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# CANTON OBSERVER

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## Ticket

**giveaway**  
Wayne County Commissioner Shannon Price, whose district includes Plymouth and Canton, is donating a pair of tickets to a Detroit Tigers home game to the first 20 volunteers who sign up for the annual Christmas in Action program, which provides assistance in repairing homes of seniors residing in Canton Township.

Christmas in Action, a nonprofit agency partnering with the community to repair homes of low-income or disabled homeowners, is seeking both skilled and unskilled volunteers, 15 and older, to help provide home repairs Saturday, April 27.

Those interested in volunteering are asked to call Price's assistant, Michael Mitchell, at (313) 224-0882.

## Drumline performs

The Plymouth-Canton Winter Percussion Ensemble presents a free, one-night-only performance for the community at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 6, in the Plymouth High School gym.

The drumline, composed of students from the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park and the band program, is active in the 2013 competition season, where it has received numerous accolades for its show titled "Rituals." The Winter Percussion Ensemble is under the direction of Sean McElroy. On April 18, the drumline travels to Dayton, Ohio, to compete in the WGI World Championship Finals.

Plymouth High School is located at 8400 Beck Road in Canton.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Brooke Staffeld and Kaitlyn Schumacher had the pink lemonade ready for a small donation at last year's Canton Relay for Life. Organizers are hoping to set a new fundraising record this year after collecting some \$255,000 a year ago. This year's Relay for Life is set for 10 a.m. Saturday, May 18, in Heritage Park.

## Eyeing a record

### Relay hopes to set new standard

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

After years of raising money to support Relay for Life of Canton, local mother Keri Connelly has another reason this spring to attend the American Cancer Society fundraising event.

"This year, I'm a survivor," she said Tuesday.

Connelly is in remission after she was diagnosed last September with breast cancer. She and relay team co-chair Stephanie Tierney have once again organized the St. Thomas a Becket Church youth group team called Quacking for a Cure.

The team hopes to raise \$15,000 for Relay for Life of Canton, a 24-hour event that starts at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 18, in Heritage Park. Quacking for a Cure collected more than \$12,000 last year, earning the American Cancer Society's Jade Award for topping the \$10,000 mark and



Organizers kicked off Canton's 2013 Relay for Life campaign with an '80s-themed party.

also capturing honors as Most Spirited Team of the Canton event.

"That was kind of a big deal for us," Connelly said.

About 60 youths from St. Thomas a Becket have collected money by sending emails to friends and family, organizing bottle drives and raising funds during family bike nights.

Quacking for a Cure is one of 55 Relay for Life of Canton teams which collectively hope to raise \$263,250 this year, said Liz Evans, an American Cancer Society community representative and the staff partner for Canton's 15th annual event.

"It is the largest community event in southeast Michigan," Evans said. "The community has really grabbed onto the event and made it their own. They have really come together to fight back against cancer."

Canton last year raised \$255,000, Evans said.

"We try to set a higher goal each year so we can reach it and make the biggest impact we can," she said.

Schools, businesses, churches and community organizations have started 55 teams, but the goal is 75 teams.

"We're still recruiting new teams," Evans said.

Please see RELAY, A2

## Body of missing Canton man found

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Friends of Matthew Morris, a 36-year-old Canton man missing since Jan. 13, had hoped he would be found alive, but they had to face a disappointing truth after authorities found a body Monday afternoon in an industrial area on Westland's far west side.

"He was a good friend who is really going to be missed," Dustin Brungardt said. "But we're relieved that we now know where he went."

Westland authorities notified Canton police Monday afternoon that a group of surveyors found the body in a marshy area near an industrial building on the north side



Friends had held out hope Matt Morris, missing since January, would be found alive, but his body was found Monday in Westland.

of Ford Road east of the Canton Walmart store, Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said.

"There is no sign of foul

play or trauma," he said. "There was nothing found on the body to indicate foul play or trauma."

Canton Public Safety Director Todd Mutchler said the body was found with identification indicating it was that of Morris, a diabetic man whose friends had become increasingly worried after he disappeared without saying anything.

Schreiner said Westland police notified Canton authorities about 2:30 p.m. Monday.

"There was a body found in Westland in front of an industrial building east of the Walmart on Ford Road," he said. "It was an adult male with the same age and physical

Please see BODY, A3

## Canton hopes to cash in on Final Four

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Canton bars and restaurants are expecting a slam-dunk cha-ching as Michigan basketball fans gather Saturday night to watch the Wolverines end a 20-year Final Four drought.

Michigan faces the Syracuse Orangemen after muzzling the Florida Gators 79-59 Sunday to earn a trip to the Georgia Dome in Atlanta.

"I think it's wonderful. It's very exciting," said Rebecca Keeney, bar manager for Bailey's Pub & Grill, southwest of Ford and Canton Center roads.

Bailey's already has drawn large NCAA tournament crowds, including last Friday when U-M mounted a crowd-rousing comeback against Kansas, on the same night the Michigan State Spartans had their Elite Eight tournament hopes crushed by Duke, which since lost to Louisville.

"We've been packed," Keeney said. "We had such a loud and rowdy crowd

Please see FINAL FOUR, A2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lots of big screens and employees are ready at Canton's Buffalo Wild Wings when the Michigan Wolverines make their Final Four appearance Saturday. Shown here are Christine Hawkins of Livonia, Kyle Blackmore of Garden City, Katie Shull of Canton, Charlotte Akers of Garden City, General Manager Rob Trueman of Canton and Andrea Walsh of Wayne.

## Participation in AP program increases

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

More Plymouth-Canton Community Schools students than ever are enrolled in Advanced Placement classes, and a higher percentage than ever are having success in them, according to statistics revealed at a recent Board of Education meeting.

Erin MacGregor, the district's director of secondary education, told board members last week that nearly 1,200 students are enrolled in the district's 18

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# Village Theater exhibit features fine art



The Village Theater at Cherry Hill unveiled a fine-art photography exhibition featuring a wide range of the work of Claudia Retter.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill unveiled a fine-art photography exhibition featuring a wide range of the work of Claudia Retter, which will run through April 28, in the Gallery@VT. Claudia Retter is a native of Germany, grew up in New England, and currently calls Ohio home. While her many interests have taken her to different schools, she is primarily self-taught when it comes to photography and has won numerous awards for her personal work, including the prestigious Salmagundi Club Award in

New York. Currently pursuing her private pilot certificate, Retter is also a singer, creator of handmade books, and a sometimes-pot-and-painter. Using both film and digital cameras, Retter shoots mostly in black and white but lately has ventured more into color. "I still have my darkroom," said Retter. "But, I love books and the feel of paper. Digital printing has given me the option of using velvety textured etching papers which I'm able to tone and hand-deckle for a printmaking qual-

ity that complements the mood of the image. My photographs are often inspired by books I'm reading or music I'm listening to, by my own imaginings and by things that pass through the periphery of vision - seen yet not quite seen. I am drawn to the overlooked, and to the mood and hidden stories connecting landscape, architecture, places and people. I believe that by paying kind attention, by reaching out to what we see, we experience moments of grace which bring to our awareness the inherent

sense of mystery in all things." This fine-art photography exhibit at the Gallery@VT is free and open to the public 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, during public performances at the theater, and by appointment by calling (734) 394-5300. View more of Retter's work at [www.claudiaretter.com](http://www.claudiaretter.com). The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. For more information about this latest exhibition, please call (734) 394-5300 or visit [cantonvillagetheater.org](http://cantonvillagetheater.org).

## FINAL FOUR

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in here (last Friday). It was wonderful. We're expecting a big crowd Saturday. We're looking for a lot of excitement."

### Get there early

Rob Trueman, general manager for Buffalo Wild Wings on Ford Road east of Lilley, said the popular sports place was packed Friday with some customers waiting more than an hour for seats.

His advice for Saturday: Arrive early to watch the Final Four.

Trueman predicted 70 percent of the 53 televisions and eight big screens will be tuned to the Wolverines. He said he was raised maize and blue, though he counted himself among disappointed Spartans fans last Friday. "But it's great to see Michigan get back to where we need to be," he said.

After the Michigan and MSU games had ended last Friday, Trueman said, Buffalo Wild Wings "emptied out like a movie theater." Jessica Franz, a bartender who also waits tables at The Rusty Nail on Ford Road east of Sheldon, pre-

dicted a busy night Saturday as U-M fans gather to watch the Final Four.

### Bigger space

"It's been pretty busy here, especially with Michigan making it this far," Franz said. "Absolutely I think Saturday is going to be pretty big. I think it's great. Michigan deserves this after working so hard all year. "It's definitely going to help my pockets," she said of Saturday's expected crowd.

Bailey's expects to cover its pool tables Saturday to create more space for tables and chairs.

"We try to accommodate as many people as we can," Keeney said. "We know how much our customers like watching Michigan basketball."

She said Bailey's has "plenty of TVs everywhere, and lots of big screens," Trueman, meanwhile, called it "excellent" that Michigan has returned to the Final Four. Nationally, he said Buffalo Wild Wings has been the No. 1 sponsor of March Madness basketball.

"That's where we're putting our marketing dollars this year," Trueman said.

## AP PROGRAM

Continued from page A1

AP courses, a 53-percent jump over the last five years.

And of those students, some 90 percent are having success, scoring a "3" or higher on AP exams in those courses.

MacGregor said the success rate is more prominent because it's happening despite such a large jump in students enrolling.

That rate, MacGregor said, is especially high considering both the statewide and global average hovers at or just above the 60-percent mark.

"We've had a 90-percent success rate while having a 53-percent increase in the number of students," MacGregor said. "That's impressive."

### Even better

While agreeing it's an impressive statistic, Plymouth-Canton Board of Education Trustee Mark Horvath challenged MacGregor to compare it to more than just the state averages. "That's great," Horvath said of the performance.



Todd Maslyk, a 2012 Plymouth High School graduate, was honored by the Board of Education for being named an AP Scholar. With him are board Treasurer Sheila Paton (left) and his parents, Tom and Robin Maslyk of Canton.

"But how are we stacking up against the best?"

AP courses bring college-level curriculum to high school students, increasing the rigor, pace and content of the curriculum, according to MacGregor. The increase in participation, he said, is being driven at least partly by the district's decision to cut back on prerequisites to taking AP courses.

It's a rigorous learning experience that looks good on college applications and provides potential college credits while still in high school.

"AP courses may be the single best way we can offer our students a college experience," Mac-

Gregor said.

For instance, senior Angela Sun, one of two Plymouth-Canton students honored by The College Board for AP success, will leave high school with more than 90 college credits (although her chosen school, MIT, may not accept them, she said).

### High success

And 2012 graduate Todd Maslyk — the other PCEP student honored by The College Board — entered the University of Michigan as a first-year student with senior standing after taking 23 AP exams during his four-year career at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

including 16 as a senior.

Maslyk, who said he took the ACT exam without studying and scored a perfect 36, said one might think the high number of students taking AP exams at The Park would dilute the success level, but doesn't.

"We have a high number of students taking AP, so it could detract, but that wasn't my experience," said Maslyk, who is studying chemical engineering at U-M. "The resources at The Park helped me and started me on the road to success."

MacGregor agrees there's room for still more rigor in the curriculum. The district will add an AP Environmental Science course as a pilot course for 2013-14. And, while only an Honors Physics course is offered at the moment, the district will add either AP Physics or IB Physics in the next couple of years, according to MacGregor. "Everything about this is great," board Treasurer Sheila Paton said. "I'm really pleased we're opening access to a broader range of students. Colleges are looking for students who have at least one AP course."

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## RELAY

Continued from page A1

To get involved, go to [www.relayforlife.org/cantonmi](http://www.relayforlife.org/cantonmi), contact Evans by

email at [elizabeth.evans@cancer.org](mailto:elizabeth.evans@cancer.org) or call her at (248) 663-3452.

"There's plenty of time to start a team," she said. This year's theme is "Dream Big, Hope

Big, Relay Big." Relay includes entertainment, an event-opening survivor's lap and a survivor's luncheon, among other activities.

"A lot of youth teams are involved this year," Evans said. "That keeps the event family-friendly."

She urged participants to invite a cancer survivor to the event, and she said hopes are high that Canton, again, will reach a new milestone as south-east Michigan's top community relay.

"We're anticipating a really great event," Evans said.

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## AROUND CANTON



## Dandy dancing

The company members of planetdance recently started off their competition season and the team had several victories. The Canton-based team has 70 company members and traveled to Waterford for the "The Countdown Competition" and then Lake Orion for the "Nexstar Dance Competition." The team took top honors in several different categories, including Top Mini solo, highest scoring 8-under grand champion, Top Junior Group, Top Teen solo, Top teen duo, Top Teen Grand Champion, Top Senior Solo, Top Senior Duo Trio and Top Senior Grand Champion. Allie Asher (above, from left) was Teen Miss Nexstar and Top Teen Solo, Ryan Heatherwick was Senior Mr. Nexstar and Mackenzie Wrobbe was Mini Miss Nexstar and Top Mini Solo at the Countdown and Nexstar. The team travels to Myrtle Beach, S.C., in July to compete in the national finals.

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

## WOMEN'S CONNECTION

**Date/Time:** Monday, April 8, 6-8:30 p.m.

**Location:** Canton Coney Island, 8533 N. Lilley in Canton

**Details:** Guest speaker David Tennes, a Civil War historian, highlights the meeting of the Canton Women's Connection. Tennes will talk about people and places from Michigan connected to the Civil War.

**Contact:** RSVP by April 5 to June Nicholas at (313) 610-2561 or email [junenicholas@comcast.net](mailto:junenicholas@comcast.net)

## CALLING ALL CRAFTERS

**Date/Time:** Saturday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Location:** West Middle School, Ann Arbor Trail and Sheldon, Plymouth

**Details:** Crafters wanted for Delta Kappa Gamma's 29th Annual Craft Show. Proceeds from the show will be used to support college scholarships for local students focusing on careers in education.

**Contact:** Call or email Judy at (734) 347-1001 or [jbstone716@comcast.net](mailto:jbstone716@comcast.net) or Alice at (248) 348-9610 or [dachrenko@hotmail.com](mailto:dachrenko@hotmail.com)

## HEISE HOUSES

**Date:** Monday, April 8

**Locations/Times:** 10-11 a.m., Parthenon Coney Island, 39910 Ford Road in Canton; noon-1 p.m., Northville District Library, 212 W. Gady, 2-4 p.m., Plymouth District Library, 232 S. Main

**Details:** State Rep. Kurt Heise invites residents to meet with him locally during district office hours on Monday, April 8. No appointment is necessary.

**Contact:** Residents unavailable to attend who wish to set up an appointment either in the district or in Lansing or speak with Heise can call 1-855-REP-KURT.

## BLOOD DRIVE

**Date/Time:** Thursday, April 11, 11 a.m. to 7:45 p.m.

**Location:** Gardner White, 39453 Ford Road in Canton

**Details:** The American Red Cross hosts a blood drive. All presenting donors will be entered into a raffle for a 51-inch HD Televi-

sion to be given away at the drive.

**Contact:** Sign up at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or sponsor code [gardnerwhite@redcrossblood.org](mailto:gardnerwhite@redcrossblood.org) or call (313) 549-7052 for an appointment.

## DRESS SHOPPING

**Date/Time:** Saturday, April 13, 9 a.m. to noon

**Location:** Plymouth High School

**Details:** Shoppers can find the "perfect" formal dress, with many long and short dresses from which to choose. There will also be formal shoes and jewelry. Nothing priced higher than \$10. Donations of dresses, jewelry and shoes are accepted from 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. weekdays at Plymouth High School.

**Contact:** [lisa.benages@pcssmail.net](mailto:lisa.benages@pcssmail.net)

## MUSIC BOOSTERS ENSEMBLE

**Date/Time:** Saturday, April 13, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Location:** Plymouth High School

**Details:** The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters will be holding their Annual Spring Arts & Crafts Ensemble with more than 100 unique exhibitors. In addition, there will be entertainment provided by student musicians, a raffle, door prizes, concessions and a bake sale. There is a \$2 admission fee.

## CRAFTERS WANTED

**Date/Time:** Sept. 6-8, during Fall Festival hours

**Location:** Plymouth

**Details:** Organizers say it's not too early to send in an application for a booth in the Plymouth Fall Festival Craft Show. The spaces are limited and are filling up quickly. Applications are available on the Craft Show page at [www.plymouthfallfestival.com](http://www.plymouthfallfestival.com).

**Contact:** For more information contact Colleen Brown [craftshow@plymouthfallfestival.com](mailto:craftshow@plymouthfallfestival.com) or (734) 455-1614.

## MOM 2 MOM

**Date/Time:** Saturday, May 4, 8:30 a.m.

**Location:** St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh in Livonia

**Details:** St. Edith Church hosts its Mom-2-Mom Sale, with 74 tables of gently-used maternity, baby, and kids' items, a bake sale and refreshments. Proceeds benefit St. Edith's St. Kenneth MOPS.

**Contact:** [www.stkennethmops.org](http://www.stkennethmops.org) or on Facebook at St. Edith's St. Kenneth Mom-2-Mom Sale

## Canton cutter gets prison time

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

An Inkster man who cut a police officer during a robbery inside a Canton retail store has been sentenced to prison for two to 15 years.

Alden Ralph Mays, 57, has been imprisoned by Wayne County Circuit Judge Ulysses Boykin for an incident that occurred shortly before noon last Nov. 9 at the Walmart store on Michigan Avenue west of Belleville Road.

Mays was sentenced March 26 after he pleaded no contest to a reduced charge of armed robbery. His plea averted a trial on more serious charges of armed robbery, assault with intent to do great bodily harm (less than murder), assault with a dangerous weapon and assaulting, resisting and obstructing a police officer.

Mays could have faced penalties ranging up to life in prison if he had been convicted as charged.



Mays

Mays was accused of brandishing a knife while attempting to steal a 42-inch television. Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner has said a Novi police officer was wounded when he intervened while at the store investigating an unrelated case of credit card fraud.

In sentencing Mays to two to 15 years in prison, Boykin gave him credit for 137 days already served behind bars, according to Wayne County Circuit Court documents.

Even before his arrest in Canton, Mays already had served time in prison for armed robbery, assault with a dangerous weapon and larceny from a person — offenses that occurred between 1975 and 1999, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

The earliest Mays could

be released from prison for the Walmart incident is Nov. 8, 2014, though he could potentially remain behind bars until late 2027.

Mays had accepted a no-contest plea to unarmed robbery on March 6, averting a trial and a potentially harsher prison sentence.

His no-contest plea came four months after the Novi officer apprehended him in Walmart and took him to a store office, where Canton Police say a scuffle occurred and the knife was pulled.

Mays managed to break free from the Novi officer and fled the store, but Canton Police arrested him in the parking lot in a 2005 Cadillac XRS. A police report said the knife was found under a car seat.

Authorities have said the Novi officer wasn't critically injured when he was cut on the hand.

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## BODY

Continued from page A1

ical description of Matt Morris. It was found in some rooms and tall weeds by some surveyors who were doing some work at the building."

Toxicology results hadn't been received that might help pinpoint a cause of death, Schreiner said Wednesday morning, but authorities appear certain the body is that of Morris due to the physical description and personal effects found at the scene.

Morris disappeared Jan. 13, and his white Geo

Prizm was found parked at the Ensign Theater near Ford and Lotz roads. He lived across the road in the Village Squire apartment complex.

Schreiner said Canton and other law enforcement agencies had combed the area near the Ensign Theater and Morris's apartment in recent weeks searching for him.

Early in the investigation, Schreiner said there had been no indication of foul play such as a struggle inside Morris's apartment.

Friends such as Kathy Gomoll of Canton had called it "frustrating"

that there had been no sign of Morris. She had said it wasn't like Morris, a former Kroger employee, to disappear and not tell his friends where he was going.

Friends had distributed fliers in hopes someone might have seen Morris. Brungard, Gomoll and others had said Morris didn't take his diabetic supplies or his coat when he disappeared on a cold winter day.

The last anyone heard from him was when he sent a text Jan. 13.

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## W-W hires customer service consultant

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools will get help from a consulting firm to achieve its goal of creating a culture of customer service in the district.

The school board voted 4-3, with board President Carol Mittel, Secretary John Goci and Trustee Sally Madison dissenting, to hire the firm of Rahmberg, Stover and Associates to provide customer training for the staff to address the district's current needs.

The school board decided that it would participate in the customer service project it had set as a goal for Superintendent Greg Baracy. Considering the size of the district and number of employees, he recommended that a consultant be hired to help.

At that workshop, Baracy equated changing the culture of the district to

turning around a submarine. "It takes miles and miles," he had said.

The firm is no stranger to Wayne-Westland. Jeff Rahmberg has worked with the district for some 30 years, most recently on the reconfiguration of its elementary program in 2009.

The contract, however came under fire by Goci for its inclusion in the consent calendar and not being a separate business item.

"I'd like to see an open discussion, we need to address this with the public so they know what we're doing," he said. "I'd like to be forthright and open. There's a lot of misconception and misinformation out there. I don't know how we can have a customer service piece when you never talk to the customer."

Goci also expressed concern that the firm was using three-year-old data, an issue shared by Madison. Madison had initial-

ly expressed concern at the workshop about the cost of the two-year contract — \$65,000 — but at last week's board meeting said she was troubled that the firm planned to use three-year-old data. She also was concerned that Rahmberg hadn't been present at the meeting "to make a presentation."

"I did talk hard at the data, and I didn't find it relevant," she said. Baracy pointed that this is something that has been under discussion for months.

"The only horse I have in this race is that we provide quality customer service training to all of our staff and utilize some expertise to do that," said Baracy. "We are not using three-year-old data, moving for we know we have to look at what going on now and it may disclose other areas of need."

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# Dance party gets kids, parents excited about school

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

The joint was jumpin', so to speak, as the Walker-Winter school community gathered for a Radio Disney Rockin' Dance Party Open House last week.

The first of two such events the district is hosting, the get-together was designed to introduce the school to parents and their youngsters. While youngsters danced and played games with a Radio Disney DJ, parents had an opportunity to meet the elementary teachers and principals and learn about a variety of programs available in the district.

"We hope to get parents and kids excited about school," district Superintendent Greg Baracy said. "We want them to learn about the building and the quality of the learning experience while having fun."

Walker-Winter in Canton and Hicks Elementary in Inkster were picked to have the 1½-hour dance parties and open houses. The Hicks event will be April 24. The district is making a push to bring families back to the schools.

Wayne-Westland experienced a double-digit enrollment loss at Walker-Winter to a charter school that had opened in southern Canton Township. The staff walked the neighborhoods around the school to pass out papers about the event.

"My daughter is in kindergarten. She insisted on coming," Cheryl Brown-



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Youngsters get into the beat as the dance party gets going.

Deacon of Canton said. "I think it's a well-organized event. It's good exposure for the school and a fun activity for the kids."

In addition to daughter Gabriella, Brown-Deacon brought her 3-year-old daughter Jayden, who will start preschool in the fall.

"I got to go to the classrooms and see different activities I wasn't aware of," Brown-Deacon said. The event allowed parents to join youngsters

in the school gym for the dance party and then leave to tour the school. Staff members and parent liaisons like Juanita Francis of Westland kept a close eye on the youngsters while their parents toured the building.

"This is awesome," Francis said. "We need something like this at the other schools. We have a lot leaving the schools and we need to get them back. This is a way to get them back."

Parents had a chance to go on a virtual field trip, see some of the technology used in the school district, get information on its K-11 schools of choice and meet the principals from Adams and Marshall Upper Elementary schools.

The district also used the event to promote its talented and gifted program, which is being piloted at Walker-Winter, Adams and Marshall for the 2013-14 school year, and its Spanish language class that will be offered to all elementary and upper elementary students next year.

Representatives from the Oakwood Health Clinic, local public libraries, the district's Family Resource Center, Bright Futures after-school program, PTO and WATCH D.O.G.S. were there as well.

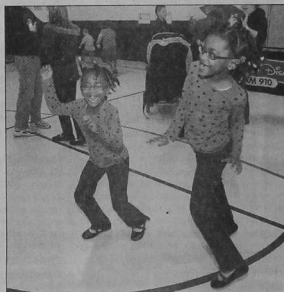
"It's really been well-received. It's been an amazing time," Principal Julie Mytych said. "I hope it's been a learning experience for the parents."

Seven-year-old Christian Brimingham was excited to come to the dance. He'd just gotten his hair cut and was there to see his friend Stephanie. His mother was busy checking out the kindergarten classroom while he was enjoying the dance party.

"He used to go to a uniform school in Southfield. The school didn't have a lot of activities," his mother said. "We came to register during Halloween and he was so excited. I'm glad I brought him here that day. He was so excited, he probably talked about it for a couple of days."

"I think this really good," the Canton resident said. "It brings a lot of families together to meet."

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Twin sisters Autumn and Audrie Johnson of Canton dance the night away.



Westland residents Naomi Hughes, Juanita Francis and America Espinoza have a picture taken to document their dance night.



Youngsters like Alex Proctor of Canton wore wrist bands that were paired with ones worn by their parents.

Amaree Hooper and sister Alysa Johnson of Westland dance together. Youngsters were treated to a dance party while their parents had an opportunity to learn more about Walker-Winter School and the Wayne-Westland Community School.

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## CANTON CRIME WATCH

### Shipment stolen

A 22-year-old woman notified Canton police to report that her shipment by FedEx of Charlotte Russe clothing and shoes was stolen from her apartment building in Canton Crossings, southeast of I-275 and Joy Road on the township's north side.

The woman had placed a \$169 order that was supposed to arrive Saturday morning. It did, according to FedEx, but she never received it, a police report said.

The woman said FedEx told her the package was left at the bottom of the stairs of her apartment building.

### Accident flight

An 82-year-old Canton woman was cited for failing to stop at the scene of an accident after her car apparently struck another vehicle around 12:30 p.m. Monday at a small shopping center northwest corner of Cherry Hill and Hagerly roads, a police report said.

A 43-year-old Garden City woman whose Chevrolet Malibu was struck by a Chevy Cobalt reported the incident. She reported the other driver struck her vehicle and then drove off, but she trailed the suspect to Northwind, a street not far from the scene, the report said.

Police were summoned, and the sus-

pect said she didn't believe she had struck the vehicle, although a police report indicated the car was dented and scratched.

### Gun fired

A 69-year-old man who lives on Danbury, southeast of Cherry Hill and Canton Center, notified police after he accidentally fired a round from a .40-caliber revolver he had bought, a police report said. The incident happened about 6:45 p.m. Sunday.

The man told police he had bought the revolver but hadn't yet registered it with the Canton Police Department's records bureau. He notified police after he accidentally fired a round through his bedroom window while trying to secure a safety mechanism on the gun, the police report said. No one was injured.

### Identity theft

A 59-year-old Canton woman notified police to report her identity had been stolen by someone who filed a tax return using her personal information.

The victim came to the police station on Canton Center and she said she learned what had happened when she tried to file her taxes through H&R Block. She told police she had been

behind on her taxes from 2010 and had been making payments from her pension check on the 28th of each month.

When she tried to file her latest taxes March 26, she was notified that her taxes already had been filed by someone else who took the remainder of her refund after her back taxes had been deducted, a police report said.

### Break-in try

A Canton couple that lives on Paul Revere, southeast of Warren and Morton Taylor, contacted police after someone apparently tried to break into their home through a window of their 6-year-old daughter's bedroom, a police report said.

The couple reported the incident last Thursday morning. The girl's mother reported hearing a loud noise the week before, but she thought it was coming from inside the house. The couple reported the incident after noticing damage to the window.

### 9-1-1 misuse

Canton Police cited a 40-year-old man for misuse of the 9-1-1 emergency line after he called and made a false report that his 20-year-old son had cut his own wrist, a police report said.

The citation came after the man, apparently intoxicated, had contacted

police several times in reference to his son, the report said.

The incident unfolded in Sherwood Village, a mobile home park southeast of Michigan Avenue and Haggerty Road. An officer had met several times with the father, who was upset that his son was seeing a woman of whom he didn't approve.

In one outing to Sherwood Village, police said the father and the son both were intoxicated. The citation came when the father apparently made a false report that his son had harmed himself.

### Stolen car, gun

A man and woman who live on Fordham Circle, northeast of Ford and Morton Taylor roads, told police March 27 they were leaving home for the night because they feared the woman's son might return home with a gun, a police report said.

The couple contacted police to report the woman's vehicle had been taken, and the man's 40-caliber pistol also was missing — both, they believed, because of her son, the report indicated.

According to the report, the woman was told by a friend of her son that the handgun had been sold and that the son had gone to South Carolina.

— By Darrell Clem

## PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

### Man trashes gas station

A young man, upset at being asked for identification as he tried to buy cigarette rolling papers at a Plymouth Township gas station, damaged property there one afternoon last week, police said.

The vandalism occurred March 26 at the Shell station on Ann Arbor Road east of I-275, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report. The man threw a jug of lemonade to the floor as he left the station, the report said, and the jug split open and spilled. He then went outside and emptied the contents of trash cans onto the pavement, the report said. The man got into a silver

Chrysler Concorde, driven by a woman, that headed south on Tavistock, the station owner told police. The owner was able to get a license-plate number.

The owner told police he was working behind the counter just before 1:30 p.m. March 26 when the man came in and asked for rolling papers. The owner asked him for identification, but the man couldn't produce any, and instead grabbed a package of rolling papers, threw a dollar bill at the owner and started for the door, the owner said.

The owner said he stepped from behind the counter and grabbed the rolling papers and returned the dollar, and that's when the young man stormed out and threw the jug of lemonade.

An officer went to the address of the Concorde's registered owner, but no one answered the door, police said.

### Embezzlement report

An employee at the Busch's Fresh Food Market admitted taking a \$20 bill that a customer had requested through her debit card via the cash-back function at an automated register.

The embezzlement occurred March 26 at the store on Sheldon Road near Five Mile, and management told police the company wants to press charges. The incident was captured on a store security camera.

A manager who saw the recorded incident told police the customer used a self-check-out register to debit purchases

at about 5 p.m. March 26, asking for \$20 in cash back. But she left the money in the machine, the manager said, and the next customer noticed it, took the bill and handed it to a clerk, who put it under a telephone.

About an hour later, the manager said, the same clerk put the bill in one of his pockets.

The customer who had forgotten the money returned to the store to report that and was reimbursed, the manager said, and the store launched an investigation.

The suspect, questioned by a responding police officer, admitted taking the money but said he thought it was no different than finding it on the ground. He also said he was aware of Busch's policy when

it comes to finding money or property.

It was not reported whether the man was still working for Busch's.

### Copper theft

Copper tubing was reported stolen Saturday from a lawn-sprinkling system at Presto-lite Electric, on Port Street between Sheldon and Beck.

The theft, reported by the human resources manager at the facility, occurred between 5 p.m. March 28 and around 2 p.m. Saturday, a police report said. A length of tubing running from the building into the ground had apparently been cut, police said.

— By Matt Jachman

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Lions Club members do their best to keep the mob orderly.

## Kids flock to egg hunt at township park

By Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

"If you want to take a picture, do it quickly," Robert Cooney, speaking into a megaphone, urged parents and grandparents Saturday morning as hundreds of children eagerly awaited the Plymouth Community Easter Egg Hunt.

Cooney wasn't kidding. Minutes later, as organizers tried to demonstrate how the egg hunt at Plymouth Township Park would proceed, one group — we aren't naming names, but it reportedly wasn't the children — jumped the gun, and it was off to the races.

The kids, with different age groups on different ballfields, ran toward their targets amid joyful yells and a few tears. It was all over in minutes.

"It's like a flood-gate," Cooney said later, explaining that some mistook the test signal for the real thing. "You've got to let 'em roll."

And roll they did, grabbing up between 5,000 and 6,000 plastic eggshells, many with candy inside but some with slips of paper the kids could redeem for prizes.

"This one's empty. Man, that's a bummer!" said Kai Spycher, 7, as he examined his haul with parents Terry and Chie nearby.

The rest of Kai's eggshells, for which he had brought a basket, contained candy. It was the Spychers' first time at the egg hunt; they moved



Matthew Squires, 4 years old, gives dad Chris Squires a hug before the hunt begins.

to the township late last year.

Nearly, Taylor Henderson, 9, of Canton Township, opened one shell with "small prize" slip in it, plus others with candy.

Taylor said her strategy had been to "run fast... try to get groups of eggs," and also to scan the territory a second time.

"She was scouting out

the leftovers," said her mother, Angie.

Taylor said she came out to the hunt to have fun. "I haven't done this in a while," she said.

Her mother said Taylor had been to the event when she was much smaller, but Taylor said she couldn't remember that. Jim and Patricia Soter, on the other hand, have



Two-year-old Jake Schultz checks out his haul after the hunt. Looks like mom, Lori Villar, and dad, Jeff Schultz, have an eye on the goodies, too.



The hunt begins a few minutes early.

been regulars at the hunt for several years. The Plymouth Township residents had five grandchildren there on Saturday.

"We've been doing this ever since the kids started walking," Jim Soter said.

The egg hunt is spon-

sored by the Plymouth Lions Club, which had plenty of volunteers to direct the event. Busch's Fresh Food Market and Caribou Coffee provided drinks, and the Plymouth Community Fire Department provided the prizes, including a top prize — three were available — of a pizza party with firefighters at a fire station.

"It's a great event for us," said Cooney, the megaphone man.

"This is our most fun project," said Jo Ellen Hinker, the event chairman.

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## Spotlight Players group puts on 'Barnum'

Spotlight Players, a community theater group based in Canton, presents a production of the musical "Barnum," by Mark Bramble, Michael Stewart, and Cy Coleman. The show will be staged April 19-28 at The Village Theater in Canton.

Wendy Sielaff of Canton directs this production that tells the story of P.T. Barnum (Leo Babcock of Saline), and his conclave of circus acts, assisted by Music Director Richard Alder of Westland and choreographer Jen Beitzel of Northville.

Spanning 45 years, the show covers the dynamic relationship with his wife Cathy (Cathy McDonald of Plymouth) as it influences the colorful cast



Spotlight Players present "Barnum" at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton April 19-28.

of characters that would make him a household name, including Joyce Heth (Tina Paraventi of Ypsilanti), General Tom

Thumb (Jim Jackson of Westland), Jenny Lind (Rebecca Winder of Livonia), and of course James Bailey (Jeff Foust of Can-

ton), with whom P.T. Barnum eventually forms the famous circus.

Barnum himself narrates the show, telling the audience a bit of his life story and the art of humbug.

Babcock, an architect in Saline and veteran performer, remarks that, "Of the 100 different shows I have performed in, 'Barnum' ranks among my favorites," said Babcock, an architect and veteran performer. "P.T. Barnum is truly a complex character to play. From a struggling showman to a successful entrepreneur, Barnum rides a roller coaster from financial ruin to fame and influence. With the steady support of his wife Charity to anchor him through

the pain of midlife crises and tests of his fidelity, his zeal for life is inspiring. It is a powerful and greatly satisfying character to portray."

Foust (Ringmaster/Bailey), a full-time dad to a new baby boy, relates to Barnum on a personal level.

"Barnum had a dream that didn't fit with the life everyone else was telling him to lead, but he never let those dreams go and even though he failed a few times, he persevered and created 'The Greatest Show on Earth,'" Foust said. "I have wanted to do this show since college and this is the first time I have seen a theatre produce it. I feel so lucky that it is being pro-

duced right in my own back yard."

Cathy McDonald, a teacher in Plymouth, plays Charity.

"It's really fun and exciting to be part of a show that not many people know, but those who do, love," McDonald said. "I can't wait for those who are unfamiliar with Barnum to come and see why everyone loves it. It's got really great music, circus performers, and we have an incredibly talented cast." Tickets range from \$13 to \$16, and are available through The Village Theater, by calling (734) 394-5300, or by going to the Spotlight Players' website [www.spotlightplayersm.org](http://www.spotlightplayersm.org).

## PCAC exhibit features art done by Girl Scouts

The Plymouth Community Arts Council announced its April 2013 front-wall exhibit, "Sisterhood," featuring collage, photography and drawing pieces in the show made by Northville-based Girl Scout Cadet Troop 40844.

There are 23 seventh-through ninth-graders in the troop, from Northville High School, Our Lady of Victory, Hillside and Meads Mill Middle Schools in Northville, St. Mary's Monroe and St. Michael's Livonia.

An opening reception is being planned by the troop and will be held Sunday, April 14, from 2-4 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

From Troop leader Christina Kowalczyk:

"The troop chose the theme of Sisterhood for their art show because they are currently working on their Sisterhood Journey," troop leader Christina Kowalczyk said. "This is the first step toward getting their Gold Award, which is the highest award in Girl Scouting - equivalent to the Boy Scout Eagle Award. It also ties into one of the Girl Scout laws, 'Be a Sister to Every Girl Scout.' We are excited to be working with Exhibit Director Lisa Howard and thank the PCAC for this opportunity."

The exhibit experience also ties in to the future plans of this group. The girls are planning a trip to Europe in 2015. They will be traveling through

England, France and Italy, and one of their major stops will be at the Louvre in Paris.

Invitations and posters announcing the exhibit and reception feature "SheArt" by Kate Cox, an affirmation collage and mixed media composition on canvas that contains the words, "she knew she could conquer the world."

Two teams of cadets will be helping to hang the exhibit, and also receive art entries for the PCAC's fourth annual Open Juried exhibit featured in the PCAC Main Gallery through the month of April.

For more information about the Plymouth Community Arts Council and upcoming events, please visit [www.plymoutharts.com](http://www.plymoutharts.com).

## Nankin Mills to host war talk

The talk will turn to war - the War of 1812 - when military historian Daryl A. Bailey speaks at a Friends of Nankin Mills adult local history program Saturday, April 16, at Nankin Mills.

Bailey, the vice-president of the Friends of Nankin Mills will present an historical talk, entitled The War of 1812: The Western Frontier, at 1 p.m. "The War of 1812 is

a perfect example of how war is not an isolated event," said Bailey whose will discuss events leading up to the war, especially on the frontier where Native Americans battled American settlers. He will reveal the role previous wars, such as the French and Indian War, played into the resulting conflicts and cite several battles to illustrate this point.

Bailey and his wife,

Sherrye, are the co-authors of the Arcadia book Images of America: Westland. He also has written articles for Time Illustrated: America's Civil War and The Blue and Gray magazines.

The talk will be presented at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Call (734) 261-1990 to pre-register. Refreshments will be provided.

## Concert takes aim at childhood hunger

The Birchler family hosts its sixth annual "Jammin' to End Famine" concert to benefit Kids Against Hunger Friday, April 26, at Marian High School auditorium.

Kids Against Hunger is a nonprofit organization with the mission to significantly reduce the number of hungry children in the U.S., and to feed starving children throughout the world. The show begins at 7 p.m. and will showcase three acts, each featuring members of the Birchler family.

"The need for nourishing meals here in Michigan, as well as in places like Haiti, is just staggering," big brother Dave Birchler said.

Concert organizer Tom Birchler said he was

"very impressed" with Kids Against Hunger after participating in a mega-packaging event in Okemos, where 800 volunteers assembled 110,000 meals.

The concert, the Birchlers said, gives people of all ages the opportunity to "let loose and enjoy music and dancing" in a casual atmosphere. John Birchler, past-president of the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth, will open the show as a member of the a capella vocal jazz group The Grunions. Sixties rock band The Paisley Foggy (featuring Tom, Keith and Dave Birchler) will start with an acoustic set.

Jim Birchler, with high school band mates Moose Wampler and The Over-

days reunite to play 50's rock-and-roll.

Kids Against Hunger works with churches and local nonprofits to package its specially formulated rice-soy casserole for delivery in the U.S. and more than 40 countries to feed starving children and their families. Since 2008, "Jammin' to End Famine" has raised the funds for more than 75,000 of those meals.

"Our concert is a very fun way to help us continue this effort," John Birchler said.

Marian High School is located at 7225 Lahser in Bloomfield Hills. Tickets (\$10 for students, \$25 for adults) are available at the door or in advance by emailing Tom Birchler at [tbirchler@mi.rr.com](mailto:tbirchler@mi.rr.com) or calling (248) 722-1820.



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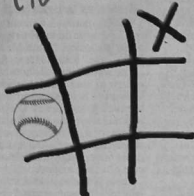
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## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Montessori open house

Plymouth-Canton Montessori School, located at 45245 Joy Road in Canton, hosts a Spring Open House from 1-3 p.m., Sunday, April 14. Families interested in enrolling children in preschool or kindergarten programs are invited to attend. Teachers and staff will be available to provide classroom tours and answer questions. Children are welcome, and light refreshments will be served.

"This is an excellent opportunity for parents and grandparents to learn more about our Montessori programs and materials that are specially designed for this age group," said Linda Myers, the school's administrator.

For additional information about the Open House on April 14 and programs available at PCMS, call 734-459-1550 or visit [www.pcmontessori.org](http://www.pcmontessori.org).

### Painter's palate

Vintner's Canton Winery and D&M Art Studios invite painters to discover their inner artist at "The Painter's Palate," with Sharon Dillenbeck, owner/director of D&M Art Studios in Canton, as the resident artist.

The painting adventures will be offered Tuesdays during April and May. Dillenbeck is an award-winning artist who frequently exhibits throughout southeastern Michigan and is an active member of Canton Project Arts Council, Plymouth Community Art Council, Three Cities Art Club and the Canton Liberty Fest Fine Arts Festival.

Check Vintner's Canton Winery's website at [www.vintnerscanton.com](http://www.vintnerscanton.com) for the complete schedule, or visit the Facebook pages at Vintners Canton Winery or D&M Studios website at [dmatstudio.com](http://dmatstudio.com).

### Lake Trust investment

Lake Trust Credit Union announced plans to build a new \$30 million headquarters on approximately 17 acres adjoining U.S. 23 just north of I-96 near Brighton. Lake Trust is also committed to expanding the credit union's retail network throughout Michigan, including in Lansing and Plymouth. Lake Trust plans to invest a total of \$40 million in Michigan over the next five years.

"We're excited to make this announcement about our new headquarters and future investments in Michigan," said Lake Trust president and CEO David Snodgrass. "The Brighton property we intend to purchase and develop is real-



Ben Groves, 5, is among the students at Plymouth-Canton Montessori School in Canton.

ly spectacular. The site has many natural features including a pond, and our designers can create a first class campus with several amenities for employees like walking trails and picnic areas."

"The planning and construction process for the new Lake Trust Credit Union headquarters could be completed by 2015 and will include a new 100,000 square foot building designed to more efficiently and effectively join a workforce currently split between old corporate offices in Lansing and Plymouth."

"Lake Trust recognizes we must invest in our operations and the many communities we serve," Snodgrass said. "Lake Trust is committed to simultaneously investing in Lansing and Plymouth, and making several strategic long-term retail branch investments throughout Michigan."

### New investment

Gov. Rick Snyder announced Michigan Strategic Fund action to support nine business expansions expected to generate more than \$81 million in investment and add 897 jobs in Michigan.

"The commitment of these companies to grow and create jobs here further reinforces Michigan's reputation as America's comeback state," Snyder said. "It also demonstrates that the improvements we have made to our business climate and infrastructure are producing results. I thank these companies for investing in our future."

Among them was Detroit Thermal Systems, a newly formed venture between V. Johnson Enterprises, LLC and Valeo Inc., that has acquired the climate control business from the Ford/ACH facility in Plymouth. The company plans to invest more than \$25 million and create more than 300 jobs, resulting in a \$750,000 Michigan Business Development performance-based grant.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Soulbrain quality control specialist Antoine Klempp prepares to put her hands inside a "glove box" at the business, located at Five Mile and Beck, that creates ingredients for the lithium ion battery business.

## Soulbrain: Better battery days ahead

By Lonnie Huhman  
Staff Writer

Some alternative energy companies have had a rough start, but that doesn't appear to be the case at Northville's Soulbrain.

According to CEO Allen Ibara, battery technology and the components that make them work are still a work in progress, but he expects better days ahead.

"Overall, the battery industry is in very good shape, and it's progressing very fast," said Ibara. "We are pleased with the state of the market."

Although Soulbrain's profits are not what they were hoped for in the beginning, Ibara said since they were incorporated in 2010 the company has delivered 200 research and development products. He would not specify exact revenue numbers, but said as a small start-up they've been growing more than 100 percent each year since operations officially started in 2011.

Soulbrain is located at Five Mile and Beck roads. The facility is the company's North American headquarters for the South Korean-based company. It currently staffs 20 people, but expects to grow this number. The company will be looking for new chemists and chemical engineers in the coming year. It received a five-year tax abatement from Northville Township when it was established.



Soulbrain CEO Allen Ibara stands near some of the Northville Township company's storage containers that they ship off to lithium-ion battery makers throughout the U.S.

Overall, Ibara said the industry stands at \$14-20 billion, and that's primarily just for smaller batteries used in cell phones and such. He expects the numbers to increase once vehicle batteries become more adopted in the United States.

A more recent example of things going wrong in this industry was with LG Chem Michigan, which reportedly has not sold a single battery since receiving a \$150 million federal grant in 2009. However, Ibara said the battery industry in the U.S. is still very young. He said overseas this technology has progressed quicker because of higher gas prices and other regulations.

In spite of some bad news, he said things are still moving forward in the U.S., especially with organizations that use

fleet vehicles. Soulbrain's customer base includes rechargeable vehicles, power grids and the military sector. It develops an ingredient called electrolyte, an essential component of lithium ion batteries, which can be recharged and used over and over again.

Ibara and Soulbrain are aiming for the long haul, and have made Northville the company's home with employees buying homes in the area. The company contributes more than \$500,000 a month to the local economy, Ibara said, noting their commitment is evident in how they are working to be environmentally conscious by using a lighting system inside the facility that is estimated to conserve 17,600 gallons of gasoline a year.

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## 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 M&A 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](mailto: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 5-7:30 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](mailto:terri@plymouthmich.org) by April 26.

### Business workshop

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts a business development workshop, "Multi-Media, the Road to Success," 8:30-9:30 a.m. April 23.

The workshop will show business how to jump-start marketing in multiple ways to create an affordable plan to reach their market. The workshop will talk about having effective search words for a website, how to use effective online advertising and how to use cable advertising in an effective and cost efficient manner.

There is no charge to attend, but we can only take 35 reservations. The event will be held at the Chamber office (850 W. Ann Arbor Trail). Call (734) 453-1540 for details.

# 'Obama Phone' store comes to area

By Karen Smith  
Staff Writer

A new store has been opened in Livonia that serves as the Michigan headquarters for a distributor of the "Obama Phone."

The Obama Phone is a refurbished cell phone with 250 monthly voice minutes provided free to low-income and disadvantaged families by the federal Lifeline Assistance program.

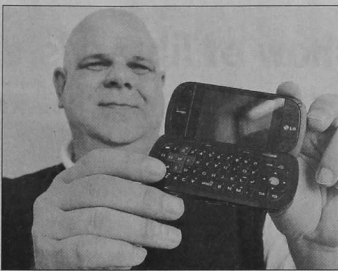
The program is funded by FCC mandated universal service fees paid by telecommunications carriers and passed along, at least in part, to consumers. Consumers may notice a "universal service" line item on their telephone bills.

Owners Zach Carroll, 25, of Farmington Hills and Jim Allie, 51, of Novi opened the store March 6 at 20215 Middlebelt Road, next to Clarenceville High School.

It is one of 11 My Life Mobile locations the businessmen have opened in Michigan and Toledo since starting their company three months ago. Budget Mobile is the carrier.

The Livonia store is one of a handful of the standalone stores; the others are located inside other businesses, such as tax centers.

Carroll said that while the



Co-owner Jim Allie, 51, said the Lifeline Assistance program started before President Obama took office, so the term Obama Phone is a misnomer.

Obama Phone is available from other distributors and carriers, they don't have storefront locations like My Life Mobile.

#### Discount service

"We're here to provide support as well (such as instructing recipients on the use of the phones)," he said, adding they intend to keep their locations open as long as the program is available.

Allie said the Lifeline Assistance program started before

President Obama took office, so the term Obama Phone is a misnomer. According to the FCC website, the Lifeline program has provided a discount on phone service for qualifying low-income consumers since 1985, to ensure that all Americans have the opportunities and security that phone service brings. In 2005, Lifeline discounts were made available to qualifying low-income consumers on pre-paid wireless service plans in addition to tradi-

tional landline service.

"This program allows people who are using certain government assistance programs to help keep in touch with the person that they care about the most," Allie said.

My Life Mobile is compensated for each phone it gives away, with the amount going up as the volume it gives away increases. It also receives a monthly residual for 12 months for each phone, Carroll said.

In addition, My Life Mobile earns an average 16-percent commission for selling services over and above the 250 free voice minutes. For an extra \$25 a month, recipients can purchase unlimited text messaging and voice call minutes. For \$10 more per month, recipients can purchase an additional 100 minutes or 1,000 text messages.

#### One per home

Only one Obama Phone per household is permitted. Phone service ends after 250 minutes per month for those who haven't purchased additional service.

Recipients qualify by having an income that is at or below 150 percent of the Federal Poverty Guideline or by participating in a qualifying government assistance program, such as Social Security, Medicaid, food stamps and the National School

Lunch Program.

"Seniors are ideal for the program," Carroll said. "Most don't want a cell phone; they don't want to pay for one. The major carriers, they can't afford or don't need."

Carroll said they've given away about 50 phones so far in Livonia. He estimates 15,000 to 20,000 Livonia residents qualify.

#### More coming

Recipients can also apply online at [www.mylifemobile.us](http://www.mylifemobile.us) and have a phone mailed to them within about three days.

Carroll and Allie, both of whom have backgrounds in the cell phone industry, hope to open as many as 50 My Life Mobile stores each in Michigan, Ohio and Arizona.

Carroll said he gets satisfaction out of giving something to someone in need, rather than selling services to those who can afford it. "I don't expect to make millions," he said.

My Life Mobile also accepts donations of used Verizon phones for refurbishing. Hours are from noon to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. For more information, call (248) 289-0046 or visit [www.mylifemobile.us](http://www.mylifemobile.us).

[ksmith@hometownlive.com](mailto:ksmith@hometownlive.com) (313) 222-2098  
Twitter: @Karen887

# State fair back with new name, sponsor

By Cal Stone  
Staff Writer

Michigan's state fair, revived last year after the Great Lakes State Fair after then-Gov. Jennifer Granholm pulled funding in 2009, will be back again this year under another new name — the Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair.

The announcement of the title sponsor came at today's press conference at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi where the event will again be held Labor Day weekend, Aug. 30 through Sept. 2.

Although the fair is now produced by a private entity — Michigan State Fair LLC — organizers say it will continue to offer all of the great traditions of the event that started in Detroit in 1849.

"When we asked the public what they missed most about summer in Michigan, they overwhelmingly said, 'the state fair,'" said Blair Bowman, owner of the Suburban Collection Showplace. "They missed the atmosphere of being close to nature, the excitement of a child seeing his first goat, cow or baby lamb, and the celebration of Michigan's agricultural heritage."

Along with the agriculture, tourism and livestock products, this year's state fair will again have the Detroit Shrine Circus — presented by Bright House Networks — this time with the world's largest circus tent.

"We have added the one and only Detroit Shrine Circus to the festivities, and seeing a performance of this great event is included in one low price admission," said Bowman. Circus performances will be held daily at noon, 2:30, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. (no 7:30 performance on Monday).

One-third of the admission price will go toward the circus, which is a significant contribution to the Shriners' annual budget and indirectly helps the organization's effort to fund their nonprofit and philanthropic efforts through the Shriner Hospitals for Children.

"The Detroit Shrine Circus is excited to be a major part of the return of the Michigan State Fair, and all the traditions and community goodwill that goes along with this association,"

#### DETAILS

Event: Fifth Third Michigan State Fair

Dates: Friday, Aug. 30, through Monday, Sept. 3

Location: Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi

Livestock Exhibits: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday-Sunday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday

Agriculture and Indoor Vendor Booths: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday-Sunday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday

Midway: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday-Sunday; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday

Circus: noon; 2:30, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. daily (no 7:30 performance on Monday)

Entertainment Stage, Beer Garden, Outdoor Vendors: pending

Exhibit Space: Andrea Pickolo, (248) 348-5600, ext. 208

Displays, Sponsorships, Vending Information: Mike Watts, (734) 459-6969, [info@michiganstatefairllc.com](mailto:info@michiganstatefairllc.com)

said Craig Stigleman, chairman, Michigan State Fair/Shrine Circus. The midway, presented by Walmart, is expanding, and live entertainment and a beer tent return as well.

One of the big changes from last year, due to the sponsorship of Fifth Third Bank, will be the Youth Scholarship Program, offering \$10,000 in competitive scholarship programs. The scholarships will recognize excellence in breeding programs, showmanship and academics to advance the postsecondary effort of outreach through county fairs, and their 4-H clubs.

"Fifth Third Bank recognizes the state fair as not only a destination for fun and entertainment for families across the state of Michigan, but as the declaration of agriculture as an economic force within the state," said Dave Girodat, president and CEO of Fifth Third Bank Eastern Michigan. "We are proud to be the title sponsor of this event and are committed to supporting the revival of this Michigan tradition."

Tickets for the state fair will be available in the near future and more information will be available on the web at [www.michiganstatefairllc.com](http://www.michiganstatefairllc.com).

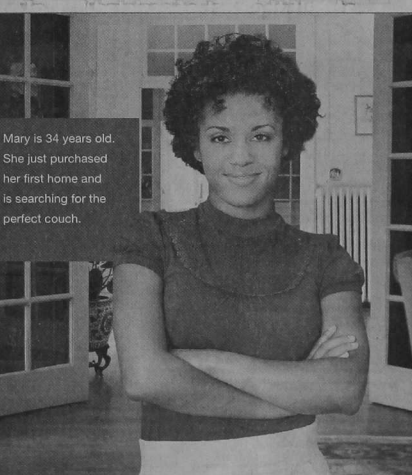
"We are so proud to partner with the great financial institution, Fifth Third Bank, which has strong roots in the community, and provides significant support to charitable efforts across the state," said Bowman. "We promise to make the Fifth Third Michigan State Fair bigger, better and more fun for a long time."

[costone@hometownlive.com](mailto:costone@hometownlive.com)  
(248) 437-2011, ext. 237  
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The midway returns to the state fair, now called the Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair, in Novi over Labor Day weekend.

Mary is 34 years old. She first purchased her first home and is searching for the perfect couch.



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## OUR VIEWS

# Award just latest show of library's excellence

The folks who hand out the LibraryAware Community Award recently came to recognize what local residents have known for a long time.

The Canton Public Library is an outstanding community asset.

Chosen among nearly 100 libraries across the nation, Canton captured the inaugural LibraryAware Community Award and a \$10,000 donation — welcomed by a local library that has broadened its mission despite an economic downturn and a meager \$5 million budget.

LibraryAware singled out the Canton library — which amazingly has nearly 85,000 cardholders — for circulating 1.8 million items and accumulating 600,000 visits a year, offering 1,086 programs attended by 35,000 residents and working with businesses, nonprofit agencies and community organizations to further its board-adopted mis-

sion of connecting the community.

The library has done that in a myriad of ways, including partnering with Starfish Family Services, bringing in trained "reading dogs" to help children overcome difficulties by reading to friendly pets, initiating a Business Resource Center to help local businesses struggling against economic difficulties and borrowing a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. exhibit from the Charles H. Wright Museum of African-American History to celebrate Black History Month.

Just recently, the library was awarded a special collection by the National Endowment for the Humanities known as "Bridging Cultures Bookshelf: Muslim Journeys." It added 25 new books, three new films and free access for one year to Oxford Islamic Studies Online. Moreover, the library has materials in some 20 languages,



Library Director Eva Davis, in her favorite spot in the library, the room that contains the automatic sorting machinery.

marking its commitment to patrons who have settled here from around the world. Most any day, the

library and its patrons are a microcosm of the larger Canton community.

It's the library's

moment to shine, and library director Eva Davis and others are embracing it.

"I absolutely believe

we bring quality of life to the community," she said.

Of that, there is no question.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### What do you think of a plan by the U.S. post office to stop Saturday mail delivery?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"If it works, then it's perfect. I don't mind one less day for the bills."

Syed Faisal  
Canton



"I'm personally against it. I enjoy my mail. I'm very disappointed with it."

Cathy Donaldson  
Plymouth



"I don't like it. I like getting mail on Saturday."

Pam Ruff  
Canton



"I don't really think it will make that much difference for me."

Sheryl Gould

## Teachers join other unions in doing their part

To use a baseball metaphor, the employees of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools have collectively stepped up to the plate and done their part in preserving the educational program for students and keeping the district financially solvent.

Every employee group has made concessions that will save the district millions of dollars over the next couple of years and help administrators work toward producing a balanced budget that keeps cuts out of the classroom. The latest at-bat came from the teachers, who recently agreed to a contract officials say will save some \$2 million in the first two years. That comes on the heels of similar concessions from custodians and administrative staffers,

mechanics and food-service workers.

In their new contract, teachers:

- Agreed to take 1.25 furlough days in 2013-14, and 1.5 furlough days in 2013-14.

- Get no pay increase in the first two years, and teachers' step levels will also freeze for the first two years.

- See a 20-percent reduction in pay for extra duties such as meal or testing duty.

For unions, scaling back on hard-fought wages and benefits is never easy, but faced with the potential loss of jobs, they made the tough decision. Though the deal passed easily among the teachers' union, it was still, as union leader Ken Fistler noted, the closest passing margin the union has seen. The deal is, Fistler said,

an acknowledgement of the times.

"It's a concessionary contract, so there are some give-ups, but these are the (economic) times we are in," he said.

The school board and administration have made it perfectly clear how much they appreciate what the unions have done for the students. That's the remarkable thing about what has gone in the district.

Through all the changes — new evaluation standards, changes to testing procedures, administrative upheaval, wage and benefit losses and even job losses — the performance of the teachers and staff hasn't wavered.

If all the stress is affecting morale, it doesn't seem to be

## LETTERS

### EEF thanks

I had the recent privilege of chairing the Educational Excellence Foundation's annual Wine Tasting and Strolling Dinner Benefit held at the Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center. I appreciated seeing board members and administrators in attendance as well as many local dignitaries and so many others who attended in support of this worthy cause.

On behalf of our foundation I'd like to recognize some of the local businesses who were instrumental in the success of this event: Our "Land a Deal on Wheels" Dealership sponsors Dick Scott Dodge Chrysler Jeep, Hines Park Lincoln, Lou LaRiche Chevrolet & Victory Honda in Plymouth as well as Tennyson Chevrolet in Livonia, Atchinson Ford in Belleville and Jack Demmer Ford in Wayne for their generous contributions to our event.

In addition, I really appreciate all of the wonderful foods provided and served by the Court-house Grill, Espresso Elevado, Happy's Pizza, Kilwin's, Red Olive Restaurant, Leo's Coney Island on Five Mile and Sheldon and E.G. Nicks in Plymouth, the Beirut Bakery in Redford, Olga's Kitchen in Canton, Noodles & Company in Livonia, the Dearborn Sausage Company in Dear-

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

Web: [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

Mail: Letters to the Editor, Canton Observer, 615 W. Lafayette,

Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226

Fax: (313) 223-3318

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

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com).

Deadline: Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

born, Sysco Detroit, Fox Hills, Busch's Fresh Market and Diana Woodward and her talented Culinary Arts students.

I especially need to applaud our major event sponsors, Busch's Fresh Markets, AlphaGraphics Printing and the Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center, for their continued support of our efforts.

Whether you bought a ticket to the event, donated an item for our auction or helped as a committee volunteer, this was truly a community-driven event. From our Gold Sponsors Community Financial, National Home

Lending & Canton Soccer to our Silver Sponsors Hugs Hearing Center, Fountain & Hock Dentistry, Skyway Precisions, Monroe Bank & Trust, the Plymouth-Canton Education Association, Plymouth-Canton Board of Education, Neville Financial, Sen. Patrick Colbeck, Title Direct, Kohl's, Rep. Kurt Heise and our Valet Sponsors Keller Williams & Ross Mortgage, they all are all in part responsible for the success of this event.

The proceeds from last year's event were used in a variety of ways to support education in our district.

Jim Harb  
Plymouth-Canton EEF

### Part of the solution

Thinking and asking for alternative ideas to fund roads is a great idea.

What are your ideas? People are always critical but offer no solutions. Step up and offer alternatives to raising taxes. Past legislators have always passed their poor choices on to us, the taxpayers. You want representation, you got it with Heise and Colbeck.

Get involved and help them solve our issues. If you're not part of the solution you're part of the problem.

Andrew Brandt  
Canton

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# Do some spring cleaning of your financial records

By Rick Bloom  
Guest Columnist

Most people have finished filing their tax returns so it's a great time to do a some financial record spring cleaning.

When people save too much information then need to find something, they can't because they have too much stuff.

Since you've already done some organizing because of tax season, what better time of year to clean out those files? What should you save from a tax standpoint? Too many people save all tax information for decades. The thought is that you should never throw out tax information but that is not the case. The IRS can audit you for three years after you file your tax return. Therefore, for the majority of people, once that three-year period ends, there is no reason to save all information.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

There is an exception, however. If the IRS claims fraud (where you under reported income by at least 25 percent), it could extend that for a few more years.

My general advice is that you keep the return but shred all the backup information.

Notice I did not say throw away; rather, shred it. A shredder is something everyone needs. In today's world where identity theft is a major issue, there is no reason to put yourself at risk. Whenever you have sensitive financial information that contains account numbers or Social Security

Numbers, shred it, do not throw it away.

Some people retain brokerage statements and statements from mutual fund companies far too long. My general advice is when you receive your latest financial statement, and after you have reviewed it for accuracy, shred your old statement. Most statements today are cumulative and are saved by the financial institution.

If you're buying an individual stock you may want to save your first statement where the purchase shows up. This will allow you to know what your basis is on that investment. For mutual fund purchases, the mutual fund company itself keeps those records so it is not as important for you to retain them.

What about utility and cable bills; how long is it important to save those? Once again, when you receive your new statement it makes sense to shred the old one. I know

people that keep their cable TV bills for years. There is no need to do so. Whether it is utilities, cable TV or even your charge card bills, once you receive the new statement there is no reason to retain the old one.

Every year we receive new policies from our auto and homeowner's insurance company. Once again, there is no reason to save your old policies — shred them. In the old days it used to be that you saved everything because in the unlikely event that you needed the information there was nowhere to go. In today's world, that is not the case.

It is important, however, to keep a permanent file where you keep documents that you need to hold to for long periods of time; for example, your mortgage documents. Retain your mortgage documents until the home is sold. Of course, if you've refinanced and you've received a dis-

charge of mortgage from the old mortgage that has been recorded, there is no reason to save the old documents.

Wills and trusts are also something that you need to save and should be part of your permanent files. Of course, if you execute new documents and you revoke the old ones, once again, there is no reason to save the old documents.

The adage — less is more — applies to financial documents. Since it is spring, it makes sense to go through your financial records and start prun-

ing. It's nice when you go into your file cabinet and it's not stuffed to the brim and you don't have to try and force papers to fit. By pruning documents, you will free up space and, in addition, if you ever need to find any financial documents, you'll have no problem. Good luck!

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

## John Glenn students host WWII USO dance

Swing dancing will take over the cafeteria of John Glenn High School when the students and staff present World War II USO Dance at 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 8.

The event is free and open to the public and marks the 68th anniversary of the victory in Europe Day which observes the defeat of the Nazis and an end to the war.

Student groups from John Glenn will display World War II propa-

ganda posters and honor community veterans and defense workers. The John Glenn band and choir also will perform World War II era music and the JROTC will perform patriotic drills. Students will re-enact World War II musical performances.

Radio personality Jim Harper will be the emcee for the night which will feature special performance by crooner Matt Walch and a special display of vehicles from

the Detroit Arsenal of Democrat Museum.

The dance has been made possible in part through a grant from Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and is supported by the Westland Rotary of Westland, American Legion and VFW.

Students also have been interviewing World War II veterans and defense workers as part of an oral history project. The interviews will be vid-

eotaped and submitted to the Library of Congress. Participants also will be invited to attend the dance where they will receive a copy of their interview to share with their families.

Veterans who would like to have their stories preserved can contact Michele Anderson at (734) 419-2300 or a AndersonM@wcds.net.

John Glenn High School is at 36105 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, in Westland.

### Pension recipients...have you been offered the option to receive a lump sum payment from your employer?



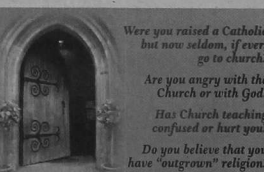
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### CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

A new 6-week series of meetings for non-practicing Catholics who are curious about discussing the possibility of returning to the Catholic Church.

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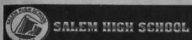
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## SPORTS

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734-469-4128



## Rocks on track for big year

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Even for a rookie coach, the focus is fixed on the prize at the end of the season rather than the starting line. Still, Salem first-year varsity boys track and field head coach Steve

**BOYS TRACK PREVIEW - PT. 1** Aspinall is eager to get the whole thing started with a

home dual meet against Northville Tuesday.

"I'm excited to see where we are," noted Aspinall, in a recent e-mail to the *Observer*. "Guys have been working very hard. We have good numbers (125 on the team)."

"Our goal is always to peak at the end of the season, so we've got our eyes set on the Observerland Relays, KLAAs championships, regional and state championships."

It must be pointed out that Aspinall is no newcomer to the program, having been an assistant coach for Kyle Meteyer in recent seasons.

In 2012, the Rocks gave Meteyer (who resigned to pursue a doctor of education degree at Eastern Michigan University) a sweet sendoff with a Division I regional championship and numerous state qualifiers.

Aspinall stressed that the plan is to successfully defend the title and once again "send a large contingent of runners to the state meet."

### Breaking it down

Following is a breakdown of Salem's talent-rich roster:

• **Sprints:** Salem will bring it on race day thanks to seniors Chris Dieck, Sean Davis, juniors Steven Homrich, Drake Jordan, Michael Hoover, Josh Boctor, James Upshaw, Gu-woin

Please see ROCKS, B4

## BASEBALL PREVIEW - PT. 1



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Nick Hazergian, shown from a 2012 contest, is one of the Canton returnees expected to spark the team on offense. He also is a solid pitcher for the Chiefs.

## Making their pitch

Power arms, bats key Canton's hopes for success in '13

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

It remains to be seen whether Canton can be the cream of the KLAAs South Division in 2013.

But the Chiefs' pitchers can be kings of the hill and that could spell trouble for opponents in the division, conference and — eventually — the state tournament.

Veteran Canton varsity baseball coach Mark Blomshield can pencil in senior Mike Stafford to pitch any big game, any time, and not be worried. The same goes for juniors Brent Mattson and Nick Hazergian.

Canton (20-13 last season) will be looking to up the vic-

tory ante from a year ago and having the Stafford-Mattson-Hazergian trio is as good a start as any to do that.

"Our top three starting pitchers are as solid as we've had here at Canton," Blomshield said. "Mike and Brent can get their fastballs into the upper 80s and Nick fills the strike zone with all three of his pitches and works in the low-to-mid 80s."

All have potential to follow high school by pitching in college, Blomshield said. Stafford already signed with Division I Liberty University (located in Virginia).

Canton's No. 4 starter is no slouch. Senior Jake Miller has verbally committed to Henry Ford Community Col-

lege and he will be counted on to log plenty of innings both in the rotation and out of the bullpen.

### Power surge

As enthusiastic as the coach is about his starting staff, the Chiefs boast much more than that.

Seven of last season's starting position players are back and "all our starting sophomores from last year are a year bigger, faster and stronger," Blomshield emphasized.

He noted a recent batting practice session as evidence. "The difference is extremely noticeable from last spring to now," Blomshield said.

Please see BASEBALL, B4

## MU baseball takes a split

The Madonna University baseball team stands 13-6 overall following a split of a double-header Saturday at Ilitch Ballpark with visiting Rochester College.

In the opener, Brad Lineberry (Plymouth) went 4-for-4 with a homer and two RBI in a 9-4 MU triumph over the Warriors.

Justin Cook also went 2-for-2 with two RBI, while Shane Doherty and Steve Pelletier (Farmington Harrison) also added two hits apiece.

Adam Prashad (2-0), who pitched three innings of relief of starter Josh Vandemark, allowing one earned run on three hits, picked up the win.

Ray Yesh went 3-for-3 with an RBI in a losing cause, while starter Fernando Delacruz (0-1) took the loss.

In the nightcap, David Woodson went 2-for-4, including a homer and four RBI, as Rochester (5-13) defeated the Crusaders, 10-2.

Winning pitcher Austin Suter (1-0) threw a complete game three-hitter. He struck out two and walked five.

Losing pitcher Robert Fraser (Westland John Glenn), the starter, slipped to 1-1 after allowing five earned runs on six hits in three innings.

Lineberry and Ryan Lech each knocked in a run for Madonna.

The Crusaders' scheduled Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference twinbill Monday against Aquinas was postponed a second time due to weather.

## Whalers set for Round 2

### NEXT UP: OWEN SOUND

Following is the schedule for the Plymouth-Owen Sound second-round, best-of-seven OHL Western Conference playoff series:

**Game 1:** 7 p.m. Friday at Compuware Arena (in Plymouth)

**Game 2:** 4 p.m. Sunday at Compuware Arena

**Game 3:** 7 p.m. Tuesday in Owen Sound

**Game 4:** 7 p.m. Wednesday in Owen Sound

**Game 5:** (if necessary) 7 p.m. Friday, April 12, at Compuware Arena

**Game 6:** (if necessary) 4 p.m. Sunday, April 14, in Owen Sound

**Game 7:** (if necessary) 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 16 at Compuware Arena

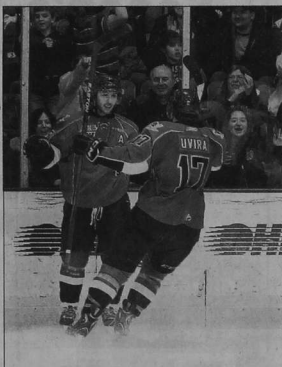
By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Unlike the Detroit Tigers last October, the Plymouth Whalers hope a lengthy wait between playoff series won't have an adverse effect.

Plymouth clinched its OHL Western Conference quarterfinal March 27 and will finally open Round 2 at 7 p.m. Friday against Owen Sound at Compuware — nine days after finishing a sweep against Sarnia, for those keeping track.

Of course, Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci and the hottest team in the OHL since Christmas won't want to have any trouble shifting gears to the Western Conference semifinal.

Although there might be some rust to knock off



RENA LAVERTY

Vince Trocheck (left) and Sebastian Uvira (No. 17) will look to help the Plymouth Whalers continue their winning ways in Round 2 against Owen Sound.

from the Whalers' offensive machine, a plus for Vellucci's team is having so many offensive catalysts ready to light the fuse.

Leading the charge is center Vince Trocheck, who followed up his OHL scoring title during the regular season with a standout series against Sarnia.

Trocheck was a force from the opening minutes of Game 1, when he scored at 1:14 of the first period to get Plymouth off to a quick start. The Florida Panthers draftee finished the series with five goals and seven assists for 12 points.

Owen Sound will need

to pay attention to other dangerous scorers, however. Those include Stefan Noesen (3-3-6), Rickard Rakell (2-2-4), Garrett Meurs (3-1-4), Mitchell Heard (3-2-5), Tom Wilson (2-6-8) and Ryan Hartman (2-1-3), to name a few.

Yet, the No. 2 seed Plymouth (42-17-5-4) and No. 3 seed Owen Sound (44-18-1-5) matchup still should be a much more competitive series than Plymouth-Sarnia turned out to be.

The Whalers and Attack split four games during the season, although Plymouth won the two

Please see WHALERS, B3

## Priebe lands spot in Wolves' den

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Game after game for the Plymouth Wildcats, Josh Priebe would not be denied in his quest to succeed.

Priebe fought off physical defenders en route to the basket. He weaved through traffic to spark the offense, often finding an open teammate to pass the basketball to or draining a jumper himself.

Whatever it took was what the 6-0, 175-pound senior wing guard took to the court as the Wildcats enjoyed their most successful season, winning a district game for the first time ever.

It was with a similar passion and purpose that Priebe saw where he wanted to play college basketball and got it done. He recently signed a national letter of intent with University of Michigan-Dearborn of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

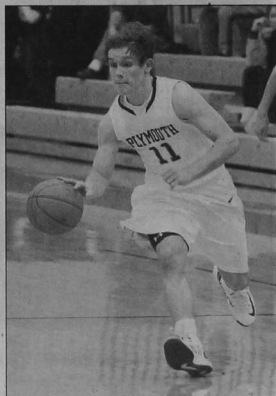
### Reasons to stay

"I can't wait to start playing," said Priebe, who averaged nearly 17 points per contest in 2012-13 (tops on the team) and made the All-Observer first team (see story, B5).

"I'm glad I can stay home, too, so a lot of family will be able to come. It's just good to get a scholarship there."

He added,

Priebe noted that parents Dave and Jill pushed for Josh to opt



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Plymouth senior Josh Priebe goes to work against an opponent during the 2012-13 varsity boys basketball season.

for U-M-Dearborn "because they know it's a good school. And they wanted to be able to go to a lot of my games, so that's cool."

Priebe was joined at the recent signing ceremony at Plymouth High School by Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup, Wolves coach John Mackson and Central Middle School athletics coordinator Mark LaPointe.

It wouldn't be surprising if Soukup made time

in his busy coaching schedule to watch Priebe with U-M-Dearborn in 2013-14.

"He has improved significantly every year he has been in our program," Soukup said. "Josh is a fierce competitor and I know he will meet the challenge of playing college basketball with the same determination and focus he had here at Plymouth."

"I was blessed to have

Please see PRIEBE, B3



## THE WEEK AHEAD

### BOYS & GIRLS TRACK

Saturday, April 6

Shrine Inv. at Lady, 10 a.m.

### COLLEGE BASEBALL

(all double-headers)

Saturday, April 6

MU at Indiana Tech, 1 p.m.

### COLLEGE SOFTBALL

(all double-headers)

Friday, April 5

MU at Concordia, 1 p.m.

Saturday, April 6

MU at Indiana Tech, 1 p.m.

Sunday, April 7

MU at St. Francis (Ind.), 1 p.m.

## Plymouth Y offerings

The Plymouth Family YMCA is offering a variety of youth instructional programs and leagues this spring. The focus of these programs will be on fun, exercise and social interaction through sports instruction.

Programs are open to YMCA members and community members.

Offerings are as follows:

- Co-ed soccer (children ages 4-10). The session, which focuses on soccer fundamentals in a safe environment, will run from April 22 through June 15. There will be one practice per week and one game per week on Saturdays. (Y rate \$96; \$128 for community participants.)

- Girls volleyball (girls ages 8-11). The session runs from April 22 through June 14. There will be one practice per week and one game per week on Friday evenings. (Y rate \$110, \$145 for community participants.)

- Youth clinics are also available. Clinics include T-ball, baseball, agility training and flag football. Session dates and prices vary, call to get more information.

For more information, contact (734) 453-2904 or visit [www.ymcadeloit.org](http://www.ymcadeloit.org).

## PC Cruisers swim to Short Course 12U state title

The Plymouth Canton Cruisers were all about team this season, parlaying the efforts of many dedicated young swimmers into a state championship in early March. At the Michigan Short Course 12 and Under meet held March 8-10 at East Kentwood High School, the Cruisers prevailed.

After all 34 members of the Cruisers competed in the preliminaries, those with the top 16 times reconvened during the finals and out-swam the opposition.

Standouts included Kylie Golt and Adelyn DeTassanyi in girls divisions and Kevin Hao, Bolin Li and Brian Ding in boys divisions.

Goit, 10, was the high scorer and received third in the 10U girls division. She captured an individual win in the 200 individual medley and helped the 200 medley and 400 freestyle relays each finish in the first.

On the victorious 200-medley relay were Golt, Lindsey Case, Elizabeth Breda and Lulu Mans. Golt, Case, Mans and Serena Hao comprised the winning unit in the 200-medley relay.

DeTassanyi, 12, placed in the top eight in all of her six individual events and two relays (the maximum any swimmer can compete in).

Hao, 12, had the top scorer among PC Cruisers in the boys divisions. He won the 200-yard breaststroke and finished in the top-3 in the 50-breast, 100-breast along with sharing second-place honors in the 200-medley relay for kids ages 11-12.

Li, 12, was the team's most-improved swimmer at the meet, according to coaches. Although not in



Helping the Plymouth Canton Cruisers win the recent 12 and under Michigan Short Course swim meet were these members of the team's 10 and under girls division. In the front row (from left) are Kylie Golt, Lindsey Case, Chloe Pulick, Serena Hao; in the back row (from left) are Elizabeth Breda, Lulu Mans, Regan Peregor and Gracie Gowen. From that group, Breda, Golt, Mans and Case finished first in the 200 free relay and Golt, Case, Hao and Mans won the 200 medley relay.



Showing their team spirit after winning the Michigan Short Course 12 and Under swim meet held March 8-10 at East Kentwood High School are the Plymouth Canton Cruisers.

scoring position in any of his six events going into the state meet, he subsequently placed in consolation (places 9-16) in

three events and helped the team win two relays. As for 10-year-old Ding, all he did was be the team's only 10-year-

old boy to have a full load of individual events and relays — placing in the top-16 in five individual events and both

relays, scoring in the top-8 twice.

### Different path

According to Cruisers co-coach Alexandra Morgan (who shares coaching duties with Josh Morgan), this year's team took a different path to success.

In 2010-11, the PC Cruisers won the state meet "with some super stars and a lot of little depth," noted Morgan, nicknamed Coach Z.

"Last year we ended up getting fourth with a very good team," she continued. "This year, we had a very good group of all-around swimmers that work very hard (five times a week) and raced even better."

"I was not expecting us to be on top this year because we knew we weren't going to have a large number of individual wins. But are group of kids are much closer this year and wanted to win the meet for each other."

The roster for the PC Cruisers is as follows:

- **Girls Division 10U:** Elizabeth Breda, Lindsey Case, Kylie Golt, Gracie Gowen, Serena Hao, Lulu Mans, Regan Peregor, Chloe Puck, Victoria Zhang.

- **Girls Division 11-12:** Vivian Bai, Jenna Chen, Jess Clark, Addy Detassanyi, Annette Dombkowski, Abby Gowen, Sydney Jiang, Emily Klemptner, Miranda Li, Emily Lock, Micha Loniowski, Micha Pulick.

- **Boys Division 10U:** Brian Ding, Joey Dombkowski, Lucas Harding, Logan Stombaugh, Ethan Wayne.

- **Boys Division 11-12:** Nathan Budnick, Gabe Cohen, Kevin Hao, Bolin Li, Eugene Li, Eric Liu, Trysten Shao, Charlie Walsh.



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Plymouth High School senior Josh Priebe (middle, front row) recently signed his national letter of intent to play basketball at University of Michigan-Dearborn. Flanking Josh are parents Jill and David Priebe. In the back row (from left) are Central Middle School's Mark LaPointe, Plymouth Wildcats boys basketball coach Mike Soukup and UM-Dearborn coach John Mackson.

## PRIEBE

Continued from page B1

coached him. He will be missed."

### His best yet

From Plymouth's opening game, when he netted 28 points against Walled Lake Western, it was obvious Priebe's senior year was going to be his best.

And signing to play in college turned out to be the perfect caper. "Last year (as a junior)

I was immature," he emphasized. "I matured a lot this year. I just played through everything. It was just a good year. "We did pretty good, we came through a lot better than last year. Not many people expected us to win a district game, and it was good to win the first in the program."

His efforts were duly noted by Mackson, who left the door open for Priebe to earn minutes as a freshman.

"He was just saying I would fit in really good," Priebe said. "I would

have to fight for playing time, but he said I could keep up with a couple guys that are on the team right now."

Priebe said U-M-Dearborn works for him academically, too. "I know it's a good school," he said. "I'm looking to go into business and they have a really nice business school there."

That sounds about right, since Priebe indeed is all business in the gym.

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## WHALERS

Continued from page B1

latest tilts (4-3 on Jan. 4 and 7-3 on Feb. 9, both at Compuware). And Plymouth might be looking for some payback for getting swept by Owen Sound in the 2011 semifinals.

During the opening series, the Whalers were backstopped by rookie netminder Alex Nedeljkovic. The 17-year-old won all four games, posting a 2.00 goals-against average and .924 save percentage.

Vellucci could opt to continue riding the hot hand or give the reins to veteran goalie Matt

### Mahalak.

Following Friday's series opener (go to <http://www.plymouthwhalers.com/> for ticket information or visit the Compuware Arena box office), the teams will square off at 4 p.m. Sunday in Game 2 (also at Compuware). The series then shifts to Owen Sound, for games at 7 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday at the Bayshore Community Centre.

If necessary, Game 5 would be at 7 p.m. Friday, April 12, at Compuware. The rest of the series, if necessary, would take place as follows: Game 6 at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 14, at Owen Sound; Game 7 at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, at Compuware.

**OHL DRAFT:** The Ontario Hockey League Draft begins at 5 a.m. Saturday. It will be held around OHL cities online and can be followed on [www.ontariohockeyleague.com](http://www.ontariohockeyleague.com).

**ALERT!** Update: Former Plymouth Whaler and Farmington Hills product Alex Aleari, who was traded to Windsor in January for Zach Loretz, recently scored his first professional goal for the Springfield Falcons.

It was a biggie, a game-winning goal in the third period March 28 as Springfield (American Hockey League) defeated Bridgeport, 5-4. Aleari, 20, was signed to an AHL tryout contract March 19, after his five-year career in the OHL came to a close.

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## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### Triple Threat Training info meeting Friday

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 play in eight-to-10 tournaments throughout the local area. A parent information meeting is slated for 7 p.m. Friday at High Velocity (located on the south side of Michigan

Avenue west of Canton Center/Belleview Road), where more details about practice times and tournament locations will be presented.

For more information, send an email to TripleThreatTraining@t3@gmail.com or call (734) 341-1336.

### UD Mercy to host bowling final

The University of Detroit Mercy will host the 2013 NCAA Women's Bowling Championships April 11-13 at Super

Bowl Lanes in Canton. It's the second time in three years UD Mercy will host the event.

The seeded, eight-team field consists of Central Missouri, Maryland-Eastern Shore, Nebraska, Arkansas State, Vanderbilt, Sam Houston State, Wisconsin-Whitewater and Fairleigh Dickinson. Tickets can be purchased on [www.ncaa.com](http://www.ncaa.com) prior to the championship. For more information about the National Collegiate Women's Bowling Championship, log on to [www.ncaa.com](http://www.ncaa.com).

## Net-worthy

By Brad Emmons  
Observer Staff Writer

It wasn't the NCAA, or the NIT for that matter. But it rained conflict Saturday afternoon at the University of Detroit Mercy's Calihan Hall after the Lady Titans hoisted the Women's Basketball Invitational championship trophy following a 73-62 victory over McNeese State (La.).

In the middle of it all and cutting down the nets was 5-foot-10 freshman point-guard Rosanna Reynolds, a Canton native, who scored 11 points and dished out four assists in 38 minutes action for the newly crowned WBI champions.

For the Dearborn Divine Child High grad, it was a season that went beyond even her own expectations as she averaged a team-best 38.2 minutes per game while averaging eight points, 3.3 rebounds and a 4.0 assists per outing.

Autumn Rademacher took the mike and addressed the crowd proclaiming, "Frosties for everybody," to the happy Titan fans.

But after U-D was ousted 71-54 in the Horizon League semifinals by 20th-ranked and eventual tournament champion Wisconsin-Green Bay, Rademacher thought she had lost her team and the season appeared to be over.

"We didn't think the season was over at all," Reynolds said. "After she



University of Detroit Mercy freshman point guard Rosanna Reynolds (11) of Canton scored 11 points and dished out four assists as the Lady Titans beat McNeese State (La.) on Saturday for the Women's Basketball Invitational title.

DETROIT MERCY SPORTS INFORMATION

walked out, we were just like, 'No, the season is not over, we've got to stay together as a team.'"

And after the Lady Titans got a bid to the WBI, they took full advantage by winning four straight home games at Calihan capped by the second-half comeback victory over McNeese State, the alma mater of former Piston great and general manager Joe Dumars.

The Titans trailed 30-28 at halftime, but Reynolds helped get the Lady Titans untracked by hitting a pair of clutch three-pointers. That helped offset the one-two McNeese senior guard tandem of twins Ashlyn and Caitlyn Baggett, who came into the game averaging 19 and 15 points per game, respectively. (The two combined for 38 points.)

"We were looking to do a lot of pick-and-rolls because we knew they had a tough time defending the pick-and-roll," Reynolds said. "We were looking to get it into 'Reta' (Sharetta Brown) and if that wasn't open — drive — because they

(McNeese) had all their help in the middle, so just kick it out for the 'threes' and we knocked them down."

The 6-foot Brown, named tournament MVP, scored a game-high 28 points hitting 11-of-12 shots from the floor to go along with 14 rebounds. U-D finished the year 21-13 overall and 9-7 in the Horizon League. The Lady Titans return three starters for the 2013-14 season including Reynolds, guard Sene Shearer, who averaged 11 points per game, and Brown, one of the nation's leading scorers at 21 points per game.

"This is definitely more than I thought," said Reynolds, who was named to the Horizon League's All-Newcomer team. "I thought we could do more in the Horizon League, which was a let-down, but we brought ourselves back up and won this."

"This will get us excited (for next year). We know what it feels like and to go after a bigger title."

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Canton senior pitcher Mike Stafford recently signed to play baseball at Liberty University. Also pictured behind Stafford are (from left) Canton head baseball coach Mark Blomshield and Michael's parents, Gary and Charlene Stafford.

## Faith made Stafford's college choice easy

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Ever since Mike Stafford stepped onto the bump for the Canton Chiefs as a freshman, the hard-throwing lefthander possessed the kind of nasty stuff that punched out plenty of opposing batters.

Stafford painted the black with his post-high school aspirations, too, as he recently signed a national letter of intent with Liberty University.

Liberty is a private, Christian university in Lynchburg, Va. That immediately appealed to Stafford — who has a strong faith.

"There were many factors in my college choice," noted Stafford, in a recent e-mail to the Observer. "At the time I had a lot of choices both in state and out of state.

"I chose Liberty University because of my faith in Christ. The Christian aspect made Liberty an appealing place for me, along with great academics, a brand new stadium and a great coaching staff. Liberty looked like a very exciting place to go to school and play baseball."

Stafford, 17, a scholar-athlete (3.3 grade-point average) who made the All-Observer second team in 2012, is a baseball lifer.

That goes back to his days with the Plymouth-Canton Grizzlies during elementary and middle school.

And during his three-year varsity career with the Chiefs — which is about to enter a fourth season — Stafford has impressed with his pitching abilities, mound

presence and, perhaps as a bonus, hitting skills.

Stafford isn't one to boast, however. The son of Gary and Charlene Stafford would rather give all the credit to others for their encouragement, instruction and guidance.

"I can't thank my coaches enough," Stafford went on. "Every one of them has helped me in some way throughout the years. They all have prepared me for the next level physically and mentally."

"Each one of them from the time I was a freshman has put in their share of time preparing me and the rest of my team for their future goals in baseball and in life. Meanwhile, the fact he did sign to pitch in college has changed his view of his final high school season."

"Though exciting to think about, college baseball doesn't start until next year," he continued. "Right now I am as focused as ever to play this season."

"The biggest impact I can have is to be leader to my younger teammates. I want to be the best example I can be, so when I'm gone, they will remember how to represent their team and school the right way."

Down the road, should he enjoy a successful career at Liberty, "like every other baseball player out there my ultimate goal is to make it to the major leagues. I hope this season and the next four years in college will be a stepping stone to my ultimate goal and dream."

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## BASEBALL

Continued from page B1

"Last season, I don't think we hit a home run in batting practice. Our first time on the field this year we hit five. The expectations of this team couldn't be higher."

When not pitching, the top starters will rotate at first base to save wear and tear on their arms.

Of course, Hazegian's arms might be tired for another reason. He is a power hitter who swings the bat and connects most of the time.

In 2012, Hazegian earned team MVP honors for batting .404 with four home runs and 24 RBI. Blomshield envisioned a repeat showing.

Canton's up-the-middle defense is excellent, the coach said.

Juniors Nick Schnur and James Hall are set for second base and shortstop, respectively, with junior speedster Weston Price slated for center field.

"These guys have made gains in the offseason and we are looking for them to anchor the defense," Blomshield noted.

If there is a question mark, Blomshield said it was the inexperience at catcher. Nick Romanowski and Tom Kiddle are both sophomores who are battling for the No. 1 job.

"Both Nick and Tom will have ample opportunities to play and earn the starting position behind the dish

as we get into the season," Blomshield said. "Consistency and leadership is what we will be looking for."

In the mix for the starting job at third base will be juniors Jake Raymo and Alex Clark. Both also are part of the bullpen, along with juniors Drew Misenko and lefty Ty Robinson.

Flanking Price in the outfield will be junior Jake Boucher in left field and either Tommy Parrelly or Chris Ferrill in right.

"Jake (Boucher) is finally at his best position after a sophomore season where he was a utility guy filling in voids," Blomshield stressed.

"Between him and Price, not many balls are going to get down as they both can really run it down."

### Bottom line

Rounding out the roster are junior Joe Yager and senior Bill Adams, both available in utility roles.

"This year's team has a lot to offer after a subpar 2012 campaign," Blomshield said. "The guys have stepped up and are ready to prove they can play at a high level."

"We are fast, athletic and have very solid starting pitching. If we hit and play defense we will be a very tough team this year."

Canton opened the season Wednesday against Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard. Following Saturday's twinnish against Dexter, the Chiefs visit Novi on April 10.

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## GIRLS TRACK PREVIEW - PT. 1

# Plymouth girls expect to make their points

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Despite losing a slew of great runners to graduation, Plymouth varsity girls track and field coach Ricky Styes isn't discouraged about what the Wildcats can do in 2013.

He still has "a lot of great young runners that we think will make a quick and significant impact on the team."

And Styes is banking on plenty of points from field events, as Plymouth looks to follow up on last year's 4-1 record in the KLAAs South Division and second-place finish at the Division 1 regional meet.

For example, Plymouth boasts three of Division 1's best pole vaulters in seniors Jane McCurry, Sarah Uhlman and Taylor Rickhoff.

"We will be strong in the field events this year," Styes said. "This will be the strength of the team, at least early in the season."

"We have three of the top vaulters in the state and a deep stable of talented, young vaulters... I would put the talent that we have in the pole vault against any school in the state."

In addition to the senior pole vaulters, the Wildcats will feature sophomore Kayla Janewski and freshmen Sam Fontana and Haley Metz in that event.

Plymouth's throwers (discus, shot put) and high/jumpers should do their part to add points to the scoreboard, Styes



BRIAN QUINOTOS

Competing during a 2012 meet for Plymouth is Marina DeBiasi (center), who is back for her senior season. Also pictured are Plymouth's Nicole Traitses (left) and Canton's Kristen Muir.

noted.

Juniors Tionne Johnson, Taylor Bickers and Megan Wieloch are returning throwers who consistently eclipsed the 31-foot mark in 2012. They'll be augmented by freshman Elise Wehmer.

Rickhoff also will be among the jumpers, along with sophomore Emily Freuburger and freshman Kat Harris.

"Both Taylor and Emily cleared five feet last year and Kat cleared it this winter during the indoor season."

### Easing them in

The potential in the field events will help uber-talented freshmen sprinters Bailey Brown and Jewel Davis not feel too much pressure early in the year to make things happen.

"Both Bailey and Jewel have run times in the 400 this early in the season that may have them in the mix come our big meets at the end of the season," Styes emphasized. "Our talent in the field events will take some pressure off of these young runners as they develop."

"By the end of the season, we will be a strong team that will be able to score points both on the track and in the field."

Salem has first-year distance runners who also could make a quick impact. Those are freshmen Charlotte Clark and Sophia Stephan.

Salem has a number of other returnees ready to keep the Rocks in contention.

Those include seniors Shannon Shaver (distance hurdles), Natalie Puckett (hurdles), juniors Marina DeBiasi (distance), Brianna Lax (distance), Ashley MacBrien (sprints), Katie Salanga (sprints), Holly Stark (sprints/hurdles) and sophomore Anna Lukens (sprints).

"We will be returning a strong core of hurdlers," Styes added. "Two (Puckett, Stark) of which will be in the mix come conferences and regionals at the end of the year."

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# Nucleus in place for Rocks

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Dave Gerlach would like nothing better than for the success he has had in recent seasons coaching Salem's varsity girls cross country team to transfer over to his second team — the Rocks' varsity girls track and field squad.

"I'm excited to take over as head coach of a program that we feel has potential to get back to the top of the (Kensington Lakes Activities Association)," Gerlach noted. "We as a staff want to instill a foundation of hard work and raise competitive expectations."

"There is a good nucleus of athletes and a great coaching staff that has set high goals right out of the gate."

Gerlach will rely on a solid nucleus of veterans to helpfully lift Salem into the championship conversation in the KLAAs. "We are excited to start the competition season and seeing where our program stands up against the others in the league."

A handful of returning seniors will set the tone. Those include Nancy Krutty (pole vault), Morgan Tiley (hurdles, high jump), Khyli Ray (sprints) and Dana Blankenship (throws).

Juniors Natasha Stevenson,

Kayla Kavulich and senior Alexandria Beltran head an outstanding group of distance runners.

Also in sprints will be Chi Mbangi.

Sophomore Anya Cho is slated for middle distance events with junior Kelly Whalen and sophomore Shara Long set for hurdles and sprints, respectively.

Newcomers include sophomores Shekiah Johnson, Alexandra Davis, Jamyra Wilson (all sprints), freshmen Brynne Samuels and Rebecca Grossman (sprints) and Annie Patterson (middle distance).

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# Wildcats feature improved balance

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Going the extra mile has never been a problem for the Plymouth Wildcats in recent seasons, and that isn't expected to change this season.

Veteran Plymouth varsity boys track and field coach Jon Mikosz said the distance team "will be the backbone of our team as it has been for the past few years."

Mikosz, however, is optimistic that the Wildcats will feature improvement in other areas and possibly be in the running for the KLAAs and regional titles.

"We have the potential to have a very well-rounded team this year," Mikosz said. "We should be better in the sprints and the field events than we were last

## BOYS TRACK PREVIEW

year."

Key returning distance runners Max Rogowski and Jonny Dalton will lead the charge.

Rogowski qualified for the Division 1 state meet in the 3,200-meter relay and 800 run while Dalton also qualified in the same relay.

Also back are Brandon Dalton, Liam Cardenas and Zane Berlanga, all capable of excellence and then some.

Lucas Bunting, who qualified for the state meet in the 400 sprints, figures to be a prominent member of the team again this spring. He is augmented by Alex Rogers and Josh Dennard.

As for the field events, returnees include Nate Harris, Jeff Pat-

erson, Alex Teasdale and Mark Lowry.

New contributors in other categories include Blerim Mema and Mayur Pauli in distance events and junior Phillipian and Kyle McMillan in field events.

Mikosz cited recent success at the Huron Relays, with Harris tying the Plymouth school record in the high jump (6-feet, 2-inches).

At the same meet, the 1,600-meter relay team of Rogowski, Jonny Dalton, Mema and Bunting finished in 3:39. And the quartet of Rogowski, Jonny Dalton, Brandon Dalton and Mema registered the seventh-fastest time in the state in the 3,200-meter relay with a time of 8:22.

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## ROCKS

Continued from page B1

Ingram, and sophomore Lawrence Cook.

"All of these guys are multiple-sport athletes who give us a lot of versatility in the sprints and sprint relays," Aspinall noted.

• Hurdles: Meanwhile, working hard to fill the hurdle races have been seniors Ivan Rhodes and Justin Broughman and sophomore Miles Mason.

"Ivan could run anything from the 100 to the 800 and might also run all four relays," the coach continued. "Our sprint and sprint relays should be very deep and we'll look to rotate a number of guys into those spots."

Freshmen Freddie McGee and Dominic Hodge are showing plenty of promise.

• Middle distance: Accord-

Sharpe, Joe Kunnath, Donovan Drouillard, Brendan McCann and sophomores Doug Haslett, Jason Rogers and Paul Vander.

"These guys will run everything from the 400 to the 3,200," Aspinall noted.

• Jumps: Diarker and Jordan are at the top of the depth chart, joined by seniors Austin Whitte, Ben Sonnega, Mike Wildi, junior Harsha Saluja, sophomores Ben Howie, Devin Cameron and Miles Mason and freshmen Shaw Lyall and Jacob Miller.

• Field events: Throwers include senior Nick Howie, Hoover, junior Tony Avant, sophomores Ben Howie, Devin Cameron and Tony Przytulski with freshman Christian Pearson bringing new potential to the mix.

In the pole vault, seniors Jinet Gandhi, Mick Girardot and Damian Sidhu will lead the way.

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# -Area cagers can rock the rim

## FIRST TEAM

**Chris Dierker, Sr., F, Salem:** The Salem powerhouse capped off an outstanding prep career, earning team MVP and all-conference honors as the Rocks finished with a 14-9 record.

Dierker, who is planning on playing in college at Madonna University, used his 6-7 frame to block out opponents and get to the rim for offensive putbacks. He also displayed on-the-money shooting from just about anywhere he put the ball up from.

The team captain averaged 14.7 points and 10.7 rebounds and made important contributions in other key categories. He averaged 2.6 assists, 2.2 blocks and 1.6 steals per contest.

"He is our most versatile player with the ability to play on the perimeter or inside and is a tremendous threat on both ends of the floor," said Salem coach Bob Brodie.

**Raylyon Croon, Jr., F, Thurston:** A two-year starter, Croon was instrumental in leading the Eagles to their second straight Class A district championship. The 6-foot-5 forward could score around the rim and from beyond the three-point arc as his 20.2 scoring average attests. Croon, who was voted to the WAC Red all-division team, yanked down over six rebounds a contest and registered 2.47 steals per game.

"Raylyon is a pure scorer who has the ability to score over a game," said Thurston coach Brian Bates. "He can score from inside or outside equally well. He is a tremendous rebounder who has the ability to take over the boards. He was vital to our success this year."

**Josh Priebie, Sr., G, Plymouth:** The hard-nosed, never-say-die Priebie was the main catalyst behind the Wildcats finishing strong during the regular season as well as posting the program's first-ever postseason victory (in the districts against Novi-Detroit Catholic Central).

Priebie was by far the top scorer for Plymouth, averaging 16.8 points. He chipped in with 3.4 rebounds and 1.7 steals per game, and was named to the All-KLAA squad.

"Josh has been great for us for two years," coach Mike Soukup said. "He is one of the most intense competitors I have ever been around. I was proud to have him in my program for four years." He will continue his basketball career at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, where he recently signed his national letter of intent.

**Josh Mayberry, Jr., G, Canton:** The three-year varsity player and team captain spearheaded Canton's "trifecta," as the Chiefs won the KLAA South Division, Kensington Conference and Class A district titles. The last time the Chiefs accomplished that feat was 1996.

Mayberry averaged 13.9 points per game, along with five assists, 3.5 rebounds and 2.5 steals per contest as Canton amassed an impressive 17-7 record.

"His ability to get the ball to the open player on time and score around the rim was huge for us," coach Jimmy Reddy said. "It was an absolute pleasure to coach Josh for the last three years."

For his consistently solid and sometimes spectacular efforts, Mayberry was named to the All-KLAA squad.

**Xavier Bowen, Sr., G, Thurston:** Bowen, a lightning-quick 5-foot-8 guard, defied his modest size and gave his bigger opponents fits this winter, averaging 16 points and five assists per game. A WAC Red all-division honoree, Bowen shot 70 percent from the free throw line, 36 percent from beyond the three-point arc and close to two rebounds per contest. He also frustrated opposing teams by nabbing 2.2 steals per game.

"Xavier was our leader on and off the court this season," said Bates. "He made this year's team go. He had the ball in his hands almost all of the time and made great decisions. He is one of the best ball handlers I have seen. He was a very good three-point shooter and was even better going to the basket. He scored when he had to and distributed the ball when he had to."

**Nick Daniels, Sr., G, John Glenn:** The 6-foot senior guard, a four-year starter, became Glenn's all-time career scoring leader this season with 1,170 points breaking the mark held for 34 years by Daran Armstrong.

Daniels, who has signed with Oakland University, averaged 17 points per game this season for the 19-4 Rockets, who earned a share of the KLAA South Division title.

"It's been a pleasure to coach Nick for four years," Glenn's Dan Young said. "He's an outstanding player, all-time leading scorer and a just a great kid."

**Caleb Hogans, N. Farmington:** The senior point guard was an outstanding floor leader, handling the ball with aggressiveness and skill against pressure from opposing teams. Hogans, who will play next season at Spring Arbor University, averaged 16 points, six assists, four steals and three rebounds. He can shoot the three or drive to the basket equally well. Hogans was a three-year starter, he and Sterling Sharp played in two district finals and won three city championships.

"Caleb was the leader of our team," coach Todd Negoshian said. "He was able to be more of a true point guard this season, and his play and rebound numbers showed it. He's one of the toughest kids I have ever coached. He is one of the best pure point guards to ever play at North."

"The biggest thing he brought was his competitive nature in every practice and game. He's one of the most stubborn kids I have coached, and that's a huge benefit in making him as successful as he is. He's going to compete and not give in. He



Chris Dierker Salem



Raylyon Croon Thurston



Josh Priebie Plymouth



Josh Mayberry Canton



Xavier Bowen Thurston



Nick Daniels John Glenn



Caleb Hogans N. Farmington



Jordan Nobles Canton



Isaac Everette John Glenn



Jeron Rogers N. Farmington



Josh Campbell Stevenson



Sterling Sharp N. Farmington



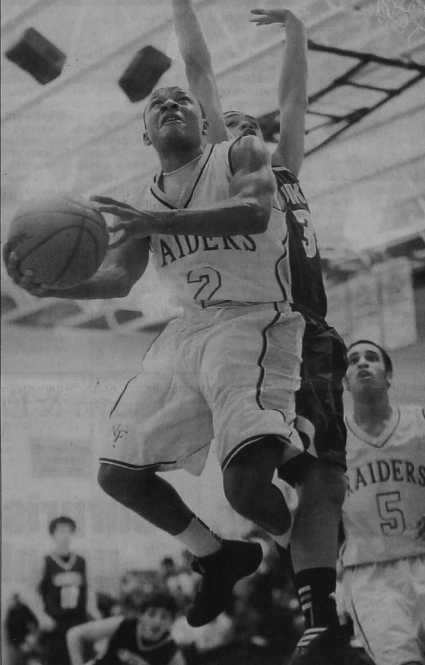
Richard Roberts John Glenn



Dorian Fields Harrison



Jimmy Reddy Canton coach



North Farmington's Caleb Hogans was a three-year starter at point guard.

JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

wants to make sure it's done his way and to the best of his ability."

## SECOND TEAM

**Jordan Nobles, Jr., F, Canton:** At 6-8, Nobles towered over many an opponent in 2012-13, and not just physically. Nobles was a crucial cog in the Canton wheel, both on offense and defense, particularly in the second half of the season when the Chiefs made a charge to the top of the KLAA South.

The All-KLAA selection made his presence felt with 10.5 points per game. He also chipped in with an average of five rebounds and three blocks per game, totals that will undoubtedly go up in tandem with more minutes in his senior season.

"Jordan had an outstanding year at both ends of the floor," Reddy said. "His ability to score inside and out along with his ability to block and or change shots at the defensive end was paramount to our success this year."

**Isaac Everette, Jr., F, John Glenn:** The 6-4 junior forward, who averaged 14 points and six rebounds per game, led a talented Glenn front line that won 19 of 23 games.

Even better things are expected next out of the All-KLAA selection, who can score both inside and outside.

"Isaac improved the most of anybody in our program," Young said. "He does everything well. He guards the best player in most games and is very humble. He can score and also rebounds well."

**Jeron Rogers, Soph., F, N. Farmington:** In his second season as a starting post player, the 6-foot-6 Rogers averaged a double-double with 17 points and 10 rebounds. He also had two blocks per game. In addition to Hogans and Sharp, he was a big reason the Raiders were 17-6, district champions and OAA Red Division runners-up to Clarkson.

"Jeron had an outstanding sophomore

year," Negoshian said. "He showed tremendous improvement in his skill because of his work over the summer. He's one of the fiercest competitors I have ever been around; he truly hates to lose."

"He was an outstanding leader for a sophomore with his work ethic and attitude. He deferred to the veteran leaders when necessary, and he stepped up and became the leader when the situation called for him to be. Doing what he did in the post as a sophomore speaks volumes about his ability."

**Josh Campbell, Sr., G, Stevenson:** The 5-11 senior guard averaged 17.8 points per game, along with 5.5 rebounds and 3.3 assists per game en route to earn All-Observer honors for the second year in a row.

"Josh is an explosive offensive player that can score multiple ways," Stevenson coach Brandon Sinavi said. "His ability to get to the basket opens up his outside shot and he helped carry our team's offense the majority of the season."

The two-time All-KLAA pick scored 36 points on two different occasions this season.

"Aside from his scoring ability, Josh's basketball instinct is second to none and he can do whatever is needed to help our team win," Sinavi said. "He's one of the best pure basketball players to come through Stevenson in the last decade."

**Sterling Sharp, Sr., G, N. Farmington:** Sharp, an all-ways, Stevenson coach Brandon Sinavi said. "He's one of the best pure basketball players to come through Stevenson in the last decade." Sharp averaged seven rebounds, three steals and one block. He and Hogans share the school record with eight triple baskets in one game.

## 2012-13 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS BASKETBALL

### FIRST TEAM

F-Chris Dierker, Salem, Sr.  
F-Raylon Croon, Thurston, Jr.  
G-Josh Priebie, Plymouth, Sr.  
G-Josh Mayberry, Canton, Sr.  
G-Xavier Bowen, Thurston, Sr.  
G-Nick Daniels, John Glenn, Sr.  
G-Caleb Hogans, N. Farm, Sr.

### SECOND TEAM

F-Jordan Nobles, Canton, Jr.  
F-Isaac Everette, John Glenn, Jr.  
F-Jeron Rogers, N. Farm, Soph.  
G-Josh Campbell, Stevenson, Sr.  
G-Sterling Sharp, N. Farm, Sr.  
G-Richard Roberts, John Glenn, Jr.  
G-Dorian Fields, Harrison, Sr.

### THIRD TEAM

F-otis Kenabamash, Thurston, Jr.  
F-Greg Williams, Canton, Jr.  
F-Dante McGowan, Thurston, Sr.  
F-Scott Grier, Canton, Sr.  
G-Kevin Mack, Salem, Sr.  
G-Todd Moore, Harrison, Jr.  
G-Jalen Webber, Stevenson, Soph.

### FOURTH TEAM

F-Ryan Schaffer, Huron Valley, Jr.  
F-Valentin Kalaj, Farmington, Jr.  
F-Fabian Pruitt, John Glenn, Jr.  
F-Glenn Cole, Franklin, Jr.  
G-Mick Noel, Ply, Christian, Sr.  
G-Dwayne Scott, Churchill, Sr.  
G-Juan Nelson, Clarendville, Jr.

### COACH OF THE YEAR

Jimmy Reddy, Canton

### HONORABLE MENTION

Churckson Hovers, John Jackson; Franklin: Tyrone Rayford, Alex Armstrong; Stevenson: Joe Moos; Clarendville: Austin Douglas; Kimani Dilling; John Glenn: Dr. Black; Wayne: Rio Washington; Juvan Snipes; Josh Lowry; Lutheran Westland: Nick Andziewski, A.J. Seltz; Brandon Wyman; Huron Valley: Milan Nijm; Thurston: Chris Broxton; Xavier Crofford; Redford Union: Manny Chatman, Jacob McKiddie; Jeremie Kogor; Garden City: Tyler Gonzales; Jay Sheppard; Kevin Brown-Bayko; Plymouth: Sid Achanya, Jake Divens; Brendan Swanson; Brian Schmid; Salem: Nate Sass; Canton: Ryan Pickett; Davon Taylor; Plymouth Christian: Alex Huber; Drew Ibach; Daniel Jipping; Matt Sumner; Farmington: Justin Banks; North Farmington: Cameron Darden; Harrison: AJ Freeman.

"Sterling really came into his own his senior year," Negoshian said. "He's one of the most consistent players I have coached. He brought the same effort every day in the gym. He will have an outstanding career (at EMU) because of his work ethic."

"He's one of the best leaders I've been around with the way he leads by example. You know what you're going to get from him every day, and it was a 100-percent effort no matter if he was sick or hurt."

**Richard Roberts, Sr., G, John Glenn:** The 6-2 transfer from Huron provided toughness on both ends of the floor for the KLAA South Division co-champions, who fell in the district final to eventual state Class A champion Romulus.

Roberts averaged 10 points per game for the 19-4 Rockets.

"Richard had a solid season," Young said of the All-KLAA choice. "He fought two injuries but still got better and better as the season went on."

**Dorian Fields, Sr., G, Harrison:** The senior guard was one of the most well-rounded players in the area. He was consistent across the statistical spectrum with solid numbers in every game. Fields, who averaged 11.5 points, six rebounds and five assists, was effective on defense, too, having a high number of steals.

He will play football and basketball at Siena Heights University.

"Dorian was really an all-around player for us," coach Jason Pickett said. "He stepped up his game in all facets this year. He was our leader in assists and rebounds, as well as our third-leading scorer. He could have led us in any number of categories, but he brought in early this season to what we could do as a team if he functioned as more of a facilitator."

"That being said, he never shied from taking a clutch shot when the team needed it. Dorian has very high motor with the ability to make others better as a passer. His competitive fire led him to be an above-average defender and rebounder. He's had 50 rebounds come in the last two years despite playing on the wing."

**Coach of the Year**  
**Jimmy Reddy, Canton:** Diminutive in stature, Reddy continues to make a big impact on the Canton varsity boys basketball program in just four years at the helm.

The Chiefs brought in to Reddy's blueprint for success: Defense, control the basketball and box out around the rim.

As a result, not to mention having some extremely talented players on the roster, Canton earned a 17-7 record to capture the division, conference and district for the first time since 1996.

According to Reddy, the special season was made even more so by the way the team got off the mat after a 2-5 start. "I couldn't be more proud of our players," Reddy said. "They showed a ton of resilience and toughness in turning this thing around the last two months."

"That doesn't happen unless you have good players and a quality coaching staff like I have."

Reddy tipped his cap to varsity assistant coaches Tony Wichmann and Matt Dent, along with junior varsity coaches Dan Collette, Brian Wichmann and freshman coach Jason Slaughter.

All of the coaches are on the same page as far as the Canton boys basketball program is concerned.

Reddy, a former star player at Westland John Glenn (the team the Chiefs defeated in triple overtime to clinch the KLAA South), also thanked his wife and Canton varsity girls soccer coach Jeannine Reddy for being so supportive during the fourth-month basketball grind.



## Local trumpet player celebrates Stan Kenton's jazz

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Bob Lymeris will relive a little jazz history Sunday, April 7, when he performs *Intermission Riff* on trumpet at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts in Detroit. "I'm on the original recording. It was a big hit," said Lymeris, 86, of Farmington Hills. "I'll probably need a sheet of music in front of me. It's been a long time."

Lymeris will join the Detroit Masters of Music Big Band, led by trombonist, Ron Kischuk, in playing the song during a concert celebrating the music of Stan Kenton.

The concert starts at 5 p.m. at Music Hall, 350 Madison Ave. Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door, and are available through ticketmaster.com or the Music Hall box office at (313) 887-8501.

In addition to Lymeris, the performance will feature jazz drummer Peter Erskine, John Harner, former first trumpet player with the Stan Kenton Orchestra; trumpet player Johnny Trudell; and drummer Jack McKenzie of West Bloomfield, who played with the Kenton Big Band from 1958-1962 and in 1972.

After recording two records for Capitol Records in 1943, Stan Kenton's band became one of the most popular wartime jazz groups. After World War II, it continued to record for Capitol and was among the first big jazz bands to incorporate Afro-Cuban rhythms into its music.

Lymeris played with the band from 1945-46 and in 1948. His roommate at the time, another trumpet player named Ray Wetzel, arranged the piece that Lymeris will play on Sunday.

"At the end of the night the crowd would thin out. It was slow one night and we started fooling around, playing a blues type thing," Lymeris recalled. "When they were looking for a 'B' side for a record, Stan said, 'Let's do that thing we were doing the other night.'" Wetzel offered to arrange the impro-



Bob Lymeris is the second trumpet player from the right, in the back row.



A contemporary photo of Bob Lymeris of Farmington Hills

vised piece and the tune became a hit.

### Jobbing around

Lymeris, a Detroit native, began playing trumpet when he was 10 and with encouragement from various teachers, continued to play through high school. While still at MacKenzie High, he sat in with a band, playing the "swing shift dance" at the Grande Ballroom in Detroit. After graduation he performed with Bill Gale and "jobbed around," getting gigs at clubs, ballrooms, sitting in with other bands. The Wallick Lake Casino, Edgewater Park, and the Graystone Ballroom were among a few of his concert venues. He had just returned to Detroit after touring in Pennsylvania and New York, when he discovered that Gale had recommended him to Stan Kenton.

"I came home and my mother said, 'Stan Kenton called you.' I said, 'Mom, that's Stan Kenton!' So I called him and he told me he was looking for a trumpet player. I sat in and they hired me."

With Stan Kenton's band, Lymeris toured extensively, recorded, performed on live radio broadcasts, shared the stage with numerous celebrities and even ended up in a scene from a movie called *Talk About a Lady*.

"I was on the road with Stan and my dad used to write to me and say, come back and go to school."

Lymeris took a break from the band in 1947, returned for one more year and then quit to attend Wayne State University.

"I made the right decision. I could see that being on the road was a tough way to go. I'm glad

I kept playing, but going to school was the way to go. I joined the Wayne Concert Band."

### Settling down

Lymeris earned a teaching degree and taught music in Taylor schools, then worked for a while in real estate, before going back into the classroom as a math teacher in Hazel Park schools.

During his teaching career, Lymeris, who is married and has three children, continued to perform. He played polka music in a band for a show broadcast locally on WXYZ, worked in back-up bands and

worked numerous venues throughout southeastern Michigan.

"When I quit teaching the second time and went back into real estate I couldn't spend time playing. I took a leave of absence for 15 years."

He started playing again in 1975 with the Farmington Community Band. That quickly led to gigs with Austin Moro band and playing back up for celebrities appearing at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts.

"I started working a lot. I played for so many people over the years,

I've got a list."

The lengthy list includes Jerry Lewis, President Bill Clinton, Tony Bennett, Carol Channing, Charlie Parker, Johnny Mathis, the Temptations, Dinah Shore, Connie Stevens and many more.

Today, Lymeris is on the board of the Detroit Federation of Musicians, Local 5, and he continues to perform.

"I just played at a church. I was part of a brass quintet with a choir for Easter services. I've done a lot of small band playing," he said. "I liked the big band stuff, but I like the little stuff, too."

### GET OUT!

#### Arts Crafts

##### CITY GALLERY

**Time/Date:** Exhibit runs through April 12  
**Location:** In the Costick Center lobby, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Works by Farmington Hills resident, Bob Aikins  
**Contact:** Aikins at www.AikinsAviationArt.com;

(248) 473-1800 for Costick Center

##### DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

**Time/Details:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday  
**Location:** 5200 Woodward, Detroit  
**Family Sundays:** 2 p.m. Sundays; storytelling,

performances; free with admission

**Exhibits:** Motor City Muse: Detroit Photographs: Then and Now, through June 16; Shirin Neshat, includes eight video installations and two series of photos, April 7-July 7; printmaking by Ellsworth Kelly, May 24-Sept. 8

Please see GET OUT!, B7

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Inspire Theatre's set for its production of "Rumors." The staircase and backdrop will be junked unless the group can find adequate storage space by May 1.

## Westland theater seeks new building

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Inspire Theatre needs your help finding a new home.

The community theater must move costumes, props, electronic equipment and sets from its current location in Westland by May 1. Its theater school's upcoming performance, *The Ballad of Gopher Gap*, needs rehearsal space.

"We can't raise money or make money because we can't put shows on," said Wendy Hardy, a member of Inspire Theatre's leadership team. "What we really need is somebody that believes in our dreams and our future and can help us financially or can support us in getting a building. If we can find someone who can go into a partnership with us or something to get us on our feet — because once we got things rolling, we'd be able to start making money again."

Members are looking for 3,000 square feet of space in Wayne, Westland, Livonia, Garden City or Redford. Len Fisher, theater director, said the group is talking to "everyone we can think of" and has reached out to patrons via Facebook.

"There's a lot of retail space, but it comes with a price. We don't necessarily want to go into industrial, but that seems to be the only thing we can afford. I've even considered finding a house to rent," he said.

The theater worked out of a church basement in Dearborn for its first four years and then moved to Warren Road Light and Life Free Methodist Church in Westland for the past 4 1/2 years, Fisher said.

"The church offered us great rent and it's been a fun space,"

Fisher said he received an e-mail from the church last week, saying that it was time for the group to leave. He called the notice abrupt and said it stemmed from church leaders' concerns over



Inspire Theatre's sign stands outside the Warren Road Light and Life Free Methodist Church, in Westland. The theatre must move out of the church by May 1.

the theater's choice of plays, including *The Foreigner*, a comedy.

"We had a meeting and they asked me to explain why we chose it (*The Foreigner*) and how we'd change it. I said I didn't feel at liberty to change someone's work and I didn't see a problem with the subject matter because it was a play where the good guys won and the bad guys lost."

Fisher said the theater had edited some scripts in the past as a result of the church's concerns over strong language or scenes set in bars.

"If the play has swearing, drinking or smoking we've tried to limit it. We told them we would try our best to not cross that line, but we weren't sure where that line was. It's a nebulous line."

### Time to leave

The Rev. David Powless, pastor of the church, said that although the impending move may appear abrupt, it was not a surprise.

"First of all their lease was up," Powless said. "He (Fisher) told one of our board members that they planned on being out of there by a certain point this summer. They've been looking for quite a while for another space. It's just hard to walk away from a good deal."

Powless said the theater needed to move if it wanted to "have more freedom of expression in the plays they choose."

"We thought this was the best time," Powless said the theater, a "good people" and said some of his church members are involved in the group.

### Northville

Details: "Line & Brush: Two FigurativeVisions" shows the work of friends and art instructors, Amy Foster and Vianna Szabo. Foster is a master draftsman who loves line and gesture while Szabo's passion is paint and color. In conjunction with this exhibit, the artists will offer two-day workshops at the Northville Art House. Amy Foster will offer portrait drawing fundamentals April 20-21 and Vianna Szabo will teach painting gesture portraits, April 27-28. Limited space is available. See the Art House website at [www.northvillearts.org](http://www.northvillearts.org) for more information

Contact: (248) 344-0497

## 'The Vagina Monologues' selling out in Plymouth

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Barefoot Productions' next show — Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues* — is so popular, the Plymouth theater has sold out of tickets and added a performance, all before the production opens.

"I think it's because, number one, we have a lot of new faces at Barefoot, and they are selling tickets like hotcakes," said Susan Storey, vice president in charge of membership and director of the upcoming performance.

"They're new to the stage and are excited to do this piece. A lot of times you don't have the opportunity to do it. It's done on the college stage."

The monologues often are performed in February, as part of V-Day, an international celebration that includes readings of Ensler's work and consciousness-raising events to end violence against women and girls called "V-Day." Storey, who is directing the production, decided to stage the show this month because it would have been too close to a main stage show at the theater in February.

"Everyone else does it in February. This timing was better. April works nicely," Storey said.

The show will run Friday-Sunday, April 5-7 and Saturday, April 13, at the theater, 240 N. Main, Plymouth. Tickets are sold out for the April 6-7 performances. Earlier this week, a handful of tickets were available for the 8 p.m., April 5 show and



The cast of "The Vagina Monologues," staged by Barefoot Productions, includes Susan Storey, (top); Jeanne Poulet, (second row, left); Jesse Gohl, Mary Tabla, and Samantha Lowry; Chris Steves (bottom, left); Chelsey Mellon, Alex Bauer, Amanda Durham and Adriana Acosta. Members not pictured are Collette Cullen, Jeanne Pruett, Caroline Rankin, Ederique Goudia, Jennifer Jelsma, and Faithanne Melow

15 tickets had already sold for the 8 p.m. April 13 show, which was added to the run. Money raised through a drawing at the show will benefit First Step, western Wayne County's project on domestic and sexual violence. Representatives from First Step also will be on hand at each performance with information about its services.

A cast of 15 women from Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Livonia, Westland, Detroit, Ann Arbor and Holland — approximately a three-hour drive, one-way from the theater — will bring the monologues to life.

"The presentation is something like you've never seen before. We're not really using (reading) scripts. There is interpretation of the pieces. It's not acting, but it's interpretive theater," Storey said. "We have

a cool ending that's a group effort, including the audience."

The show will include all of the original script, along with a few additional Ensler works, such as "Crooked Brains" and "Comfort Women."

"This is like gold. It's really fun and it's good for the community to know we've got a lot of commodity. I wanted to sell out, naturally, but I never thought this would sell out like this. It's too exciting."

Membership in Barefoot Productions is \$10 annually and comes with tickets to one mainstage show and voting rights. Members also may volunteer as little or as much as they want.

For more information about Barefoot Productions visit [www.justgobarefoot.com](http://www.justgobarefoot.com). To reserve tickets for *The Vagina Monologues* call (734) 560-1493.

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## GET OUT!

Continued from page B6

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

### GALLERY@VT

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday and during public events, through April 28

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

Details: The photography of Claudia Retter

Contact: (734) 394-5300

### NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, April 5-April 27; opening reception 6-9 p.m. April 5

Location: 215 W. Cady,

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California Wine Country Tapenade

## Time for Tapenades

**T**he ripe olive is one of the most versatile foods in the pantry. While delicious on its own, olives also add flavor to a number of dishes from soups and salads to appetizers and entrees. One dish, that features olives predominantly and is as versatile as its main ingredient, is tapenade.

Tapenade originated in Provence, France, as a simple mixture of chopped olives, with various herbs and spices and is often used as a spread on crackers or a condiment. There are many different recipes for tapenade, and the first step is selecting the type of olive to use. Green and black California Ripe Olives are perfect because of their mild taste and ability to blend well with other flavors. To ensure you are purchasing California Ripe Olives, check the label to see if they're a product of the U.S.

Tapenades are as varied as they are delicious, with consistencies that range from a spreadable paste to a chunky, salsa-like mixture. And their flavors can span the globe, from Greek and Mexican to Asian and French.

A simple ripe olive base is all you need to create a world of flavor.

Here are three very different approaches to tapenade. The first is inspired from where the olives come from — California — and includes garlic, shallots and fresh basil. The second has a Mexican flair with chipotle peppers and fresh cilantro. Finally, it's East-meets-West with an Asian-inspired version that balances the mild olive flavors with spicy Sriracha and fresh ginger.

Although delicious with crackers and a tradi-

tional cheese plate, there are a number of creative ways to enjoy tapenade, including:

- Mixing with sour cream for a zesty dip
- As a spread on sandwiches
- Spooned on tacos with lettuce, tomatoes and cheese

— Stuffed into chicken breasts for a flavorful kick

— Spread on pizza dough and topped with cheese and veggies

For more recipes featuring California Ripe Olives, visit [www.CalOlive.org](http://www.CalOlive.org).

### California Wine Country Tapenade

Prep time: 10 minutes

Chill time: 1 hour

Makes 8 to 10 servings

- ½ cup chopped shallots
- ¼ cup chopped smoked sun-dried tomatoes
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 2 tablespoons white balsamic vinegar
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 6-ounce can California Green Ripe Olives, well drained
- 1 6-ounce can California Black Ripe Olives, well drained
- ¼ cup lightly packed fresh basil
- Sea salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
- Crackers or toasted baguette slices

Place shallots, sun-dried tomatoes, olive oil, vinegar and garlic in a food processor and pulse on and off until finely chopped. Add olives, basil, salt and pepper and pulse again until chopped. Cover and chill for 1 hour. (May be prepared 1 day ahead.) Serve with crackers or toasted baguette slices.



Mexican Tapenade

### Mexican Tapenade

Prep time: 10 minutes

Chill time: 1 hour

Makes 8 to 10 servings

- 2 6-ounce cans California Ripe Olives, well drained
- ¼ cup lightly packed fresh cilantro leaves
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 green onions, sliced
- 1 canned chipotle pepper plus 2 teaspoons adobo sauce from can

Good quality tortilla chips

Drain olives well and place in a food processor with all remaining ingredients except chips. Pulse on and off until finely chopped. Cover and chill for 1 hour. (May be prepared 1 day ahead.) Serve with tortilla chips or use as a sandwich spread or in quesadillas or tacos.



Spicy Asian Tapenade

### Spicy Asian Tapenade

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 5 minutes

Chill time: 1 hour

Makes 8 to 10 servings

- Tapenade:
- 2 6-ounce cans California Ripe Olives, well drained
- ½ cup minced onion
- 2 tablespoons olive or peanut oil
- 2 tablespoons rice vinegar (unseasoned)
- 1 ½ tablespoons grated fresh ginger
- 1 tablespoon Sriracha sauce
- ¼ teaspoon sesame oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- Crispy Won Ton Dippers:
- 24 square won ton wrappers, each cut into 2 triangles
- Olive oil cooking spray
- Sea salt to taste
- Crispy Won Ton Cups:
- 24 square won ton wrappers
- Olive oil cooking spray

Place all tapenade ingredients in a food processor

and pulse on and off until finely chopped. Cover and chill for 1 hour.

Meanwhile for dippers, preheat oven to 400°F and line 2 baking sheets with foil. Cut won ton wrappers in half and place on baking sheets; coat with olive oil spray and season lightly with salt. Bake for 5 minutes or until golden brown. For cups, preheat oven to 350°F. Spray won ton wrappers on both sides with olive oil cooking spray. Press into 24 mini muffin cups, pressing all the way into the bottom. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes or until golden brown; let cool. Serve with tapenade.

— Courtesy Family Features

# Solve mystery with bid at purse auction

There's more to an upcoming purse auction at Faith Community Wesleyan Church than meets the eye.

Some 30 purses — at last count — will go to the highest bidder Saturday, April 13, at the Livonia church's "Women of Faith" Mystery Purse Auction.

Participants will get a chance to see the items before the bidding starts at 5 p.m., but won't be allowed to look inside them. Each purse will be filled with a collection of "mystery" goods that will be revealed after the bidding ends.

"At our meeting we were brainstorming for fundraisers that would be a little different and be fun for everyone," wrote Mary Cisney, in an e-mail to the *Observer*. "We figured, what do ladies enjoy owning a lot of (besides shoes), well, purses. And what fun to fill

them with different things — usually with a theme (but not always), like 'garden purse,' with all kinds of gardening things — and auction them off."

The church held its first purse auction last year in conjunction with a speaker. This year's speaker is Angela Morgan, director of the church's Wednesday Night Kids Program. She will use items, such as keys, a cell phone, which will normally be found in a purse to illustrate her talk.

"Each item will have a point. As an example, cell phone: something to communicate with — if you need to communicate with the Lord, all you need to do is pray," Cisney said. "Having a cell phone is good to have to give you a sense of security. Having

open communication with Christ gives you an even greater sense of security."

The event also will include light refreshments.

The bidding will start at \$5. Participants must be over 15 years old to bid.

"We encourage the ladies to bring their men. It just adds to the fun. They seem to encourage the ladies to keep bidding." Proceeds will benefit "Women of Faith" and Faith Community's 2nd Service.

The church also accepts donations of purses filled with mystery items.

Call Cisney at (248) 471-1322 to register. Faith Community Wesleyan Church is located at 14560 Meridian, Livonia.

By Sharon Dargay

## RELIGION CALENDAR

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

### April

#### BLOOD DRIVE

**Time/Date:** 1-7 p.m. Friday, April 26

**Location:** Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland.

**Contact:** For appointments call (734) 722-1735 or (800) RED-CROSS

#### CAMP ENROLLMENT

**Time/Date:** Now through May 31

**Location:** Consuming Fire Christian Center, 31463 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland

**Details:** The Center is enrolling kids and teens, age 5-15, for its six-week Bible/Home-work Enrichment Camp that will run July 8-Aug. 16. Full day sessions are \$700 and a half-day is \$480. Families get a \$25 discount for added siblings for the full day rates. \$10 discount for the half-day rate. A non-refundable \$100 registration fee at the time of enrollment secures a place at camp. All tuition must be paid in full by May 31. Cost includes the registration fee, snacks, materials for class, tutoring in most subjects and assessment testing.

**Contact:** Melanie Staten or Sylvia Brown at (734) 266-2293

#### CONCERT

**Time/Date:** 4 p.m., Sunday, April 7

**Location:** St. John Lutheran Church, located on Gill Road between Grand River Ave. and Freedom Road, Farmington Hills



Rich Ridenour, (left) and Brandon Ridenour will perform Sunday, April 7, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, Farmington Hills.

#### ton Hills

**Details:** The Macomb Chorale, Macomb Chamber Singers and the Macomb Handbell Choir, Belles Voix will perform "Gospel Mass" by American composer, Robert Ray will be featured. Also included on the program are a variety of choral styles from the Renaissance to popular musical selections. Admission is free. A free-will offering will be taken. Refreshments will be provided.

**Contact:** (248) 474-0584

#### CONCERT

**Time/Date:** 2 p.m., Sunday, April 7

**Location:** Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Brandon Ridenour, principal trumpet player of the Canadian Brass, performs a free concert. Rich Ridenour accompanies on piano. The

program will include music by Debussy, Bartok, Joplin, Prokofiev, and Gershwin, among others. Complimentary refreshments will be served at intermission.

**Contact:** (248) 476-8860; www.nardinpark.org

#### FILM

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 17

**Location:** Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield

**Details:** "Homeland: Four Portraits of Native Action," profiles struggles of Native American leaders who are taking on powerful energy companies and government agencies to protect the environment. The film is a tribute to grassroots organizing. A discussion and refreshments follow the film.

**Contact:** (248) 354-4488; www.northwestuu.org

#### FILM

**Time/Date:** 6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 27

**Location:** St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

**Details:** The church and AAA Pregnancy Resource Center, show the film, "October Baby," which tells the story of a woman adopted by loving parents after a failed abortion. Free child care will be provided. Snacks will be available. The film is not recommended for children under 13.

#### OPEN HOUSE

**Time/Date:** Noon-2 p.m. Sunday, April 14; 1-2:30 p.m. Friday, April 19

**Location:** St. Genevieve Catholic School, 28933 Jamison, Livonia

**Details:** Accepting registration for the 2013-14 school year for grades 1-8, full and half-day kindergarten, Young 5s, preschool for ages 3 and 4. Flexible payment plans and tuition assistance is available. The student population is diverse and class size is small.

The April 19 open house is specifically for parents interested in sending their children to the kindergarten or Young 5 program. Parents and children will spend an afternoon in either the Young 5 or kindergarten class. Their children will listen to a story, do a craft and meet teachers, friends and enjoy a snack.

**Contact:** Ann Tonissen, principal, at atonissen@stgenevieve.org or Phyllis Chudzinski, preschool and Young 5's director, at phchudzinski@stgenevieve.org

#### POMEGRANATE GUILD

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. Sunday, April 14

**Location:** Prentiss Apartments Community Room, located on 10 Mile east of Greenfield in Oak Park.

**Details:** Linda Lublin will lead an evil eye bracelet project. There is a \$2 materials fee. Bring a clipboard if you have one. The group also will prepare its display for the Farmington Festival of the Arts, "Color the World," April 18-20.

**Contact:** Judy Galperin at (248) 661-5337

## Passages

How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-495-4968 • ecobis@hometownlife.com

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

### BLEEKER, MARLYN J.

88, a resident of Davenport, Iowa, died Wednesday, March 27, 2013 at Trinity, Bettendorf, Services in the Detroit, Michigan area will be held at a later date. Haligan McCabe DeVries Funeral Home, Davenport is assisting the family with arrangements. Marlyn Joy was born on July 27, 1924 in Detroit, Michigan, a daughter of Harold E. and Gladys W. (Lee) Joy. Marlyn was married to David L. Helm, Jr. and later was united in marriage to Henry G. Bleeker. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Susan G. Komen for the Cure. She is survived by her daughters, Sharon (James) Puffer, Asheville, NC and Heidi (Robert) Herman, Davenport, step-daughter, Pamela (Brent) Johnson, Aurora, CO; and her loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Henry, her parents, and a sister, JoAnn Harke. Online remembrances and condolences may be expressed to the family by visiting Marlyn's obituary at www.hmfdfuneralhome.com

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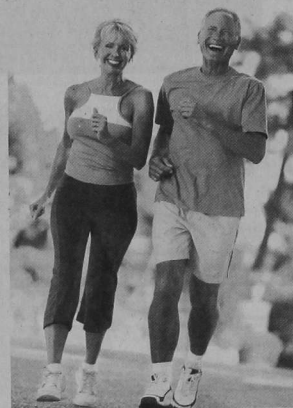


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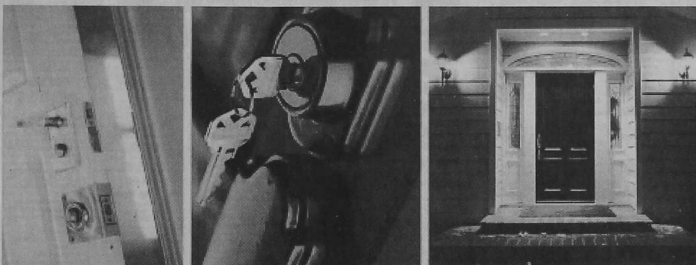
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# REAL ESTATE

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## Police advocate smart ways when it comes to home security

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

Lt. Debra Newsome of the Canton Police Department knows exterior illumination goes a long way toward making your home less of a break-in target.

"Illuminate your house," said Newsome, special services lieutenant for the Canton department. "I like the motion ones." The motion-activated lights let you know if someone's approaching your home.

"Thieves are looking for concealment," she said. "Anything you can do to harden the target is what we tell people."

Many people install home alarm systems, the lieutenant said, and advertise that outside their home with a window sign. She also advocates for good locks on windows and doors.

A solid front door is best, Newsome said, rather than one with a window a thief can break and reach through

to open a door. "They look really pretty and they have the beveled glass. You want really a solid, solid door."

Homeowners often put a dowel in a sliding door's track to prevent entry from outside. Newsome said places like Home Depot and Lowe's sell many braces for various doors and windows, but you always have to think about fire safety when getting out quickly from inside, she emphasized.

Newsome said many people put screws in tracks to keep windows from going all the way up, and there are also manufactured items for that. Thieves can easily get through just a plain screen open in warm weather, she said.

Newsome and her department have a booklet, "How Secure Is Your Home?," available there. It lists a number of home security tips.

Canton like other communities has a false alarm ordinance which begins with a couple warnings. "It's not

etched in stone," she said.

"We do try to work with people." Weather can sometimes cause false alarms, she said, adding you can be cited for repeated human error.

Pets can cause trouble with motion-activated alarms, and Newsome doesn't believe those are necessary.

"That's huge," she said of keeping an eye out for your neighbors. "Knowing who your neighbors are, knowing their patterns." Community Watch in Canton and similar programs in other communities help. "Now, most people don't know their neighbors," she said, adding you should only confide vacation plans in a neighbor you trust.

Newsome also said snow removal and mowing are key when you're away, along with having newspapers stopped and mail held. She shovels the driveway for her neighbor who's away.

"All it does is advertise to somebody you're not home," Newsome said.

"Crime happens every-

where," she said, noting Canton's crime is mostly property focusing on larceny from autos and home invasions.

Home invasions usually happen when the home is empty, she said, often during the day when people are at work. Whether vacationing or working, you can use a TV or radio to create noise inside.

For vacationers, a TV or radio can be put on a timer. Newsome said to vary light timers, rather than the same rigid pattern every day: "Make it appear as though you're home."

She also said to lock car doors, remove valuables and take your garage door opener. You should lock your interior garage door as well.

"And definitely lock your doors. Roll up your windows. If you see something suspicious, don't wait. You're not bothering us, that's our job," she said of calling the non-emergency number. "Just call."

jbrown@hometownlife.com

## Co-op foreclosure differs

By Robert Meisner  
Guest Columnist

Q: Can you give me some information about a foreclosure in a co-op, as opposed to a condo?

A: First, you get rid of the person not paying the maintenance fees and you get a new shareholder liable for future obligations. In most instances in a co-op, a corporation has a first lien on the shares so it is ahead of the bank and gets paid in full before the bank gets dime one.

If the bank forecloses and takes back the apartment, in most instances, a subsequent sale is still subject to board approval, just like any other prospective purchaser of a co-op unit. Moreover, if the bank wants the shares transferred to it, it has to pay all of the back charges and has to stay current going forward. Unfortunately, the opposite is the case in the condo situation. There is usually a bank ahead of the condo association so in a condo foreclosure, unless there has been an assignment of the mortgage after the association lien is recorded, the bank will take priority, but this issue is the subject of a case where the condo association is seeking leave to appeal with the Michigan Supreme Court.

Q: My neighbor just dedicated some land to the city, but, frankly, I believe I had adverse possession to a substantial portion of that land before it was dedicated. I think there is a statute barring adverse possession against the government, so do I have any chance?

A: You are best advised to see a condemnation and/or real estate attorney in your jurisdiction, but in a recent case from the appellate court in Washington State, the court indicated on a case with similar facts that the statute providing immunity from adverse possession on a governmental entity did not apply when the adverse possession had occurred while the property was still privately owned. In effect, because the adverse possession was against a private owner and was complete before the dedication, the title had vested in the adverse possessor and the former owner had no interest to pass to the city.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition, available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping/handling. He also wrote *Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium*, \$24.95 plus \$5.00 shipping/handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit [meisner-law.com](http://meisner-law.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

## HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 3-7, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON		
48298 Chesterfield Dr S	\$360,000	
1228 E Franciscan Ct	\$175,000	
45482 Fountain View Dr	\$305,000	
50149 Jackson Ln	\$248,000	
8453 May Apple Ct	\$214,000	
44068 N Timberland Dr	\$165,000	
44227 Postmill Ct	\$146,000	
2455 Premier Ln	\$77,000	
41854 Ravenwood St	\$140,000	
43509 W Arbor Way Dr	\$64,000	
12211 W Crystal Cir	\$160,000	
49650 Warren Rd	\$200,000	

2480 Woodmont Dr E	\$180,000	
GARDEN CITY		
33721 Alta St	\$400,000	
32212 Alvin St	\$34,000	
215 Helen St	\$60,000	
33451 Kathryn St	\$69,000	
LIVONIA		
16020 Alpine Dr	\$237,000	
34950 Andrea Ct	\$275,000	
11446 Brookfield St	\$143,000	
11473 Cavel St	\$85,000	
14147 Deering St	\$88,000	
15118 Fairfield St	\$27,000	
18620 Filmore St	\$75,000	
15097 Inkster Rd	\$33,000	
11446 Mayfield St	\$127,000	
17526 Parklane St	\$150,000	
35197 Vargo St	\$280,000	
32818 Vermont St	\$129,000	
14081 Warner Ct	\$143,000	
NORFOLK		
18222 Cascade Dr	\$470,000	
16196 Crystal Downs E	\$543,000	

49290 Freestone Dr	\$312,000	
49302 Freestone Dr	\$337,000	
18744 Grande Vista Dr	\$160,000	
738 Grandview St	\$620,000	
17820 Manorwood Dr	\$620,000	
18086 Maple Hill Ct	\$390,000	
19555 Mariner Ct	\$70,000	
613 Novi St	\$233,000	
49298 Parkshore Ct	\$570,000	
50431 Rose Ter	\$578,000	
48902 Running Trout Ln	\$370,000	
39668 Southwind Ln	\$234,000	
18417 Stoneridge Ct	\$775,000	
41885 Waterfall Rd	\$273,000	
PLYMOUTH		
48040 Ashwood Dr	\$415,000	
165 Hamme Ave	\$150,000	
40955 Ivywood Ln	\$201,000	
790 York St	\$100,000	
REDFORD		
18717 Denby	\$36,000	
11386 Garfield	\$47,000	
15220 Garfield	\$8,000	

19310 Garfield	\$35,000	
20600 Glenmore	\$14,000	
25397 Ivanhoe	\$31,000	
15837 Kinloch	\$13,000	
17544 Macarthur	\$45,000	
9051 Nathaline	\$54,000	
9229 Riverview	\$40,000	
WESTLAND		
38358 Parkhurst Dr	\$218,000	
7424 August Ave	\$85,000	
33921 Avondale St	\$120,000	
7662 Cherrywood Dr	\$167,000	
37771 Colonial Dr	\$45,000	
32617 Fairchild St	\$131,000	
34615 Hugh St	\$63,000	
8433 Hugh St	\$63,000	
35198 June Dr	\$16,000	
8270 Perrin Ave	\$86,000	
1455 S John Hix St	\$43,000	
30471 Steinhardt Dr	\$65,000	
1954 Withshire St	\$85,000	

## HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 19-23, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS		
16991 Buckingham Ave	\$160,000	
31503 Sleggy Hollow Ln	\$450,000	
BINGHAM FARMS		
24094 Bingham Pointe Dr	\$405,000	
29750 Bristol St	\$341,000	
BIRMINGHAM		
1171 E Lincoln St	\$400,000	
385 Fernside Ave	\$299,000	
1898 Henrietta St	\$198,000	
608 Humphrey Ave	\$610,000	
1516 W Lincoln	\$281,000	

2351 Yorkshire Rd	\$122,000	
BLOOMFIELD HILLS		
5060 Forest Way	\$320,000	
3875 Lakeland	\$850,000	
1149 Hguyen Cir	\$194,000	
750 Kennebec Ct	\$490,000	
3698 South Blvd	\$150,000	
1910 Tiverton Rd	\$2,200,000	
6984 Woodbank Dr	\$170,000	
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP		
1238 Copperwood Dr	\$660,000	
488 Fox Hills Dr S # 6-7	\$55,000	
COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP		
6124 Borowy Dr	\$193,000	
2015 Glen Iris Dr	\$167,000	
3276 Lochmore Ct	\$196,000	
FARMINGTON		
3785 Thomas Ct	\$196,000	
33976 Glenview Dr	\$138,000	
FARMINGTON HILLS		
32239 Alameda St	\$57,000	

22057 Atlantic Pointe	\$58,000	
29921 Greenboro St	\$155,000	
34070 Harlowshire St	\$78,000	
31452 Hunters Circle Dr	\$127,000	
35663 Johnstown Rd	\$213,000	
17793 Manchester Ln	\$272,000	
34024 Northwick St	\$223,000	
21156 Parklane St	\$209,000	
29800 W 12 Mile Rd	\$95,000	
27653 W Echo Vly Unit 212	\$51,000	
LATHRUP VILLAGE		
17551 Redwood	\$140,000	
MILFORD		
973 Manderville Dr	\$190,000	
760 Ridgeway	\$150,000	
NOVI		
24465 Bordenhill	\$152,000	
21943 Clover Ln	\$250,000	
24371 Fairway Hills Dr	\$135,000	
44625 Huntington Dr	\$130,000	
38079 Jasper Rdg	\$130,000	

40788 Lenox Park Dr	\$225,000	
47346 Scarlet Dr N	\$230,000	
30240 Viewcrest Dr	\$233,000	
39805 Village Wood Ln	\$60,000	
47250 W 11 Mile Rd	\$90,000	
SOUTH LYON		
54905 Brentwood Dr	\$40,000	
24627 Brompton Way	\$40,000	
24355 Glenview Dr	\$40,000	
1155 Horseshoe Dr	\$240,000	
24418 Martindale Rd	\$184,000	
185 Wellington	\$160,000	
SOUTHFIELD		
27590 Bradford Ln	\$69,000	
30130 Brentwood	\$69,000	
19447 Nadol Dr	\$79,000	
30271 Spring River Dr	\$85,000	
WHITE LAKES		
737 Hilltop Dr	\$203,000	
964 Sunnyside Blvd	\$67,000	

## REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

### Investors

A program on "Do It Yourself Rental Property Management" will be held 5:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, April 11, at Club Venetian, on John R just north of 12 Mile in Madison Heights. It's being offered by the Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland. The seminar is free to members, \$20 for nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742, [www.REIAofOakland.com](http://www.REIAofOakland.com), or

e-mail [renewins@aol.com](mailto:renewins@aol.com).

Many investors think renting out their investment property is easy, but that's not the case.

There will be a class 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 6, at the Royal Oak Senior Center, on Marais, also sponsored by the Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland. It's part of a series of 10 classes, and will cover "Financial Analysis of Investing." Cost is \$49 plus \$10 for materials.

Call (248) 787-7925 or online at [AddedValueRealty.com](http://AddedValueRealty.com).

### Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures and what it takes to get started. Many sellers are misinformed or not sure about how the procedures work. Organizers will also dis-

cuss the internal workings of short sales and the different steps involved. Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon. Additional parking across the street in back. Please call the office at (248) 782-7130 or e-mail [jane.quantum@gmail.com](mailto:jane.quantum@gmail.com) for your reservation or additional information.

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