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CLASSIFIED, SECTION C

**SPECIAL
PET REPORT
WITH STEVE
CARELL**
USA WEEKEND



Oscar contest winners

The winner of the O&E Media Oscar contest is Anna Sharples of Northville. Sharples will receive an annual movie pass for two for use at any Emagine Theatre.

Second prize of four movie passes went to Jackie Hengsten of Dearborn.

Sharples and Hengsten were the only two entries out of more than 150 who answered all but two categories correctly. The first place winner was selected in a random drawing.

Look for more contests and chances to win tickets and prizes at hometownlife.com.

Bond forums

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials, seeking a \$114 million bond election May 7, are giving the public their first two chances to weigh in.

Public forums will take place 7 p.m. Thursday, March 7, at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer in Plymouth, and then 7 p.m. Monday, March 11, at the Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center in Canton.

District officials will explain how the bond will address student learning, technology, health, safety, and security at district facilities.

District officials have said they'll be able to pay for the bond "with zero increase" in the tax rate.

For more information on the forums, call (734) 416-2755.

Ask America

"Let's Ask America," the new TV game show where contestants can win up to \$50K from home, had a Canton flavor Saturday when first-grade teacher Jodi McMaster appeared as a contestant.

Potential contestants get on the show by visiting the show's website (www.letsaskamerica.tv) and signing up. Every day, four contestants will be chosen to play the game and win up to \$50,000 cash via Skype from their home.

"Let's Ask America" polls America about fun and irreverent topics to find out what people are thinking. Then, all the contestants have to do is correctly predict the answer. The prize money increases with each question. There are three rounds and at the end of each round, the contestant with the lowest cash total is eliminated from the game.

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School board tabs three for final look

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

And then there were three. The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education Wednesday narrowed their search for a new superintendent by one candidate, inviting three of the four semifinalists back for a final round of meetings and interviews.

The finalists will be back this week (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday) to meet with teacher groups, staff and others, take

a tour of the district, and sit for one more interview with board members. The order of appearance had not been decided at press time.

The finalists include:
• Michael Meissen, supervisor



Meissen



Timmis



Killian

of school improvement and student achievement for Milwaukee Public Schools in Milwaukee, Wis.

• Christopher Timmis, superintendent of Adrian Public Schools and one of 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, the associate superintendent for educational services in the Shawnee Mission School District in Overland Park, Kan., met with trustees for two hours Tuesday but was not invited back.

The finalists were chosen using

Please see **BOARD, A2**

Counter help



BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Scholars teacher Linda Reilman teaches fifth grade when she's not working the cash register at Mickey D's. Reilman and other staffers at the charter school, located on North Territorial in Plymouth Township, worked the counter at the Ann Arbor Road McDonald's restaurant for a few hours as part of the chain's McTeacher Night program. For the story and more photos, please turn to page A4.

Canton edges toward water rate decision

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton residents could potentially avoid the 9-percent spike in water costs imposed on the township by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, though local officials cautioned that they haven't yet locked in rates that take effect May 1.

Administrative staffers have issued a preliminary recommendation to keep water-sewer rates at their current levels, averting any increases for local consumers.

However, it isn't certain the Canton Township Board of Trustees will accept the recommendation as elected officials ponder potentially expensive projects such as a water storage facility.

"It's still early in the process," Supervisor Phil LaJoy said Friday. "It's still a work in progress."

Canton residents last year saw their average water-sewer rates decrease by 2.3 percent when local officials opted to absorb a rate hike imposed by Detroit.

Some elected officials question whether they can repeat that course of action.

"We're doing what we can to be efficient," LaJoy said.

Trustee John Anthony said local officials have tried "to make sure we're as lean and mean as we can be" in avoiding rate hikes.

However, LaJoy said no water rate increase would mean using an estimated \$2.1 million from Canton's \$19.6 million water-sewer fund at a time when local officials are weighing costly projects such as a water storage facility to ease water usage during peak hours.

Amid that backdrop, residents are invited to attend a community forum on water rates 7-9 p.m. Monday in the lower level of the Canton Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center. The session is intended to show how water-sewer rates are calculated and to answer any questions from residents.

Please see **WATER, A2**

Charges filed in Verizon store robbery

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Three teenage men are facing a court hearing Friday on multiple criminal charges amid allegations they robbed a Canton Verizon store after using a semi-automatic assault rifle to shoot over a sliding glass door that an employee had managed to lock.

Eric James-Lee Wilkins and Antonio Jerome Porter, both of Inkster, and Dantez Lamar Boykin-Johnson of Westland—

all 18 years old—have been charged with armed robbery, breaking and entering a building with intent to commit a crime, first-degree retail fraud, receiving and concealing stolen property over \$1,000, discharging a fire-



Boykin-Johnson



Porter



Wilkins

arm into a building, felony firearms and illegal entry without the owner's permission.

The three teens were arraigned Thursday by 35th District Judge Michael Gerou, who set a \$1 million cash bond

for each defendant and scheduled Friday's preliminary examination to determine whether they should stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court. A not-guilty plea was entered for the men.

Penalty range

Wilkins, Porter and Boykin-Johnson could face penalties ranging up to life in prison if they are convicted as charged.

Please see **ROBBERY, A2**

WATER

Continued from page A1

Administration staff-ers issued the no-increase recommendation after the township implement- ed cost-containing mea- sures such as employ- ee unpaid furlough days and savings in employee health care costs.

Moreover, Canton sold more water to local com- munities than had been anticipated last summer — a move that generated higher-than-expected rev- enues.

“We really had a hot summer, and we sold more water than we had budgeted,” Public Works

Manager Bob Belair said. “We had more revenues coming into our water-sewer account. We took that excess revenue and rolled it into the rates this year.”

Still, Belair, LaJoy, Municipal Services Direc- tor Tim Faas and others have said Canton needs to maintain a healthy water-sewer fund balance to pay for future projects such as a water storage facil- ity — if elected officials choose that route.

Meanwhile, Canton’s latest 9-percent increase from Detroit was more than double the aver- age suburban rate hike. Anthony has called the higher figure “very dis-

appointing,” but said he is hopeful for long-range cost containment since the DWSD has come under new manage- ment and begun steps to become more efficient.

“I’m cautiously optimis- tic,” he said. After Monday’s com- munity forum, the town- ship board is expected to discuss water rates dur- ing a study session sched- uled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 19, at township hall. Sometime after that, a vote will be taken to adopt rates for the year starting May 1.

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ROBBERY

Continued from page A1

All of the counts against these felons except for the illegal enter- charge, which is a misde- meanor.

The charges arose from allegations the three teens robbed the Veri- zon store on Ford Road, between Morton Tay- lor and Sheldon, around 11 a.m. Monday, causing customers and employees to fear for their lives and prompting a lockdown of four Plymouth-Canton elementary schools.

No one was injured as Verizon customer Gerry Soubly said the masked,

hooded men shot their way into the store.

Canton police swarmed the scene quickly and caught the suspects fol- lowing a short chase, ini- tially in a car and then on foot. Police said the men hid in a storm cellar adjacent to a house on Will- ard Drive, near Oakview Drive and Saltz.

The suspects are like- ly facing charges in other communities as well fol- lowing what authorities believe was a crime spree.

Commending police

Soubly had gone to the newly opened store with girlfriend Carol Nowacz- yk to buy a phone when the incident happened.

The couple hid near a small counter as Soubly called 9-1-1 to report the robbery.

“In all honesty,” he said, “I thought they were going to kill everybody, including me and Carol.”

Soubly appeared Tues- day night before the Can- ton Township Board of Trustees to commend Canton police for their quick action in captur- ing the suspects. He also lauded the efforts of the Verizon employees who tried to keep the intrud- ers out by locking a slid- ing glass door.

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BOARD

Continued from page A1

a matrix devised by rep- resentatives of Ray & Asso- ciates, the Iowa-based firm the board hired to conduct the search.

Board President John Barrett said he was impressed with all the candidates.

“They all have impres- sive credentials,” Bar- rett said. “Each of the finalists has his own set of strengths and brings something good to the table.”

Each of the four semi- finalists sat for a two- hour interview last week, answering questions ranging from leadership style to attitudes about

student discipline. Board members are confident a good leader will emerge.

“We were very im- pressed,” board Secre- tary Adrienne Davis said. “I’m confident any of the three of them could come in and do a good job.”

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A Wayne County Circuit Court judge has rejected a motion to dismiss criminal charges against Andrea Rodgers and Ryan Moody.

Judge rejects motion to dismiss in baby’s death

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Wayne County Circuit Court judge has rejected a motion to dismiss criminal charges against a for- mer Canton mother and her ex-boyfriend, who face trial after her 19- month-old son died from swallowing a pill used for purposes such as treating heroin addiction.

Judge Gregory Bill’s decision means defen- dants Andrea Nicole Rod- gers, 20, and Ryan Keith Rogers, 25, will face a jury trial for involuntary manslaughter and sec- ond-degree child abuse, barring a plea agreement.

“I’m very disappoint- ed that the case wasn’t dismissed,” Rodgers’ defense attorney, Michael Rataj, said Thursday. “I’m going to try this case and that’s the bottom line. I’m going to clear my cli- ent’s name because she did not kill her child.”

Moody’s attorney, Jef- frey Osment, made a sim- ilar statement.

“We are proceeding to trial on this case,” he said Thursday. “That’s the direction we’re head- ing in.”

Don’t agree

Defense attorneys had hoped to convince Bill to quash a decision in

November by 35th Dis- trict Judge Michael Ger- ou to order the pair to stand trial for the June 9 death of Silas Rod- gers. Bill ruled that Ger- ou didn’t abuse his discre- tion.

“I don’t agree with the binder (for trial) at the district court level,” Rataj said, insisting Rod- gers didn’t commit any crimes.

Silas’ death was ruled as an overdose from Sub- oxone, a drug authorities have indicated was pre- scribed to Moody. Now- retired Canton Detective Tim Wright testified dur- ing a preliminary hear- ing in Gerou’s courtroom that the child died ear- ly June 9 inside the home Rodgers and Moody once shared on Mahan Road, near Canton Center and Ford.

Wayne County Assis- tant Prosecutor Keisha Glenn has called it “gross negligence” that Moody and Rodgers didn’t keep prescription drugs out of Silas’ reach. She said the child’s death could have been prevented.

Authorities have said Silas apparently managed to get the Suboxone out of a plastic container kept near a bed.

Defense attorneys have indicated the contain- er was mistakenly left

there. Rataj said Thurs- day the pills had usually been kept in a top dress- er drawer or a medicine cabinet.

“There’s no gross neg- ligence here,” he said. “It doesn’t hold water at all. This is Monday morning quarterbacking by the (Wayne County) Prosecu- tor’s Office.”

Drugging the Dew

However, Wright testif- ied during the November hearing that prior to Silas’ death, he had pre- viously been taken by his mother for medical treatment after he swal- lowed a pill. Wright also said the night before . . . Silas was found dead, he was caught putting a pill into a bottle of Mountain Dew.

Wright said Rodg- ers blamed Moody for her child’s death. More- over, Wright said Moody became upset after he learned the cause of Silas’ death.

“He would make a statement that it’s all his fault — the death of the child was all his fault — and anything he got, he deserved,” Wright testif- ied during the November court hearing.

If convicted as charged, Rodgers and Moody could face penalties ranging up to 15 years in prison.

Dr. Bader Cassin testif- ied in November that Silas died of medication poisoning that caused his brain to swell and his lungs to fill with chemi- cal fluids.

Gerou, in ordering Rodgers and Moody to stand trial, said his deci- sion didn’t mean they are “horrible people,” Gerou said he had no doubt the couple loved the child.

Yet, he said he felt com- pelled to send the case to Wayne County Circuit Court for disposition.

“They had a duty to properly store toxic med- ication,” Gerou said.

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Judge orders barricades removed

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A federal judge has ordered a developer to remove concrete barricades erected in November to block off a core section of Cherry Hill Village, amid a property-rights legal dispute between the company and Canton Township.

U.S. District Judge Ger-shwin Drain ruled Tuesday in Canton's favor by granting a preliminary injunction ordering Cherry Ridge LLC to remove the barriers, which seal off West Road and an adjacent parking lot used by visitors of the Village Theater, the Canton Human Services Center and a historic Cherry Hill School.

Drain gave the developer seven days to comply with his order, though it wasn't clear if Cherry Ridge LLC's legal team plans to challenge the decision in the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals in Columbus, Ohio. Attorney Robert Carson couldn't be reached for comment.

Canton Township officials lauded Drain's deci-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A federal judge has ordered Cherry Ridge LLC, to remove concrete barricades erected in November to block off a core section of Cherry Hill Village amid a property-rights legal dispute between the company and Canton Township.

restion, saying it would restore public parking, handicapped spaces and fire department access to Cherry Hill Village's core section.

"We're very pleased with it," Township Attorney Kristin Kolb said.

Happy camper

Supervisor Phil LaJoy described himself as "very happy" that the judge ordered the barriers removed.

Canton made improvements to the property, including West Road and

a parking lot just west of the street, following an agreement a decade ago with a former landowner, though it appears certain documents were never officially recorded.

Canton spent money improving the site and maintaining it, but Cherry Ridge LLC contends it has rights to the property after acquiring it in lieu of a foreclosure in July 2011. The two sides have filed lawsuits against each other to settle the matter.

Carson couldn't be

reached to clarify what, if any, plans Cherry Ridge LLC might have for the property.

According to Kolb, "they have never submitted development plans for that or any of the other vacant property they own in Cherry Hill Village."

That said, there have been rumblings of disagreements between the two sides over potential development outside the disputed core area of the village, with the township preferring a smaller number of homes on sites.

In his decision, Drain weighed the merits of the preliminary injunction sought by Canton, "and the court finds that the balancing of the factors weigh in favor of Canton Township."

Negative impact

Moreover, he wrote, "The court finds that the presence of barricades and altering the status quo has had a negative and severe impact on the public interest. This case involves property that the township has been

involved with for some time."

Drain wrote that the public has "lawfully enjoyed and used" the property, such as West Road and the adjacent parking lot, until last Nov. 3, when Cherry Ridge LLC "unilaterally barricaded the entrance to the village, with the township improving the using of them."

That move, he said, restricts parking for people with disabilities and for visitors to the Village Theater, the Canton

Human Services Center, the Cherry Hill School and nearby commercial businesses. He also said the barricades obstruct access to a fire lane in violation of international fire codes.

"Accordingly," Drain concluded, "the court finds that granting the preliminary injunction is in the best interest of the public at large."

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Judge denies lower bond for suspected predator

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Accused child predator Jesse Hermann remained jailed Friday with a \$100,000 cash bond after a 35th District Court judge refused a defense attorney's request to lower the amount.

Hermann, a 34-year-old Walled Lake man, is facing a March 22 preliminary exam to determine whether he should stand trial following alle-

gations he befriended a Canton woman online and asked to meet her and her young daughter at the Holiday Inn Express near Lotz Road and Michigan Avenue.

Canton police arrested Hermann the evening of Feb. 13 when he drove to the hotel.

Hermann could face penalties ranging up to 20 years in prison if he is convicted of two counts each of child sexual abusive activity and

using a computer and the Internet to communicate with another person to commit a crime.

Hermann appeared in court Friday for a preliminary exam that was adjourned until March 22 at the request of defense attorney David Cripps.

Cripps asked 35th District Judge Michael Gerou to reduce Hermann's \$100,000 cash bond, but Gerou rejected the motion. Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner has said

authorities were notified of allegations Hermann wanted to meet the local woman and her daughter at the hotel.

"We investigated the report," Schreiner said, "and we were arrested in the hotel parking lot." Schreiner has declined to divulge extensive details about the case until it unfolds in court.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Plymouth Scholars fifth-grade teacher Linda Reilman was one of several staffers who took over the counter at the Plymouth Township McDonald's on Ann Arbor Road Tuesday.

Charter staff flips for burgers

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Jaci Jeffrey sees a lot of her students and colleagues within the walls of Plymouth Scholars Charter Academy, where she serves as principal. But Tuesday, Jeffrey and other staffers were doing a different kind of serving. Plymouth Scholars staffers, including Jeffrey, spent some three hours working the counter at the Plymouth Township McDonald's restaurant on Ann Arbor Road. It was part of the restaurant chain's "McTeacher Night" effort. "It's great to see my col-



Mom Danna Cloia watches sons Christopher, 6, and Bradley, 7, play with happy meal toys. The family, including Dad, Chris Cloia, stopped in at McDonald's to support their school.

leagues outside the school walls," said Jeffrey, who helped open Plymouth Scholars last summer.

"It's a great community event, and it benefits the school, too."

McTeacher's Night has provided students, faculty and parents with the opportunity to increase school pride and generate funds for their school by allowing them to take over a McDonald's location, with a percentage of the sales going directly to their school.

While the local McDonald's was providing 15 percent of the proceeds for the school's three hours, Jeffrey said it wasn't about the money. "We didn't really have a goal," she said. "We just wanted to have some fun with it."

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ON CAMPUS

Eastern Michigan

Topics including the study of solar flares and dust storms on Mars, DNA breakpoints in the Human Fragile Site FRAXB and problematic foods in post-bariatric patients will be explored with the help of \$19,000 in Undergraduate Research Stimulus Awards approved by the Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents during its regular meeting Feb. 19.

Eastern will award eight \$2,000 fellowships to a group of undergraduates in support of their research efforts with their faculty mentors, and each project can receive \$500 to be used for lab/studio supplies or equipment, or other professional expenses.

The undergraduate student awards recipients and faculty mentors include Lauren Fowler, a Canton resident majoring in Psychology, for her "An Examination of the Relationship of Problematic Food Types to the Development of Substance Use Disorder in Post-bariatric Surgery Patients." Fowler's faculty mentor is Karen Saules (Department of Psychology).

The awards are part of the annual Undergraduate Research Stimulus Program, which is designed to facilitate research partnerships between undergraduates and Eastern faculty mentors.

Michigan State

Stephanie Fogoros of Canton, a 2012 graduate of Salem High School, made the Dean's List and the MSU Honors College. Among Fogoros' academic accomplishments: Phi Beta Kappa, Principals Award, President's Award, National Honor Society and captain of the Salem Rockettes.

Grand Valley

Grand Valley State University announces the names of students who were placed on the dean's list for the Fall 2012 semester concluding in December. The list includes those students who have maintained a 3.5 grade point average and been enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits. The honor is noted on the students' official records. Students honored for the fall semester include:

Canton — David J. Adloff, Lauren E. Adloff, Sherri E. Anderson, Phillip A. Baciak, Megan R. Baciak, Courtney E. Black, Marissa R. Blasic, David L. Blythe, Lauren E. Branson, Britany M. Brasseur, Autumn E. Burn, Kirsten E. Clemons, Laura A. Daniels, Lara M. Devine, Terra L. Devine, Eric P. Eiswerth, Aaron D. Evans, Ashley H. Fallon, Courtney T. Farmer, Abigail D. Glaier, Leah M. Girard, Danielle M. Gross, Melanie C. Gross, Kylie L. Hakala, Kristin L. Hartwig, Katherine E. Hopman, Max Julien, Laura E. Kirby, Ryan J. Liddane, Chelsea P. Manning, Alyssa C. Meagher, Jordyn A. Moore, Bradley T. Mueller, Shawn D. Mueller, Alice H. Munday, Katilin A. Munoz, Michael S. Nadratowski, Zachary S. Neely, Luke J. Paul, Alexander R. Porembo, Kelsey J. Pullis, Amanda R. Rice, Adam J. Rosenberg, Stefania C. Scambati, Molly A. Slavens, Sarah R. Stratford, Sommer A. Tuttle, April E. Vernon, Taylor N. Wiemer, Megan L. Zarem.

*Plymouth — Brittany L. Callegari; Stefanie A. Cesario; Emily R. Donahue; Riley J. Greenewoud; Katherine J. Hagen; Morgan A. Huettner, Alyssa A. Kolb; Katelynn M. Krause; Jackson R. Lytle; Daniel D. MacDonell; Anthony B. Mullins; Casey L. O'Guinn; Heath J. Parling; Kate L. Perry; Jessica L. Rich; Jessica A. Rose; Stephanie K. Zielsinski.

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Kids, principal take hair-y step for cancer

By Maggie Wunderlich
Correspondent

Tonda Elementary Principal Tara Botosan led the way in donating over 80 inches of hair to benefit youngsters stricken with cancer.

Not only did she lead students, ranging from a kindergarten to three fifth graders, but she also donated her own hair. This is Botosan's third time donating hair with students.

"It's about kids helping kids who are sick," Botosan said. "Donating hair provides them with an avenue and an opportunity to do so. As a leader of our school, it's important for me to model that opportunity to serve others and to make that a priority in my life so that they can see me giving of myself."

Helping others was also the motivating factor for all seven students who donated their hair along with Botosan. Kindergarten Cecilia Moore said that she did it to help people like her grandmother, who'd lost her hair to cancer. She said, "I'm doing it for my Nanna."

This was fifth grader Elizabeth Forney's second time to donate her hair for cancer patients.

"I thought it would be a good idea because some people need hair and I have a lot, so I can



Tonda Elementary School kindergartner Cecilia Moore gets her haircut to donate to Wigs 4 Kids.

just give them some," Elizabeth said.

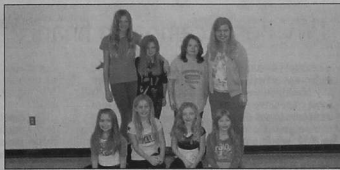
The hair was donated to Wigs 4 Kids, which provides custom-fitted wigs in order to boost the self-esteem of cancer patients and others with medical conditions that cause hair loss. It is a Michigan non-profit organization that benefits children and teens throughout Michigan, 90% coming from the Tri-County area.

"It's important to benefit the kids who are struggling right here in our community," Botosan said.

In this same spirit of giving, local merchants, including Hungry Howie's Pizza in Canton and Menchie's of Canton, helped make it a memorable day by providing the Tonda students with a pizza lunch and a delicious yogurt treat afterwards. The haircuts were donated by Sandy Vrzkovski, owner and stylist of Envy Salon in Northville. Vrzkovski previously partnered with Botosan with hair donations by students at East Middle School.



After the shearing are (top row) Shianne Etheridge, Elizabeth Forney, Tara Botosan and Connor Moore, and (front row) Maeve Dennie, Sophia Barkoot, Anna Avram and Cecilia Moore.



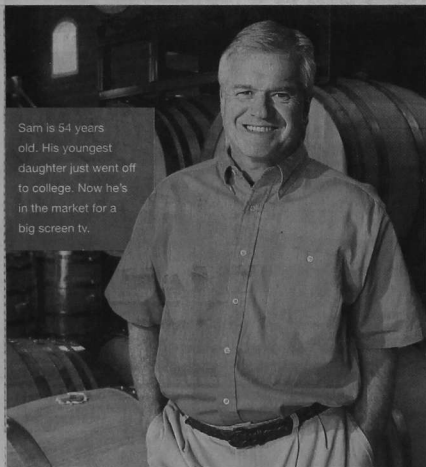
Here's how long the hair was before the haircuts for (back) Elizabeth Forney, Shianne Etheridge, Connor Moore and Tara Botosan, and (front) Sophia Barkoot, Anna Avram, Maeve Dennie and Cecilia Moore.

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Tuesday, March 19
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Join a professional occupational therapist, social worker, downsizing expert, and our resident advocate as we discuss important topics about senior living.
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Thursday, March 28
1:00 p.m.

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It's never too early to start investing for retirement

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: I read your column in the Canton Observer. I have a 24-year-old son that has been given \$1,000 by his grandparents. I'd like to see him use that to establish a Roth IRA with the thought of him (hopefully) committing to an additional \$20 a week. I realize this is a small investment, but I'd like to see him get started. Do you have any suggestions as to the funds? I have a small fund with Janus, but don't know that this is the best and I'm not comfortable with making recommendations to him.

A: I love what you are trying to do. The advantages of your son opening an IRA at this age are huge. I wish more parents were like you, encouraging their children to invest money



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

for their future. Just think, someone like your son can easily be retired for more years than he worked. In addition, we know he won't have a pension and who knows what will happen with Social Security. Encouraging your son to begin to save for his retirement is a great thing.

Considering your son's age, he is a long-term growth investor and I recommend the T. Rowe Price Spectrum Growth Fund (www.troweprice.com). This is known as a fund of funds. The managers invest in a variety of

T. Rowe Price funds that are all geared for long-term growth. This allows your son the opportunity to take a small amount of money and begin to build a diversified portfolio. Contained within the T. Rowe Price Spectrum Growth fund are domestic and international investments. The fund also contains both large and small companies. The fund has a \$1,000 minimum and \$100 minimum for additional investments. This fund has a solid track record and is also commission free. That means when your son invests \$1,000, all of the money goes to work for him.

Because this is your son's first investment, encourage him to learn about investing. If he can attain good investing skills at this age, it will be

something that will help him the rest of his life. It is important that he knows the importance of saving a portion of every paycheck for his future.

Just think about how much the concept of retirement has changed over the years. I have no doubt that when your son retires, the changes will be even more significant. Although we do not know what the changes will be, one thing that we can count on is that people will live longer and it will cost more. As people enter the job market, it is so important that they have the discipline to save for their retirement on a regular basis.

For those who have just entered the work force, Roth IRAs and Roth 401(k)s Plans deserve consideration. To me,

it is a slam dunk to take advantage of these investment vehicles if available.

I recognize it is difficult to convince people in their 20s to save for retirement which is 40 years away; however, I also recognize that as a parent you faced other challenges that were just as daunting. This is just another one of those challenges. Therefore, if you want to assure yourself that your child will be able to enjoy their retirement, now is the time to take action.

Good luck!

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

LWW hosts campaign finance forum

League of Women Voters officials say Michigan had the most expensive state Supreme Court election campaign in the nation in 2012, with a cost of some \$18.6 million.

Rich Robinson, execu-

tive director of the Michigan Campaign Finance Network, will speak at a League of Women Voters meeting 7:15 p.m. Thursday, March 7, at the Livonia Civic Center Library about the Supreme

Court election, as well as spending by other Michigan campaigns in 2012.

The meeting is open to the public. For more information, contact Paula Bowman at (734) 277-2243.

Chocolate, wine highlight benefit

Anyone who believes in miracles can get a night of chocolate, food and wine when the Miracle League of Plymouth and Kelly's Kidz present "Miracles... Among Us," 5:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 7, at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

The evening, proceeds of which benefit both the Miracle League and Kelly's Kidz, will feature door prizes, pottery, gift certificates and wine.

Door prizes must be present to win) include:

- Silver Landscape Agate Necklace with Smokey Quartz Faceted Beads & Amber Beads donated by Dearborn Jewelers.

- Wine, Food & Snack Basket donated by Nancy Dankert.

- Spring Scarf donated

by Beth Campau.

- Pottery donated by Jeff Burda.

- Two \$50 gift certificates for one art summer camp in 2013 donated by the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

- A \$50 gift certificate for PUPS Fall 2013 Season or Winter 2014 Season, donated by Plymouth Community Arts Council (expires Feb. 25, 2014).

- A \$100 gift certificate donated by Flemings.

- Food gift certificates donated by Panache and Starbucks.

- CDs and tickets donated by the Michigan Philharmonic.

- Spirit Items donated by the Miracle League of Plymouth.

The Miracle League of Plymouth is also looking for MLP players or fam-

ilies, who are artists or have a small business, to participate in the "Miracles Among Us" art and vendor fair and reception 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 9, at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

There is no fee for MLP families to have a table. Tables will be provided, but space is limited. This is an opportunity for MLP players to show that, in addition to being a great baseball player, they have many other talents. This is also an opportunity to support MLP families who may have a home business.

Purchase tickets for "Miracles... Among Us" at www.miracleleagueplymouth.org/events/?id=130307.

For information, email info@miracleleagueplymouth.org.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a proposal for **Basic and Voluntary Life Insurance Plans, Accidental Death & Dismemberment Plans, Group and Voluntary Disability Insurance, Flexible Spending Account Administration and COBRA Administration**. Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting Matt Duprey, Account Coordinator, Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. at (248) 430-2789 or matthew.duprey@gb.com. Technical questions should also be directed to Matt Duprey. Sealed proposals are due to the PCCS - E.J. McClendon Educational Center located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI on or before 11:00 a.m., Monday, March 18, 2013. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
Adrienne Davis, Secretary

Publish: February 24, 2013

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The Latin band Tiempo Libre turns up the heat at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill with an evening of Latin Jazz on Saturday, April 13, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Cuban group hits Village Theater stage

The Latin band Tiempo Libre turns up the heat at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill with an evening of Latin Jazz on Saturday, April 13, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Classically trained at Cuba's premier conservatories, these three-time Grammy nominated performers are recognized for their energetic performances of timba, a mix of high-voltage Latin Jazz and Afro-Cuban rhythms.

Band members joined forces in 2001 to create the first authentic all-Cuban timba band in the U.S. With the goal of spreading their musical heritage to as wide an audience as possible, Tiempo Libre has gained critical praise for their sound. Named "Best Latin Band 2008" by the Miami New Times, Tiempo Libre's rich culture and incendiary energy comes through in every

exciting performance of each song.

The group's latest recording, "My Secret Radio," released in May 2011, pays homage to their teenage years in Cuba, a time when the government forbade its citizens to listen to American Music. Inspired by their Afro-Cuban tradition, but eager to catch new trends and sounds coming from the U.S., Tiempo Libre's members would fashion homemade antennas and secretly listen to the music pulsating from Miami radio stations at night.

These secret sessions fueled their dreams of living in America, free to perform their songs and build the careers they wanted, while helping them gather the strength that it took to leave it all behind — family, friends, a country, a life — to pursue those dreams.

Tiempo Libre (Span-

ish for Free Time) chose their moniker since the group could only create their sound in their free time, between other projects. Group members include Musical Director Jorge Gomez on keyboard; Raul Rodriguez, trumpet; Leandro Gonzalez, congas; Tebelio (Tony) Fonte, bass; Armando (Pututi) Arce, drums; Joaquin (El Kid) Diaz, lead vocal; and Luis Beltran Castillo, saxophone and flute.

Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased yours online at www.tiempolibre-music.com. This concert has received generous support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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

Skate party benefits United Way

Anyone who likes to roller skate and is interested in helping senior citizens, youth, low-income families and people with disabilities gets a chance to do both next week.

Plymouth Community United Way is holding its first annual Family Skate Fundraiser Wednesday, March 13, at Skatin Station II, 8611 Ronda Drive, Canton.

The event runs 6-8 p.m. Admission is \$6 and includes skate rental. Blade/speed skate rental is \$2 extra. Proceeds ben-

efit Plymouth Community United Way.

"It's a good way to get kids and their families involved with helping others while having fun," said Marie Morrow, Plymouth Community United Way President.

Serving Plymouth and Canton residents since 1944, Plymouth Community United Way is an umbrella organization that addresses human service needs by partnering with nonprofit agencies and individuals. Programs range from senior bus trans-

portation to housing for the developmentally disabled, counseling and shelter for domestic violence victims and their children, youth life skills training, math and reading summer school for elementary students, and emergency food, rent and utility assistance in addition to organizing drives for local food pantries and hats and gloves for the homeless. Learn more at www.plymouthunitedway.org.

For more information, call (734) 453-6879, ext. 7.

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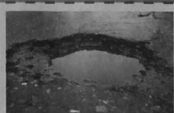


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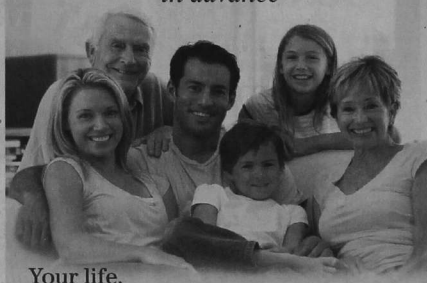
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GC Hospital event helps people 'love' their hearts

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

It might have been winter outside, but it was warm enough inside to do the hula at Westland Shopping Center.

And that's what members of The Dance Academy did as part of Garden City Hospital's "Love Your Heart" celebration Feb. 23.

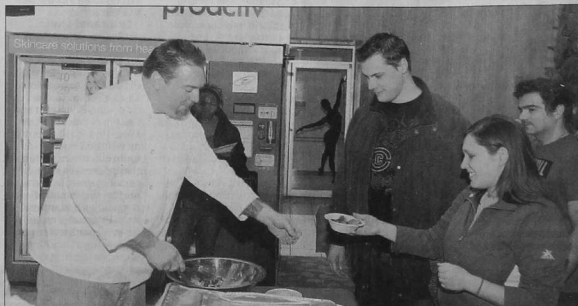
Hosted by the hospital's Cardiac Team, the three-hour event, held during National Heart Month, treated visitors to demonstrations and lectures focused on heart healthy living.

"It focused on three areas — knowledge about heart healthy living, good eating and exercise to keep your heart healthy," said Kimberly Moore, the hospital's director of public relations and marketing. "It was, 'This is something you need to do to take care of your heart.' People forget that the heart is a muscle."

The hospital used the entire mall for the program, utilizing stations that had been set up for the earlier Walk for Warmth. In addition to the demonstrations and lecture, there also was free blood pressure screening and strength testing available. Prizes like tickets to a Detroit Red Wings game and a Kindle also were given out.

The event included a demonstration of exercise classes like hula, which are available at the mall through a partnership with The Dance Academy. The classes include Polynesian aerobics, Tai Chi, hatha yoga and slow flow yoga, as a low-impact exercise that's "good for the heart."

Participants also had the opportunity to try out yoga in a different way —



PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN
Chef Ted Linden, a student in the Schoolcraft College Culinary Arts program, serves the zucchini pappardelle and chicken cacciatore to Grace Destefanis of Canton and Brian Taylor.



Kathy and Ron Terry of Livonia talk with nurse Jessie Lutz who explains the benefits of walking. Lutz oversees the mall walking program at Westland Shopping Center.

sitting in their chairs.

"We got such good feedback, we're looking at offering chair yoga," Moore said. "It's good for people who are doing cardio rehab."

Evelyn Stokes, a per-

sonal chef and student at Schoolcraft College, showed participants how to make their own vinaigrette and a simple salad and then created a heart healthy chicken cacciatore dish. Samples were served to people by several fellow chefs and Schoolcraft students.

"Evelyn did a wonderful job of incorporating our message of heart healthy eating into her

demonstration," Moore said. "They served the food to 100 people and answered their questions."

Cardiologist Dr. Nizam Habbab handled the education part of the program, talking about two things — women and heart health and what people can do to take care of their hearts.

The event was so successful that Garden City

Hospital and Westland Shopping Center are now looking into doing similar programs on a monthly basis. The hospital is the official partner with the center.

"It's something we're going to do," Moore said. "It's definitely coming down the pike."

smason@hometownlife.com
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WELLNESS CLASSES

Wellness classes offered by Garden City Hospital are held in community of the Westland Shopping Center at Warren and Wayne roads. They include:

- Slow Flow Hatha Yoga 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, north of Ford Road, Garden City, or 7-8:15 p.m. Thursdays at mall.

- Hatha Yoga 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays at the mall. Six months of yoga experience is required. The class costs \$9 per class, if paying for a full session (four or eight weeks) or \$11 drop-in fee.

- New to Yoga? Try a free class at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 16. Bring a sticky mat or a towel.

- Polynesian aerobics 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at the mall. The cost is \$8 per class, if paying for full session (six-eight weeks) or \$10 drop-in fee.

- Hula - Harmony of Hands, Hips and Heart meets 5-6 p.m. at the mall. The cost is \$8 per class, if paying for full session (six-eight weeks) or \$10 drop-in fee. New classes also will be offered, beginning April 8.

- Fitness Barre, a 45-minute class that fuses core conditioning, Pilates, yoga, orthopedic stretching and isometrics into one powerful, body shaping experience.

- Tai Chi is a mind-body exercise that started in China and can improve heart health, balance, and flexibility, no matter the age or ability level.

- Zumba Toning Express features exotic rhythms set to high-energy Latin and international beats all while toning with the use of weights.

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Cox doesn't expect charges against Elias Realty

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

Former state Attorney General Mike Cox, who represents the owner of the Livonia-based realty raided Wednesday by the FBI, said he expects no charges will be filed against his client because he hasn't broken any laws.

"I think it will turn into a whole bunch of nothing," he said. "I haven't seen one thing that would lead to a charge."

Cox said the FBI raided William Elias's Livonia and Brighton offices because the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. (Freddie Mac) told law enforcement officials he was committing fraud by hiding the fact some of his short-sale customers had bought second homes. Cox said Freddie Mac is going after Elias and his businesses, including Elias Realty, because he does more short sales than anyone else in Michigan.

Cox said Thursday he had not seen a copy of the search warrant.

Elias sued Freddie Mac in U.S. District Court Jan. 31, saying his businesses were unjustifiably blacklisted and have lost 500 clients and more than \$2 million in revenue. Freddie Mac placed Elias on its exclusionary list in November, meaning it could not participate, either directly or indirectly, in any Freddie

Mac transaction.

In a letter Oct. 1 to Elias, Freddie Mac alleged Elias "instructed borrowers to purchase a new home prior to applying for short sale assistance on the Freddie Mac loan," the lawsuit says, and the short sale pack-



Elias

ages submitted to the Freddie Mac servicers on behalf of the borrowers "failed to disclose the acquisition of the new home." Freddie Mac also alleges the inability of the borrowers to repay the Freddie Mac loans was "not genuine" or "was created as a result of the purchase of the new homes made possible through Elias and his companies."

Elias denies all the allegations.

Month-long delays

The dispute has meant month-long delays for some clients who are under water on their home mortgages and are trying to avoid foreclosure.

Kathy Rowley of Redford said she is still waiting to close the short sale on her house, which had a purchase offer of \$33,100 shortly after being put on the market in September. She still owes \$90,000 on the house and hasn't made a payment since August. "Now I'm getting close to the whole foreclosure thing," she said.

She said she hasn't been dissatisfied with Elias — her troubles started when her file, along with 200 others, got transferred to another realty firm after Elias was placed on the exclusionary list and everything came to a halt. She suspects the new realty company is overwhelmed by the volume.

Susan Parker said she had been verbally promised by Elias that it would sell her Hazel Park house by Dec. 31. She first listed it with Elias in Febru-

WHAT IT ALL MEANS

Short sale: A short sale is any real estate sale that generates proceeds less than the amount owed on the property. It occurs when the lender and borrower decide that absorbing a moderate loss is preferable to having the borrower default on the loan. The consent of the loan servicers or secondary loan holders such as Freddie Mac is always required before a short sale can occur.

Freddie Mac: Freddie Mac is a government-sponsored corporation, chartered by Congress to provide liquidity, stability and affordability to the U.S. housing market. Freddie Mac purchases mortgages from primary lenders, such as banks, thereby increasing cash available to those lenders. With more liquid assets, the lenders are then able to issue additional mortgages, increasing homeownership throughout the nation.

ary and had a buyer and a signed purchase agreement by April.

"At that time, I was thrilled but even since then, I've been transferred to several different agents within Elias and each one was responsive," she said. "Weeks on end would go by with no update or communication from anyone. It was only after I'd called and emailed several times and finally got on the phone with a receptionist and refused to be sent yet again to someone's voice mail that there would be a brief period of OK communication and then it would fizzle out again."

Johnny Markivich, who commented on a www.hometownlife.com story, said he would not recommend doing business with Elias. "Been dealing with these jokers for seven months trying to buy one of their listings," he said. "They're actually restructuring into a 'holdings' company in order to bypass the government."

'He's following the rules'

Cox said Elias never broke any Freddie

Mac rules; he simply explained them to people. According to Freddie Mac, people generally qualify for a short sale by demonstrating one of four hardships: divorce, debt, disability or distant relocation. They also qualify if they haven't paid their mortgage for three months.

Cox said, "He doesn't tell them what to do," he said, adding that Freddie Mac guidelines encourage some homeowners to forego payment of their mortgage if they do not qualify by virtue of a death, divorce, disability or distant relocation.

These same regulations do not prohibit potential short sale homeowners from purchasing a second home with lower payments before they stop paying on the first mortgage, Cox said.

He said Freddie Mac allows borrowers to have a newly originated mortgage on another property if they are moving for

a new job or if they are in the military and moving to a new station. Also, they can have a vacation home and still apply for assistance for their primary residence.

Clients also signed forms saying Elias and his employees advised them to avoid purchasing a second home if they are attempting a short sale of their present home, Cox said. "He's following the rules. Some people may say he's taking advantage, but they (Freddie Mac) create the rules. He didn't."

After he was placed on the exclusionary list, Elias sent 400-500 files to other brokers.

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Local cast headlines 'Sound of Music'

Plymouth actress Hannah Tardiff takes on the role of Maria when Spotlight on Youth brings the Rodgers and Hammerstein classic "The Sound of Music" to the Village Theater stage later this month.

Tardiff leads a cast of more than 50 local youths, ages 5-18 showcasing their musical theater talents in the one-weekend-only production. Set for March 14-17. The production features memorable songs such as "The Sound of Music," "Edelweiss," "Do-Re-Mi," "The Lonely Goatherd" and others.

Director Barbara Bloom of Novi says: "The Sound of Music" is the most beloved of all the Rodgers and Hammerstein musicals," said director Barbara Bloom, a Novi resident. "It entertains while also teaching about a time in history that we simply can't and shouldn't forget. This gives our youth the opportunity to be involved in a magical show with fabulous, familiar songs and a timeless and a true story."

The story is set in Austria, in early 1939. When a postulant proves too high-spirited for life as a nun, she is dispatched to serve as governess to the seven von Trapp children of a widowed naval Captain. Her growing rapport with the youngsters, coupled with her generosity of spirit, gradually capture the heart of the stern Captain, and they marry.

"Upon returning from their honeymoon, they discover that Austria has been invaded by the Nazis, who demand the captain's immediate service in their navy," Bloom said. "The family's narrow escape over the mountains to Switzerland on the eve of World War II provides one of the most thrilling and inspirational finales ever presented in the theater."

In addition to Tardiff, the cast includes Paul Popa of *Saline* as Captain Von Trapp; Kayal Muthuraman of *Canton* playing Elsa; Madeline Klociz of *Plymouth* as Mother Abbess; and Jacob Eliett of *Dearborn Heights* as Max.



Hannah Tardiff leads a large, local cast in Spotlight on Youth's production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's "The Sound of Music."

and Livonia.

The production runs 7 p.m. Thursday, March 14, and Friday, March 15; at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, March 16, and at 2 p.m.

Sunday, March 17.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. The theater has free parking, is handicap

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Tickets are available by phone at the Village Theater Box Office at (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-

5460 or online at www.canton-mi.org/village-theater or wwwspotlight-playersmi.org or in person at The Summit on the Park or at the door.

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CLASS A GIRLS BASKETBALL DISTRICTS

D-sire gets it done for Chiefs

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Points were at a premium Friday night, but there was no shortage of floor burns and drenched uniforms following the Class A girls basketball district final between host Canton and Northville.

When all was said and done, both teams sank just eight field goals in the matchup. But the Chiefs toughed it out to prevail 29-23 and turn the tables on the Mustangs, who defeated Canton in the 2012 district final.

"It (district trophy) means so much," said Canton junior forward Paige Aresco, who led the Chiefs with 13 points along with nine rebounds. "We wanted this game really badly. They got us last year in the district finals, so we really wanted it this year."

Even more impressive was that the Chiefs (16-6) fought through to victory despite losing one of the team's top rebounders,

junior forward Shannon Perry, in the final minute of the first quarter.

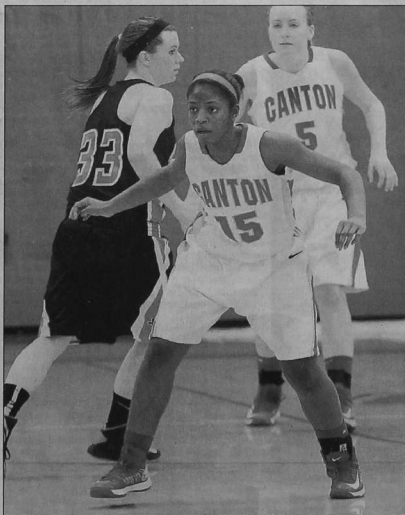
Perry had just muscled her way through the paint for a layup and was fouled on the play. But she fell in a heap, injuring her left knee. Her status is uncertain for the Novi-hosted regionals Tuesday against Dexter (the Ann Arbor Huron district winner).

"You just got to keep playing basketball," Canton head coach Brian Samulski said about what the message was to the team following Perry's injury. "Shannon's a great kid, she's been playing great ball down the stretch."

"But we got to keep doing what we were doing and see what we can get done. To our kids' credit they hung in there. I kept talking and kept fighting."

Northville head coach Todd Gudith, whose team finished the season with an impressive 16-6 record, credited the Chiefs for making

Please see CHIEFS, B2



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Canton's Alanna Brown (No. 15) and Taylor Hunley (No. 5) strike a defensive pose Friday night against Northville's Heather Randall (No. 33).

PCA girls advance

Karen Windle and Emily Gerulis combined for 43 points Friday night as Plymouth Christian Academy defeated Novi Franklin Road Christian 53-45 for the championship of the PCA-hosted Class D district.

Windle (25 points) also grabbed 11 rebounds and collected four steals, while Gerulis (18 points) added five boards and four assists.

Other contributors for PCA (16-6) were Jenna Abraham (five points) and Jenny Malcolm (six boards).

"Karen Windle had a stellar game for us tonight," PCA head coach Carol Gerulis said. "What a way to leave your mark on your last high school home game. Emily had another solid tournament game."

Scoring 38 points, including 15 from the foul line was Franklin Road's Kristen Massey.

The Eagles trailed 10-6 after one quarter but turned it around in the second with a push that made it 28-18 at halftime.

Plymouth Christian never looked back.

Next up are the Class D regionals at Bellevue. PCA will face the regional hosts, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday.

DIVISION 1 BOWLING TEAM STATE FINALS

Upstart Salem rolls to team championship



The Salem varsity boys bowling team won the Division 1 championship Friday at Muskegon.

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Salem's varsity boys bowling team captured the Division 1 championship Friday at Muskegon, but the Rocks needed to cook up some magic earlier in the day to even have the opportunity.

In the finals, Salem defeated No. 1-seeded Saginaw Heritage 1,388-1,258 for the team title. After the teams split the Baker games, the Rocks dominated in the final game, 967-861.

Leading the way for Salem in the final game against Saginaw Heritage — which earlier Friday eliminated No. 8-seeded Canton in the quarterfinals — were Steven Cadwell (213), captain Kevin Williams (207) and Tyler Snyder (204).

Chipping in with 188 was Brandon Allison, while Jimmy Bowling and Nolan Rudis took turns in the fifth spot for a combined score of 155.

After qualifying as the No. 3-seeded team (out of 18) following eight Baker games and two regular team games, Salem nearly couldn't scale the familiar first-round hurdle.

Please see BOWLING, B4

BOYS HOCKEY PRE-REGIONAL

Schultz brothers crush Rocks in double OT

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

After making numerous key stops Wednesday night to keep his team alive in the Division 1 boys hockey pre-regional, Salem goalie Parker Godfrey stared into a "Schultz Double Barrel" and couldn't have had a good feeling about it.

It was almost the midway point of the second overtime against Plymouth, with the two Top-10 teams and KLAAS South Division co-champs locked in a 3-3 tie.

Salem senior Alek Zultowski was

flattened by a bodycheck at the Wildcats' blue line and that sprang the Schultz snipers on an odd-man rush.

In a flash, senior Nick Schultz threaded the puck to junior brother Mike Schultz cruising between the circles. The subsequent one-timer screamed over Godfrey's trapper to give Plymouth a 4-3 victory at Arctic Edge Arena.

"I saw my brother taking it wide right away," said Mike, in the corridor outside the team room, where

Please see HOCKEY, B3



BRIAN QUINTOS

Plymouth's Mitch Claggett (No. 10) tries to break free of Salem defender Justin Katulski (No. 12) during Wednesday night's Division 1 hockey pre-regional at Arctic Edge.

Indoor track state quality

A select team of Observerland area runners from the Stickman United Track Club placed ninth in the distance medley at the Mitrack Indoor State Meet held Feb. 23 at Central Michigan University.

The foursome of J'Haira Johnson (Garden City), Zaid Shareef (Livonia Stevenson), Jacob Colic (Stevenson) and Keenan Jones (Livonia Franklin) were clocked in 11 minutes, 8 seconds.

Johnson was also a member of the seventh-place 3,200-meter relay team.

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Chiefs find way to outlast 'Cats



John Kemski Express Photo
Canton's Rachel Winters (No. 10) tries to drive to the rack Wednesday night, while Plymouth's Shelby Cheston (No. 35) and Brooke Senkbeil (No. 12) defend.

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Somebody pulled the lid on the cylinder just in time for Canton's varsity girls basketball team, as the Chiefs bounced back from first-half struggles to defeat Plymouth 32-23 in Wednesday's Class A district semifinal.

The Chiefs (15-6) trailed 14-9 at halftime, unable to make shots of any kind.

Conversely, the Wildcats outscored Canton 8-4 in the second frame, with junior point guard Kylie Robb (six points) connecting on two treys to do most of that damage.

But Canton came out of halftime determined to do whatever it took to advance to Friday's district final against Northville.

"It wasn't so much what I said, they knew what had to be done," Canton head coach Brian Samulski said. "I thought we played decent ball in the first half, but we just didn't make any shots."

"To our kids' credit, they cranked it up offensively and got after them and were able to get opportunities off some steals."

According to Plymouth head coach Bob de Bear, whose team finished 10-11, a little bit of mojo was lost during the break.

"A lot of times when we go into halftime we don't come out the same team in the second half," de Bear noted. "I think that's what happened. We tried to get Kylie inside posting up, because we like her in there."

"But it seemed like we couldn't get the ball to her. I think the offensive rebounding is probably what hurt us the most."

Plymouth had trouble on the glass, while the Chiefs featured two players with nine boards each — 6-1 junior center Taylor Hunley and 5-11 junior forward Shannon Perry (who tallied seven offensive rebounds).

Up a notch

For as strong as Hunley and Perry performed down the stretch, it hurt the Wildcats to not have 6-5 junior center Shelby Cheston available for stretches due to early foul trouble. She wound up with six points and 10 rebounds.

"I can see why they (Chiefs) have won so

many games," he continued. "They defend, they have athletes that just come out and defend you and wear you down. I'm sure they got fired up in that locker room at halftime. They came out with a whole another intensity."

After buckets by Alana Brown and Rachel Winters made it 14-13 Plymouth just 30 seconds into the third quarter, the Wildcats went up 16-13 on a putback by Cheston.

For the remaining six minutes of the frame, however, Plymouth could not muster a single point.

Still, the Chiefs could not take full advantage, finally going up 17-16 with 1:17 left on a layup by junior forward Paige Aresco (14 points).

The Wildcats briefly regained the lead with seven minutes remaining in regulation on sophomore guard Paige Sloinski's 3-ball from the left wing.

Then with about 2:30 into the fourth, with the score 19-11, Cheston was whistled for her fourth foul and had to sit on the bench.

Hunley (five points, nine

rebounds, five steals) put the Chiefs up 21-19 on the two ensuing free throws. Soon after that, it was 25-19 following successive layups by Aresco and Hunley.

Canton then worked the clock to perfection, forcing Plymouth to commit fouls. Sealing the win in the final two minutes were Hunley, freshman guard Natalie Winters and Brown (six points).

"They gutted it out, they grinded it out," Samulski said. "This time of year, you got to grind it out and tough it out. They did it in the second half."

Meanwhile, de Bear said the future remains bright for his team, with all but graduating senior Lexie McGhee expected back.

"Right now they're basketball seniors," de Bear said. "Some of them have three years of experience now, two years for others."

As for McGhee, "we will really miss her leadership. She's always tried to keep things upbeat."

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CHIEFS

Continued from page B1

ing it tough sledding offensively.

"They are a good man team, they're really disciplined, that's their strength," Gudith said. "And they really help out, too, so you never really get a wide-open look. Just when you think you got a clean look, they got somebody there to help and cover."

The Mustangs also were pretty tough on 'D,' with physical play in the post by junior Heather Randall, among others. "Our defense was good, too. We scored the same number of baskets as they did," Gudith said.

Extra effort

Canton took an 8-3 lead after one quarter, scoring the final six points on a pair of layups by Aresco and Perry's putback with 36 seconds left.

The Mustangs trailed 13-9 at halftime, unable to get much going. When they did have a promising possession, Canton junior guard Rachel Winters (five points, four steals) was in the vicinity to drive around the floor after 50-50 balls or rip them away from Northville players.

The Mustangs came out of the intermission making two quick buckets (including a trey by senior Brittany Berehulka) to pull back to even at 14-14.

Aresco then scored two free throws and added a hard-nosed layup for an 18-14 edge with 5:10 left in the third. She drove along the baseline from the left wing and put the ball up as she fell to the floor.

"We just kept attacking, we tried to go into the post," Aresco said. "We just tried to play like we always play."

Northville chipped away, however, tying the game again at 19-19 with 24 seconds to go in the quarter on a free throw by senior Kendra Brenner (following a Canton turnover).

Winters sank two free throws in the first minute of the fourth to give Canton the lead again, and she sent a bounce pass to Aresco on a two-on-one drive for



Canton's varsity girls basketball team celebrates after winning the Class A district championship Friday night against Northville.

a nifty layup to give the Chiefs a 23-19 lead with five minutes left.

As per usual, Northville came back. It was a 23-23 game with 3:10 left following Brenner's bank shot — made possible thanks to a block by junior Gabby Mennotti on Aresco at the other end.

With less than two minutes left, Canton junior center Taylor Hunley (five points, eight rebounds) sank a short hook in the paint to give the Chiefs the lead for good.

Hunley deflected a Northville field-goal try on the Mustangs' subsequent possession and the Chiefs finished the win with free throws by Aresco and Winters.

About Canton limiting the Mustangs to four points in the fourth, Samulski said it was merely another day at the gym.

"That's been those guys all year," he said. "It's their heart, their desire. I know they're going to guard and rebound. The question is, can we score enough points to get it done? We found a way to get enough points."

Also playing a strong game on defense for Canton was sophomore guard Alana Brown, with four points and four rebounds.

Brenner and Berehulka led Northville in scoring, with 10 and seven points, respectively.

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Hard work yields success for PCA girls

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

It took a paint job for Plymouth Christian Academy to outtake Southfield Christian in Wednesday night's Class D girls basketball district matchup.

The Eagles wound up winning 54-37 to advance to Friday's district final against Franklin Road Christian. But for the first eight minutes against Southfield Christian, PCA head coach Carol Gerulis must have been wondering if the season would even continue.

Beset by off-the-mark shooting from the perimeter, the host Eagles were down 13-3 after one stanza.

Strong team defense against Southfield Christian's top scorer, Charity Godbold, was another key to the victory. Godbold registered 30 points in the first meeting between the teams, but she managed just 17 on Wednesday.

The coach praised the efforts of Malissa Mullett, Rachel Smith and Jenna Abraham, who collectively "played a great defensive game."

In addition to her offensive output, Emily Gerulis contributed eight rebounds, four steals and three assists to the cause.

PCA (15-6) outscored

EAGLES WIN DISTRICT

Plymouth Christian Academy's varsity girls basketball team won the final of the PCA-hosted Class D district Friday night with a 54-35 win over New Franklin Road Christian. The Eagles, now 16-6, will advance to play 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Bellevue regional, against the host team.

the visitors 20-9 in the second to go up 23-22 at halftime. The Eagles bumped the lead up to 33-28 after three before closing the game out strong with a 21-9 fourth.

"We were taking a lot of outside shots and I told them to start getting the ball inside," Carol Gerulis stressed.

"For Jenny and Emily to score 37 points combined in three quarters, that was pretty good." Strong team defense against Southfield Christian's top scorer, Charity Godbold, was another key to the victory. Godbold registered 30 points in the first meeting between the teams, but she managed just 17 on Wednesday.

The coach praised the efforts of Malissa Mullett, Rachel Smith and Jenna Abraham, who collectively "played a great defensive game."

In addition to her offensive output, Emily Gerulis contributed eight rebounds, four steals and three assists to the cause.

Malcolm grabbed 10 rebounds while Karen Windle made an across-the-board impact with seven points, nine rebounds, five assists and five steals.

Brought up from the junior varsity for the districts were sophomores Raina Postma and Danielle Witkowski, but they did not play.

Both were called up to beef up the roster following the loss of junior guard Rachel Fuller for the rest of the season following surgery last week to remove a blood clot from an arm.

The surgery was a success and Fuller is expected to make a full recovery.

"It's just a big adjustment, it's tough for the kids because the (Fuller) is such a big part of our team and is such a tough competitor," the coach said. "And it's tough for her teammates because they have to fill a void that's not there right now."

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Late Registrants Accepted

'Tremendous'

Bitter loss doesn't diminish Salem icers' outstanding season

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

All season long, Salem varsity boys hockey coach Ryan Ossennmacher preached to his team the importance of working and fighting for every inch of ice possible.

On Wednesday night, perhaps a few extra inches was all that kept the Rocks from defeating arch-rival Plymouth in a Division 1 pre-regional match at Arctic Edge Arena in Canton.

Hanging on to a 3-2 lead late in the third period, with Salem about to kill off a crucial penalty, an unsuccessful clearing attempt kept the Wildcats on the attack long enough to tie

the game.

But Ossennmacher didn't put the blame for the loss on that situation.

"We've talked a lot this year about inches, gaining inches," he said. "Where do you find those inches? Through hard work, getting stronger, faster, quicker and more skill. It is a game of inches. 'Whoever wins that battle is typically the team that's going to win the game. That's what happened tonight.'"

A few inches here or there might have helped push the Rocks over the hump as far as tasting postseason success.

After a 12-game winning streak had Salem on a hot streak going into the Plymouth

game, the team had hopes of maybe even getting to Compuware Arena for the Final Four weekend (March 8-9) finals.

That didn't happen, nor did the Rocks buy extra time for four-year captain Kyle Downey to return to the ice before his prep career ended.

Sidelined by illness, Downey could only watch nervously behind the boards next to the Salem bench.

"We talked as a team about trying to buy Kyle more time to come back," Ossennmacher said. "Of all the guys, a four-year senior captain, he deserved to be out there."

Then with his voice cracking from emotion, Ossennmacher

added that he just felt "terrible for him. They say things happen for a reason. I'm not quite sure what the reason behind that might be."

He praised the senior class as a group, not only for having an outstanding season (Salem finished 18-7-1 and earned a share of the KLAAS South Division along with the Lash Cup for Park supremacy) but for being a quality group of young men.

"Just an outstanding group,"

Ossennmacher said. "Beyond

ice, they're just a tremendous

group of guys. Fun to coach."

In addition to Downey, those

seniors include Alex Zultowski,

Evan Patton, Jake Fedel, Adam

Marthaler, Kory Johnston, and

goalie Anthony Veresan.

Those seniors — augmented by a number of talented juniors and sophomores — helped the Rocks turn the season around in the second half.

"There was a point when we were in Traverse City (late December) where we could have gone one of two ways," he added. "We could have continued on a mediocre path or we could have done what we did, and that's rattle off 12 straight wins and have a tremendous season."

"I didn't end like we wanted to or how we planned on it, but you can't take away from what they did during the regular season."

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Trying to stay a stride or two ahead of Salem's Kory Johnston (No. 17, left) is Plymouth's Mike Scarpello (No. 17).

HOCKEY

Continued from page B1

the Wildcats celebrated amid loud music. "I saw it was a 2-on-1 and I just yelled to Nick 'high slot' he gave it to me and I just saw the right side open."

Mike — who now has 27 goals and 41 assists for 68 points — said it was a great feeling to team up with Nick (35-37-72) to score the clincher, which catapulted Plymouth (21-5-3) into Saturday night's regional final at the DISC in Dearborn.

"Me and my brother have been playing roller hockey, ice hockey since we were like eight, 10 years old together," Mike said. "It's been a blast ever since. We've always had chemistry to start but as the season went on I think it's grown tremendously."

According to Plymouth head coach Gerry Vento "they've been quite a pair this season, I'm not surprised one of them (Schultz brothers) got the winner. There were a couple guys on the bench I thought had opportunities."

The Schultzes also teamed up on Plymouth's second goal, at 1:16 of the third to go up 2-1. On that one, Nick finished the job.

Over two soon

Outside the Salem locker room, Rocks' head coach Ryan Ossennmacher could not believe the No. 8-ranked team's postseason already had ended. Salem finished 18-7-1 for the season.

"There were a couple miscues on that situation," said Ossennmacher, about the sequence that ended with the Schultz goal. "But a game like that doesn't boil down to

one play like that.

"There were probably other opportunities where we could have scored or other opportunities where we could have prevented them from scoring. So to put the loss on that one play probably isn't fair. It was a good game, they're a good team and they earned it."

Although Vento was obviously thrilled with the victory, he empathized with Ossennmacher and the Rocks.

"It's too bad that two quality teams meet so early," Vento said. "It's kind of frustrating. I'm on the winning side of it, but I've been on the losing side of it too."

For a while, however, it looked as though Godfrey would get the better of the Wildcats, including a couple former youth hockey teammates.

"Parker Godfrey used to play on my team before high school and he played phenomenal, we couldn't get anything past him," Mike Schultz said. "Our plan was just to get sloppy rebounds, get greasy."

Godfrey stopped 33 of 37 shots, including a penalty shot by Nick Schultz with 11:44 left in the third when the game was 2-2.

The Plymouth player was denied on the attempt when Godfrey did not bite on a fake and flashed out his right pad — putting a charge into the blue-clad half of the jammed-packed Arctic Edge bleachers.

Standing tall

For long stretches of the contest, when the ice was tilted anything but level, it was Godfrey who stood up to the barrage and gave his team a chance.

"Parker played very well," Ossennmacher said.

"He's played well since he took over the starting job in January. That was only his second loss of the season. He kept us in that game for good chunks."

The Salem faithful got even louder a couple minutes later when the Rocks scored a power-play marker to take a 3-2 advantage with 9:03 to play in regulation.

On that goal, Zultowski passed the puck up to junior forward Jason Newell in the left circle.

Newell then sent it over to sophomore winger Noah Willer for a low shot that beat Plymouth sophomore goalie Jared Maddock (14 saves).

It was Willer's second power-play goal of the night. He opened the scoring at 5:37 of the first when he buried the rebound of a Newell shot with junior forward Jake Sealy drawing the other helper.

The Wildcats weren't about to go quietly, of course.

With just over six minutes remaining, Plymouth went on the power play.

For a while, the Rocks appeared as though they would kill off the bid.

Blocking a shot at the blue line to get the puck out of the Salem zone was Rocks' junior forward Jack Driscoll — who rifled home the rebound of a shot by junior forward Nick Danis at 3:34 of the third to make it a 2-2 game. (Sophomore defenseman Noah Saad also assisted on the Driscoll goal.)

After Plymouth re-entered Salem territory and with penalty time ticking off, the Rocks had a stress-free chance to clear the puck.

That would have gotten the contest down to the four-minute mark with Salem nursing a one-goal lead.

Instead, after Wildcats' senior forward

Mitch Claggett ripped a shot from the right circle that Godfrey stopped, the Rocks were unable to send the puck into the neutral zone.

Then with play continuing and pressure mounting, another shot was stopped but Godfrey could not corral it.

Nick Schultz found the loose puck, and with Godfrey prone on the ice, he flicked a shot high into the cage. Assisting on the tally were junior forward Zach Tavierne and senior blueliner Dean Gunther.

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Whalers closer to clinching

The Plymouth Whalers have been one of the OHL's hottest teams since December, and nothing changed Friday as they pounded host Erie 7-2 to get closer to clinching the West Division title.

Scoring his 44th and 45th goals of the season for Plymouth (36-17-5-4, 81 points) was Vince Trocheck, who also assisted on a third-period tally by Tom Wilson (his 22nd goal).

Other Whalers to put pucks past Osters' goalie Oscar Dansk (30 saves) included Garrett Meurs (27th), Rickard Rakell (21st), Mitchell Heard (9th) and Austin Levi (2nd).

Plymouth led 3-1 after the first and doubled that advantage to 6-2 entering the third.

Making 17 stops for the victory was Plymouth goalie Alex Nedeljkovic, who improved his own record to 15-2-1-1.

The Whalers will wrap up their five-game road trip with games Sunday and Tuesday, against Mississauga and Saginaw, respectively.

PLYMOUTH 7, NIAGARA 2

OHL HOCKEY

ARA 1: Garrett Meurs scored two goals within the first 5:18 of the second period Thursday to spark the Plymouth Whalers to this OHL victory at Niagara.

Meurs broke a 0-0 tie with his goal at 1:32 of the second, from Gianluca Curcuruto. After Nick Malysa made it 2-0, Meurs tallied his 26th of his season from the right side. Heard and Connor Carlick. It was 4-0 entering the third, following Carlick's 12th of the year (from Heard and Vince Trocheck).

The Whalers kept firing and scoring in the third period. At 4:59, Trocheck netted his 43rd of the year from defenseman Austin Levi. And less than two minutes later it was Cody Payne who turned on the red light for his 15th.

Plymouth goalie Alex Nedeljkovic lost his shut-out bid at 17:17 of the third, but the Whalers got it right back at 18:14 when Zach Lorentz scored (his 11th) from Payne and Michael Whaley.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL

DISTRICT TOURNEY PAIRINGS

CLASS A

at NORTHVILLE

Monday, March 4: Salem v. Canton, 5 p.m.; Plymouth v. Northville, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6: Salem-Canton winner v. Novi, 5 p.m.; Plymouth-Northville winner v. Novi-Detroit Catholic Center, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 8: Championship final, 7 p.m.

CLASS D

at TAYLOR BAPTIST PARK

(HOST)

Monday, March 4: (A) Lutheran High Westland at (B) Taylor Baptist Park, 7 p.m.; (C) Allen Park Inter City Baptist at (D) Newport Lutheran South, 7 p.m.; (E) Westland Huron Valley Lutheran at (F) Plymouth Christian Academy, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6: Salem-Trillium Academy at A-B winner, 6 p.m.; C-D winner v. E-F winner, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, March 8: Championship final, 7:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the regional semifinals, 5:30 p.m. Monday, March 11 at Novi v. Saline Washtenaw Christian district champion.)

GIRLS BASKETBALL

REGIONAL PAIRINGS

CLASS A

at NOVI

Tuesday, March 5: Canton v. Dexter, 5:30 p.m.; Harland v. F.H. Harrison, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 7: Championship final (Winner advances to the state quarterfinals, 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 12 at Davison.)

CLASS B

at LIVONIA LADYWOOD

Tuesday, March 5: Ida v. Flat Rock, 5:30 p.m.; March 6: Ladywood v. River Rouge, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 7: Championship final, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the state quarterfinals, 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 12 at Lake Fenton v. Parma Western

regional champion)

BOYS SWIMMING

MISAA FINALS

Friday, March 8

Division 1 prelims at Holland Aquatics, noon.

Saturday, March 9

Division 1 finals at Holland Aquatics, noon.

GIRLS GYMNASICS

at Plymouth H.S.

Friday, March 8

Team finals, 2 p.m.

Saturday, March 9

Individual finals, noon.

MEN'S DIVISION HOOPS

NAIA COLLEGE HJ TOURNEY

(at Point Lookout, Mo.)

Wednesday, March 6

Individual finals, noon.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

(RussMatt Invitational at Auburndale, Fla.)

Monday, March 4

MU v. St. Francis (2), 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 5

MU v. St. Francis (2), 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6

MU v. Bethel (Ind), 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, March 7

MU v. Olivet (2), 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, March 9

MU v. Avila (2), 10:15 a.m.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

(Tucson, Ariz. Inv. Games)

Sunday, March 3

MU v. William Penn, 1 p.m.

MU v. Viterbo, 3:30 p.m.

Monday, March 4

MU v. St. Joe (2), 12:30 p.m.

MU v. Northwest Coll, 3 p.m.

MU v. Olivet (III), 5 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6

MU v. Hope Inter, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 7

MU v. Univ. Great Falls, 11 a.m.

MU v. Olivet (III), 3:30 p.m.

Friday, March 8

MU v. York Coll, 10:30 a.m.

MU v. Olivet (III), 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 9

MU v. Ashford, 1 p.m.

MU v. Dickinson St, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 10

MU v. Park Central, 11 a.m.

MU v. Park Central, 1 p.m.

State-ing their case



The Canton varsity boys bowling team on Feb. 22 finished third in the Division 1 team regionals at Super Bowl and qualified for the DI state finals in Muskegon. Members of the team, coached by Karl Brubaker (left) include (listed alphabetically) Gary Barnett, Alex Champagne, Aaron Madsen, Jack Peltz, Josh Pozan, Michael Richards and Michael Zelenak. Madsen, Pozan and Richards also qualified for the individual finals. Salem won the team regional championship.

BOWLING

Continued from page B1

That has been something the team has had trouble with in previous trips to the finals, Salem head coach Kathie Hahn said.

In the quarterfinals against Roseville, it took a clutch 3-10

spare by Williams to enable the Rocks to earn a 1,356-1,350 win and keep bowling.

"It was just unbelievable," Hahn said. "I couldn't believe it. The kids started jumping, they were all excited."

"This is the third time in five years we've come to states, but we always lost in the first round. So to get over that hurdle and win the first round was huge. It was a feeling I just can't explain."

Salem then had to ward off Jackson in the semifinals, doing so by a 1,386-1,172 score. The Rocks fell behind after the two Baker games, but bounced back yet again.

Allison and Cadwell were outstanding in that matchup, with

big-game scores of 247 and 233, respectively.

Hahn, who coaches the team along with Glenn Clark, pointed to the Williams spare against Roseville as the key moment, however.

"It came down to the very last ball and Kevin Williams had to make the 3-10 split and when he made that we clinched it,"

she said.

Canton, meanwhile, finished eighth in the qualifying block, with 3,319 points.

The Chiefs, who were finalists in 2012, could not enjoy an encore, however. In the quarters, Saginaw Heritage knocked them out by a 1,270-1,260 tally.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

Caddie scholarships

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 Martindale, a student at Washtenaw Technical Middle College sponsored by Oakland Hills Country Club.

The Western Golf Association, 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 WGA/ESF. Recipients were chosen

after individual candidate interviews. Additional scholarships may be awarded in the spring.

"These young men and women have been outstanding students in the classroom and leaders in both their schools and communities," said John Kackowski, WGA president and CEO. "We welcome them to the Evans Scholars family and know they will continue their success as college students."

'Cats baseball clinics

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 is only 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.

PCLL clinics

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

The clinics will take place at Total Baseball in Wixom, 3099 S. Wixom Road, and the cost of each clinic is \$10 per participant. The remaining schedule is as follows:

Saturday, April 13: hitting, 4-5 p.m.; infield/outfield, 5-6 p.m. and 6-7 p.m.;
Sunday, April 21: hitting, 4-5 p.m., infield/outfield, 5-6 p.m. and 6-7 p.m.

Barber is top CCHA rookie

Coming off a sweep of Lake Superior State, Miami of Ohio University freshman right winger Riley Barber (Livonia) garnered Central Collegiate Hockey Association Gongshow Rookie of the Week honors for the fourth time this season.

Barber, a sixth-round pick of the Washington Capitals in the 2012 NHL Draft, finished with two goals and an assist in a 5-4 and 2-1 victories over the Lakers.

His 23 points (14 goals, 20 assists) on the year lead the CCHA and he is tied for most points among rookies in the NCAA. The RedHawks (21-8-5, 16-4-6) need just one shootout or regulation win Friday at home against Ohio State to clinch the CCHA regular season title outright.

Dynamo 1st

The Livonia YMCA Dynamo, an under-11 girls soccer team, posted a 7-0 record to win the second indoor session at High Velocity Sports in Canton.

Team members include: Andrea Abramson, Jamie Colling, Allison Esker, Emily Esker, Alexis Gibbons, Mandy Liaacono, Olivia Pelli, Julianna Racette, Riley St. Ledger, Abby Woods and Emily Woods.

The Dynamo are coached by Laura, Don and Lesley McDougall.

Taylor earns GLIAC honor

Grand Valley State University senior forward Brauna Taylor (Livonia-Franklin) was named Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference North Division Player of the Week in women's basketball after recording back-to-back double-doubles.

On Thursday, Taylor had 13 points and 12 rebounds as well as a team-high six assists in the loss at Saginaw Valley State.

The 5-foot-9 forward was then a key part to the Lakers' 61-58 victory over Wayne State as her pair of free throws with a minute left gave GVSU a lead that it would not give up.

Taylor had 23 points and a career-high 14 boards against the Warriors to earn her third Player of the Week honor this season.

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Giving back

Worship
community
seeks
volunteers
for service

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

David Sharpe is an altar server, usher, mover, singer and reader during Sunday morning worship at Independence Village in Plymouth Township.

The only roles he hasn't taken on are priest and organist.

For the past 13 years, the Farmington Hills man has kept the service running smoothly for seniors at the retirement and assisted living facility. But now he's reaching out to others in hopes of recruiting new volunteers to assist with the "Community of the Good Shepherd."

"Father and I have to put it all together," said Sharpe, referring to the Rev. Jacek Zebrowski, a hospice chaplain who also leads the 10 a.m. Sunday service at Independence Village. Rosetta Maddick of Plymouth is the organist. They also lead Good Friday, Ash Wednesday and Christmas day services and offer Anointing of the Sick one Sunday each month.

"Initially, we had a larger number of volunteers who lived outside the



Residents of Independence Village in Plymouth participate in a communion service.

Village but at this time there are only three volunteers," Sharpe noted. Jeannette, his wife of 55 years, also helps out occasionally.

Community of the Good Shepherd, which meets in a dining room, is

the only in-house worship service offered on Sunday morning at the senior residence.

Katie Harkness, Independence Village assistant activities director, said seniors may attend a Roman Catholic service on Tuesdays and a Protestant service the second

Thursday of the month. A shuttle bus also takes residents to a handful of churches on Sunday.

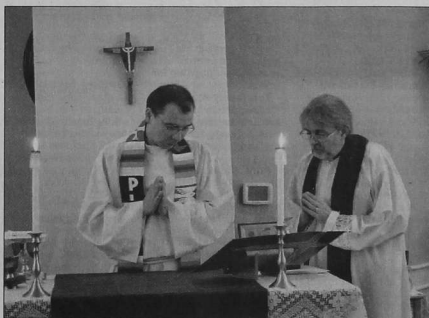
She said the Community of the Good Shepherd service "is much needed."

"Having it on Sunday is important to residents. It would be something that would be missed if we didn't have it. Not everyone can take a shuttle. This allows the church to be brought to them."

Creating community

The Rev. Patrick Lowery, who lived across the street from Independence Village in 1999, asked Sharpe if he'd assist in founding a worship community. Sharpe knew the priest from an Orthodox church he had attended.

"This was an opportuni-



The Rev. Jacek Zebrowski (left) and the Rev. Patrick Lowery conduct services at Independence Village in Plymouth.

ty to create an outreach ministry outside of a traditional church building. Our worship services began, and Community of the Good Shepherd became a reality," Sharpe said. "We're not a church. We're a community."

Over the years, five priests from different Catholic traditions — ranging from Orthodox to Anglican — have led services. Attendees are from various Christian backgrounds. The service is free of denominational ties and dogma.

Giving back

Sharpe, a retired Detroit school teacher, was raised as a Baptist and later became a Methodist.

His wife, also a retired Detroit teacher, was raised as a Roman Catholic. As a married couple, they attended an Episcopal church for many years. Now the Community of the Good Shepherd is Sharpe's place of worship and a major volunteer commitment. He also



Rosetta Maddick plays the organ at services.

regularly gardens at the Finnish Cultural Center in Farmington Hills.

"When you've been blessed, as my wife and I both have been, and you are at the point you have all you need and more, you want to give back to your society," he said. "It's satisfying whenever you donate your time or you give to others. You get far more than you give. Of course, everyone says that, but it's true."

The Community of the Good Shepherd needs volunteers to assist with readings, to sing, greet worshippers, play musical instruments and set up and take down chairs.

"We're open to a lot of things. We can develop our community in a lot of ways," Sharpe said. Prospective volunteers can call him at (248) 477-5709 or e-mail to dcs37mgsc@earthlink.net.

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Taste chili, bowl for animals at local events

Tasteful Challenge
Tail Waggers' 1990 is accepting applications for chili cooks.

Interested participants can enter the group's annual Chili Hoops and Hounds chili cook off for \$30 and will receive a signature event T-shirt, along with the chance to earn a "grand prize" for the best tasting chili, best table decoration or People's Choice Award.

The event is set for 1-5 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at UAW Local 182, 35603 Plymouth Road, in Livonia.

The public may sample chili made by the area's best chefs for \$1 per sample or with an all-you-can-

eat wristband for \$15. All guests will have a chance to vote in the People's Choice award and be included in a drawing for prizes.

This family-fun event will feature an inflatable, interactive basketball challenge, face-painting, magic, entertainment and more.

Print a registration packet and form from www.tailwaggers1990.org, or request a packet via e-mail at tailwaggers1990@yahoo.com or call (734) 855-4077.

Registration form and checks made payable to Tail Waggers' 1990 can be mailed to Tail Waggers' 1990, 28402 Five Mile,

Livonia MI 48154. All registrations must be received no later than March 15.

Bowling for animals
Aleta Sill and Michelle Mullen, co-owners of Aleta Sill's Bowling World, hope to raise \$40,000 for the Michigan Animal Adoption Network (MAAN) and the Friends For The Dearborn Animal Shelter through their annual Bowl-4-Animal Rescue fundraiser.

The event is set for 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 10 at Country Lanes in Farmington Hills, but the duo is looking for event sponsors and eBay auction items now.

"Right now, we are looking for everything from an individual buying a ticket to bowl, folks pledging to get donations, businesses becoming official event sponsors and generous people donating items for us to auction off as soon as we receive them. We have some really affordable marketing opportunities in conjunction with this event, not to mention that sponsors will be making a huge difference for two local charities," Sill said.

Each Bowl-4-Animal Rescue event allows MAAN and the Animal Care Network to offer two vaccination clinics annually to help thou-



sands of animals. Forty dollars can buy litter for all of the Dearborn shelterer's cats for one week and \$30 feeds all of its dogs for one week. In 2012, the event raised more than \$26,500 for the Dearborn shelter

and MAAN. Tickets to Bowl-4-Animal Rescue are \$30 in advance (or \$35 at the door) and include three games, food and shoe rental. There will be on-site auctions, raffles, door prizes, music, karaoke and a cash bar. Bowlers can have one of the professional bowlers throw a strike for them. Get tickets by calling Aleta Sill's Bowling World at (248) 615-9060 or via e-mail to Michelle@Your-BowlingCoach.com. Want to help with sponsorship or auction items? Call Mullen at (248) 217-8275 or e-mail her at michelle@YourBowlingCoach.com.

Learn what your clothing says about you

The Association for Women in Communications (AWC) - Detroit chapter presents a special evening with Alison Vaughn, CEO of Jackets for Jobs, Inc., at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 21, at Motor City Java House, 17336 Lahser, Detroit.

A former model, Alison Vaughn is an award-winning entrepreneur, co-author of *Inspired Style*, and a contributing writer to the *Michigan Chronicle* and *Michigan Front Page*.

Vaughn will share practical information that empowers women to make the right clothing style choices to reflect the message and image they want to convey. She also will show style blunders, while covering these topics:

- How a certain style captures positive attention
- The best look to communicate confidence and get your ideas heard
- How to take a fresh

look at the treasures you own and renew your look

- Suggestions to look great at any age

- Fashion rules you need to break
- The one color every woman should have in her wardrobe

Jackets for Jobs is a nonprofit organization that provides employment etiquette, career-skills training, and professional clothes to its low-income clients. It has assisted more than 14,000

individuals with employment since 2000. The organization has been supported by ABC's *The View*, NBC's *Today Show*, and *O, The Oprah Magazine*. It is also the charitable arm of TJ Maxx.

Vaughn is a member of the Association of Image Consultants International, the National Association of Female Executives, Women Impacting Public Policy, Martha Stewart's "Dreamers into Doers" and is active with

the NAACP.

The evening will begin with networking and a light supper, followed by the program. Donations of at least one article of clean, gently-used women's business clothing are requested.

The cost is \$20 for AWC members, \$30 for non-members, and \$15 for students.

For more information, or to register, visit www.womconetroit.org or call (866) 385-1784.



Alison Vaughn will talk about clothing styles and what messages they communicate to others, Thursday, March 21, in Detroit.

Learn about Miracle League, Key's Kidz in Plymouth

Tickets are available through Monday, March 4, for the "Miracles Among Us Celebration of Making Dreams Come True," set for Thursday, March 7, at Plymouth

Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth.

The event is aimed at women who are interested in learning more about Kelly's Kidz and The Mir-

acle League of Plymouth and it honors the fifth anniversary of both organizations, which assist children with special needs.

Cost is \$30 and includes

light appetizers, wine and chocolate, served by the men of the Miracle League and the Plymouth Community Arts Council. Check-in will start at 5:30 p.m., followed by the pro-

gram at 6:15 p.m. Register at mlypmouth.org and click on the tickets link. Proceeds will benefit Kelly's Kidz and The Miracle League of Plymouth. Advance

registration only will be accepted for this event. Questions? E-mail to kellyskidz@sbglobal.net or debra@miracleleague-plymouth.org.

REUNIONS

Send information to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Got a class photo or yearbook picture to go with the information? Send it along as a jpg attachment.

DETROIT GESU CATHOLIC SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1956

A reunion is planned for Aug. 17. Call Jack Sayed at (810) 231-9230.

DETROIT MACKENZIE

CLASSES FROM 1964-67

Family & Friends Day bowling fundraiser runs 2-6 p.m. Sunday, March 10 at Oaks Lanes, 8450 N. Middlebelt, Westland. Cost is \$20 per person and includes three games, shoes, pizza and beverage. Open to adults and children. Call Rita Whitley at (313) 281-6001.

PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1968

A 45-year class reunion is planned for Saturday, Sept. 7. For information contact Susan Keith Johnson at sjohnson4@comcast.net.

SOUTH LYON

CLASS OF 1963

A 50th class reunion is planned for July 20. For more information, contact Barbara Cook at (248) 349-5982.

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1983

6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Oct. 26, at Burton Manor Banquet and Conference Center, Livonia. For more information, e-mail to Linda Harbison at jghs.1983@gmail.com.

Author on nuclear meltdown will speak in Livonia

Cecile Pineda, author of *Devil's Tango: How I Learned the Fukushima Step by Step*, will talk about the nuclear industry at the next meeting of Citizens for Peace, 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 12 at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia.

The event is part of Pineda's 10-day book tour of the Great Lakes region, which coincides with the second anniversary of the meltdown of three reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear facility in Japan. She'll offer an update on the consequences of Fukushima during her appearance in Livonia.

Published on the one-year anniversary of the disaster, the book, in Pineda's own words, is "a crazy quilt of multiple voices, pieced together day-by-day." It reflects her anguished attempt to come to terms with Fukushima's catastrophic consequences for the entire planet. "We are beyond the place where available technology can address what is ongoing and probably will be ongoing for many, many

The event is part of Pineda's 10-day book tour of the Great Lakes region, which coincides with the second anniversary of the meltdown of three reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear facility in Japan.

decades," she says. Copies of Pineda's newest book will be available for signing and sale at the Unity of Livonia event.

Pineda has been an anti-war activist from early life. Her novels, all available from WingsPress.com, have been critically acclaimed, with *Face*, winning the

Commonwealth Club of California Gold Medal — a record for first fiction — as well as the Sue Kaufman Prize and a National Book Award nomination. Her novel, *The Love Queen of the Amazon*, written with an NEA Fiction Fellowship, was named a Notable Book of the Year by *The New York Times*.

Citizens for Peace, a sponsor of her stop in Livonia, Co-sponsors are the Alliance to Halt Peril 3; Huntington Woods Peace, Citizenship & Education Project; IHM Justice, Peace and Sustainability Office; Nukewatch; Peace Action of MI; Sierra Club (Southeast Michigan); Swords Into Plow Shares Peace Center & Gallery; US Peace Council (Michigan chapter); Women's Action for New Directions (Southeast Michigan); and Women's International League for Peace & Freedom.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call Colleen at (734) 425-0079.

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Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the Government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

Attorneys J.B. Bleske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bleske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys with a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases with a much higher percentage yet.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bleske has written a book for attorneys about the

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bleske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bleske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bleske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-75. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-5530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

www.ssdfighter.com

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

March

AUCTION

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

Location: Redford Aldersgate United Methodist, 10000 Beech Daly, 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

CONCERT

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, March 10

Location: St. John Lutheran Church, 23225 Gill, Farmington Hills

Details: Olivia Duval, soprano, sings a program of spirituals and art songs, accompanied by Wesley Fishwick at the piano. Admission to the concert is free, although a free will offering will be collected

Contact: www.stjohn-elca.org or www.wesleyfishwick.com

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. 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: Miniseries shown 8-10 p.m. Sunday, through March 31; discussion from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, from March 6-April 3

Location: Kenwood Church, 20200 Merriman, Livonia

Details: The church will offer a discussion group

on the History Channel miniseries, "The Bible"

Contact: (248) 476-8222

FISH DINNER

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m. Friday through March 22

Location: St. Aidan Church Activity Center, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Adult dinner includes two filets of salmon, cod or a combination of 9. Child dinner includes one filet of salmon or cod or macaroni and cheese for \$5. Both

the adult and child dinners include roasted potatoes, vegetables, coleslaw, dinner roll, and dessert. Beverages included for adults are coffee, tea, milk, pop and water. For children they are milk, pop and water. The child's dinner is for age 10 and under. Side dishes of macaroni and cheese are available for \$2

Contact: (734) 425-5950

LENTEN LECTURE

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

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

Details: 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 for register

Contact: (734) 455-5910

LENTEN SERVICE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, through March 20

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

Details: Inspiring and meditative worship using Holden Evening Prayer. Journeys of faith witnessed by several members

Contact: (734) 427-1414 or (734) 338-6722

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; belchf@gmail.com

LENTEN SERVICE

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

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinnloch, 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, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through March 20

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

Details: Soup suppers and service

Contact: (248) 553-3380

MASS, PIZZA & 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

PARTY PLANNING

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

Location: Temple Beth El's Handelman 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 tip 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 Spas. 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

POMEGRANATE GUILD

Time/Date: 1 p.m. March 10

Location: In the Prentiss Apartments Community Room, located on 10 Mile, east of Greenfield Oak Park

Details: Marilyn Feingold will lead a needlework mezuzah workshop. There is a \$7 materials fee. The Pomegranate Guild of southeastern Michigan studies and creates Judaic needlework

Contact: Judy Galperin at (248) 661-5337

PRESCHOOL

Ward Preschool

Time/Date: Open registration begins at 9 a.m. March 20 for the 2013-14 school year

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville

Details: Enrolling this month for children turning 3 and 4 by Sept. 1, 2013 and age 5 by Feb. 1, 2014

Contact: (248) 374-5911 or e-mail carol.nowak@wardchurch.org

Ongoing

CLASSES/STUDY

Men's Bible study

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m. Sunday: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Hagerty, Northville Township

Contact: John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491

New Life Community Church

Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m. Fridays; reading program for students in

grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville

Contact: (734) 846-4615

Our Lady of Loretto

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

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Scripture study

Contact: (313) 534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday

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

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

Contact: (734) 261-1455, ext. 200, or www.livoniasaintmichael.org

Ward Presbyterian

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays

Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville

Details: Learner's Bible study is held

Contact: (248) 374-5920

FAMILY COMMUNITY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday

Location: The Salvation Army, 27500 Shawwassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal

Contact: (248) 477-1153, Ext. 12

FOOD BANK

New Hope Church

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only

Location: 44815 Cherry Hill, Canton

Contact: Call pastor Ranay Brown to schedule an appointment at (734) 270-2528.

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, MOPS, 7-8:30 p.m. first and third Thursday, MOPSnext. Both programs run September-May

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners; MOPSnext supports mothers of school-aged children. Contact: Rebekah Creeden at (734) 522-6830 for MOPS and Susan Magner at (248) 478-3643 for MOPSnext details.

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays

Location: 24800 West Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.

Contact: Amy at (313) 937-3084 or Kristen at (734) 542-0767

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday

Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service. All Creatures ULC describes the gathering as non-denominational and Christian. Water is available for dogs

Contact: (313) 563-0162

PRAYER

Nardin Park United Methodist Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday

Location: 29887W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests.

Contact: (248) 476-8860

Spring art classes set in Livonia

It's time to get creative. Visual Arts Association of Livonia (VAAL) starts its spring classes and workshops the week of March 11.

It offers a variety of watercolor, acrylic, pastel and oil painting courses, portrait drawing, mixed media, beginning drawing and experimental art.

Classes are taught by professionally-trained teachers and are geared toward both beginning and experienced levels of ability. Tuition ranges from \$55-\$120 for members and \$75-\$100 for nonmembers.

VAAL offers a chance to meet and learn from fellow artists practicing in many media. Members may attend monthly meetings that offer a variety of programs and speakers. Members also may enter fall and spring juried exhibits. However, membership is not required to enroll in art classes and workshops.

The VAAL classroom is located at 37653 Five Mile at Newburgh, in Livonia. To receive a free catalog of classes or for other information call (734) 338-1204 or check out the VAAL website at www.vaalart.org.

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JOINT INFECTION

Joint infection, does it occur? How does a physician diagnose it? How is it treated?

Joint infection does occur. It can happen after knee surgery, after joint aspiration. It can occur after injury to the skin in the area of the joint. It can settle into a joint after bacteremia from a dental procedure or following a colonoscopy. Considering all the possible risks, the actual incidence is very low.

A physician diagnoses joint infection by the sudden onset of the pain and the close proximity of the swollen, painful joint and trauma to the joint or near it. Also, which joint is affected. Infection occurs most often in the knee joint, then in the elbow and wrist. Infection is rare in the shoulders, and only occurs in the feet when the patient has concomitant and advanced peripheral artery disease.

The diagnosis of an infection requires aspiration of fluid from the swollen, painful joint and subsequent gram stain showing bacteria or culture revealing clusters of bacteria. It is necessary to obtain fluid for examination and culture before initiating therapy. Treatment consists of intravenous antibiotics for 4-6 weeks.

This regimen may seem extreme, but it usually works to clear the infection completely from the infected joint. The same resolution holds for knee infections in replacement joints. Six weeks of antibiotic therapy stands in contrast to therapies for infected knee replacements ten years ago. Then, it was considered necessary to remove the infected joint, wait 2-4 months and put in another replacement. Modern therapy replaces such measures.

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Milestones

Rosales-Al-Ghishan

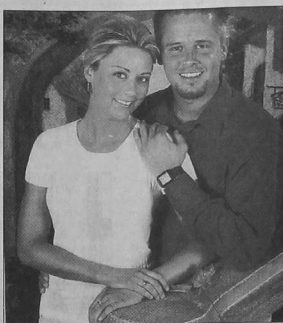
Betty Malkowski of Canton announces the engagement of her granddaughter, Adriann "Annie" Rosales of Canton to George Al-Ghishan of Westland.

Adriann is the daughter of April Rosales and Arthur and Sherry Rosales, all of Canton.

George is the son of Asmahen and Heshan Al-Ghishan of Westland.

Adriann and George both are 2012 graduates of Wayne State University. George earned a bachelor of science degree in environmental science and Adriann earned a bachelor of science degree in radiation therapy.

The wedding is planned for June 14 at Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church, Livonia.



Koleczko-Lightbody

Kristan Marie Koleczko and Michael Foster Lightbody announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Stanley and Laurie Koleczko of Livonia, is a Franklin High School graduate. She graduated in 2004 from the University of Michigan-Dearborn and is employed as a paramedic in Plymouth.

Her fiancé, son of Lincoln and Nancy Lightbody of Livonia, is a Churchill High School graduate. He's employed at Pro Trans International.

A June 2013 wedding is planned in Dearborn.

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Send garden and nature information and photos to Sharon Darney at sharondarney@hometownlife.com.

Frog survey

Volunteers interested in surveying the Rouge wetlands for frogs and toads may sign up for a workshop in recognizing eight frog and toad calls. The Friends of the Rouge offers the class and encourages anyone who is willing to learn the calls and devote a few evenings every month to listening, to sign up. The survey has been conducted since 1998 and results are used to track the health of local wetlands. Workshops are 7-9 p.m.

Tuesday, March 5, at the Master Compost Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton; 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, March 10, at Farmington Hills City Hall, 31555 11 Mile, Farmington Hills and 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, at E.L. Johnson Nature Center, 3325 Franklin Road, Bloomfield Hills. Visit www.rouge.org or call (313) 792-9900.

Livonia Garden Club

Rossann Kovalick, owner of Backyard Birds, in Grosse Pointe Woods, will talk about the hundreds of birds that visit her backyard, at the next meeting of the Club, 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 5, at the Livonia Senior Center, located at Five Mile and Farmington Road, in Livonia. She'll also explain how to attract more wildlife. Light refreshments will be served. Newcomers are welcome. For more information visit www.orgsites.com/mlivonia-gardenclub.

Master Composter

Southeast Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA) in cooperation with the Riverbend Watershed municipalities offers a series of classes in master composting beginning March 11 at the Bloomfield Township Public Library, 1099 Lone Pine Road at Telegraph. Classes run from 6:45-8:30 p.m. Registration fee is \$40. A Master Composter is a community gardening volunteer

who understands how to make compost, soil health, compost benefits, natural mulches, environmental lawn care, and more. In addition to "Composting ... For Earth's Sake" on March 11, other classes in the series are:

- Soil testing and fertilizer options, March 18
- Healthy lawn care, April 8
- Youth education and schoolyard gardens, April 15
- Sustainable landscapes and rainwater recycling, April 22
- SOGWA gardeners' open house, May 4
- Class wrap up, May 6

In order to earn their Master Composter name badge, volunteers attend six classes, build a working compost pile, complete writing assignments, and volunteer 12 hours of time. For more information, e-mail to LFDean@aol.com, visit www.socwa.org, or call (248) 546-5818.

English Gardens

Learn the ABCs of growing herbs at a free presentation, 1 p.m. Saturday, March 9.

Make a kitchen herb garden at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 9. Cost is \$19.99. Sign up online.

Learn about perennial gardening at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 16 at a free presentation. Get a list of best garden performers and tips on selecting plants.

The "Secrets to a Beautiful Lawn" will provide information about keeping lawns green, healthy and growing, at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 23. Free. Get tips on pruning and dividing at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 27 and 1 p.m. Saturday, March 30, at free presentations.

A free presentation will offer suggestions on keeping insects, small and large animals at bay in the garden, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 3. Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, (248) 280-9509; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield, (248) 851-7506.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oeobits@hometownlife.com

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

COLLISTER, STEPHEN

July 14, 1944 - Feb. 16, 2013
Following a brief illness, Steve died of a heart in Hazel Park, MI. A talented musician and graphic artist, he is survived by his beloved sister, Jane Hall of Grass Valley, CA, in addition to two nephews, a niece and extended family. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends. Notable life accomplishments included being a charter member of the Pegasus Group, Realtor of the Year in Battle Creek, and instrumental in starting the Annual Battle Creek Ballroom Festival. He was loved and respected by all he touched. Private services held at his favorite restaurant, Sindbad's in Detroit, MI.

A.J. Desmond & Sons
248-549-8500 view obituary
and share memories at
desmondfuneralhome.com

DAMM, CHARLES A.

Age 86, of Farmington, Michigan, died Feb. 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 World War II, Korea, he served 33 years in the US Navy active duty and retiring as a commodore at NATF 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 Gregory, and brother, Brother Frank Damm, SM. Funeral Mass Thursday, February 28 at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, 23615 Power Road, Farmington. Interment Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Detroit. Memorial gifts suggested through American Heart Association, heart.org.

Arrangements entrusted to the Kennedy-Sundquist Funeral Home, downtown Farmington (248-474-5200).

heeny-sundquist.com

FARLIE, JULIENNE

Age 78, wife of the late Watson. Dear mother of John (Larry) Brenda, Donna, Koehlemann, JoAnn 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 1-5pm with an evening service. Funeral service Friday 10am at the John N. Senter & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd. (between Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill) Garden City. Family suggests memorials to the March of Dimes.

www.senterfuneralhome.com

FUCHS, HENRY R. "HANK"

Feb. 13, 1931 - Feb. 13, 2013
Passed away peacefully on Feb. 13, 2013, at the age of 82, in Farmington Hills. Hank was born in Brooklyn, NY, to Ruth and Henry. He was a Korean War Veteran and a 30 year employee of the Ford Motor Company. He is survived by his children, Greg (Michelle), Bob (Sue) and Debbie (Mike) Umschied, eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren. A memorial service is planned. Details not yet determined.

FURR, MARY LOUISE (NEE KONKEL)

Of Centennial, CO passed away peacefully on January 21, 2013 at the age of 86 after a short illness. She spent her last few days at The Denver Hospice surrounded by her children and grandchildren. Born October 7, 1926 in Detroit, MI to the late Frank J. (Blondkamp) Konkell. She devoted her life to being a loving wife and caring mother of five children. Steven (Terri) of Canton, MI; Stanley E. (Susan) of St. Paul, MN; Ronald L. (Diana) of Centennial, CO; Cynthia L. Noble (Kenneth) of Chandler, AZ; Sandra M. (Kinslow) (Mark) of Aurora, CO. Widowed in 1965 when the children were ages 4 - 16 she quickly adapted to her role of being a single mom. As the children grew, left home and scattered across the country, Mary delighted in traveling to visit them in each new location. With each new adventure, she would always say, "Who would have ever thought I would do that." Her greatest thrill of all was to teach each new grandchild that arrived into her family. She was an avid reader. She eagerly passed that passion to her children and grandchildren. Mary is survived by her children, Jonathan A. Furr, a memorial service will be held at a later date in Newaygo, MI. She will be laid to rest next to her husband in Newaygo Cemetery. The family suggests donations be made in her name to The Denver Hospice, 8299 East Lowry Boulevard, Denver, Colorado 80231. The caregivers there made her last days as comfortable as possible. Her family is very grateful.

GENDROLIS, Elwanda

Age 65, of Westland, MI, formerly of the City of Ann Arbor, passed away Tuesday, February 26, 2013. Arrangements, Byn Funeral Home, Mayfield, MI.

HESS, MARY LOUISE

Age 89, February 22, 2013. Beloved wife of the late George. Dear mother of John (Becky), Matthew and Miriam (Eric) Kassam, Louis (grandmother), Jeremy, Erica, Ashley, Katherine and Jennifer. Sister of the late Elizabeth (John) Deane. Dear Public School teacher at McDonald Elementary from 1962-1980. Member of Dearborn Association of University Women (AAUW). Longtime member of Cherry Hill Baptist Church, 1045 N. 11th, Dearborn Heights (between Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill).

www.santeifuneralhome.com

MCINTYRE, JAMES S.

Age 89 of Redford, Michigan. Beloved husband of Emily (Clark) for 63 years. Loving father of Bill (Maureen) McIntyre, Jeanne (Tom) Shortall, Jim (Rutha Kotzen) McIntyre, John McIntyre, and Dave (Hil) McIntyre. Dear grandfather of Bill Jr., Beth, Larry, Valerie, Vicki, Avery, Elaine, Frances, Katie, and Mary. Great grandfather of 11. Brother of William (Donna) and Donald (Allison) 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 3-8 pm with Service 1:00 am Friday at Charles R. Step Funeral Home, 18425 Beech Drive (btw 6 & 7 Mile) Interment Oakland Hills Cemetery. Contributions to Charles's Hospital in Detroit appreciated. Condolences to charleststepfuneralhome.com

PLATT, RONALD MATTHEW

Age 49 of Maybee, passed Monday, February 25, 2013. Born July 5, 1963 in Detroit. Ronald was the son of Nelson & Donna (Dorothy) Platt. He married the love of his life, Karen A. Nyquist, on March 21, 1992. Ronald was known as being a workaholic, working at Sears, Senior Mechanics with FedEx for the past 20 years as well as working at Caltex Dairy Farm for the past 5 years; many times working 7 days a week. An avid bowler and golfer, he also loved to travel with his wife, visiting such places as Aruba, Jamaica, Mexico and the Dominican Republic and many other destinations. Ronald leaves to cherish his memory Karen, his wife of the past 20 years; daughters: Aimee (David) Busch of Redford Township and Erica Booth of Westland; three grandchildren: Matthew Busch, Christopher Busch and Elizabeth Busch. He also survived by brothers and sisters: Dorian (Ron) Martindale of Oxford, Northville, Steve (Theresa) Castle of Washington Township, Tom (Sherry) Platt of Hazel Park, Wanda Heronimus of Northville, Steve (Theresa) Castle of Southfield and Kathy Cherry of California, as well as several nieces and nephews. Sad to say Ronald was preceded in death by his parents. Funeral services were held at 2nd and at the Allure Chapel-Matthewson Family Funeral Homes. Memorial contributions may be made to the Karmans Cancer Institute. For more information or to leave an online condolence, visit our website at: www.allure.com

MERRILL, WILLIAM H. "BILL"

February 27, 2013, age 69. Loving husband of Janet. Beloved father of Jon (Kathleen) Merrill, Anne Merrill, Fred (Cathy) MacKenzie, Terri (Chris) Gogalia, and Bruce (Ana) Madley. Proud grandfather of nine. Dear brother of Gloria Merrill, Janet Knight, and Elizabeth (Bob) Willner, and the late Richard Merrill. Bill was preceded by his parents, a brother Arthur L. and a sister Elizabeth and a grandson Jonathan A. Furr. A memorial service will be held at a later date in Newaygo, MI. She will be laid to rest next to her husband in Newaygo Cemetery. The family suggests donations be made in her name to The Denver Hospice, 8299 East Lowry Boulevard, Denver, Colorado 80231. The caregivers there made her last days as comfortable as possible. Her family is very grateful.

To share memories, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

VERMEULEN FUNERAL HOME

VERMEULEN FUNERAL HOME

STREMPKA, JOHN

Age 97 of Livonia. Beloved husband of the late Jennie for 70 years. Loving father of Jeanne (Laura), David, and Luana (Bruce) Karzica. Cherished grandfather of six, great-grandfather of four and one on the way. Visitation will take place at Fred Wood Funeral Home, 3610 Five Mile Road (E. of Levo). Livonia, Sunday March 3rd 1-5pm. Funeral services will be held at the funeral home, visiting 9:30AM and services at 10:00AM.

Please share memories at fredwoodfuneralhome.com

FRED WOOD FUNERAL HOME

THOMANN, BEATRICE L.

Age 95, February 7, 2013. Beloved wife of the late Elmer. Loving mother of Gloria J. (Gary) Shelton, Frederick J. (Theresa) Shelton, David J. (Theresa) Shelton. Dearest grandmother of Toyota (Jan) Thomann. Mrs. Thomann was a former employee of The Henry Ford and a member of Nomads. A memorial service will be held at the Henry Ford Education Foundation, 14700 W. Lincoln, Oak MI 48237 or the Education Excellence Foundation for Plymouth/Canton Community Schools, 20000 S. Hwy Plymouth, MI 48170. Please see our online obituary guestbook at www.vefuneralhome.com

MANUS-FERGUSON Funeral Home

YORK, BARBARA J.

Feb. 24, 2013, Age 75 of Garden City. Beloved wife of Clifford. Born 1938, daughter of loving grandmother of Nathan, Sister of Thelma Bigns. Funeral at the Uth Funeral Home, 1045 N. Glenwood Rd., Westland Twp. 10am. Family will receive friends Wed. 2-7pm. Please visit and sign a tribute at www.uthfh.com

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RONALD MATTHEW

Age 49 of Maybee, passed Monday, February 25, 2013. Born July 5, 1963 in Detroit. Ronald was the son of Nelson & Donna (Dorothy) Platt. He married the love of his life, Karen A. Nyquist, on March 21, 1992. Ronald was known as being a workaholic, working at Sears, Senior Mechanics with FedEx for the past 20 years as well as working at Caltex Dairy Farm for the past 5 years; many times working 7 days a week. An avid bowler and golfer, he also loved to travel with his wife, visiting such places as Aruba, Jamaica, Mexico and the Dominican Republic and many other destinations. Ronald leaves to cherish his memory Karen, his wife of the past 20 years; daughters: Aimee (David) Busch of Redford Township and Erica Booth of Westland; three grandchildren: Matthew Busch, Christopher Busch and Elizabeth Busch. He also survived by brothers and sisters: Dorian (Ron) Martindale of Oxford, Northville, Steve (Theresa) Castle of Washington Township, Tom (Sherry) Platt of Hazel Park, Wanda Heronimus of Northville, Steve (Theresa) Castle of Southfield and Kathy Cherry of California, as well as several nieces and nephews. Sad to say Ronald was preceded in death by his parents. Funeral services were held at 2nd and at the Allure Chapel-Matthewson Family Funeral Homes. Memorial contributions may be made to the Karmans Cancer Institute. For more information or to leave an online condolence, visit our website at: www.allure.com

SOLAK, ROSEMARY

February 27, 2013, Age 71 of Grand Levee. Beloved mother of Amy (David) Bowers, William Michele Solak, & the late Jeffrey Solak. Loving grandmother of Jessica Solak. Visitation Sunday 2-4 PM, Interment Glen Eden Memorial Park. Memorial contributions may be made to Karmans Cancer Foundation.

To share memories, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

VERMEULEN FUNERAL HOME

STREMPKA, JOHN

Age 97 of Livonia. Beloved husband of the late Jennie for 70 years. Loving father of Jeanne (Laura), David, and Luana (Bruce) Karzica. Cherished grandfather of six, great-grandfather of four and one on the way. Visitation will take place at Fred Wood Funeral Home, 3610 Five Mile Road (E. of Levo). Livonia, Sunday March 3rd 1-5pm. Funeral services will be held at the funeral home, visiting 9:30AM and services at 10:00AM.

Please share memories at fredwoodfuneralhome.com

FRED WOOD FUNERAL HOME

THOMANN, BEATRICE L.

Age 95, February 7, 2013. Beloved wife of the late Elmer. Loving mother of Gloria J. (Gary) Shelton, Frederick J. (Theresa) Shelton, David J. (Theresa) Shelton. Dearest grandmother of Toyota (Jan) Thomann. Mrs. Thomann was a former employee of The Henry Ford and a member of Nomads. A memorial service will be held at the Henry Ford Education Foundation, 14700 W. Lincoln, Oak MI 48237 or the Education Excellence Foundation for Plymouth/Canton Community Schools, 20000 S. Hwy Plymouth, MI 48170. Please see our online obituary guestbook at www.vefuneralhome.com

MANUS-FERGUSON Funeral Home

YORK, BARBARA J.

Feb. 24, 2013, Age 75 of Garden City. Beloved wife of Clifford. Born 1938, daughter of loving grandmother of Nathan, Sister of Thelma Bigns. Funeral at the Uth Funeral Home, 1045 N. Glenwood Rd., Westland Twp. 10am. Family will receive friends Wed. 2-7pm. Please visit and sign a tribute at www.uthfh.com

PAKING TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF YOUR LOVED ONE

Wayne State University professor looks at mind-body influence, role of pain

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer



Mark A. Lumley of Novi, a Wayne State University professor, is researching how stress and emotions interact in chronic pain disorders.

and psychology."

He has looked at many medical conditions, based partly on interests of graduate students. They include irritable bowel syndrome, fibromyalgia, headaches, and rheumatoid arthritis.

Many conditions overlap, Lumley said, and the brain and central nervous system "get disrupted really easily."

Sources of stress

External sources of stress are those like a job loss, crime, or death of a loved one.

Developmental sources put people at greater risk for not handling stress well. "What do

you do when something bad happens to you? How do you adapt to that? Some people do well and some people do poorly."

Lower socioeconomic status generally gets more negative life events. "But the sort of stress I'm interested in seems to be all over the place." Even those raised in affluent homes can face demand to be perfect: "I'm not good enough" feelings are common.

Some people keep secrets. "And it takes an emotional toll. It's another source of stress," Lumley said.

Unresolved conflicts related to bad experiences in life can mean people have trouble standing their ground and asserting themselves. They also have trouble with "dropping their guard" and becoming close to others. Two "core human domains" "for many people, especially women in our culture, that capacity is been stifled, it's been inhibited."

He and colleagues are doing National Institutes of Health-supported research on helping people resolve stress by expressing genuine feelings.

Relaxation work (yoga, prayer, meditation), diet and exercise do help, he said, as does better sleep. "Lots of research has shown they have some benefit."

Veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder get little benefit from that. They general-

ly receive some form of exposure therapy where face emotional memories they have been avoiding.

"You have to emotionally process it away."

"The truth is, I don't know yet how it's going to work out." He's been doing a series of smaller studies for 15 years.

He attempts to develop and test the health effects of emotional interventions (emotional experiencing and expression techniques to unlearn effects of trauma or conflicts). He compares new approaches to well-tested cognitive-behavioral symptom management and educational interventions.

The researchers are seeking to determine whether the emotion-oriented techniques will perform better than standard approaches. The goal is to learn which patients are helped most by each approach.

Lumley said there isn't much research like his. When Wayne State issued a press release about two years ago on an NIH grant for his work, he got a TV mention from JoAnne Puritan of Channel 7.

"Our phone had 200 voicemail messages the next morning," said Lumley, noting a lot of people are in pain and don't have much to help them. A handful of practitioners do work clinically. He's finding exposure therapy useful for returning veterans.

"That's the best thing to do for post-traumatic stress disorder."

Doctors' dilemma

Some physicians are overwhelmed in dealing with patients with chronic pain, and may turn to the prescription pad. "Many physicians don't know how to work at multiple levels. There's lots of patients who are not getting their needs met," Lumley said.

Patients are complicated for physicians, too. "Their families invalidate them and doctors don't believe them. It's not a simple thing."

Conditions are due largely to altered brain and nerve functioning, but the brain is also the most important "pain and system" or organ, strongly influenced by a person's development and emotional experiences.

He said you can change the brain through learning experiences. "A lot of patients have been told 'It's all in your head.' The experience of one's body really starts mostly in the brain. Maybe we can change the brain through relearning things."

To learn more about Lumley's studies on fibromyalgia or irritable bowel syndrome, call (313) 577-2258, or go to this website: <http://fibrosituations.class.wayne.edu>.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

St. Joseph Mercy Hospital earns high marks for care

St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor has been named one of the nation's 100 Top Hospitals by Truven Health Analytics, a provider of information and solutions to improve the cost and quality of health care.

The Truven Health 100 Top Hospitals study evaluates performance in 10 areas: mortality, medical complications, patient safety, average patient stay, expenses, profitability, patient satisfaction, adherence to clinical standards of care,

post-discharge mortality, and readmission rates for acute heart attack, heart failure, and pneumonia. The study is celebrating its 20th year and has been conducted annually since 1993.

St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor was recognized as a top hospital four other times in 1996, 1999, 2009 and 2012.

"We are proud to be ranked among the nation's 100 Top Hospitals for the fifth time,"

said Rob Casalou, president and CEO of St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor and Livingston hospitals. "This award underscores the dedication of our physicians, nurses and staff to delivering safe, high quality care

to our patients. We work hard to provide a remarkable care experience to every patient, every time, and it's very rewarding to be honored as one of the nation's best and most consistent providers in this area."

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Slow Flow Hatha Yoga (Tuesdays, 4 - 5:30 p.m. or Thursdays, 7 - 8:15 p.m.)

(Tuesday classes are held at Garden City Hospital)
This playful series is designed to bring movement, energy, and breath back into your body. Suitable for all levels. Modifications are offered for body type, fitness level and ability.

Hatha Yoga (Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8 p.m.)

Experience the fullness of your practice by slowly merging asanas (postures) and breath to create a powerful, meditative flow, Vinyasa style. Six months of yoga experience required.

Cost is \$9/class if paying for a full session (4 or 8 weeks) or \$11 drop-in fee.

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POLYNESIAN AEROBICS (Thursdays, 6 - 7 p.m.)

This fun class will get your whole body moving and is designed for adult women of all fitness levels. Polynesian Aerobics not only builds strength in your legs and core, but can improve balance and coordination. This is also a great cardio workout!

Cost is \$8/class if paying for full session (6-8 weeks) or \$10 drop-in fee.

HULA - HARMONY OF HANDS, HIPS & HEART (Thursdays, 5 - 6 p.m.)

This class coordinates hands, hips and heart as we learn hula to classic mele (songs). Hula is easily adaptable to all fitness levels and enjoyed by all ages. Hula gets the whole body moving, improving coordination, control, agility and flexibility. Those recovering from surgery or new to physical activity can enjoy hula while seated.

Cost is \$8/class if paying for full session (6-8 weeks) or \$10 drop-in fee.

TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES, CALL 734.458.3242.

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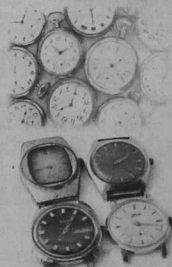
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Aries Celebrate Irish Madness Pisces

Basketball	Gusts	Lamb	March	Umbrella
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Caesar	Ides	Lion	Overcoat	Windy
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CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE | CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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7	8	3	2	1	9	5	6	4
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Car Report

Ford makes sales a bigger goal in new 'Fiesta Movement'



By Dale Buss

So with the just-launched Fiesta Movement "Remix," Ford seems determined to use its social-media skills to sell significantly more Fiesta subcompacts as well as to stay ahead of the fastest-moving game in marketing.

This time, Ford plans to use the online content generated by 100 social-media influencers, in their unscripted experiences with the car over the next several weeks, as the entire palette of creative for a paid-media campaign around the launch of the 2014 Fiesta later this year.

"We're turning to our 100 Fiesta 'agents' and saying, 'We're going to use only your content for our ad campaign for the new Fiesta,'" Scott Monty, global head of social media for Ford, told me. "That's never been done before in the auto industry."

Fiesta Movement: A Social Remix also will include ties with prominent TV, entertainment and sports programming including American Idol and the X Games as well as the Bonnaroo music festival in Tennessee. And Ford will curate all the content generated by the bloggers and other Fiesta-driving digital on a new website.

Ford's original Fiesta Movement in 2009 was hailed for raising awareness of the Fiesta — which was coming off a new global platform to the U.S. market for the

first time — to sky-high levels and setting a new, high bar for big brands' social-media marketing programs. It essentially kicked off a new era of digital marketing for the car business.

Propelled by the "Movement," Fiesta enjoyed a steep takeoff, selling more than 23,000 units in just the second half of 2010, and soon skyrocketing by nearly 300 percent for all of 2011, to a total of more than 69,000 sales for the year.

Problem was, the initial burst of attention didn't create a long-term boom in sales for Fiesta. By last spring, Fiesta sales had begun slumping badly. For all of 2012, Fiesta sold 17 percent fewer units than a year earlier, sliding to under 57,000 sales overall (though in December they rose by more than 50 percent versus a weak year-earlier month, and ticked up by more than 20 percent last month).

At least a couple of factors were to blame for Fiesta's flame-out from social-media start to showroom bust. One was the introduction about a year ago of the new Ford Focus, a little bigger than Fiesta but not all that much more expensive. Focus's appeal and Ford's promotion of its bread-and-butter small sedan surely sapped

thousands of sales from Ford's Fiesta.

Secondly, the Fiesta began facing more competition in the sub-compact sector, as \$3-a-gallon-and-up gasoline became a staple of the American scene. Chevrolet's new Sonic, for instance, proved to be a worthy alternative.

Which brings us to the 2014 Fiesta. Monty told me that the Movement "remix" and eventual ads will generate content "about a lifestyle and everything in concert and in particular being able to get the value with Fiesta that we can prove to customers." Ford will do that by tasking the influencers "to say whatever they're going to say" based on monthly themes that each will be related to different aspects of the car's appeal and personality, including travel, adventure, entertainment, technology, a "healthy lifestyle" and "social activism."

From what it learned during the first Fiesta Movement, Monty explained, the brand needs to be careful to emphasize such "lifestyle" elements "rather than be in your face about product features. We think it's a more powerful approach because, ultimately, when someone buys a car — and particularly someone in the target Fiesta demographic — they're interested in what it can do to support their



Ford launched Fiesta Movement: A Social Remix online.

lifestyle, not whether it has this or that product feature.

"So by designing missions" for the influencers, and their content, "around these broad themes, we'll be much more authentic and in line with what [target consumers] are interested in learning about and sharing."

Nevertheless, Monty recognizes that Ford is in business to sell cars, not just social-media-marketing platforms, and to that end the company is counting on at least two significant differences with the 2014 Fiesta from its effort of three years ago.

First, it will tie a program of paid TV spots and other advertising directly to Fiesta Movement content — and derived only from it.

Second, the new Fiesta will have some significant advantages over the version three years ago. Primarily, it'll offer as an option a 1-liter EcoBoost engine, and Ford has been very good at promoting the capabilities of its EcoBoost engine line.



The 2014 Ford Fiesta.

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