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NCAA tourney ticket giveaway

We are giving away tickets to the March 23 session of the men's NCAA basketball tournament at The Palace of Auburn Hills. Both Michigan State and U-M are playing at the Palace and could be featured in action Saturday. Share the contest link with a Facebook friend and get an extra five chances to win if he or she also enters the contest.

To enter, visit our website, Hometownlife.com, and click on the Don't Miss module on the right-hand side. The drawing is tomorrow morning, Friday, March 22, so get those entries in, pass the word to your friends and good luck!

Charges stick in Verizon robbery



BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dantez Lamar Boykin-Johnson will face gun charges in the armed robbery of the Canton Verizon store last month.

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A judge refused Monday to dismiss gun charges against Canton Verizon store robbery defendant Dantez Lamar Boykin-Johnson, although his defense attorney argued he didn't carry the semiautomatic assault rifle police say was used during an incident described by witnesses as terrifying.

Moreover, 35th District Judge Ronald Lowe indicated in court he expects to issue the same ruling next week against another defendant, Eric James-Lee Wilkins, unless a more compelling argument is made to sway his opinion.

Boykin-Johnson and Wilkins are charged along with accused gunman Antonio Jerome Porter — all 18 — of a robbery police say happened around 11 a.m. Feb. 25 after a semiautomatic assault rifle was used to shoot open a sliding glass door an employee had managed to lock.

Lowe rejected a motion Monday by defense attorney Mark Brown to dismiss a felony firearm charge, which carries a mandatory two-year prison term on conviction, and a four-year felony of discharging a firearm into a building.

Lowe indicated Boykin-Johnson and Wilkins should face the same charges as Porter if, as authorities contend, they shared involvement in hatching the robbery plans.

Potential injuries

"I've got three people who set out theoretically to commit armed robbery," Lowe said in court. "Part of the plan is, who's got a firearm?"

Lowe said each defendant had numerous opportunities to walk away prior to an incident involving an AR-15 weapon that was allegedly used during the robbery. No one was injured, but Lowe said the potential was there.

"Anytime a firearm is brought to the site of a crime, it's a slam dunk that someone could get hurt or killed," Lowe said, in rejecting Brown's motion.

Lowe's decision prompted Boykin-Johnson to waive his pre-

Please see ROBBERY, A2

Road meeting

The Michigan Department of Transportation will hold the next public meeting for the I-275 Ford Road Area Traffic and Environmental Study and Evaluation 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, in Canton's Summit on the Park Grand Ballroom.

MDOT officials plan to share a draft report detailing several proposed alternatives to address Ford Road congestion. Public input and participation at this meeting are strongly encouraged.

For more information on the meeting, call MDOT at (313) 375-2400.



Plymouth-Canton culinary team members Emily Koelzer (left) and Chelsea Polydoros work their magic at the state competition.

Canton freezes water rates

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

As many residents struggle to pay their water bills, Canton's elected officials Tuesday night reached a consensus not to raise water-sewer rates for a one-year period starting May 1.

With a formal vote expected in April, the Canton Township Board of Trustees has accepted a recommendation by high-level administration officials to freeze rates that place quarterly bills at \$343 for an average household using 32,283 gallons of water.

The decision comes one year after water-sewer rates decreased 2.3 percent for Canton residents, compared to double-digit increases as recently as 2010. Moreover, local officials continue to ponder efforts, such as building a water-storage facility, amid long-range hopes of easing rates.

Despite efforts to soften the blow of rate hikes, Canton officials conceded during a new round of talks Tuesday that many residents remain upset over water-sewer bills that are straining their budgets.

"No matter what, they are not going to be happy," Trustee Pat Williams said. "They are paying too much for water and sewer."

Please see WATER, A2

Fatal crash

A 41-year-old Ypsilanti woman died early Sunday when the Jeep she was driving rolled after a collision with a guard rail.

According to the Michigan State Police, she was getting off southbound I-275 at Michigan Avenue, and hit the guardrail around 4:30 a.m. Sunday.

Anyone who may have seen the accident or has any information is being asked to contact the Michigan State Police at (248) 584-5740.

Entree excellence Culinary team defends state title

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

It was a one-and-done kind of opportunity for Plymouth-Canton's culinary team when it traveled last weekend to Lansing to defend its title at the Michigan Restaurant Association's state culinary competition.

And they're not done. Plymouth-Canton successfully defended the state championship it won a year ago, edging the Saginaw Career Complex in the culinary discipline to earn a trip to Baltimore for the national

competition next month.

Plymouth-Canton prepared a three-course meal — a tribute to pork appetizer (pancetta, ham shank, and pork belly with apple, fig, beet, and celery), a vegetarian multigrain risotto strudel for the entrée, and a pear mousse with hazelnut cake for dessert. The team had one hour and only two butane burners to complete their meal.

Time limit

According to Diana Woodward, the culinary team's faculty adviser, the biggest challenge

in completing such a meal in the 60-minute time limit is execution.

"Our students are ambitious, and the menu they create is always so advanced and so challenging," Woodward said. "If they pull it off the way they're supposed to, and they way they want it, we knew it would be amazing. The problem is, everything comes down to that one competition day. Precision and the ability to think and make adjustments on your feet is so

Please see CULINARY, A3

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Volume 38 • Number 78

Home Delivery
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Return Address:
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By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton child molester Robert Kahler was sentenced Wednesday morning to 30-60 years in prison for sexually assaulting a former neighborhood girl when she was only 9 years old, Assistant

Wayne County Prosecutor Maria Miller said.

Kahler's sentence at 57 years old could potentially amount to a life term. Kahler was sentenced by Wayne County Circuit Judge Thomas Jackson after a jury convicted him Feb. 26. He was sentenced to 30-60 years

in prison for first-degree criminal sexual conduct and 10-15 years in prison for second-degree CSC. "Our entire family is very grateful that this is all over and we finally got justice," the victim's mother has said in an e-mail to the Canton Observer.

The mother has said she didn't want family names used because of what her daughter has endured while she was molested and as she faced her assailant in court. Charges against Kahler arose in late 2011.



Kahler

Please see MOLESTER, A2

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Canton trio indicted in prescription scheme

Prosecutors are hoping the indictment Tuesday of another 13 people in what the government calls one of the biggest prescription drug schemes in state history will send a message: There's a penalty for exploiting the system.

The new defendants in the case include five doctors, four pharmacists, and a home health care agency owner.

"Taxpayers fund Medicare and Medicaid to provide health

care for needy citizens," U.S. Attorney Barbara McQuade said in a statement. "We hope that doctors and pharmacists will take note that if they exploit these programs for personal profit, they will face serious consequences."

The multi-agency investigation has led to charges against 39 people. Prosecutors say the defendants ran a scheme that billed insurers for millions of dollars worth of bogus prescriptions,

including OxyContin, Vicodin, Xanax and cough syrup with codeine.

Six of the 26 people originally charged in the 2011 indictment were convicted at trial last summer. That list includes Canton pharmacist Bububhai Patel, sentenced to 17 years in prison last month after a jury convicted him of charging the government more than \$57 million for painkillers that were medically unnecessary or never provided.

Doctors got kickbacks for writing the prescriptions, and so did patients, who agreed to let their insurers be billed for the drugs, according to court documents.

The list of new defendants includes pharmacist Mehul Patel, 34; home health care agency owner Vinod Patel, 40; and business associate Atul Patel, 31, all of Canton.

Gannett News Service contributed to this report.

WATER

Continued from page A1

Lawn burn

Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said some consumers have indicated they are willing to sacrifice healthy lawns and common "green" areas this season to rein in their water-sewer bills.

"They're willing to let it burn to a crisp," she said. However, Public Works Manager Bob Belair said Canton's overall water consumption has inched upward in recent years — a trend he said is likely to persist as new housing starts increase and as an improving economy brings in more businesses.

Amid that backdrop, Canton officials continue to seriously weigh a roughly \$10 million proposal to build a water storage facility to ease water consumption from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department during peak usage hours.

Under one storage scenario, Canton would use \$3 million from the \$19.5 million water-sewer fund and incur \$7 million in debt that would be paid off over several years. No decision has been made.

"It's a work in progress," Supervisor Phil LaJoy said.

Funding shift

In yet another move, local officials indicated Tuesday they plan to shift \$500,000 a year in stormwater costs from the township's general fund to the water-sewer fund where, they say, the expense more appropriately belongs with other water-sewer expenses.

"The guys in the raincoats and boots would be in the same (budget)," McLaughlin said. Trustee Steve Sneiderman agreed to the change as long as it wouldn't cause water-sewer rates to spike this year.

"As long as we can keep it at zero percent, I'm OK with it," he said.

The change would help the \$500,000 a year keeping general fund by keeping

in it — money officials say could potentially be used for purposes such as paying for employee legacy costs or for building up a general fund surplus.

"It helps the general fund budget," Finance Director Wendy Trumbull said.

Meanwhile, officials gave a very preliminary overview of the impact that water storage and the stormwater budgetary changes could potentially have on water-sewer rates, based on projections that may or may not hold true.

Under the scenario, Canton residents likely would see water-sewer rates in the 5-percent range in 2014 and 2015, followed by a nearly flat rate in 2016 and a nearly 3-percent increase in 2017.

Tower time

Officials say it would take three years to build a water storage facility and begin using it.

This year, local officials chose not to pass to consumers a 9-percent increase in wholesale water costs Detroit imposed on Canton. In a letter contained in Tuesday's documents, Canton attorney James Fausone, who chairs a regional Board of Water Commissioners, sought to explain the 9-percent hike.

Fausone said Canton, in a new contract with Detroit, reduced the volume of water it intended to purchase but didn't change what are known as "peaking factors" — referring to maximum usage hours and days. That led to the 9-percent cost increase, more than double the suburban average.

Fausone indicated hope the two sides can work together in coming years. "I am confident that the township team and the DWSD team can continue to work to provide stability in rate increases to the residents of Canton Township," Fausone wrote.

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MOLESTER

Continued from page A1

Kahler was convicted of sexually molesting the girl after he befriended her family when they were neighbors in Canton.

From the beginning, Canton police had said the girl, despite being nervous over facing Kahler in court, had given strong, compelling testimony. Statements made earlier in 35th District Court indicated the girl was 7 to 10 years old when the incidents occurred.

She was 10 years old when she first testified against Kahler during a closed-door preliminary examination in front of 35th District Judge Michael Gerou.

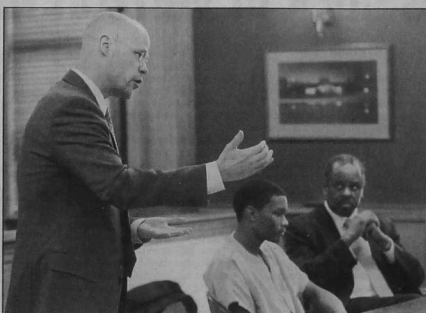
The sentencing brought

a long-awaited end to a case that gained public attention when Kahler was arraigned in October of 2011 by 35th District Judge James Plakas, who called the charges "very disturbing."

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

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

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Eric Sterbis argues against defense attorney Mark Brown's motion to dismiss weapons charges against Dantez Lamar Boykin-Johnson.

stand trial on those counts. Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Eric Sterbis disagreed.

"Mr. Porter's possession of the gun was not a secret or surprise to anyone," he said, adding later, "each (defendant) had knowledge of the weapon."

Sterbis argued further that Boykin-John-

son's alleged involvement in robbing the store was made easier by the presence of a gun.

"He benefitted from Mr. Porter having that firearm," Sterbis said.

Customers have said they feared for their lives when the incident occurred along Canton's main shopping dis-

trict. Police have said the suspects fled in a car and then on foot, hiding inside the storm cellar of a house on Willard Drive before they were captured not far from Oakview Drive and Saltz.

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AROUND CANTON

"Around Canton" is designed to announce upcoming events taking place in the community. Items will run on a space-available basis. Send details to bkdrich@hometownlife.com.

PRICE HOUSES

Date/Time: Friday, March 22, 8 p.m.

Location: Crescent Academy International, 40440 Palmer in Canton

Details: Wayne County Commissioner Shannon Price, (R-District 10), will be conducting district office hours. The session allows constituents the opportunity to sit down with Price and discuss matters of concern within

the community.

Contact: For more information, contact Michael Mitchell, (313) 224-0882.

HEISE COFFEE

Date/Time: Friday, March 22, 7:30-9 a.m.

Location: Panera Bread, 20140 Haggerty in Northville

Details: State Rep. Kurt Heise is sponsoring coffee hours to give residents a convenient opportunity to meet with him in person. No appointment is necessary. Rep. Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office.

Contact: Residents are invited to call toll free 1-855-REP-KURT or e-mail kurt.heise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

GIVING HOPE

Date/Time: Wednesday, April 10, 7 p.m.

Location: Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth

Details: "Give the Girls a Boost" is coming, an opportunity to support a good cause and enjoy a "Girls' Night Out" to benefit the Giving Hope Women's Giving Circle. The group is also looking for business sponsors.

Contact: For more information and to register, go to: cantonfoundation.org.

MILLER WOODS TOURS

Dates/Times: Sundays, April 14, 21 and 28, 2-4 p.m.

Location: Miller Woods (Powell Road, east of Ridge between N. Territorial and Ann Arbor Road)

Details: Free, guided tours will occur in April to see the native spring wildflowers in Miller Woods. Tours depend on when the flowers are blooming, but are tentatively scheduled for Sunday, April 14, 21 and 28. Check the website at millerswoods.com for up-to-date tour dates. Tours start every half hour. Park on side of road. Sorry, no dogs allowed in the nature preserve.

OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS

Published Sunday and Thursday by the Observer & Eccentric Media
www.hometownlife.com

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Teen faces charges after chase

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A 17-year-old Westland male is facing criminal charges amid accusations he led Canton Police on a 20-minute chase while his little brother, 4, was in the back seat.

The chase began just before 3 a.m. Saturday in Canton and ended here, though a police report indicated it spilled over to neighboring communities as the accused driver ignored red traffic lights, swerved across

the center line and drove the wrong way on Michigan Avenue.

Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said it's fortunate the incident ended peacefully without any injuries. However, he said it should serve as a reminder that fleeing drivers endanger others and invite criminal charges when they refuse to stop for police and ignore traffic signals.

"It's not much different than getting a loaded gun and standing in an intersection shooting

in all directions," he said. "The only difference is the gun is a car. It's that dangerous."

According to the police report, the teen's mother said he has been struggling with "mental issues" partly due to a breakup with a girlfriend. The report indicated authorities had petitioned to have the young man referred to a hospital for evaluation.

However, he is facing a felony charge of first-degree fleeing and eluding police and a misdemeanor charge of reck-

less driving. He could potentially face penalties ranging up to five years in prison.

The police report indicated the teen hadn't been involved in any other crime prior to fleeing from police in a 2005 Chevrolet Classic. The incident started near Warren and Ridge when police noticed the driver swerving on the road, already posing a threat to other motorists prior to the pursuit.

The police report said the teen led police on a winding path that ended near Michi-

gan Avenue and Beck. He is accused of driving 50 mph through 25 mph zones and as fast as 60-70 mph in other areas, swerving around other vehicles as he fled. The report said the suspect's 4-year-old brother was sitting in a car seat in the back seat but wasn't strapped in as he should have been. The report said the child appeared frightened but not injured.

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CULINARY

Continued from page A1

important to pulling this off."

The culinary victory wasn't the only success of the weekend for Plymouth-Canton, the only competitor to place in all four disciplines. Plymouth-Canton was also first in the nutrition/marketing discipline, second in management/entrepreneurship and third in the ServSafe Knowledge Bowl.

All of that was done with the burden of returning champion status. According to Woodward, the team "got a little bit of a hard time" on arrival because "every-one knew we were the defending state champion." That's a particularly tough defense to make with an all-new team.

Baltimore-bound

"None of these kids returned from last year, which made defending the title earned by other students especially difficult," Woodward said. "They took it in stride, but that added pressure had to be a little rough. They are so focused and



After successfully defending its state title in the Michigan Restaurant Association competition, the Plymouth-Canton culinary team heads to the national competition next month in Baltimore. Team members (back, from left) include Taylor Hoener, Paul DiNicola, Chelsea Polydoras, Emily Koelzer, teacher Diana Woodward, alumni-mentor Tyler Bergquist and mentor Carla Spicuzzi. Team alternate Ashley Saunders is in front.

so precise, I don't think they even noticed almost every other school was watching them compete at one point during their event time."

The culinary team now advances to the national championships in Baltimore, Md., April 18-22.

Woodward hopes their work ethic and attitude will carry them far.

"I always tell my students they need to do their personal bests," she said. "If they could do better, work harder, put in just a little more detail, and choose not to,

I keep trying to remind them they will be so disappointed in the end. You might not win, but if you are going to do something like this, why not strive for excellence?"

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Members of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Culinary Team huddled up at the state competition last weekend in Lansing, and went on to defend their state title by capturing first place in the culinary discipline.



Culinary team members Taylor Hoener (from left), Paul DiNicola and Emily Koelzer worked with a 60-minute time limit and helped their team win the culinary discipline.

Advertisement

Educating Student Athletes ...and Parents about Concussion

Ask A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Szczeciński
Sports Medicine

Concussion has been receiving a lot of attention related to football players at the professional and collegiate levels. Unfortunately, the same can't be said for high school athletes and competitors in other sports. "Dr. Stan" Szczeciński, Medical Director of GCH's Center for Sports Medicine, has seen far-too-many cases of concussion - so much so that he's made it his mission to educate as many people as possible about the prevention, warning signs and treatment of this often avoidable injury.

Q: Our 14 year old wants to play football at his high school next season. We are worried about all the risks that come from playing contact sports, mostly head trauma. But, he says his older sister's cheerleading is as dangerous. Is that true?

A: While football is widely recognized for the quantity and types of injuries related to its participants, your son makes a valid point about cheerleading. Last year alone, the American Association of Neurological Surgeons estimates more than 10,000 concussions were suffered among cheerleaders, gymnasts and dancers.

A concussion is a disruption of the normal chemical activity in the brain and is caused by the brain being jarred. Concussions can cause sensitivity to light or sound, headaches, loss of memory, dizziness, balance problems, confusion, drowsiness, nausea, difficulty in concentration and other problems. Concussion symptoms disappear within seven to 10 days in approximately 80 percent of cases, but symptoms may remain for weeks, months and, occasionally, for years.

One of the biggest misconceptions people have concerning concussions has to do with the force needed to cause one. The reality is impact does not have to be hard - and it frequently happens in something other than contact sports. In fact, the person at the top of a cheerleader pyramid is 10 times more likely to suffer a concussion or a catastrophic injury than a football player.

When deciding on whether to allow your child to participate in a sport, it's important to remember that through proper education and training, we can begin to recognize and help prevent youth sports injuries; thus minimizing long-term effects.

To read more in-depth concussion information from Dr. Stan, go online to GCH.org to view the Spring 2013 Edition of our Healthy Generations magazine.

Also, don't forget the importance of getting involved! Dr. Stan's 2nd Annual Coaches Event is Saturday, March 23. The event, which features national experts speaking on a variety of health issues affecting today's young athletes, is FREE and we encourage all parents to attend. For more information and to register visit GCH.org.

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PUBLIC SAFETY



BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

An SUV hit a small preschool bus at Sheldon and Warren Roads. There were no children in the bus; both drivers were taken to a local hospital.

Drivers hurt in crash

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

No children were aboard a preschool bus that flipped onto its driver's side when it was struck broadside by an SUV Monday morning in the intersection of Warren and Sheldon roads, Canton police Lt. Pat Sullivan said at the scene.

Police had the east section of the intersection blocked off Monday afternoon as an investigation spanned several hours. The accident happened about 10:30 a.m.

Based on a preliminary investigation, Sullivan said it appeared the male driver of the SUV

was traveling north on Sheldon and struck The Children's Hour preschool bus while it was headed east on Warren. The elderly driver of the heavily damaged SUV was taken to a St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti for what Sullivan said appeared to be serious injuries.

The 50-year-old male driver of the preschool bus also was taken to the hospital, Sullivan said, but it was believed his injuries were less serious. The Canton Police Accident Investigation Team was working under gray, drizzly skies Monday afternoon to piece together exactly what caused the two-

vehicle crash.

Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said the investigation includes exploring whether the SUV driver may have had a medical condition that caused the accident.

Police say it does not appear alcohol or drugs was a factor in the crash.

Though the investigation was continuing, Sullivan said initial indications are that the preschool bus had the green light when the accident occurred.

Police remained on the scene for several hours.

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PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Shoplifter ticketed

A 45-year-old Plymouth woman was ticketed for shoplifting on Monday after trying to leave the Kroger supermarket on Ann Arbor Road with items concealed in her purse.

A Plymouth Township Police Department report said a Kroger employee told police he saw the woman put makeup and food items in her purse while shopping, then pay for the merchandise in her cart, but not the items in her purse, at the self-checkout line.

The employee confronted her about the items in

her purse, the report said, and police were called.

The woman was issued a ticket for third-degree retail fraud and then released.

Vandalism

Two incidents of vandalism were reported earlier this month at the Plymouth Heritage Apartments.

The taillight on a Saturn Vue parked at the complex, which is on Heritage Drive in the area of Sheldon and North Territorial, was broken early on March 9, and the door to an apartment was damaged around the same time in an apparent break-in attempt, a police

report said.

The victim of the vandalism to the car told police she heard someone walking up and down her apartment building's stairs around 2 a.m. March 9, saw her neighbor in the hallway, and then looked outside to see a group of people gathered in the area near her car. She heard a noise outside, and later noticed the damage to her car, police said.

She also reported that the door to a neighboring apartment had been freshly damaged. Police noted damage to the door and frame but said the door was still locked.

By Matt Jachman

CANTON CRIME WATCH

Fraudulent return

A 68-year-old Canton woman who lives on Wheaton, northwest of Warren and Sheldon, notified police Monday afternoon that someone had used her Social Security number to file a fraudulent federal tax return.

She learned her identity had been stolen after her tax documents were twice returned to H&R Block. She told police she needed to file a report to document the situation.

The woman had been expecting a \$450 federal return that she hasn't received.

Deer kill

A police officer had to shoot and kill a deer after it was struck by a vehicle on Lilley Road, just south of Joy Road, a police report said.

Police received a call

about the deer being struck about 7:45 a.m. Monday. An officer arrived to find the deer was alive but couldn't move out of the road in the southbound lane of Lilley. It appeared to have a broken back, a police report said.

The officer euthanized the deer and turned it over to a resident with a kill-tag issued.

Concealed weapon

Canton Police arrested a 26-year-old Detroit man for carrying a concealed pistol after his permit had expired, a police report said.

The incident happened Saturday after police went to the Walmart store on Ford Road east of Lotz after being contacted by Livonia police.

Livonia officers had trailed three men who allegedly had been acting suspiciously early

er at a Livonia Walmart store. The men had been pushing around a cart of merchandise and had looked at guns in the hunting section — and Livonia police had suspected the men of trying to use a fraudulent credit card.

When the men were confronted in Canton, they told police they simply had been looking for two space heaters, and they produced receipts. However, police learned one of the men was carrying a pistol although his permit had expired.

Chip dumping

A property owner on Lotz between Cherry Hill and Ford roads notified police Friday morning to report he has been having problems with someone dumping wood chips on his property. He said the incident is believed to have happened last Thursday or Friday.

— By Darrell Clem

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Major film with Plymouth origins debuts at Penn

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

A major independent film with deep Michigan roots will open on the big screen in New York, Los Angeles — and downtown Plymouth — on Friday before heading into wider release a week later.

Love and Honor, a romantic drama co-written by Plymouth Township resident Jim Burnstein, and co-produced by Plymouth resident Patrick Olson, makes its Michigan theatrical debut Friday at the Penn Theatre in a sold-out fundraiser for the Friends of the Penn. Burnstein, Olson, director Danny Mooney and executive producer Eddie Rubin will be introduced for a question-and-answer session as part of the event.

The film, co-written with Garrett Schiff, stars Liam Hemsworth (best known for *The Hunger Games*) and Austin Stowell as U.S. soldiers in 1969 Vietnam who head to Michigan — not their assigned leave destination, meaning they go absent without leave, or AWOL — as Stowell's character tries to win back the woman who has dumped him, played by Aimee Teegarden. Hemsworth's Mickey Wright, along for the ride, ends up finding romance amid rolling protests, based on actual events, in the Ann Arbor area and at the University of Michigan.

'Beautiful story'

"They are living through all the emotions that young people at that time lived through," said Burnstein over coffee



Pat Olson and Jim Burnstein's film premiers at the Penn on Friday.

at the Plymouth Coffee Bean.

"They're returning to a place that's changed," said Olson, a first-time movie producer.

Olson, who has a background in educational publishing, is part of the group that owns the Penn, and so has a good relationship with the nonprofit Friends of the Penn, which maintains and runs the theater. Movie-making has long interested him, he said, and he "fell in love with" Burnstein's script.

"I think it's a beautiful story and I was interested in making a product that could be seen around the world that would move people," Olson said.

Burnstein, who has several films among his screenwriting credits, including *Renaissance Man* and *D3: The Mighty Ducks*, said the "spark" for the plot came from a story about Mike Wright, the Plymouth City Commission member who was in the U.S. Army in Vietnam, going AWOL for a week. The name of Hemsworth's character is a nod to his friend, Burnstein said, though he added: "Never in his wildest dreams was he ever as cool as Liam Hemsworth."

Wright, in a phone interview Tuesday, said he and an Army buddy, assigned to a week's leave in Honolulu, decided they

couldn't afford that high-priced city and jumped on a plane — soldiers could fly for free — to San Diego. There, they hung out with his buddy's family and friends and visited the beach and local drinking establishments, he said.

"Everybody was quite intrigued, of course, about what the whole experience was like," and his buddy's friends asked questions about Vietnam, Wright said.

Burnstein, who protested the war around the time Wright was in Vietnam, said idea of going AWOL intrigued him, and that he wanted to explore the tension that would come with soldiers having

two very different experiences — fighting in a war abroad and protesting the war at home — within a week.

'Challenging' film shoot

Love and Honor was filmed entirely in Michigan in the summer of 2011; scenes were shot in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, Saline, Inkster and, closer to Plymouth, at Plymouth Orchards in Superior Township, where the battle scene that opens the movie was staged.

"They had to do a little set dressing, but not much," Burnstein said.

Burnstein, who runs UM's screenwriting pro-

gram, said he is pleased with the way *Love and Honor* turned out. Its settings, including for a complex battle scene and scenes of riots in Ann Arbor, are sweeping for an independent film, he said.

"Most independents don't attempt what we attempted," he said. "It's hard as hell. It's really, really challenging."

Olson, Burnstein said, was a hands-on producer, helping organize and plan in the weeks before shooting, and on the set every day.

"It was really fantastic to work with such a great group of people," Olson said. "All the planets lined up in a very unique way."

Wright, who was wounded by shrapnel in the war and awarded a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart, was a technical advisor for *Love and Honor*, choreographing the battle scene and offering tips on soldiers' language and other details of their day-to-day lives. He said he was on the set for most of the filming of the battle scene and was impressed with how hard the cast and crew worked.

"It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, no question about it," said Wright.

Friday's Plymouth premiere of "Love and Honor" is sold out, but the movie will open March 29 at the Imagine 18 in Noy and the Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor as it goes to 10 major markets around the country. It has been available as a video-on-demand for several weeks.

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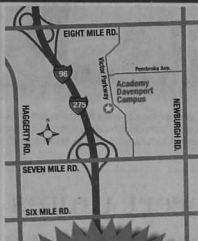
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'Blonde' ambition

Park Players take on major musical

LEGALLY BLONDE

What: Park Players' production of "Legally Blonde"
When: Thursday-Saturday, March 21-23, all shows 7 p.m.
Where: Gloria Logan Theater, Salem High School
Tickets: \$15; available at www.showtix4u.com

By Brad Kadrich
 Staff Writer

Johnathan Rase saw "Legally Blonde" a few years ago, and one of his first thoughts was how perfect it would be for the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's Park Players to produce.

At that point, the rights to it hadn't been released, so it was off-limits. But by the time came for Rase, one of the directors for the theater group, to direct a musical, he'd gotten good news.

"I'd received an email from Musical Theatre International letting me know the rights finally became available for high schools to perform it," Rase said. "That very same day, I applied for the rights."

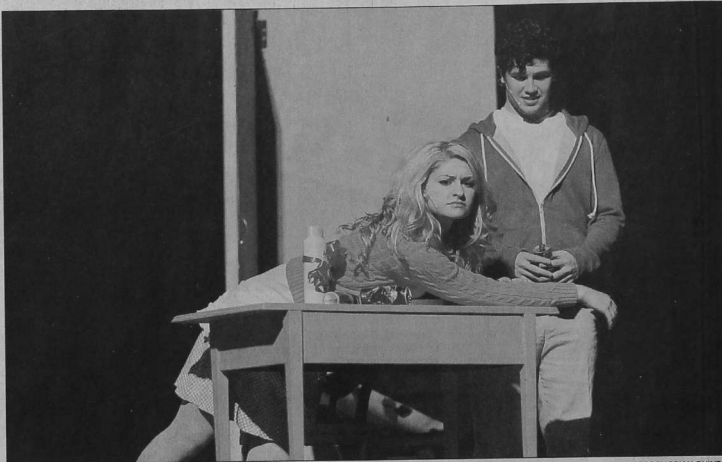
By all accounts, it was worth the wait. Enthusiastic crowds greeted the Players when the play opened last weekend. And, for their part, the Players staged a couple of surprises themselves, particularly for Danielle Allen, who plays the show's lead character, Elle Woods.

"The show went wonderfully the first weekend," Rase said. "In fact, after curtain call on opening night, the cast surprised Danielle with a birthday cake. The surprise didn't end there. Next, a friend of Danielle's came on stage and asked her to prom. It was quite heartwarming, that young man so nervous."

Largest cast

Rase said the cast for "Legally Blonde" is "the biggest I've worked with so far." The production started rehearsals in January, meeting four days a week.

Within a month, he said,



Danielle Allen plays Elle Woods and Alex Armesto is Emmett in the Park Players' production of "Legally Blonde," which concludes its run this weekend.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN QUINTOS



Cast member Sydney Hicks (Paulette) on stage with Logan during the Park Players' production of "Legally Blonde."

the students had the show memorized — "A daunting task for Danielle Allen, she spends nearly the entire show on stage," Rase said.

But the challenge wasn't enough to unnervise Allen, a Plymouth High School senior doing her second Park Players pro-

duction — she was a featured dancer last year in "Nine" — to go with 10 plays as part of Ever-After Productions (now known as Forever After). Allen said she "couldn't have asked for a better role" for her final Park Players production.

"Her personality and

confidence is really refreshing," Allen said. "It's cool to play the real girly-girl. The show is modern, and it's cool to play."

She said she was "a little nervous" when the opening curtain rose. "But at the same time, I had so much support



Danielle Allen (Elle Woods), Sydney Hicks (Paulette) and Jeffrey Selewski (Kyle) in a scene from "Legally Blonde."

from castmates and my parents, it made everything go a lot easier," she said. "The pressure wasn't really there. The part was so much fun and energetic."

Challenging music

The cast is backed by the 30 musicians in the orchestra pit. Orchestra director Cathy DePentu said the music is "more rock band than orchestra," making it musically challenging. The music varies in style, including stadium rock, rock anthem, funk, reggae and ballads.

The musicians, not surprisingly to DePentu, have risen to the challenge.

"It is a Park Players Production... as we expect every year, they rise to the demands of the performance," DePentu said. "The company works so well together, the show reflects the willingness of the actors/crew and orchestra to put aside their egos and work as a unit to produce a wonderful evening's entertainment."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
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Laura Sieber (Brooke) and castmates in the Park Players' production of "Legally Blonde" dances their way through one of Kristen Quesada's choreographed numbers.



Cast members Sydney Hicks (Paulette) and Jeffrey Selewski (Kyle) share the stage with Logan. Including the dog, director Johnathan Rase said the "Legally Blonde" cast was the largest he's worked with in his time with the Park Players.

Michigan Philharmonic concert unites nature, music

The Michigan Philharmonic performs a concert that unites nature and music at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 21, at the First United Methodist Church of Plymouth.

Sharing the stage for a side by side performance of "An Outdoor Overture by Aaron Copeland, will be the spirited

exuberance of the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra.

This spring event will feature nature-themed pieces by Ottorino Respighi and Antonin Dvořák along with the soaring majesty of "Adventures on Earth" by John Williams; the inspirational symphon-

ic finale to the Academy Award-winning film that made us all look at our world a little differently, "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial."

To provide the Earth Day event with some local emphasis, guest composer and University of Michigan Associate Professor Evan Cham-

bers will be in attendance as the orchestra performs his evocative work, "Watershed." This piece helps to shed light on the preservation and resilience of southeastern Michigan's Huron River.

Michigan Philharmonic ticket holders will also have the chance to trav-

el in style to future concerts. Beginning with this April 21 performance, and continuing through the 2013/14 season, every person who purchases a Michigan Phil concert ticket will be entered in a drawing to win a two-year lease on a 2014 AWD Cadillac ATS Sedan — the North

American Car of the Year — courtesy of Don Massey Cadillac.

Tickets are \$30. Senior and student discount tickets are available and all kids are admitted free with a paying adult. To purchase tickets or sponsor this event, please call (734) 451-2112 or visit www.michiganphil.org.

St. Damian students present 'Godspell Jr.' at three parishes

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Parishioners at three Westland churches will be treated to performances of *Godspell Jr.* courtesy of students at St. Damian School.

The acting troupe will present the Stephen Schwartz musical, which is based on the Gospel of St. Matthew, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 22-24, at St. Damian, St. Theodore and Divine Savior churches. The traveling show will open with a 7 p.m. performance on Friday at St. Theodore on Wayne Road, north of Cowan, followed by a 7:30 p.m. show on Saturday at Divine Savior on Joy Road, west of Hix. The final performance will be at 3 p.m. Sunday at St. Damian on Joy Road east of Merriman.

"The kids are having a fun time learning from the parables," said Mary Melonio, music minister at St. Damian. "Once people see the show it will bring smiles to their faces."

Melonio, who has a background in music education, came up with the idea of doing a musical to get students involved and let the community know about the school. She talked to then-Principal Mary Stempian, who quickly agreed.

"My daughter attended St. Mike's and she did it in eighth grade," Melonio said. "I figured what a better way to teach kids and expose the school to the area. I want to open the community's eyes to the wonderful jewel we have here."



The cast of "Godspell Jr." includes Gillian Frazier (back row, from left), Madeline O'Connor, Maggie Behnke, Kari Toloday, Kiley Slevin, Lanya Munson, Danielle Lebsack, Libby Rudzinski (Jesus), Rachel Toloday, Aubree Allie, Tori White, Isabelle Allie, Eva Muller, Rachel Rudzinski (front row, from left), Marissa Muller, Edward Lebsack, Jenna Muller and Bridgette Behnke.

Casting call

She did auditions in October and began rehearsals in November. Eighteen students ranging from first to ninth grade have been rehearsing for several hours on Sundays after 10 a.m. Mass. They have learned to sing, dance, memorized lines, and learned the basics of acting along with sign language for one of the musical numbers.

A student from Webster School — Libby Rudzinski of Dearborn Heights — is playing Jesus. Her brothers and sister attend St. Damian. Tony Quillen, a student at John Glenn High School and member of St. Theodore Parish, is playing John the Baptist and Judas. According to Melonio, that's how the play was written.

Melonio is getting help from Quillen's mother, Lisa Marcolina, the children's music director at

St. Theodore's, and Ellie Roggenbuck of Livonia, an adult choir member at St. Damian. Marcolina is the choreographer, and Roggenbuck "has been at my side the entire time," said Melonio.

"There's a lot of dancing, and the kids have been amazing," said Melonio. "Ellie, out of the goodness of her heart, has been helping. God sent her to me. Without her, I couldn't do this. It's wonderful to see that kind of spirit, that giving of herself. It's wonderful."

Parental support

Of course, there's been plenty of parental support. All the youngsters have made it to rehearsals, thanks to the parents, who also have provided the props. The play is set in the 1960s, and the cast is providing their own costumes — tie-dyed T-shirts, jeans and a lot of

fringe. The setting will be a park with a fence where Jesus is electrocuted.

The play will be presented in the community rooms at St. Theodore and Divine Savior. The St. Damian production will be in the school gymnasium. The show is open to the public. Tickets are \$3 per person and \$5 per family and are available at the door.

The three Westland parishes are in the process of merging into one community. *Godspell Jr.* is the results of these parishes uniting in song, talent and dance among the very young, Melonio said. "These children are 'The Light of the World,' the future of our communities and churches and we are so very proud of them," said Melonio.

smason@hometownlife.com
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John the Baptist, played by Tony Quillen, baptizes Jesus, played by Libby Rudzinski in a scene from St. Damian's production of "Godspell Jr."

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Rapunzel project

Formula Salon will host a cut-a-thon to raise money for The Rapunzel Project, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping cancer patients keep their hair during chemotherapy. The event takes place Saturday, April 13, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Rapunzel Project's mission is to inform patients that they have an option utilizing cold cap therapy, a technology to prevent hair loss associated with chemotherapy.

"This charity really spoke to us because it has to do with following through with our passion and our mission: to make people feel beautiful," said Formula owner Tricia Marvin said about the Rapunzel Project. "This is a place of wellness and healing. In return, feeling beautiful can heal people."

Formula Salon will host the cut-a-thon from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 13. The salon will offer hair cuts for a minimum \$10 donation, makeup application, and services including massage, nail polish change, facial waxing and hair braiding.

For more information and to schedule an appointment, contact the salon at (734) 354-9410 or visit at 890 S. Main in Plymouth.

Free dentistry

Doctors Pinckney, Greenbaum, MacFarland and Timper, DDS, open their doors to the community, offering a gift of free dental services 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, April 12.

The offer is intended for people who have dental needs but who are unable to afford the cost of treatment. No advance appointments will be made. Patients will be given a time for treatment when they arrive and will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Doctors are asking people to arrive early to be guaranteed an appointment.

Doctors will see the first 100 people (more if time allows). Patients must be

at least 12 years old in order to be seen, and they must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian if under the age of 18. Free treatment will include exams, X-rays, cleanings, fillings, extractions and pain control.

For more information, visit www.CantonDentists.com or call (734) 981-4040.

Premier adviser

Wells Fargo Advisors has for the second consecutive year designated Canton's Neil Weissman, Managing Director-Investments, as a member of the firm's Premier Advisors Program.

Weissman has been a financial advisor with Wells Fargo Advisors for two years and has six years' experience in the brokerage industry. He has a bachelor's degree in materials science and engineering from the University of Michigan and a master's degree from Stanford University.

Weissman lives in Canton with wife Stacy and their two children.

Business seminars

Monroe Bank & Trust announced a four-part business seminar series throughout its Wayne and Monroe county footprint.

Seminars will include topics critical to the success of businesses and non-profits. The first in the series is titled "Understanding Financial Statements", and will be presented at the Red Olive Restaurant banquet room, 1051 Ann Arbor Road on Wednesday, March 27, from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. A complimentary breakfast will be served.

In-house financial experts Audrey Mistor, Monroe Bank & Trust Private Bank Plymouth/Northville Community President; and VP of Lending Darren LaLonde will present the session.

Future seminars in the 2013 series include "SBA, MEDC and USDA Loan Opportunities" in May, "The Affordable Care Act and Your Business" in August and "Retirement Tips and Topics for the Self Employed" in November.



Cellular & More celebrated the grand opening of its new Ford Road store (across from Target) Tuesday.

Cellular opens new Canton store

Cellular & More, a Verizon Wireless premium retailer, celebrated the grand opening of its newest and what officials are calling its most innovative store yet in Canton Tuesday.

The new building is located just two doors east of their previous location on Ford Road across from Target and features a comprehensive display area showcasing the latest emerging 4G devices. The interactive environment displays the smart-

phones, tablets, wireless modems, mobile hot-spots, and other devices for clients to handle and test, including Home Phone Connect, a wireless replacement for home landlines as well as home internet. The two-story building will also house the corporate offices on the upper level.

"We've been in Canton for nearly 20 years and feel a strong connection to this community, which led to the decision to invest in the new build-

ing," said Dean Leja, Vice President of Cellular & More. "Everything from the exterior landscaping to the interior displays will reflect the company's focus on improving the overall buying experience for our clients. And, our hands-on product displays will allow clients to truly test-drive the products before making the decision to buy."

For additional information, visit www.cellularandmore.com or call 800-CELL-MORE (800-233-5667).

CHAMBER CHAT

Canton dinner auction

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts its annual dinner auction Saturday, April 20, from 6:30 p.m. to midnight, at Burton Manor in Livonia.

This year's theme is "The Great Divide: U-M vs. MSU." The event features more than 200 raffles, trips to Cabo San Lucas and Boyne Mountain, airline tickets, jewelry and more. Two winners will go home with \$1,000 in cash. The night also includes a strolling dinner and open bar.

Cost is \$75 per person. The event is sponsored by Jack Demmer Automotive Group and MSA Delivery Service. Contact the chamber office, (734) 453-4040, for additional information regarding donations, sponsorships or attending.

AD luncheon

Athletic directors for the University of Michigan (David Brandon) and Michigan State University (Mark Hollis) headline a joint meeting of the Plymouth Community, Livonia, Northville and Westland chambers of commerce Friday, April 26, at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

While they lead programs that are heated rivals, both men work to support the Big Ten Conference and NCAA. They are examples of competitive cooperation. Both leaders will share comments about their current projects, challenges and answer questions. The cost to attend this event is \$30 for members or \$40 for non-members. Doors open at 11:30 a.m., the program starts at noon.

Reservations are required, with payment, by April 22. To reserve, email terri@plymouthmich.org or call (734) 453-1540.

Showcase Plymouth

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce is accepting registrations for exhibit space at the annual Showcase and Taste of Plymouth, set for Monday, May 6, from 5:30 p.m., at the Inn at St. John's.

Exhibit space prices are \$110 or \$135 (premium) and includes a 6-foot-by-3-foot skirted table.

Showcase and Taste of Plymouth attracts 650-750 attendees from the community and member businesses, 95 total exhibitors including 20 restaurants, Community Service Awards presented to 20 honorees and each exhibitor can bring three people.

The Inn at St. John's is located at 44045 Five Mile in Plymouth. Anyone interested in exhibiting can contact the chamber at (734) 453-1540 or email terri@plymouthmich.org by April 26.

Business workshop

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce presents a business development workshop, "Does Your Website Rule or Drool?" featuring Meaghan McCann of Search Ad Marketing, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 26.

McCann will educate chamber members on best practices for an effective and profitable website. She will share information on what makes a visitor-friendly website, how to not get ripped off when working with a website developer and what it takes to get new visitors to the site and keep them coming back.

The meeting takes place at the chamber office, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth. There is no cost to attend. To RSVP call (734) 453-1540 or email terri@plymouthmich.org.

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Home, new home

Beauty Haven at 580 Forest Ave. cut the ribbon on their new location in Plymouth. Among their many services they specialize in facials, waxing and laser hair removal. Cutting the ribbon is owner Heidi Galka, her staff, friends and Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors. To learn more about like their Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/yourbeautyhaven>.

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

Authors enjoy library's fair

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Larry Paladino of Warren served 1965-66 with the 173rd Airborne in Vietnam. Paladino, who was editor of the *Birmingham Eccentric* and a sports editor for the Associated Press, was deployed with his unit to Vietnam from Okinawa in 1964.

His self-published book is of letters he received in Vietnam as well as letters he sent. "It's just a great history," he said. "I wanted it for my grandkids."

His book is *Thank You for Fighting the Bad People*, that title taken from a thank-you Valentine sent to Vietnam by first-grader Linda Grizzle. Paladino wrote the book in about eight years, off and on.

He was joined Saturday, March 16, at the Plymouth District Library by wife Marilyn for "Celebrat-

ing Authors: Plymouth District Library Local Author Fair." Paladino's unit, which had heavy casualties, received the Presidential Unit Citation. Paladino married Marilyn after the war. "We didn't really know each other when we corresponded. She was a dance teacher at my aunt's dance studio."

He also had for sale *Tales from the Detroit Lions*, which he and Charlie Sanders wrote, as well as *Greener Pastures*, done with Clarence Underwood, former Michigan State University athletic director.

Sharing ideas

"It's great," Paladino said of the author fair. "I've never been to one before." The authors met together to share ideas and resources the first hour before the doors opened to the public.

"The idea is for them to get to know each other," said Marjorie Sadler,

adult services librarian. This is the fifth year for the event, and she was pleased with the turnout. "Right now, it looks great."

In lighter fare, Dianne Griswold of Plymouth Township wrote *A Slice of Time*, about the Plymouth Historical Museum through volunteers' eyes. She describes how the museum became so impressive for a community its size, starting with 40 volunteer interviews for her research and narrowing the book down.

Griswold, who volunteered at the museum about three years, is proud of the largest permanent Lincoln collection on exhibit there.

"I was able to abscond Margaret Dunning's secret baked bean recipe," she added of the book which was published in September 2012.

"Maybe Pam Yockey," Griswold said of

her favorite story in the book. "Pam like myself is a former teacher," Yockey, a seamstress at the Henry Ford, costumed the Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln figures at the Plymouth museum.

Adults and kids

Plymouth Township's Joel Thurtell, a retired *Detroit Free Press* reporter, wrote *Mouse Code* in the 1980s for a magazine contest on adventures in ham radio.

"Unfortunately it sounds like my heroes are going to have to be mice for it to work," he recalled of his writing at that time. "It could be read to kids at any age. I find adults like it."

Thurtell's work can be found at www.hardalee-press.com as well as his blog, www.joelontheroad.com. He wrote with photographer colleague Patricia Beck *Up the Rouge: Paddling Detroit's Hidden River*.

Thurtell also wrote



GERRY MARTIN

Canton author Cheryl Vatcher-Martin was one of the many authors at Saturday's author fair at the Plymouth District Library. Vatcher-Martin was showing her books "Haiku For You: With Some One Room School House History" and "Romulus, MI. Notes From The Past."

Shoestring Reporter: *How I Got To Be a Big City Reporter Without Going to J-School and How You Can Do It Too*. He said that's more of a journalism text, and he uses it in classes he teaches at Wayne State University.

Timely for Easter: Thurtell also wrote *Cross*

Purposes: If Newspapers Had Covered the Crucifixion. His *Seydoux's Christmas Tree* is based on a lesson a young Muslim friend taught Thurtell and his wife while they served as Peace Corps volunteers in Togo.

jbrown@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6755

United Way recognizes contributors

Marie Morrow gave a big "Thank you" to Johnson Controls and nearly 100 business and community leaders who attended the Plymouth Community United Way annual meeting and awards presentation at Comcast in Plymouth.

The PCUW president said the event was a way to show appreciation for those who contributed to the 2012-13 fundraising campaign or provided community service. It also was an opportunity for the public to learn about the work the non-profit does in Plymouth, Canton and Western Wayne County as several of the agencies funded by PCUW were showcased.

The morning began with a continental breakfast followed by the meeting which included reports on PCUW's 2012 finances and an announcement that PCUW is moving forward to research initiatives that produce lasting change and measurable results in addition to still providing basic needs and other much needed human services.

Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze awards were then presented by PCUW

Board of Directors Chairman, Paul Hood. Among the recipients were Johnson Controls, Comcast, DTE Energy, UPS, Robert Bosch LLC, Automotive Components Holdings, Burroughs Payment Systems, UAW Local 845 (Ford), and Community Financial as well as dozens of other businesses, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Plymouth Rotary Foundation and the City of Plymouth.

Johnson Controls received the Platinum Award, the highest level attained by Key Contributors.

"Johnson Controls is proud to be recognized by the Plymouth Community United Way with the Platinum Award for its 2012 Campaign. Year after year, our employees are generous supporters of this great organization and the outreach it provides to the Plymouth community," said Jeff Williams, Group Vice President and General Manager, Johnson Controls Automotive Seating.

Community Service Awards went to All Saints Catholic School in Canton for collecting 464 hats, gloves, scarves and socks to help low-

income and homeless families and individuals. Dodson Elementary students and staff contributed 385 warm winter items. Smith Elementary helped replenish shelves at local food pantries with their successful food drive. They also collected Hats for the Homeless.

The Inn at St. John's collected 280 backpacks with school supplies for needy students. Golfers received a free round of golf for each backpack donated.

FedEx held a Purple Toe Project that yielded two carloads of food, hats, clothes, children's book, toiletries, and cleaning products in addition to a check for \$932.

Home Depot, Panera Bread #748 and Einstein Bros Bagels #2344 received awards for continuously donating supplies and food to special events such as Make-A-Difference Day. Last fall, over 400 volunteers raked 50 yards of senior citizens and people with disabilities.

Many other corporations, businesses, clubs, and individuals also donated food, hats, blankets and frozen turkeys during 2012.



Mary Kay Doder, Communications Manager (left) and Curt Bastianelli, Executive Director of Purchasing (right) for Johnson Controls, accept the Platinum Award from PCUW Board of Directors Chairman Paul Hood (center).

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OUR VIEWS

Lawmakers' visit could mean better representation

Heise, Colbeck reach out to local communities, leaders

Local communities face similar challenges, especially when it comes to dealing with Lansing and our state government. So it was nice to hear two of our local lawmakers, state Rep. Kurt Heise, and state Sen. Pat Colbeck, speak frankly to residents who attended a public forum at a joint meeting of the Plymouth City Commission and the Northville City Council.

The legislators offered some straight talk to the local public officials on issues impacting local communities.

They discussed the elimination and/or reduction of the personal property tax and state shared revenue, which have had a major impact on local budgets. Unfortunately the lawmakers said the elimination of these important funding sources are not going to be reversed

any time soon — if ever.

The major issue discussed was transportation funding. Colbeck, who serves on the Transportation Committee, explained Gov. Snyder's proposal to maintain the state's roads by raising vehicle registration fees by 60 percent, and add 14 cents per gallon to gas (18 cents per gallon of diesel fuel), and raise the sales tax by one cent. A bill is in the works to put the proposal on the May ballot, but if Monday's meeting was any indication, the proposal is going nowhere as Heise, and especially Colbeck, didn't offer any support for the idea.

In fact, Colbeck offered many different ideas, including selling naming rights and concession rights at state-owned assets (like rest areas), and appropriating more of the gen-



Colbeck



Heise

Canton whose district includes all of Canton, didn't exactly offer up what the local officials wanted to hear on these important issues.

However, it was refreshing to see they were willing to come and be grilled by the locals. It was a good exchange, and hopefully will lead to better representation in Lansing for our

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community.

COMMUNITY VOICE

The latest assessments show increasing residential property values in Plymouth and Plymouth Township. Is the market improving where you live?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"Yes. It's a good neighborhood — Hough Park."

Brenda Krachenberg
Plymouth



"I live in Eastpointe and I'm renting at the moment. ... A few more homes have sold. ... I don't think they're getting the higher (prices) over in the area I'm in."

Rachelle Reamer
Eastpointe



"I think so. I'm in the township."

Bonnie Mettie
Plymouth Township



"I just got my new tax assessment and it went down another \$3,600."

Judy Linna
Canton Township

LETTERS

Enhanced technology crucial

I appreciate the numerous articles in the Observer the past two weeks supporting technological improvements in the Plymouth-Canton school district.

Our school district must keep improving technological capabilities and programs to insure students have an academic advantage as they pursue either a career path or higher education. Taking a quote from school board President John Barrett, "This is the way of the future, it's the nature of the global world. We have to give kids what they need to meet the demands of the job market. We need to make sure our students have the critical skills that are now demanded by colleges and employers."

Universities and employers/businesses are continually advancing their technological capabilities, and expect their future students or employees to have the appropriate technical skill level. Careers in fields like drafting and printing have changed dramatically, and the old methods are really lost arts due to technological advances.

For prior generations, an online degree or telecommuting was just a figment of the imagination. However, through technological advances these are now new norms of our times. Today, you can conduct business or get a degree from the comfort of your home vs. an office or classroom. Preparing for college is no longer sitting at the kitchen table and filling out applications; all documents are completed online through various technological applications.

The classroom has evolved from blackboards and textbooks, to interactive whiteboards and various forms of technical interface to global resources. The card catalogue has been replaced by Google, periodicals and newspapers are online, and instead of day-dreaming about far off places students now have these places at their fingertips.

From another article on March 14, "Digital learning in Plymouth-Canton Schools: Innovation guides teaching, learning," a class lesson at Central Middle School culminated in students creating video "trailers" for their subject following online research. According to their teacher Rick Coughlin, "Rather than a written report, the students actually created a presentation that they could post on-line and share with the world."

I'm not saying all 6,200 students at the "Park" should have an Apple iPad (sorry, classmates). Rather, that the district investigate and provide the highest level of

learning and technological applications for all students and academic areas to make learning exciting and competitive with our ever-changing world.

The need to continually enhance the forms and levels of technology for Plymouth-Canton students to live and survive in an evolving a digital world is crucial.

Kara Kwiecinski

Salem High School junior
Plymouth

Search for truth

Consider this a response to Lori Levi's open letter ("Lack of response," Observer, March 7). I am one of those who know so well and love this nation. A senior who dates back to a childhood of World War II.

An observation of how many times you contradicted yourself by a lack of logic and reason: "Make it appealing to our senses and emotions and use things we care about to make the case." Senses and emotions are what has dumbed down the past generations, including yours. Senses and emotions may do for the latest upgrade, but my past and your future need logic, reason, common sense with a big dose of thinking. What are you asking us to come to? What do you think those meetings and rallies are for? Without listening how do you search for truth and credible information? Are you waiting for a tweet to cover years of history and the deliberate chaos we are experiencing? We can't tell you if you don't come.

It's to your credit that you write "need you and need your message." The message you need is that these past generations have been losing the freedoms our Founders fought for and are on a path to an authoritarian/dictatorship of socialism.

Can you define socialism and its history of consequences? Your generations are a product of it. ... in lingo we understand," should raise your red flags. Your understanding will be enhanced by learning the lingo of logic, reason and history. Who gave you the lingo that made you a "foreign student" in your own country?

You ask "if you were in our shoes, would you want to be low? A better question would be "who and what put you in those shoes" that are pinching and not wearing well. They are taking you to Hayek's "Road to Serfdom" (1944). You may have learned of him in one of those meetings you passed up.

"Stop looking to us to get engaged or blaming tomorrow's potential demise on our dismissal

of what's important." That potential demise of tomorrow and your dismissal of it is your future and maybe what you think is important today is an illusion due to a lack going back to logic, reason and common sense.

We're looking to you ... please start by telling us your story, listening to us at times without saying a word, and sharing the vision for what we can become as individuals, a generation and a nation. I have four generations in the vision you speak of. I care very much, but seldom is anyone of those generations willing to share, speak, think or listen. It does happen and the result is to see actual thinking take place. Those you are looking for were at those meetings, but you were absent. I might have been one of them.

I truly hope there are more like you who sense something is wrong but whose red flags need activity on your part to find answers. Right now, you have answers and don't know the questions to ask. Search for truth.

I invite you to speak, listen, share and search for truth from those who have tried to reach you.

Joanne Sonnenberg
Canton

Colbeck's plan

Sen. Patrick Colbeck has a plan to fund our roads (Observer, March 10). Let's dissect these new ideas. Reprioritizing expenditures? Such as cutting more aid to local governments and school districts? Paying down debt? With what money? They already gave it to their backers. Build better quality roads? Something that has been pushed for decades, but abandoned because of the initial cost. Where would the senator come up with the extra 50 percent needed per mile?

Now the coup de grace: Selling advertising rights in our rest areas and bring in a half billion dollars. Wow, that's some expensive space on our toilet walls.

How about selling our state name and change it to Mississippi? This will be appropriate once the senator's policies of the past two years finish taking effect — unions destroyed and only two segments of our population remaining, the rich and the poor, nothing in between.

Nowhere does the senator suggest that the corporate gifts of billions of dollars be reversed and sanity returned to our tax code. That would be going against the very entities that paid to get him and his fellow Tea Party members elected.

James Huddleston
Canton

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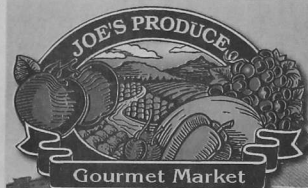
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OHL PLAYOFFS PREVIEW

Whalers all business for playoffs

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Whalers are white-hot entering the Ontario Hockey League playoffs, which for them kicks off at 7 p.m. Friday against Sarnia at Compuware Arena.

Sunday's 4-0 whitewashing of Windsor gave Plymouth 16 victories over the final 17 contests of the regular season and the No. 2 seed in the Western Conference (42-17-5-4, 93 points).

Sarnia opens the first round after a third-place finish in the OHL West Division (which the Whal-

WHALERS VS. STING

Following is the schedule for the Plymouth-Sarnia first-round OHL playoff series (Best-of-seven, all games at 7 p.m.):

Game 1: Friday, at Compuware Arena

Game 2: Saturday, at Compuware Arena

Game 3: Monday, at Sarnia

Game 4: Wednesday, March 27, at Sarnia

Game 5: (if necessary) Friday, March 29, at Plymouth

Game 6: (if necessary) Saturday, March 30, at Sarnia

Game 7: (if necessary) Tuesday, April 2, at Plymouth

Tickets: Call Compuware box office at (734) 453-8400 or go to www.plymouthwhalers.com

ers won, by the way). The Sting posted a 35-28-1-4 record, good for 75 points.

But Plymouth coach and general manager Mike Vellucci has been around

the block a few times. He doesn't put any stock in the Whalers' torrid second half, rather focusing on the fact both teams in the playoff matchup are

at zeros.

To that end, he kept regulars Tom Wilson and Colin MacDonald home for the finale, in order to rest nagging injuries. Both are expected to be ready Friday night.

"Last year we ran into injury trouble and didn't have the depth," Vellucci said. "Hopefully, this year we have the depth. ... You got to have a lot of depth, four lines that can play. Make sure everybody's healthy and rested."

The Whalers—in the OHL playoffs for the 22nd straight year—know full well they'll need to fire on all cylinders from the

opening puck drop Friday to have a shot at bringing home the OHL championship for the first time since 2007.

"We got to go in there, every game is important and every shift is important," Vellucci said.

Pick your poison

The Plymouth-Sarnia matchup boils down to the Whalers' deep-and-talented roster against Sarnia scoring stalwarts led by wingers Charles Sarault (108 points, one shy Plymouth scoring champion Vince Trocheck) and snip-

Please see WHALERS, B2

One for the book

Whalers' Trocheck wins OHL scoring title, praises 'selfless' teammates

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Vince Trocheck—having finished a postgame interview—triumphantly walked into the Plymouth Whalers locker room a good 15-20 minutes after Sunday's 4-0 road win over Windsor.

When he did, loud cheering spilled out into the corridor at Windsor Family Credit Union Centre.

Nearby, equipment workers for the Whalers could only listen, smile and nod as they collected sticks, pucks, tape and other odds and ends for the return trip to Compuware Arena in Plymouth.

Trocheck's teammates were waiting to cheer for him, because his three-point game against the Spitfires won him the Ontario Hockey League scoring championship. He assisted on a power-play goal by Garrett Meurs with 2:26 left to earn his 109th

point, surpassing Sarnia's Charles Sarault (who finished with 108).

About 5:45 of a seven-minute power play had elapsed when Meurs rifled a cross-rink feed from Trocheck over the blocker of Windsor goalie Jordan DeKort to trigger the kind of on-ice celebration one might expect for a playoff winner.

"I'm ecstatic. I don't even know how to really explain it," said Trocheck, who started the afternoon two points behind Sarault. "I didn't want to be that selfish guy that's going out there to get points. I'm all about the team. It's all about the team winning."

"But this team, the guys are just so selfless. They went out there today and pretty much did it all for me to win that scoring title, and I can't say enough about that."

It was duly noted by the man who traded with Saginaw to acquire Trocheck in January.



RENA LAVERTY

After scoring his 50th goal of the season Saturday, Vince Trocheck (right) congratulated by teammates including Stefan Noesen (No. 11). Trocheck had another celebration on Sunday, winning the OHL scoring championship with his 109th point in a 4-0 victory at Windsor.

"That's what being a team's all about," Plymouth coach and general manager Mike Vellucci said. "From coaches to players, everybody was rooting for him. We were actually pressing a little too hard, passing on shots thinking he had to get a goal."

"It wasn't a goal, he just needed a point. So I'm really proud of the team and proud of Vince."

Trocheck laughed when asked

what he might have said to Meurs had he missed what turned out to be his 32nd goal of the season.

"He wouldn't miss it, he buried it," Trocheck said. "That was one of the hardest shots I've ever seen from that guy."

It turned out to be quite a weekend for Trocheck. On Saturday night against Windsor at Compu-

Please see TROCHECK, B2



PHOTO COURTESY NCAA.COM

Celebrating after she and her teammates on the Elmira Soaring Eagles won the NCAA Division III women's hockey championship Saturday is Tania Lamoureux (center). The 2010 Salem grad is flanked by teammates Katie Gaskin (No. 20, formerly of Wayne State University) and Caitlin Metcalf (No. 23).

Lamoureux soars for D-III champs

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

First, Elmira College had to make it to Saturday's finals of the NCAA Division III women's hockey tournament in Superior, Wis.

The Soaring Eagles did just that Friday thanks to a 4-3 overtime win over previously undefeated Gustavus Adolphus—with 2010 Salem High School graduate Tania Lamoureux's short-handed goal helping the team erase a second-period deficit.

Some 24 hours later, Lamoureux and the rest of the Soaring Eagles indeed had that super- or feeling because Elmira defeated Middlebury College 1-0 for the D-III

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

championship.

"The best part about the last few games was just how well our team played and how we all came together," said Lamoureux, a 5-5 junior forward and co-captain who formerly played in the Plymouth-Canton area with Victory Honda. "We definitely had our ups and downs over the course of the year just as any team would—but we were playing the best hockey we had played all year and that was extremely exciting to see and be a part of."

Also exciting, she noted in an e-mail to the Observer, was "looking around and seeing the NCAA logos."

Getting some free NCAA swag didn't hurt either. "All the free attire made me feel like I was in the pros, definitely a special experience."

Lamoureux pointed to her two seasons playing for the Victory Honda 19U women's team as something that helped her become the all-around player and team leader she is today. She did not participate in varsity athletics at Salem.

"I had the privilege of being a captain during my last year at Victory Honda and that has prepared me for the role of captain," she noted.

After the riveting ride that ended with the championship, several mem-

GIRLS LACROSSE PREVIEW

PCEP girls lax teams gearing up

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The growing pains are still reverberating around Plymouth-Canton Educational Park following the 2010 breakup of the combined girls lacrosse team.

But as the 2013 season dawns, coaches and players for Canton, Plymouth and Salem talk less about going solo and more about racking up victories in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association.

Following is a glimpse at the three teams.

Canton outlook

The Canton Chiefs finished 8-12 overall and 3-5 in the Kensington Conference, with the Chiefs then defeating Northville 12-11 in the first round of regionals.

Head coach David Bower, assisted by Ross Davenport and Jim Neal, welcome Canton's "strongest team yet" with eight seniors and nine juniors providing veteran leadership and on-field talent.

"We will continue to emphasize team play, both offensively and defensively," Bower said. "With a good balance between speed and skill, I look forward to watching our team transition the ball up the field."

Once in the opponent's end of the field, he envisions having "a fairly balanced attack that can spread defenses and create scoring opportunities from many different angles."

Leading the way will be all-state honorable mention Cassidy Tucker, a senior captain and midfielder who scored 26 goals and led the Chiefs with 43 ground balls. Senior midfielder Amelise Niemeis (all-KLAA) was Canton's top player in the "turnovers won" category. Junior goalie Melissa Neal holds records for saves in a game (16) and season (194) and save percentage (45.8 percent).

Other key returnees are senior captain and defender Laura Murphy (second in ground balls) and junior midfielder Annika Nuler, a player who can get it done on offense and defense.

New to the Chiefs and ready to make an impact right off the hop are sophomore midfielder Jordan Church, sophomore attacker Kelsey Tucker, junior midfielder Alexis O'Flynn and junior midfielder Connie Cox.

Tucker had a four-game cameo last season, and scored eight goals and assisted on two others. The others are con-

Please see PCEP, B4

Canton girls lax tryouts

Tryouts for the Canton High School varsity girls lacrosse team have been extended until Friday, March 22, as the Chiefs are looking to bring in players for the coming season.

The sessions will take place 4-6 p.m. Monday through Friday at Discovery Middle School. No experience is required.

Contact coach David Bower, (734) 634-8797, cantonhighlacrosse@pcsmail.net, for more information.

MU softball blanked, 3-0

The Madonna University softball team was held scoreless for just the second time this season as the Crusaders fell Saturday to NCAA Division II foe Ohio Dominican, 3-0, at Panther Field.

Visiting MU registered four hits with sophomore designated player Caitlyn Keuvelaar accounting for two of them.

Senior outfielder Amber Rafko and junior third baseman Carlee Meek each added one as the Crusaders slipped to 10-11 overall.

Sophomore Bree Crampton (5-6) was charged with the loss as she gave up three runs on five hits over her ninth inning of work, striking out three.

Madonna took a 2-0 lead in the top of the second when it appeared sophomore outfielder Karleigh Creighton (North Fairington) belted a two-run homer, but the Crusaders had batted out of order and the round-tripper was taken off the board leaving the game 0-0.

Ohio Dominican (4-17-1) got on the board in the bottom of the fourth when Caitlin Jividen and Taylor Thomas hit back-to-back home runs to center field for a 2-0 lead.

The Panthers tacked on their third run in the bottom of the sixth on a homer from Kelsey Albanese for a 3-0 lead.

Keuvelaar and Rafko both singled in the seventh, but were stranded as Rachel Stanzel (2-1) worked out of the jam for the complete game shutout. She struck out three.

The Crusaders are idle until 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, when Albion comes to open the brand new University Field.

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, 30990 S. Wixom Road, at the cost of each clinic is \$10 per participant. The remaining schedule is as follows:

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

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

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Crusaders add more firepower

By Brad Emmons
Observer Staff Writer

Madonna University volleyball coach Jerry Abraham has signed a pair of prep standouts to NAIA letters-of-intent adding Romulus' Maya Davis and Fenton's Payton Maxheimer.

The duo join the defending Wolverines-Hoosier Athletic Conference regular season and tournament champion Crusaders, who are coming off of their 11th trip to the NAIA National Championships last December.

Davis, a 5-foot-10 middle blocker who resides in Wayne, led Romulus to a Western Wayne Athletic Conference championship loss last fall in her third varsity season.

She earned a pair of Offensive Player of the Year awards as well as All-WVAC, All-District and All-Region honors in addition to being a nominee for an All-State.

A selection to the principal's honor roll, Davis is the niece of former NBA player John Long and the cousin of former NBA

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

player Terry Mills.

Hard-hitting frosh

"Maya is very athletic," Abraham said. "She is the kind of player who can come in bid for a starting position as a middle blocker and that is what we hope she will do as a freshman."

"Maya has really good range as an athlete, hits hard and moves well antenna to antenna. She has a nice serve and has the potential to be a terminating type hitter down the road. We love her athleticism, speed and jumping ability."

The 5-10 Maxheimer lettered in basketball, soccer and volleyball while leading Fenton to three Flint Metro League volleyball championships in addition to a Class B district and regional titles as a senior.

A two-time (2011, '12) All-Flint Metro League first-team selection, Maxheimer was also tabbed as her team's most valuable player and the Tri-County Times Player of

the Year as a junior and a senior.

She holds the top two spots in the Tigers' record book for single-season digs with 501 as a senior and 489 as a junior.

In basketball, Maxheimer led the Tigers in points, rebounds and steals as a junior, en route to team MVP honors and All-Flint Metro first-team accolades.

Maxheimer has been selected as a scholar-athlete six times.

"Payton is a very experienced player with the ability to play all the way around," Abraham said. "She is an excellent defensive player who has also set in the past payton has excellent court sense and really reads well on defense."

"She is extremely quick and athletic on the floor and comes from a very successful high school program. Payton has played at a very high club level and has the ability to come in and compete at a variety of positions."

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(313) 222-6651



Ice dancers Meryl Davis and Charlie White, who train at Arctic Edge in Canton, continue to take the world by storm.

Ice dancers win second world title

Olympic ice dancing silver medalists Meryl Davis and Charlie White made figure skating history this past weekend, becoming the only U.S. ice dancing team to ever win two world titles.

The team, which trains out of Arctic Edge Arena in Canton, already made the record books in 2011, when they captured their first world title, becoming the first U.S. ice dancing team to ever win a world championship.

This second win, however, both cements their place in figure skating history, and also positions them as the team to beat at the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

Davis and White dominated the international skating scene this season, standing atop the podium at all six competitions

they entered. The gold-medal run began with Skate America, followed by the NHK Trophy in Sendai, Japan, the ISU Grand Prix Final, the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, the Four Continents Championships, and the World Championships this past weekend in London, Ontario, Canada.

Davis and White, both college students at the University of Michigan, were so strong that they even defeated 2010 Olympic champions Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir of Canada to capture the title.

"This has to be close to the top," White said. "Obviously, the first time we won worlds, being the first-ever American world championship, that has a special place. But our growth this season

and how far we've come in this gold medal, that's what makes this one really special."

"I think that, not only winning, but putting out a performance that we were really thrilled with and really proud of makes it that much more enjoyable," Davis said after she and White won the ice dance at the World Figure Skating Championships with 189.56 points.

Davis and White are focused on the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. They continue to train in Canton with longtime coach Marina Zoueva, with the goal of standing on the top step of the podium in Sochi and again making history by becoming the first-ever American ice dancing Olympic Champions.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Triple Threat cagers

Canton-based Triple Threat Training is opening the doors for sixth-grade girls interested in joining T3, a brand new travel basketball team.

Spokesman Dominique Washington said sixth-graders would join in eight to 10 tournaments throughout the local area.

A parent information meeting is slated for 7 p.m. Friday, April 5, at High Velocity (located on Canton Avenue west of Canton Center Road), where more details about practice times and tournament locations will be presented.

Parents wanting more information can send an email to TripleThreatTrainingMI@gmail.com or call (734) 341-1336.

Salem baseball clinics

Youngsters wanting to spruce up their baseball skills can do so at the 2013 Salem Varsity Baseball Clinic, set for Saturday, March 23 in the Salem High School gymnasium.

Session 1 is 9 a.m. to noon, for kids ages 7-10; Session 2 will take place from 1-4 p.m., for those ages 11-15.

Cost for three hours of instruction from the 2013 Salem coaching staff (led by Dale Van der Kerk, 2012 Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame Inductee and veteran Rocks' varsity coach) and current varsity players is just \$30. That includes a snack and T-shirt.

For more information, email salem-rocksbaseball@gmail.com or contact Jeff Vergolini at (734) 612-7072.

PCEP

Continued from page B1

sidered solid, two-way performers.

Joining Tucker and Murphy as co-captains are senior defender Mercedes White and senior attacker Kelly Harris.

Plymouth outlook

Last year's Wildcats tallied a 10-6 record, good for second in the conference before falling 12-7 to South Lyon in the playoffs.

Unfortunately, gone are 12 seniors including all-state scoring machine Katie Hill (180 goals in the past two years).

For head coach Bob Hill and the rest of his staff, the key to the season will be how quickly sophomores and juniors get acclimated.

"The seniors contributed the bulk of our scoring last year so we definitely have our work cut out for us," Hill explained. "Halfway through (team captain) and Claire Cox can score but we are going to need all of our juniors

and sophomores to step up."

Swanson scored 46 goals as a junior last year and was named as an all-state honorable mention selection.

"She is a patient, tough player that can beat out defenses with the pass or drive the net and score," Hill said.

Senior defender Jamie Dottavio (29 ground balls) and junior goalie Megan Wiesch (400 save percentage) will try to hold the fort against KLAAs rivals.

Other key returnees are senior co-captain Shelby Croshaw and seniors Sarah Messer, Jillian LaRoy, Mariah Leah and Ali Holmquist.

Top newcomers include: juniors Ellysa- beth DeClair, Chyan Ewing, Carly Clark, Pip-

er Gasaway, Carly Guytas- tatos; sophomores Elizabeth O'Donohue, Sophie Miller, Michelle Burke, Gretchen Schone, Jessica Cristiu, Andra Cristiu and Rachel Kelly.

Hill said the team will try to reach two main goals this season. One is to defeat park rivals Canton and Salem and "sweep the Park."

The other is to win a playoff game.

Salem outlook

Rocks' head coach Dave Medley said the attitude surrounding the 2013 team finally "has some swagger to it," with plenty of veterans ready to do some damage in the KLAAs.

He likes Salem's chances of making another jump in the standings, after last spring's 5-12

mark (which included the team's first-ever KLAAs wins over Northville and Canton).

"I am feeling pretty good about this group but not to the point of being giddy," Medley said.

"However, we go into the season with high expectations and achievable goals that should surpass our two previous seasons. "This will be a season of fine turning fundamentals in some of our weaker areas and areas where we have strengths we'll work on to make them stronger."

Back for more are senior captains Alissa Amell, Shannon Fitzpatrick and Leah Schrauben as are seniors Bridget Maul, Megan Wood, Grace Savage and goaltender Sarah Bowersman (who will share duties

with sophomore Samantha Howell).

The scoring nucleus from 2012 also returns, sparked by juniors Jenna Carter, Shannon Burke, Kiersten Vala, Rose Krasofsky, Bridget Kerwin, Laura Britton and sophomore Joslyn Longe.

Junior Sarah Edgecomb could be a plus at mid-field while sophomores Megan Pinkham and Caroline Verklon bring defensive promise.

"The emphasis has been on maturing as a team," Medley continued. "And that means everyone getting on the same page, each player knowing the progression on defending a shot on goal to our own shot selection."

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ICERS

Continued from page B1

bers of the Soaring Eagles will be playing in a women's professional league in Europe.

The Lamoureux consider that following her 2014 graduation, which she

hopes follows a back-to-back D-III title?

"If I have an opportunity to play pro I would take advantage of it," Lamoureux said.

But for now, she will savor Saturday's victory and the role her goal in the semifinal played in helping make that happen. Elmira trailed 3-2 with

under three minutes to play in the middle frame and were killing off a penalty.

That's when Lamoureux and Ashley Ryan broke in on a 2-on-1 rush, with the latter netting her 11th goal of the season.

Samantha Curk's OT goal then advanced Elmira into the winner-take-all

tilt against Middlebury. In the final, senior Lauren Sullivan made 30 saves and Taylor Steadman scored the only goal that was needed to give the Soaring Eagles (23-5-1) their third title in 12 years of existence.

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**NOTICE OF SALE
MAYFLOW TOWING**

The following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction for cash to satisfy lien on March 28, 2013 at 9:00 A.M.

Mayflow Towing
5760 Belleville Rd.
Canton, MI 48188
734-397-3560

1997 Ford	Thunderbird	1FALP66W9WVH173222
1996 Mercury	Villager	4N2DV11WXTJH56744
1998 Dodge	Stratus	1B3EJ43X6WV114547
2003 Chevrolet	Malibu	1G1ND523X3M3665183
1999 Dodge	Ram 1500	3B7TJ12VX8J2298511
2009 Chevrolet	Impala	2G1WT57K59J285692

The following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction for cash to satisfy lien on March 28, 2013 at 10:00 A.M.

Mayflow Towing
1179 Starweather St.
Plymouth, MI 48170
734-459-0053

1998 Mercedes-Benz	E320	WDBJF65P9W6A18020
1995 Buick Riviera		1G4MD2218546723641
1999 Mercury Grand Marquis		2ME6FM74V6XG615944
1992 Mercury Sable		1ME6CM50U5N6G30417
2000 Pontiac Bonneville SE		1G2HX54K5T4201743

Public: March 21, 2013

ALL-AREA

Continued from page B3

Jordan Brandon, Jr., Westland Glen (215):

The junior went 55-5 en route to a runner-up finish in the Division 1 state finals. Brandon also placed third at the regional and district tournaments, while winning the Overland and Wayne County titles. He also was runner-up at CC.

"Jordan wrestled outstanding all season and was the best 'team guy' in our lineup," Polk said. "When we needed a pin Jordan was the guy to get it. He has grown as a wrestler and a person. He's not proud of that more than anything. For a big guy he has the speed and athleticism of a light-weight so he is always fun to watch. Jordan is a warrior and is

the guy you want on the mat when the match is on the line. Next season should be fun with him anchoring our lineup. Our young wrestler will become better wrestlers just being in the room with him."

Manny Haddad, Sr., Liv. Churchill (285): Despite a first-round loss, the senior battled back through the blood rounds and placed third among Division I heavyweights.

Haddad, a two-time state qualifier, finished the year with a 40-8 record as district champion, regional runner-up and third in the KLAAs Association meet.

"Manny had many obstacles to overcome this year. I can't remember many years, even the years we went to Battle Creek, where we won the division, the conference, Overland outright ... so

work with one goal in mind — states."

"He is one of the quickest and talented big guys I've seen. His power was just unmatched. When you put power, quickness, talent and desire in one man, good things will come. In Manny's case it did. He was always in a good mood with a smile on his face. He just loved wrestling and wanted to do it. He will be missed at Churchill."

COACH OF YEAR

Bill Polk, Westland Glen: The 13th-year coach guided the 21-10 Rockets to the KLAAs South Division and Kensington Conference titles, along with a Division I team district and Overland Invitational crown.

"On paper, I think we did really well," Polk said. "I can't remember many years, even the years we went to Battle Creek, where we won the division, the conference, Overland outright ... so

team wise, statistically, we did really well."

"I don't think we were as balanced from top-to-bottom. So I think the kids overcame a lot to achieve everything we did."

Polk was ably assisted this season by Eric Schramms, Jeremy Harris, Andrew Hein, Brian Cox and John Wood. "Jordan Brandon is going to lead the bunch obviously, but I think the freshman I've got half-a-dozen other kids that have worked real hard over the last couple of summers. I think that we should probably be more balanced than we were this year. But I don't know if we'll have quite as many injuries. Losing Taylor (the Kyle Gilles) and Dylan (Morantes) obviously will be hard to replace. But I think the freshman did pretty well on JV. So if we keep them all going, we should be able to step in and be good varsity kids."

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Livonia parish marks its 50th anniversary

Take a self-guided tour of St. Aidan Parish in Livonia by scanning the QR codes throughout the church with your smart phone and learn about the art in the house of worship.

Check out the 25-year-old time capsule that the church will open next month. Or pass through St. Aidan's holy doors and receive a partial indulgence for your sins.

All of those activities and more will mark the parish's 50th anniversary this year.

St. Aidan was formed in 1963 and services were held in a school while the parish's first church was under construction. That building served the community until the 1980s when the parish outgrew the facility. The new church, complete with bell tower, was finished in time for the parish's 25th anniversary.

A set of "holy doors" recently was added to the atrium of the church. The doors were inspired by a pilgrimage to Rome. The holy doors on the four major basilicas of Rome are opened



Catholics who walk through St. Aidan's holy doors to celebrate its 50th anniversary will receive a partial indulgence.

by the Pope on designated jubilee years. Catholics from all over the world come to cross the thresholds of these doors as a sign of their desire to be free from the effects of sin and to renew their relationship with Jesus. After first celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation, those who walk through a holy door receive a plenary — or complete — indulgence, the removal of all punishment due for sins that have been forgiven. The Archbishop

of Detroit, Allen Vigneron, has granted a partial indulgence to Catholics who walk through St. Aidan's holy doors to celebrate the parish's golden anniversary and the Catholic Church's 153rd Year of Faith.

St. Aidan's pastor, the Rev. Kevin Thomas, continues the long-standing tradition of the church's service to its community. Thomas is police chaplain for the City of Livonia. Over the years the parish also has donated clothing to the community, bought food for the needy and supported soup kitchens, held numerous blood drives and assisted those affected by national tragedies and disasters.

The church has planned several celebrations over the year to mark its anniversary. All are open to the public and include a reception on June 19, harvest festival on Aug. 25 and Mass, followed by a gala on Oct. 20.

For more information, visit the Golden Anniversary webpage at www.staidanlvonia.org or call the parish office at (734) 425-5950.

Passages

Obituaries, Notices & Remembrances

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

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

ARNOLD, BARRY WINDY

February 6, 1933 - March 14, 2013. Barry Windy Arnold, 80, of Venice, FL and Plymouth, MI, died on March 14, 2013. He was a veteran of the Korean War. Survivors include his wife, Marilyn; children Karen (Dan) Burdette, Mark (Vicky) Arnold, Diane (Jay) Tucker, and Sheri Arnold; grandchildren Jason and John (Amanda) Burdette, Holly Arnold, Miranda Tucker, Mark A. and Elliott Arnold. He was predeceased by his parents, Asa and Laura Arnold. Barry was a veteran of the Korean War. He worked for GM for over 35 years and for State Wayne Theaters for 25 years. Burial will take place at a later date in Michigan.

HOY, ALBERT HOMER

Of Am Arbor, MI. Age 90, formerly of Garden City, MI, passed away on March 16, 2013 at Sunrise Assisted Living Facility. Albert was born on February 1, 1923 in Lewiston, Maine, the son of the late John and Emma (Hoffman) Hoy. Albert served in the Army during WWII and also worked as Cadillac Automotive, retiring after 35 years. Albert is survived by his son, Lane (Jennifer) Hoy, grandchildren, Jeremy and Shannon Hoy and brother, Charles Hoy. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 59 years in 2008, Doreen Mae (Gager) Hoy. A funeral service was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at the Nie Family Funeral Home, Carpenter Road Chapel. Please visit Albert's personal webpage to leave a memory at www.niefuneralhomes.com.

Online guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com

KALINOWSKI, GEORGE J.

Age 87, passed away March 15, 2013. He was born on March 27, 1925, in Lodz, Poland. He was a member of the Polish Underarmy during the German invasion of Poland. During that time, George became a P.O.W. After the war, George found and moved his immediate family to Detroit, where he attended college and received a formal education. George retired from Ford Motor Co. as an Electrical Engineer at age 65. He is survived by his beloved wife of 58 years, Alexandra, his loving children Mark (Patrice), Annie, Thomas, and Susan (Chuck) Dziadzio. He is also survived by his grandchildren: Christopher (Ana), Brittany, Christine, Michael, Nick, Ava, Melody (Tony), and Paul Overlay, his great grandchildren, Chris Jr. and Marcos, Elijah, and Selah and his nieces: Christine and Barbara. He was preceded in death by his brother John in 1969 and his grandson, Ricky in 1990. Visitation will be held on Thursday, March 21 from 4:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. A funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, March 22 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 830 S. Lafayette, South Lyon.

Online guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com

PHILLIPS
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KENT, GLADYS M.

Age 94, of Farmington, CT. Passed away March 16, 2013. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home by www.thayer-rock.com.

May peace be
with you in this
time of sorrow.

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RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargatz at sdargatz@hometownlife.com.

March

BETHANY

Time/Date: 8 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, March 30

Location: Don Hubert VFW Hall, 27345

Schoolcraft, east of Inkster, Redford

Details: Bethany, an organization serving Catholics and other Christians, offers a singles dance. Tickets are \$13. Beer, wine, pop, snacks and coffee are included

Contact: (586) 264-0284

BRUNCH

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., Sunday, March 24

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

Details: Palm Sunday brunch will be served between the 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. services

Contact: (248) 553-3380

CONCERT

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

Location: Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills

Details: Josh Nelson, a popular musician and composer of modern Jewish music, per-

forms. 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, through April 3

Location: Kenwood Church, 20200 Meridian, Livonia

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

Contact: (248) 476-8222

EASTER SERVICES

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Thursday, March 28; 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., Friday, March 29; and 9:30 a.m., Sunday, March 31

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: All services have the general theme "Names of Wondrous Love." Maundy Thursday sermon theme is "The Lamb." Sermon theme for Good Friday is "The Alpha and the Omega" and for Easter is "The Light." A free Easter breakfast will be held from 9 a.m. All visitors will receive the free DVD, "The Road to Emmaus."

Your Invitation to Worship

<p>CATHOLIC</p> <p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tradition Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Garden K-8</p> <p>38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-2200</p> <p>Mass Schedule: First Friday Mass 7:00 p.m. Saturday Mass 8:00 a.m. Sunday Masses 7:00 & 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Hour: 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Meditation of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</p> <p>Rosedale Gardens PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 10000 W. 4th Ave., Suite 100, Livonia, MI 48150 (Between Meridian & Farmington Rd.)</p> <p>(734) 422-0494 Friends in Faith Service 9:00 a.m. Traditional Service 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>WARD CHURCH 20000 W. 4th Ave., Suite 100, Livonia, MI 48150 www.wardchurch.org</p> <p>Traditional Worship at 8:30 & 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m. Children's Programs available at 8:30 & 11 a.m.</p> <p>The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</p> <p>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia, just north of I-96 www.christsaviorlutheran.com</p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. - Traditional Staffed Nurses Available</p> <p>Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 a.m. Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8143</p> <p>Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastor: Davenport, Bayle & Creeden 734-522-6830</p>
<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 4601 W. 4th Ave., Suite 100, Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 462-2200</p> <p>Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZON FOR CHILDREN LITERACY CENTER (734) 465-3190</p>	<p>ASSEMBLIES OF GOD</p> <p>A Church for Seasoned Saints OPEN ARMS CHURCH</p> <p>Worship: Sunday 10:30 am Wednesday 7 pm</p> <p>Pastor Grady Jensen & Music Minister Alex Pazzini</p> <p>3015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152 Between Farmington & Meridian Across from Joe's Products 248.471.5282 Church As You Remember it!</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</p> <p>St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & School 17810 Farmington Road Livonia 48150-1380</p> <p>WORSHIP SERVICES Sundays 8:30 A.M. & 11 A.M. Tuesdays 8:30 P.M. www.stpaulslutheran.org</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Adult Sunday 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship 10:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</p>
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For Information
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Musical brings passion, resurrection of Jesus to life

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Kelly Nieto punched up her popular Lenten musical with a new name, cast, secular stage and extended story line this year.

The Farmington Hills woman says the changes — which include a venue switch from the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament to Music Hall — will help her reach a broader audience with her dramatic telling of the Stations of the Cross, Resurrection and Pentecost. It's advice she said came straight from God.

"We loved being at the Cathedral. It was an incredible two years. It was the biggest event in the history of the Cathedral — over 11,000 (attendees) each year. We sponsored 2,400 low-income children to see it at no cost. But it was difficult for people to see past the 15th row. At the same time we knew we wanted to reach out to people who would not go to a cathedral. We knew God was calling us to a broader audience."

Nieto, who is married and has five children, produced "The Living Stations of the Cross" at her parish, Our Lady of Sorrows in Farmington, for 10 years, before moving the production to the Cathedral in 2011. The presentation blended Nieto's original content-



Kenny Watson portrays Jesus.

porary songs with Pope John Paul II's text of the 14 Stations, which conclude with Christ being placed in a tomb. This year, the musical drama, renamed *The Cross and the Light*, will begin a week-long run on Palm Sunday, March 24, at Music Hall in downtown Detroit. The title change

reflects the addition of a new second act that includes scenes about the Resurrection and Pentecost.

Nieto said she was inspired to extend the story beyond the Stations of the Cross, while praying at a Good Friday service last year. The day after Easter she revised the

production, making it "10 times better," than the original work.

"When we were at the Cathedral, we'd go to black between each scene. It was very presentational. Now, this is like a full-blown theatrical musical where there are character lines built from the opening number. In fact, one of the coolest things is we now have our singing soldier. His is everybody's favorite character," she said. The character evolves from a "mean and nasty" soldier to Christian covert.

"Now you have a character you can invest in. It's very different in that sense. It's a theatrical piece now, not just a presentation of information."

Somber to joyous

The first act ends with Jesus dying on the cross. The second starts with his placement in a tomb, the culmination of the Living Stations of the Cross.

"After the 14th Station, it turns bright — I mean, the music never stops. There is a stark contrast between what the cross is and what the light is. So, in terms of musical style, energy and emotion, it's very different in act two. We take you from the empty tomb all the way to Pentecost with Peter and the apostles baptizing thousands."

"And whether people will know it or not, everyone in the audience is being baptized spiritually and musically in every sense. You leave there feeling as if 'I have a call.' 'I have to do something for the Lord.'"

Nieto said a priest reviewed the script for biblical accuracy and that it represents a Christian story without denominational overtones.

"Every line is from the Bible. We didn't take any license with the truth of the story. It is a timeless message and we will never water it down."

Volunteers needed

In addition to producing and writing the show, Nieto also serves as technical director and leads promotional efforts. She has distributed flyers and spoken at numerous Sunday worship services, but said she welcomes volunteers to assist with publicity, selling merchandise and other tasks.

An Australian the-



Cast member rehearse a dramatic scene from the "The Cross and the Light."



LaRonnie Dolley as the "Singing Soldier" watches as Christ is crucified.

ater troupe contacted her through the Internet and plans to perform the Living Stations portion of the program this year. Representatives from churches in Lansing, western Michigan, Upper Michigan, Ohio, Colorado and Mississippi will view the full show to determine their interest in purchasing rights

to perform it. "That's really the goal because I can't do more than one of these a year," Nieto said.

"If a big production company came in town and saw this, that is what we're looking for our next step, that they would find investors and have an equity production. That's the next level up."

THE CROSS AND THE LIGHT

What: A musical dramatization of the passion, death and resurrection of Christ

When: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 24; 10 a.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, March 26-27; 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday, March 28; noon and 8 p.m. Friday, March 30; 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, March 30; and 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 31

Where: Music Hall, 350 Madison, Detroit
Details: The cast includes 45 professional and amateur actors, including Detroit vocalist Kenny Watson, who plays Jesus, and Candice Jackson as Mary Magdalene. Kelly Nieto of Farmington Hills is the executive producer. She also wrote the music with Nicci Dalbis of Crossroads Productions. Annie Klark is musical director and Jamie Kolacki is the director. The musical takes the audience through the Stations of the Cross, through the Resurrection and Pentecost. Tickets range from \$35-\$100.

Contact: www.crossandlight.com or www.ticketmaster.com

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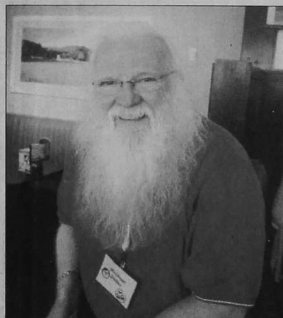
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Michael Deller of Livonia will perform paper-cutting stories at the storytelling concert.

Stories come alive at concert due to skill

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Turn off your iPads, iPods, Xboxes, and eBook readers on Saturday, March 23, and head to the Livonia Public Library for some good, old-fashioned storytelling.

Three experienced storytellers will bring the magic of their performance art to children, ages 4-10, at 2 p.m. in the library auditorium, 32777 Five Mile. Admission is \$2 per person or \$5 for families.

"Karen Czarnik will start off the program with a couple of songs to get everyone settled," said Judy Sima, who will serve as the program emcee. "We'll have Michael Deller, who was head librarian for Livonia library for a long time. He'll do paper cutting stories. He'll tell a story and when he's finished cutting paper (simultaneously) he'll open it and it will be something — almost like magic. And there's Linda Day, our former president. She was wonderful. She makes all these characters come alive. She puts her whole self and body into the story. Her stories are captivating."

Each child will receive a gift and refreshments will be served after the concert.

The storytelling concert drew 200 youngsters last year. The event is designed to celebrate



Karen Czarnik



Judy Sima



Linda Day

of Farmington Hills will perform at the upcoming Detroit Storytelling League concert.

The audience and the performer."

She said storytelling also brings family members together by sparking discussions over their common experience.

"I think this will be a terrific story concert this year."

For more information call (248) 476-8515 or visit the Detroit Story League website at www.detroitstorytelling.org.

Jewish film fest offers international stories

The Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit will present its 15th Annual Lenore Marwil Jewish Film Festival, beginning April 7, and will offer 30 award-winning films.

"Each year, hundreds of films have to be viewed in order to choose the very best in the largest Jewish film festival in the country," said Rachel Ruskin, film festival director. "Each one of these films is like entering another world, a once-in-a-lifetime adventure."

This state-wide festival offers events in West Bloomfield, Flint, Kalamazoo and Ann Arbor. It features movies from around the world, including Israel, England, France, Germany and the Czech Republic.

Among this year's films:

• *Life In Stills*, a documentary, tells the story of Miriam Weissenstein's The Photo House and portrays the relationship between the 96-year-old owner and her

grandson, Ben Peter. Miriam's shop is slated for destruction when Ben comes into the picture. He is determined to save the building and its collection of nearly 1 million negatives that document Israel's birth, beginnings and most notable moments in history. The film runs at 8 p.m. April 15 at The Berman Center for the Performing Arts, on the Jewish Community Center campus, 6660 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. See it at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 5, at the Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty, in Ann Arbor.

• *Hava Nagila (The Movie)* will explore the story that is played at weddings, sporting events and even social clubs in Moscow. How does one song become incredibly popular when so few people even understand the words? Film goes to see why artists such as Bob Dylan and Elvis have tried to make Hava Nagila their own. See it at noon, Sunday,

April 7 in West Bloomfield and 8 p.m. Sunday, May 5 in Ann Arbor.

• *The Price of Kings* takes a look into the life of the legendary and controversial Israeli leader Shimon Peres, a man who went from hawk to dove, from winning the Nobel Peace Prize to mourning the death of former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. The film is narrated by Helena Bonham Carter. It will screen at 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, in West Bloomfield.

• *In My Best Enemy*, Victor Kaufmann is the son of wealthy gallery owners and living a fairly comfortable life in Vienna. He has a loving girlfriend, Lena, and a best friend named Rudi. Suddenly things take a dramatic turn when the two men learn surprising information about each other. Then rules begin to reverse in this film that is both comic and suspenseful. See it at 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 17,

in West Bloomfield.

• *The Other Son* tells the story of two men who were switched at birth. "Joseph" of a prominent Israeli officer and physician, discovers that his biological parents are Arab and live on the West Bank. The couple discovers that their child, Yassin, is an Israeli. The film screens 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 10 in West Bloomfield and 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 8, in Ann Arbor.

For a complete list of films visit www.jccdet.org. Admission to each film is \$11. Or purchase a patron pass, which allows guests to see all films, or a matinee pass, for matinee screenings only, for \$40 for JCC members and \$45 for non-members. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.jccdet.org or call The Berman Center for the Performing Arts box office at (248) 661-1900.

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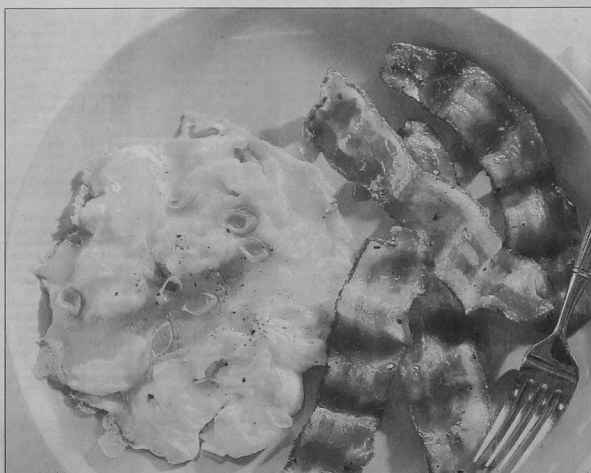
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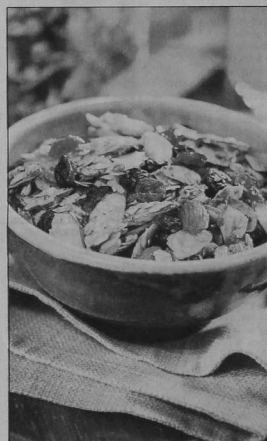
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Good Morning Granola



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Spicy Candied Bacon

Yield: 6 slices
Prep Time: 5 minutes
Cook Time: 25 minutes

- 1/4 cup extra-thick cut bacon, about 6 slices
- 1/4 cup Hungry Jack Original Syrup
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon cracked black pepper
- 1. Heat oven to 375°F. Line a 15- by 10-inch baking pan with foil. Lay bacon slices on foil.
- 2. Bake 18 to 20 minutes or until bacon edges begin to curl. Remove from oven. Tilt pan to drain. Pat bacon with paper towel. Combine syrup, cayenne pepper, cinnamon and pepper in small bowl. Drizzle evenly over bacon slices.
- 3. Bake 5 minutes or until evenly browned. Remove to wire rack. Cool 5 minutes.

Serving suggestion: Candied Bacon Breakfast Sandwich: Layer fried egg on English muffin. Top with shredded cheese, Spicy Candied Bacon and a dash of hot sauce or ketchup. Top with other half of English muffin.

Good Morning Granola

Yield: 5 cups
Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 30 minutes

- 3 cups old-fashioned rolled oats
- 1/4 cup sliced almonds
- 1/2 cup shredded sweetened coconut (optional)
- 2 tablespoons wheat germ
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 2 tablespoons pure vegetable oil
- 1/4 cup Hungry Jack Sugar Free Breakfast Syrup
- 2 tablespoons firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 cup dried fruit, such as raisins, golden raisins, cherries or cranberries
- 1. Heat oven to 350°F.
- 2. Combine oats, almonds, coconut, wheat germ, salt and cinnamon in large bowl. Combine oil, syrup and brown sugar in another bowl. Pour over oat mixture. Toss until well coated. Spread evenly in 13- by 9-inch pan.
- 3. Bake 30 minutes or until golden brown, stirring frequently. Cool completely. Stir in dried fruit. Store in airtight container at room temperature.

with a pantry punch

Ham, Egg and Cheese Pizza

Yield: 8 servings
Prep Time: 15 minutes
Cook Time: 35 minutes

- Crust:**
- No-stick cooking spray
- 1 1/4 cups Hungry Jack Complete Buttermilk Pancake & Waffle Mix
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon onion powder
- 1/4 cup water
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- Filling:**
- 3 large eggs
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1 1/2 teaspoons fresh dill weed or 1/2 teaspoon dried dill weed
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup shredded Swiss or cheddar cheese
- 1/4 cup thinly sliced green onion
- 4 ounces thinly sliced deli-styled baked ham, coarsely chopped
- Fresh dill sprigs (optional)

For crust:

1. Heat oven to 425°F. Coat 12-inch pizza pan with no-stick cooking spray. Combine pancake mix, Parmesan cheese, dry mustard and onion powder in medium bowl, stirring until blended. Stir in water and olive oil until dough forms.
2. Press dough onto bottom of prepared pan to form a crust, building up outside edge to form a rim. Bake 7 minutes.

For filling:

1. Whisk eggs, sour cream, Dijon mustard, dill and salt in medium bowl. Stir in cheese and green onions. Pour over hot crust, spreading evenly. Toss ham to separate pieces. Sprinkle evenly over egg mixture. Reduce oven temperature to 350°F. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until egg mixture is set in center. Cool 5 minutes before cutting. Garnish with fresh dill, if desired.

Pancake Breakfast Sandwich

Yield: 4 servings
Prep Time: 15 minutes
Cook Time: 15 minutes

- Pancakes:**
- No-stick cooking spray
- 1/4 cup Hungry Jack Complete Buttermilk Pancake & Waffle Mix
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/4 cup Hungry Jack Original Syrup
- 1/2 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- 1 cup frozen shredded hash brown potatoes, thawed, chopped into bite-sized pieces
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 4 3-inch round sausage patties
- Eggs:**
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1/2 cup diced red pepper
- 4 large eggs
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- For pancakes:**
- 1. Coat griddle or skillet with no-stick cooking spray. Heat griddle or skillet on medium heat (350°F).
- 2. Whisk pancake mix, water and syrup in medium bowl. Stir in cheese, potatoes and 1/4 teaspoon salt. Cook sausage patties as directed on package.
- 3. Pour 2 tablespoons batter on griddle, spreading batter to make a 3-inch circle or by using 3-inch pancake molds, coated with no-stick cooking spray. Repeat to make 7 more pancakes. Cook 2 minutes or until golden brown. Turn. Cook second side 2 minutes.
- For eggs:**
- 1. Melt butter in large skillet. Add red pepper. Cook and stir about 1 minute. Whisk eggs and salt in small bowl. Pour into skillet with peppers. Cook slightly, then shape into four 3-inch circles about the same size as the pancakes and sausage.
- 2. Place one pancake on plate. Top with cooked sausage patty, egg and another pancake to make breakfast sandwich. Repeat with remaining ingredients to make 3 more sandwiches.
- Tip:** If using pre-made sausage patties, flatten slightly into 3-inch rounds, if necessary.

— Courtesy of Family Features

traffic is much better during even the high season which is generally in the spring. I also note much of the development areas which used to be on dirt roads are now paved with a number of residential developments springing up as the economy turns for the better.

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

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