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Charity Mom2Mom

Canton Newcomers and Neighbors hosts the group's annual charity Mom2Mom sale 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the Summit on the Park, 4600 Summit Parkway.

Thirty participants will host their own sale table of maternity clothes, children's clothes of all sizes, toys, video games, books and those bulky kids' items that take up too much space at home.

The Mom2Mom Sale also features a bonus area of local businesses that cater to moms and their families. Admission is \$1 per person age 13 and up and strollers are welcome. Previous years have had 300 attendees. Proceeds benefit Canton's Open Door Ministry Food Pantry.

For more information, visit cantonnewcomersandneighbors.org, e-mail nrybar@yahoo.com or call (734) 981-0486.

Breaking ground

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano will lead the official groundbreaking Thursday, May 16, for the First Responders Memorial to be built in Hines Park, at the corner of Hines Drive and Hagerty in Plymouth Township.

The Memorial will honor fallen First Responders of fire/EMS and police departments within Wayne County. It is slated to be completed in September.

Attendees will include Wayne County commissioners, mayors, fire/EMS, police chiefs and their union representatives. The program starts at noon.

Better site

The official State of Michigan website has undergone a facelift, and the redesign of Michigan.gov is now using a responsive design that detects a visitor's screen size to automatically adjust the full site content to display correctly, state officials said. This is especially helpful for those who visit the site from a mobile device, ensuring an optimal viewing experience.

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Canton services weighed amid 2014 budget talks

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton property tax revenues are projected to increase 2 percent next year, potentially signaling a long-awaited yet gradual rebound even as local officials remain cautious on spending.

"We do believe there's light at the end of the tunnel with property tax revenues starting to grow a little," Finance Director Wendy Trumbull said.

Even so, Canton officials expect another round of 10 furlough days, employee pay freezes and austere spending measures in 2014 as local leaders remain cautious after a years-long economic slump.

Just five months into this year, elected leaders and administration officials gathered Thursday evening inside township hall to begin drafting a budget blueprint for next year — a move that follows Supervisor Phil

LaJoy's insistence on multi-year planning.

"It will be that road map that we need," he said.

Here's a closer look at highlights among Canton Township's departments:

Public Safety
Director Todd Mutchler said overtime costs since 2009 have been slashed 61 percent for the fire department and 43 percent for police. He rolled out a chart

indicating Canton, with 62 sworn firefighters and 86 police officers, has operated more efficiently than communities of comparable size.

Moreover, Mutchler said Canton places 81 percent of its police officers on patrol, a higher percentage than Livonia, Westland, Farmington Hills, Ann Arbor, Waterford and Clinton townships, Southfield, Troy and Dear-

Please see BUDGET, A3



Joseph Grinage of Canton High School has a hug for Amy Rumschlag.

Students praised for their turnarounds

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer



Corey Aleman, a student at Field Elementary, thanks his teachers and family. In background, Doug Sewesky, Super Bowl manager.

The Plymouth-Canton Community School District paused Thursday to honor two dozen students who overcame difficulties to achieve academic goals — and many times reset those goals even higher.

The district's 17th annual Turnaround Achievement Awards luncheon, sponsored by Super Bowl Lanes in Canton Township, was at Fox Hills Country Club in Salem Township. The 24 students honored — from district elementary, middle and high school programs — attended with parents, grandparents and siblings, plus district educators.

Please see TURNAROUND, A2

Relay for Life countdown is on

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Relay for Life of Canton organizers are hopeful they will reach their \$263,250 goal as scores of fundraising teams intensify their efforts as the 24-hour event draws closer.

"It's going really well," said Liz Evans, an American Cancer Society community representative and staff partner for Canton's 15th Relay. "We're ahead of where we were last year."

Canton's event — the largest community-based Relay in southeast Michigan — starts at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 18, in Heritage Park.

Sarah Cousineau, a Canton resident and marketing manager for Plymouth-based Community Financial Credit Union, said the team dubbed Community Financial Money Bags hopes to reach its goal of raising \$10,000.

Giving back

"We do it because we are committed to giving back to the communities where our credit unions are," she said. "Cancer is a horrible disease, and we want to do what we can to get rid of it."

Community Financial has branches in Canton. She said the credit union has been involved in Relay for a decade, and the company is planning a silent auction during the next few days to ramp up its fundraising efforts.

Evans said the company is among 59 teams that have organized to raise money.

Jon LaFever, Canton Leisure Services recreation facilities supervisor in charge of Relay logistics, said workers by Thursday are expected to start setting up 70-80 tents in Heritage Park to accommodate teams, including one large tent for cancer survivors.

LaFever is expecting another successful event for Canton.

"We're pretty proud of it," he said. "Canton will certainly be ready."

Evans has lauded Canton for hosting the largest community-based Relay event in southeast Michigan, saying the community "has really grabbed onto the event and made it their own."

A little more

Canton raised \$255,000 last year, alone. She said the goal each year is to try to raise a little more than the previous year.

It's not too late to get involved in raising or donating money. Go to www.relayforlife.org/cantonmi,

Please see RELAY, A3

Judge orders trial in predator case

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Jesse Hermann, 34, of Walled Lake, is facing trial on charges he befriended a Canton woman online and sought to have sex with her and her 3-year-old daughter.

Hermann could face 20 years in prison if he is convicted of two counts each of child sexually abusive activity and using a computer and the Internet to communicate with her's

mother to commit a crime.

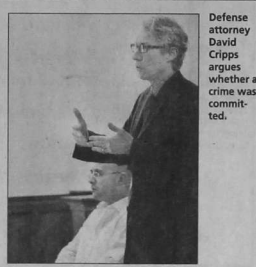
Concluding a two-part preliminary hearing, 35th District Judge Michael Geroul ruled Thursday that Hermann should stand trial amid allegations he made sexual advances through Facebook instant messages and went to the Holiday Inn Express near Lotz Road and Michigan Avenue on Feb. 13 to meet with the mother and her child.

Authorities say Hermann was arrested and didn't realize he had communi-

cated online with a Canton detective after the mother notified police of Facebook-based sexual chats.

Detective Andrew Kelley testified Thursday that police waited in an unmarked car for Hermann to arrive in Canton, then arrested him as he drove away. Kelley said Hermann told him that he left because he "had a really bad feeling" about the situation.

Please see TRIAL, A3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cops: I-275 auto crash involved suicidal man

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A suicidal 25-year-old Canton man wasn't expected to survive after he drove his SUV into the I-275 median at Cherry Hill Road, slammed into a concrete pillar and was ejected from the vehicle, authorities said.

"It's a suicide," Michigan State Police Lt. Mike Shaw said Thursday afternoon.

The man was taken to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti after the one-vehicle accident happened around noon, Canton Deputy Fire Chief Gregory Sprys-Tellner said. He declined to identify the man.

Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said the driver was traveling northbound along I-275 when his vehicle veered into the median, struck the concrete pillar and overturned.

"The driver was ejected," he said.

A Canton police officer happened to be near the scene and heard the crash, Schreiner said.

Canton Township Police, Michigan State Police and Canton firefighter paramedics rushed to the scene of the accident, which snarled traffic along the busy interstate.

Schreiner said Michigan Department of Transportation workers went to the scene to investigate what damage, if any, might have been done to the concrete pillar and the Cherry Hill overpass.

"The bridge appears to be structurally sound," Schreiner said.

The man's identity hadn't been released.

TURNAROUND

Continued from page A1

"This is the most unique of all the awards that are going on right now," said Jeremy Hughes, the district's superintendent.

"It took a remarkable amount of effort and determination to get here," Doug Sewesky, the general manager at Super Bowl and the program's master of ceremonies, told honorees. "You made a commitment and you had the determination to see it through."

'It wasn't easy'

With each award, the student's sponsor — a teacher or counselor — told the audience how the student had overcome an attitude or behavioral problem or poor work habits — and sometimes more than one issue — to put forth their best efforts, often improve their grades and become classroom leaders and role models.

Nearly all of the students spoke, too, offering thanks to family members and teachers and encouragement to peers.

"From day one, Trinia understood the importance of hard work," resource room teacher Erin Allen said of Trinia Johnson, a fifth-grader at Gallimore Elementary. Trinia improved her reading level

by 13 months in a five-month period, Allen said, and is reading at grade level and tutoring other students.

"It wasn't easy, but I kept trying and it got easier and easier," Trinia said.

"He really came to us with a lot of struggles and challenges," teacher Colleen England said of Charles (C.J.) Lyons, an East Middle School eighth-grader. "He is a self-starter," since his turnaround, England added. "He comes in, he gets started right away. He helps other kids."

"He has become the poliest, most motivated student and he's set his sights



Trinia Johnson of Gallimore Elementary is congratulated by school board member Sheila Patton.



Corey Buffa of Salem is congratulated by Diane Voight. Diane and Mark Voight own Super Bowl in Canton, and sponsor of the awards. At right, Superintendent Jeremy Hughes watches.

on doing something with his life after high school," Salem High School Assistant Principal Allie Suffrey said of senior Cory Buffa. Buffa plans to study welding, a skill in high demand lately, after graduating.

Some of the students honored, particularly the older ones, offered blunt advice and assessments of their pre-turnaround situations.

"Some kids learn it the hard way. They have to have some kind of failure before

they succeed," said Bradley Babcock, a Canton High School junior. "Try your best in school. Don't give up. The work ethic will stay with you as an adult."

"I always knew I was capable of doing well in school, I just never had the motivation," said Isaac Bessey, a Plymouth High School senior praised by teacher Victoria Wysocki for improving his grades. "School can be a lot more enjoyable when you work on



Sherry Suffrey introduces Jamey Eatmon, a student at Central Middle School.

something you can be proud of, like a 4.0."

'Shows what's right'

Mark Voight, who owns Super Bowl Lanes with his wife Diane, told the group the awards ceremony is his favorite event of the year and he and his wife "get our warm fuzzies out of doing this." He spoke to the students of personal challenges everyone will face in life. "You have taken a major step," he said.

"We all hear about the things that are wrong with the schools," Voight said after the ceremony. "This shows what's right about them."

Also honored Thursday were: Corey Aleman, Field Elementary; Alexis Pastula-Wilson, Miller Elementary; Jackson Maurer, Tonda Elementary; Jamey Eatmon and Maren Kennedy, both of Central Middle School; Sabrina Haddad and Austin Jackson, both of Discovery Middle School; Sean Neal, Pioneer Middle School; Ruby Luna and Alex Volante, both of West Middle School; Joseph Grinage, Austin Poo, Alexander Brushhaber and Rashaud Edwards, all of Canton High School; Jackie Alber and Morgan Vetter, both of Plymouth High School; and Alicia Fowler, Chynna Colton and Taylor Payne, all of the Starkweather Academy.

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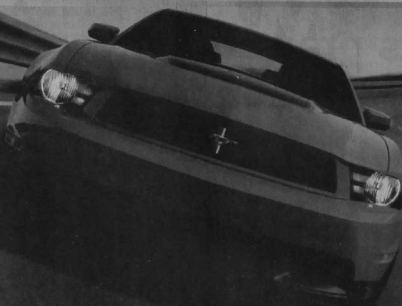
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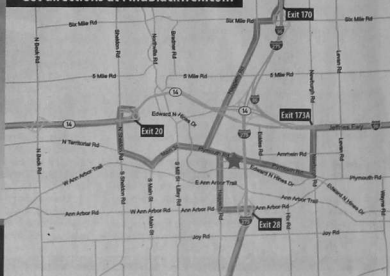
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BUDGET

Continued from page A1

born. Only Shelby Township, at 83 percent, fared better among the comparison.

"We believe that's all part of the effectiveness of our operation," he said.

Mutchler has proposed reinstating a second deputy police chief position that was eliminated in 2010, saying the vacancy has forced patrol supervisors to assume more administrative duties and divert their attention from street patrols. The department is expected to save \$386,000 during the first half of this year by not filling sworn positions in the police budget.

Mutchler's analysis appeared to draw support from LaJoy, who said, "I think we can handle the economics of it."

One of the fire department's biggest proposals involves buying a new, \$759,000 ladder truck to replace one whose frame and certain components date back to 1975.

Municipal Services

Director Tim Faas said the number of department employees has been slashed from 90 in 2005 to 65, as Canton's growth halted. However, he said a new building spurt may indicate a need to fill three vacant positions — a utility inspector, a public works clerk and a site inspector.

Faas said the township needs to consider improving paved areas at the Canton Softball Center, Summit on the Park and Independence Park. He also cited tentative construction projects such as a water main extension along Ridge Road from Cherry Hill to Proctor.

Leisure Services

Director Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz said energy conservation measures initiated among township buildings with Chevron have reached the 90-percent completion mark, positioning Canton for long-range savings.

Officials, however, will need to consider spending \$50,000 for a new foundation for the Canton Historical Museum, a historic one-room schoolhouse that closed in 2012 after it was learned water had seeped in and damaged the site.

Bilbrey-Honsowetz said her department in June will unveil its plans for youth and teen programs that are being moved from The B.L.O.C.K., a center on Michigan Avenue land that officials have chosen to sell to a developer. Moreover, local officials will decide by mid-June whether to continue spending \$15,000 a year for Canton Express, a shuttle that takes 40-50 riders each day to and from Ann Arbor, particularly employees of University of Michigan facilities.

Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin bristled, meanwhile, amid a discussion about the Western Wayne County Therapeutic Recreation program, saying Wayne County slashed funding to nine communities that once received \$75,000 in total to provide services to the disabled and other vulnerable residents.

McLaughlin lambasted the county for eliminating such funding while, as of late, considering spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to stage concerts Downriver in Elizabeth Park. "It's unconscionable," she said.

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RELAY

Continued from page A1

contact Evans by email at elizabeth.evans@cancer.org or call her at (248) 663-3452.

Evans encouraged Relay participants to invite a survivor to the opening ceremony and to walk a survivor lap. This year's theme is "Dream Big, Hope Big, Relay Big."

Evans said Relay teams ratchet up their fund-

raising within the last few days before the event. Schools, businesses, churches, community organizations and others are involved in the home stretch.

"These are the days that we raise the most money for the event," she said. "The teams are extremely fired up. The participants are fired up."

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TRIAL

Continued from page A1

"I decided I wouldn't do it, so I left and headed south on Lotz Road," Kelley quoted Hermann as saying during a post-arrest interview.

Defense attorney David Cripps argued in court that Hermann abandoned his plans and shouldn't be punished for thoughts or fantasies he didn't carry out.

"It's the officer who's making all the arrangements to dupe my client into this," Cripps said.

However, Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Keith Clark said Hermann committed crimes from the moment he began communicating online with the mother and asking if he could have sex with her and the 3-year-old girl.



BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jesse Hermann is facing trial on charges he sought sex with a Canton woman and her 3-year-old daughter.

"We don't have to wait for (the girl) to be sexually assaulted for it to be a crime," Clark said. "It is similar to yelling fire in a theater. The overt act is the act of communication."

Gerou rejected Cripps's argument that actions by police amounted to entrapment of Hermann. "It's a common police

tactic for these kinds of crimes," Gerou said, pointing to the "relentless communications" between Hermann and the mother before she notified authorities.

Moreover, Clark said Hermann has made statements that he has long had a desire to act out the situations he described on Facebook, revealing how he wanted to kiss, fondle and have sexual contact with the mother and her daughter.

In March, the mother and Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Eric Sterbis read aloud in court many of the Facebook instant messages. In one, Hermann is accused of saying, "I dream of a lady sharing her daughter with me."

The mother said Hermann also asked her to take pictures of her daughter in a bathtub. Hermann, described by

Cripps as a former truck driver and self-employed artist, remains jailed with a \$100,000 cash bond as he awaits the outcome of his case.

Cripps asked for a lower bond Thursday, saying Hermann could be placed on an electronic tether and ordered to comply with other conditions.

"We don't believe he would be a danger to society if released with strict conditions such as a tether," Cripps said.

Gerou refused to reduce the bond and agreed with Clark that Hermann is a potential risk. Said Clark: "He has admitted to a long-term interest in sex with children."

Kelley had testified in March that Hermann confessed that "his intention was to have sexual relations with (the mother) and her 3-year-old daughter."

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Gallimore students sweet on tart cherry as state fruit

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Students at Gallimore Elementary School in Canton have been trying for years to convince state legislators Michigan needs an official fruit, and that the official fruit should be the tart cherry. On Monday, fourth- and fifth-graders at the school found out they're beginning to receive more support for the idea.

A day before heading to Lansing on a field trip to see how the state government works, Gallimore students found out from the horse's mouth where a bill making the tart cherry Michigan's official fruit stands from the woman who introduced it. State Rep. Dian Slavens, (D-Canton), has re-introduced a bill that would do just that.

"The bill is in committee right now," Slavens told the students during an appearance in their classroom Tuesday. "There are other bills being considered, and then we can start talking about this one."

The effort started several years ago with a letter-writing campaign conducted by the students. As a class project, they decided the state needed an official fruit and, after much research, decided that since Michigan is one of the biggest growers of the tart cherry, that should be the fruit.



Fifth-grader Trinia Johnson and her classmates mix the ingredients for a good cherry pie.

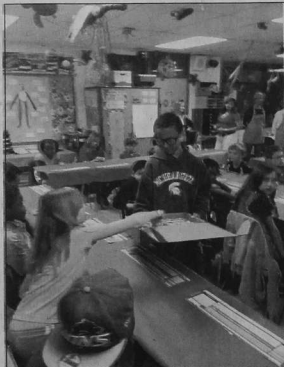
It has been a student-driven project from the start.

'Really into it'

"The kids are really into it," said Gallimore teacher Wendy Gravin. "They've done the research, and they know it frontwards and backwards. I've got kids from years past who ask if we've ever gotten it passed. (Slavens) was the first one to say 'let's take this and run with it.' We're hoping it's going to start growing legs and

taking off."

It grew some legs Tuesday with visits from Slavens and Barbara McCallahan, the director of community affairs for U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, who pointed out Stabenow got into politics originally as a "citizen lobbyist," which she likened to the letter-writing campaign the students are conducting now. Slavens introduced a bill a couple of years ago that went nowhere, and recently re-introduced legislation that is now in



Fifth-grader Jacoby Smith passes out packets of cherries to his classmates.

the government operations committee.

Slavens said she's impressed with the stick-to-it attitude the kids have shown.

"Agriculture is important in Michigan, and this is an important bill," she said. "These students researched it, found the tart cherry is grown mostly in Michigan, and it provides a lot of nutritional value. It's getting students early on involved in government. I'm so impressed."

Also impressed: Mike

and Denise Busley, the founders/owners of Grand Traverse Pie Company. The couple made the trek from Traverse City to meet with Gravin's fourth- and fifth-graders Tuesday (and to help them bake their own cherry pies).

Denise Busley said the chance to "tell kids they have a voice" was too good an opportunity to pass up.

"It's a beautiful thing," she said. "Cherries mean the world to us, and for these kids to real-



Wendy Gravin's Gallimore Elementary School students await the ingredients with which to fill their waiting pie crusts.

ly understand all of the medical qualities the cherries have and what it means to the state in terms of all the people we employ through agriculture ... It's a great thing. Why would we not support that?"

'All things cherry'

Nanci Jenkins is an assistant store manager at the Ann Arbor location of Cherry Republic, a store where "we're all things cherry." One of Gravin's students wandered into the store recently and told staffers about the kids' legislative drive, and Jenkins was there Tuesday to offer her support.

"The cherry is the perfect (state fruit), and I think it's great the kids took the initiative," Jenkins said. "It's exciting."

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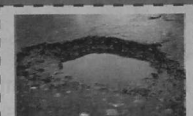
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COUPONS EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2013

Canton killer gets life in prison

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Canton man has been sentenced to life in prison for killing two people whose badly burned bodies were found early last year inside an abandoned house on Detroit's west side.

Charles R. Young, 44, is facing a life term without parole after a Wayne County Circuit Court jury convicted him of two counts of first-degree murder and disinterment/mutilation of dead bodies.

Young was recently sentenced by Judge Cynthia Gray Hathaway for killing David Simard, 47, of Westland and Felicidad Tabares, 46, of Detroit, whose bodies were found by Detroit police on Feb. 27, 2012, inside a burned-out home on Proctor.

"The victim's throats were cut open, they were then taken into the Detroit house which was burned in an effort to conceal the dead bodies," Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Maria Miller said. "The motive



Young



Nafsu

was believed to involve drugs."

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy had indicated after Young's arrest that Simard and Tabares had been killed two days before Detroit

police found their bodies. She has said the killings occurred during the early morning hours of Feb. 25 in the \$200 block of Chopin, just a few streets from the scene of the fire.

Authorities had indicated the fire was set in an attempt to cover up the earlier killings.

A second defendant, 49-year-old Salim G. Nafsu of Oak Park, has been sentenced to a six-year, four-month term in prison after a jury convicted him of disinterment/mutilation of dead bodies. He was acquitted of one

first-degree murder charge, and a second homicide count had been dismissed prior to trial, according to Wayne County Circuit Court records.

Detroit police found the bodies of Simard and Tabares after responding to a fire around 3:15 p.m. Feb. 27, 2012, on Proctor, near I-94 and Central Street.

Canton police have said local authorities had no involvement in the case.

dclm@hometownlife.com

(313) 222-2238 | Twitter: @CantonObserver

Family: Korean War vet courageous to the end

A funeral Mass was held Tuesday for Leon "Bill" Williams of Livonia, a Korean War veteran featured in a book titled *Portraits of Service*. Williams died May 2 at age 86.

Daughter Sharon Williams said her father showed the same courage and strength during his final months that he had shown while serving from 1950-52 as an MP in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. His valiant wartime service earned him a Bronze



Mr. Williams

Star.

In January, he fractured his neck during a fall and was paralyzed from the neck down and placed on a ventilator. He learned to read lips and use white boards. He tried for two months to be weaned from the ventilator, but was never successful, finally succumbing to pneumonia,

his daughter said. "He worked hard until the end."

Portraits of Service, written by Canton Township author Rob Miller, features 70 veterans from several conflicts.

In an interview with the *Observer* last November, Williams said he agreed to tell about his experiences in the book because he wanted to represent the soldiers who didn't come back.

"I just feel I'm representing other guys. It's not just Bill Williams,"

he said at the time. "I'm representing other guys that they couldn't talk to."

Previously, Williams had shared his painful memories with no one, not even family members. One of those memories was the suicide of his company commander, a captain, who had received a Dear John letter.

Williams was drafted into the Army in September 1950 at age 23. He had tried to enlist during World War II,

but was turned down because he had injured his knees playing football.

After returning from the war, Williams worked as a financial advisor for 50 years. Up until January, he was still working 30 hours a week with his son, Bill Williams Jr., at Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. in Plymouth.

Williams was married to Nancie for 60 years. They had three children — Sharon, Bill Jr. and Mary Beth (Stan) Niesci-

er — and six granddaughters.

An avid outdoorsman, he enjoyed hunting and boating on weekends in Houghton Lake. Williams was also passionate about giving back to his community through youth hockey programs. For 30 years he coached hockey with his son, president of the Tricounty Hockey League.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 142, Memphis, TN 38142.

Non-local bankers think The Chiefs is a reality show about CEOs.

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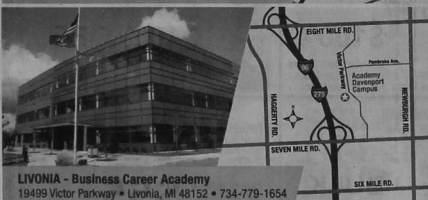
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Wednesday, May 15th at 6 p.m.

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& Crohn's Disease

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(248) 615-1533
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AAUW TRIVIA NIGHT

Date/Time: Friday, May 17 at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:15.

Location: The Barn at Colony Farms on Colony Farms Dr. in Plymouth (south of Ann Arbor Rd. between Beck and Ridge Roads.)

Details: The Plymouth-Canton branch of the American Association of University Women is hosting Trivia Night. Have fun with friends and family by putting your knowledge of facts and facts to a good use. Optional games will include Mulligans, Survivor, and Dead or Alive. Refreshments will be available and money prizes will be given for 1st and 2nd place. Proceeds will benefit the AAUW Scholarship Fund. Tickets are \$20 per person. For tickets and more information call Sharon at 734-453-5009. Reservations required. Advance purchase recommended as space is limited. There will also be a collection of men and women's toiletries for Freedom House in Detroit. Appetizers and desserts will be served.

Contact: For more information contact Becky Copenhagen at bgcopenhaver@yahoo.com or (734) 981-6023.

HEISE HOURS

Date: Monday, May 13 (Canton and Northville); Friday, May 17 (Plymouth).

Times/Locations: 10-11 a.m., Parthenon Convey



Young Life

The Belleville Young Life youth group held its first 5K Fun Run / Walk Saturday, May 4, at the Van Buren Park. It was a great day for the runners, walkers, and the cheering support section. Participants enjoyed the perfect morning or evening and fellowship. The overall winner, Eric Schaefer, burned up the course with a time of 15:18 minutes. The winners in the Masters division were Kathy Kerrigan and Leon Wright; in Adult division were Chelsea Joseph and Eric Schaefer; in the Teens division were Lauren Nail and Jacob Roza; and the Under 12 division was Cole Kerrigan. Belleville Young Life is sponsoring its annual golf tournament Saturday, June 29. For more information, call Greg Siviy at (734) 252-9395.

Island, 39910 Ford Road (east of I-275) in Canton; Noon to 1 p.m., Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady in Northville; 10-11 a.m. Friday, May 17, Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main.

Details: State Rep. Kurt Heise invites local residents to meet with him to share their perspectives and ask questions. Rep. Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office.

Contact: Residents are

invited to call toll free 1-855-REPURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

BLOOD DRIVES

Dates/Times:
• Monday, May 13, 1:30-7:15 p.m., Trinity Presbyterian Church
• Friday, May 17, 4-7:45 p.m., Pioneer Middle School
• Tuesday, May 28, 1:30-7:15 p.m., St. Michael's Lutheran Church
• Wednesday, May 29, 12:30-6:15 p.m., Tondia Elementary School

Details: The American Red Cross sponsors blood drives during the above times at the scheduled locations.

Appointments can be made, but walk-ins are welcome.

Contact: To make an appointment for any of these

drives contact Diane Risko at (313) 549-7052 or email Diane.Risko@redcross.org

JAZZ @ THE ELKS

Date/Time: Tuesday, May 28, 7-10 p.m.
Location: Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: The Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 brings back another fine series of Jazz @ The Elks. The evening features the Terry Lower Trio with vocalist Eddie Evans-Hyde, with Terry playing Keyboard, Ray Tim on Bass, and Jim Ryan on drums. There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres.

Contact: For more information, call (734) 453-1780 or email plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com.

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) 347-7100 or jbtone716@comcast.net or Alice at 248-348-9610 or dachrenko@hotmail.com

MEDICARE/MEDICAID COUNSELING

Date/Time: Wednesday, June 5, 1-3 p.m.

Location: United Home Health Services, 2200 Canton Center, Suite 250 in Canton

Details: United Home Health Services offers free counseling with a certified MMAP (Medicare Medical Assistance Program) Counselor. The counselor can help understand Medicare/Medicaid eligibility and the various plans, apply for Medicaid, research and enroll in Medicare Part D drug insurance, understand Medicare supplemental plans, find pharmaceutical assistance programs, identify and report Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse issues, and explore long term care insurance options. No reservations necessary.

Contact: United Home Health Services at (734) 981-8820 or visit the MMAP website at www.mmapinc.org/pages/about.html

BIOPOLAR SUPPORT

Date/Time: Second and fourth Tuesday of the

month, 6-7:30 p.m.

Location: Lincoln Behavioral Services Center, 14500 Sheldon, Suite 1608 in Plymouth

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

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

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.

Contact: For more information contact Collen Brown craftshow@plymouthfallfestival.com or (734) 453-1614.

DIABETES SUPPORT

Date/Time: 2nd Thursday of the month, 2-3:30 p.m. Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main

Details: The Plymouth Lions Club is sponsoring a new Adult Diabetes Support Group. Fern Vining, a registered nurse, certified diabetes educator and Plymouth Lion, will be the group facilitator. There is no charge to attend. Topics for discussion will focus on understanding diabetes and self management strategies.

Contact: Call Fern Vining at (734) 454-0859.

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OLECRANON BURSTITIS

The term "olecranon buritis" refers to an enlargement of a sac on the underside of the elbow intended to act as a cushion between the elbow bone, called the olecranon, and the skin. The way the elbow naturally rests against a hard surface necessitates the protection the olecranon sac, or bursa as it is called, provides.

When the bursa enlarges, the cause is not inflammation, rather the enlargement results from constant rubbing of the elbow on a hard surface. It is incorrect to believe that a doctor should treat the enlargement by taking fluid from the bursa or at least starting antibiotics or water pills to rid the elbow of its excess fluid.

Just the opposite is true. The cause of the buritis is irritation; the treatment is to remove the irritant. In the case of olecranon buritis, the person must forgo the habit of rubbing the elbow on a table top, car seat elbow rest, or work station arm support.

Removing fluid from the bursa does no good as the elbow being normally in a dependent position will re-accumulate the fluid. That tendency is further aided if the individual does not change the habit of rubbing the elbow on a hard surface.

There are exceptions to the rule of not treating the swelling. If the olecranon bursa is tender to touch and the skin about the bursa is thickened, then the possibility of infection or gout exists. In such cases the doctor will aspirate fluid, analyze it for infection or crystals and treat the buritis according to the findings.

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Students honor veterans USO-style

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

James Parks's explanation for the gap between the buttons and button holes on his jacket was simple: "The material is very cheap."

It didn't matter. Dressed out in the Army uniform he wore some 70 years ago, the Livonia resident was proud as could be as he walked into John Glenn High School on Wednesday evening to attend a USO dance.

The culmination of a year of work by teacher Michele Anderson and students in her history classes, the dance honored World War II veterans and their families, including 18 who did oral histories for the project. "What a great crowd, we have entire families here," Anderson said. "I can't believe how many turned out."

Decorated in patriotic colors, the John Glenn High School cafeteria was filled with an estimated 600 people, ranging from toddlers to folks in their 90s. Several of the veterans like Parks wore their uniforms, while others wore the uniforms of veterans organizations.

Parks had a reason for wearing his. "I'm wearing this because this was the uniform I was married in," said Parks, who was joined by his wife, Sachiko Rose, whom he met while stationed in Japan. He served in the Army for eight years and saw action in The Philippines and Japan and during the Korean War, served two years with General Douglas MacArthur in the Department of Army.

Guests began arriv-



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Wayne resident Dottie Witt is a Korean War veteran, but dressed as World War II's Rosie the Riveter for the dance.

ing well in advance of the 6 p.m. start of the party. As they walked down the hall to the cafeteria, the stopped to look at story boards students created about veterans and defense workers and those things that made the Detroit area the Arsenal of Democracy.

Story boards

Paul Motz, the director of the Westland Youth Assistance, zeroed in on one particular board — his father's.

"He passed away when I was 11," Motz said. "I know he was young when he enlisted in the Navy. He enlisted on his 17th birthday." The story board included photos of Raymond E. Motz, and pages of a log he kept of where he went — places like New Guinea, New Caledonia and Guadalcanal — aboard the USS Harry Lee. He left the service with the rank of seaman first class. Motz believes he may have been a gunner on a troop ship.

The display also includ-

ed a copy of a letter he received from his stepmother, telling him that his father had passed. With mail delivery, it arrived a month later.

"It's so amazing how young they were when they went into the service compared to now," Motz said. "They were united and pulled together."

Veteran Dottie Witt of Westland came dressed as the Rosie the Riveter girl in the "We Can Do It" war poster although her service was during the Korean War. Her table mate, however, was a Rosie — Mildred Courtney — who assembled landing gears at the Rouge. Courtney's mother was a riveter at Willow Run. Witt meets up with Courtney at the Bova VFW Post in Westland where she is a member. "Her husband was killed three days before V (Victory) Day," said Witt, who was passing out "We Can Do It" buttons.

smason@hometownlife.com

(313) 222-6751
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James E. Parks blames cheap material for the fact he couldn't button his uniform jacket. It's the same uniform he wore when he married his wife, Sachiko Rose Parks, who he met while stationed in Japan.

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LWV state president: Scrap EAA

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

The recently developed Education Achievement Authority in Michigan is one endeavor Sue Smith believes should be dropped.

"For the most part, the state Board of Education is being left out of the plans for the EAA," she said. "I was at the hearing on the EAA bill and testifying against it on the basis that it took away the citizen control over schools."

Smith, president of the Michigan League of Women Voters, gave a presentation Thursday at the Livonia Civic Center Library on Michigan's education system and many of the proposed

changes to it.

The statewide League of Women Voters, she said, is watching many of the issues and deciding to take a stance on several of them in regards to education. The league is a non-partisan group that only takes positions on issues and does not endorse candidates.

The EAA was started last year and oversees the operation of 15 low-performing schools in Detroit. Those schools were removed from the Detroit school district and placed into the EAA, which serves as its school district with a board appointed by the governor. Talk of expanding the program across the state has entered the Legislature, with a bill in

the Senate proposing 50 EAAs across the state.

Smith, a former administrator at Central Michigan University and school board member in Mount Pleasant, talked about other changes as well, including the elimination of the cap for charter schools. The cap will be raised to 300 in the entire state by the end of 2014 with no limit on the number of charter schools after that.

Smith said increasing the number of charter schools doesn't necessarily mean education will be improved, as some legislators believe.

"There are some good charter schools and some not-so-good charter schools," she said. "The data that I've seen shows



Speaker Sue Smith takes a question during Thursday's League of Women Voters forum.

that they probably aren't any better at serving kids than are hard to teach than the ordinary public schools."

Angela Ryan, president of the Northwest Wayne County chapter of the league, said this is the first time in several years the local chapter has hosted the state president. She said the topic couldn't be more relevant to northwest Wayne County with the multitude of schools in the area, and Smith's knowledge was more than welcomed.

"It was very logical to have her do the presentation here," Ryan said. "It doesn't happen every day."

Smith touched on the recent talks from Gov. Rick Snyder about changing the way schools are funded. Snyder has proposed a plan that would allot the funding per student to go to the parents as opposed to the local school district as it currently is under Proposal A.

This way, parents could use that funding how they saw fit to educate

their child, be it through traditional school districts, charter schools or cyber academies, which are seeing an increase in Michigan as well.

But Smith said several issues, including transportation of students, have gone unanswered with the proposal.

"The funding would follow the student, who could take any combination of courses from any school district," she said. "There's no details; that's what makes it so hard to deal with."

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Post welcomes police, firefighters at open house

American Legion Post 32 in Livonia will host an Open House Day for law enforcement and firefighters from noon to midnight on Thursday, May 16, during National Police Week.

All police officers and firefighters from Livonia and other area communi-

ties are invited.

The post will be serving "Hero" two-foot subs, fresh fruit, cookies, snacks, pop and bottled water. Carry-outs will be available.

Prizes from Your Michigan Connection will be given to the first 50 who attend and a complimentary weekend stay at the

Holiday Inn Express in Northville will be awarded to the winner of a drawing. Attendees are advised to bring their business cards.

The Post is at 9318 Newburgh Road. Contact Josie Post at Josie.Post32@gmail.com for any questions.

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Schoolcraft College graduates Class of 2013

Schoolcraft College celebrated its 48th annual commencement ceremony on Saturday at Compuware Arena in Plymouth. Of the more than 1,300 students eligible to participate (those earning an associate degree or certificate), about 400 graduates donned their caps and gowns and invited friends and family to celebrate their accomplishments.

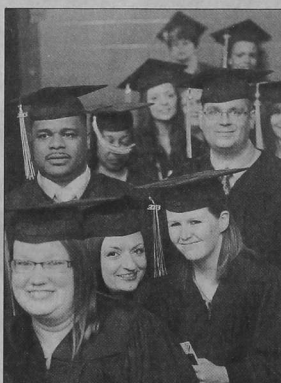
Dr. Conway A. Jeffress, president of the college, and the Board of Trustees chose the commencement ceremony to recognize and honor several people.

Sarah McCullough of Westland, president of the Omicron Iota Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the community college international honor society, was selected to present the Student Reflection on behalf of the Schoolcraft College Class of 2013.

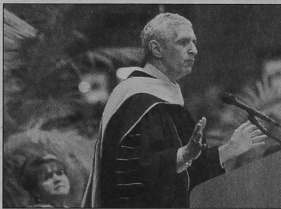
Usha Kadiyala of Farmington Hills was one of only 73 recipients to be named a Jack Kent Cooke Scholar for 2013. This transfer scholarship will provide her with up to \$30,000 per year to complete her undergraduate studies at the University of Michigan in biochemistry. Criteria used to select the Jack Kent Cooke Scholars include achievement and academic ability, desire to engage in and contribute to the world, self-confidence and resilience. Kadiyala is pursuing a career in neuroscience and plans to earn a doctorate degree.

Dr. Richard Pappas, president of Davenport University since 2009, was the keynote speaker. Prior to Davenport University, he served as president of National Louis University in Chicago, Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor, Michigan, and Harford Community College in Bel Air, Maryland.

A native of Michigan,



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Soon-to-be graduates of Schoolcraft College are ready for the procession.

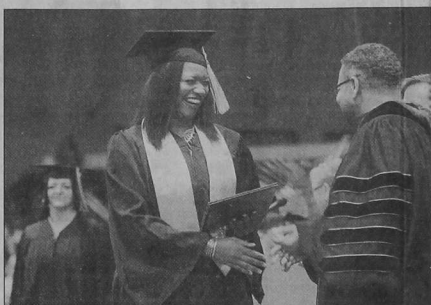


The speaker is Dr. Richard Pappas, president of Davenport University. At left, Joan Gebhardt, treasurer of the Board of Trustees.

Pappas earned his doctoral and master's degrees from the University of Michigan and his undergraduate degree from Eastern Michigan University. At the conclusion of his remarks, Pappas was presented with an Honorary Associate of Arts and Sciences degree

from Schoolcraft College in recognition of his continued dedication to higher education.

Board of Trustees Vice Chair Carol Strom also presented an Honorary Associate Degree of Arts and Sciences to longtime former board member Mary Breun.



Sherri L. Matthews receives her diploma from Dr. Conway Jeffress.



Sarah McCullough, president of Phi Theta Kappa, speaks about her experience at Schoolcraft.

her 28 years on the board. Breun served in a variety of roles including vice chair and chair. Breun retired from the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees in 2011.

Brian Broderick, chair of the Board of Trustees, presented Northville resident Thelma Kubitskey with the Distinguished Alumni Award. Kubitskey serves as the budget director for the city of Westland, but spent the vast majority of her career working for Northville Township. Kubitskey was encouraged



Brittani Vanloon-Bazzi blows a kiss to friends and relatives during the procession.

aged to attend Schoolcraft by one of her former bosses, Dave Lelko, Northville Township's first township manager. It took her more than a decade to achieve her educational goals, including an associate degree from Schoolcraft and a bachelor's degree from Madonna University, while she worked full-time and was raising a

family. She attributes her success to Lelko and the solid educational foundation she received at Schoolcraft College.

Schoolcraft College is a public college, offering classes at the main campus in Livonia, at the Radcliff Center in Garden City, the Public Safety Training Complex in Livonia and online at www.schoolcraft.edu.

CITY OF PLYMOUTH

City of Plymouth Water and Sewer Rate Card # 15					
Water Rate		Sewer Rate		Minimum Billing: 4,000 Gallons	
Per 1000 Gallons		\$4.75		\$6.14	
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\$11.56		\$750.00		\$750.00	
3/4"		1 1/2" Tap		8" Tap	
\$13.00		\$1,125.00		10" Tap	
1"		2" Tap		12" Tap	
\$19.76		\$1,500.00		\$3,000.00	
1 1/2"		3" Tap		\$2,250.00	
\$38.65		4" Tap		\$3,000.00	
2"		6" Tap		\$4,500.00	
\$62.92		8" Tap		\$6,000.00	
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4"					
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ADDITIONAL SEWER FEES

Property owner is responsible for all sewer leads, pipes, and taps up to and including the connection to the City's mains. Property owner is responsible for the repair and/or replacement of any publicly owned property including, but not limited to grass, sod, top soil, trees, curb, gutter, street pavement and base material.

CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES

For building or construction purposes, the daily charges shall be made for the use of water from the time of installation of the service pipe until meter installation:

Service Pipe Size	Charge
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3"	\$125.00
4"	\$155.22
6"	\$345.00
8"	\$700.00

All connections to the water supply system or the sewer disposal system shall be made by and at the expense of the property owner or user so connecting, subject to any rules or regulations therefore now or hereafter established by the city and subject to inspection and approval prior to use. A permit for such connection shall be obtained in advance from the city and the property owner or user making such connection shall pay all inspection charges now or hereafter established by the city prior to the use thereof. Property owner is responsible for TAP compliance with ALL Federal, State or Local Rules, Regulations, or Laws. TAPS RESTRICTED

The term "tap" as used herein shall include any opening or outlet heretofore or hereafter made in the water system, for the purpose of withdrawing water therefrom for any use, public or private, either commercial or domestic, excepting fire hydrants. No taps shall be made to the system unless authorized by the property city authorities.

- Non-Payment Penalty - 15% Added To Total Bill For All Bills Paid After The Due Date

Publish: May 12, 2013

AT070637 3x2

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPT.

734 354-3232

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on 5/17/2013, at 10:00 a.m., Mayfield Auto Transport, 1179 Starkweather, Plymouth, MI 48170, a public auction of the following:

2003 Mercury Sable 1MEFM55513A623016

Dated: 05/08/2013

Publish: May 12, 2013

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a proposal for Natural Gas Supply Services and Electric Choice Supply Services. Specifications of the Request for Proposals (RFP) and bid forms are available by contacting Tiffany Brinda, Purchasing and General Ledger Associate, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools at tiffany.brinda@pcscs.net or (734) 416-2976. Technical questions should also be directed to Brodie Killian, Executive Director of Business Services at brodie.killian@pcscs.net or (734) 416-2740. Proposals will be accepted as specified in the Request for Proposals in person at PCSCS - E.J. McClenden Educational Center located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI or may be submitted via email to tiffany.brinda@pcscs.net or fax to (734) 416-4898 on or before 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 22, 2013. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

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

Publish: May 12, 2013

CO057675 3x3

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE

To all residents and other interested parties: Agendas and Minutes for the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees Meetings are available for review under the Reference Desk Page of the Township Website: www.plymouthmi.org. They are also posted in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan for public perusal.

Meeting dates in 2013: May 14 & 28, June 25, July 23, August 20, September 10 & 24, October 8 & 22, November 12 and December 10.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend the Board of Trustees Meetings.

Nancy Conzelman
Township Clerk

Special meetings should be scheduled for Tuesdays, unless otherwise posted.

Publish: May 12, 2013

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SPORTS

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



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Following through with a vengeance during a recent Salem varsity girls tennis match is senior Ashley Walker.

Speaking her language

Salem's Walker melds multicultural interests with tennis acumen

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

When Salem senior Ashley Walker is hammering away at tennis balls during the heat of competition, she sometimes gives herself little pep talks in Chinese and Japanese.

The latter apparently is her favorite. Her favorite band and anime (one of her fave hobbies) are from Japan. She has three years of Chinese language courses under her belt at Salem.

"Uverworld played the opening song on *Bleach anime* (a TV program), that's how I discovered them," Walker said.

Her penchant for what other cultures have to offer isn't too unusual given that the 17-year-old Walker plans on studying linguistics at Wayne State University, where she plans on joining the women's tennis team as a walk-on.

"Just hearing the language and realizing how different it is made me realize that the ways people communicate vary so much. I just love languages," said Walker with a wide grin, after the talented No. 1 singles player lost a hard-fought match against Hartland's Rachael Reichenbach.

Whatever language one might choose when it comes to Walker and her tennis skills, the vocabulary includes words such as driven, passionate, athletic, poised and versatile.

Salem varsity girls tennis coach Lin Ware has another word for the list.

"We always knew she was special," Ware said. "She was always a good athlete."



Salem's Ashley Walker brings a lot of poise, confidence and swagger to the tennis courts at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Figuring it out

That athlete came to Salem in 2009-10 and started out as part of the No. 2 doubles tandem with Malory Rojo. In the years since, Walker moved up the singles lineup to where she is now considered one of the best No. 1 singles players in the ultra-competitive KLAAS Division.

Please see WALKER, B3

'Cats' Boyd on paid leave

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Plymouth varsity baseball coach Bryan Boyd is on paid administrative leave from the team while the district sorts out complaints lodged against him by parents.

Mary Holaly, spokeswoman for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, confirmed Friday that Boyd is on a "paid administrative leave" and that meetings were held last week.

Holaly did not have information about those meetings and said she did not know when the matter would be resolved.

Currently in charge of the Wildcats is assistant coach Bill Holbrook.

According to Holaly, it was originally hoped that the situation would be resolved sooner rather than later. The Wildcats currently are battling for the KLAAS South Division title, and with an 8-4 mark in the division were hanging on to first place over Canton (pending Friday's results).

"I think the hope was that it was going to be resolved this week," Holaly said. "But I'm not getting the sense that it will be."

When asked the nature of the complaints, Holaly said they were "probably business related to the baseball team."

Boyd teaches social studies at Central Middle School and continues to do so. The situation with the baseball team has no bearing on his employment as a faculty member, she added.

Boyd was not available for comment Friday.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128

Golf outing for Canton basketball

The registration deadline is Monday for anybody wanting to participate in the sixth annual Canton High School Boys and Girls Basketball Golf Outing.

Fellows Creek Golf Club on Lotz in Canton will host the event, set for Sunday, May 19. Registration on the day of the event is 11 a.m. with a shotgun start slated for 1 p.m.

Cost is \$100 per golfer, and includes 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch at the turn, dinner and prizes. For nongolfers, a dinner (\$25) will be available.

All proceeds will benefit the boys and girls basketball programs at Canton High School.

For more information, contact Carole Reddy, (734) 718-4402, or coaches Jimmy Reddy, (734) 751-9495, or Brian Samulski, (734) 673-2555.



Blazers romp in lacrosse

Juniors Jessica Snyder and Megan Leon each scored five goals Wednesday as unbeaten Livonia Ladywood rolled to an 18-0 Catholic League semifinal lacrosse victory Wednesday over visiting Warren Regina.

Junior Rachel Donabedian added three goals as the Blazers improved to 9-0 overall. Goalie Stephanie Mackley, a senior, made nine saves as Ladywood earned a spot in the Catholic League finals Saturday against host Pontiac Notre Dame Prep.

Maggie Golia made nine saves for the Ladywoodies.

Fireballer sparks Chiefs to win

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

When Mike Stafford's fastball is burning a hole in the mitt of his catcher, it means he and the Canton Chiefs are having a pretty good day.

That certainly was the case in Game 1 of Wednesday's KLAAS South Division baseball twinnish between host Canton and Livonia Churchill.

Stafford, a hard-throwing lefthander, fanned 13 Chargers and gave up just four hits to lead Canton to a 4-2 victory.

"All my pitches were working today, I was feeling good," Stafford said. "The fastball was popping, 13 strikeouts. Feeling good."

Stafford made a big contribution to the Canton win on offense,

too, driving in two runs in the third with a single to break a 1-1 tie.

Canton could not sustain the momentum in Game 2, however, falling 6-1 in an error-filled contest. The Chiefs dropped to 13-5 overall and 6-4 in the KLAAS South while Churchill's record stood at 8-5-1, 7-5-1.

Also in the mix for the division crown is Plymouth — currently in first with an 8-4 mark, 10-6 overall after Wednesday's sweep of Wayne Memorial.

The Wildcats currently are playing with their head coach, Bryan Boyd, suspended from the team for undisclosed reasons.

Canton was slated to host Westland John Glenn (another division foe) on Friday in another twinnish.

The Chiefs got off to a quick start in the first, when senior first base-

man Nick Hazergian's double down the right-field line brought home Weston Price.

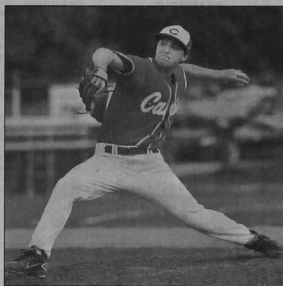
In the third inning, Tom Kiddle (2-for-2) and Price singled and moved over on a sacrifice bunt. A walk to Hazergian loaded the bases for Stafford, who then singled Kiddle and Price home.

An error enabled Canton to score its third run of that frame against Churchill starter Nick Misiak, building a 4-1 advantage.

"He (Stafford) had a whole lot of strikeouts, he was on his game," Canton head coach Mark Blomshield said. "There's huge implications, we wanted to get that first win there."

"Obviously they're in our district, too. ... This gives us a chance to see

Please see CHIEFS, B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton ace pitcher Mike Stafford (No. 15) fires a pitch during Wednesday's 4-2 win over Livonia Churchill. Stafford fanned 13 Chargers in the contest.

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SOFTBALL

Clutch catch sparks twinbill sweep

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

A diving catch by Canton second baseman Kendyl Richter preserved the Chiefs' 10-6 win over Livonia Churchill in a weather-delayed Game 1 Wednesday.

And the positive vibes carried over into the nightcap of the KLAAs South Division doubleheader, as the host Chiefs edged the Chargers 2-1 behind a complete game by freshman pitcher McKenna Payne.

Canton thus bounced back from a loss to Plymouth in Game 2 of Tuesday's twinbill between the division rivals (see related story).

The Chiefs (15-2, 10-2) had a rough start to Wednesday's opener, however, as Churchill (13-7, 7-6) tallied four runs in the top of the first.

It didn't take long for Canton's response, however. Plating two runs each with singles in the bottom half of the first were Jessica Webster, Hanna Warren and Shanon Watson.

Three more Canton runs scored in the second, courtesy of a double by Paige Areasco (4-for-4) and two-run triple by Webster.



This diving catch by Canton second baseman Kendyl Richter ended a seventh-inning threat by Livonia Churchill and enabled the Chiefs to win 10-6.

Also chipping in with two hits was Catherine Porter and pitcher Hannah Shuler went the distance for the win, allowing just one runner over the final four frames.

Canton maintained its 10-6 lead going into the final stages, when the game was twice delayed for 30 minutes because lightning was spotted. Other than spotty showers, there was no imminent threat of thunderstorms.

The second delay took place after the Chiefs

recorded one out in the seventh.

Nicki Saloum was safe on an error and Melanie Richardson singled with two outs. Shuler hit a batter to load the bases and that brought up Jenny Broulier who lined the ball between first and second only to have Richter dive to her left to snag the ball and end the game.

"That was just an awesome catch," Canton head coach Jim Arnold said.

Churchill took a 1-0

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

lead against Payne in the first inning of Game 2, but the Chiefs scratched across the tying and winning runs in the third against pitcher Melanie Richardson.

Byrnn Birchler singled to left, but was still on base with two outs. Richter kept things going with a base hit and Payne helped her own cause with a single to center to score Birchler. Areasco then laced a base hit up the middle, bringing home Richter with the lead run.

Plymouth offense on rampage

Hard-hitting Plymouth took both ends of Wednesday's KLAAs South Division twinbill against Wayne Memorial.

The Wildcats routed the Zebras in each game, 16-0 and 13-5.

That improved Plymouth's record to 17-4 overall and 11-1 in the division — ahead of runners-up Canton (15-2, 10-2).

In the opener, senior Lindsey Gryniwicz was the star with a triple, double and single. Junior Lindsay Lutton chipped in with a homer.

The Wildcats kept on swinging and scoring in the second game, sparked by a three-run homer in the first by junior Lindsay Lutton (five RBI).

Several other players joined the party. Junior Brooke Senkbeil

clubbed two doubles and a home run and drove in five runs.

Sophomore Brittney Miller collected three hits in four at-bats including two doubles.

Junior Celeste Miller also was 3-for-4 with two doubles.

On the mound, senior Elaine Gerou struck out six innings over five innings with Mikayela Marciniak closing out

the win with two strong innings.

Wayne Memorial's record dropped to 0-10 overall and 0-9 in the division.

'CATS, CHIEFS SPLIT: Meanwhile, Plymouth split Tuesday's doubleheader with Canton.

The Wildcats lost 6-2 in Game 1 but rebounded with a 8-4 triumph for the split.

In the opener, Hanna Warren's complete game and a solo home run by Paige Areasco sparked the Chiefs. For Plymouth, Brittney Miller tallied two doubles.

Game 2 featured plenty of hitting from both sides, but the Wildcats prevailed thanks to a pair of big innings.

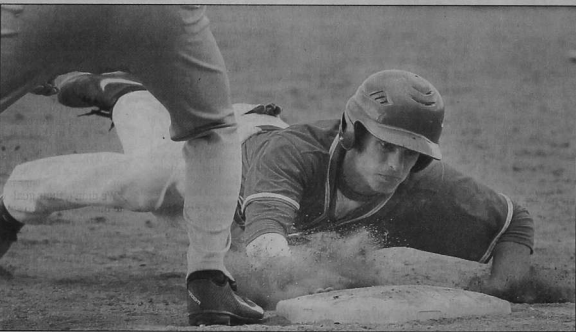
A four-run first got Plymouth off to a good start. Hits by Gerou, Lutton, senior Bri Jordano and (with a two-run HR) Rebin made it 4-0. Canton chipped away, thanks to Areasco (3-for-4), Jessica Webster (three-run HR) and Kayla Rebin (solo HR).

But the Wildcats rallied again in the sixth, stringing together singles by Jordano, Marciniak and Senkbeil (whose two-run double was the key hit of the frame).

Gerou pitched 14 innings with two strikeouts in the twinbill.

"Every time we play Plymouth they're good and so are we," Chiefs head coach Jim Arnold said. "We came out of it with a split. Both teams played extremely hard, we feel confident, we're up there when we want to be."

"We'll see at the end. There's a lot of games left."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's James Hall (No. 10) dives back into first base ahead of the tag of Livonia Churchill's Blake Burnette during Wednesday's opener.

CHIEFS

Continued from page B1

them, prepare for playoffs and try to win this division as well."

CHURCHILL 6, CANTON 1: Host Canton (13-3 overall, 6-4 in the KLAAs South) could not complete a doubleheader sweep Wednesday, hampered by six errors in this loss to division rival Livonia Churchill (8-5, 1-7-5-1).

Andrew Summers (2-for-2, double, three runs) and Jon Hovemarle (2-for-4, two runs, three RBI) paced Churchill's 11-hit attack in Game Two.

Canton starter Jake Raymo, who took

the loss, went the first four innings allowing four runs on seven hits and two walks.

PLYMOUTH 3-9, WAYNE 7-5: Visiting Plymouth (10-6 overall, 8-4 in the KLAAs South) swept Wayne Memorial (2-13, 1-10) on Wednesday.

The wins moved the Wildcats into the division lead ahead of Canton (6-4), Livonia Churchill (7-5-1) and Westland (John Glenn 5-5).

Details about the games were not made available to the Observer.

NOVI 10-9, SALEM 5-8: The host Novi Wildcats (8-2) swept this KLAAs Central Division twinbill against Salem (10-7 overall, 4-6 in division play) on Wednesday.

In the opener, the Rockets got out to a 4-2 lead in the second but could not hold

back the Wildcats. Collecting two hits for Salem was Jack Driscoll.

In Game 2, Novi's five-run seventh took a win away from the Rocks.

Justin Sydlowski had a productive game for Salem, with three hits, three RBIs, and two runs. Kyle Penn chipped in with two hits and two runs.

PCA 7, CALVARY 1: Plymouth Christian Academy trounced Calvary Christian Thursday behind strong pitching by Johnny Lauch (4 1/3 innings for the win) and hot hitting by Daniel Jipping (two singles, double, triple).

Ripping a home run for the Eagles was Matt Sumner while Nick Andres and Michael Slater also chipped in with base hits. Closing out the victory in relief for PCA were Slater and Tanner Hay.

TRACK & FIELD

Chiefs dominate last dual meet

The Canton Chiefs finished their dual meet season on a high note, with Tuesday's 87.67-to-49.33 victory over Wayne Memorial.

"Hopefully, we're peaking at the right time," Canton head coach Bob Richardson said.

From field events to sprints, hurdles and relays, the Chiefs were dominant in the KLAAs South Division matchup.

Jamal Dixon took first in the long jump (19 feet, 3 inches) and high jump (6-4) while Olaniyi Owagbemi (shot put, 43-4.5) and Ryan Jimenez (pole vault, 10-8) also scored field event victories.

Another double winner for the Chiefs was Colby Morris. He took first in the 100 dash with a time of 11.1 seconds, ahead of teammate Darren Davis' 11.5 mark. Morris also was first in the 200 with a 22.3.

In hurdles action, James Hildreth won both events. He finished with a 16.7 time to win the 110 hurdles (edging teammate Bryan Eastman's 18.2) and took the top spot in the 300 hurdles with a 42.6 (ahead of teammates Andrew Stephens, 43.7 and Eastman, 46.4).

The Chiefs were strong in distance events, too. Victorious in the mile run with a time of 4:53.7 was Billy Toth while Evan Dunkle's 10:21.5 garnered first in the

two-miler.

Canton prevailed in two of the four relays.

The quartet of Morris, Isaac Pennock, John Everett and Anthony Tillman took the top spot in the 800-meter relay with a time of 1:37.2.

In the 1,600-meter relay, a mark of 3:37.5 enabled Pennock, Hildreth, Billy Nicholson and Stephens to eke out a win over the Zebras (3:37.7).

PLYMOUTH 85

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 51

May 7 at Churchill

Shot put: 1. McMillen (P), 45 feet, 3.25 inches; 2. Barrick (LC), 42-10; 3. McKinney (LC), 40-2.

discus: 1. McKinney (LC), 128-9;

high jump: Harris (P), 5-6; 3.

hurdles: 1. Zoltowski (LC), 15-9;

2. Jefferson (LC), 15-9; 3. Bragiel

(LC), 16-2; 300 hurdles: 1.

Zoltowski (LC), 41-5; 100 dashes:

1. Rogers (P), 11-09; 2. Rimatzki

(SC), 11-5; 200: 1. Davis (P), 22-3;

2. Jefferson (LC), 24-0; 3. Dada

(LC), 24-09; 400: 1. Antwine (P),

53-17; 3. Abrams (LC), 53-5; 800:

1. Dalton (P), 2-03; 3. Cohen

(LC), 2-04; 7. 1,600: 1. Rogowski

(P), 4:34.8; 3. Yates (LC), 4:44.3;

3. 200: 1. Yates (LC), 10:21.3; 3.

Malik (LC), no time; 400 relay:

1. Churchill (Rimatzki, Dada,

Scott Lambert), 45-3; 800 relay:

1. Plymouth, 1:32.0; 1,600

relay: 1. Churchill (Bragiel,

Morris, Gyrene, King), 4:02.8;

8.250 relay: 1. Plymouth,

3:20.0.

Dual meet records: Plymouth,

5-0 overall, 5-0 KLAAs

South Division (clinched title);

Churchill, 3-2 overall, 3-2 KLAAs

South.

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BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Yes, that's a smile on the face of Salem senior and No. 1 singles tennis player Ashley Walker, who just loves being out on the court.

WALKER

Continued from page B1

According to Walker, the experience she gained as a freshman — when Salem won the conference meet — has helped her as she improved from pretty good to pretty outstanding.

"I was trying out for singles my freshman year and I was a little bummed out that I played doubles (that year)," Walker recalled. "But it's OK because there were good players on singles. I just had to get better up there."

Then over her sophomore and junior years, when she played at either No. 2 or 3 singles, everything came into view. All the hours of hard work she put in during the off-season the Huron Valley Tennis Club and Livonia YMCA started paying off.

"I'm getting a lot better, faster than when I'm just playing once or twice a week in the off-season," Walker explained. "And playing 1 singles this year I'm playing better players. There's a gap in the level sometimes for some schools between 1 and 2 singles."

"Like, 1 singles being really, really amazing and the 2 singles still being really good."

Hanging tough

Going up against the best other team's have to offer continues to test her mettle. She's handling the challenge as smoothly as one of her patented backhands.

"I really have to play as hard as I can to win the matches," the Canton resident said. "It was still that way at 2 singles but it's twice as hard at 1 singles. ... Like today's match (a 6-2, 6-0 loss to Reichenbach), the score

didn't seem like it was close, but the games were really close. Lots of long points, we both had to play our best."

With her background as a doubles and singles player, Walker is comfortable playing aggressively at the net or waiting patiently in the backcourt — ready to unleash one of her many different shots.

"I think my best strokes are my volley, my weak-side is my serve, which is bad," she said, laughing. "My groundstrokes are pretty good on both sides."

"Of course, they're not perfect. I don't really focus on trying to just hit the ball as hard as I can. I'm more about placing the ball, making a variety of shots."

Meanwhile, for her variety is the spice of life and tennis.

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BOYS LACROSSE

High-octane Rocks nab Park lacrosse title

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Park Kretschmer was sick for a while this season, with the illness forcing one of Salem's biggest offensive threats out of the lineup.

These days, the senior attacker for the Rocks' varsity boys lacrosse team is getting fat and healthy after scoring binges such as Wednesday's six-goal, five-assist performance against Plymouth in the match for the Park championship.

Salem's 17-3 rout of the Wildcats at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park trophy for the second season in a row and gave the Rocks a 10-win season for the first time in program history.

Kretschmer wore a smile of joy and relief following his 11-point night.

"It feels great to go out with our last Park championship victory," said Kretschmer, who now has 33 goals and 15 assists in 15 games for Salem (10-5, 3-3 in the Kensington Conference). "In past years, we were more (about) individual play and now we're playing as a team and it's coming at the perfect time."

"Everyone's providing motivation for each other."

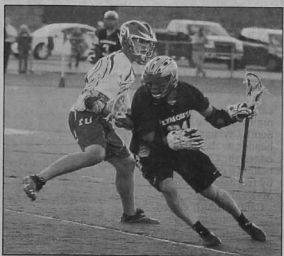
Booster shot

Salem head coach Paul Nemzek said getting Kretschmer back and at full speed really provided a shot in the arm to the squad.

"He was doing that for us early in the season," Nemzek said, noting that Kretschmer tallied eight goals in the season opener. "But he came down with a little bit of an illness. He's been out for a little while, he's just now getting his legs back and today he got back to the old Patrick."

"It's what he's capable of. He's a big left-handed threat, he's one of our captains, he's a leader and it showed tonight."

Other big contributors to the victory were Brandon Lee (three goals, 13-1 edge in faceoffs), Jason



Plymouth's DK Kim (No. 21, right) goes head to head against Salem's Brandon Lee (No. 10) during Wednesday's varsity boys lacrosse matchup. In the background for the Rocks is goalkeeper Justin Oldani (No. 16).

'It feels great to go out with our last Park championship victory.'

PATRICK KRETSCHMER
Salem senior

Newell (three goals), PJ Rogers (two goals, four assists), Jake Perkins (two goals), Noah Willer (one goal) and senior goalkeeper Justin Oldani (16 saves).

"(Oldani) was excellent tonight," Nemzek said. "He's been excellent for us the last three, four games in a row when he stood on his head and kept us in some of these games that might have gotten away from us."

By the time Plymouth's Kyle Durham beat Oldani, with a 10-yard shot with 2:02 left in the first half, the Rocks had rolled up a 9-0 lead thanks to five goals by Kretschmer (including two within 26 seconds).

Onslaught continues

Salem continued to put big-time pressure on Plymouth's defense in the second half, and it was 10-1 with 10:59 left in the third on Kretschmer's sixth goal. Newell, Perkins and Rogers strung together goals within just under two minutes midway through the quarter to open up a 13-1 edge as Salem continued its relentless attack.

The Wildcats (7-6, 2-4) did get on the board again when Bessey snapped a feed from Connor Koviak behind Oldani.

Plymouth's final goal, with 9:30 to go, was registered by DK Kim.

"We knew Salem was a good team," Plymouth head coach Brian Walsh said. "They got a lot of great seniors, they got a real high-powered offense. We thought we (coaches) prepared them a little bit better, but they (Rocks) just came out and executed tonight."

According to Walsh, the turning point came in the first quarter. Oldani blocked a couple of point-blank chances with the Rocks only up 1-0 and before long the deficit was 4-0 after three Salem goals within 1:22.

"The big difference, especially in the first quarter, was they cashed in on their chances especially when they went on man-up," Walsh said. "We didn't, their goalies made some good saves and they just stole the momentum."

SALEM 15, FARMINGTON 5: PJ Rogers and Brandon Lee scored five and four goals, respectively, as the visiting Rocks rolled to the win at Farmington.

Senior goalkeeper Justin Oldani made 10 stops for Salem.

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GIRLS TENNIS RESULTS

DUAL MATCH RESULTS

SALEM 5

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 4

May 7 at Salem

No. 1 singles: Ashley Walker (Salem) defeated Kyle Fallis (LC), 6-0, 6-1; No. 2: Chelsea Yu (Salem) def. Mara Karagezian, 6-1, 6-0; No. 3: Jessica Ranni-Madison White (LC) def. Rachel Herschok-Kendall Berghofer, 7-5, 7-5; No. 4: Lexi Pata-Maggie Trinka (LC) def. Natasha Court-Courtney Simpson, 6-0, 6-2; No. 5: Ashli Nagar-Madison Kulik (Salem) def. Dallas Rohruff-Kelly Snyder, 6-1, 7-6 (7-3).

Dual match records: Salem, 6-3 overall; Churchill, 3-5 overall.

NORTHVILLE 6

PLYMOUTH 9

May 7 at Plymouth

No. 1 singles: Reshma Kumar (N) defeated Keerthi Chekur, 6-1, 6-1; No. 2: Emma Worley (N) def. Swetha Durairajamy, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Claudia Ma (N) def. Sarah Gamble, 6-0, 6-1; No.

4: Alex Jeannotte (N) def. Tiahn Horton, 6-0, 6-0.

No. 1 doubles: Anika Mulkeri-Danielle Romano (N) def. Lauren Conley-Emma Mullenax, 6-0, 6-1; No. 2: Elizabeth Sakorafis-Jordan Hermiz (N) def. Ally Czek-Kym Facto, 6-1, 6-1; No. 3: Paige Baal-Chloe Page (N) def. Shannon Huffs-Libby Quinn (N) def. Alyssa Lopez-Amber Maroudis, 6-0, 6-0; No. 5: Amelia Abanelli-Molly Bis (N) def. Val Kolesar-Katie Weyers, 6-0, 6-0.

Dual match records: Plymouth, 5-5 overall.

GROSSE ILE 7

LIVONIA LADYWOOD 1

May 6 at Schoolcraft Co.

No. 1 singles: Izzy Cuffell (LI) won by default over M. McShane; No. 2: B. Riley (GI) defeated Nicole Salter, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: J. Forentin (GI) def. Madison Markwardt, 6-0, 6-0; No. 4: O. Latata (GI) def. Stephanie Hampe, 6-0, 6-0.

No. 1 doubles: A. Kaiser-M. Coolsaet (GI) def. Jennifer Cushman-Abbie Pope-Starnes, 6-1, 6-0; No. 2: A. Karmel-H. Huzumik (GI) def. Ginny Kobross-Michelle Badle, 6-0, 6-1; No. 3: N. Desjardins-Terachi (GI) def. Amy Kobylars-Alex Mularoni, 6-0, 6-1; No. 4: R. Tucker-C. Guthrie (GI) def. Sarah Jabour-Nora Michael, 6-0, 6-0.

Ladywood's dual match record: 0-6 overall.

GIRLS LACROSSE

Salem girls celebrate 'Senior Night' in big way

"Senior Night" proved bittersweet for Salem's varsity girls lacrosse team on May 3.

Although the Rocks posted a 14-3 victory over Regina at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, head coach Dave Medley couldn't help but feel wistful about losing seven starters to graduation.

And three of those players — Gracie Savage, Megan Wood and Sarah Bowerman — signed their national letters of intent earlier in the day to go to Ursuline College.

"Having three girls from our team heading off for the start up team next season for the Ursuline Arrows is certainly something to celebrate for Salem High School," noted Medley, in an email to the Observer.

Also graduating are starters Shannon Fitzpatrick, Bridget Maul, Alissa Amell and Leah Schrauben.

Fitzpatrick and Maul celebrated by getting their names on the scoresheet, as the Rocks



JEFF CARTER

Salem's varsity girls lacrosse team enjoyed a big win on May 3 to celebrate 'Senior Night.' Pictured in the front row (from left) are Rocks seniors Sarah Bowerman, co-captain Leah Schrauben, co-captain Alissa Amell. In the back row (from left) are assistant coach Paul Schrauben, head coach Dave Medley and assistant coach Steve Amell.

rolled to a 11-1 halftime lead and never looked back. Fitzpatrick scored a goal and Maul tallied two.

Also netting two goals were junior Jenna Cartwright, Joslyn Lange and Kiersten Yala with Rose

Krasofsky tallying three goals.

Playing most of the game in goal was Bowerman, who was relieved by Samantha Howell.

Meanwhile, Medley noted that several alumni from the Plymouth-Canton-Salem United team (which was spun off into three squads several years ago) participated in pre-game festivities.

"It is always nostalgic for me when I see the (current) seniors and family members walk

underneath through the tunnel of raised lacrosse sticks by their teammates and then see faces from the past coming back to be a part of it," he added.

The win gave Salem a record of 7-5 overall and



JEFF CARTER

Before Salem's May 3 game, senior players Sarah Bowerman, Gracie Savage and Megan Wood signed to play women's lacrosse at Ursuline College. They were joined by high school and college coaches and family members to celebrate signing their national letters of intent. In the front row (from left), are Wood, Bowerman and Savage. Behind them (from left) are Ursuline head coach Ed Karasek, Phyllis and Tim Wood, Sherry and Jay Bowerman, Peggy and Gary Savage and Salem head coach Dave Medley.

3-4 in the KLAAS Kensington Conference. The Rocks then split two games last week, losing 16-6 to South Lyon on Monday before doubling up Plymouth 10-5 on Wednesday to move to 8-6, 4-5.

Malawi mission

Church members strengthen bonds through partnership

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Hussein Latif has prayed for members of First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth for four years.

Over the past two weeks, while visiting Plymouth with a mission team, he finally got a chance to match faces and names with prayer requests.

"There was one young lady I had been praying for. I was so glad to meet her here. I felt like I had known her for a long time," said Latif, who serves as a partnership liaison between Mtenthera Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) in Malawi and First Presbyterian Church in Plymouth.

"Building strong relationships with each other — that can't be done by Skyping one another or writing e-mails. It's important to come together once and awhile face to face to get to know each other." That's just what he and other members of Mtenthera Church have done since arriving on Tuesday, April 30, in Michigan to meet members of their "sister" church in Plymouth.

The Mtenthera team members, Rev. Shadreck Solomon Banda, Mtenthera's pastor; Labani Abahi Chafalutira, partnership chairman; Efrida Kawaye, Christian Education chair; Abine



Daisy Felix Kampanya Nyaka (left) and Efrida Kawaye will take home a few American ideas about nursery school classrooms and domestic violence shelters. Kawaye was impressed by her visit to First Step, the center for domestic and sexual violence victims.

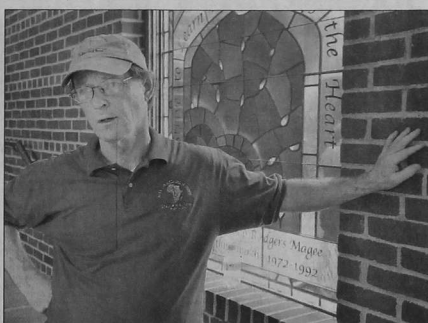
ri Kalulu Kuleza, Development Committee chair; and Daisy Felix Kampanya Nyaka, Women's Guild chair, have lived with First Presbyterians families and participated in worship services, youth group meetings, a Bible study, choir rehearsal, and church committee meetings. They also toured both church and secular nursery schools, with an eye toward bringing ideas home to their own church-based preschool, and visited an urban Presbyterian church. Sunday, May 12 is their final day in Michigan.

Understanding

"When we've gone to understand us to every part of

their church. We received a special orientation," said Kathy Bernard, who was among the first four members of First Presbyterian to visit Malawi. "This was their first time to come here. We hoped to expose them to what First Presbyterian is. 'We're sharing cultural and church organization information. Ultimately, the goal is to have these people develop relationships with more people here.'"

From the beginning, the 10-year partnership between the two churches has been about building relationships. The two churches wrote and signed a covenant four years ago identifying the scope, length and purpose of the partnership.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Doug Kee, a member of First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, has been on nine mission trips.

"We do share tangible gifts and trips and so forth. But the whole purpose is to share the spiritual life of the congregations," said Doug Kee, who was on the initial First Presbyterian mission team to Mtenthera CCAP. He has taken eight mission trips to Malawi since then. Both churches have sent partnership teams to visit each other's congregations, but this is the first time the Malawi delegation has included lay members of the church.

"It's very cool that you can get to know people personally," Kee said. "We've done a ton of projects, but we've also shared prayers lists. We do a devotional time here Thursday evening that is at the exact time they do prayers in Malawi, at 4 a.m. there."

Reaching out

Church members from the two congregations also Skype weekly. The

Plymouth church helped fund roof replacements at Mtenthera's satellite prayer houses, which extends the church's reach into the community. It also arranged for a company to dig a well for clean water and distributed 700 Bibles in the native language, among other projects. "They have benefited from us and we have benefited from them," Banda said.

"People from Africa tend to think they have nothing to offer and that's not true," Latif added. "We've been given so many opportunities to prove that while we're here, whether it is teaching, preaching or just working in various capacities."

Rev. Elizabeth Campbell, First Presbyterian's associate pastor, said members of her church have found spiritual renewal by watching their African broth-

ers and sisters "live out their faith."

Laura McHugh, who has both visited Malawi and opened her home to the women from the visiting delegation, said the partnership has "renewed excitement" at First Presbyterian. She said their stay in Plymouth has caused her to "re-examine our lifestyle."

McHugh pointed out that one of her guests, Felix Kampanya Nyaka, grows her own food and farms.

"I buy everything from the grocery store," McHugh said. "What a gift to understand that you can grow your own food and rely on yourself. Just this morning she said, are you going to put a garden in your backyard? I feel like I need to do that."

For more about First Presbyterian Church, visit www.fpcpc.net.

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Exhibit of saints' relics designed to ignite spiritual renewal



Reliquaries, such as the one pictured, hold sacred relics. Visitors to an upcoming exhibit of sacred relics at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Livonia, will be allowed to touch the reliquaries.

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Visitors to a one-day exhibit of sacred relics at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Livonia Monday will get a chance to touch the display containers — called reliquaries — that will hold such items such as saints' bones, clothing fragments and mementos.

Sharon Williams, pastoral associate at the church, calls the experience a tangible form of intercessory prayer that can have powerful results.

"There are miracles attributed to veneration of these relics," she said. "Veneration is mainly being reverent with an object, but also asking that (saint) for intercession before the Lord.

"Any time a miracle happens, it would be God doing it. He wants to bring about a healing or miracle through the relic. It's the Lord providing the miracle, not the saint. We ask saints to intercede... because of their holiness and purity, their intercession is powerful."

The Exposition of Sacred Relics will include 164 objects, including such items as a fabric swatch from Mother Teresa's sari, a fragment of the Virgin Mary's veil, a piece of bone from St. John the Baptist and a piece of Christ's cross, according to the exhibit's promotional materials.

The Rev. Carlos Martins



Martins

ions of the Cross, has shown the exhibit in 46 states, as well as Mexico and Canada. He will explain how the Catholic Church documents the authenticity of relics and will talk about veneration as a pathway to spiritual renewal, at 7 p.m. Monday, May 13 at the church, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia.

Williams said there is no right way to view the exhibit. Visitors can look at each relic, choose items from a favorite saint or simply "begin taking a walk and whatever you feel draw to is what the Holy Spirit has drawn you to."

Williams said the Catholic Church teach-

es that God sometimes uses material objects to ignite and deepen faith. "It's not something the Catholic Church made up, it's something that is scripturally based."

She pointed out that the second book of Kings in the Old Testament tells the story of a man who came back to life after touching the profet Elisha's bones. Acts 5:12-15 in the New Testament refers to the sick seeking healing by merely touching Peter's shadow and the Gospels of both St. Mark and St. Matthew offer accounts of a woman who was cured after touching Jesus' cloak.

"It's always important to have things that are visual when you're talking about faith. For the years I've been here I've always been on the lookout for things like this. We're excited and grateful to Fr. Martins."

Williams said the exhibit will appeal to "anyone, even doubters in God, if they remain open to seeing truth."

"Sometimes reality coincides with what's visible, but sometimes it doesn't. We can see stars in the sky, but we're really seeing the past lives of the stars."

Livonia Public Schools

Opens Renowned Academically Talented Program to Out-of-District Students

Eight seats are open to students entering 1st or 2nd grade for the 2013-14 school year.

Limited Registration window: May 8 - 22, 2013

Livonia Public Schools is opening its Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (ACAT) program to Limited Schools of Choice for the 2013-2014 school year.

This program is geared toward academically talented students looking for a specialized learning experience.

Registration will be open from May 8-22, 2013 at Webster Elementary, 32401 Pembroke, Livonia 48152 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

All candidates MUST meet the ACAT selection testing criteria.

For complete information on the application process, visit www.livoniapublicschools.org or contact Webster School at 734-744-2795.

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COSGROVE, JEAN

May 6, 2013; age 78. Loving wife of the late Terry, Cheryl (nee Kim (Karen), Jim (Val), Pat (Mary Jo), Mack (Linda) and Dan (Julie). Dear grandmother of Renee, Tom, Jerri, Jim, Joe, Jackie, Maggie, Ryan, Erin, Shannon, Cara and Evan. Loving and devoted RN at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia for 40 years. Visitation to begin 3:30 pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 E. 12 Mile Rd., Livonia. In state Friday 10 am until time of service 10:30 am at St. Colette Catholic Church, 17600 Newburgh Rd., Livonia. Interment St. Hedwig Cemetery.

www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



LONDAL, BONNIE (MIKELSON)

Of Wallon Lake, Michigan and Boulder, Colorado passed away on April 24 at her home in Boulder. She was 73 years old. Bonnie was born in Holly, Michigan to Morris and Erwin Mikelson. She is survived by husband Jerry Londal, daughter Cam Moore and grandson Garrett Moore of Wallonville, California, son Phillip Londal of Boulder, Colorado, sisters Nancy Jones of Lapeer, Michigan, Radene Mikelson of Mesa, Arizona, Molly Schwitzer of Howard, Colorado, and brother Jerry Mikelson of Lehigh Acres, Florida. Bonnie graduated from Southfield High School and received an RN degree from the University of Michigan School of Nursing. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. One of her friends once commented that she wanted to come back in the next life as Bonnie's grandchild. She loved to be in her garden tending her flowers. She also enjoyed golf and skiing. She was a former member of Petoskey garden club, a member of the Petoskey Bay View Country Club, and an active member of the Petoskey United Methodist Church. Bonnie was a certified HAAR Block tax preparator and spent many hours volunteering her services to the elderly and the poor. A memorial service will be held at the Petoskey United Methodist Church on Saturday, May 18 at 12 noon. Meeting with family will be held from 10:30-12 A.M. at the church, and also after the service. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to TRU, Community Care, 2394 Trailridge Dr. East, Lafayette, CO 80026 or Petoskey United Methodist Church, 1804 E. Mitchell Rd., Petoskey, MI 49770.



THOMPSON, KATHERINE M.

May 7, 2013, age 100 of Plymouth. Loving wife of the late George L. Beloved mother of George A. Dear Aunt of Pat (Mike) McPherson, Pam (Frank) Schaller, Edward McNamara, Joseph (Mike) Thompson, Nancy McNamara and Daniel McNamara. Also survived by nine Great-nieces and nephews and two Great-Great-nieces and nephews. Visitation Sunday 4-6 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 West Ann Arbor Rd., (bwn Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth. Interment Monday 10 AM until the 11 AM Funeral Service at First United Methodist Church of Plymouth, 45201 North Torrey Rd. Interment Grand Lawn Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the church or Michigan Humane Society. To share a memory or message of condolence please email: vermeulenfuneralhome.com



EVANS, HARRY

Age 86, passed away at R.O. Beaumont Hospital on Friday, May 10, 2013. Harry was laid to rest at Great Lakes Memorial Cemetery in Holly, MI on Thursday, May 9th. He is survived by his wife Anita, son Randy (Orlando) Evans, daughter Valerie (Steve) Shifman, and Grandchildren Callie and Avery Evans and Jordan and Josh Shifman. Harry was born November 9, 1926 in New York City. He attended Stuyvesant High School and graduated from Queens College in 1949. At Queens College he met and married his wife of 63 years, Anita. After graduation Harry served his country in combat intelligence during the Korean War. Postwar, he co-owned a car dealership in Carrollton, Ohio with his father, Joe. When his father retired Harry joined Ford Motor Company and worked for Ford Motor Credit Corporation until his retirement in 1984. As a retiree Harry kept busy traveling, tracking his investments and working on the New York Times Crossword puzzle. He is most remembered for his endless list of do-it-yourself projects both at home for others. His wit, kindness, intelligence and generosity will be missed.

Donations can be made in his name to the Nature Conservancy of MI at nature.org/michigan.



POMPA, MANUEL M.

May 6, 2013, age 90 of Novi. Beloved husband of the late Angeline for 55 Years. Loving father of Jerry (Candy), Roy (Susan), and Dave (Lisa). Dear grandfather of Erica (Kalan) Muragin, Stephen (Araceli), April (Scott) Riehl, Christine and Jordan. Dearest great-grandfather of Emilio, Mason, Makena, Mia, Samantha, and Dominic. Manuel was oldest of 11 brothers and sisters. He leaves behind many loving family and friends. A memorial visitation will take place at Fred Wood Funeral Home - Rice Chapel 36100 Fire Mile Road (E. of Livonia) Livonia Friday 2-7PM with a 7PM funeral service. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be directed to the National Parkinson's Foundation. Please share memories at Fredwoodfuneralhome.com



HOLLOWAY, JEAN

Age 80, April 12, 2013. Beloved wife of Richard for 57 years. Loving sister of David (Patricia) Banks with many nieces and nephews. Jean loved teaching and had taught kindergarten in public schools for more than 30 years in Michigan (Detroit and Birmingham), Massachusetts, and Missouri. Her principle later said, "She was the best teacher I ever had." She enjoyed traveling, reading, and little children. Funeral Services were held at 10:30 am at McCabe Funeral Home on west 12 Mile Road, followed by interment at Acazua Park Cemetery in Birmingham.



KOETTING, LAVERNE FRANCES

May 6, 2013 age 76 of Waterford. Born July 20, 1936 to loving parents Frances and Walter Myers in Dayton, Kentucky. Loving mother of Fred (Lisa), Mike (Terry Ann), Terry (Jim) Lannen and William (Tammy) Dear Grandmother of Eleven and Great Grandmother of One. Memorial Mass to be held at 11 AM on Saturday July 13 at Our Lady of the Lakes Church, 5481 Dixie Hwy. Waterford, MI 48329. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Grovescrest Assisted Living, 121 Pratt St., Pontiac, MI 48341. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com



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Milestones

Ryba-Kolp

Terry and Lori Ryba of Milford announce the engagement of their daughter, Michelle, to Andrew Kolp, son of Stanley and Sandra Kolp of Westphalia. Terry Ryba is formerly from Farmington Hills.

Michelle earned a bachelor of science degree from Michigan State University with a major in human biology and minor in dance. She is scheduled to graduate with a masters of business administration from Northwood University in May 2013. She currently works in the pharmacy benefits management industry for Hospiscript, a Catamaran Company, as an account manager.

Andy received his bachelor of science degree from Ferris State University with a major in electrical engineering - electronics technology. He is employed by the State of Michigan as a business process owner within the Department of Technology, Management and Budget.

A May 2013, wedding is planned at St. Mary Church in Westphalia with the Rev. James Conlon presiding, and a Reception will take place at Eagle Eye Golf Club in East Lansing.



Bullock-Cassi

Diane Bullock and Chris Cassi of Redford announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Bill and Diane Richardson of River Rouge and the late Reed Collins. Her fiancé is the son of Edward and Linda Cassi of Taylor.

The couple have dated since April 2005 and became engaged on Nov. 18, 2012. They'll tie the knot in October 2013.



Benefiting youth

Farmington Hills residents Julie and Brad Feldman, Community House board member (left) and Melissa and Marty Hortick of West Bloomfield enjoy the Community House Gala at the Community House in Birmingham, which raised funds for At Risk Youth Development Programs. Julie Feldman is a nutritionist whose new book, "Grocery Makeover: Smart Changes for Big Results. An as-is-by-as-is Guide to Healthier Eating," was published a few weeks ago. Barnes & Noble sold out of her books at her first book signing but has since restocked.

PHOTOS BY JULIE YOLLES



On the town

Canton residents Mary and Rob Wall attended the Community House Gala at the Community House in Birmingham to raise funds for At Risk Youth Development Programs. They also came to celebrate with their mother, artist Connie McEwan of Birmingham, who received the Culture Pillar Award.



May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.


Visit Joel's online guestbook at www.mannfuneralhome.com

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ROBINSON, RAYMOND P. SR.

Of Westland, MI. Died suddenly December 29, 2012. Born January 16, 1962. Attended Ford High & Franklin High in Livonia. Survived by his son, Ray Jr., his mother, Gayle Robinson, four sisters, Kathy Law, Linda Cindar, Debbie Fox, Mary Robinson & four brothers, Rickie, Randy, Robert & Ron plus many relatives & friends. He was preceded in death by his older brother, Russ, in 2004 and his father, also Russ, in 2009. Mass at Saint Damian Catholic Church. Visitation was held at Griffin Funeral Home (leave memory) www.griffinfuneralhome.com

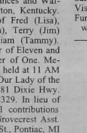


SAWYER, JOEL T.

Of Livonia, died May 6, 2013, age 70. Retired UAW International Staff Representative. Beloved husband of Sheron for 49 years. Dearest father to Lisa (Craig) Zollars, and Kathleen (Matt) Anderson. Loving grandfather of four: Ryan, Joel, Eva and Logan. Although he struggled with cancer for many years, Joel was a man filled with humor and love, and that is how he would wish to be remembered. A memorial service is planned for a later date.

Visit Joel's online guestbook at www.mannfuneralhome.com

Altman - Arceneaux Funeral Home



Report shows many parents drive while distracted

Many parents are putting their children at risk while driving by multi-tasking, according to a University of Michigan survey.

U-M researchers questioned more than 600 parents to find out what distractions they face while driving with their children, whether they use age-appropriate child restraints and if they had ever been in a motor vehicle accident. They presented their findings earlier this month at the Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) annual meeting in Washington, DC.

Almost 90 percent of drivers reported engaging in at least one technology-based distraction while driving their child in the past month, and most drivers said they engaged in four of the 10 distractions asked about in the study. Drivers who engaged in distracting behaviors also were more likely to report having been in an accident.

Drivers of children who were not restrained in an age-appropriate restraint based on Michigan law had 2.5 times higher odds of reporting a child-related distraction than drivers of children who were restrained appropriately.

"Lots of attention has been given to distracted teen drivers. However, our results indicate parents are frequently distracted while driving their 1- to 12-year-old children, and these distracted drivers were more likely to have been in a crash," said lead author Michelle L. Macy, M.D., M.S., FAAP, clinical lecturer in the Departments of Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics at University of Michigan and C.S. Mott Children's Hospital.

Parents were surveyed while their children were being treated at one of two Michigan emergency rooms for any reason. Participants were asked how often they engaged in distracting behaviors while driving with their child over the last month. These behaviors included talking on the phone (hands-free or handheld), text-chatting/surfing the Internet, self-care



(grooming, eating) child care (picking up a toy, feeding their child), getting directions (navigation system, map) and changing a CD or DVD.

Parents also were asked whether they use a seat belt, what type of restraint their child uses and their motivation to use the recommended restraint for their child's size. Demographic information, including race, education and income, also was collected.

"Our research has identified some high-impact areas to improve child passenger safety," Macy said. "Distracted driving while children are in the car is common, and many children are not using the right safety seat for their size."

Other findings showed:

- Parents who reported always wearing a seat belt were significantly more likely to report their child always uses the age-appropriate restraint.

- Parents who were motivated "from within" to use a safety seat were significantly more likely to report age-appropriate restraint use, while external motivations were not associated with age-appropriate restraint use.

- Parents of minority race/ethnicity were significantly less likely to report their child always uses the age-appropriate restraint compared with white parents, even after controlling for education, income, child age, motivation to use a safety seat and personal seat belt use.

"It is concerning that, in our study population, race is playing such a prominent role in the use of car seats. The underlying reasons are not fully explained by differences in education or income," Macy said. "The impact of parental motivation to use car seats also needs to be better understood."

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

May

IMMUNIZATIONS

Learn what vaccinations are recommended for older adults at a free presentation, 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, May 21, at Providence Hospital, located on Nine Mile, west of Greenfield. Dr. Vilma Drellchman, an infectious disease specialist, on staff at Providence and Providence Park Hospital will give the lecture. Pre-register by calling (888) 751-5465.

VEG COOKING

Learn how to make tasty vegetarian dishes. Attend Chef Rebecca Wauldron's live cooking class with registered dietician Anlie House from Botsford Hospital giving tips on staying healthy, 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 16, at Busch's, 24445 Drake, Farmington Hills. Cost is \$10. Includes recipes, delicious samples, cooking tips, nutrition advice, and a \$10 Busch's coupon. Tickets are available from Busch's Guest Services Counter or by phoning (248) 427-7400. Seating is limited and registration is required.

WALK WITH A DOC

Dr. Amy Brode will tell you everything you want to know about bladder health, including prevention and treatment of UTIs, cancer, overactive bladder, and incontinence at Botsford Hospital's "Walk with a Doc" event at noon, May 16 at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills. She'll also field your questions. The park is located on the west side of Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile. Walks with a Botsford doctor are held the third Thursday of every month through November. Walks held rain or shine. Healthy snacks provided. Register by calling

ing Botsford at (877) 477-Doc1 (3621), option #1.

June

DIABETES MYTHS

A physician will debunk the common myths about diabetes this session, 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, June 1, at Botsford Hospital's Administration & Education Building, 28050 Grand River Ave., across from the Emergency Room entrance on the east side of the hospital. Open to people with diabetes and their loved ones. Check-in and breakfast is 8-8:45 a.m. the hospital. Cost: \$5. Registration required. Call (248) 477-6100, Ext. 204.

Ongoing

AQUATIC CLASSES

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the pain of arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m.-noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch; 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch; and 2-3 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, at the Birmingham branch. All classes are offered to members and nonmembers of every age and participants do not need to know how to swim to participate. To join or for more information, interested individuals can contact their local YMCA branch or visit www.ymcadeloit.org.

ARTHRITIS SUPPORT

2-3:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at the Krieger Center, DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. Enter the building via the South Garden entrance. Registration not required.

In Case of an Emergency ...What to Consider

Ask A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Gardner
Emergency Medicine

Summer is an especially busy season in a hospital emergency room (ER). Broken bones, heat stroke and other issues spike as the temperatures rise. Health Expert and Medical Director of Emergency Medicine at Garden City Hospital (GCH), Dr. Tressa Gardner, gives us a few tips for better handling our own emergencies, even when they're not.

Q: What exactly constitutes an emergency and what do I do if someone in my family needs to see a doctor when the office is closed?

A: If an illness or injury feels life threatening, you should call 911 or go to the nearest ER. Don't delay if you're experiencing any of the following:

- Chest pain or chest pressure
- Difficulty breathing, coughing or vomiting blood
- Uncontrollable bleeding or severe trauma (broken bones, serious cuts)
- Severe head trauma or loss of consciousness
- Sudden and/or severe pain, dizziness, changes in vision, or weakness
- Sudden changes in mental abilities, especially marked confusion

Going to the ER instead of scheduling a doctor's appointment has become prevalent in the U.S. This means a lot of people are wasting time and paying too much for routine care. Contrary to popular belief, ERs do not work on a first-come, first-served basis. Patients are seen based on the severity of their situation.

When you feel sick, no one wants to wait hours in a busy ER. Spare yourself some anxiety and discomfort by being prepared. Here's how:

1. Before an emergency occurs, familiarize yourself with the hospitals in your area, and choose an ER you're comfortable with. Consider what kind of wait you might be facing or how they're set up to handle various situations. GCH is Stroke Certified and we post our current ER wait times online at GCH.org. We also have a program called CAP to assist patients who don't have insurance. When you pay the same day you are treated, we "CAP" your ER charge at \$200.
2. Choose a primary care doctor. Having a regular doctor who keeps your medical history on file and who is available to speak with, or see you in a pinch, is one of your best resources in an emergency. If you need a physician, call GCH's Physician Referral Line at 877.717.WELL.
3. Keep important medical information with you that notes the name and telephone number of your primary doctor, allergies, chronic medical ailments, and any medications (along with dosage) you may be taking. This will assist the ER doctor when trying to diagnose and treat your condition.

Garden City Hospital continues its wellness lecture series at Westland Mall on Saturday, June 8. The topic, *Summer Safety*, is designed to help you enjoy a happy and healthy Michigan summer. Do you have a health or medical question for one of the GCH Health Experts? Visit GCH.org or call 877.717.WELL.



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How to survive brain-teaser interview questions

Larry Buhl,
Special to CareerBuilder

Is it not enough to have a résumé bursting with accomplishments, an action plan for how you can benefit the company and a winning interview style to land the job? Now, you're also expected to answer brain-teaser questions? Seriously?

Seriously. "This trend toward asking off-the-wall questions started in high tech a few years ago and has now emerged in interviews for jobs in a variety of fields," says John O'Connor, president of North Carolina-based CareerPro Inc., a professional career-coaching and branding company.

These questions are often brain teasers and can be anything from a complex, multi-layered math and logic problem to a wacky question with no real answer. Some examples include:

How many rocks are on the face of the moon?

How many jellybeans can fit into a gallon jar?

Why are manhole covers round instead of square?

How many pounds of breakfast cereal are sold in the U.S. every year?

What are the decimal equivalents of 5/16 and 7/16?

It may seem like some sort of interview hazing, but there's often a method to the

madness. In many cases, you won't be expected to come up with the right answer. In fact, the interviewer might not even know the answer. "They're more interested in your thought process and your ability to present ideas, debate and think creatively," O'Connor says. "They want to see candidates who can walk them through their way of thinking. And they're looking for candidates who don't freak out."

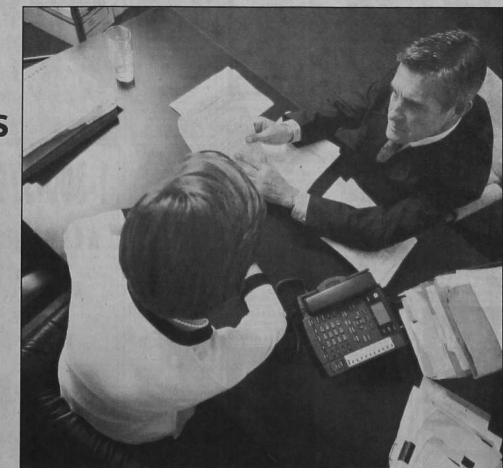
So don't freak out. Below are ways to prepare for the brain teaser:

Bring tools.

Show up to the interview with pens, paper, markers, calculator, stopwatch and ruler to work out a possible brain teaser. It's unlikely that you'll be asked, point blank, how many times heavier an elephant is than a mouse and be expected to answer it on the spot. You'll have time. And depending on the job and the field, what you do on your scratch paper is more important than the conclusion you reach.

Don't be shocked or offended.

A question might surprise you or seem silly given the job for which you're interviewing. Don't let it throw you. Again, the answer is usually not the destination. Sometimes the wackiest question deserves an equally wacky process to



reach a conclusion. But do take the questions seriously. Don't assume that it's being asked to tick you off or make you the butt of a human-resources joke.

Question the question.

Show your ability to think through a problem by asking a clarifying question regarding the brain teaser, suggests Paul Bailo, a New York-based recruiter and author of "The Official Phone Interview Handbook."

"Asking a follow-up question will give your mind a break and buy you time to help you fully understand what is being asked so you don't solve the wrong problem," Bailo says.

Speak out your logic.

Listen to what you are thinking, Bailo adds. "Sounding out" the process of reaching an answer can help you think through the process in a different logical speaking method will allow for a quicker answer and faster mental processing," he says. "Think of it as reading a book out loud, only the book you are reading out loud is your mind thinking through a problem."

See what you are thinking.

Just like sounding out a problem can give your brain a productive whack, drawing it out can help you edit and improve your approach.

Practice.

You can't prepare for the exact question unless you're sure you know what they'll ask. But you can exercise your mind by reading philosophy books, playing mental games, doing crossword puzzles and thinking about big problems, O'Connor says. "How would you solve the world energy crisis? What would the world do without drinking water? Think of these exercises as a workout for your mind."

Larry Buhl researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues for CareerBuilder.

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- Somewhere else
- Consent to
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- Hawaii's Mauna —
- Orchid-like flower
- Cries of pain
- Fledgling
- Solstice mo.
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- Views as

- For a spell
- Narrow inlet
- Knight's title
- Tribal council
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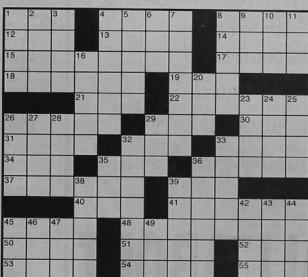
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5			9		8	1	
		9					4
9	7	3			2		5
	5	1		8			9
8	3			5			1
2		1		7		6	

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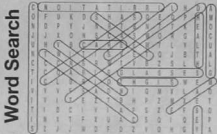
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8	9	5	7	1	6	2	7
1	7	4	6	5	2	9	8
6	2	6	8	9	1	5	7
5	8	9	2	1	7	6	3
7	6	2	5	8	9	1	4
6	1	9	1	7	6	5	8
5	1	8	7	6	2	9	5
2	7	6	5	9	8	1	4
9	5	7	1	2	8	7	6

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Car Report



By Dale Buss

The popular pickup segment — also the industry's most profitable — is busting out all over. Gains in pickups led a robust industry increase in April; Ford just announced the addition of 2,000 jobs at its Kansas City plant to build the F-150 and vans; Chevy is rolling out a Cowboy-themed version of its Silverado; and Ram has notched a big sales boost in part attributed to its soul-touching "Farmer" ad during the Super Bowl.

General Motors is even seeing new possibilities in the compact-pickup segment that it abandoned recently. The company said that it plans to return to the segment next year with two trucks targeting younger, more active buyers and competing against the Toyota Tacoma and Nissan Frontier, which currently dominate compact sales.

One of the biggest recent newsmakers in the segment was GM's announcement that an eight-cylinder version of the first of its all-new pickup trucks will be launched this year. The crew-cab versions of the 2014 Silverado and 2014 GMC Sierra, will offer better mileage than directly competitive V-8 models — and will even (barely) beat out a version of the 2013 Ford F-150 pickup with a six-cylinder EcoBoost engine.

GM's launch this spring of the high-volume Silverado and of Sierra are crucial for the company as it attempts to rebuild profitability and regain sales momentum. Chrysler hurried an overhauled version of the Ram 1500 into the market last year,

and Ford plans a new version of the industry-bestselling F-150 next year. So GM essentially has the field to itself in 2013 in new pickups, and so a flawless execution of the Sierra and Silverado launches could be a huge boon.

Silverado and Sierra will accomplish its new mileage pinnacle with a 5.3L EcoTec3 V-8 relying on direct injection, cylinder deactivation and variable-valve timing to achieve EPA estimates of 16 mpg in the city and 23 mpg on the highway with two-wheel drive, or 16 in the city and 22 on the highway with four-wheel drive. The EcoTec engine is an \$895 option, and about 75 percent of GM's buyers last year opted for EcoTec. A 4.3L EcoTec3 V-6 engine is standard on Silverado and Sierra.

The 5.3L EcoTec3 two-wheel-drive mileage compares with 16 in the city and 22 on the highway for the Ford F-150 two-wheel-drive version equipped with an EcoBoost V-6 engine. About half of F-150 buyers recently have opted for new six-cylinder engines that weren't even available two years ago, and most of them are choosing the EcoBoost powertrain.

The new option engine on Silverado and Sierra also beats out the 15 mpg in the city and 21 mpg on the highway yielded by the 5.0L V-8 engine in two-



An image from the "Farmer" ad during the Super Bowl that Ram credits for helping boost spring sales.



The 2014 Silverado High Country will further broaden Chevrolet's portfolio in the premium pickup segment.

wheel-drive versions of the F-150 and the 14 mpg in the city and 20 on the highway provided by a 4.7L V-8 engine in two-wheel-drive versions of Ram.

Now, as Ford is sure to note, the EcoBoost engine in question does beat the new 5.3-liter powertrain in GM's trucks in a couple of other criteria that are important to power-conscious truck buyers: 365 horsepower to 355, and 420 pound-feet of torque compared with 383.

Ford spokesman Mike Levine also told me that EcoBoost delivers "the segment's best combination of power, capability and fuel economy."

But GM executives insisted, in a conference call, that they had come up with the best combination of performance, fuel economy and durability. "In real-world driving," and durability — engines under a higher load that aren't in "boost" conditions — such as EcoBoost, which is turbocharged — "use less fuel," Jeff Luke, executive chief engineer for Silverado and Sierra, told journalists and analysts. "All things considered, our approach is by

far a better one."

The standard Sierra will carry a suggested retail price of \$25,085, including destination charge. GM executives on the call said that pricing for the new Silverado and Sierra models would be the "same as the three models they're replacing."

Yet they said the new trucks will boost profitability over the old models in part because more buyers will opt for pricier lists of new options, including safety features such as a lane-departure warning that GM hasn't offered in its pickup trucks before. This trend, they said, would nudge GM pickups closer to the average transaction prices enjoyed by Ford pickups, which are often higher by several hundred dollars.

As far as the new GM perspective on the compact-truck segment is concerned, "We'd love to have a truck like a Chevrolet midsize [to] go really attack the West Coast with a lifestyle truck that is really beautiful and fun," Mark Reuss, GM's North America president, told auto reporters, according to the Detroit News.

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