



## MAPLE: NOT JUST FOR PANCAKES

FOOD, PAGE B3

## WILDCATS FEND OFF CHIEFS IN HOCKEY

SPORTS, B1

## CANINE SPORTS SHINE AT DOG SHOW



ENTERTAINMENT, B6

## Wine tasting

The third annual Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Educational Excellence Foundation Wine Tasting Event is coming up, and organizers are confident they'll be able to add to the more than \$300,000 they've funded in innovative classroom projects at every school and grade level in the district.

This year's event takes place 7-11 p.m. Friday, March 8, at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center. Proceeds will be used to fund teacher grants in Plymouth-Canton classrooms.

This year's event features a silent auction with a live, web-based auction taking place now. The most unique items are \$1,000 and \$2,000 certificates toward the purchase of a new car at one of seven local participating dealerships. Potential buyers can view all the available items and purchase tickets online at [www.pccseff.com](http://www.pccseff.com). For more information, call Executive Director Carole Kody at (734) 416-2718.

## State of the Township

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts the annual "State of the Township" luncheon 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 6, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy will be the guest speaker and will deliver his annual update on the state of affairs around



the township. Cost for the event, sponsored by Mayflower, Oakwood Healthcare Systems and Xuereb Law Group, P.C. is \$25 in advance, \$30 for member walk-ins and nonmembers.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill. For more information, call the chamber at (734) 453-4040.

## Local news on the go

Did you know that [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com), the online home of the Canton Observer has a mobile site that brings the latest news to your smartphone?

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# CANTON OBSERVER

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## Customer 'felt helpless' during Verizon robbery

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

A 72-year-old Canton man feared he and his girlfriend would be killed Monday morning when three masked suspects, armed with a semi-automatic assault rifle, shot open a glass door that an employee had managed to lock at the Verizon store on Ford Road east of Sheldon.

Gerry Souby dropped to the floor and tried to shield Carol Nowaczyk as he frantically called 9-1-1 to report an unfolding armed robbery.

"I felt helpless," Souby said. "I wanted to make sure Carol was safe. When we heard the gunshots, my adrenalin was pumping unbelievably. It was scary. In all honesty, I thought they were going to kill everybody, including me and Carol."

Souby and Nowaczyk had gone to the new Verizon store to buy a phone when police say the incident unfolded around 11 a.m. in broad daylight along Canton's bustling Ford Road, though police quickly captured the suspects. The suspects are expect-

ed to face an arraignment on multiple criminal charges today (Thursday) in 35th District Court. Authorities believe they may have committed earlier robberies in other communities.

## Shots fired

As the masked, hooded men went toward the Verizon store's east side entrance, Souby said an employee quickly locked an interior set of sliding glass doors. When the suspects



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Canton resident Gerry Souby said he "felt helpless" during Monday's armed robbery at the Verizon store in Canton.

Please see ROBBERY, A3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Ryan Lewis works on a base used to transport the robot. The design includes a ramp that allows the robot to ride up onto the base.

## FIRST up

## Robotics team has designs on district

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

Throwing a Frisbee any distance with any degree of accuracy is something that can challenge even the most coordinated of humans.

So imagine having to build a robot that can climb 90 inches and shoot Frisbees accurately enough to win a competition.

That's been the challenge facing Plymouth-Canton's Lightning

Robotics 862 team as it prepared for this weekend's first FIRST Robotics district at Kettering University. The 109-member team, which reached the finals at two districts and qualified for the state championships a year ago, also competes in district competitions March 22-23 at Grand Valley State University and April 5-6 at Bedford High School.

"The robot game this year has been a big challenge," said Jay Obenisk, the team's facul-

ty adviser and guru. "Trying to get a robot to climb 90 inches and shoot Frisbees took a lot of time to come up with a design, keep the students involved and build many prototypes."

## Build season

Though the team meets year-round, the build season doesn't start until Jan. 5, when teams find out the game and receive

Please see ROBOTICS, A2

## Publisher ranks Canton state's safest

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

A national publisher has ranked Canton as Michigan's safest community — and the nation's 33rd safest — among places with populations over 75,000.

The newly released rankings of 432 communities come from Congressional Quarterly Press, a publisher of books, directories, periodicals and electronic products on American government and politics.

Canton's national ranking of 33rd narrowly edged out its closest Michigan competitors. Sterling Heights claimed the 34th spot, Troy the 36th.

Canton Public Safety Director Todd Mutchler welcomed the township's ranking, saying "it feels really good" to rank highest among Michigan communities.

Three other Michigan communities made the top 100, with Farmington Hills securing the 52nd spot, Livonia the 70th and Ann Arbor the 80th.

Fishers, Ind., ranked No. 1 on the safest community list. Flint and Detroit placed near the bottom, respectively, at Nos. 430 and 431.

Please see SAFE, A2



Mutchler

## Board narrows superintendent field

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education this week took the next steps toward bringing in the district's next leader.

Trustees interviewed four

## Meet the candidates, A6.

semifinalist candidates, including one internal applicant, in its search to replace Dr. Jeremy Hughes, the current superintendent brought in two years ago whose contract expires at the end of the 2012-13 school year.

Board members conducted the interviews Monday and Tuesday, then met Wednesday evening with representatives from Ray & Associates, the Iowa-based search firm the board hired to conduct the search, to reduce the field to its finalists. Results of those discussions weren't avail-

able at press time.

Candidates interviewed include:

• Michael Meissen, supervisor of school improvement and student achievement for Milwaukee Public Schools in Milwaukee, Wis.

Please see BOARD, A2

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## SAFE

Continued from page A1

### Crime rates

CQ Press issued its 2012 list of safest U.S. communities based on an analysis of six crimes: murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary and motor vehicle theft. The company plugged crime rates into a formula that measures how each city or township compared to national averages.

CQ Press, a division of SAGE Publications, generated its 432-community rankings using FBI crime statistics from 2011. During that year, Canton reported no murders, 18 rapes, 34 robberies, 73 aggravated assaults, 232 burglaries and 91 auto thefts.

Canton also had 1,238 larcenies and 10 arson incidents, but Mutchler said, "I don't include those crimes in its analysis."

To be sure, Canton isn't immune to serious crimes. Just this week, three suspects armed with a semi-automatic assault rifle shot their way into a Verizon store in broad daylight during what police described as a robbery.

However, police chased and captured the suspects.

"You come to Canton and commit a crime, chances are you will get caught," said township Trustee John Anthony, a former FBI special agent. "We've got a great police department, and it's

because of the men and women of the department, the training they are afforded and the support they get from the political side (such as elected officials). We have one of the best departments in Michigan."

### Public safety

Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy has long touted the Canton Public Safety Department's top-notch service, saying it is one of the reasons new families want to move here.

Mutchler attributed Canton's comparatively low crime rate to a proactive method of policing, a high level of training and the support the department receives from elected officials, department directors and a watchful citizenry.

"Our police department continues to receive a high level of support from the community and its elected officials," he said, adding later, "If the citizens see something, they call us."

No community is immune to crime, but Anthony said he isn't surprised by Canton's ranking on the CQ Press list.

"I think it's a good barometer for how we're doing," he said. "It doesn't surprise me how we showed up (on the list). We set high standards and we expect the best performance of our officers, and they come through time and time again."

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## BOARD

Continued from page A1

• Christopher Timmis, superintendent of Adrian Public Schools and one of only two Michigan candidates in the field.

• Brodie Killian, Plymouth-Canton's current executive director of business services, and the only internal candidate to be granted an interview.

• Curtis Cain, associate superintendent for educational services in the Shawnee Mission School District in Overland Park, Kan.

John Barrett, presi-

dent of Plymouth-Canton's Board of Education, said board members "were impressed with the field."

"We were happy with the depth of experience in districts at all levels," Barrett said. "Many of (the candidates) had experience at all levels of administration. They had good reviews from the people who worked with them."

Board members said Tuesday they hoped to make a final decision by the end of next week.

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# Canton woman charged with embezzling from Plymouth firm

By Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

A Canton Township woman faces a Friday preliminary exam on a charge she embezzled more than \$465,000 from her employer, a Plymouth consulting company, over a period of years.

Erica L. Mansfield, who was fired last summer from her job as a part-time administrative assistant at Aspen Tech Consulting Group, turned herself in Feb. 21 and was arraigned in 35th District Court on a charge of embezzling over \$100,000. Judge James Plakas entered a not-guilty plea and released Mansfield on a \$500,000 personal bond.

The charge, which carries a sentence of up to 20 years in prison upon

conviction, followed a months-long investigation that had Plymouth Detective Lt. Jamie Grabowski combing through bank records to trace both the checks Mansfield is accused of forging and deposits to her own bank account.

According to a police report, AspenTech owner Gregory Knapp approached police last June, after examining financial records in order to close out the company's fiscal year, to report he suspected Mansfield of issuing herself nearly \$48,000 in company checks and forging his signature.

Further research, however, led Knapp to find that \$465,871 had been stolen, and he provided a police list of forged checks and a comput-

er flash drive containing copies of the checks, the police report said.

Company officials told police in August that Mansfield had admitted to the embezzlement. She had worked at the company since 2006.

Grabowski used a search warrant to obtain Mansfield's banking records, which showed that nearly \$240,000 in fraudulent checks had been deposited into her account since 2008, the police report said. The bank could not produce her records for 2006, 2007 and most of 2008, Grabowski's report notes.

Grabowski said the embezzled money has for the most part been spent.

Knapp declined to comment Tuesday. The company, with an office on

Ann Arbor Trail, consults with small- and medium-sized companies on computer-based management and supply-chain issues.

Troy attorney John Freeman, who represents Mansfield, said Tuesday that he was waiting for evidence discovery—the documents upon which the prosecution is basing its case. If he doesn't have enough time before Friday's hearing to study the documents, Freeman said, he will ask for a postponement.

Freeman noted Judge Plakas agreed to a personal bond, meaning he doesn't consider Mansfield a flight risk. Freeman declined to discuss Mansfield's family status or details of the case.

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## ROBOTICS

Continued from page A1

their Kit of Parts. From there, it was usually a five-day-a-week process, with the team meeting for five hours Monday through Thursday and another eight or more hours each Saturday.

The complexity of the project was evident in the length of time (three weeks) it took the team to design the robot.

"Normally we are done deciding on a design after one week, so we were already behind," Obsniuk said.

During last week's winter break, students gave up vacation time to work 10 hours a day on the robot.

It gets really crazy as the deadline approaches and everything has to come together," Obsniuk said. "Tensions and frustrations rise as everything doesn't always work the way it was planned, you run out of money to buy material. This, however, is a great learning experience for the students. It is a great simulation of what the real world is like."

Meantime, the growing popularity of the team—and of robotics in general—swelled the team's ranks this year, presenting yet another hurdle.

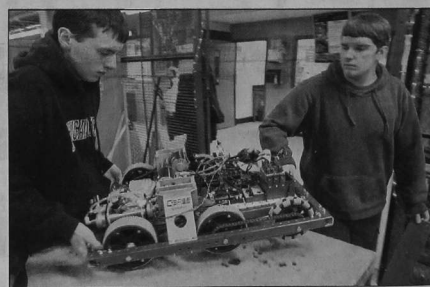
### Not about winning

"The team has grown to 109 students," Obsniuk said. "Keeping them all busy learning, managing their time and being able to give all of them a chance to lead" has been a big challenge.

Still, Obsniuk and the team are confident headed into the competitions. FIRST Robotics 862 was the eighth-seed captain at states a year ago, and



Senior Andrew Harris will be one driver for Plymouth-Canton's Lightning Robotics 862 robot this year. Not pictured is the other driver, Jeff Hess.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Alex Undlin and Tim Condrion lift a practice robot onto a work bench.

lost to the state winner (with what was the highest losing score of the year).

After being "the second best alliance at states," according to Obsniuk, last year, the team is anxious to see how other teams designed their robots.

"Winning has never been the goal of our team," Obsniuk said. "The genius behind FIRST is that it is not just about robots. A FIRST team is like a business. You learn how to do marketing, public relations, engineering and all types of fun but

educational stuff. "And it can be a part of a team even if you know absolutely nothing about robots or technology," he added. "It truly is one of the best-kept secrets."

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# Canton gets 'good deal' on ambulances

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Canton has received two new rescue ambulances as township and fire officials move to replace aging vehicles and provide what they tout as top-notch emergency services for this community of more than 90,000 residents.

"We are very well-equipped, and we are ready to handle any emergency that comes our way in Canton," Fire Chief Joshua Meier said. "I feel very strongly about the equipment we've got right now."

The latest ambulances replace two aging rigs and allow Canton paramedics to provide services such as 12-lead cardiac monitoring. The township spent \$406,000 for the latest advanced life support units, maintaining a fleet of six ambulances for three fire stations.

Last year alone, Canton firefighter paramedics responded to 5,472 medical calls that resulted in 3,500 people being taken to area hospitals.

"Our calls for medical service continue to rise," Meier said, "and we are fortunate to be able to provide top-notch advanced life support services to the residents and visitors of our community."

Moreover, Canton got a good deal on the new ambulances by taking advantage of a trade-in program allowing officials to use money from two older emergency vehicles to reduce out-of-pocket costs. Canton also joined Livonia and Northville Township for a



Canton Township officials have purchased two new ambulances to keep its six-vehicle fleet ready for emergencies.

group purchase that further reduced the price tag.

The new ambulances are built on a heavy-duty chassis intended to reduce maintenance costs and keep the vehicles on the road rather than in the township's maintenance garage for repairs.

Canton received the ambulances just weeks after township officials, vowing to keep public safety a top priority, agreed to spend another \$258,041 to replace other aging vehicles for police officers, the fire department and public works division. Those included four new police patrol cars, one crime-scene vehicle, two canine officer SUVs, two public works division trucks and one fire administration vehicle.

Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said the \$258,041 purchase allows Canton to replace vehicles that had racked up as many as 143,000 miles.

Township Supervisor

Phil LaJoy has said Canton benefits by gradually replacing vehicles rather than facing a crisis that has plagued some cash-strapped communities. Cities such as Detroit, mired in deep financial problems, have had well-documented difficulties providing employees such as firefighters with the equipment they need to do their jobs.

Canton's public safety financial position was aided by a 1.75-mill tax hike for police and fire services approved in 2010 by the township board. Officials said the tax increase cost an average homeowner with an \$89,100 taxable value about \$12.99 a month, or \$156 a year.

LaJoy and other local officials consider the money a good investment. LaJoy has called public safety "one of the critical elements of any community in keeping it safe."

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## ROBBERY

Continued from page A1

couldn't kick in the door, Soubly said the weapon was fired.

"I heard shots, but I didn't count them," he said. "We dropped to the floor behind a small counter. Carol could see them, and I was trying to protect her."

Soubly called Canton police to report the store was being robbed. He was told authorities were on their way.

Soubly commended police officers "for how quickly they took action," and he called the Verizon employee's attempts to keep the intruders out as "heroic."

Soubly, a former Navy man who has survived five heart bypass surgeries, feared his life would end on this sunny February day. He also was scared for Nowaczyk, who has had two triple bypass surgeries, received 16 coronary artery stents and suffered a brain aneurysm. She volunteers for Guiding Hearts, a support group for heart patients and their caregivers at Beaumont Hospital in Troy.

## No one hurt

But the gunman fled without shooting anyone.

Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner called it a relief the customers and employees, who took cover as best they could, weren't hit by a bullet used to shoot open the interior doors.

"Thank God that bullet didn't hit the people in the store," he said. "There were a good number of customers and employees in there."

Police Lt. Deb Newsome said authorities had all three suspects in custody shortly after the incident occurred. The situation prompted a lockdown of four Plymouth-Canton schools.

Canton pursued the suspects in a car south toward the Flodin Park area, and a police statement said officers intercepted their getaway car at Oakview Drive and Saltz Road.

The suspects fled on foot into a residential neighborhood and hid in a storm cellar adjacent to a house on Willard Drive until police located them and took them into custody, police said.

Police haven't indicated what the suspects may have taken from the

store. Schreiner commended police officers "for good work and catching the suspects without anyone getting injured."

## Schools locked

Much like Soubly, police know the situation could easily have gone horribly wrong.

The incident caused Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Hughes, at the urging of police, to order a lockdown of Field, Bentley, Eriksson and Hoben elementary schools.

Students were still moving between classrooms, Hughes said, but were not allowed to leave the building until further notice. The lockdown ended around noon, school officials said.

"It was a precaution," Hughes said. "Our top priority, as always, is the safety of our students."

The suspects may have been involved in robberies that occurred earlier in the day in Westland and Garden City, Newsome said. At least one of those robberies occurred at a 7-Eleven store.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

At 1:30 p.m. Monday, a Canton Police car was still at the scene. Yellow caution tape blocked entrance to the store.

# March Mayhem Saturday, March 2nd



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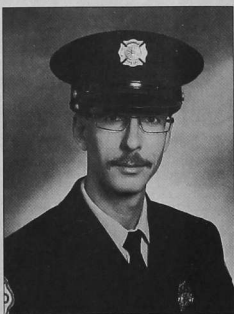




# PUBLIC SAFETY

## Serving Plymouth

Firefighter Kenneth Wieworia has been with the dept. for 13 years. He is a graduate of Northville High School, and Schoolcraft College. Before joining the Northville City Fire Department, Wieworia served more than eight years as a paid-on-call firefighter with the Northville Township Fire Department. He is responsible for overseeing the maintenance and care of the department's air breathing systems, which are critical to firefighter survival. Ken is the Property Superintendent of one of the areas' largest condominium communities. He lives in Plymouth Township with his wife and two children. Ken is certified Firefighter 1&2, Hazmat Operations, Emergency Medical Technician and Ice Rescue Specialist.



RUTH OLSON PHOTO

## PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

### Vehicle burglary

A laptop computer, a jacket and a man's wallet were among the things stolen from a car parked at a house on Cooke Avenue, in the area of Powell and Ridge roads, late on Feb. 17 or early the next day.

The Chevrolet Malibu was parked in the driveway of a house on Cooke when the theft occurred, and the complainant told police he was unsure if he had locked the car, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report.

Police found no signs of forced entry.

### Check fraud

A man who left outgoing mail in his mailbox on Presidents Day, a holiday for postal workers, found it had been stolen and the check inside cashed, police said.

The mail theft occurred at a house on Ann Arbor Trail east of Haggerty on Feb. 18, a police report said. The complainant told police he put the bill payment in the mailbox at about 11 a.m. without realizing it was Presidents Day, and that it was gone when his wife went to retrieve it later the same day.

The man said he contacted his bank and eventually found the check had been cashed at a Target store in Jackson. He canceled the checking account, and police, and the bank, are investigating.

The incident followed an eyewitness report from the same day that someone in a gold-colored Chrysler sedan was reaching into roadside mailboxes on Southworth Road, west of Haggerty and south of Ann Arbor Road. An officer responding to that incident found pieces of mail in the street there.

### Car rifled through

Someone went through the glove compartment and center console of a new

Ford Flex late on Feb. 20 or early the next morning, as the car sat outside a house on Woodgrove Drive, in the area of Ridge and Ann Arbor roads.

Nothing was reported stolen.

The complainant found the contents of the console and the glove box dumped on the floor and the seats of the car, police said.

It was not reported whether the Flex had been forced open.

— By Matt Jachman

### Fire runs

The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the following runs during the period Feb. 20-26:

- Tuesday, Feb. 25 — Emergency runs on Greystone, on Northville Road, on Ann Arbor Road, on Woodland, on Eccles south of S Mile, on Brentwood and on Edingburgh.

- Monday, Feb. 25 — Emergency runs on Ann Arbor Road, on Canton Center, on Brougham, on Warren, on Greystone and on Haggerty.

- Sunday, Feb. 24 — Emergency runs on Southworth, on Northville Road, on Rockledge, on Turtlehead, on Terry, on Beck and at McClumpha and Ann Arbor Road.

- Saturday, Feb. 23 — Emergency runs on Joy, on Haggerty, on Maxwell and on Greystone.

- Friday, Feb. 22 — Emergency runs on Edinburgh, on Beacon Hill, on Northville Road, on Ann Arbor Trail and on Sheldon.

- Thursday, Feb. 21 — Emergency runs on Plymouth Road, on Northville Road, on Jib, on Sheldon, on Talltree, on Beacon Hill and on Ann Arbor Road.

- Wednesday, Feb. 20 — Emergency runs on Northville Road, on Haggerty, on Wilson and on Baywood.

## CANTON CRIME WATCH

### Tax fraud

A woman who lives on Paul Revere Lane, southeast of Warren and Morton Taylor, contacted Canton police after she learned that an imposter had filed income taxes in her name.

The 25-year-old victim notified police about 6:30 p.m. Monday after she tried to file her taxes and was advised that someone had already filed for her.

The woman was advised by Turbo Tax of the apparent identity theft. She contacted the Internal Revenue Service and local police, who gave her an identity theft packet and advised her to contact her credit card companies.

### Facebook fracas

A 37-year-old Canton woman was accused of getting a kitchen knife and threatening to kill her husband after he posted a message on Facebook saying he wanted a divorce, a police report said.

Police took the report shortly after 11 a.m. Saturday. The 47-year-old husband claimed his wife had threatened him and tried to take their baby son away from him as he held it. The incident occurred in their home southeast of Cherry Hill and Sheldon roads.

The report indicated the woman "flipped out" and got a kitchen knife. One part of the report said the woman may have intended to stab herself and blame it on her husband. The report also said she slammed her own head against a wall.

The husband told police his wife had threatened him. The investigation was continuing.

### Drugs confiscated

Canton police recovered marijuana and the drug known as Ecstasy after a traffic stop was made shortly after midnight Saturday near Ford and Lilley roads, a police report said.

Police stopped the 21-year-old male driver after noticing that he was driving a car with an expired license plate. An officer could smell marijuana coming from the car, the report said.

The driver admitted he had smoked

marijuana. Police found small amounts of marijuana in a center console and in a Marlboro cigarette box. They also found what was revealed to be Ecstasy in a bag on the rear floorboard.

### Stolen credit

A man who lives on Cherry Hill east of Lutz notified police after his Lowe's Home Improvement card was used fraudulently, a police report said. Police received the complaint about 4:30 p.m. Friday.

The 62-year-old man said a scam artist had reported the Lowe's card was stolen, then had the information on it changed to a Detroit address. The card was then used fraudulently.

The victim told police charges of \$164 were reported in Allen Park, followed by a \$2,005 charge in North Carolina.

### School theft

A Canton police report indicated that a Salem High School swim coach was the victim of a theft when someone took money he had placed in a green money bag in his desk, which was locked.

Police received notification of the theft about 1 p.m. Monday from a Salem security guard.

The swim coach reportedly noticed the money was missing after he returned from a school break Feb. 15-22. He told police the money was missing even though he found the desk drawer locked.

### Hit and run

A 41-year-old woman told police she was driving eastbound on Michigan Avenue in the far left lane near Haggerty when a Ford Focus struck the right passenger side of her Jeep Laredo.

The incident was reported about 3:45 p.m. Sunday.

A police investigation led authorities to a suspect in Wayne whose car was subsequently towed by Wayne police. The man reportedly told police he didn't stop at the accident because he didn't believe it had caused any damage.

— By Darrell Clem



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Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on **Monday, March 18th, 2013 at 9:30 A.M.** at the Extra Space Storage facility located at:

6729 N. Canton Center Rd.  
Canton, Michigan 48187  
(734) 459-4821

The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.

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D134  
B030  
I330  
A006  
Rene Kurtzyz  
Chester Rucsko  
Matori Cooper  
Velda Fayz  
Cheryl Mackoy

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

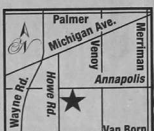
Published: February 28 & March 7, 2013.

ATTORNEY: JILL S.

## 52nd Annual Wayne Coin Club COIN SHOW Buy-Sell-Trade!

Sunday, March 3rd, 2013 10am-4pm

Wayne Rec Center  
4635 Howe Rd.  
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and Howe Rd.



FREE ADMISSION



# Canton man faces life for molesting 9-year-old girl

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer



Kahler

Prosecutor Maria Miller said the jury returned its verdict Tuesday.

The decision came just one day after a trial began that included testimony from the girl.

Kahler was convicted of sexually molesting the girl when she formerly lived near him. Authorities have said Kahler had befriended the victim's family.

From the beginning, Canton police had said the

girl, despite being nervous over facing Kahler in court, had given strong, compelling testimony. She was 10 years old when she first testified against him during a closed-door preliminary examination in front of 35th District Judge Michael Gerou.

Statements made in court had indicated Kahler sexually assaulted the girl when she was between the ages of 7 and 10.

Kahler had been arraigned in October 2011 by 35th District Judge James Plakas, who called the charges "very disturbing."

Kahler's trial had been expected last August, but he failed to appear and blamed his absence on a medical emergency. His day in court hit another snag when he switched defense attorneys after parting ways with a former lawyer.

Kahler had been in and out of jail, but now he could be facing penalties ranging up to life in prison.

Local authorities have said the girl's family had grown weary of waiting for Kahler to answer to the charges, but they never gave up on pursuing a guilty verdict against him.

## Credit union offers \$1,000 scholarships

Parkside Credit Union is offering three \$1,000 scholarships to local high school seniors. These scholarships are meant to assist members in financing their education following high school graduation.

Applications are available at both Parkside Credit Union branches as well as online at Parksidecu.org on the home page. The deadline to turn in all documents is May 3.

Candidates should be Parkside members who have been accepted to an accredited

institution. Candidates have the opportunity to open an account while dropping the application off.

Applications will be reviewed by Parkside Credit Union's Scholarship Committee and scholarships will be disbursed on or before June 30.

Parkside Credit Union, a Michigan-based nonprofit financial institution, has been serving the community since 1953.

Visit [www.parksidecu.org](http://www.parksidecu.org) for more information about Parkside Credit Union.

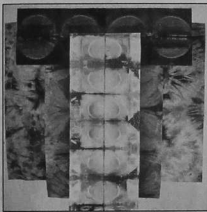
## Village Theater hosts fiber arts exhibit

Officials at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill announced plans to exhibit the collected works of the Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild in the Gallery@VT March 1-28.

The Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild is comprised of a group of artists who champion the enjoyment of fiber arts through information and demonstration. Works on display include a wide variety of fiber art, such as tapestries, wearable art, textiles, fiber paper, baskets, sculpture and surface design. Techniques utilized in the creation of some of these works made of natural and synthetic fibers include weaving, spinning, dyeing, quilting, knitting, felting, and beading.

These one-of-a-kind textile creations contain unique color, pattern and texture details and can provide warmth and texture to enhance any environment as they take you on a textile journey that may be powerful or subtle, as well as lyrical and dramatic.

Originally founded in 1956 as a club for weavers, the Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild provides opportunities for fiber artists to meet and exchange ideas, and to learn about fiber art through lectures and workshops. This group also participates in the Ann Arbor State Street Art Fair. For additional information about the Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild, visit [www.annarborfiberarts.org](http://www.annarborfiberarts.org).



The Village Theater at Cherry Hill will exhibit the collected works of the Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild in the Gallery@VT March 1-28.

This current art exhibit at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is free and open to the public Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; during public performances at the theater; and by appointment by calling (734) 394-5300. The Gallery is closed on holidays.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. For more information about this latest exhibition, call (734) 394-5300 or visit [Cantonvillageattheater.org](http://Cantonvillageattheater.org).

## ACO Home, Garden & HARDWARE

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# Four in the mix for Superintendent post

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

The next superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools will likely come from a field of four semi-finalists that includes three Ph.D.s and two Michigan candidates, including one internal candidate (executive director of business services Brodie Killian).

Board of Education members spent some nine hours over two nights interviewing the four candidates, grilling them on everything from their leadership style to their thoughts on student discipline (full interviews are available on the district's website at [www.pccs.k12.mi.us.com](http://www.pccs.k12.mi.us.com)).

Here's a snapshot of each of the four candidates:

## Curtis Cain

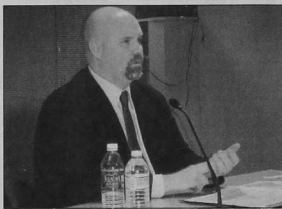
Curtis Cain currently serves as associate superintendent for educational services for the Shawnee Mission School District in Overland Park, Kan. Before that, he spent two years as director of professional development for the Park Hill School District in Kansas City, Mo.

Cain got his bachelor's degree in social science education in 1997 from the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff, then earned his master's in education administration from Iowa State University two years later. In 2001, Cain completed his PhD in educational administration, also at Iowa State.

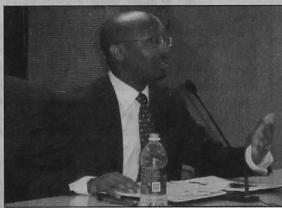
He said his leadership style is that of a "team builder."

"We are given two years and one month, and by and large we should use them in that proportion," he said of his style. "When and where possible, we should use the team. If you're going to ask folks to sit at the table, let their energy add to the process."

Among his accomplishments, Cain was the ISU College of Human Sciences Outstanding Alumnus in 2009, graduated the Phi Delta Kappa Emerging Leader Program in



Chris Timmis is the current superintendent for Adrian Public Schools.



Curtis Cain is associate superintendent for educational services for the Shawnee Mission district in Overland Park, Kan.

2008, and was the George Washington Carver Doctoral Fellow at ISU in 2001.

He is interested in the job, he said, because of the district's reputation. "The litmus test for me is, 'Would I send my kids here,' and I would, without hesitation," Cain said. "I've seen a lot of different educational settings. The feel I sense (in Plymouth-Canton) is a very, very positive one."

## Brodie Killian

Brodie Killian has been Plymouth-Canton's executive director of business services since January 2012. Before that, he was a financial advisor for Morgan Stanley Smith Barney in Birmingham for two years and was vice president/public investment banker for Stiffel, Nicolaus & Company, also in Birmingham. Killian earned his bachelor's degree in business administration, with an emphasis in finance and computer information systems, from the University of Michigan in 2001, and his master's in public policy from U-M in May 2003.

Killian said he is a "collaborative, compassionate" leader. "I've taken pride in my ability to connect with people," he said. "I've found myself rising up to leadership roles."

Killian, whose mother is an educator, said he left the private sector to take the Plymouth-Canton finance job last year because of his "passion for public education."

Killian graduated the Michigan Leadership Institute's Superintendent's Academy in 2008 and is on his way to completing the MSBO Chief Financial Officer certification. He's the vice chair of the Dearborn Pension Board of Trustees, he said, has some 9,000 students and serves nine different municipalities. Meissen earned his bachelor's degree in social welfare from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in 1981, got his master's in counseling and guidance from the University of Wisconsin in 1983 and earned his PhD in educational administration in December 1990.



Michael Meissen is currently the student achievement supervisor for Milwaukee Public Schools.



Brodie Killian has served as Plymouth-Canton's executive director for business services since January 2012.

opportunity to lead a large organization," Killian said. "This isn't something that just came to me in the last few weeks. I've always had a passion for public education."

## Michael Meissen

Michael Meissen is the district improvement/school improvement and student achievement supervisor for the Milwaukee Public School System in Milwaukee, Wis. Prior to that, he served six years as superintendent of the Glenbard Township High School District #87 in Glen Ellyn, Ill. That district, he said, has some 9,000 students and serves nine different municipalities.

Meissen earned his bachelor's degree in social welfare from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in 1981, got his master's in counseling and guidance from the University of Wisconsin in 1983 and earned his PhD in educational administration in December 1990.

Meissen said his leadership style is built around building coalitions of teams working together in a collaborative way. "The classroom is the most important element of any school district," Meissen said. "Leadership should be centered around teaching and learning."

Meissen's 31-year career is centered around education. He's been a principal at the high school, middle school and grade school levels, as well as having experience as an athletic director. He's an adjunct faculty instructor at Lewis University College of Education in Romeoville, Ill., and he's also been a guidance counselor. He's been involved in YMCA, CYO and Little League programs, and has coached youth football.

"I like the fact (Plymouth-Canton) is a district that has a demonstrated record of excellence and wants to continue to achieve greatness," Meissen said. "I want to

get into a district with a board that wants to continue working toward greatness. This is a really strong district."

## Chris Timmis

Chris Timmis has served as superintendent for Adrian Public Schools since July 2008. Prior to that, he served as principal at Adrian High School for a year and spent two years curriculum director for Airport Community Schools in Carleton.

During his time at Adrian, Timmis said, the school has gone from being rated by Bridge Magazine in the 4-percentile in educational quality to 69th.

Timmis got his bachelor's degree from Adrian College in 1996 and his master's degree in educational leadership from Wayne State University in 1999. Timmis earned his PhD in education from Eastern Michigan University in 2007.

He earned his Michigan Administrator Certification and his Michigan Secondary Professional Certification.

Timmis said his leadership style bends to the moment.

"Philosophically, I believe in servant leadership and I believe in situational leadership ... and I serve the students," said Timmis. "I choose whatever style is going to get us the outcome we're looking for."

Timmis is currently an adjunct professor in educational leadership at Siena Heights University and has a teaching background in math, including chairing the math department at Anderson High School in Southgate.

He said moving to Plymouth-Canton would be a new challenge.

"We've done some awesome things (in Adrian) and it's been very rewarding," Timmis said. "But a new challenge would be very, very rewarding. Plymouth-Canton is a district where you can come in and do some really incredible things. This is a great community to send a child to school in, and a great community to raise a child in."

# Elias Realty raided by FBI

The FBI executed search warrants on Elias Real Estate and Financial Services at locations in both Livonia and Brighton, the business owner confirmed Wednesday afternoon, [LivingstonDaily.com](http://LivingstonDaily.com) reported.

Elias Financial owner William Elias, a Canton resident, said he doesn't know why the FBI is targeting him, but he believes it stems from a complaint by Freddie Mac, whom he used in federal court.

"I don't have a lot of details other than the fact they're executing search warrants," Elias said. "They haven't arrested me or anything. They said they're investigating. It's a surprise to me. ... This is completely unwarranted."

Elias Realty is located at 23900 Five Mile in Livonia.

No one answered the phone at 1:50 p.m. Wednesday at the Livonia office, but a voice mail message said Elias is "the fastest growing real estate company in Michigan."

According to a former client, Freddie Mac refused to work with Will Elias & Co. because Freddie Mac felt like people were short selling homes because Elias encouraged them to do so even if they did not have a financial hardship.

In November, Freddie Mac placed Elias Realty and William



Elias

Elias on its exclusionary list. This is a list of companies that Freddie Mac will not do business with.

In an email to former clients Dec. 26, Elias wrote, "I certainly understand Freddie Mac's concerns that people may take advantage of a short sale when they do not have a hardship. However, I believe this should be addressed by legislation rather than an arbitrary decision by Freddie Mac because I do not agree with what they call a hardship or not."

He said Elias did not violate any Michigan law.

He said Dec. 3 he flew to Washington, D.C., and met with the FHA to discuss the matter.

Elias also began sending customer files that had loans backed by Freddie Mac to other brokers.

In an interview with the *Observer* published in July 2012, Elias said his agency's expertise was in short sales. "Not many agencies have the experience or willingness to take on that kind of risk," he said. "I was confident I could minimize the potential liability and provide the best possible service to homeowners who need it most."



## Canton Commission for Culture, Arts & Heritage

We Preserve. We Promote. We Celebrate.

## Culture group unveils new logo

**"The commission selected a design and slogan that both acknowledge the purpose of the Cultural Commission and subtly identify its roots."**

**ANTHONY DAVIS**  
chairperson, Canton Commission for Culture, Arts & Heritage

ens and clarifies the commission's brand identity and supports the goal of increasing awareness for the importance of Culture, Arts and Heritage in everyday life.

"The commission selected a design and slogan that both acknowledge the purpose of the Cultural Commission and subtly identify its roots," said Anthony Davis, Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Her-

itage Chairperson. "The graphic is modern and still focuses on the 'tree' aspect that we've come to love in Canton. The branches of the tree are a nod to what our commission continually strives to support in our community."

The Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage will begin utilizing the new logo and slogan immediately on all promotional materials, as well as on its website, and in upcoming advertising campaigns.

Preparations are currently under way to promote the third annual Canton Area of Culture Week from April 27 through May 5. This week-long celebration will feature a variety of cultural offerings at various locations throughout the Canton area. For more information on this commission, visit [canton-mi.org](http://canton-mi.org) or email [culturalcommission@canton-mi.org](mailto:culturalcommission@canton-mi.org).

# Make sure your home is fairly assessed

By Rick Bloom  
Guest Columnist

This won't come as a surprise but over the last six years or so property values have plummeted in southeast Michigan.

Even though we've had a little rebound, property values are below where they were in 2000. The question I have for homeowners is: Have your property taxes also gone down? I recently had a conversation with someone who told me that they have not seen a decline in their property taxes. This was surprising to me. Most municipalities, but not all, have reduced their assessments based upon declining home values. That being said, even if they have reduced your property values, are you paying too much in property taxes? In other words, is your home still overvalued



Money Matters  
Rick Bloom

for property tax purposes? Whenever someone goes to sell their home they certainly want to place the highest value on the property as possible. That is not necessarily the case

when it comes to property taxes. For property tax purposes, the lower the valuation, the lower the taxes. The goal is to make sure that your home is properly valued.

Typically, the assessed value of your home is half of its fair market value (what the house would sell for on the open market). Even though houses are unique, generally, you can get a good idea of the fair market value of your home by looking at what similar homes in your

neighborhood have sold for. The Internet is a great tool to get this information. Using websites such as zillow.com lets you get a good approximation of the value of your home. If you find that your home is assessed at a higher rate than others in the neighborhood have sold for, you may have a case to reduce the assessed valuation.

## Board of Review

Unfortunately, you can't appeal your property tax assessments whenever you choose. Every municipality has their own rules but generally, they provide that you have to go in front of a Board of Review and present your case. Most review boards meet in March which means now is the time to make the decision whether you appeal your property tax assessment.

Many people think that when

you go in front of the Board of Review you have to have an attorney.

That is not the case. The majority of homeowners present their own case. It is not that difficult, but obviously the more prepared you are, the better you will do. The key is that you have the burden to show that your property is overvalued. The best way to prove this is to present documentation.

## Foreclosure impact

If you live in a neighborhood with lots of foreclosures, vacant homes or rentals, they tend to bring down the value of property. It is something you should document for the Board of Review.

We all know why municipalities want to place a higher value on your property than it may be actually worth. The answer is taxes. The higher the assess-

ment, the more taxes a municipality takes in.

In these difficult economic times, you can't blame the municipalities for trying to get as much revenue as possible. However, we have an obligation to make sure that when it comes to property taxes, we don't overpay. There's a wealth of information on the Internet about preparing a case for the Board of Review.

When it comes to investing I always say don't let the tax tail wag the dog. When it comes to income taxes, that's the strategy, however, when it comes to property taxes the issue is more straightforward.

**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 email him at [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).

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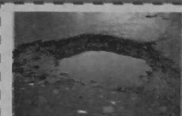
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## CHAMBER CHAT

### Diva Day

Ladies are invited to attend the fifth annual Diva Day on Saturday, March 23, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The first 500 Divas will get free Hot Pink Bos. Participants can do some spring shopping and get pampered. Little Divas and Diva Dogs are also welcome.

Downtown Plymouth boutiques, salons and restaurants will present special offers, unique refreshments, and chances to win Diva Day prizes. Bring your mother, daughter, aunt, sister, and all of your diva friends.

Participating shops include Basket Creations, Plymouth boutiques, salons and restaurants will present special offers, unique refreshments, and chances to win Diva Day prizes. Bring your mother, daughter, aunt, sister, and all of your diva friends.

### 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-P-CCS 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 five students each with \$1,000 scholarships.

Contributors will be recognized on the Chamber's web page and in our newsletter. 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.

### First Friday

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts its monthly First Friday Club meeting 8:30 a.m. Friday, March 1, at the chamber office, located at 45525 Hanford.

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

To make a reservation, call (734) 453-4040 or email [admin@cantorchamber.com](mailto:admin@cantorchamber.com).

### Rake-N-Go

Do you know a senior citizen or disabled person who could use a hand with yard cleanup this spring? The Plymouth Community United Way, in conjunction with Comcast Care Days, is organizing a Rake-N-Go on Saturday, April 27, in Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton. Seniors and disabled individuals in need of help to clean their yards should call (734) 453-6879, ext. 7 or email [betty.nolan@pcuw.org](mailto:betty.nolan@pcuw.org) before Friday, March 15.

### Chamber map

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce will be distributing 5,000 maps during 2013 and 2014. Valuable advertising space is available on the map for companies/organizations wanting to promote themselves to visitors and residents. These maps are distributed through the Chamber office (indoor and outdoor displays), local hotels, real estate agents, new resident welcome bags, apartment complexes, wedding parties for out-of-town guests and visitors to the community.

For advertisers the map uses full color or advertising to promote the venues, products and services. Also, complimentary stands for advertisers for their own location.

Contracts for advertising need to be signed Feb. 16. Contact Mike Brace (Embrace Marketing) at 734-566-6642 or [mike746@yahoo.com](mailto:mike746@yahoo.com).

## Canton hosts 12th annual Home Improvement Expo

Canton's 12th annual Home Improvement Expo will be held this weekend on Saturday, March 2, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 3, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Canton's Summit on the Park.

Highlights at this year's Expo include free parking and refreshments; a live broadcast from special guest Joe Gagnon, "The Appliance Doctor" from 1600 WAAM; how-to workshops on a variety of topics; live wood carving demonstrations; a hands-on children's project center sponsored by Home Depot; a Solar Education Trailer presented by Mechanical Energy Systems with Oakland Community College; and multiple raffles throughout the weekend including cedar lawn furniture made by Canton Con-



Joe Gagnon, The Appliance Doctor, returns to the Canton Home Expo at the Summit on the Park this weekend.

struction along with the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters.

In addition, Talon Construction also plans to raffie off a gift certificate good for a free home gutter cleaning valued at \$250.

People planning on attending this year's expo can stop by a welcome station and pick up a free Expo Advertisement Booklet. The booklet is filled with vendor coupons, a map of the show, the workshop schedule and several home improvement tips. All expo attendees will also receive a free, reusable canvas bag.

To view a complete list of the vendors, attend the Expo layout and download a workshop schedule visit [www.canton-mi.org/homeexpo.aspx](http://www.canton-mi.org/homeexpo.aspx). The expo is free of charge and hosted by Canton's Building and Inspection Services Division, the Chamber of Commerce, and Observer & Eccentric Media.

For more information call Canton's Building and Inspection Services Division at (734) 394-5200.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### DKC appearance

Jill Andra Young Photography at 502 Forest Ave. will be participating in the Detroit Kennel Club event March 2-3 at Cobo Center in Detroit. This year's event is two shows held back-to-back—the 110th & 111th annual.

Young will be displaying her photographs and other unique and custom photo merchandise. She will be on hand to answer any questions about having one's pet photographed and will be booking sittings into her studio. In addition, she will be offering a show special.

### Computer fix

Forest Computer Solutions has opened up shop to fix and repair Apple products.

The shop's Apple Certified Macintosh Technician can repair iPads, iPhones, iPods, iMacs and the Mac book. The store also offers the most cost effective options to repair your computer, anything from failed hard drives, logic board failures, cosmetic fixes, Apple/Mac/Phone/iPad/iPod Screen Repair, etc. The store offers RAM and Hard Drive upgrades to fit customers' needs.

Closing shop  
Isabella's Copper Pot will be closing by the end of March. The store, owned by Stacy Shafro and Doug Fopma, has been a fixture on Main St. for almost three years. They are having a 30-percent off sale. Stacy and Doug will continue to operate their store in Gaylord.

### Mall plans unveiled

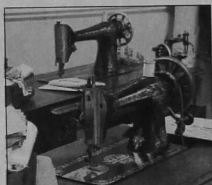
Plans for a major renovation of Briarwood Mall will be discussed at a press conference on Tuesday, March 5 in the center court at the mall in Ann Arbor. Simon Property Group, Inc., the world's largest owner, developer and manager of quality retail real estate, will detail specific renovation plans and renderings will be revealed for the first time at the press conference. Following the announcement, a ceremonial tie breaking will mark the official start of construction.

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

### Mad Hatter Tea

The Plymouth Historical Museum hosts its annual Mad Hatter Tea 2-4 p.m., Sunday, March 10.

"Mad About Hats — 100 years of



### Made in America

The Plymouth Historical Museum's special exhibit "Made in America" highlights America's contributions to industry throughout the years, with a special emphasis on Michigan-made products thanks to exhibit sponsors Ace Home, Garden & Hardware of Farmington Hills and Poo-Slinky of Plymouth. The exhibit runs through June 9. Visitors will find iconic American-made products throughout the Museum's "Main Street," including a 1931 Ford Model-A pick-up truck belonging to Margaret Dunning, the museum's major benefactor. Hours of operation are Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children (6-17).

Wearing Hats, 1860-1960" will be presented by Sandy Root, a Civil War reenactor and period milliner.

Before the presentation, enjoy delicacies from Joe's Deli of Plymouth and the museum's signature "Mary's Blend" tea — a taste bud tingling cherry and almond black tea in honor of Mary Todd Lincoln. This tea is also available for purchase in the Museum's store. Tickets for the Mad Hatter Tea are \$20 for Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum members and \$25 for non-members, if purchased by March 1 (add \$5 to the ticket price after that date), and can be purchased at the Plymouth Historical Museum during open hours, or on the website at <http://www.plymouthhistory.org/Events.html> using PayPal.

The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, a block north of downtown Plymouth. Hours are Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday 1-4 p.m. For further information, call (734) 455-8940.

## Retiree wins \$10,000 prize — for saving at local credit union

Carolann Broekhuizen is the winner of a \$10,000 grand prize in the Save to Win program sponsored by Community Alliance Credit Union.

The Oakland County resident has been a member of Community Alliance Credit Union in Dearborn since 1979. "To be honest, this is a complete surprise to me because my goal was simply to save a little money," said Broekhuizen, who retired from AAA Life in 2012.

"I think it's a really good idea to reward people who save money because it will really encourage people to save their money," said Broekhuizen, who recently received her check for \$10,000 in a spe-

cial visit from the Save to Win Program.

Ten \$10,000 Grand Prize winners throughout Michigan were awarded cash prizes during the "Week of Winning" Feb. 18-22. The Prize Squad traveled across Lower Michigan and throughout the Upper Peninsula last week to present the checks to the winners who all have Save to Win savings accounts and were selected from a random drawing in January.

Community Alliance Credit Union was established in 1966 from a group of AAA employees. The main office is in the AAA headquarters in Dearborn and a branch in Livonia is open seven days a week (inside and drive-

through). CAC serves customers in Wayne, Monroeville, Oakland, Washtenaw and Livingston counties.

Save to Win is a prize-linked savings program administered by the Michigan Credit Union League & Affiliates (MCUL). Each \$25 deposit into a Save to Win certificate of deposit by a credit union member entitles him or her to one entry into the Grand Prize drawing. The Save to Win program also awarded dozens of \$50 monthly prizes last year. In addition, most credit unions also individually award prizes to members who sign up for Save to Win, with prizes varying from credit union to credit union. All Save to Win deposits generate interest and build savings.

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# Boyfriend charged in former Plymouth woman's slaying

By Susan Steinnmuller  
Staff Writer

William Michael Dhondt, 28, entered a not-guilty plea to a charge of first-degree murder in the death of his girlfriend in Farmington at his arraignment Tuesday afternoon before 45A Berkeley District Court Judge James Wittenberg.

Dhondt is charged in the killing of former Plymouth resident Kaitlin Elizabeth Hehir, 29, at the house they shared on Colchester. Dhondt, a restaurant worker, had called 911 to report her missing Saturday evening, Feb. 23. He was taken to the Farmington Public Safety Department for questioning and detained soon after, according to police.

Hehir was a clerk at the 47th District Court in Farmington Hills, where the judges rescued themselves from the arraignment. Hehir's mother works for the city of Farmington Hills.

Hehir's dismembered body was found by officers at the house on Sunday after a search, but a warrant was obtained from a judge in another court. Her body was concealed in black plastic garbage bags in containers, according to officers.

Farmington Detective Andrew Morche told Wittenberg the Oakland County Medical examin-

er determined the cause of death to be "manual strangulation" and asked for the murder charge, with a maximum possible penalty of life in prison.

**Video arraignment**  
Dhondt was at the Farmington jail during the video arraignment.

When asked whether he understood the charges Dhondt, who showed little emotion, answered "yes." He will be represented by a court-appointed attorney.

Wittenberg ordered Dhondt held without bond and be remanded to the Oakland County Jail. A pre-exam conference was set for 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 5, in front of Wittenberg at the Berkeley court. An exam was also set for 9 a.m. March 12 in Berkeley.

The slaying has shocked the community and the case has been packed with media.

Morche presented some of the gruesome details of the murder to the judge during the arraignment. Morche said police responded to Dhondt's call at 10 p.m. Saturday evening. Dhondt told officers that Hehir picked him up

from work then left the house again early that morning to head back to a party she was attending and he did not return, Morche said.

Dhondt gave permission for officers to enter the house. There they discovered plastic that appeared to be covered in human blood, according to the detective.

Dhondt was later transported to the Farmington Public Safety Department, where he described an argument with Hehir that turned physical, according to police.

"The defendant stated that the entire incident lasted four minutes," said Morche.

**Prior problems**  
Farmington Public Safety Director Robert Schulz held a short press conference after the arraignment. "We are not going to get into too many details of the case," he said. "We will continue to do some investigation over the next few days."

In answer to questions, he said Dhondt has a prior criminal history including a 2005 embezzlement misdemeanor and a traffic offense for driving while intoxicated.

"I believe he was still on probation. He had an offense, Schulz said, adding that there was "no information on use of alcohol before or after the

occurrence." "The assault had occurred probably 20 hours earlier," he said in answer to when the killing occurred. Schulz said that Hehir had been at a gathering for a court employee who was leaving.

He said that Dhondt made no verbal confession at the home but provided "statements that incriminated him" when questioned by detectives at the public safety department.

"My understanding is they had only lived in the house less than six months and we had no prior contact" with them, he said.

Schulz said Dhondt was believed to have been an employee at the Olive Garden in Novi.

Schulz credited the "good police work" of his staff in investigating whether there was foul play and in their handling of the case.

"They worked very diligently and professionally," he said. Schulz also thanked the Oakland County Sheriff's Department and their crime lab, which assisted in the investigation.

An Oakland County Circuit Court official said that Berkley was chosen to handle the case at the district court level in a "blind draw."

[steinnmuller@hometownlife.com](mailto:steinnmuller@hometownlife.com)  
(313) 222-2241

## New private academy to host open house

Brightmont Academy, a private school specializing in one-to-one instruction, opened its Northville campus, the first to serve the greater Detroit area. Brightmont Academy's concept is that one experienced teacher works with one student throughout every learning session. Brightmont Academy started 14 years ago in Washington state and has opened eight campuses in four states. "One-to-one instruction is the learning approach that works," said Vincent Montoro, Northville Campus director. "At Brightmont Academy, our focus is serving the whole student and finding creative solutions to improve learning outcomes."

Most students attend full time, although parents have three enrollment options. Students can attend full time and earn a diploma issued by Brightmont Academy, take courses to earn credit toward a diploma issued by their local high school, or receive K-12 tutoring support.

"Brightmont is one more choice, but the only one that addresses student needs exclusively through

one-to-one instruction," said Ruth Wilson, co-founder, Brightmont Academy. "The one-to-one instruction at Brightmont Academy fully individualizes the learning process to effectively address a wide range of learning challenges." Brightmont Academy, Northville is currently accepting enrollments and holding open houses Tuesday, March 5, from 4-6 p.m. and Thursday, March 7, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Parents can tour the campus, meet the campus director and learn more about the value of one-to-one instruction. The Northville Campus is located at 93209 Six Mile Road, Suite 175 in Livonia, just off I-275, across from the Northville Village Center. Brightmont Academy, Northville is the eighth campus to open in the U.S.

Brightmont Academy is an accredited private school that provides one-to-one instruction. It has served 1,500 students since 1999 and has campuses in Arizona, California, Michigan and Washington. For more information, visit: [www.BrightmontAcademy.com](http://www.BrightmontAcademy.com).

## HAVEN CEO says domestic violence can take many forms

By Susan Steinnmuller  
Staff Writer

There had been no previous reports of domestic violence at a Farmington home where a woman was allegedly murdered by her boyfriend over the weekend.

But the president and CEO of HAVEN, Beth Morrison, said that doesn't rule out that it hadn't been happening.

"Obviously not all domestic violence ends in a homicide such as this," said Morrison. "It doesn't mean it's still not occurring on a daily basis and a horrifying experience for those affected."

The nonprofit Haven is Oakland County's main center for the prevention and treatment of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Morrison said statistics show that in Michigan, domestic violence impacts one in three families.

Some 100 people in Michigan lose their lives to domestic violence homicide each year, she said.

### Why stay?

Morrison said she's often asked why a victim stays with an abuser, but she prefers to "flip" the question and focus on the actions and behavior of the abuser.

"Domestic violence is all about power and control," she said. "An abuser will use whatever behavior or method he can to achieve power or control in a relationship."

She said others will sometimes say when it's a homicide they never saw the abuser lose their temper or become violent.

That's because the abuser's behavior is targeted toward an individual, she said. "It becomes a belief system that they

have that it's their right to have power and control over the person."

It is a choice, she said. Most victims are women. Morrison added.

### Education

"My first recommendation is to become educated about domestic violence if an individual is in a relationship in which they are experiencing fear, whether it be verbal, sexual, or emotional," she said.

The nonprofit's purpose states, in part, "HAVEN believes that everyone deserves to live without fear."

She said Haven has a crisis line in which counselors will speak to people even if they aren't in immediate danger, or clarify what is destructive behavior.

"People who don't experience physical violence can minimize the abuse that is occurring. It can be just as horrifying," she said.

Morrison said that Haven offers comprehensive services to victims, such as shelter, court advocacy, and counseling, both for adults and children.

"Our services are free," she said. Half of the budget is funded by federal and state funds, the other half is funded by local dollars and individual contributions.

Haven's website is [www.haven-oakland.org](http://www.haven-oakland.org). The organization may be contacted at (877) 922-1274 or (248) 334-1284.

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### LEGAL NOTICE

#### 1954 PA 188 PROCEEDINGS NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING

##### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that as a result of Petitions of property owners within the Township signed by the record owners of land whose front footage constitutes more than 60% of the total front footage of the herein described Special Assessment District and the Township Board of the Charter Township of Plymouth proposes a road paving project in the Ridgewood Hills Subdivision and to create a Special Assessment for the recovery of the cost thereof by Special Assessment against the properties benefited therein.

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested, that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth has tentatively declared its intention to make the hereinabove described improvement.

The proposed improvements shall consist of milling, and/or pulverization, and/or removal of the existing bituminous road with the placement of a new bituminous pavement course. In addition, select areas of concrete curb and gutter will be removed and replaced as necessary. It is understood that this is primarily a road improvement project and therefore any drainage problems existing prior to the project will not be corrected except where said modification is necessary to protect the life of the road pavement. Existing water problems, such as standing water, etc., outside of the roadway, are the responsibility of this program. It is further understood that this alternate, if permitted by the County of Wayne, could be subject to special conditions dependent upon the findings of the soils investigation report, existing subsurface conditions, etc. The proposed improvements to the existing two-lane asphalt pavement shall consist of complete and partial asphalt pavement replacement, as well as miscellaneous driveway and drainage work, which may be needed to facilitate the replacement of the asphalt road pavement. The project commences at the south right-of-way line of Powell Road and proceeds southward on Hillcrest Dr. for approximately 3100 feet to the north right-of-way line of Ann Arbor Road. The project proceeds:

- East from Hillcrest Dr. along Meadow Dr. for approx. 1000 feet to Meadow Ct. and south along Meadow Ct. for approx. 600 feet to terminus
- East from Meadow Ct. along Sunbird Dr. for approx. 130 feet to terminus
- South from Meadow Dr. along Robin Ct. for approx. 250 feet to terminus
- West from Hillcrest Dr. along Plum Tree Dr. for approx. 135 feet
- West from Hillcrest Dr. along Harvest Dr. for approx. 150 feet
- East from Hillcrest Dr. along Harvest Dr. for approx. 900 feet to Meadow Dr.
- West from Hillcrest Dr. along Hillcrest Ct. W for approx. 500 feet to terminus
- East from Hillcrest Dr. along Hillcrest Ct. E for approx. 550 feet to terminus
- West from Hillcrest Dr. along Pinehill Dr. for approx. 120 feet
- East from Hillcrest Dr. along Pinehill Dr. for approx. 850 feet to Normandy Dr.
- West from Hillcrest Dr. along Woodway Dr. for approx. 150 feet
- East from Hillcrest Dr. along Normandy Dr. for approx. 1500 feet to Pine Hill Dr.
- West from Normandy Dr. along Normandy Ct. W for approx. 550 feet to terminus
- East from Normandy Dr. along Normandy Ct. E for approx. 500 feet to terminus
- South from Normandy Dr. along Chambray Ct. for approx. 650 feet to terminus
- West from Hillcrest Dr. along Winterset Circle for approx. 130 feet

That it has further been tentatively determined that the following described lots and parcels of land will specially benefit from said improvements and will constitute a Special Assessment District against which the cost of said improvement shall be assessed:

The district limit for frontage along Hillcrest Dr., Meadowview Dr., Meadowview Ct., Sunbird Dr., Robin Ct., Plumtree Dr., Harvest Dr., Hillcrest Ct. W, Hillcrest Ct. E, Pinehill Dr., Normandy Dr., Woodway Dr., Normandy Ct. W, Normandy Ct. E, Chambray Ct., and Winterset Circle consists of Lots 1 through 185 of the Ridgewood Hills Subdivision No. 1, Lot 209 of Ridgewood Hills Subdivision No. 2, and Lot 356 of Ridgewood Hills Subdivision No. 3, located in the Northwest 1/4 of Section 32, T1S, R2E, of Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth shall meet on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, Michigan 48170, for the purpose of reviewing said proposed Special Assessment District, and hearing objections to the improvement, creation of the Special Assessment District, and the assessment thereon. All persons may then and there appear and make any objections they may have to such improvement and assessment. Appearance and protest at the hearing is required in order to appeal the amount, if any of the special assessment to the state tax tribunal. An owner or party in interest, or agent thereof, may appear in person at the hearing, or may file an appearance or protest by letter. All parties or agents appearing in person at the hearing for purposes of protest should request the appearance be entered into the record of the meeting.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the plans, specifications, estimates of cost and recommendations of the engineer for said proposed Special Assessment District have been filed with the Township and are available for public examination at the office of the Township Clerk. The estimate of costs of such construction is in the approximate amount of \$1,193,000.00.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that periodic redetermination of costs for the proposed Special Assessment District may be necessary and may be made without further notice to the record owners or parties in interest in the property.

Nancy Conzelmann, Clerk  
Charter Township of Plymouth  
8955 North Haggerty Road  
Plymouth, Michigan 48170  
(734) 354-3224

## OUR VIEWS

# Key time

## Party politics has no place in federal budget dilemma

Today is a key date for all Americans. If Congress and the President can't reach agreement on sequestration, or automatic, across-the-board budget cuts, tomorrow the federal budget for fiscal 2013 will be slashed by an estimated \$85 billion.

As mind boggling as that amount is, it's \$24 billion less than the original \$109.3 billion because of a two-month delay due to passage of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012. An analysis by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) indicates that non-exempt, nondefense discretionary programs would be cut by 5.1 percent and a cut of 5.3 percent would be applied to nonexempt, nondefense mandatory programs.

Using federal agency budget data and based on the CBPP analysis, the National Education Association has come up with an estimate of the cuts to education. The chart it has developed for the State of Michigan is ugly at best. The NEA has pegged the loss to Michigan at more than \$81 million. Programs like Head Start, preschool IDEA grants, the federal TRIO program, 21st Century Community Learning Centers and grants to the state for special education and career technical programs, and Title I which provides financial assistance to local educational agencies to educate children of low-income families would be cut, affecting thousands of students and teachers.

Many of the programs that face funding cuts, if sequestration happens, can be found in our local school districts. In the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, the Great Start program could be threatened, as could any programs for which the district receives federal funding, including programs aimed at students from economically challenged families.

The NEA has a caveat attached to its estimates. It assumes the same rate of operations as in fiscal year 2012. Since Congress hasn't completed work on appropriations for fiscal year 2013, the actual cuts could be more or they could be less.

These cuts would come from a federal government that gave us the No Child Left Behind Act which expanded the federal role in education and targeted improving the achievement of disadvantaged students. NCLB has been much maligned but it has succeeded in bringing the achievement gap between low-income and minority students and their wealthier peers to the forefront. But the tools to close that gap are among those that will be whacked, if sequestration happens.

Sequestration comes at a time when Michigan school districts are facing a major budget crisis. They are receiving less in local tax revenue and state school aid and are struggling to make ends meet. And unlike the federal government, local school districts can't put off until tomorrow the problems they face today.

It is a given that something needs to be done cut federal spending and start paring down the national debt. But the decisions need to be made well before the 11th hour and in a manner that reflects the will of the people.

Sequestration may or may not be an issue by the end of today, but residents should take this opportunity to express their opinions to representatives and senators - and not just those from Michigan.

The federal and state governments have made it perfectly clear that all of our students must achieve and must be prepared to work in the 21st century. That can't happen if they are held hostage by a process that is more about party politics than their learning needs.

It takes a village to raise a child, and it's time Washington became a part of the village.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### When do you plan to do your taxes, and how do you think you'll do?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"We're working on ours right now, and I think we're going to owe."

**Michelle Riddle**  
Belleville



"I'm still working on my taxes. I'm halfway through, and I'm also working on my parents' taxes. So far I'm ahead but I'm not done yet."

**Michael Ramus**  
Canton



"I haven't done them yet, but we have time. I'm using H&R Block online software."

**Michele Kostyshak**  
Canton



"I have done my taxes. One side was good and one side not so good."

**Sandra Cook**  
Canton

## LETTERS

### Job well done

The conduct and competency of the Canton Police Department's handling of the Verizon Armed Robbery on Ford Road Monday was exemplary.

Within moments of the 911 call a police officer was on the scene and in pursuit. The initial officer in pursuit had information that these hardened criminals had powerful weapons and acted in the interest of public safety first and foremost, before his own safety. Minutes later the perpetrators were caught.

As a Canton resident I find it very reassuring that our police department is so very well trained and professional. As a community we need to make sure that Public Safety remains a top priority in local township government. Without a well-trained public safety department, Canton would cease to be the safe community we all love. Job well done.

**Greg Demopoulos**  
Canton

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

Web: www.hometownlife.com  
Mail: Letters to the Editor, Canton Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226  
Fax: (313) 223-3318  
E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com  
Deadlines: Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published Thursday.

### Figures and lies

I just finished reading the article (Observer, Feb. 24) that named Sen. Patrick Colbeck the most "conservative" official in Lansing. And, evidently, he is wearing this title as a badge of honor.

It's funny how the definition of words change with the political

climate. Once, before the advent of the tea party, a conservative was defined as being moderate, frugal and believing in tax fairness. Democrats were referred to as the tax-and-spend party.

The new "conservatives," i.e., Patrick Colbeck, are now justly called the shift-and-reward party — shift the tax burden to people of modest means and reward the rich.

Now that tax season is upon us, we can see the true effects of the new "conservative" party's policies. The average family will be paying from \$500 to \$1,500 more, while the good senator's backers reap billions in cuts. And, as I have stated before, not one new job can be attributed to these corporate gifts.

In fact an independent report released by Comerica showed a net loss of 15,000 jobs in our state last year. So, when these new "conservatives" start spouting their propaganda, remember "figures don't lie, but liars figure."

**James Huddleston**  
Canton

## GUEST COLUMN

# Raise road money without raising taxes

By Patrick Colbeck  
Guest Columnist

I still recall my orientation session shortly after being elected. I was treated to a non-partisan symposium on the need to raise taxes as the de facto solution for all of our budgetary ailments. In fact, the options for transportation funding were not very innovative — raise gasoline taxes, raise sales taxes, create a new time tax or raise registration fees.

As an advocate of consumption-driven tax policy, I understand the logic of tying these revenue sources with road funding. It is worth noting, though, we already invoke "user fees" to fund our roads to the tune of 19 cents a gallon.

Let's mention and close to \$1 billion from transportation-related registration fees, licenses and the like. Our total budget last year for transportation was around \$3.3 billion. The bulk of the difference between our user fees and the transportation budget was made up from federal funding.

Gov. Snyder has outlined the need for an additional \$1.2 billion in funding to improve our transportation infrastructure. Some studies indicate funding levels need to be as high as \$6 billion, but let's assume that a yearly budget of \$4.5 billion will take care of business.

### Revenue opportunities

Let's assume there are no opportunities for expense reduction within MDOT. All indications are that MDOT is one of the most lean state transportation agen-

cies in the nation. So, if we take "user fees" off the table, what other revenue opportunities do we have?

For starters, our state economy is improving. The general fund is forecast to yield a 5.4-percent increase (some \$500 million) from the FY12-13 figure. If we were to freeze spending for all agencies that depend upon the general fund, that \$500 million would be available to fund roads. When you eliminate the one-time spending in our budget last year, that figure is even larger.

If we paid off our state "credit cards," we would have an additional \$833 million per year. Instead of paying interest to banks, we could even start to earn interest that could help fund our roads. Perhaps we should invest our economic growth "dividend" and even our rainy day fund to pay off our debt.

### Leverage assets

When businesses run into financial trouble, in addition to looking for ways to cut expenses, they look for assets that can be leveraged to earn additional revenue. What assets do we have in the state of Michigan?

One of our best assets is our hardworking citizens. Finding jobs for the 411,000 unemployed citizens in our state would yield over \$1 billion in income tax alone. If we continue to promote pro-growth economic policies as we have over the past two years and the federal government finally stops strangling the growth of the national economy, we will see additional economic growth "dividends," perhaps even enough to close the \$700 million gap.

We have 10,711 bridges, 131 secretary of state offices, 81 rest areas, 97 state parks, 829 boat access sites, 16 harbors and over 15,000 properties in the state

"land bank." The National Council for State Legislators has identified advertising, concessions, naming rights and shared resources as incremental revenue opportunities for states.

What if we were to lease billboard space on our bridges? We could raise an additional \$460 million per year in advertising revenue by simply adding another placard to our overpasses next to our current route signs. One idea would be to sponsor a graphic design contest to make these signs a "feature of," not a "detraction from," our Pure Michigan campaign.

### Ad space at SOS offices

We could lease advertising space at our secretary of state offices. Our rest areas feature over 50 million visitors per year. Our state parks feature 24 million visitors. If we were to privatize the management of these assets, we could free up over \$20 million and generate additional concessions revenue. All told, there is the potential for over \$1.6 billion in new funding for roads, all without raising taxes.

Are there downside risks with these proposals? Yes. The key question, though, is do these risks outweigh the very real impacts to our taxpayers when taxes and registration fees go up or the quality of our roads goes down. Bottom line, before I ask our hardworking taxpayers to fork out another dime in transportation taxes, we need to take a hard look at all of our options. The path to modernizing our transportation infrastructure demands true innovation.

**Patrick Colbeck**, R-Canton, is the state senator representing the 7th District, which includes the Plymouth, Northville and Canton Townships.

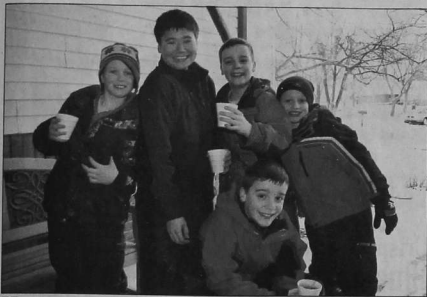
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## AROUND TOWN



## Happy snow day

Here's to celebrating to the snow day after shoveling the heavy snow and building a giant snow mound! (From left) Logan Corey, David McGrath, Tyler and Nick Avram and Brayden Corey kicked back with some hot chocolate after getting in a little work and a little play.

"Around Town" is designed to announce upcoming events taking place in the community. Items will run on a space-available basis. Send details to [bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com).

## MAD HATTER TEA

**Date/Time:** Sunday, March 10, 2-4 p.m.  
**Location:** Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main in Plymouth

**Details:** It's tea time ladies! Grab your gals and come to the Plymouth Historical Museum for the annual Mad Hatter Tea where ladies wear their craziest hats! "Mad About Hats—100 years of Wearing Hats, 1860-1960" will be presented by Sandy Root, a Civil War reenactor and period milliner. Before the presentation, enjoy scrumptious delicacies from Joe's Deli of Plymouth and the Museum's signature "Mary's Blend" tea—a taste bud tingling cherry and almond black tea in honor of Mary Todd Lincoln. This tea is also available for purchase in the Museum's store. Tickets for the Mad Hatter Tea are \$20 for Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum members and \$25 for non-members, if purchased by March 1 (add \$5 to the ticket price after that date), and can be purchased at the Plymouth Historical Museum during open hours, or on the website at [www.plymouthhistory.org/Events.html](http://www.plymouthhistory.org/Events.html) using PayPal.

**Contact:** For further information, call (734) 455-8940.

## MEDICARE/MEDICAID COUNSELING

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, March 6, 2-4 p.m.  
**Location:** United Home Health Services office, 2200 Canton Center, Suite 250, in Canton.

**Details:** United Home Health Services, a local home care company in Canton, is proud to offer the community free counseling with a certified MMAP Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program counselor. The Medicare Advantage disenrollment period (Jan. 1-Feb. 14) is when seniors are able to change to a Medicare plan if desired. This process can be confusing so the MMAP counselor can help you review Medicare and Medicaid eligibility and the various plans, apply for Medicaid, research and enroll in Medicare Part D drug insurance, assist with Medicare supplemental plans, find pharmaceutical assistance programs, identify & report Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse issues, and explore long term care insurance options.

**Contact:** United Home Health Services at (734) 981-8820. You may also access the MMAP website at [www.mmapinc.org/pag-es/about.html](http://www.mmapinc.org/pag-es/about.html)

## MOM TO MOM SALE

**Date/Time:** March 9, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Bentley Elementary School, 1100 S. Sheldon Rd., Canton

**Details:** All proceeds to benefit Bentley Elementary School and the PTO. At the sale there will be 50 tables, as well as Large items such as strollers, pack and plays, and exersaucers. There is a \$1 entry fee; strollers are welcome after 11 a.m.

**Contact:** Email Christine at [rcwegrzyn@gmail.com](mailto:rcwegrzyn@gmail.com)

## PROJECT GRADUATION

**Date/Time:** Saturday, March 9, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
**Location:** Canton High School Cafeteria, 8415 N. Canton Center in Canton

**Details:** The Senior Graduation Party Committee sponsors Project Graduation, a vendor show designed to be the marketplace for all graduation party and gift needs. Attendees will be able to sample foods from caterers and bakers and arrange party rentals such as tents, tables and chairs, outdoor bounce rentals, slushy and popcorn machines, etc. There will also be "gift" vendors such as Tastefully Simple, Scentsy, Tupperware, jewelry and also formal dress and Tuxedo shops for Prom. Admission is free.

## CAMP FAIR

**Date/Time:** Saturday, March 9, 10 a.m. to noon  
**Location:** Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton

**Details:** Canton Leisure Services hosts the annual Camp Fair to promote the wide array of specialized weekly camps or summer-long options. Some of the summer camps offered this season, include Camp Canton - "Award Winning" Youth Summer Camp Drama Camps for Preschool and Youth - musical theater and drama/leisure Youth - musical theater and drama/leisure Summer Preschool Camps - Colonial Kids, Princess, Ocean Explorers, Science Camp ABLE - Special Needs Camp Canton Sports Center - Lacrosse, Baseball, Volleyball and Basketball Camps.

**Contact:** For more information on Canton Leisure Services Annual Camp Fair, visit [www.cantonfun.org](http://www.cantonfun.org) or call (734) 394-5460.

## NEWCOMERS BINGO NIGHT

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, March 6, 7:15 p.m.  
**Location:** Sunflower Clubhouse, 45800 Hanford (west of Canton Center)

**Details:** Back by popular demand, Bingo Night with prizes donated by local businesses and members, pizza from Jets, a treat from Carvel, a raffle to benefit First Step and an opportunity to sign up for activities for the entire family is on the agenda at the Canton Newcomers and Neighbors Club adult general meeting. Request a complimentary March newsletter at [www.canton-newcomersandneighbors.org](http://www.canton-newcomersandneighbors.org).

**Contact:** To RSVP, to donate a small prize, or with any questions, call Noreen at (734) 981-0486 or email [nyrbn@yahoo.com](mailto:nyrbn@yahoo.com).

## WINE EVENT

**Date/Time:** Friday, March 8, 7-11 p.m.  
**Location:** Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center

**Details:** The third annual Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Educational Excellence Foundation Wine Tasting Event is set. Tickets are \$40 per person and include wine tasting & strolling dinner. Tickets are available at all Busch's Fresh Food Market locations and Showroom of Elegance on Canton Center Road in Canton. There will be more than 50 varieties of wine from around the world and Michigan based Craft beers. Pouring takes place from 7-9:30 p.m. Proceeds will be used to fund teacher grants in Plymouth-Canton classrooms.

There will be a silent auction at the event and currently a live web-based auction is taking place. The most unique and exciting items are \$1,000 and \$2,000 certificates toward the purchase of a new car at one of seven local participating dealerships including Atchinson Ford, Lou LaRiche Chevrolet, Jack Demmer Ford, Victory Honda, Dick Scott Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge-Ram, Tennyson Chevrolet and Hines Park Lincoln. You can view all the available items and purchase tickets online at [www.pcseef.com](http://www.pcseef.com).

**Contact:** For more information, call Executive Director Carole Kody at (734) 416-2718.

## WOMEN'S CONNECTION

**Date/Time:** Monday, March 11, 6-8:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Canton Coney Island, 8533 N. Lilley in Canton

**Details:** Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz, Canton Leisure Services Director, will be the featured speaker at the Canton Women's Connection Meeting. Canton Women's Connection is a social group dedicated to giving back to the community through charitable works and empowering women through human interest guest speakers and networking connections. RSVP by Friday, March 8.

**Contact:** June Nicholas at (313) 610-2561 or [junenicholas@comcast.net](mailto:junenicholas@comcast.net)

## SEWING GUILD

**Date/Time:** First Thursday of each month, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
**Location:** First Presbyterian Church, 701 Church Street, Plymouth

**Details:** This Plymouth-Canton neighborhood group is open to sewists of all levels. The Feb. 7 meeting features "Machine Embroidery Primer," followed by "3D Flying Geese-Hands on" on March 7, "Charity auction" April 11 (note date change), and "Machine or Hand Applique Quilt-Block-hands on" on May 2.

**Contact:** For more information email [aspc@comcast.net](mailto:aspc@comcast.net)

## BIPOLAR SUPPORT

**Date/Time:** Second and fourth Tuesday of the month, 6-7:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Lincoln Behavioral Services Center, 14500 Sheldon, Suite 1608 in Plymouth

**Details:** The Depression Bipolar Support Alliance is a self-help group for people suffering from depression and bipolar disorders. Meetings are open also to family members. All DBSA leaders are professionally trained and attend two trainings for every year to update their skills in leading the group.

**Contact:** Call Nancy at (734) 536-3457 for directions.

## HOSPICE SUPPORT

**Date/Time:** Third Saturday of the month, 10:11-30 a.m.  
**Location:** Compassionate Care Hospice, 5730 Lilley, Canton

**Details:** Compassionate Care Hospice conducts a grief support group, "Compassionate Words," providing emotional support to any adult grieving the loss of a loved one. The group focuses on the various stages of grief, and incorporates basic journal writing as a way to express feelings. The program is free of charge.

**Contact:** To register, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator at (888) 983-9050, or email [achristensen@cchn.net](mailto:achristensen@cchn.net).

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<b>Boar's Head Domestic Swiss Cheese \$5.99 lb</b> Save \$6.00 lb	<b>Dietz &amp; Watson Provolone Cheese \$5.49 lb</b> Save \$2.00 lb	<b>Joe's Signature Roast Beef \$8.99 lb</b> Save \$2.00 lb	<b>Columbus Genoa Salami \$9.99 lb</b> Save \$3.00 lb	<b>Columbus Pork Loin \$9.99 lb</b> Save \$3.00 lb

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<b>Boar's Head Corned Beef \$8.99 lb</b> Save \$3.00 lb	<b>Dietz &amp; Watson Homestyle Turkey \$7.99 lb</b> Save \$3.00 lb	<b>Joe's Signature Honey Roasted Ham \$5.99 lb</b> Save \$2.00 lb	<b>Aged All Natural Parmigiano Reggiano Cheese \$14.99 lb</b> Save \$5.00 lb	<b>Columbus Buffalo Chicken \$8.99 lb</b> Save \$3.00 lb
<b>Boar's Head Domestic Swiss Cheese \$5.99 lb</b> Save \$6.00 lb	<b>Dietz &amp; Watson Provolone Cheese \$5.49 lb</b> Save \$2.00 lb	<b>Joe's Signature Roast Beef \$8.99 lb</b> Save \$2.00 lb	<b>Columbus Genoa Salami \$9.99 lb</b> Save \$3.00 lb	<b>Columbus Pork Loin \$9.99 lb</b> Save \$3.00 lb

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**Alex Naturals & Organics Banana Chips, Plantain Chips & Sunflower Kernels \$2.99 each**

**Fresh Cut Tulips \$5.99 bunch**

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**Pelee Island Semi Sweet Merlot \$8.99**

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SECTION B • (CP)  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2013  
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC  
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# SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR  
tsmith@hometownlife.com  
734-469-4128

## Canton loses bid for crown

Canton found out Tuesday night that all endings to boys basketball games aren't as uplifting as Friday's exhilarating triple-O7 win over Westland John Glenn for the Kensington Conference boys basketball title.

The Chiefs lost Tuesday's game 47-45 to host Grand Blanc for all the

**KLAA TITLE GAME** Kensington Lakes Athletic Association marbles — letting a fourth quarter lead slip away in the process. With the loss, Canton's 13-game winning streak came to a halt.

Canton led 32-29 going into the final frame, but the still-unbeaten Bobcats (19-0) showed why and their late flourish to spoil the Chiefs' bid for a championship and undoubtedly make it a lousy trip home during a snowstorm for head coach Jimmy Reddy and company.

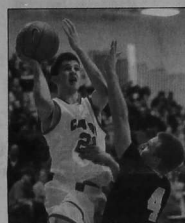
A three-pointer by Grand Blanc senior Bart Williams (11 points) put the Bobcats up 43-40 midway through the final stanza, which came down to the final seconds when a desperation 3-ball attempt by Canton fell short.

Other Bobcats in double figures were T.J. Nichols and K.J. Miller, with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Top scorers for Canton were senior guards Josh Mayberry (14 points) and Ryan Planey (11 points).

Also with a big game for the Chiefs was 6-8 junior forward Jordan Nobles. He tallied seven points and led the team with eight

Please see **BOYS HOOPS, B4**



BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Canton's Ryan Planey (No. 21), shown from a game earlier this season, scored 11 points Tuesday against Grand Blanc. At right is Plymouth's Jake Divens (No. 4).

## D1 HOCKEY PRE-REGIONAL



BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Plymouth's Dean Gunther (No. 6) stickhandles away from Canton's Hunter Schlapp (No. 15) and Connor Wherrett (No. 2) during Monday night's boys hockey pre-regional at Arctic Edge.

## 'Cats fend off Chiefs

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

On a night where two Park rival boys hockey teams leveled board-jarring hits and delivered booming slappers toward the goalies, the tell-tale blow was merely a knuckleball of a shot.

That shot, by Plymouth senior defenseman Dean Gunther, eluded Canton junior netminder Justin Kolbicz with just 12.6 seconds to play in the second period and gave the Wildcats a 3-1 edge going into the third.

The Chiefs could not stem the tide from there, as Plymouth went on to post a 5-1 victory Monday in the Division I pre-regional contest at Arctic Edge Arena. With the win, the Wildcats (20-5-1) moved on to face Salem on Wednesday night in a game that took place after this issue of the Observer went to press.

"The goal at the end of the second period hurt," Canton head coach Jeremy Majszak said about Gunther's change-

of-pace from inside the blue-line that floated over Kolbicz's

blocker into the top left corner. Majszak, however, emphasized that Kolbicz (who stopped 35 of 40 shots) helped keep the Chiefs close before that with a string of excellent leg and glove stops.

"He's still young. It's a learning experience for him and for the whole team," said Majszak, who will have most of the nucleus back on the ice in 2013-14.

### Chances were there

He lamented, more than the Gunther goal, several missed opportunities when Canton (6-17-1) had an extended five-on-three in the middle period, when Plymouth led just 2-1.

"In the second period we had that five-on-three opportunity and we missed two open nets," Majszak said. (Junior forward) Christian Flack had a great opportunity off a rebound. One of the Plymouth players made a play on him, but the open net was there.

"We had a couple other opportunities. If we bear down on that and score one on the five-on-three, then who knows? They worked hard, but they were young and inexperienced and didn't get those bounces."

According to Plymouth head coach Gerry Vento, a lot of the credit for killing off the two-man disadvantage went to senior forward Nick Schultz, who scored the team's first goal and assisted on junior brother Mike Schultz's tie-breaker early in the second to make it 2-1.

"Mike and Nick have been great all year," Vento said. "Nick certainly led the way today. When we were down on that five-on-three, I thought he was the key and that kind of started turning the tide of the game (defensively)." Vento, meanwhile, told his team following the second period to settle down and "play hockey" instead of running around looking for body checks.

Please see **ICERS, B3**

## 'Cats baseball clinics on tap

The Plymouth Wildcats Youth Baseball Clinic is just around the corner.

Youngsters who want to improve baseball skills for the 2013 season and beyond are urged to sign up ASAP for the sessions: 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 16; 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 23. Both sessions will take place at the Plymouth High School gymnasium and are for boys and girls currently in grades one-eight. The cost is \$25 per session, with that fee including a snack. T-shirts will be available at the clinic.

Because there only is room for 100 campers, early registration is encouraged. For the registration form, go to <http://baseball.plymouthwildcats.com/240.html>.

Contact Plymouth baseball coach Bryan Boyd with any questions. He can be reached at Bryan.Boyd@pcsmail.net.

## 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 7 p.m. Thursday in Room W2112.

Salem is looking for new players as it plans to add its first junior varsity team.

No previous playing experience is required, just the desire to learn and play the sport.

Tryouts will begin 5:30 p.m. Monday, March 11, at East Middle School.

Please visit [www.SalemgirlsLacrosse.com](http://www.SalemgirlsLacrosse.com) for contact and season information.

## Ducks in a row

With Rakell back from NHL, fully loaded Whalers stay hot

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

While Rickard Rakell was spending a month with the Anaheim Ducks of the National Hockey League, he was playing close attention to how things are done in "The Show."

And now that the 19-year-old Swedish-born center is back

**OHL HOCKEY** with the Plymouth Whalers,

he is showing OHL opponents a thing or two.

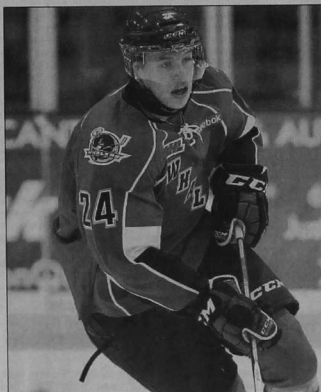
Such was the case Saturday night, when the Whalers blanked Sarnia 4-0 for their eighth victory in a row and fifth straight since Rakell's return to Compuware Arena. A near-sellout crowd of 3,449 celebrated as the West Division-leading Whalers improved to 34-16-5-4 (77 points).

"It was a great four weeks up there," said Rakell, the game's first star. "I learned so much. Just playing those four games, you got to be stronger on the puck and you got to be smarter with the puck. So I think coming back here I'm coming back with a lot of confidence, too."

"I'm just going to try to keep playing like this as far as we go this season."

That's certainly music to the ears of Rakell's teammates, coaches and fans.

"Ricky's come back with a great attitude," Whalers assistant coach Don Eiland said.



RENA LAVERTY  
Rickard Rakell recently showed he has a future in the NHL. But the Plymouth Whalers are glad to have him back for the rest of this season.

"He knows what he needs to work on to get to the next level, they told him what he needs to work on. He's been great. I think in four games he's plus-11. He's been just outstanding."

**Big-time move**  
That excellence is manifest-

ing itself in various ways, too. During one shift Saturday, Rakell literally skated circles around everybody else on the ice. Another turn featured Rakell's highlight-reel goal, an unassisted tally that made it 2-0 with 14:33 left in the second

Please see **WHALERS, B3**

## GIRLS HOOPS DISTRICTS

## Plymouth holds off pesky Salem

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

All Salem senior Breanne Beaver could do was sit on the sidelines and root her teammates on during Monday's Class A girls basketball district opener against Plymouth.

Beaver sprained an ankle at the end of practice Sunday to effectively end her high school career in unfortunate fashion. But the rest of the Rocks gave the Wildcats all they could handle before Plymouth pulled away in the fourth quarter to post a 33-27 victory.

"I just went up for a putback and I just rolled my ankle coming down," Beaver said, limping around on crutches following the contest at Canton High School.

"It wasn't what I was looking for,

but I couldn't have asked these girls to do anything more. I'm very proud of them."

So was Salem head coach Fred Thomann, whose team finished 10-11.

"There's no doubt not having Bre was a detriment to our team," Thomann said. "She's been our leading rebounder, our leading scorer all season long. Not having her presence on the floor made us change our defense around a little bit. I tell you what, that doesn't subtract from the effort the kids gave. They were wonderful tonight. They competed."

### Finding a way

Even though Plymouth (10-10) moved on to face Canton in

Please see **GIRLS HOOPS, B4**



Salem's Kayla Kavulich (No. 3) and Plymouth's Jada Woody (No. 20), shown from earlier this season, faced each other again in Monday night's Class A districts.

JOHN KEMSKI  
EXPRESS PHOTO



# Another Web! gem

## Wildcat wins 2nd straight individual regional

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

It's deja vu for Plymouth bowler Caitlyn Webb, who Saturday repeated as champion of the Division 1 girls individual regional at Super Bowl in Canton.



Webb

Webb rolled a 1,194 total for the six-game day, starting out with a 276 in her opening game — one pin short of her personal best.

"Coming into it I didn't think I'd do as well as I did," said Webb, a junior making her third straight trip to the D1 individual finals. "Last year, I kind of had the same start. I started off at the top with 200 games, then I slowly made my way down."

"I was excited, I came in very nervous, but I bowled well, I think. She also enjoyed the highest score of the day by any bowler, except for Canton junior Josh Pozan and Salem junior Brandon Allison, who each rolled 276 games.

"I had a mindset com-

ing into it that I just had to focus on my game and my game only and take things one ball at a time," she explained. "That's what I did."

Webb added that she was fired up to represent Plymouth in the individual finals Saturday in Muskegon after the Wildcats missed qualifying as a team on Friday (Plymouth placed fourth with a 3,273 total).

"As a team we had it, but then we lost it," Webb said. "Today, it gave me a lot of motivation to make it on my own. I'm excited for states."

She'll have company from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. Salem seniors Kristin Larkins and Bridget Maul placed fifth and seventh, respectively, with tallies of 1,080 and 1,045, respectively. The top 10 make the cut.

Also qualifying as an individual was Brianna Baily (ninth, 1,001), although she also is going to Muskegon with the rest of the Chiefs thanks to Friday's second-place finish in the team region-

als.

"I just kind of kept calm and took it one shot at a

time," said Larkins, qualifying for the third year in a row.

Salem also will have two boys going to Saturday's individual finals, in Kevin Williams and Allison. Making the cut from Canton were Pozan, Aaron Muskegon and Michael Richards.

Meanwhile, several other PCEP bowlers excelled Saturday even if not qualifying.

In the girls regionals, Salem's Katherine Kehoe scored a 995 total, finishing 11th overall and just three pins shy of 10th place finisher Allison Morris of Ann Arbor Huron.

In 15th and 16th were Plymouth seniors Megan Blank and Jenna Collins (967, 960, respectively). Another senior from the Wildcats, Emily Fraser, came in 18th (954).

Canton senior Charlotte Zimmer registered a total of 944, for 20th overall.

Coming up just short on the boys side were Plymouth senior Zachary Behr (13th, 1,100) and Salem sophomore Tyler Snyder (15th, 1,096).

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## D1 BOWLING REGIONALS



Coaches and bowlers for Salem's varsity boys team celebrate Friday after winning the Division 1 team regional at Super Bowl in Canton, thus qualifying for the state tournament. From left (standing) are assistant coach Glenn Clark, Steven Cadwell, Brandon Allison, Tyler Snyder, Jacob Kurth and head coach Kathie Hahn. Kneeling are seniors Jimmy Bowling (left) and Kevin Williams. Both Williams and Allison also qualified for the D1 individual finals.

## Rocks ready for D1 finals

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

One day after Salem rocked Canton's Super Bowl to capture the Division 1 bowling team regional — and with it a ticket to Muskegon's team finals — the euphoria had yet to wear off for Jimmy Bowling.

"That was great, all the guys worked really hard," said Bowling, shortly after missing the cut on Saturday for the D1 individual finals. "Kevin (Williams) was struggling at the beginning, but at the end he really pulled it out."

"Brandon (Allison), me and Tyler (Snyder) in the last game we all just shot over our heads, and we were just able to put it together as a team."

Bowling wasn't able to qualify in the individuals, finishing 39th at Super Bowl. The top 10 made the cut, including Williams (fourth, 1,158) and Allison (sixth, 1,144).

Yet he was smiling from ear to ear anyway. "We didn't even think we were bowling that good (Friday) until we got to the last game," Bowling continued. "And then it was like, 'We're actually up above everyone by a lot.'"

"We found out the fifth frame of the last game so it really didn't put too much into our heads and we were able to finish strong."

Williams also was pretty pumped about the regional championship. "It was a great feeling," Williams said. "We all had each other's backs when we were struggling and just kept the pace and ended up winning it."

Salem tallied 4,137 pins to beat Novi-Detroit Catholic Center (3,999) and Canton (3,979). The Shamrocks and Chiefs also qualified for the team finals as did the Canton girls team — second with 3,378 pins.

**What they focus on**  
"We strive all year for the regional, we focus on the whole season on that one day," said Glenn Clark, Salem assistant boys bowling coach.



BILL BRESLER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Kevin Williams, who qualified both for the Division 1 team and individual finals, gets set to bowl earlier this season.

"This year it worked out for us, the kids were focused and they stayed focused throughout the whole day. Next week they can go to states, they can relax, they've made the cut."

"Once you're at states anything can happen. I've seen teams go on runs. You don't always see the number one team come out on top."

Expected to line up for the Rocks for Friday's team finals will be Williams, Allison, Bowling, Snyder, Steven Cadwell and Nolan Rudis.

After the 18 teams bowl six Baker and three regular games, the top eight will continue in hopes of claiming the championship trophy.

Canton's boys team is returning to the team finals for a second straight year. In 2012, the Chiefs came up just short of the top prize.

"There were a couple other teams we needed to stay ahead of (to finish third Friday)," said Canton head coach Karl Brubaker. "We were second going into the last game and we had to fight to stay ahead of one of those teams just to make it. So it was good."

Brubaker added that last season's experience could be a plus for the returnees. "I hope they work on what they did last year and get hungry and want that again."

Senior Alex Champagne is one Canton bowler who knows what the drill is.

"It was fun, we had a great last last season and only lost one person," Champagne noted. "Then we came back this year really strong and it was fun to be part of."

"It's really been quite an experience for me, I just can't wait to get back up there. We definitely have the right team right now, the right chemistry."

**They'll be busy**  
Like Salem, the Chiefs will have a busy weekend at Muskegon. Qualifying for Saturday's individual finals were Josh Pozan (second, 1,182), Aaron Madsen (third, 1,179) and Michael Richards (10th, 1,119).

Pozan, who finished second behind Brighton's Joseph Wanserski, tallied a 276 in his sixth game to share honors for the top game of the day — along with Salem's Allison and, in the girls individual regional, by Plymouth's Caitlyn Webb.

"I like the team (accomplishment) more," Pozan said. "Bowling's a team sport, but if I can do good at individuals then that's more on top of it."

"I just kept it together today. I didn't shoot too good in the beginning, but I kept it together and then in the last game I bowled a 276."

As for Canton's girls team, qualifying as a unit was a first.

"It's just so hard to think we're going to states," Canton head coach Cindy Lucke said. "The girls are just so excited right now. I'm just trying to get them to keep a level head going forward."

Lucke is the first girls bowling team from the Park to make the finals. Lucke pointed to the strong efforts turned in Friday by Kimberley A'Hearn, Charlotte Zimmer and Bri Bailey — who all bowled over 500.

"Actually Bri just made it to states as an individual today also, in ninth place (with a 1,001 total)," Lucke said. "I'm very proud of her, too."

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## PREP BOWLING RESULTS

### MHSAA REGIONAL SINGLES BOYS BOWLING RESULTS

#### DIVISION 1

##### Feb. 23 at Super Bowl

###### (top 10 qualify for state)

Individual winner: Joseph Wanserski (Brighton), 1,242 pins

(254 high game).

Canton scores: 2. Josh Pozan, 1,182 (276 high); 3. Aaron Madsen, 1,179 (225 high); 10. Michael Richards, 1,119 (232 high); 36. Alex Champagne, 990 (223 high); 50. Gary Barnett, 923 (179 high).

Plymouth scores: 13. Zachary Behr, 1,050 (214 high); 24. Ryan Ryan, 1,050 (197 high); 31. Evan Grimes, 1,010 (213 high); 46. Charlie Anderson, 948 (186 high); 65. Jordan Orzech, 818 (177 high).

Salem scores: 4. Kevin Williams, 1,158 (212 high); 5. Brandon Allison, 1,144 (276 high); 15. Tyler Snyder, 1,096 (212 high); 28. Steven Cadwell, 1,025 (225 high); 34. Nolan Rudis, 995 (201 high); 39. Jimmy Bowling, 985 (205 high).

#### DIVISION 2

##### Feb. 23 at Oak Lanes

###### (top 10 qualify for state)

Individual winner: Chandler Lowrey (Warren Regional), 1,125 (233 high).

Livonia Ladywood scores: 8. Sabine Mutter, 1,007 (204 high); 28. Veronica Estigoy, 902 (177 high); 30. Rebecca Wildt, 823 (Shelby Fielding, 887 (169 high); 41. Alexandra Morris, 864 (181 high); 61. Kailyn Delonis, 777 (165 high).

#### DIVISION 2

##### Feb. 23 at Oak Lanes

###### (top 10 qualify for state)

Individual winner: Caitlyn Webb (Plymouth), 1,194 (276 high).

Other Plymouth scores: 15. Megan Blank, 967 (176 high);

16. Jenna Collins, 960 (176 high); 18. Emily Fraser, 954 (176 high); 23. Lauren Vincent, 908 (191 high).

Canton scores: 9. Brianna Baily, 1,001 (214 high); 20. Charlotte Zimmer, 944 (197 high); 28. Jessica Holowicki, 891 (172 high); 33. Kimberly A'Hearn, 857 (165 high).

Salem scores: 5. Kristin Larkins, 1,080 (188 high); 7. Bridget Maul, 1,045 (184 high); 11. Katherine Kehoe, 995 (212 high); 40. Rachel Buchta, 823 (185 high); 47. Bryanna Samuels, 798 (156 high); 50. Rachel Lopez, 750 (153 high).

#### DIVISION 2

##### Feb. 23 at Oak Lanes

###### (top 10 qualify for state)

Individual winner: Chandler Lowrey (Warren Regional), 1,125 (233 high).

Livonia Ladywood scores: 8. Sabine Mutter, 1,007 (204 high); 28. Veronica Estigoy, 902 (177 high); 30. Rebecca Wildt, 823 (Shelby Fielding, 887 (169 high); 41. Alexandra Morris, 864 (181 high); 61. Kailyn Delonis, 777 (165 high).

#### DIVISION 2

##### Feb. 23 at Oak Lanes

###### (top 10 qualify for state)

Individual winner: Caitlyn Webb (Plymouth), 1,194 (276 high).

Other Plymouth scores: 15. Megan Blank, 967 (176 high);

Conor Weber; Canton: Aaron Madsen, Alex Champagne.

Salem: Steven Cadwell, Kevin Williams; Grand Blanc: Travis Larkins; Northville: Ryan Kesla, Shilomo Hurns; Waterford: Matt Riley; McNabb: South Lyon East: Cameron Dismore, Alex Franz; Waterford Kettering: Bryce Litwack, Matt Hartl, Jeremy Glenz; South Lyon: Tyler Marcus; Hartland: Matt Willis; Brighton: Will Shaffran; Howell: Steven Golin; Spencer Ledeman, Jack Herdell.

#### 2012-13 KENSINGTON LAKES

##### ALL-CONFERENCE

###### GIRLS BOWLING TEAM

John Glenn: Julia Huren, Olivia Cabalo; Wayne: Christina O'Harris; Plymouth: Kristin Larkins; Novi: Sara Schulz; Walled Lake Western: Madalen Klein, Kelly Lyttendale; Waterford: Matt Taia Harden, Mistra Land; Grand Blanc: Samantha Hank; Howell: Victoria Clawing; Canton: Katherine Kehoe; Ashley Bickel, Kara Krolkowski, Kelly Hornby; Brianna Palachio; South Lyon: Katie Allen, Morgan Hatten; Walled Lake Northern: Nicole Dillon; Brighton: Shannon Miller; Waterford Kettering: Brittney Antonelli.

#### 2012-13 KENSINGTON LAKES

##### ALL-CONFERENCE

###### BOYS BOWLING TEAM

John Glenn: Steven White, Mike Ruzum; Wayne: Shane Rambaldo, Kody Wojewski;



DAVID WISNIEWSKI PHOTO

## A 'Force' to be reckoned with

The Plymouth-Canton Force sixth-grade basketball team went 3-0 on Saturday to win the Dundee Winter Blast Tournament held at Dundee High School. The Force defeated travel teams from Jackson, Manchester and Dundee. Pictured are (front row from left) Zach Opris, Curtis Moore, Jake Arnold, Luke Jakubik, Ethan Locke (back row from left) Ben Wright, Liam Radomski, Connor Greg Locke, Devin Wisniewski, Ryan Berger, Andrew Wyllie and coach Jeff Arnold.

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### Local talent scores

Katie Zimmerman of Plymouth posted two goals and assisted on another to help spark Hamilton College of the NESAC to a 5-4 overtime win against Colby College on Feb. 17 at Hamilton's Russell Sage Field.

Zimmerman (Salem) is the first Hamilton wom-

en's hockey player to score 20 goals in a season since Stephanie Miguel tallied 21 in 2008-09. Zimmerman led the NESAC with 20 goals and 29 points.

The Continentals (13-10 overall, 7-8 NESAC) tied the program record for wins in a season. Hamilton also won 13 games in 2002-03. The Continentals have won six of the last sev-

en games against Colby, including 3-1 on home Saturday night, and lead the all-time series, 13-12-3.

Hamilton tied for fifth place with Connecticut College in the conference standings and will be the No. 6 seed for the NESAC championship. The Continentals travel to No. 1 seed Amherst College in the quarterfinals on Saturday, Feb. 23, at a time to be determined.

Jacob Colley (Livonia Stevenson) and Sean Larson (Plymouth) are among 23 high school seniors from the Michigan to be awarded the Chick Evans Caddie Scholarship, a full tuition and housing college scholarship.

Evans Scholars are golf caddies who were selected based on four criteria: Strong caddie record, excellent academics, demonstrated financial need and outstanding character.

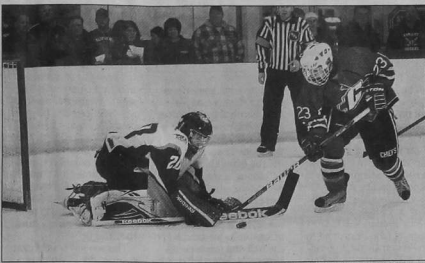
Colley and Larson, sponsored by Western Golf and Country Club (Redford) and Meadowbrook Country Club (Northville), respectively, received scholarships to either University of Michigan or Michigan State University. The scholarship is valued at more than \$70,000 over four years.

Also awarded a scholarship was Redford's Jonathan Marzade, a senior at Washington Technical Middle College sponsored by Oakland Hills Country Club. The Western Golf Asso-

ciation, headquartered in Golf, Illinois, has sponsored the Chick Evans Scholarship Program through the Evans Scholars Foundation since 1930. It is among the nation's largest privately funded scholarship programs.

In Michigan, the Golf Association of Michigan co-sponsors the program with the WGAFESF. Recipients were chosen after individual candidate interviews. Additional scholarships may be awarded in the spring.

## Area high school seniors win caddie scholarships



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fending off Canton forward Christian Flack (No. 23) during Monday's game is Plymouth netminder Jared Maddock.

## ICERS

Continued from page B1

"I think in the third period we just came out and played hockey," Vento said. "When we do that, we're usually pretty successful...worry about the task at hand of winning the hockey game. That's why we were able to put together a good third period."

"We were looking for too many of them (hits) the first and second periods. Give Canton credit, they played a solid game and had us on the ropes for a while."

Canton had several opportunities to make it a one-goal game in the first few minutes of the third, only to be stymied by Plymouth sophomore goalie Jared Maddock (17 saves).

Then came the clincher for Plymouth, as sophomore forward Josh Smith (one goal, one assist) redirected a shot taken from the right corner by senior forward Spencer Godin, who had three assists. Also assisting was senior forward Mitch Claggett (two assists).

## Balanced attack

Wrapping up the scoring was senior forward Thomas Kelly, who jammed a rebound past Kolbicz. Setting up the goal were junior forward Charlie Superio and Godin.

"We had Kelly get one for us, which was nice to see," Vento said. "To have five different goal scorers is big."

A similar goalmouth scrum resulted in the game's first goal, by Nick Schultz, less than four minutes into the contest.

Kolbicz kept it a one-goal game into the first intermission with some solid stops, including a quick snag of Gunther's drive taken from above the right circle following a faceoff.

The Chiefs finally tied the game at 1-1 with 14:22 left in the second. Senior forward and captain Matt Cox centered a pass in front to junior forward Cooper Rice, who one-timed it through Maddock.

But just two minutes later, the Wildcats answered on a similar play. Mike Schultz snapped a shot past Kolbicz after receiving a

perfect feed from Nick Schultz. Starting the play was Claggett.

A string of penalties followed, not to mention plenty of heavy hits. Canton sophomore forward Tommy Kiddie went head-over-skates on an open-ice check by Plymouth's Jake Zaborowski and did not return.

Just when it looked as though the teams would end the period at 2-1, Gunther sent his seemingly harmless shot toward — and ultimately into — the Canton net.

Drawing the lone assist was Mike Scarpello, called up from the Plymouth Prep team along with Corey Smith.

It was a disappointing end for Majszak and the Chiefs, but he gave kudos to how his team competed.

"There's a good core group of seniors here who wanted it," Majszak said. "But we started off the year kind of slow, they got better and better, everyone's improved, and we made that a game. It was a lot closer than the other two games we played them."

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Plymouth Whalers forward Rickard Rakell (No. 24) scores against Sarnia goalie Nick Dawe (No. 11) during Saturday's OHL game at Compuware Arena. At right are Plymouth's Sebastian Uvira (No. 19) and Sarnia's Tyler Howe (No. 5).

## WHALERS

Continued from page B1

period. The marker gave him 19 for the season.

"I saw he (Sarnia's defenseman) was backing down a little bit," said Rakell, describing his unassisted goal that made it 2-0 in the second period. "And (Plymouth forward) Sebastian Uvira was driving to the net really hard. So I just tried to get over and create some space on the other side. That went really well."

Talk about an understatement.

Rakell, who played four scoreless games with Anaheim but still displayed flashes of big-league skill and composure, later set up Plymouth's fourth goal of the game — by longtime linemate and Ottawa Senators prospect Stefan Noesen (for his 22nd of the season).

It was a dirty goal, where players crashed the Sarnia crease before the puck bounced off Noesen's skate past Sting goalie Nick Dawe.

Also scoring for the Whalers were forward Tom Wilson (Plymouth High School grad) and center Mitchell Heard,

who also missed a large chunk of the season playing for Lake Erie of the American Hockey League.

Collecting two assists was defenseman Austin Levi (Farmington Hills), whose steady play in the Plymouth zone helped netminder Alex Nedeljkovic (20 saves) earn his first OHL shutout.

"I've lost the past three or four weeks has been outstanding," Eiland said. "But as a group they're very smart guys that play well together. They keep it simple."

"They're great at penalty killing and there's nothing flashy back there but you don't see many mistakes out of them as a group."

## Tougher to stop

But for as well as the defense goals are playing, it is up front where the Plymouth could really make teams pay down the stretch and into the postseason.

According to Eiland, getting Rakell back from the Ducks is solidifying an already deep squad at the perfect time — with the playoffs just a few weeks away.

"That's what we thought we'd have when we got

everybody back and got it going," Eiland said. "We have three solid lines and even last night (against Windsor) our fourth line, Cody Payne had a hat trick. So, even the fourth line there's a lot of competition in practice. Everybody knows that they're fighting for ice, it's a good thing right now."

Rakell also noted the fact that the Whalers are a deeper team than when he left for the Anaheim camp following the end of the NHL lockout.

That lineup is fortified by the January acquisitions of Uvira, center Vince Trocheck (39 points in 19 games with Plymouth) and Zach Lorentz.

"I think we have three or four good lines," Rakell said. "But really three lines that the other teams, I think they're going to have a hard time to know what line they're going to put up against."

"We really have three first lines. If they put up their best line against one of our lines, we have two other lines or three other lines that can score goals."

It's an OHL fact of life that opponents are finding out every night.

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## CONFERENCE SWIM MEET

# Tankers make waves at KLAA meet

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

KLAA Central Division teams dominated the Kensington Conference boys swim meet at Novi High School, taking the top five spots.

In fifth place with 552 points was Salem.

"Overall, we had a real good meet," Rocks head coach Chuck Olson said. "We improved on all our relay state cuts there, so that's good."

Olson also said that with first-place Livonia Stevenson (919.5), Northville (834.5), Novi (680), South Lyon (654) and Salem in spots 1-5 "it was pretty much our division dominating again."

Don't say that to Plymouth's first-year head coach Ken Forbes, however. The young Wildcats of the KLAA South Division had an excellent showing and placed sixth overall with 347 points.

"I feel like we had a great conference meet," Forbes noted. "We took sixth overall and qualified in the 200 free relay for state, which also set our school record (1:32.14)."

"We are trying for several state cuts on Thursday at Northville."

The Plymouth quartet of seniors Cameron Earls, Nick Weber, Alex Wilson and sophomore Ryan Heinze not only set a new school mark in the 200 free relay, they also made the cut for the March 8-9 D1 finals in Holland.

Forbes said that the Wildcats will look to turn their state cut Thursday in the 200 medley relay, 400 free relay, 200 IM, 50 free, 100 fly and 100 free events.

## Raising the bar

Regardless of how many do qualify, Forbes



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Garrett Beaupre, swimming the 200 free earlier this season, finished 16th at the KLAA Kensington Conference meet with a time of 1:54.96.

said it has been an almost textbook kind of season.

"This season was one that could have been from a movie script with an all-star cast," Forbes said. "The team came together every day and continued to outdo themselves."

"I can't wait to see where we get to next year with the talent we currently have."

The returning swimmers, who didn't blink twice when Forbes integrated high-octane dryland workouts into the pre-season script, apparently can't wait either.

Forbes also said he almost can't believe that his team "on the day of conference finals they told me they want to raise the intensity level (of dryland workouts) next year because of how well they did this year."

## Plenty of options

The Rocks also have a lot to look forward to in 2013-14, but first on the agenda is the state meet.

Olson said senior Jason Zhang, still getting back to 100 percent after a bout with the flu, will participate in two individual events and two relays. It still needs to be decided

which events Zhang will swim in among the 200 IM, 100 fly, 100 free, 500 free and 100 back.

Senior Turner Soltermann, already a qualifier in the 100 breast, earned another state cut in the 500 free with a time of 4:57.16 (fifth place).

"And then (junior) Matt Pairitz got his cut in the 100 free," said Olson, adding that Pairitz placed sixth (49.16).

The 400-free relay quartet of seniors Lynch, Zhang and juniors Jason Basanese and Pairitz also will swim in Holland. They finished fourth at the conference meet with a time of 3:18.56 (the state cut is 3:23).

A number of other Salem swimmers are on the cusp of making the trek to the finals, he said.

"We're still considering who to put on the relays, we have a number of candidates," Olson continued. "It's good having that kind of flexibility and we'll just figure out who is swimming the best."

Canton finished eighth out of the 11 teams at Novi, with a total of 164 points.

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## BOYS SWIM RESULTS

Adam Stone (LS), 2:03.31; 6. Nick Hayes (NVille), 2:03.57; 7. Scott Wang (NVille), 2:03.78; 8. Mikhail Wisman (LS), 2:06.48.

**50 freestyle:** 1. Jackson O'Dowd (LS), 21.88; 2. Andrew Ao (Novi), 22.16; 3. Gucci Onimura (Novi), 22.44; 4. Jake Goeddecke (LS), 22.48; 5. Andrew Westphal (NVille), 22.49; 6. Sam Boyea (NVille), 22.73; 7. Vinny Rosnoli (Novi), 22.77; 8. Justin Larkins (LF), 23.12.

**1-meter diving:** 1. Alex Canadi (LS), 41.04; 2. Ethan Burke (LS), 35.26; 3. Ethan Schmitt (CL), 33.65; 4. Jacob Lantz (LS), 33.35; 5. Matt Meadows (LS), 31.19; 6. Levi Oxner (LS), 31.10; 7. Eric Host (Novi), 30.55; 8. Anton Travis (NVille), 29.25; 9. Connor McManus (PF), 28.00; 10. Zach Bartoloe (Salem), 22.90.

**100 butterfly:** 1. Vincent Miller (LS), 51.59; 2. Bischoff (LS), 51.33; 3. Dennis Kim (Novi), 50.40; 4. David Padshak (LS), 50.59; 5. Cameron Earls (PF), 50.76; 6. Frank Zhang (NVille), 50.92; 7. Jerry Bai (Salem), 50.53; 8. Ryan Perczak (LS), 50.53.

**100 freestyle:** 1. Arakelian (LS), 47.02; 2. Ao (Novi), 47.65; 3. O'Dowd (LS), 48.16; 4. Wilkinson (LS), 48.3; 5. Westphal (NVille), 48.35; 6. Matt Pairitz (Salem), 49.16; 7. Boyea (NVille), 50.49; 8. Alex Lee (LS), 50.53.

**500 freestyle:** 1. Laporte (LS), 4:48.62; 2. Ruggiero (LS), 4:54.79; 3. Burt (NVille), 4:55.18; 4. Grant McNa-

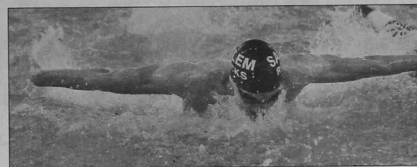
mara (LS), 4:55.66; 5. Turner Soltermann (Salem), 4:57.16; 6. Sergio Reyes (NVille), 5:00.41; 7. Charles Liu (Salem), 5:00.75; 8. Eric Ferrara (LS), 5:02.31.

**200 freestyle relay:** 1. Novi (Onimura, Rosnoli, Kim, Ao), 1:28.52; 2. Northville (1:29.73); 3. Salem (Matt Pairitz, McManis, Bai, Jason Basanese), 1:30.57; 4. Stevenson, 1:31.09; 5. South Lyon, 1:31.22; 6. Plymouth (Earls, Weber, Ryan Heinze, Wilson), 1:32.16; 7. John Glenn, 1:34.26; 8. Wayne, 1:35.63.

**100 backstroke:** 1. Ferrara (LS), 1:11.11 (meet record); 2. Parker Belmore (LS), 54.95; 3. Zhang (Salem), 55.42; 4. Onimura (Novi), 55.58; 5. Goeddecke (LS), 55.78; 6. Nick Vento (LS), 57.52; 7. Patrick Casey (Salem), 57.87; 8. Gordy Williams (Novi), 58.03.

**100 breaststroke:** 1. McManara (LS), 1:00.79; 2. Soltermann (Salem), 1:01.34; 3. Stone (LS), 1:02.36; 4. Josh Liu (NVille), 1:02.77; 5. Larkins (LF), 1:02.85; 6. Yash Bai (NVille), 1:03.42; 7. Chris Geng (NVille), 1:03.68; 8. Alan Ruan (NVille), 1:03.71.

**400 freestyle relay:** 1. Stevenson (Arakelian, O'Dowd, Belmore, J. Ferrara), 3:12.13 (meet record); 2. Novi, 3:16.75; 3. Northville, 3:17.91; 4. Salem (Dann Lynch, Basanese, Pairitz, Zhang), 3:18.56; 5. South Lyon, 3:21.5; 6. John Glenn, 3:35.3; 7. Plymouth (Benjamin Yang, Beaupre, Alex Johnson, Wilson), 3:35.5; 8. Wayne, 3:37.0.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem senior Turner Soltermann, shown in this file photo, already earned his state cut in the 100 breaststroke. He also qualified for the 500 freestyle with a fifth-place finish at last week's Kensington Conference meet.

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### 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 \$45. For more information, visit [www.miyaa.org](http://www.miyaa.org) or e-mail [info@miyaa.org](mailto:info@miyaa.org).

## GIRLS HOOPS

Continued from page B1

a game scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday (after this issue of the *Observer* went to press). Wildcats head coach Bob de Bear sounded more relieved than happy with the victory.

"If cats get nine lives, we definitely used one tonight," de Bear said. "Our kids found a way to win somehow and I'm OK with that. Paige Slominski made some clutch free throws tonight to seal the deal. She also had some time also (and) is playing at a high level for us right now."

"I think Salem played great defense tonight. They really rebounded the ball and they were without some of their key players."

Wildcats junior center Shelby Cheston proved to be a thorn in Salem's collective side, with six points in the paint along with 11 rebounds and two blocks while forcing the Rocks to the outside much of the game. Salem managed to connect on just 9-of-43 field-goal attempts.

Plymouth wasn't much more successful, connecting on just 12-of-33 from the floor.

"We told our guys, if you're going to go in there you have to give a little up fake, to get her (Cheston) off her feet a little bit," Thomann said. "Or shoot the perimeter shot a little bit. We shot a few and didn't make them and got it inside, but didn't

make it to the rim. She was definitely a factor in the game."

Also playing a solid game for Plymouth was junior forward Jada Woody, with 10 points, four boards and two steals.

Junior point guard Kylie Robb tallied five points along with two steals, while sophomore Slominski chipped in with six points, three rebounds and three blocks. Sophomore Leah Kliczinski scored four.

Salem players picking up the slack with Beaver being sidelined were sophomore forward Shara Long (nine points, 10 rebounds), junior wing guard Kelly Whalen (nine points), junior point guard Kayla Kavulich (five points, two assists) and sophomore guard Jamyra Wilson (four points, 10 rebounds, three steals).

The teams came out and played a spirited first quarter, which concluded in an 11-11 dead-lock thanks to a layup at the horn by Plymouth's Kliczinski (on a nice dribble-and-dish by Robb).

Salem's offense sputtered in the second quarter, managing just a jumper by Long in the opening minute and two foul shots by Whalen with 5:30 to go to put the Rocks up 15-14.

### Take it inside

Plymouth didn't exactly take advantage of that cold snap, but did manage an 18-15 halftime lead thanks to a pair of Cheston layups.

"It's always our game plan to go inside (to

Cheston)," de Bear said. "But they took that away a little bit. They did a nice job of helping."

The Wildcats led for much of the third, but the Rocks would not go quietly.

A jumper by Kavulich sliced the deficit to 22-20 with three minutes left and Long tied things up at 22-22 with two free throws with about 90 seconds remaining.

Then with a half minute to go, Whalen's layup (on an assist from Wilson) made it a 24-22 Salem lead going into the fourth.

But it was almost as though a switch was flipped between quarters, because Salem's offense went into a deep freeze for the first 6-42 of the fourth.

Layups by Cheston, Woody and a stop-and-pop jumper from inside the paint by Robb put Plymouth up 28-24 with 4:25 left in regulation.

The scoreboard didn't change until Salem finally scored with 1:18 remaining. The Wildcats threw the ball away and that led to Whalen's driving layup-and-one to make it 28-27.

Several trips into the Plymouth end of the floor went unrewarded for the Rocks, either unable to hit open shots or get close to the rim due to the defense of Cheston and others.

Plymouth then closed out the victory, making 5-of-6 foul shots in the final minute—three by Slominski and two by Woody.

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## MU downs Davenport for first WHAC title

By Brad Emmons  
Observer Staff Writer

The Madonna University men's basketball team cut down the nets on a snowy Tuesday night in Grand Rapids, earning their first-ever Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference championship in school history with a 72-58 win over host Davenport.

The second-seeded Crusaders, who improved to 26-8 overall, got a game-high 22 points, including six triples, from three-point marksman Travis Schuba.

Fellow junior guard Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson), the WHAC Player of the Year, also chipped in with nine points and seven assists.

Junior forwards Fred Williams and Derek Lennen also scored nine apiece, while freshman Alex Bedan came up with a critical eight points off the bench.

The 15th-ranked Crusaders beat the top-seeded Panthers (27-6), ranked No. 8 in the latest NAIA Division II coaches poll, for the third time this season.

"We played pretty tough," MU coach Noel Emehiser said. "Early in

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

the game we gave them some offensive opportunities on the offensive glass, but after we did a great job a majority of the game keeping them off the offensive boards.

"I thought we did a great job of fighting for loose balls and fighting for rebounds, and giving ourselves a chance. And offensively, we worked the ball and made some shots. We defended pretty hard, we rebounded and we had a great crowd."

Madonna led 37-32 at the half and never trailed during the final 20 minutes although Davenport tied it at 39-all with 17:21 to go on a layup by Domine Burnett, who led the Panthers with 15 points.

JaVontae Ford added 12 points and 12 rebounds, while Derek Brooks also added 12 for Davenport. But the Panthers shot only 19-of-67 from the floor, including 4-of-23 from three-point range.

As the clock wound down, Emehiser couldn't help reflect after going 7-23 in his first season (2009-10) and 8-22 (2010-11) in his second as head coach.

"A lot of different emo-

tions... I'm really proud of our guys, especially those guys that came in based on a vision," he said. "There was no visual evidence that they could do what I told them they could do. They believed in us. They came in and changed the culture. I think that's the thing that really sticks with me the most is that these guys came in to change Madonna... and they did it."

The season is far from over as the Crusaders will learn Wednesday night who they will face in the opening round of the NAIA National Tournament, beginning March 6 at the College of the Ozarks in Branson, Mo.

"We're going to try and get the proper amount of rest and just enough practice," Emehiser said. "We don't want to overdo it, but at the same time that mental toughness, that edge, is going to be the difference between success and failure at the next tournament. We're excited about the opportunity and challenge of staying sharp. We know it's not going to be easy."

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## BOYS HOOPS

Continued from page B1

rebounds. Contributing six points and six boards was senior Scott Gring.

After the first quarter, Canton (14-6) held a slim 12-11 advantage and upped that edge to 24-22 at halftime.

A defensive struggle in the third, with the teams combining for 15 points, set up the final eight minutes of regulation with the Chiefs still in front.

Reddy was not available for comment by press time.

Next up for Canton is Monday's Class A districts at Northville. The Chiefs will face Salem at 5 p.m.

**PLYMOUTH 39, MILFORD 31:** In a KIAA consolation bracket matchup Tuesday night, Plymouth (9-11) continued its strong recent play with this victory over Milford (11-9).

Leading the Wildcats were Brendan Swanson and Josh Pribe, who scored 12 and 10 points, respectively. Hauling down five rebounds for the

victors was Brian Schmid. "It was an ugly game to say the least," Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup said. "I thought the first team to 35 points would have a good chance to win and that's what happened."

Plymouth will return to action Monday at the Northville-hosted districts against the Mustangs. Tip-off is at 7 p.m.

**SFIELD CHRISTIAN 72, PCA 58:** Host Plymouth Christian Academy (10-8) could not contain Southfield Christian in Tuesday's MIAC-Blue boys basketball game. The Eagles were Mick Noel and Daniel Jipping, with 15 and 11 points, respectively.

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## RELIGION CALENDAR

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

## February

## MASS, PIZZA &amp; MASS CLASS

**Time/Date:** Starts at 6 p.m. with dinner and class at 6:30 p.m., every Thursday during Lent.

**Location:** St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland

**Details:** Everyone is welcome

**Contact:** (734) 721-5023

## 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. Darlene Lane 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

## March

## AUCTION

**Time/Date:** 12:30-2 p.m. March 10

**Location:** Redford Aldersgate United Methodist, 10000 Beech Daily, Redford Township

**Details:** All proceeds go to support the Food4U food bank that distributes food baskets monthly to 40-80 families

**Contact:** (313) 937-3170



Josh Nelson will perform March 22 at Temple Beth El in Bloomfield Hills.

## CONCERT

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 22

**Location:** Temple Beth El

7400 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills

**Details:** Josh Nelson, a popular performer and composer of modern Jewish music, performs. The concert is free and no reservations are required

**Contact:** (248) 851-1100, Ext. 3150

## DISCUSSION GROUP

**Time/Date:** Ministries shown 8-10 p.m. Sunday, March 3-31; discussion from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 28

**Location:** Kenwood Church, 20200 Meridian, Livonia

**Details:** The church will offer a discussion group on the History Channel miniseries, "The Bible"

**Contact:** (248) 472-8222

## 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

## LENTEN SERVICE

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

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

**Details:** Topics for the Wednesday night program are: "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; belch@gmail.com

## LENTEN SERVICE

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

**Location:** Lorik Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Lincoln, 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. supper followed by service at 7:30 p.m. Monday

**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

## 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 Meridian, 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>

**Contact:** The Rev. Jim King at (248) 422-0010

## PARTY PLANNING

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, March 17

**Location:** Temple Beth El's Handman Hall, 7400 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills

**Details:** Photographers, party planners, florists, DJs, videographers, caterers and more will be on hand at this party planning showcase sponsored by the Beth El Sisterhood. Experts will present tips, demonstrations and ideas for having a party everyone will remember. An added feature this year will be a bridal fashion show at noon in the Temple's sanctuary presented at no charge by Roma Sposa.

Visitors to the free event can sample foods and win prizes. All in attendance will receive a complimentary directory of exhibitors

**Contact:** (248) 865-0633

## Ongoing

**CLASSES/STUDY**

**Men's Bible study**

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

**Location:** Kirby's Covey Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

**Contact:** John Shulenberg at (734) 464-9491

**New Life Community Church**

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

**Location:** 42200 Tyler, Belleville

**Contact:** (313) 534-8615

**Our Lady of Loretto**

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

**Location:** Six Mile and Beech Daily, Redford

**Details:** Scripture study

**Contact:** (313) 534-9000

## Passages

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



**DAMME, CHARLES A.**

Age 86, of Farmington, February 22, 2013. Charles was born in Detroit in 1926, graduated from Catholic Central High School in 1944, attended the University of Notre Dame and Michigan State University, graduating with a B.A. in forestry in 1948. A veteran of WWII and Korea, he served 33 years in the US Navy active duty and reserves, retiring as a commander at NAF Detroit in 1977. He joined the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority as a park ranger in 1953, and was named Superintendent of Kensington Metropark in 1968. He retired in 1986. Married to Madeleine for 44 years. Charles is survived by his children, Daniel and Gretchen, and brother, Brother Frank Damme, SM. Funeral: Mass Thursday, February 28, 10 a.m. (instate 9:30 a.m.) at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, 23615 Power Road, Farmington. Interment: Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Detroit. Memorial gifts suggested to the American Heart Association, heart.org

Arrangements entrusted to the Henry-Sundquist Funeral Home, downtown Farmington (484-544-5200). [hearysundquist.com](http://hearysundquist.com)

**FARLE, JULIE**

Age 78, of Farmington, Feb. 28, 2013. Beloved wife of the late Watson Dear. Mother of JoAnn (Larry) Burke, Brenda (Don) Kolehmainen, Watson H. Jr. (Natalie) and the late Elaine and Luther. Grandmother of 7. Great grandmother of 11. Sister of Shelby, Delmer, Nathaniel, Henrietta, Henry, Randall, Mary Lou, Jane, Mitchell and the late Richard and Dorcas. Visitation Thursday 1-4pm with an evening service. Funeral service Friday 10am at the John N. Santas & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inlander Rd. (between Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill) Garden City. Family suggest memorials to the March of Dimes. [www.santassfuneralhome.com](http://www.santassfuneralhome.com)



**HESS, MARY LOUISE**

Age 89, February 22, 2013. Beloved wife of the late George Dear. Mother of John (Becky), Matthew and Miriam (Eric) Rasmussen. Loving grandmother of Jeremy, Eric, Ashley, Katherine and Jennifer. Sister of the late Elizabeth Dicks. Former Dearborn Public School teacher at McDonald Elementary from 1962-1985. Member of American Association of University Women (AAUW). Longtime member of Cherry Hill Baptist Church. Visitation Saturday at 10am until an 11am Memorial Service at Cherry Hill Baptist Church, 1045 N. Gully, Dearborn Heights (between Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill). [www.santassfuneralhome.com](http://www.santassfuneralhome.com)



**MCINTYRE, JAMES S.**

Age 89 of Redford, Michigan. Beloved husband of Emily (Katy) for 63 years. Loving father of Bill (Maureen) McIntyre, Jeanne (Tom) Short, Jim (Rajpoot) Kotzen, McIntyre, John McIntyre, and Dave (Jill) McIntyre. Dear grandfather of Bill Jr., Beth, Larry, Valerie, Vicki, Avery, Elaine, Fannie, Kate, and Mary. Great grandfather of 11. Brother of William (Donna) and Donald (Alison) McIntyre. James served in the U.S. Army Air Corp as a young man and then went to work at Detroit Edison. He retired after 33 years. Visitation Thursday 5-8 pm with Service 11:00 am Friday at Charles R. Step Funeral Home, 18425 Beech Daily (between 6 & 7 Mile). Interment Oakland Hills Cemetery. Contributions to Children's Hospital in Detroit appreciated. Condolences to [charleststepfuneralhome.com](http://charleststepfuneralhome.com)

**THOMANN, BEATRICE L.**

Age 95, February 7, 2013. Beloved wife of the late Elmer J. Loving mother of Gloria J. (Gary) Shelton, Frederick J. (Thomas) and the late David G. Thomann. Dearest grandmother of Tanya (Joan Zdan) Thomann. Mrs. Thomann was a former employee of The Henry Ford and a member of Nemada. A memorial service will be held Sunday, March 3, 2013, 1:00 pm at the Weise Funeral Home, 7210 Park Ave., Allen Park, MI 48101 (313) 382-1150. Visiting will begin at 11 a.m. Memorial contributions can be made to the Berkley Education Foundation, 14700 W. Lincoln, Oak Park, MI 48237 or the Educational Excellence Foundation for Plymouth/Canton Community Schools.

454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170. Please see our online obituary guestbook at [www.weisefuneralhome.com](http://www.weisefuneralhome.com)



**YORK, BARBARA J.**

Feb. 24, 2013, Age 75 of Garden City. Beloved wife of Clifford Dear. Mother of Daniel. Loving grandmother of Nathan. Sister of Thelma Bigos. Funeral at the Uth Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland Thru 10am. Family will receive friends Wed. 2-9pm. Please visit and sign a tribute at [www.uthfunh.com](http://www.uthfunh.com)

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>UNITY WORLDWIDE MINISTRIES</b></p> <p><b>Friends of Unity</b> 774 North Sheldon Road Plymouth, MI (Plymouth Community Arts Building) <a href="http://www.friendsunity.org">www.friendsunity.org</a></p> <p>Donna Jenkins and Jack Prosser, 914 N. Florence Drive, Livonia 48150 <b>734.454.0015</b> <a href="http://www.friendsunity.org">www.friendsunity.org</a></p>			
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</b></p> <p><b>Antioch Lutheran Church</b> 13 Mile &amp; Farmington Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 <a href="http://www.antiochela.org">www.antiochela.org</a></p> <p>Lenten Mid Week Services Wednesdays through March 20 1 and 7:00 p.m. Sunday Worship Services at 8:00 and 11 a.m. Open Holy Communion at all services</p>			

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

# Canine sports raise excitement level at annual dog show

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

The Spring Loaded Flyball Team lives up to its name.

Its athletes run so fast they nearly blur as they make their way up and down a 51-foot relay course, soaring over jumps and catching balls shot from a spring-loaded box.

Any dog that loves to run and fetch a tennis ball is a candidate for the canine sport of flyball, but Spring Loaded team members are among some of the best in the world.

"Our top team is one of the fastest in the world," said Lee Heighton, who has been involved in the sport since 1998. "Our best time is 15.15 seconds."

Spring Loaded members — both handlers and canine racers — will show off their skills Saturday-Sunday, March 23 at the 110th and 111th annual Detroit Kennel Club (DKC) Dog Shows at Cobo Center, One Washington Blvd., in downtown Detroit. Hours for the show are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8 for children, 3-12 and seniors, 65 and over. A family pass for two adults and two children is available for \$40. Buy tickets at the door with cash only.

Visitors can watch dogs compete in conformation, which judges each entrant against a breed standard; see dogs show off their skills in obedience trials; shop vendor booths; take educational breed seminars; and meet breeders, owners, handlers and



Rock-N-Roll K9s of Novi run an unusual agility course, do tricks and exhibit showmanship.



Pedro, a member of the Spring Loaded Flyball Team, leaps over a hurdle on the flyball course.

dogs up close in an exhibit area. The Detroit shows are "bench," meaning that dogs must be on their assigned benches — with access to the public — when they aren't in the judging ring. Field training, duck herding and pet therapy are

among the many demonstrations planned.

Spring Loaded Flyball Team will bring some of the most exciting action to the shows.

"It's very fast-paced. The crowds love it," Heighton said. "You see a true sport-

ing dog in the sense that they are playing a sport. It's a relay. Each dog runs the course, catches a tennis ball and returns over four jumps. The dogs go in succession."

The first team of four dogs to finish the course without errors wins.

Handlers must have good hand-eye coordination and sense of timing when they release their dogs to run the course.

## Varied dog breeds

Heighton said both purebred and mixed breed dogs compete in flyball.

"We've seen corgis and minpins race. There's a broad variety," Heighton noted. "Some dogs are ready to go into a tournament after a six-week training course. It's dependent on the dog, their natural ability and how quick they adapt to training."

Spring Loaded Flyball Team, which is based in Cass Township, near Richmond, consists of 11 members and their dogs. Heighton said the sport builds confidence in a dog and is good exercise.

Spring Loaded Flyball Team will perform at 10:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2:45 p.m. on Saturday and 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Sunday.

Rock-N-Roll K9s, based in Novi, will bring showmanship and fast-paced fun to the DKC shows at 9:30 a.m., 11:45 a.m., 1:45 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 a.m., noon and 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

"Our show is packed with high energy excitement," said Pam Koons, director. "Everything is done to rock and roll music."

## Dog playground

The 18-year-old organization consists of approximately 50 members and the 130 dogs they teach to do tricks, run an unusual agility course, compete in relay and barrel races, and perform in team routines, including illusions.

"The whole team is like a family. It's a fabulous show. They're spread from Bay City to Canada."

Members train their dogs individually and won't come together for rehearsal as a team until just before the shows this weekend.

"We'll get there early and start rehearsing. We'll pull it all together. There's no stress for the dogs... this is like a playground to the dogs," Koons said. "No dog can do wrong. The audience loves it just as much as if a dog messes up. No handler ever gets upset with a dog. The handlers have a good time and sometimes mess up just to make the audience laugh."

Koons said the group may try a new stunt race routine at the DKC shows. Members will be on hand after each performance to meet the audience, and trading cards of their dogs will be available for \$1 each. For more about the DKC shows, visit [www.detroit-kennelclub.com](http://www.detroit-kennelclub.com).



Kristin Riley of Canton portrays Glinda the witch's handmaiden in the movie, "Oz, The Great and Powerful," opening nationwide March 8.

# Follow the 'yellow brick road' to movie, charity event

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

James Franco, Milla Kunis, Michelle Williams, and Kristin Riley will meet you in the "land of Oz" when the film, *Oz the Great and Powerful*, opens this weekend in theaters nationwide. But only one of them invites you to attend her own movie premiere Saturday, March 9 in Canton.

"I think it's very interesting because it might never come around again," said Riley, 31, a Canton woman who played a Munchkin and handmaiden to witch Glinda in the Sam Raimi film. "I've always wanted to help people, especially my foundation."

The party, "Follow the Yellow Brick Road to Breakfast and a Movie," starts at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Canton Cinema, 43555 Ford Road, in Canton and will benefit the Illinois-based Potentials Foundation, an organization that aids individuals with primordial dwarfism and their families. A person with the disorder has bones and organs of the body that are proportionally smaller than in an average-sized individual. They often require specialized medical and dental care.

Both Riley and her late brother, the children of Cinda and Mike Riley of Canton, were born with primordial dwarfism. Riley, who is 3 1/2-feet-tall, has a form of the disorder called MOOP Type II.

"There are over 300 types of dwarfism. This is one type of primordial dwarfism," said Cinda Riley, adding that the foundation funds medical research and helps bring families together.

"The Potentials Foundation is a support for families. Having the chance to do this fundraiser is exciting to us," said Cinda Riley.

## Food, prizes

The Ancient Order of Hibernians, an Irish Catholic charity organized the movie premiere and fundraiser, which will include breakfast, catered by Dave Hullett of Fat Chef in a Little Coat Catering, prizes donated by local businesses, and the movie screening. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$12 for children. A family rate is available on request.

"We wanted to help the Potentials Foundation. It not only helps with medical and dental referrals but with social networking," said Barbara Weir, a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. "And we're so excited for Kristin."

## Confident on camera

Although Oz is Riley's first feature film, she has appeared on numerous television shows — including with Milla Kunis, Oprah Winfrey, and Tyra Banks — promoting awareness of primordial

dwarfism.

Cinda Riley heard about a casting call for Oz extras while listening to the radio.

"She has been in a lot of documentaries and on talk shows," Cinda Riley noted. "She said 'I think I'm done educating the public.' But when I brought the casting call to her attention, she was excited."

## From extra to actor

Riley, who works as an activities assistant at Walworthwood in Canton, was among hundreds of individuals who attended the casting call. She was hired to be a Munchkin extra, but after filming began at Michigan Motion Picture Studios in Pontiac, was promoted to a role with a few words of dialogue.

"They didn't say why," said Riley, who didn't audition for the part. "They were looking at a lot of people who were 4 feet and 4 1/2 feet. Because I was a little smaller, I guess they liked that."

The Canton High School and Schoolcraft College graduate plays Glinda's confident and right hand girl.

"I had to say one word and run toward the camera," said Riley, recalling a forest scene that required her to interact with one of the flying monkeys. She's bound by contract not to divulge her dialogue.

"We can't even show pictures from the set to people. We weren't even allowed to say to our parents what our part was."

In one scene with Glinda, played by Michelle Williams of *My Week With Marilyn* fame, Riley stood on a tall stool, secured by a wire and harness. It was the closest she got to any stunt work.

"She is a doll. She was so nice," said Riley, recalling time spent with Williams. "She introduced me to her daughter. She was nice, too."

## Meeting a star

Riley said she had a lot of fun getting to know other extras and stunt extras while on the set.

"I was talking with some of the extras once, some of the friends I'd made and James Franco out of nowhere came up and started talking to me," she said. "We talked for a while. He wanted to know what types of movies I liked. Things like that."

Riley stayed in a hotel during the filming, which took place in autumn 2011.

"They put me up in a king-sized bed," Riley said, with a laugh.

Would she take on another movie role if asked?

"Absolutely."

For tickets to "Follow the Yellow Brick Road to Breakfast and a Movie" call Weir at (734) 453-1459 or Cinda Riley at (734) 678-6227 by Monday, March 4.

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## Arts Crafts

## BIRMINGHAM GALLERY

**Time/Date:** Artist reception runs 5-9 p.m. Friday, March 8; show runs 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, through March 15

**Location:** 3372 Woodward Ave., Birmingham

**Details:** The show, "Kateland," features paintings by Kate Paul of Livonia

**Contact:** (248) 792-3375

## 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

**Special program:** Hedar Leslie and Leigh Keno, known to "Antiques Roadshow" fans as the Kenos brothers, will share stories about some of their most important discoveries at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 13. They'll give a behind-the-scenes peek at their work while discussing what makes American furniture so special. Cost is \$15 for the lecture only. Tickets for the lecture, a 5:30 p.m. cocktail reception and a

sit-down dinner at 7:30 p.m., both with the Kenos, are \$125. Tickets are available by calling (313) 833-4005, visiting the DIA box office, or online at [www.tickets.dia.org](http://www.tickets.dia.org).

**Contact:** (313) 833-7900, [www.dia.org](http://www.dia.org)

## GALLERY 90TV

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, March 1-26

**Location:** Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

**Details:** Works by the Ann Arbor Fibers Guild

**Contact:** (734) 394-5308

## LIBERTY STREET BREW PUB

**Time/Date:** Exhibit through March 30; pub hours are 3 p.m.-midnight, Monday-Thursday, 3 p.m.-1 a.m. Friday, 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Saturday, and noon-midnight, Sunday

**Location:** 149 W. Liberty St., Plymouth; Upper Hall Gallery

**Details:** Second annual group show by Art Circle Six. This year's show features the artist challenge "Icons, Myths and Legends"

**Contact:** (734) 207-9600

## NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

**Time/Date:** 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, March 1-30; reception 6-9 p.m. Friday, March 1 with artist's talk at 8 p.m.

**Location:** 215 W. Cady, Northville

**Details:** Works by Dennis Michael Jones of Plymouth. The artist integrates words and objects into simple images

**Contact:** (248) 344-0497



"We're Going on a Bear Hunt" is a musical adventure based on Michael Rosen's award-winning book, at 4 p.m. Sunday, March 3, at Music Hall in Detroit.

## PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and during public events, March 1-31

**Location:** Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

**Details:** "Miracles Among Us," consists of works by Nick Bair

**Contact:** (734) 416-4278

## THREE CITIES ART CLUB

**Time/Date:** 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 Scheewe and Bruce Blitt. The program is free and light refreshments will be served

**Contact:** Marilyn Meredith at (248) 327-3989 or [marilynmeredith@wowway.com](mailto:marilynmeredith@wowway.com)

## Film

## PENN THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 1-2 and 4-5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, March 3

**Location:** 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

**Details:** "Parental Guidance," \$3

**Coming up:** "Les Miserables" will run at 7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 7-8 and 14 and 3:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, March 9-10; "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey," 7 p.m. Friday, March 17 and Thursday, March 21, and 3:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, March 16-17

**Contact:** (734) 453-0870; [www.penntheatre.com](http://www.penntheatre.com)

## REDFOOT THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. March 8 and 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. March 9

**Location:** 17350 Lahser, Detroit

**Details:** See "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory," and meet Peter Ostrum, who played Charlie Bucket, and Paris Themmen, who played Mike Teevee, in the film. They'll autograph photos and customer-provided items at a cost of \$20 and will introduce the film and greet fans. Admission is \$4

**Coming up:** "Easter Parade," starring Judy Garland and Fred Astaire, 8 p.m. March 22 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. March 23; \$4

**Contact:** (313) 537-2560; [www.redfoottheatre.com](http://www.redfoottheatre.com)

## WESTLAND MUR

**Time/Date:** "Wreck It Ralph," March 2-3; "Hotel Transylvania," March 9-10; "Rise of the Guardians," March 16-17; movie times posted the Tuesday before each weekend screening

**Location:** 6800 N. Wayne Road, Westland

**Details:** Free to children, 12 and under; adults pay \$1. No advance ticket sales

**Contact:** (734) 298-2657

## WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER

**Time/Date:** 5:15 p.m. reception, 6 p.m. film, Thursday, March 21

**Location:** U-M Dearborn, 4901 Evergreen, Dearborn

**Details:** See a special screening of the Academy Award nominated documentary, "The Invisible War," a film that exposes the epidemic of sexual assault in the military

**Contact:** (313) 583-6445 or [womensresourcecenter@umich.edu](http://womensresourcecenter@umich.edu)



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Maple syrup isn't just for pancakes.

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Maybury Farm in Northville Township offers tours at 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in March. Boots are a must for these programs that include a hay ride, tree tapping, watching sap fill buckets and a demonstration at the evaporator. The farm's Welcome Center also will have maple syrup and maple syrup products for sale. Maybury Farm is located at 50165 Eight Mile. For more information, call the farm Monday-Thursday at (248) 374-0200.

At Kensington Metropark in Milford, learn all about "Maple's Sweet Story," in a guided tour of the sugar bush. Tours start at noon, Saturday and Sunday through March at the park, located along I-96. Take exit 153 and head north. The last tour leaves at 2:30 p.m. The sugar bush is open after 4 p.m. for self-guided visits. A re-enactment of an Algonquian winter camp is also located within the woods from noon-4 p.m. Fees are \$3 for adults, \$1 for seniors and children, 3-12, and free for kids, 3 and under. Call Kensington Metropark at (800) 477-3178 or (248) 685-1561 for more information.

Learn how to produce maple syrup from your own backyard, 1-2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 10 and 24, at Heritage Park, 24725 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. Participants will learn to identify and select a maple tree, collect sap, boil it down, and turn it into syrup. The afternoon will finish with a maple syrup treat and some equipment to help jumpstart the process at home. Cost is \$7 per person or \$25 per four-person family. Call (248) 871-2509 for more information.

Take home a fresh sample of maple syrup at the Maple Syrup Tour, 1-3 p.m. Saturday, March 9 at the University of Michigan Dearborn Environmental Interpretive Center, 4901 Evergreen, Dearborn. Visitors will take a walk through the woods to see maple trees, learn about identifying trees, and see syrup prepared. Pre-registration is required. Call (313) 593-8338.

### Sugar on Snow

From Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association

Is made by heating pure maple syrup to 233 degrees on a candy thermometer. When poured over snow or crushed ice the heated syrup will form a taffy. Avoid stirring or agitating the heated syrup or it will crystallize at this density.

### Maple Spring Chicken

From Michigan Maple Syrup Association

- 1 chicken, 2 1/2-3 pound cut-up
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 cup melted butter
- Dash of pepper
- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 1/4 cup chopped almonds
- 1/2 teaspoon grated lemon rind
- 2 teaspoon lemon juice

Place chicken pieces in a shallow, buttered baking dish. Mix remaining ingredients and pour evenly over chicken. Bake uncovered, 50-60 minutes, at 325 degrees F. Taste occasionally. This baked chicken is especially good served with rice.



### Maple and Mustard Roasted Root Vegetables

From Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association  
Yields 6 servings

- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1/2 cup coarsely chopped onion or 20 pearl onions, peeled
- 5 cups coarsely chopped or sliced veggies of your choice: turnips, parsnips, rutabaga, carrot, potato, yams, beets and/or golden beets

Preheat oven to 425 degrees.  
Toss veggies and onions with the

olive oil, salt and pepper on a baking pan. Roast in oven for 20 minutes, then remove and re-toss on baking sheet. Cook 15 minutes more. Toss again. Cook another 15 minutes. Combine maple syrup, Dijon mustard and garlic powder in a small bowl. Drizzle the maple mixture over potatoes and veggies and mix to coat well. Cook again until veggies (beets and potatoes) will take the longest) are soft and glaze starts to caramelize and brown a bit. Serve and enjoy.



### Vermont Maple Chunky Beef Stew

From Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association  
Serves 6

- 1/4 cup of flour
  - Salt and pepper to taste
  - 2 cloves chopped garlic
  - 1 large onion, sliced
  - 1 stalk of chopped celery
  - 1 1/2 pounds beef, cut into half-inch cubes
  - 1 1/2-ounce can of tomatoes
  - 1/2 cup dry red wine
  - 1/2 cup pure Vermont maple syrup
  - 4 medium size potatoes, cubed
  - 2 large carrots, sliced
- Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Combine flour, beef and seasonings in a plastic bag and shake to coat beef. Sauté garlic and onion together in 1 tablespoon of olive oil until tender. Combine all ingredients into a casserole dish, pour in 1/2 cup of water, cover and bake for four hours. (Will work well in a slow cooker). Serve with Maple Oatmeal Bread and a green salad with Maple Vinaigrette.

### Lamb and Eggplant Maple Curry

From Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association  
Serves 6 as main course

- 1 1/2 pounds lamb, diced into bite-size pieces
- 2 cups eggplant, peeled and cut into 1/2 inch cubes
- 1 red onion, medium, chopped
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- For the Sauce:
- 2 tablespoons all purpose flour
- 4 ounces salted butter
- 1/2 cup light soy sauce
- 1/4 cup pure maple syrup, grade B
- 1 cup chopped tomato
- 1 cup dry red wine
- 1/4 cup brandy
- 1/4 teaspoons nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon curry powder

Make the sauce first. Heat butter and add flour, stirring constantly for 3-5 minutes. Then add remaining ingredients. Cook for 15 minutes and transfer to blender and mix until smooth. Keep warm until needed.

To assemble: In medium saucepan, heat the oil. Add onion and lamb. Cook for 5 minutes on medium high until onion is clear and lamb well browned. Add eggplant and prepared sauce. Simmer for 8-10 minutes.

Serve over rice or couscous, sided with a fruit chutney

### Maple Nut Bread

From Michigan Maple Syrup Association

- 1/4 cup oleo
  - 1 egg, well beaten
  - 1/4 cup milk
  - 1 cup chopped nuts
  - 1 cup raisins
  - 4 teaspoons baking powder
  - 2 cups flour
  - 1/2 teaspoon baking soda, dissolved in 1 teaspoon hot water
  - 1/2 teaspoon salt
  - 1/4 cup pure maple syrup
- Combine all ingredients in order given. Pour into greased loaf pan and allow to sit 20 minutes. Bake 375 degrees F. for 60 minutes.



### Sugarhouse Steamer

From Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association  
Serves 1

- 2 tablespoons pure Vermont maple syrup
  - Pure granulated Vermont maple sugar
  - Whipped cream
  - Vanilla coffee (prepared instant or with an espresso machine)
  - Steamed or scalded milk
- Pour the maple syrup into the bottom of a mug. Add coffee and pour in the milk. Top with whipped cream and a generous sprinkling of granulated maple sugar. Enjoy!

## Landlord may be liable in dog case

**Q:** I was walking by a home on my street that is notorious for letting their dog run loose and bite people. The home is being rented and it was the renter's dog. Do you think I have a basis against the landlord?

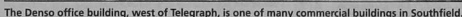
A: I think the law in Michigan is that a landlord with notice of a dog's vicious propensities, who fails to meet his duty, may be held liable for attacks by the dog to persons lawfully on the premises or persons traveling along the sidewalk.

street. Since a court will likely indicate that landlords are not insurers of those attacked by dogs kept by tenants, you will have to establish that the dog was dangerous that the landlord knew of its dangerousness, and that the landlord's response to that knowledge was unreasonable.

**Q:** Our house is under financial water and our Realtor is suggesting a short sale. Do we need an attorney?

A: First, before you consider a short sale, you should be apprised of all governmental forfeiture prevention programs and must understand the consequences of a short sale. You must be concerned about the possibility of a deficiency judgment, the need to negotiate with the lender, the effect on your credit, the short sale process, including dealing with subordinate lien claimants who are negotiating on behalf of the bank and the negotiation process, and your tax considerations among other things. Obviously, your real estate broker, who is not representing his own vested interest, should not be your sole consultant, but you should hire an independent real estate attorney who understands all of the ramifications of short sales to advise you.

**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 [meisner-law.com](mailto:meisner@meisner-law.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.



assessment of the office, industrial, apartment, retail, and hotel property sectors, as well as for commercial real estate as an asset class, for 2013.

"It is time to stop waiting for the economy and the investment environment to get better. This is it — this is the new normal — and we need to turn the page on the past and make the adjustments needed to be successful for the balance of this decade," stated Kenneth Riggs Jr., chairman and president of RERC. "Investors are facing the challenges ahead, and commercial real estate continues to be an attractive investment for

a variety of reasons in this economic climate."

"Moderate positive and stabilizing trends in commercial real estate markets are expected to add value to institution-

al portfolios as we turn the page to the next chapter of the real estate cycle," noted Matthew Kimmel, principal and U.S. real estate sector leader for Deloitte Financial Advisory Services LLP. "Overall the office, industrial, retail, apartment and hotel property sectors are expected to experience various elements of slow fundamental increase and growth."

mercial real estate recovery to continue throughout 2013. "A pent-up demand for commercial property space has been developing with the nearly five million net new job creations in the past three years," noted Lawrence Yun, Ph.D., NAR chief economist. "That demand steadily reaching the market, combined with little new construction, will likely help lower vacancy rates and push up rents."

Expectations & Market Realities in Real Estate 2013 — Turn the Page can be obtained electronically at [www.nerc.com](http://www.nerc.com) or [www.realtor.org/prodser.nsf/Research](http://www.realtor.org/prodser.nsf/Research).

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 29 through Nov. 2, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

1857 Seenic Dr	\$180.00
43725 Stuart Dr	\$133.000
44749 Tiltonson Dr	\$162.000
GARD CITY	
540 Gilman St	\$45.000
251 Hubbard St	\$65.000
2001 Leona St	\$64.000
2465 Rosilyn Ave	\$60.000
INDIANA	
14563 Country Club Dr	\$120.000
36445 Dover St	\$125.000
9383 Eastwind Dr	\$142.000
14053	\$142.000
15146 Golfview Dr	\$234.000
30146 Greenland St	\$169.000
35240 Joy Rd	\$120.000
37200	\$120.000
15213 Lathers St	\$120.000
14325 Melrose St	\$180.000
16601 Middlebelt Rd	\$40.000
19999	\$140.000
28424 Myron St	\$140.000
18528 N Clements Cir	\$59.000
31888 N Laurel Park Dr	\$162.000
14213	\$140.000
3260 Olson St	\$105.000
20310 Parker Dr	\$87.000
29450 Robert Dr	\$33.000
19473	\$140.000
18932 Whirby St	\$115.000
18706 Williams St	\$225.000

19560 Brady	\$33,000
17602 Fox	\$58,000
19404 Inkster Rd	\$22,000
17116 Lennane	\$63,000
15520 Maplewoodbrook Rd	\$80,000
12066 Nathalie	\$59,000
3011 Tecumseh	\$56,000
12320 Tecumseh	\$73,000
26400 Westfield	\$45,000
<b>WESTLAND</b>	
31510 Alpena Ct	\$12,000
37361 Amhurst Dr	\$73,000
38704 Arden	\$73,000
38485 Castletown Ct	\$43,000
37569 Colonial Dr	\$62,000
8837 Cranston St	\$125,000
159 Fennell	\$15,000
7810 Hillcrest Blvd	\$115,000
83277 Liberty Blvd	\$68,000
38431 Lorus Ave	\$112,000
29105 Madison St	\$115,000
7304 Manor Cir	\$31,000
29680 Marshall St	\$83,000
6429 N Vandy Rd	\$106,000
38435 Park Dr	\$105,000
38435 Park Dr	\$44,000
31518 Raven St	\$36,000
81536 Rathen St	\$80,000
245 Summit St	\$45,000
1221 Surrey Hts	\$75,000

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 15-19, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

4920 Farmingdale Rd	\$700,000
6310 Franklin Rd	\$237,000
4062 Golf Ridge Dr E	\$196,000
154 Hamilton Rd	\$500,000
4744 Kensington Dr	\$1,625,000
4088 Lakewood Dr	\$1,000,000
4465 Picking Rd	\$307,000
1935 Quanton Rd	\$276,000
1178 Rollright Hills Dr	\$83,000
7455 Sycamore Dr	\$260,000
3620 Worlington Rd	\$266,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
NEWBURNE POINT	\$175,000
5194 Raven Rd	\$356,000
221 Applebrook Dr	\$293,000
5720 Carey Rd	\$178,000
5925 Garden Ter	\$80,000
1191 Sherwood Ct	\$191,000
6062 Waverly Dr	\$210,000
FARMINGTON	
33325 Cloverdale Ave	\$125,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
1768 Adams Rd	\$60,000
31899 Bristol Ln	\$280,000
35785 Castlemeadow Dr	\$275,000
37102 Fox Glen	\$313,000

27099 Ladbrooke St	\$45,000
25525 Portico Ln	\$115,000
22889 Renford St	\$94,000
25854 Shoreline Dr	\$397,000
26974 Steeple Path	\$315,000
SOUTH LA	
23647 Copperwood Dr W	\$68,000
230 Harvard Ave	\$120,000
24775 Martindale Rd	\$35,000
6120 Saticreec Dr	\$179,000
SOUTHFIELD	
21848 Dunt Scout St	\$56,000
19711 Hickory Leaf St	\$101,000
28720 Inkster Rd	\$90,000
17300 N Hollywood Pkwy	\$107,000
17475 New Hampshire St	\$192,000
17235 New Jersey Dr	\$125,000
11715 Seikrist St	\$58,000
29160 Village Road Dr	\$47,000
27300 W 130th St	\$67,000
26233 Woodvilla Pl	\$124,000
WHITE LAKE	
2305 Bogie Lake Rd	\$185,000
229 Castlewood Dr	\$104,000
8447 Court Beach Dr	\$104,000
490 Joanna Ln	\$60,000
395 Woodmead Ln	\$234,000

Real Estate Investor Association of Wayne meets 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month at Red Lobster in Southgate.

On March 5, an attorney general speaker from the Consumer Protection Division will speak about home repair and equity scams, how to work with a contractor, how to understand reverse mortgages, and tips to recognize and

avoid foreclosure scams

For more information, contact Wayne Koehler at (313) 819-0919.

### Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures and what it takes to get started.

Many sellers are misin-

formed or not sure about how the procedures work. Organizers will also discuss the internal workings of short sales and the different steps involved.

of Quantum Real Estate is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon. Additional parking across the street in back. Please call the office at (248) 782-7130 or e-

mail [june.quantum@gmail.com](mailto:june.quantum@gmail.com)  
for your reservation or addi-  
tional information.

## Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@addedvaluerealty.

com or visit [FreeForeclosure-Tour.com](http://FreeForeclosure-Tour.com)

### Seminar on Tuesdays

**A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia**

Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484 Ext. 33

Challenging fun for ALL ages

# Thursday

## PUZZLE CORNER

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