from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the cafeteria at Salem High School, Joy at Canton Center, in Canton.

Collectors will find thousands of items at the station's fifth annual record show. The musical will span many genres including rock, jazz, pop, country, R&B and folk. The show will also feature special giveaways and door prizes.

"We love presenting this record show," stated Bill Keith, station manager, in a press release. "I enjoy being there when a person finds that special album they've been searching for. We have a lot of fun hanging out with people that love music."

Tickets are \$3 gener-

al admission and \$5 for early admission from 8-10 a.m. Students at Canton, Plymouth and Salem High Schools will receive free admission with a student ID. All of the proceeds will benefit 88.1 The Park, which is staffed by high school students in the Plymouth-Canton The station has served the community since Feb. 14, 1972. Visit the station's website at [www.881ThePark.com](http://www.881ThePark.com).

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**February 23rd & 24th**

FRANKENWEENIE  
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SPARKY

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Every Saturday & Sunday  
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**A Different Film Each Week**  
**Adults: \$1.00 No Advance Ticket Sales**

## Arts Crafts

## DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

**Time/Dates:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday  
**Location:** 5200 Woodward, Detroit  
**Family Sundays:** 2 p.m. Sundays; storytelling, performances, free with admission  
**Exhibits:** Hidden Treasures: An Experiment, through March 3; Motor City Muse: Detroit Photographs: Then and Now, through June 16; Shirin Neshat, includes eight video installations and two series of photos, April 7-July 7  
**Contact:** (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

## GALLERY@VT

**Time/Dates:** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, Feb. 1-21  
**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/Dates:** 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/Dates:** 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Feb. 23  
**Location:** 215 W. Cady, Northville  
**Details:** 7th Annual Member Exhibition is an all-media, non-juried show.  
**Contact:** (248) 344-0497

## PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

**Time/Dates:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and during public events, through February  
**Location:** Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth  
**Details:** Rock music poster graphic design from Gary Grimshaw, former artist at the Grande Ballroom, is on display along with poster works by artists for the San Francisco Band, Moonalice.  
**Contact:** (734) 416-4278

## THREE CITIES ART CLUB

**Time/Dates:** 7 p.m. Monday, March 4  
**Location:** Meeting room "A" in the Canton Township Hall, 1150 Canton Center Road, south of Cherry Hill Road, Canton  
**Details:** Dennis Knapp, owner of Detroit's Martin Universal Design and Martin F. Weber Co. of Philadelphia, Pa., and his daughter, Dawn Knowles of Canton, will show the latest in innovative products supplied by their companies. Martin F. Weber Co. produces a range of art materials for artists of all skill levels and signature artists' products for

such teachers as Bob Ross, Susan Schewe and Bruce Blitz. The program is free and light refreshments will be served.  
**Contact:** Marilyn Meredith at (248) 327-3989 or marylmeredith@wowway.com

## Film

## HUMANE SOCIETY OF HURON VALLEY

**Time/Dates:** Doors open 6 p.m.; film begins 6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 25  
**Location:** 3100 Cherry Hill Road, Ann Arbor  
**Details:** "Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home," a 78-minute documentary, shatters stereotypical notions of farming life. Admission is free. Refreshments and a brief introduction kick off the screening. Parking is limited. RSVP for the event. Anyone interested in touring the shelter should arrive at 5:30 p.m.  
**Contact:** (734) 661-3527; www.hshv.org

## PENN THEATRE

**Time/Dates:** 7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Feb. 21-22 and 28, and 3:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 23-24  
**Location:** 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth  
**Details:** "Lincoln," \$3  
**Coming up:** "Parental Guidance" will run 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 1-2 and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, March 3  
**Contact:** (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

## REDFORD THEATRE

**Time/Dates:** 8 p.m. Feb. 22, and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 23  
**Location:** 17350 Lahser, Detroit  
**Details:** "The Letter," starring Bette Davis, \$4  
**Contact:** (313) 537-2560; www.redfordtheatre.com

## Music

## BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

**Time/Dates:** Sign up for open mic, 6:15-6:45 p.m.; 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:** Eight open mic performances along with the featured act; admission is \$5. Individual and family annual memberships also are available.  
**Contact:** Scott Ludwig at BFE-president@aol.com or call (734) 453-0869

## JAZZ AT THE ELKS

**Time/Dates:** 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 hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds from Jazz Elks goes toward special needs and disadvantaged children and veterans. On Feb. 26 Johnny Trudell Quartet with Trudell on trumpet and flugelhorn, Ray Tini on bass, Chuck Shermatono on keyboard and Bill Cairo on drums,

will perform

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

## TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

**Time/Dates:** Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.  
**Location:** 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Billy Brandt and Band with special guest Michael On Fire, Feb. 22; Joshua Davis, Feb. 23; Julianne and the Rogues, March 1; Olivia Millersmith with Greater Alexander and Nick Urb, March 2; Empty Chair Night with Annie and Rod Capps, Joel Parmer and Christopher Mark Jones, March 3; Jay Sietstra and Judy Banker with Drew Howard and Dave Roof, March 8; Jan Krist and Jim Bizer, March 9; Kevin Meisel, March 15; Dick Siegel and the Brandos, March 16; Malcolm Holcombe, March 22. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted.  
**Contact:** (734) 464-6302

## Something different

## DETROIT ZOO

**Time/Dates:** 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 51, \$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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Cod Moroccan-Style with Mango-Carrot Slaw

## Healthy recipes for Lent

**C**ooking nutritious — and delicious — meatless meals for Lent has never been easier. These recipes start with Alaska Seafood, which is additive-free, lean, and full of healthful vitamins, minerals, nutrients and heart-healthy omega-3 fatty acids.

To find more easy, delicious, and healthy Lenten recipes, visit [www.wildalaskafarm.com](http://www.wildalaskafarm.com).

### Cod Moroccan-Style with Mango-Carrot Slaw

Prep time: 15 minutes  
Cook time: 20 minutes  
Servings: 4

- 4 Alaska Cod fillets (4 to 6 ounces each), fresh, thawed or frozen
- 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 1 cup finely chopped shallots (2 to 3 shallots)
- 1 cup chopped cilantro
- 2 teaspoons fresh grated ginger
- 1 can (14.5 ounces) vegetable broth, divided
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 4 cloves garlic, chopped
- Large pinch of saffron
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon allspice
- 2 cups dry couscous
- 1 cup toasted almond slices

#### Mango Slaw:

- 1 mango, peeled and sliced (about 2 cups)
- 1 red bell pepper, finely sliced
- 1 cup shredded carrot
- 1 cup chopped cilantro
- 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice
- 1 teaspoon grated lime peel
- 2 teaspoons orange juice
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

Rinse any ice glaze from frozen fillets under cold water; pat dry with paper towel.

Heat heavy nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Brush both sides of cod with 1 tablespoon oil.

Place in heated skillet and cook, uncovered, about 3 to 4 minutes,

until browned. Shake pan occasionally to keep from sticking.

Turn cod over, cover pan tightly and reduce heat to medium. Cook an additional 6 to 8 minutes for frozen cod or 3 to 4 minutes for fresh/thawed fish. Cook just until fish is opaque throughout. Remove from pan; keep warm.

In the same pan, sauté shallots in 1 tablespoon oil just until soft, about 2 minutes. Add cilantro, ginger, 1 cup vegetable broth, sugar, garlic, saffron, cinnamon and allspice; cook until thickened. Meanwhile, prepare couscous according to package directions, using remaining vegetable broth as part of the liquid.

Slaw: In large bowl, combine mango, bell pepper, carrot and cilantro.

In separate small bowl, blend lime juice and peel, orange juice, honey and cinnamon. Pour dressing over slaw; toss.

For each serving: Place about 1/2 cup couscous on a plate; top with 1/2 cup mango slaw. Top with a cod fillet. Pour 1/2 cup shallot sauce over fish; garnish with 1 tablespoon toasted almonds.



Salmon Penne with Green Beans Vinaigrette

### Warm Halibut Potato Salad

Prep time: 15 minutes  
Cook time: 15 minutes  
Servings: 6

- 1 pound small white or red new potatoes each, fresh, thawed or frozen
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- Pepper, to taste
- 1 tablespoon dried dill
- 2 tablespoons parsley, chopped
- 1 cup celery, chopped
- 1 cup red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 cup fresh (or canned) mandarin orange segments
- 1 tablespoon fresh dill, chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon seasoning salt
- 1 package (5 ounces) arugula

#### Dressing:

- 1/2 cup green onions, sliced
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard

Boil potatoes in salted water just until tender; drain and cool slightly. Slice potatoes in 1/4-inch-thick rounds.

Meanwhile, rinse any ice glaze from frozen halibut under cold water; pat dry with paper towel.

Heat heavy nonstick skillet over medium-high heat.

Brush both sides of halibut with olive oil. Place in heated skillet and cook, uncovered, about 3 to 4 minutes, until browned. Shake pan occasionally to keep from sticking.

Turn halibut over; season with pepper and dried dill. Cover pan tightly and reduce heat to medium. Cook an additional 6 to 8 minutes for frozen halibut, or 3 to 4 minutes for fresh/thawed fish. Cook just until fish is opaque throughout. Break into large chunks (removing skin, if any).

Mix parsley, celery, red pepper, orange segments, fresh dill, and seasoning salt together in large bowl. Add potatoes to celery mixture; stir.

For dressing, sauté green onions in olive oil. Add orange juice and Dijon; whisk. While warm, pour dressing over salad. Add halibut chunks and mix gently.

To serve, portion a handful of arugula on platters; top with halibut potato salad.

**Said's Tip:** If using canned mandarins, omit orange juice and use the juice in the can.

### Salmon Penne with Green Beans Vinaigrette

Prep time: 10 minutes  
Cook time: 15 minutes  
Servings: 5 (2 cups each)

- 12 ounces whole wheat penne (or other pasta)
- 1/2 pound fresh green beans, trimmed and halved
- Finely grated zest and juice of 1 lemon
- 1 tablespoon fresh thyme leaves
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
- 3 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 12 ounces Alaska salmon, fresh, thawed or frozen
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- Lemon wedges and sprigs of thyme, for garnish

Cook pasta in boiling water for about 8 minutes, or according to package instructions, until al dente. Add green beans during the last 3 to 4 minutes of cooking time. Drain pasta and beans, reserving 3 tablespoons cooking liquid, then return pasta, beans and reserved liquid to pan. Add lemon zest, lemon juice, thyme leaves, garlic salt and 2 tablespoons olive oil.

While pasta cooks, rinse any ice glaze from frozen salmon under cold water; pat dry with paper towel.

Heat heavy nonstick skillet over medium-high heat.

Brush both sides of salmon with 1 tablespoon olive oil. Place in heated skillet and cook, uncovered, about 3 to 4 minutes, until browned. Shake pan occasionally to keep from sticking.

Turn salmon over; cover pan tightly and reduce heat to medium. Cook an additional 6 to 8 minutes for frozen salmon or 3 to 4 minutes for fresh/thawed fish. Cook just until fish is opaque throughout.

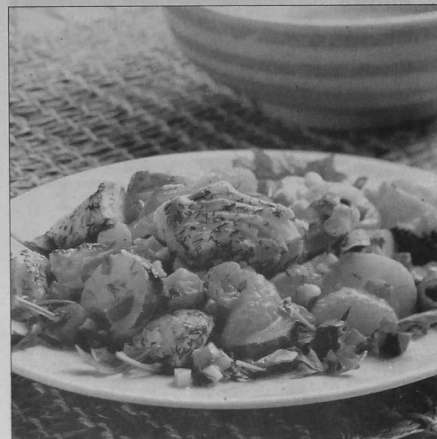
Break into large chunks (removing skin, if any); add to pasta. Cook and stir gently over medium heat for 1 to 2 minutes. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Garnish with lemon wedges and thyme sprigs.

—Courtesy of Family Features

### NUTRITIOUS, DELICIOUS DINING

Eating seafood at least twice a week can help protect against heart disease, according to USDA 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. To keep hearts healthy, the USDA recommends eating 8 ounces of seafood per week, which is equivalent to two 4-ounce servings. Here are ways you can add delicious, heart-healthy seafood to your diet:

- Choose seafood such as Alaska pollock, cod, halibut, sole, King and Snow crab, black cod and salmon, which offer nutritional benefits such as heart-healthy omega-3s.
- Prepare seafood so it's lean and flavorful by using healthy cooking methods such as grilling, roasting or baking, and skipping calorie- and fat-laden methods such as frying, breading, or by adding rich sauces.
- Add flavor using spices and fresh or dried herbs as seasonings.
- Serve seafood with healthful sides, such as whole grains, roasted vegetables and crisp greens.



Warm Halibut Potato Salad

Draft  
master  
deed with  
care

**Q:** I am a developer of a condominium and wonder if you can give me your feeling about the maintenance of a building shell in the case of a condominium attached townhouse unit.

**A:** In my experience in representing both developers and condominium associations, if the exterior requires minimal maintenance (i.e., brick), it is something that should be done by the association. Owners tend to maintain what they can see — painting trim — but nothing else. If the use of the building is commercial or if in residential projects the developer is offering “maintenance-free living,” it is better to have the association responsible for all exterior maintenance.



responsible for their own maintenance. Many times, the owner will include an article on "Party Walls" laying out each owner's responsibility to maintain while providing for remedies including self-help and a lien. Another consideration is whether the house is one in which the owner to whom should be responsible is whether there are firewalls extending beyond the roofline. If not, and you have a flat roof, it is almost certain that the roof and the roof may be leaking. On the other hand, if you have walls clearly dividing the roof between units, then the owner can maintain his own roof. In any event, it is a useful consideration in drafting the master deed and the thought process by the condominium association owners as to whether they will change any of the responsibilities between the parties.

**Q:** Our board refuses to fix or otherwise commence repairs to the common elements around my unit which has lasted for more than a year. These common elements have caused damage and continue to cause damage to my unit because of the roof leaks. Do you think I have any basis for action, including emotional distress, against the board?

**A:** You may have a difficulty suing for an intentional infliction of emotional distress and negligent infliction of emotional distress but you probably do have a claim for breach of the board's fiduciary responsibility because, apparently, they knowingly failed to comply with the condominium documents and, presumably, the statute of the state in which you are located. You are best advised to have a lawyer write a strong letter to the board demanding action, including the recoupment of your attorney fees and costs and the absence of such relief, that you will commence legal

**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 [rmeisner@meisner-law.com](mailto:rmeisner@meisner-law.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

Homeowners looking for the most return on their investment when it comes to remodeling should consider exterior replacement projects. According to the 2013 Remodeling Cost vs. Value Report, Realtors rated exterior projects among the most valuable home improvement projects.

"Realtors know that curb appeal projects offer great bang for your buck, because a home's exterior is the first thing potential buyers see," said National Association of Realtors President Gary Thomas, broker-owner of Evergreen Realty, in Villa Park, Calif. "Projects such as siding, window and door replacements can recoup more than 70 percent of their cost at resale. Realtors know what home features are important to buyers in your area and can provide helpful insights when considering remodeling projects."

Results of the report are summarized on NAR's consumer website [HomeLogic.com](http://HomeLogic.com), which provides information on dozens of remodeling projects from kitchens and baths to siding replacements, including the recouped value of the project based on a national average. According to the Cost vs. Value report, the most cost-effective entry door replacement as the project expected to return the most money, with an estimated 85.6 percent of costs recouped upon resale. The steel entry door replacement is the least expensive project in the report, costing little more than \$100 on average. A majority of the top 10 most cost-effective projects are nationally in terms of value, including kitchen and bathroom replacement projects, all of these are estimated to recoup more than 71 percent of costs.

Three different siding replacement projects landed in the top 10, including fiber cement siding, expected to return 79.3 percent of costs, vinyl siding, expected to return 72.9 percent of costs, and foam backed vinyl, expected to return 71.8 percent of costs. Two additional door replace-

ments were also among the top exterior replacement projects. The midrange and upscale garage door replacement were both expected to return more than 75 percent of costs.

According to the report, two interior remodeling projects in particular can recoup substantial value at resale. A minor kitchen remodel is ranked fifth and is expected to return 75.4 percent of costs. Nationally, the average cost for the project is just over \$18,000.

The second interior remodeling project in the top 10 is the attic bedroom, which landed at eight and tied with the vinyl siding replacement with 72.9 percent of costs recouped. With an average national cost of just under \$48,000, the attic project adds a bedroom and bathroom within a home's existing footprint. The improvement project projected to return the least is the home office remodel, estimated to recoup less than 44 percent.

The 2013 Remodeling Cost vs. Value Report compares construction costs with resale values for 35 midrange and upscale remodeling projects comprising additions, remodel-

els and replacements in 81 markets across the country. Data are grouped in nine U.S. regions, following the divisions established by the U.S. Census Bureau. This is the 15th consecutive year that the report, which is produced by Remodeling magazine publisher Hanley Wood, LLC, was completed in cooperation with NAR.

Realtors provided their insights into local markets and buyer home preferences within those markets. The 2013 national average cost-to-value ratio rose to 60.6 percent, ending a six-year decline. The ratio represents nearly a three-point improvement over 2011-2012. Lower construction costs are the principal factor in the upturn, especially when measured against stabilizing house values. In addition, the cost-to-value ratio improved nationally for every project in this year's

"A Realtor is the best resource for helping homeowners decide what improvement projects will provide the most upon resale in their market," said Thomas. "Each neighborhood is different, and the desirability and resale value of a

particular remodeling project varies depending on where you live. When making a home remodeling decision, resale value is just one factor that homeowners should take into consideration."

Most regions followed the national trends; however, the Pacific region, consisting of Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington, was the only nation with an average cost-value ratio of 71.2 percent due mainly to strong resale values. The next best performing regions were West South Central, South Atlantic, and East South Central. These regions attribute their high ranking to construction costs that were lowest in the country. Most remaining regions showed strong improvement over last year. These are Mountain, New England, East North Central, Middle Atlantic, and West North Central.

To read the full project descriptions and access national and regional project data, visit [www.costvsvalue.com](http://www.costvsvalue.com). "Cost vs. Value" is a registered trademark of Hanley Wood, LLC.

These are the residential real estate closings recorded Oct. 22-26, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

These are the residential real estate closings recorded Oct. 22-26, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sale prices.	7080 Woonsocket St. 43489 Yorktown St. GARDEN CITY 2801 W. Woodward St. 1713 Chester St. 30707 Elmwood St. 2033 S. 10th St. 13142 Hennepin St. 32539 James St. 53951 E. 10th St. 20200 Roslyn Ave. 34425 Five Mile Rd. 14063 Alexander St. 18963 Bainbridge Ave. 10015 S. 10th St. 9338 California St. 12475 Cardwell St. 8701 Cedar St. 9605 Deering St. 17329 Ellen Dr. 14474 E. 10th St. 15551 Fitzgerald St. 20232 Floral St. 10203 Gary Ln. 18354 Highland St. 17428 E. 10th St. 19353 Hardy St. 14919 Hathaway St. 21112 E. 10th St. 36242 Hees St.
<b>CANTON</b>	
164 Alexandria Ct.	\$379,000
131 Norman Ct.	\$136,000
256 Constitution St.	\$85,000
1125 Dundas Dr.	\$133,000
1125 Dundas Dr. (Double Dr.)	\$133,000
22345 Fairway Cir.	\$143,000
49595 Hanford Rd.	\$130,000
49595 Hanford Rd.	\$130,000
42951 Highway W.	\$87,000
313 Kings Way	\$138,000
11000 Morrison Blvd.	\$175,000
3300 Milcroft Ckt.	\$118,000
2100 Morrison Blvd.	\$140,000
3487 Parklawn Dr.	\$100,000
40446 Pembroke Dr.	\$70,000
40446 Pembroke Dr.	\$70,000
42024 Saratoga Ct.	\$132,000
42286 Saratoga Ct.	\$136,000
42286 Saratoga Ct.	\$136,000
4755 Sherwood Cir.	\$220,000
49398 Somerset Sq.	\$136,000
49398 Somerset Sq.	\$136,000
46586 Swannere Dr.	\$270,000

\$173,000	18613 Lathers St	\$52,000
\$170,000	32660 Lyndon St	\$177,000
\$172,000	38815 Lyndon St	\$155,000
\$172,000	17425 Maplebrook St	\$172,000
\$72,000	33621 Michele St	\$110,000
\$70,000	8965 Sarent St	\$118,000
\$142,000	14424 Park St	\$118,000
\$22,000	19592 Pollyanna Ct	\$192,000
\$42,000	33745 Pondview Cir	\$42,000
\$82,000	37272 Roney Dr	\$102,000
\$98,000	29705 Robert Dr	\$105,000
\$134,000	38047 Ross St	\$165,000
\$94,000	9841 Seiler St	\$165,000
\$198,000	8865 W Deborah Ct	\$130,000
\$169,000	30631 Wentworth St	\$168,000
\$184,000	8341 Westwood Dr	\$168,000
\$198,000	19367 Whittby Dr	\$206,000
\$116,000	15080 Yale St	\$143,000
\$116,000	NORTHVIEW DR	\$114,000
\$86,000	341 First St	\$110,000
\$370,000	16748 Brooklane Blvd	\$488,000
\$370,000	19616 Elmber Ct	\$488,000
\$370,000	19733 Hayes Ct	\$73,000
\$50,000	19700 Meadowbrook Tr	\$185,000
\$228,000	14400 N. 1st St	\$228,000
\$50,000	42076 Green Anne Ct	\$83,000
\$93,000	17426 Victor Dr	\$325,000
\$149,000	29466 Valley Run Dr	\$325,000
\$194,000	39476 Village Run Dr	\$255,000
\$76,000	16539 Winchester Ct	\$344,000
\$119,000	28981 Wood St	\$344,000
\$200,000	20475 Woodbrook Blvd	\$353,000

PLYMOUTH		
766	Coolidge St	\$160,000
48950	Fox Dr S	\$485,000
48252	Old Pond Cr	\$110,000
1742	20th St	\$320,000
1432	Penniman Ave	\$320,000
361	Pinewood Cr	\$65,000
41678	Riverside Dr	\$172,000
85	W. Main St	\$225,000
REDFORD		
25579	Deborah	\$69,000
3841	Dover	\$42,000
9968	Garfield	\$42,000
12851	Garfield	\$48,000
19710	Indian	\$20,000
8944	Leona	\$70,000
25833	W. Seven Mile Rd	\$75,000
4795	Wormer	\$45,000
9726	Wormer	\$23,000
	WESTLAND	
35258	Avalonle St	\$96,000
74000	Barton St	\$30,000
1712	Beatrice	\$106,000
30836	Beaumont St	\$106,000
35072	Book St	\$74,000
7382	Central St	\$72,000
32537	Ida	\$85,000
3140	Oregon Ave	\$122,000
7701	Randy Dr	\$111,000
8514	Sanford Dr	\$81,000
1141	St. Clair St	\$114,000
193	Stephanie Dr	\$150,000

These are the residential real estate closings recorded Oct. 8-12, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses and sales prices.

[illegible]

Unit #6	28298 Burton Ln	\$209,000
	25248 Carroll Dr	\$235,000
	31100 Claymore Dr	\$285,000
HIP #347,000	28272 Farrington Rd	\$250,000
	29855 Fox Road	\$252,000
	1180,000	
	23938 Linn Oaks Blvd W	\$85,000
	156,000	
	36875 Howard Rd	\$447,000
	5747 S. 1st St	\$250,000
	29427 Lake Park Dr	\$220,000
	35765 Lone Pine Ln	\$175,000
ugh Way	28272 S. 1st St	\$250,000
	28899 Millbrook Rd	\$525,000
HIP	34480 Rhinoceros St	\$53,000
	110,000	
	133,000	
	30684 Solway Ave	\$248,000
	158,000	
	18541 Dolores Ave	\$140,000
	MILFORD	
	337 S. 1st Pond Ln	\$224,000
	186 Riverside Cir	\$241,000
	NOVI	
	42842 Bartlett Dr	\$84,000
	45174 Courtview Trl	\$81,000
	45196 Courtview Trl	\$328,000
	505 E. 1st St	\$250,000
	1264,000	
	2622 Fieldstone Dr	\$269,000
	2405 E. Livestock Loop	\$161,000
	24305 Chantrelle Dr	\$150,000
	28024 Hopkins Rd	\$159,000
	103 E. 1st St	\$150,000

2353V Jay Starr	\$139,000
3708W Village Wood Cir	\$45,000
3978W Village Wood Cir	\$59,000
4555 10 W 10 Mile Rd	\$178,000
22054 Fort Mills Cir	\$451,000
SOUTH	
46627 Brompton Way	\$358,000
228 Brookwood Dr Unit 7	\$67,000
2504S Carnegie Ln	\$40,000
2073C Copperwood Dr N	\$320,000
51222 S 20th St	\$125,000
863 Glen Meadows Dr	\$135,000
4588S Greendale Cir W	\$65,000
2386S Maple Ct	\$313,000
3747 S 24th St	\$174,000
6170A Rambling Way	\$149,000
53771 Springfield Dr	\$214,000
1074 Stable Ln	\$190,000
SOUTHWEST	
5 Bedford Towne St	\$40,000
21391 Magnolia Rd	\$139,000
18441 Magnolia Ave	\$85,000
6999 S 24th St	\$125,000
16325 Peninsula St	\$120,000
28902 Red Leaf Ln	\$75,000
18301 W 13 Mile Rd Unit A7	\$100,000
WHITE LAKE	
8797 Arlington St	\$76,000
1100 Castlewood St	\$20,000

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**CROSSWORD PUZZLER**

**ACROSS**

1 "Fernando" band  
5 Call it quits  
9 Prow  
13 Kuwaili leader  
14 Caviar  
15 Sale caveat  
16 Sugar cane product  
18 Luau  
20 Sweet  
21 Dogie stopper  
23 Natal native  
25 Overhead  
26 The ex-Mrs. Bono  
32 Not having a stitch on  
32 Expressions of  
35 Baseball stat  
36 Downhill runners  
37 Nervous

**DOWN**

1 A Krute successor  
2 Nile god of pleasure  
3 —out (rescues)  
4 Basics areas  
5 Garment edges  
6 I love (Lat.)  
7 Mae West persona  
8 Fishing dragnet  
9 Sub— (secretly)  
10 With, to monsieur  
11 Kemosabe trademark  
17 Cold-shoulders  
19 Gold Medal org.  
21 Sleek sled  
22 Parroted  
23 Nulle  
24 Russian range  
27 Spaghetti seasoner  
29 Where Eng. is  
30 Aira performer  
31 Sports network  
33 Cairo loc.  
34 Lebanon neighbor  
39 Previous to  
42 —nous  
44 Different  
45 Dolphins' city  
46 Hwy.  
47 Layered cookie  
48 Round starter  
49 Sudan urge  
51 Am — time?  
52 Blue  
54 Playfulness  
55 Chiding sound

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**Word Search**

aluminum carbon fluorine hydrogen radon  
argon cesium gold nickel silicon  
barium elements helium radium sodium

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