

CANTON OBSERVER

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Broadway quality

Forever After Productions, the youth acting group based out of the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton, is getting a little Broadway love.

With the Tony Awards coming up in New York, the website broadway.com went trolling on YouTube for "the most awesome, hilarious and downright weird interpretations of Tony-nominated revivals such as *Cinderella*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *Pippin* or *Annie*." The site recognized Forever After's production of *Cinderella* for "the best use of blue fair dust." To read more and see the clips they chose go to the following link and select "older entries": www.broadway.com/buzz/169786/its-possible-five-awe-inspiring-takes-on-cinderella-magical-transformation-scene/.

Graduation memories

Over the next few weeks, O&E Media photographers will take hundreds of graduation photos. These photos are available as framed keepsakes, prints or on T-shirts and coffee mugs. Look for galleries a day after the graduation ceremony on our website, hometownlife.com. Every staff photo is for sale and purchasing one is as easy as clicking on the yellow "buy photo" button above the image.

EV show set for June 8

The fifth annual Michigan Electric Vehicle Show will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 8, at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. The free show takes place on the main campus (parking lot north) off Haggerty between Six Mile and Seven Mile. Event co-sponsors are Schoolcraft College and the Michigan Electric Auto Association in partnership with Clean Energy Coalition, DTE Energy, Greening Detroit and O&E Media.

B.L.O.C.K. finds new home

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

The B.L.O.C.K. Youth & Teen Center, acclaimed for an array of supervised programs and services that help 60 Canton youngsters every weekday, has found a new home.

By next school year, employees and youths 11 to 17 years ago will move from their eight-year digs at Michigan Avenue and Sheldon to a third-floor area of the Canton Administration Building, putting them closer to amenities such as Summit on the Park, Heritage

Park and the Canton Public Library.

A majority of the Canton Township Board of Trustees reached a consensus Tuesday evening to permit the move, recommended by Canton Leisure Services employees who oversee The B.L.O.C.K., or Building Leaders Out of Canton's Kids.

Only Trustee Tom Yack described himself as "wobbling" on the decision, which comes as Canton officials intend to sell The B.L.O.C.K. site on Michigan Avenue to spur economic development.

He questioned whether youngsters will like the move.

"Why didn't we decide to occupy the (administration building) space before we decided to sell The B.L.O.C.K., if it was such a great invention?" Yack asked.

Not a new idea

Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said the idea had, indeed, been discussed but was given a low priority as local officials grappled with an economic downturn. She and others indicated strong support for housing the youth programs inside a 3,000-square-

foot area of the administration building — accessible by a back door and elevator — where it will not disrupt other township offices.

"It seems like it makes good sense to utilize the square footage that we have," McLaughlin said.

Stephanie Pavio, Canton recreation specialist, said some B.L.O.C.K. youngsters already have taken a tour of the new site. "The kids are real excited about it," she said. "It seems new and fresh to them."

Please see B.L.O.C.K., A3



Canton Police officials say they intend to ensure Liberty Fest remains safe for residents and visitors.

Police warn against unruly behavior at Liberty Fest

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton Public Safety officials are warning troublemakers that fights, foul language and other unruly behavior will not be tolerated as the community celebrates its 22nd annual Liberty Fest June 13-15 in Heritage Park.

"We are very committed to ensuring the safety of the residents and people who visit the festival," Special Services Lt. Debra Newsome said. "We will have an enormous police

presence to make sure it's a very safe, family environment. We will be out there for that reason."

Canton has sounded the warning after large crowds of mostly young people have congregated and instigated fights at area carnivals in Westland and Orchard Lake, disrupting peaceful events and instilling fear among festival patrons.

Newsome said inappropriate behavior at Liberty Fest — fights, profanity, taunts, shirtless patrons, indecent

exposure — could lead to warnings, dismissal from festival grounds, citations or arrests for crimes such as disorderly behavior.

Canton Leisure Services staff have said Liberty Fest, featuring carnival rides, charity-group fundraisers, entertainment and a celebration of Canton's diversity, has typically drawn crowds estimated at 50,000 over three days.

"This is a family event, and

Please see LIBERTY, A2

Middle school design moves front-and-center

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

With the \$114.4 million bond passage in the rearview mirror, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools administrators and Board of Trustees have turned their attention to the biggest issue now in play: Getting the new middle school built.

With the decision to close

Central Middle School and open the new middle school in September 2015 already made, administrators have said they're under a strict time line to get the new building planned, designed and built.

The question now is, who's going to manage and design the project.

At a board meeting last week, administrators said

they'd like to stick with TMP as the architect and McCarthy-Smith as the construction manager based on past performance. Both those vendors have managed the district's bond work for a decade or more, including the successful 2004 bond, which saw all projects come in on time and under budget.

Please see DESIGN, A2

Relay misses goal, still fundraising

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Relay for Life of Canton has fallen short of its goal to raise \$263,250, but organizers still hope to close the gap.

The American Cancer Society's website for the Canton event lists the amount raised at \$165,773, but Liz Evans, an ACS community representative, said late donations are expected to push the total around \$200,000, or \$63,250 short of the goal.

"I think we set an overly aggressive goal," Evans said. "We lost some teams this year, but I'm proud of the Relay committee. The teams that came out were passionate, and I think they had a good time."

The website indicates 61 teams and 847 participants joined the 24-hour Relay, May 18-19 in Heritage Park.

Evans said donations still may be made through Aug. 31 at www.relayforlife.org/cantoni.

Moreover, Evans said money raised from Bark for Life, a canine-friendly ACS fundraiser 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 18-19 in Heritage Park, will help toward the \$263,250 goal.

Bark for Life co-chair Kathie McFry has said anyone who wants to become involved may go to www.relayforlife.org/barkcantoni or attend a kickoff event 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 12, at Summit on the Park's grand ballroom, 4600 Summit Parkway.

Evans described Bark for Life as "a feeder event" to Relay for Life.

McFry has said Bark for Life, in its third year, has set a goal of \$25,000 goal this year — a sharp increase over last year's \$18,000 and the first year's \$6,000. The new goal, if met, would help push Canton's overall fundraising effort closer to the \$263,250 mark.

Meanwhile, the Relay for Life website indicating that Quacking for a Cure, a youth team from St. Thomas a'Becket, had surpassed the \$12,000 fundraising

Please see RELAY, A2



Canton Relay for Life didn't reach its goal, but fundraising efforts are still ongoing.

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LIBERTY

Continued from page A1

we will adjust our efforts to support maintaining this tradition," Canton Public Safety Director Todd Mutchler said.

Sporadic trouble

Liberty Fest has had sporadic incidents in past years but nothing on the scale of fights that disrupted the recent St. Mary's of Orchard Lake fair and the Westland Firefighters Charity Fund carnival, where a brawl captured in a two-minute video was posted on YouTube. Westland has begun to debate whether to ban carnivals, which Westland Deputy Police Chief Michael Matich said have drawn gangs. Canton officials have vowed to thwart any efforts to disrupt Liberty Fest, a long-popular event crowned by a fireworks display over picturesque Heritage Park.

"We have a zero tolerance for mischief," township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said. "We try to make it a family-friendly event, and we have a visible police presence on site. I don't think people



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Liberty Fest draws big crowds, and Canton Police are taking steps to curb any unruly behavior.

want to come and cause a problem, or they will find they are in a problem."

Canton police officers will have help at Liberty Fest from a citizen-trained Community Emergency Response Team, or CERT, whose members plan to wear vests and patrol festival grounds along with law enforcement.

"They will be looking for certain behaviors," Newsome said. "We will have more eyes and ears by using them."

Local authorities say they will not allow unruly patrons to ruin Liberty

Fest for peaceful families and patrons simply enjoying one of Canton's premier events.

Zero tolerance

"This is Canton. We're not going to tolerate any disorderly behavior," Newsome said.

Authorities will even be watching for patrons who aren't properly dressed.

"Put on a shirt or leave," Newsome said, "and we don't think children and families should be subjected to the kind of underwear you wear."

Newsome warned of a zero tolerance for inappropriate behavior, language or clothing. She said Canton welcomes visitors of all ages who want to attend a peaceful celebration.

"We're not discriminating against teens," she said. "Anything disruptive in nature will be dealt with swiftly."

"This is Canton's festival," Newsome added. "We are very much in control. This is Canton, and this is how we roll. It's a family-friendly environment. One strike and you're out."

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DESIGN

Continued from page A1

"We've got a long history and commitment to TMP and McCarthy-Smith, who've done a lot of bond work and facilitated the capital improvement work (for this bond)," Phil Freeman, the district's assistant superintendent for facilities and operations, told board members.

The administration's recommendation is to hire both McCarthy-Smith and TMP without going through the request-for-proposal process that would seek out other, potentially lower, bids. Freeman and Brodie Kilian, the district's executive director for business services, said they're comfortable that fees charged by both vendors are well within market range.

While Kilian said he "wasn't comfortable" putting a price tag on the work at this point, he did acknowledge it would be "significant," but said the district understands its responsibility for being "good stewards" of bond proceeds.

"With a large project like this, there's always an effort to be good stewards of this money, and we are doing that," Kilian said. "Due to the relationship we have (with TMP and McCarthy-Smith) and the proposals that have come in ... We feel in our initial review of the financial components of these

contracts they are very much competitive.

"At this point our initial recommendation to retain our current team," he added. "It would be in the best interests of the school district. Maintaining our existing team will provide us the ability to maintain the current time lines. An RFP process would jeopardize that time line."

But Trustees Mike Maloney and Mark Horvath said they weren't comfortable with making a "sole source" decision without the bidding process, until they've seen more data that determines the vendors' fees are the right way to go.

"No disrespect to the team ... Before I'm going to be comfortable making a sole-source decision I'm going to have to see a lot more data," Horvath said. "If they were truly the best value, everybody would use them. No disrespect to the folks we've used, but I'm not prepared to make a sole-source decision for millions of dollars."

Board Vice President Judy Mardigan, the only trustee who was on the board for the 2004 bond, said she's completely comfortable with the relationship the district has with both TMP and McCarthy-Smith, but she also wants to see the financial data.

"I would be comfortable making a sole-source decision, based on the

experience we've had with (TMP and McCarthy-Smith), assuming we see the data and we see the comparative rates. As long as we've done our diligence that way, I'd be comfortable because I know how the team has performed. That means a lot to me."

The other question is the design of the new school. Freeman offered up several options, including using the footprint of Discovery Middle School and, perhaps, building a two-story building that might offer some energy conservation and maintenance cost-cutting options.

Maloney wondered why the district would entertain other options when the district is at a tight time line and there are already successful footprints at schools such as Discovery.

"We're talking about how concerned we are about timing, but we're talking about designing a whole new school," Maloney said. "It seems to me, as an example, taking Discovery, which has a pretty high satisfaction ratio, to take that and put it on a new site would speed up the design process. I think you could save 3-4 months by using the Discovery (footprint). Taking the footprint and designing it for the site would be cheaper."

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Busy Women's Retreat

Relax and Revitalize
Friday, June 14

9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Greenmead Historical Park
\$39 Per Person
Cont. Ed Course
(CPS 2071,02)

9:30 a.m. **Check-In** (Alexander Blue House)
10:00 a.m. **Beginning Yoga** Instructor provided by Livonia Yoga Center. No mat required. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes.
10:45 a.m. **Meditation** Meditation to soothing music, guided by Dave Kravitz, Global Breathing Institute.
11:15 a.m. **"Gaining a New Perspective"** Karen Danto, LMW, ACSW will discuss how to identify negative mental frameworks and to develop ways to shift your perspective.
11:45 a.m. **Hot Lunch and a Short Walk** Sponsored by Henry Ford Health System, Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Division of Sports Medicine (henryford.com/sportsmedicine)

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MADONNA UNIVERSITY

Register: 734.423.5804 or online at madonna.edu (click on Registration)

RELAY

Continued from page A1

mark for a second year in a row, earning enough money to capture the American Cancer Society's Jade Award for top

ping the \$10,000 mark.

The team's adult co-chair, Keri Connelly, has called it "a big deal" for Quacking for a Cure to earn the award.

Though other southeast Michigan Relay events are still occurring this

year, Evans has said Canton's event in years past has routinely ranked as the region's largest community-based Relay.

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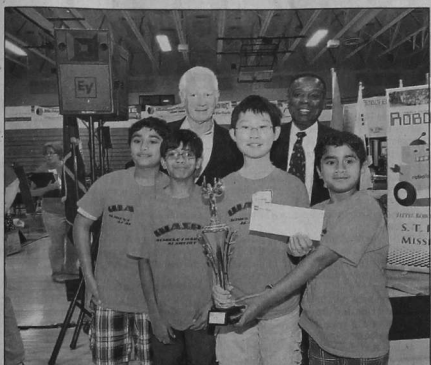
Thank you to all my customers that volunteered their time to help with the Annual Fireworks Fundraiser.

A special **thank you** to all my employees who have now become my extended family. **Thank you** for providing excellent customer service through your hard work and dedication.

Sincerely, Al Jonna

Happy 25th Anniversary!

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Members of the Wasps team from Canton are (from left) Bhanu Makkapati, Mustafa Tambawalla, Daniel Li and Neel Makkapati. They were presented with the first-place Junior Exhibition trophy at Robofest World Championship by Lawrence Tech Chancellor Lewis Walker and Ivry Toussaint of sponsor LEGO Education.

Charter students win Robofest

Four students from Achieve Charter Academy in Canton won the Junior Exhibition category at the Robofest World Championship held recently at Lawrence Technological University.

Seventh-graders Bhanu Makkapati, Mustafa Tambawalla and Daniel Li were joined by fourth-grader Neel Makkapati on the Wasps team that won in this category for the second year in a row.

This year's exhibition competition was related to autonomous cars, which many consider the future of the automotive industry.

In anticipation of this future development, the Wasps team designed a radio communications system that enables cars to safely and effectively navigate four-way intersections. The system employs a queuing system

with conflict resolution—upon reaching an intersection, each car decides whether it needs to stop and wait for its turn or go through the intersection without stopping.

The Wasps team built fairly sophisticated robot cars using Arduino microcontrollers, LEGO Mindstorms, X-BEE radios and a variety of sensors to achieve the task. C language was used for programming the robots.

Robofest is an international competition of autonomous robots—computer-programmed to act independently and not radio-controlled—that encourage students to have fun while learning principles of science, technology, engineering, and math, the STEM subjects. Students design, construct and program the robots, and adult coaches are not

allowed to assist during the events. Teams compete in the junior division (grades 5-9) or senior division (grades 9-12), using a variety of computer programming languages and robots.

Robofest is different from most other robotics competitions because all of the game's robotic tasks require teams to use math skills such as algebra, geometry and trigonometry. LTU Computer Science Professor CJ Chung founded Robofest in 2000 as a way to encourage students to STEM subjects.

This year Robofest attracted more than 1,600 students on 550 teams from eight states—Michigan, Ohio, Texas, Minnesota, Florida, Hawaii, California and Louisiana—and five other countries—Canada, Mexico, Korea, China and India.

B.L.O.C.K.

Continued from page A1

Since 2005, more than 1,300 youths from diverse backgrounds have become involved in B.L.O.C.K. programs such as after-school tutoring, homework and computer labs, organized outings to places such as museums and on-site games. Employees say it also improves their social skills and keeps them off the street while their parents are working, with transportation provided for youngsters who need it.

The B.L.O.C.K. has after-school, weekday hours until 9 p.m.—at 11 p.m. Fridays—during the school year. Programs occur 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday during the summer. Outreach efforts have been made for potentially at-risk youths from lower-

income neighborhoods.

Not a problem

"I think it's necessary for the kids who are at-risk," Trustee John Anthony said. "I think this goes a long way to alleviate that problem for kids who don't have some of the advantages that other kids do."

Pavlo said officials need not worry about youngsters trying to roam outside of supervised activities at the new township hall site. She said The B.L.O.C.K. has never had problems of youths running off.

"They want to be there," she said. Jon LaFever, Canton recreation and facilities supervisor, said employees explored empty retail and industrial space, portable classrooms and the administration building, choosing the latter site after receiving input from numerous sources

including parents.

LaFever said the new site could lead to an annual reduction in utility costs of \$9,000. Moreover, local officials say some of the money from the sale of the Michigan Avenue site will pay for necessary renovations at the township hall site.

Three parents who attended Tuesday's township board session lauded the decision. Even though she doesn't have children who participate in the B.L.O.C.K., resident Nicole Jackson commended the township for "a good job" in keeping the program alive and finding a new spot.

Trustee Steven Sneiderman agreed.

"I think it will be a better climate and atmosphere for the kids," he said.

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How To Get Rid Of Knee Pain Once And For All...Without Drugs, Shots Or Surgery

Now, in Livonia, Michigan, one doctor is helping local residents with knee pain live more active, pain-free lives.



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Before the FDA would clear Cold Laser for human use, they wanted to see proof that it worked. This led to two landmark studies.

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- A complete neuromuscular examination.
- A full set of specialized x-rays to determine if arthritis is contributing to your pain.
- A thorough analysis of your exam and x-ray findings so we can start mapping out your plan to being pain free.
- You'll see everything first hand and find out if this amazing treatment will be your pain solution, like it has been for so many other patients.

The First 25 Callers Only can get everything I've listed here for only \$35. The normal price for this type of evaluation including x-rays is \$250, so you're saving a considerable amount by taking me up on this offer.

Remember what it was like before you had knee problems; when you were pain free and could enjoy everything life had to offer? it can be that way again. Don't neglect your problem any longer—don't wait until it's too late.

Here's what to do now:

Due to the expected demand for this special offer, I urge you to call our office at once. The phone number is 248-615-1533.

Call today and we can get started with your consultation, exam and x-rays as soon as there's an opening in the schedule. Our office is called Kramer Chiropractic and you can find us at 34441 W. Eight Mile Rd., Ste. 116, in Livonia, MI. Tell the receptionist you'd like to come in for the Knee Evaluation.

Sincerely, Greg Kramer, D.C.

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Don't wait and let your knee problems get worse, disabling you for life. Take me up on my offer and call today: 248-615-1533

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Police seek help with suspect ID

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton Police are asking for the public's help in identifying a suspect accused of robbing the 7-Eleven store, 43340 Warren near Morton Taylor, at gunpoint around 2:55 a.m. Tuesday, May 28. "No shots were fired," Detective Sgt. Craig Wilsher said. Police received a call that a suspect had entered the store and demanded money from a clerk while pointing an object at her that she believed was a handgun. The employee was restrained, but Wilsher said he couldn't elabo-



Canton Police are asking for help identifying this suspect following an May 28 robbery at the 7-Eleven store on Warren near Morton Taylor.

rate because those details could become evidence in an ongoing investigation. The clerk wasn't injured, Wilsher said. The suspect was described as a white male, between 6 feet tall

and 6-foot-3, approximately 25-30 years old, wearing a dark hoodie and dark pants. He wore a nylon over his head.

Police said the suspect fled in what was described as a dark-colored Volkswagen Jetta, likely from the mid-2000s. It had a white strip along the bottom of the vehicle and after-market rims. Anyone who has information is asked to call the Canton Police Department at (734) 394-5400. Crime Stoppers of Michigan is offering a \$1,000 tip that leads to an arrest. Crime Stoppers can be contacted at (800) SPEAK-UP or online at www.1800.speakup.org.

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Shoplifting arrest

A 21-year-old Wixom man was arrested on a shoplifting charge Friday evening after a security guard at a Plymouth Township store accused him of trying to steal a pair of shorts.

The incident occurred just before 9 p.m. Friday at the Kmart on Ann Arbor Road at Haggerty, a Plymouth Township Police Department report said.

The guard told a responding officer that he watched on a video security monitor as the man picked up a pair of black shorts, took the price and anti-theft tags off of them, and concealed them on his person, the report said.

The man bought a T-shirt, the guard said, and left the store when he was confronted by security, the report said.

The suspect was cooperative, the report said, and waited for police to respond to the store.

Business break-in

A laptop computer was reported stolen from a business on General Court, in the area of Joy Road and Lilley, after a break-in there early Friday morning. Officers responded to an alarm at

Maverick Property Maintenance shortly before 1 a.m. Friday and found the glass in the front door had been broken open, a police report said. The owner walked through the office with police and determined the laptop was the only thing stolen, police said.

The owner said he had left work shortly before 10 p.m. the previous evening.

Fraud reports

* A township woman reported finding an unauthorized cable service account in her name recently while checking her credit report.

The account had an unpaid balance of \$538 from 2012 for service at a house on Asbury Park in Detroit; the woman told police she had never lived at that house and didn't know anyone who had.

* A township woman reported finding an unauthorized charge of \$742 on one of her credit cards.

The woman told police she checks her credit statements daily through the Internet and noticed a charge from a Michigan business that she hadn't made. She canceled the credit card.

—By Matt Jackson

CANTON CRIME WATCH

Indecent exposure

Canton Police arrested a 59-year-old Livonia man and cited him for indecent exposure following accusations he was nude outside of Plymouth High School, a police report said.

A security guard notified police about 12:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 29, to report a man who was seen walking nude around his car, described as a silver Mazda.

Police spotted the car on Joy Road near Canton Center and stopped it. The man was still naked and hiding himself with a pair of red shorts he had placed on his lap.

The suspect told police he was going for a joy ride and that he had to use the bathroom. He initially told police he had irritable bowel syndrome.

Police had the man put his clothes back on, arrested him and cited him for indecent exposure. His vehicle was impounded.

The man, described as a divorced father of three, was later interviewed at his home and changed his story, the report said. He told police he is a nudist and was looking into becoming a member of a nudist camp. He said he had issues with voyeurism.

The man told police he had gone nude in public three times last summer, but he said none of his actions involved children. When asked how he believed his teenage daughter would react if she saw someone doing what he had done, he began to cry and said he was embarrassed, according to the police report.

Police notified Livonia authorities as well because the man lives near Churchill Hill School.

Burned feces

A man who lives in Sandalwood, northeast of Gengary and Beck, notified police to report someone had burned a bag of feces on his front porch while he was away May 24-28.

The man said the door mat had been burned as well. He said pieces of concrete had been thrown at his garage door, damaging it. Police told the man to report any further incidents and said patrols would be increased in his neighborhood.

eBay scam

A 26-year-old Canton man went to the

police department to report that he had been the victim of a scam on eBay, a police report said.

He told police he had sold a laptop on eBay and received notification from a buyer who said he wasn't happy with the purchase. He told the buyer to send the laptop back and refunded the money.

However, the victim said he only received a power card and display monitor — and not the laptop he had sold. He contacted the buyer again and got no response. He was advised by eBay to file a police report.

Meds stolen

A 62-year-old Canton man reported that someone stole his prescription pain medication from his kitchen cabinet sometime prior to 3 p.m. Monday.

The man lives in the 1700 block of Elmhurst, southeast of Ford and Sheldon roads. He said he takes the pills, Tramadol, for a condition that affects his legs. He said he believes the theft occurred when his family had 20 people over for a Memorial Day gathering. The man said he needed to file a police report to obtain a new prescription from his doctor.

Dog rescue

A Canton woman's actions may have saved a small dog that was in the middle of Morton Taylor Road eating road kill.

The woman, who lives in the 6300 block of Wedgewood near Morton Taylor and Warren, said she had managed to get the dog out of the middle of the road, a police report said. Police checked the area but couldn't find the owner.

The dog was turned over to the Michigan Humane Society.

Hit and run

A 26-year-old man notified Canton police amid allegations another driver struck his car and fled the scene at a small shopping center northwest of Cherry Hill and Haggerty roads.

The man said a driver of a brown Cadillac struck his vehicle about 6:35 p.m. He said it appeared the man was going to get out of his car and attend to matters, but he then saw the suspect driving away.

—By Darrell Clem

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Chamber kicks off new business institute

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

In a move to help local businesses boost their profit margins, Canton Chamber of Commerce leaders are eager to roll out a new initiative, the Institute of Business Development — the latest tool in the chamber's long-range strategic plan.

The institute's inaugural session, "Six Steps To Financial Mastery," kicks off at 8 a.m. Tuesday, June 11, at the chamber office, 45525 Hanford west of Canton Center. It features Premier Development Solutions leader John Lankford, a master certified business coach who has held executive positions with Fortune 500 companies Ford Motor Co., Comcast University and Ascension Health, touted as the second-largest Catholic health system in the nation.

Lankford's one-hour session, free to chamber members and first-time guests, aims to teach Canton business officials ways

to improve margins on products they sell, increase prices on their services, boost their cash flow, better control their financial data and track their monthly growth in less than an hour.

Chamber President Thomas Paden is asking attendees to register by calling (734) 453-4040 or by email at admin@cantonchamber.com.

Paden said the kickoff of the Institute of Business Development marks a new way to help local businesses and the chamber, with over 525 members, grow.

"The Canton Chamber is thrilled to offer this new benefit to the business community," Paden said. "The institute will provide businesses with the necessary tools, skills, systems and processes that they will be able to implement so that they are operating at maximum efficiency."

Moreover, Paden said the institute can help Canton remain a vibrant community where businesses thrive.

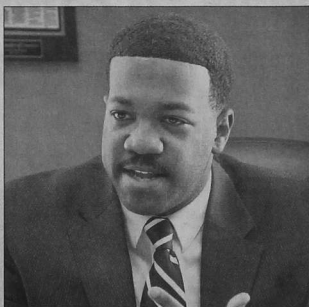
"The Canton Chamber wants

to play a vital role in ensuring that the our local business community will be successful and will remain vibrant," he said. "A healthy business community contributes to a vibrant community at large. The Canton Chamber institute offers businesses the resources to position themselves for long-term growth and profitability."

Lankford's "Six Steps To Financial Mastery" marks the first of a series of Institute of Business Development sessions the chamber plans to announce. Chamber officials had unveiled the creation of the institute during a breakfast meeting in May.

"We want to help local businesses increase their bottom line and become more profitable," Tammy Brown, chamber board chair, said. "We want to build on the relationships chamber members have with each other and the community."

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238
Twitter: @CantonObserver



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton Chamber of Commerce President Thomas Paden said the kickoff of the Institute of Business Development marks a new way to help local businesses and the chamber, with over 525 members, grow.

AROUND PLYMOUTH-CANTON

HEISE HOURS

Date: Monday, June 10
Location/Time: 10-11 a.m., Parthenon Conely Island, 39910 Ford Road, Canton; noon-1 p.m., Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady in Northville; 3-4 p.m., Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main in Plymouth.

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 his district or at his Lansing office.

Contact: Residents are invited to call toll free 1-855-REPKURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

CHEER CLINIC

Date/Time: Saturday, June 22, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location: Plymouth High School cafeteria

Details: The Plymouth High School Cheerleaders are sponsoring a Kids Clinic for kids in kindergarten through eighth grade. The cost to attend is \$25 per child and includes a Clinic T-shirt, juice & snacks. The deadline to register is Friday, June 14th. A registration form is required; visit the Plymouth Cheer website for a form, www.plymouthcheer.com

Contact: For more information, contact Plymouth Cheerleading or Julie Jones at jonesj05@gmail.com.

APIA DINNER

Date/Time: Saturday, July 27, 6-10 p.m.
Location: East Lake Chinese Restaurant, 5087 Rochester Road in Troy

Details: Asian-Pacific Islander American/Vote-MI hosts its third annual dinner to honor and recognize outstanding APIAs in the community. The keynote speaker will be Uyen T. Le, the Executive Director of the Asian American Institute (AAI), a Midwestern Pan-Asian organization committed to empowering Asian Americans through advocacy by utilizing research, education and coalition building. Tickets are \$65 (general admission and one-year membership), \$50 general admission and \$40 for members.

Contact: Sally Kim, (313) 438-8862 or email sallykim@apiavotemi.org

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: West Middle School, Ann Arbor Trail and Sheldon, Plymouth

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

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

BLOOD DRIVES

Dates/Times/Locations:
• Friday, June 7, 10 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., Canton Library, 1200 Canton Center
• Sunday, June 9, 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., St. Kenneth Church, 14951 Haggerty
• Monday, June 10, 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., Plymouth Library, 223 S. Main

• Sunday, June 23, 8 a.m. - 1:45 p.m., Our Lady of Good Counsel church, 47650 N. Territorial

• Monday, June 24, 1:30-7:15 p.m., VFW Post 6695 in Plymouth, 1426 S. Mill.
• Friday, June 28, 11 a.m. - 4:45 p.m., Plymouth City Hall, 201 S. Main.

Details: The American Red Cross hosts blood drives at various times and locations. Appointments are available, but walk-ins are welcome.

Contact: Diane to set up an appointment at (313) 549-7052 or Diane.Risko@redcross.org



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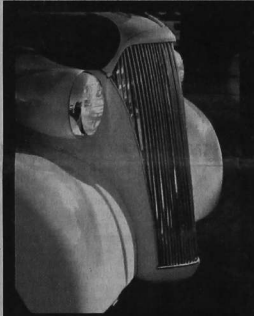


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Family's grief prompts benefit walk to combat brain tumor deaths

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Karen Cioma James and husband Phil grieve the death of daughter Leah, who was diagnosed at age 4½ with an inoperable brain tumor. Leah lived just over a year after that before passing in 2005.

"As a way to channel our grief, we formed our S01(c)3," mom Karen said.

The family also includes daughter Kylie, 16, who attended Northville Christian Academy. "We learned to love Northville," Karen James said of the family, which is now living in Florida for her husband's work. They moved to Livonia after marrying.

Their organization, Leah's Happy Hearts, is based on the little girl's expression of "My heart is happy." The annual "Happy Feet for Happy Hearts Walk" will be held Saturday, June 8, at Maybury State Park, Eight Mile west of Beck in Northville Township.

The organization's board is made up of many friends. "Most of them knew Leah," she said.

This is the sixth year for the walk, which last year drew about 200.

Robot photos

Registration will start 9 a.m., the walk at 10 a.m. For every \$20 in pledges raised, participants will receive 25 raffle tickets, with additional raffle tickets offered for purchase at the walk. There will be a dove release and a butterfly release, along with clowns and face painting.

The robot R2D2 will pose for photos, and a



Leah James was just 4½ when diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor. She died in 2005, and her family holds an annual benefit walk to support pediatric brain tumor research and other projects.

light lunch and refreshments will be served. Go to www.leahshappyhearts.org to register and/or create a pledge page.

People are encouraged to sign up in advance but walk-ins are also welcome.

Proceeds will support pediatric brain tumor research at the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, where Leah was treated. The organization also puts on each year a holiday shopping event for hospitalized children.

"We set up a store on three different floors," James said, with children choosing gifts for family members and themselves. Area Girl Scouts make no-sew fleece blankets for children for the

event.

"It's just a really fun event," James said of the holiday shopping. "It's very rewarding for me."

Grief help

The family finds the benefit work helps them grieve. "That's the main reason we decided to form it," she said. "I knew I had to do something. It was well worth it. The pain is always going to be there."

Offering more treatment options for others helps the family cope. Leah's tumor was in the brain stem and couldn't be biopsied. It was described to her parents by doctors as like taking sand from Jell-O.

Funds from last year's walk and other fundraisers are supporting a book



More walkers are always welcome at the event, set for Saturday, June 8, at Maybury State Park.

HAPPY FEET FOR HAPPY HEARTS

What: Walk benefitting Leah's Happy Hearts, which raises money for pediatric brain tumor research at the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital
When: Registration begins at 9 a.m., Saturday, June 8
Where: Maybury State Park, Eight Mile west of Beck in Northville Township

More info: Visit www.leahshappyhearts.org to register and/or create a pledge page

to be written by Ridge Wood Elementary teacher Sue Beth Balash in the Northville school district. The book will be for children diagnosed with tumors and their siblings.

"It's supposed to inspire hope for children," said James, adding C.S. Mott Hospital is also working on that. The main character will be named Leah and the book will share the girl's joyful spirit but not her story. The book will be shared with other hospitals down the road.

At the June 8 event, the Northville Fire Department helps with a fire truck and fire hats for the kids. "They've been

great, always there for us," James said.

James and other organizers would be happy to raise \$20,000 from the June 8 walk. She appreciates "great sponsors," such as Domino's Pizza, Table 5 restaurant of Northville, Sunny J's of Plymouth, and Independent Bank of Livonia.

Tons of support

The James family moved to Florida in 2009, and plans to return to Michigan when Kylie graduates from high school, with Northville their first choice. "It's been difficult for her but she's getting along as

best she can," mom said of Leah's death impacting Kylie. It was helpful when Kylie turned 16 and could visit the hospital, seeing work there.

The teen also benefits from supporters at the annual walk. Karen James said it draws from Northville, Novi, Livonia and Plymouth, as well as their family members from Trenton, Whitmore Lake and Monroe.

James is pleased with this year's raffle prizes, including Detroit Tigers Den seats, an iPad and an American Girl doll. Leah's favorite color was purple, so the walk features purple T-shirts and balloons. Each walker will get a purple backpack.

Leah is buried in Livonia and the family appreciates a couple, friends and neighbors, who care for the grave. "I'm very lucky to have them," James said.

jbrown@hometownlife.com

Festival highlights cultural traditions

Canton's Liberty Fest continues its popular tradition of hosting an International Festival during its highly-anticipated summer community event. The celebration of diversity showcases a variety of cultures from around the world 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, June 15, at the Heritage Park Amphitheater in Canton.

Festival-goers will enjoy music and dance that communicates across cultural and linguistic barriers from countries around the globe, including Bulgaria; China; India; Sri Lanka; Africa; Ireland; Spain; the United States; Scotland; Tahiti; New Zealand; South Korean; and Polynesia.

"Our International Festival is a great opportunity for audience members to experience music and dance from around the globe in one centralized location," said Canton

Arts Coordinator Jennifer Tobin. "Audience will be delighted as the stage comes alive with colorful costumes, exotic instruments and stirring rhythms when these talented individuals share their heritage and some traditions that date back centuries."

Sopranos on stage

Performers expected to take the stage, include Sopranos Sonja Srinivasan and Corintha Sims and Baritone Benton DeGroot of the Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan. These talented singers will perform from 3:30-4 p.m. Soprano Sonja Srinivasan, presently continuing her music studies at the University of Michigan School of Music, is an award-winning emerging professional with an extensive curriculum of performances with various opera organizations in the USA and abroad.

Corintha Sims is currently attending Clafin University and is a previous first place winner of the George Shirley African-American Art Song and Operatic Aria Competition. Benton DeGroot is a recent finalist in the Italian Songs and Arias Vocal Competition for Michigan High School Students.

Other acts include: Elaine Ceime School of Traditional Irish Dance; Harmony Town Barber-shop Chorus; Yantze Melody Group; Tim O'Hare School of Traditional Irish Dance; Canton Chinese Choir; sitar performer Monica Prasad along with Prashant Javkar on the Tabla; Hoaloa Polynesian Dancers and the Mother City Ukuleles; students of Parul Shah; K-Pop Club; Plymouth Canton Chinese Learning Center; Little Chinese Angles - students of Josie Zhou; Julie Grav-

el performing Spanish songs; students of Chinmayee Kulkarni performing Indian dances; the Bulgarian Folk Dance Ensemble Izvor; the Albanian Folk Dance Group from the Balkan American Community Center; Suhassini Mody and Group; Dance Explosion - students of Heidi Worthing; as well as the New Hope Baptist Church of Wayne's Rhythmic Praise Dancers, Joyful Noise Step Team and the Symbols of Silence Ministry.

Organizers said this year's dynamic performances at the International Festival are appropriate for children, adults, seniors, and students.

For more detailed information about this year's International Festival and all things related to Canton's Liberty Fest, visit www.cantonlibertyfest.com or call (734) 394-5460.



Winners of Community Financial Credit Union scholarships included (back, from left) Scott Kardel, Trinity Christian; Rachael Barrie, Canton High School; Dana Blankenship, Salem High School; Patrick Renner, Novi High School; Sandra Shoukari, Michigan State University; (front, from left) Andrew Carlone, Northville High School; Hannah Morello, Ladywood High School; Jessica Scarpello, Plymouth High School; and Mary Kate Winn, Mercy High School. Not in attendance were Christina Riggs, Ladywood High School; Ashley Saunders, Plymouth High School; Brock Baum, Atlanta High School; and Abby Schlicher, Johannesburg-Lewiston High School.

Credit union hands out scholarships

Thirteen students were honored as 2013 Community Financial Scholarship award winners recently, continuing the credit union's commitment to supporting youth and education in local communities.

The scholarships were awarded in collaboration with the Community Foundation of Plymouth and the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation to students who exemplify Community Financial's "People Helping People" philosophy.

The \$1,000 scholarships are named in honor of Margaret Dunning, and the late George Lawton, both of whom, according to scholarship officials, are "great examples of that philosophy."

This year's George Lawton Memorial Scholarship winners include Rachael Barrie, Canton High School; Brock Baum, Atlanta High School; and Dana Blank-

enship, Salem High School.

The Margaret Dunning Scholarship winners are Andrew Carlone, Northville High School; Scott Kardel, Trinity Christian; Hannah Morello, Ladywood High School; Patrick Renner, Novi High School; Christina Riggs, Ladywood High School; Ashley Rose Saunders, Plymouth High School; Jessica Scarpello, Plymouth High School; Abby Schlicher, Johannesburg-Lewiston High School; Sandra Shoukari, Michigan State University; and Mary Kate Winn, Mercy High School.

"All of these students are outstanding students and citizens and deserve our applause for their accomplishments so far," said Bill Lawton, Community Financial president and CEO. "We are proud to support their education going forward and are looking forward to seeing what they accomplish next."



Chinese dancers perform enchanting traditional choreography in vibrantly colorful costumes during Canton's 2012 International Festival.

Library set for summer reading

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Registration is under way for the popular summer reading program at the Plymouth District Library, with a theme of "Dig Into Reading" for kids.

Carol Champagne, head of youth services, said some 1,500 to 1,600 children participated last summer.

"I'm hoping that we'll have a nice booming summer," she said, adding there are also summer reading programs for teens and adults. The theme is "Go Beneath the Surface" for teens and "Groundbreaking Reads" for adults.

The kickoff program for the whole family will be 11 a.m., 2 p.m., or 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 25, at the library, 233 S. Main. The puppets of Kevin Kammeraad of the Tomato Collection fame will be featured. Free tickets for this can be picked up at the Youth Services Desk starting June 17.

That's followed by weekly programs for children ages 5-12, held both afternoons and evenings to accommodate family schedules. Archaeology, animal adventures, family roots and rocks are topics, in keeping with the theme.

There are also drop-in storytimes for children ages 2-5 and their families. The final program for kids ages 5-12 will be 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 3, and will feature author PaleoJoe on fos-

sils and dinosaurs. Registration starts July 27 at the Youth Services Desk or by phone at (734) 453-0750, #5.

There's an Edge Summer Reading Program for children who've finished third, fourth or fifth grade. They stop by the Youth Services Desk to register, fill out an entry blank for each book read and turn it in. There are prizes based on number of books read as well as weekly drawings for special prizes for kids reading seven or more books. There are both weekly and final prize drawings.

There are also special programs as part of Edge. Summer reading activities are sponsored by the Friends of the PDL.

"They get to read whatever they want," Champagne said. "It doesn't have to be a library book."

She points to academic research that school-age children lose about two months at school if they don't read for fun in the summer. "It doesn't take being chained to a desk," Champagne said. "Twenty minutes (daily) is enough to keep those skills up."

Champagne's excited about a new activity this year, a children's garden in four raised beds on the south side of the library. Weather permitting, kids will work there 7 p.m. Tuesdays. There are both plants and seeds.

"We're hoping to have fun with this summer," she said.

Online registration started last summer and was a hit with teens and adults. Children's librarians found parents preferred to bring children in to sign up and then keep the reading log, reporting on what they'd read and doing some writing too.

"That was something we were not expecting," Champagne said. "It was a surprise to us. We're delighted to offer both."

Campers and children who participate with grandparents benefit from the online option, she said.

The teen program, for those entering middle school and up, features library programs, community events like Art in the Park, watching movies of course reading. For details, go to <http://plymouthlibrary.org/index.php/teen>.

Adult summer reading runs through Aug. 10 and features two ways to play: Library Bingo, in which you can win prizes by completing five boxes in a row on the bingo form by reading different genres. Forms are available at the library and online at plymouthlibrary.org. No registration's required for this.

Adults can also do a summer reading log online. Sign up at plymouthlibrary.org to create your account, then read at least five books of your choice and log them. Book review can also be posted.

Car club hosts festival show

America's Most Wanted Car Club of Canton hosts the 22nd annual Canton Liberty Fest Car Show 8 a.m. Saturday, June 15, in Heritage Park in Canton.

A pre-registration party is set for Friday, June 14, from 5-8 p.m., also in Heritage Park, located on Heritage Parkway (behind the Canton administration building).

The donation for showing a car is \$15 prior to June 7 and/or at the pre-registration party. Car owners will donate \$20 per car to register on the day of the show. Spectators are welcome at no charge.

All the proceeds this year will be donated to Open Door Ministry in Canton. Open Door Ministry provides food and job skills for those residents of Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, Belleville, Ypsilanti, Westland and Wayne who need for support. They not only feed 450 families per week but they also give classes in resume writing, job interviewing, job skills and help people get back into the work force.

For additional information contact Barb Xenakis at (734) 455-9796.



America's Most Wanted Car Club of Canton hosts the 22nd annual Canton Liberty Fest Car Show 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 15, in Heritage Park in Canton.

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Harsha Jayatilake, MD, Medical Director,
Center for Integrative Medicine

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Fighting cancer

Canton-area HomeGoods shoppers will have the opportunity to support cancer care and research while shopping at the off-price home fashions retailer through June 30. More than 275 HomeGoods stores nationwide will be participating in the 12th annual HomeGoods "Helps Families Fight Cancer" campaign benefiting the Jimmy Fund, which supports pediatric and adult cancer care and research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, Mass.

HomeGoods customers can participate by making a contribution at the register to "Help Families Fight Cancer" with 100 percent of the proceeds benefiting Dana-Farber. Customers also have the opportunity to purchase a reusable shopping bag for 99 cents featuring artwork by Jimmy Fund Clinic pediatric patient Phoebe Davis and her brother Caleb.

HomeGoods will contribute \$50 for each bag purchased to the Jimmy Fund. "HomeGoods and its dedicated customers have raised more than \$3.1 million for Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. We are so grateful for their continued support in our fight against cancer and helping families facing this disease," said Suzanne Fountain, director

of the Jimmy Fund.

Fifth Third grants

Fifth Third Bank (Eastern Michigan) distributed 42 \$330 Employee Involvement Grants to non-profits on behalf of their employees who volunteer with that organization.

Fifth Third's "Week of Giving" encouraged volunteerism and provided additional incentive for employees to give of themselves to their communities. Check presentation ceremonies were held at nine Financial Center locations within the Eastern Michigan footprint from April 29 through May 9.

Among the organizations getting grants were Living Word Church of God, Catholic Central Mom's Club, New Life Christian Fellowship and Starfish Family Services.

"The sweet equity volunteer work and charitable giving that Fifth Third Bank has provided to local communities over the past decade, is part of our heritage," stated David Girodat, president and CEO Fifth Third Bank Eastern Michigan. "A basic tenet of our business is to give back to those communities where we work and live. We see this as part of our mission to help stabilize neighborhoods through corporate and employee involvement."

Antonio's to reopen closed Giulio's Italian Restaurant

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

A former Italian restaurant on Plymouth Road in Livonia will see a new name and owner later this year.

Antonio's Cucina Italiana is planning to reopen the former Giulio's Italian Restaurant and Bar, located at 31735 Plymouth Road.

The restaurant could start serving customers by the end of the year.

"There are some issues that need to be addressed before everything is finalized," said Antonio Rugiero, the owner of the restaurants. "We do not have anything finished yet. That's why we don't have a date."

The former Italian restaurant was of Merriman recently closed its doors to customers. It opened in 2004 after the former DiPalma restaurant burned down.

A phone call to the restaurant's number Monday afternoon discovered the phone lines have been disconnected. It was still open for business as of Mother's Day.

Antonio's owns locations in several surrounding communities, including Canton, Farmington Hills, Dearborn Heights and Dearborn. Rugiero said many of his customers come from Livonia, so opening a restaurant in the city is exciting for him and his family. "We love the City of Livonia. It's a great city," he said. "We sort of surround Livonia. We just thought it would be a good fit."

He said the restaurant



BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Giulio's is closed and being acquired by Antonio's, which has restaurants in Canton, Farmington Hills, Dearborn and Dearborn Heights.

plans on supporting more events in the city, as they do in the communities they operate in, and Livonia will be no exception. The restaurant is currently preparing for the 20th Annual Feast of St. Antonio on June 13, a fundraiser done each year to benefit charitable causes in the Metro Detroit area.

Antonio's, which has been owned and operated in the area since 1964 by the Rugiero family, is a restaurant that serves a variety of appetizers, salads, pizzas, pasta and several main courses. Most items on the menu run between \$10-\$15.

Other locations have banquet rooms and can be rented out for events. The restaurant also caters for funerals. Rugiero said plans for the Livonia restaurant are still being worked out, but he expects the space to be more intimate. He said the quality of the food will remain as high as it is at the other locations.

"We are going to try and downsize it a little bit to fit the footprint we have there," he said. "I can promise you this: You'll know you'll have great Italian food. We're going to keep it true to our word."



New wagon

The Kiwanis Club of Plymouth-Evering cut the ribbon on their new popcorn wagon prior a recent Friday night concert in Kellogg Park. The new wagon was sponsored by donations from local businesses and all contributors have their names on the wagon. Pictured are members of the club, sponsors of the wagon and public officials.

Amish Tables marks 18th year

Amish Tables, located in downtown Plymouth, has a lot of reasons to celebrate.

This month marks the anniversary of their relocation from Ann Arbor to Main Street in downtown Plymouth a year ago, as well as their 18th year as a company. Additionally, Amish Tables has also launched a new comprehensive website at www.signatoremish.com.

Originally started in the owners' basement, Amish Tables was launched to fill a need, providing long tables to large families. The mission was a heart-felt one that the company still believes: "Family happens around the table."

Providing beautiful and handcrafted tables that will last means that they will be with families through the years, for birthdays, weekly meals and special celebrations.

"It's the place you come to, the place where you can connect with each other and share the joys and struggles of family life," owner/CEO Nell Narowski said. Since their inception in 1995, the business has grown to a team of nine staff, operating a 2,500-square-foot showroom, maintaining three websites and shipping orders locally, nationally, and internationally.



Amish Tables celebrates its first year at its new home and 18 years in business in Plymouth this month.

"We have come a long way since the early days and much of our success is attributed to our presence online as well as to our local customers," said John Paul Narowski, vice president and co-owner.

The company is celebrating their dual anniversary with a sale. For the first 18 days of June, their 18 top-selling products will be 18 percent off.

"We wanted to highlight the products that have been influential in our growth," said Debra Stewart, business manager of Amish Tables.

rocky's Weekly HAPPENINGS

Sunday Savings
Chicken Cordon Bleu, Parmesan Stuffed with Ham, Cream Cheese & Spinach, Linguine with Olive Oil & Garlic \$12

Mixed Grill & Martini Madness Mondays
YOUR CHOICE OF MARTINI'S: \$7
Grilled 6 oz. Flat Iron Steak
AND CHOICE OF: Atlantic Salmon, Prosciutto Wrapped Gulf Shrimp OR Herb Marinated Chicken, served with Smoked Gouda Dauphinoise Potatoes, Roasted Corn & Mushroom Relish \$18

Dinner for Two Tuesdays \$60
CHOICE OF ONE TO SHARE:
Calamari • Spinach & Artichoke Dip • Steamed Mussels Casino
CHOICE OF TWO:
• Almond Encrusted Whitefish with Baby Greens, Orange Vinaigrette & Preserved Oranges
• Roast Chicken with Garlic Sauce, White Truffle Oil & Chef's Potatoes
• Grilled Gulf Shrimp with Sweet Chili Sauce & Ginger Rice
• Spicy Maple Grilled Pork Chops with Red Onion Marmalade and Blue Corn, Sweet Potato Tacos

CHOICE OF A BOTTLE OF:
Raymond Merlot, Salmon Creek Cabernet Sauvignon, Salmon Creek Chardonnay or Beringer White Zinfandel

AND CHOICE OF TWO:
Crème Brûlée • Sander's Hot Fudge Cream Puff • Cheesecake

All You Can Eat Smelt Wednesdays
Remoulade Sauce, Chef's Potatoes, Fresh Vegetables & Cole Slaw \$12

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Don't fall for bogus charities in the wake of tragedy

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

As I looked at the calendar, I realized that it is the 69th anniversary of the D-Day landings in World War II. Unfortunately, too many people in our society have forgotten about that day and the incredible acts of bravery that occurred.

If you want to talk about heroes, all you need to do is read the stories about what happened on Omaha Beach and Utah Beach.

I bring this up because, unfortunately, too many people forget about the past and never learn from it. They repeat the same mistakes time after time. When it comes to personal finance and investing, investors can't forget about the past — rather, they must learn from it.

A perfect example of where the past is repeating itself deals with the recent tornadoes in Oklahoma. We've all seen the pictures of the carnage and destruction and the heartbreak the storm caused. However, we're



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

also seeing people fall for the scams that are being perpetuated by so-called charities. The scam artists are once again taking to the Internet, attempting to basically steal your hard-earned money. These low-lives set up websites and send out emails soliciting contributions for the victims in Oklahoma. You have to recognize in today's world, anyone can send emails and put up a website that looks legitimate. It is important to do your homework before sending any money to any charity.

You don't have to be an expert to research a charity; it's relatively easy. Use websites like www.charitynavigator.org or www.give.org. Both contain a wealth of information on charities so

you can make a decision whether to contribute.

New charities are formed whenever there is a natural disaster. Although many of them are legit, the reality is many are not. Low-lives know that Americans are the most generous people on Earth and they look to exploit our generosity. Bogus charities will do whatever it takes to scam money. We must be smarter than them.

I wish there was one tip I could give to avoid all scams, but unfortunately, I can't. However, we can all learn from history. Basically, whether we are investing or donating to a charity, taking time and doing homework before writing a check will go a long way in making sure an investment or charity is legitimate.

Good luck.

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



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Madonna offers retreat for busy women

Looking for a break from the heavy workload at the office or the running of your household?

Madonna University's Busy Women's Retreat offers a few hours of stress-free activity 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, June 14, at Greenmead Historical Park in Livonia.

Check-in is 9:30-10 a.m. at Greenmead Meeting House, 20501 Newburgh Road. The event kicks off at 10 a.m. sharp with beginning yoga, followed by meditation led by instructors

from Livonia Yoga Center and Global Breathing Institute. No mats are required, but women should wear comfortable clothing.

Once relaxed and refreshed, attendees will hear about "Gaining a New Perspective" from Karen Danto, a Farmington Hills social worker and therapist. They'll also discuss common issues facing today's women.

Winding up the retreat, participants will enjoy a box-lunch picnic on the lawn of the sprawling

95-acre historical farm.

The lunch is sponsored by Henry Ford Health System's Department of Orthopedic Surgery.

Registration is required and will be taken until Tuesday, June 11, through the Office of Continuing Education & Professional Studies. Cost is \$39 for the general public or \$29 for Madonna University students or alumni.

Call (734) 432-5804 or visit www.madonna.edu/ to continue to register or for more information.

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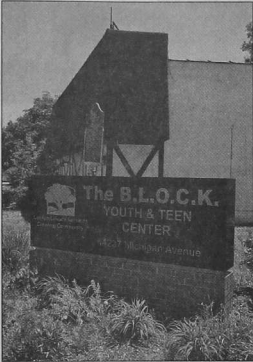
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OUR VIEWS



BILL BINESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The B.L.O.C.K., now located at Michigan Avenue and Sheldon, could be moved to Canton Township Hall if trustees accept a plan presented by Leisure Services officials.

Township hall a good home for B.L.O.C.K.

There were concerns when it was revealed the B.L.O.C.K. building was being sold that the programs it housed would become endangered.

Canton Township officials can ease those fears this week by accepting a proposal from the Leisure Services division to house the B.L.O.C.K. program in an unused portion of township hall.

The youth and teen programs are a positive asset for after-school tutoring, a computer lab, television, games and other activities. Moving it to township hall, while there are some issues, would be a positive step toward giving the program a permanent home.

The B.L.O.C.K. each year provides some 3,400 youngsters — many of whom are repeat visitors — a chance to find useful ways to spend their time away from school, often while their parents are working. It was established in 2005 to provide supervised activities for youngsters ages 11-17. It offers after-school programs, Friday night gatherings, group outings and an outreach effort that provides transportation to the center.

Most of the kids who use the center are between ages 11 and 15, and take advantage of on-site tutoring, a homework room, a computer lab, a television area and pool tables, among other activities and amenities.

It seems Canton Township Hall has some advantages even over the program's current Michigan Ave., location. It's next to the Summit on the Park and its wide array of recreational programming. It's near Heritage Park, in case outdoor activities are used. And it's across the street from the Canton Public Library, yet another learning outlet for kids studying for school.

One of the better reasons is this: It's right there with the Canton Police Department, providing an opportunity, if officials take advantage of it, for positive interaction between police officers and the youth of the community. You're never too young to learn from that.

Township officials indicated at least a portion of the money they get for the B.L.O.C.K. building — they're selling the 2.28-acre site to Novi-based Gerdman Realty & Investment for a reported \$410,000 — will be used for youth programs. They've also said Canton remains committed to offering youth programming.

Housing that programming at township hall is a good way to demonstrate the township's commitment to youth.

COMMUNITY VOICE

With gas prices already topping the \$4 mark in many places, how high do you think they will go this summer?

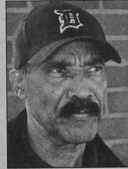
We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"Maybe \$4.50."
Shelby Nemeth
Canton



"I'd say \$4.59."
Jane Nickert
Canton



"I heard they're supposed to go back down. I think it'll be around \$3.69 most of the summer."
Porter Williams
Canton



"As high as these crooks can get away with."
Ralph Klecha
Canton

GUEST COLUMN

Help save bomber plant at Willow Run

By Bob Hynes
Guest Columnist

The Yankee Air Museum and its partner, the Michigan Aerospace Foundation, are on a mission to save a cornerstone of the Arsenal of Democracy.

The historic bomber plant at Willow Run Air-Port, which turned out more than 8,700 B-24 Liberator heavy bombers in World War II, is headed for demolition. The legacy of this factory goes well beyond building armaments. This complex helped



Bob Hynes

build a nation in every way imaginable.

My good friend, the great broadcaster and meteorologist Sonny Eliot, passed to a better place, Nov. 16, 2012. Sonny was a pilot and combat veteran of the U.S. Army Air Forces in World

War II. He commanded a B-24 Liberator in the strategic air war against Nazi Germany. His B-24 was shot down, but he survived. For 18 months, he was a prisoner of war. Sonny was also a life member of the Yankee Air Museum.

If he were here, I'm sure he would be working to save the bomber plant. Now my friend is forecasting with his inimitable charm, perpetually happy atmospheres in his heavenly realm. Sonny's brilliance could shed light on light. So I'll take a cue from his style manual and keep this message simple, direct and true.

We need help to save the bomber plant.

The opportunity to save a critical portion of the plant arose just recently. More importantly, we have only until Aug. 1 to raise the needed funds. At present, we need to raise more than \$5 million. We've raised \$3 million so far.

The Yankee Air Museum and Michigan Aerospace Foundation

need media champions. We simply do not have the wherewithal to conduct the kind of mass communications necessary to be successful. We need to get the word out, tell our story and ask for help far and wide to achieve our mission.

We need audience participation now. Yes, that means you. Visit www.savethebomberplant.org for the whole story. Everything you need to know is there. Please donate and help spread the word.

For me, it's about my friend Sonny Eliot. For you, it may be about Rosie the Riveter. For all of us, it's about preserving tangible evidence ... we were here and, because of that, democracy prevailed.

Bob Hynes, an aviator and longtime Detroit TV and radio broadcaster, was host of WXYZ-TV's morning show from 1966-77. Hynes also hosted a radio program, *Flight Height 760*, on WJR-AM (760) in the 1980s. He is a member of the Yankee Air Museum Board of Directors and chairman of the public relations committee.

LETTERS

Much ado

In the May 23 edition of this paper, a writer asked where was the outrage over the IRS investigation of the Tea Party?

I am not a member of any of the organizations he mentions, but I will respond as an independent voter. It is my understanding that in 2012 the IRS received complaints that extremely wealthy backers of the Tea Party were setting up sham, tax-free units to funnel money to right wing candidates in state and federal elections.

The IRS, rightly so, initiated an investigation. Once these Tea Party backers found out they were under the microscope, they had their lackeys in Washington D.C., start an inquiry. These inquisitors besmirched several loyal and honorable federal employees and managed to take the heat off their backs and put it on the IRS.

Now, these same entities are free to violate our financial election laws without any oversight. But, despite these ultra-partisan hearings in D.C. and the Tea Party's efforts to derail all of the president's proposals, they will have little impact on his agenda.

I think Shakespeare said it best when he penned the line "much ado about nothing."

James Huddleston
Canton

Scandal or efficiency?

Don't we all want our government agencies to function as efficiently as possible by exercising common sense, especially at a time when ill-conceived deficit-mania has overtaken any desire to get anything positive like job

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

creation done? Why then are conservatives gaining any traction at all on claims of scandal? No proof exists that the White House had anything to do with local management decisions of the Cincinnati office of the IRS to pay special attention to the deluge of "Tea Party" organization applications for tax exempt status. In defense of the IRS, if the word "party" was included in an organization's name, wouldn't a prudent employee investigate whether that group's primary function was that of "social welfare" rather than electioneering as the law requires?

Shouldn't the fact that conservative organizations have garnered 85 percent of all monies donated to 501(c)(4)s have instantly raised a flag if economy of effort at the IRS was the goal? Theoretically, if 70 percent of "social welfare" applicants were of a specific, unique

type wouldn't it be reasonable for those applicants to get at least 70 percent of the scrutiny?

Current circumstances demand greater employee efficiency than ever before from the IRS, especially in Cincinnati. The data show that the Cincinnati IRS office processes over 70,000 501(c)(4) applications per year with only 200 investigators and since 2010 has experienced a dramatic spike in requests for tax exempt status, largely from conservative organizations.

Complicating matters, according to tax expert David Cay Johnston, is the fact that the IRS has been tasked to do much more with much less by answering new demands for further scrutiny of Romneycase off-shore accounts while experiencing a 17-percent funding cut since 2000.

Apparently some of the alleged increased attention may be the fault of the Tea Party organizations themselves. Johnston points out that many applications originating from Tea Party organizations were filled out in error and rejected for having political language like "ousting Obama" or "getting Tea Party or Republican candidates elected" included in their mission statements.

The real scandal may be that many organizations get the tax exemption despite very thin evidence of promoting social welfare. Perhaps Mr. Issa should spend his time ferreting out organizations, conservative or liberal who violate the statutes rather than manufacturing scandal where none emanating from the White House seems to exist.

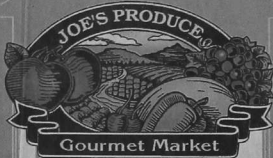
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SECTION B • (C)
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SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR
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GIRLS SOFTBALL DISTRICTS

Aresco propels Chiefs into regionals

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

After Canton's emotional 5-0 district semifinal victory over rival Plymouth which featured no-hitter by junior Hanna Warren, another team was laying in the weeds ready to spoil the Chiefs' afternoon.

And Canton had to rally from a pair of three-run deficits before getting a clutch two-out, 3-run homer from junior shortstop Paige Aresco in the bottom of the sixth inning to stave off upset-minded Livonia Churchill, 8-5, for the Division 1 girls softball district championship at Northville.

The Chiefs, now 27-5 overall, will square off against Catholic League A-B Division champion Farmington Hills Mercy in the regional semifinals beginning at noon Saturday at Novi.

"They jumped on us right away and got us down a little bit," Canton coach Jim Arnold said. "We weren't fired up at the beginning. I told the kids, 'This is your game to win. It's time to wake up and start playing. You should be playing better than what you are.' They decided, I guess, to turn it on and start playing. I'm proud of them. They did a heckuva job after

being down that many runs ... I'm proud."

While the hard-throwing Warren proved masterful in the shutout win over 31-5-1 Plymouth, she was rendered only human against the 28-12 Chargers, who jumped on the Canton ace for three runs on four hits in top of the first inning.

Julia Cavaglini took Warren's first pitch to the right-center field gap and Casey Bias, Nicole Saloum and Mellanie Richardson each followed with RBI singles to make it 3-0.

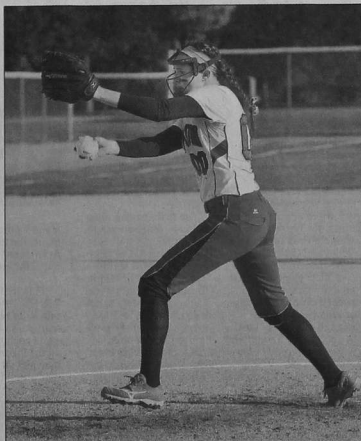
Canton got two runs back in the third thanks to singles by Aresco and Jessica Webster sandwiched around a Churchill outfield error to cut the deficit to 3-2.

Churchill, however, made it 5-2 in the fourth taking advantage of a Canton infield error followed by Katie Shereda's bloop 2-run single to right field.

In the bottom of the fifth, Canton evened the score 5-3. Aresco, who went 3-for-4, started the rally with a one-out single. Catherine Porter followed with a walk and Aresco came on Webster's single.

Warren then hit a hot shot into the hole at second base

Please see **SOFTBALL, B3**



Canton junior pitcher Hanna Warren, shown from earlier this season, won both of her team's district games Saturday.

Another OHL honor for Mike Vellucci

The hardware is piling up for Mike Vellucci of the Plymouth Whalers. It was announced this week that Vellucci was named Ontario Hockey League Executive of the Year for the 2012-13 season.

Vellucci, who recently earned the Matt Leyden Trophy as OHL Coach of the Year this season, led the Whalers behind the bench and in all front office operations as the club captured their 12th division title in franchise history while earning a berth in the OHL playoffs for a record 22nd consecutive season.

The OHL Executive of the Year Award is presented annually to the executive whose team demonstrates success both on the ice and at the administration level through excellent organization and franchise success.

Vellucci is the second member of the organization to earn the award following Jim Rutherford, who won back-to-back Executive of the Year Awards in 1992-93 and 1993-94 with the Detroit Red Wings.

"I believe Mike is very deserving of this award, I am very proud of him," said Whalers Owner Peter Karmanos, Jr. "As good of a coach as Mike is he is an even better business executive. Being able to perform both jobs is something that is very difficult."

Vellucci is the first winner of both Coach of the Year and Executive of the Year honors in the same season.

MU's pitcher All-American

Madonna University senior pitcher Jeremy Gooding (Livonia/Dearborn Divine Child) capped off his career by earning honorable mention honors for the 2013 NAIA Baseball Coaches Association All-American team.

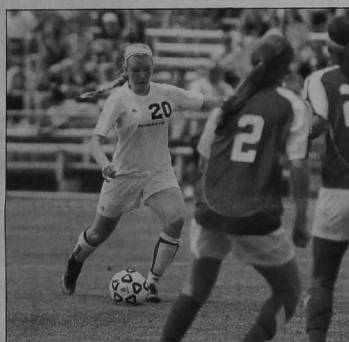
Gooding, who also named first-team All-America in 2011, is the Crusaders' career wins leader (31) with 19 complete games and four shutouts in 308.1 innings.

This season, Good went 5-2 in 11 starts allowing just 16 earned runs in 63.2 innings to go along with 78 strikeouts as the Crusaders captured the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference title and finished 37-12 overall.

LCSC Premier rules tourney

The Livonia City Soccer Club's under-13 girls premier team, coached by Livonia's Jeff Boeb, finished 4-0 and scored 14 goals en route to the division title in the 35th annual Memorial Day Invitational Soccer Tournament in South Bend, Ind.

Team members include: Megan Verant, Allison Kaup, Natalie Hawkins, Kiana Bhuchanzenko, Jillian Aram, Madison Sonnenfeld, Caitlin King, Teresa Semak and Jennifer D'Antonio, of Livonia; Lindsey McGowan, Rose Hodges, Reagan Woodward and Lizzy Roy, all of Canton; Tatiana Ivanac, Farmington; Erin Abramczyk, Farmington Hills; Kathryn Horn, Northville; and Hayley Mayes, Commerce.



Plymouth junior Emily Burkman (No. 20) gets set to send a shot that would result in Saturday's lone goal. In the foreground for Salem is Leah Moss (No. 2).

'Cats ward off pesky Rocks

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Salem head coach Scott Duhal drew up a straightforward game plan for his varsity girls soccer team to attempt to stymie top-ranked Plymouth in Saturday's Division 1 district final: Stop Madi Lewis.

The Rocks succeeded in keeping University of Michigan-bound Lewis off the scoresheet. But the rest of the Wildcats are pretty good, too, and a second-half goal by junior defender Emily Burkman proved all Plymouth needed to earn a 1-0 victory.

Burkman scored with about 15

SOCCER DISTRICTS

minutes gone in the second half, on an assist from Katie Chipman. Goalkeeper Kylie Robb took care of the rest, earning her 16th shutout (not counting a 1-0 win via forfeit over Wayne Memorial earlier during districts).

Plymouth improved to 20-0-1 entering Wednesday's D1 regional opener against Saline at Farmington High School. Results were not available as of press time.

According to Duhal, whose team battled injuries and fatigue long

Please see **SOCCER, B2**

D1 TRACK & FIELD FINALS

Making history

'Cats McCurry best in pole vault at D1 finals

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Jane McCurry literally vaulted to the top of the charts in Plymouth varsity girls track and field history at Saturday's Division 1 state finals. The senior finished first in the pole vault at East Kentwood High School with a mark of 11 feet, three inches, enabling her to become the first state champion in the program's history.

"For Jane it was a culmination to a great season," Plymouth head coach Ricky Styes said. "She went undefeated the entire year. Every dual meet, every meet she entered she took first place in."

"It was nice for her to finish out that perfect season at the state meet, exciting for (pole vault coach) Kevin Palmer, exciting for her parents, everybody there."

"Jane's always kind of been the one we all look to in big meets to perform well. And on the biggest stage she was able to do something that's never been done



Plymouth seniors (from left) Jane McCurry and Sarah Uhlman earned all-state honors in the pole vault at the D1 state finals. McCurry was the state champion.

in Plymouth school history." Joining McCurry as an all-state pole vaulter was senior Sarah Uhlman, who tied for sixth with a 11-3 mark.

Another member of Plymouth's tight-knit "Space Hawks" pole vaulting crew, senior Taylor Rieckhoff, finished in 10th place.

The top seven finishers in the event had marks of 11-3, but McCurry was awarded first place because she "made all of her jumps

on her first attempt" where Uhlman needed a third try.

Rieckhoff came close to making it a tri-fecta. "It was kind of bitter-sweet for Taylor," Skyes said. "She was jumping well early on and just had trouble at 11 and didn't make it. But three of the top 10 girls in the pole vault at the state meet were Plymouth girls."

Other Wildcats performing, but not placing,

Please see **TRACK, B3**

New 'Cats coach praises players

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Storm winds blew through the Plymouth baseball landscape in 2013, and by the time things calmed down, the Wildcats had a new head coach — Mike George.

Reported discord from parents about the direction of the program ultimately led to the dismissal of George's predecessor, Bryan Boyd, who last month stepped down due to "personal reasons."

George, a longtime Madonna University assistant coach, took over to finish out the year. That conclusion came Saturday in a 9-1 loss to Canton in a Class A district semifinal.

"It's not the kids' fault," George said. "They've accepted us the two weeks we've been here. They busted their butts and it's unfortunate that adults mix it up for the kids because they don't deserve it. They're stuck in the middle. It's like a divorce."

"But it's a great group of kids and it's been a privilege for us to come over and help out and hopefully they learned something. And hopefully there's a

BASEBALL DISTRICTS

good future for the program."

The team George took over, along with former Plymouth player Brad Lineberry and MU assistants Stu Rose and Ted Faulkner, finished 15-14 (3-6 following Boyd's resignation).

Asked about next season, George replied: "Don't know yet. We're going to sit down with the athletic directors and the administration." The loss to the Chiefs marked the end of the Plymouth careers of seniors Shawn Sudz, Brandon Waack, Matt Janke, Jamari Eiland, Brendan Swanson, Casey Sudz, Brian Schmidt and Nate Percy.

Schmidt took the loss, victimized by errors that led to six unearned runs.

"He deserved a lot better, with the errors," George said. "I don't know if they had an earned run until that last inning, maybe ... It's tough to give a good team three runs, and it's even tougher to come back against a good team like Canton. They do a nice job over there."

Canton falls in district final, B4

She looks to make big splash at Marist

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The chance to "dig it" with a college volleyball team is something Canton senior libero Becca Middleton can't keep from smiling about.

Middleton recently signed to play Division I volleyball at small Marist College in New York state.

"I am a really hard worker and I think I can lead on and off the court," Middleton said. "I think they (Marist coaches) saw my passion for the game and they saw I really loved it and they saw my abilities and decided to give me a good chance to play."

She can't wait to join the team, which already includes Westland John Glenn alum Brooke Zwicky (who will be a junior in 2013-14).

Familiar face

"We played at the same (volleyball) club together, so it's cool that I get to have one friend there already and then meet so many more new people," said Middleton, a diminutive player who made a big impact on the Chiefs

THE MIDDLETON FILE

Who: Becca Middleton, senior honors student and volleyball player at Canton High School.

What: She recently signed to play Division I volleyball at Marist College in New York state. She will pursue majors in special education and speech language pathology.

Honors: Middleton finished high school with a 3.86 grade-point average,

throughout her varsity career.

Her coach with the Chiefs in 2012, Steve Johnson, raved about Middleton and said the college opportunity is well-deserved.

"She worked awfully hard to get that opportunity for herself, both with club ball (at Premier Volleyball Club in Ohio) and school ball," Johnson said. "Hopefully that kind of work ethic has rubbed off on the younger kids, because she worked extremely hard to get that for herself and we're very proud of her for that."

Middleton — who is fin-

ishing high school with a 3.86 grade-point average and looks to major in special education and speech language pathology — stressed the importance of her training at Premier for having the chance at Marist.

The training also should help her make a smooth transition. "They specialize in preparing athletes for the collegiate level," Middleton said. "We have over 250 commitments to college right now, so it's a great experience for me to train at that club."

Her penchant to train hard carried over to her duties with the Chiefs.



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

It was a proud day for the Middleton family when Canton senior volleyball player Becca Middleton (third from left) signed her national letter of intent to play at Marist College. At left next to Becca are her parents, Jeff and Amy. Also shown are brother Alec Middleton and Canton varsity coach Steve Johnson (far right).

"This past summer I was the off-season captain and I ran all the summer workouts," she noted. "I really challenged all the incoming freshmen and all the players that wanted to try out. I really want to push that working hard can pay off in the long run and it can get you really far."

"I hope the younger girls saw how hard I worked and I hope they do the same" in the future.

Special trio

Middleton, whose parents are Jeff and Amy Middleton of Canton, is one of three seniors from

the 2012 Canton volleyball team to sign with college programs.

Outside hitter/middle blocker Erica den Boer will play at Concordia University while defensive specialist Dia Johnson signed with Defiance College in Ohio.

"They saw the same thing we saw in Dia," Johnson said. "A high-flying back-row hitter."

According to Johnson, this year's players follow the footsteps of other Canton players in recent seasons.

"We've had a long lineage of players going off to college all along, but to have three in the same

year really says something about where we're going with our program," Johnson said. "It shows that the kids are signing on to the workmanlike and pursuit of the game that we would hope that they are doing. And I think it's showing up on the radars of the different college recruiters."

Johnson added that "all the credit" goes to the kids for doing "hours and hours of practice and the hours and hours of conditioning that it takes to get to that level and my hats are off to them."

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SOCCER

Continued from page B1

lowing a grueling 1-0 district win over Canton on May 30, "mapped out a way we thought we could win and we stuck to it. The girls gave themselves a chance to get a goal late on free kicks and service in the box. "Plymouth proved to be a little faster, and tougher winning 50/50 balls and balls in the air."

In particular, Salem sophomore Kylie Knight "played possessed" shadowing Lewis for the first 65 minutes before Duhl moved her up to forward after the Wildcats took the lead in an attempt to tie the score.

The first-year coach added that the Rocks "put so much effort in trying to make it hard on Madi Lewis the other Plymouth girls really shined."



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Up in the air to make a play during Saturday's Division 1 girls' soccer district final is Plymouth's Maria Farmer (No. 5), battling against Salem's Leah Moss. In the background for the Rocks are Megan Barfuss (No. 9) and Morgan Siterlet (No. 1).

Zoe Foster, Stephanie Dillon, Maria Farmer and No. 6 (Erin Winters) were terrific in the midfield. Other standouts for Salem, who finished 14-5-1, included junior defender

er Olivia Kaye, junior midfielder Taylor Jaaska, freshman defender Leah Moss, sophomore defender Kaitlyn Pelech and senior defender Madison Kummer.

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Warren's no-hitter crushes Wildcats

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Canton junior pitcher Hana Warren threw a no-hitter Saturday to spark the Chiefs to a 5-0 victory over KLAAs champion Plymouth in a Class A district softball semifinal at Northville.

The Chiefs went on to defeat Livonia Churchill 8-5 in the district final, overcoming early 3-0 and 5-2 deficits. Warren pitched the second win, too, keyed by junior shortstop Paige Aresco's three-run homer that broke a 5-5 deadlock.

Canton (27-5) advanced to the Novi-hosted regionals which begin Saturday. Staked to a 3-0 lead in the third against Plymouth senior starting pitcher Elaine Gerou, the Chiefs kept the momentum in large part to Warren's strong pitching and stout defense backing her up.

"I started trying to throw more changeups," said Warren, about her approach to the Wildcats.



Canton boasted sure-handed defense against Plymouth, as shown here from a game earlier this season by Kendyl Richter (No. 4) and Shannon Watson (No. 10).

"This is a good-hitting team that has hard pitches and I knew the changeup or slow curve would throw them off. Luckily it did."

Canton head coach Jim Arnold said the victory showed his players they didn't need to rely on home runs to win a key game. He added that Warren pitched a tremendous

game. "They're a tough team," said Arnold, about the Wildcats. "We beat them once before, they beat us twice during the season. This is the one that counts."

"Our team played extremely well, we didn't hit the long ball and it proved to them (Chiefs) that you don't have to hit the long ball to win a

game. Plymouth head coach Bev McManus, whose team finished with an excellent 31-5-1 record, said it was "unfortunate" that the top two teams in the district bracket had to square off in the first game.

"But you know what? We gave it our best," McManus said. "We had a great season. We're holding our heads high."

McManus credited Warren and Canton's defense for forcing her team to the sidelines.

"We hit the ball hard, we hit balls at them, they played great defense," she continued. "You can't take anything away from them. Warren is an amazing pitcher and we're a great hitting team. We just didn't put them together today."

String of hits

The Chiefs managed to do just that against Gerou, who finished off an outstanding prep career on a losing note.

Canton's decisive third

inning opened up innocently enough with singles by senior Shannon Watson, Aresco (2-for-4) and (on a bunt) senior Sarah Wagner to fill the bases with no outs.

Senior catcher Catherine Porter then drilled a two-run double to left-center to make it 2-0.

Another senior, Jessica Webster, followed with a base hit to right to score courtesy runner Val Lentine.

Canton added two more runs in the fifth. Porter (2-for-4) singled, followed by a double to right by Webster (2-for-4). Junior second baseman Kendyl Richter sent a soft liner over the third baseman's head that hit the foul-line chalk to plate Lentine, again running for Porter. Plymouth was stymied by outstanding defense by the Chiefs, who caught several line drives for key outs.

The closest Wildcats came to registering a hit came in the bottom of the third when junior catcher Brooke Senkbeil hit a line

drive into shallow right field. But Canton sophomore right fielder Nicole Clark charged the softball and threw to Watson at first base to throw out Senkbeil.

"We charted them all season long and figured out where they'd hit the most," Arnold said. "We stayed on top the whole game. I'm proud of the way the kids played."

For Plymouth seniors such as second baseman and future Madonna Crusader Bri Giordano, who envisioned the Wildcats making a strong pitch for a state title, the knockout blow was tough to take.

Giordano, choking back emotion, talked glowingly about her teammates and what they accomplished all year.

"I'm just really proud of them in general, everything they do," Giordano said. "Each of them as a person, they're just great people."

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SOFTBALL

Continued from page B1

that Churchill's Maggie McGowan knocked down on a spectacular backhanded stop from going into the outfield. But before McGowan could gather herself and make a play, Porter scored from second and courtesy runner Elizabeth Yager alertly came all the way around from first.

"She (Yager) saw the opportunity and took it," Arnold said. "And it wasn't on me, it was on her. She made a great decision and scored."

With score tied at 5-

5, Canton seized the momentum in the bottom of the sixth.

Kaitlyn Keys and Shannon Watson both doubled, setting the stage for right-handed hitting Aresco with runners on second and third and first base open.

"I was not thinking they were going to walk me," said Aresco, who laced a Shereda 1-0 pitch over the left field fence. "I just tried to stay relaxed and put a good swing on it. It was a fastball and it got quite a bit of plate. It felt pretty good coming off my bat."

Warren, meanwhile, settled down late in the game, retiring nine of the

final 10 Churchill hitters she faced, including a 1-2-3 seventh inning. She gave up six hits, walked two and struck out six.

Canton had a total of 11 hits with Aresco and Webster, a senior third baseman, each collecting three. Senior outfielder Sarah Wagner added two.

"We started off down, so we had to fight back," Aresco said. "We persevered and strung some great hits together and managed to score. With the more at-bats the more we became comfortable, more used to what she (Shereda) was throwing. We were putting better swings on it at the end of the game."



BRAD EMONS | PHOTO

Canton celebrates its Division 1 district girls softball championship after beating Livonia Churchill, 8-5, in the finals Saturday at Northville.

TRACK

Continued from page B1

included Holly Stark (100 hurdles), Natalie Puckett (300 hurdles), Tionne Johnson (discus, shot put) and Kat Harris (high jump).

"We've had a few girls go all-state, but never the state champion," Stves said. "We haven't had an all-state track girl since 2008, so we were happy to have them go all-state let alone Jane winning the pole vault."

Kavulich all-stater

Salem junior distance runner Kayla Kavulich was the only other Plymouth-Canton Educational Park all-stater with a seventh-place time of 4:56 in the 1,600-meter run.

Kavulich set a new Salem school record in the process.

Also setting a new



Shown from a recent meet, Salem's Kayla Kavulich finished seventh in the mile run at the Division 1 state finals.

Rocks standard at the finals was Anya Cho, although she did not place. Cho registered a mark of 11:15 in the 3,200-meter run.

"Those two performances definitely made this meet very all worth it," Salem head coach Dave Gerlach said. "And just great for those two kids that really showed they are top-notch in Division 1."

Gerlach, whose team

had an outstanding season highlighted by the KLAAs Central Division championship and a second-place finish at the D1 regionals, noted that the Rocks hit a "full after two weeks off" following regionals.

"We also had from last night (Friday) and just weren't as focused as I would've liked."

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Salem's 400-meter relay team of (from left) Chris Dierker, Drake Jordan, Steven Homrich and Sean Davis finished sixth at the Division 1 state finals to earn all-state status.

Rocks break records at D1 finals

If at first you don't make all-state in an event, come back and try in the next one.

For the Salem quartet of Drake Jordan, Sean Davis, Steven Homrich and Chris Dierker, that proved to be the magical formula at Saturday's Division 1 state finals in East Kentwood.

They placed 10th in the 800 relay with a school record of 1:30.17 — two

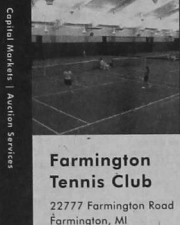
places shy of making the all-state cut. But the same team came back about an hour later in the 400 relay to finish sixth with a time of 4:30.2 (another school record) and come away with all-state accolades.

Rocks varsity boys head coach Steve Aspinall added that the record in the 400 relay also set a new standard for all of Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

With their efforts, Aspinall continued, the Rocks have had at least one all-state player for each of the past five seasons.

To put a cap on the great day, freshman Zach Jeffress ran 9:40.41 in the 3,200 run for a personal best (by 14 seconds). Jeffress "ran the fastest freshman time from any division" at the finals, Aspinall continued.

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The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a proposal for **Technology Cabling Contract**. Specifications of the Request for Quotation (RFQ) are available by contacting Tiffany Brindza, Purchasing and General Ledger Associate, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools at tiffanybrindza@pcpsmail.net or (734) 416-2975. Technical questions should also be directed to James Casteel, Director of Technology at james.casteel@pcpsmail.net or (734) 416-2708. Proposals will be accepted as specified in the Request for Quotation at PCPS - E.J. McClendon Educational Center located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170 on or before **1:00 p.m. on Monday, June 17, 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

Published June 6, 2013

0770002 - 5428

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Salem men's lac alum game set

The first annual alumni game of the Salem Rocks men's lacrosse program will take place 10 a.m. Saturday, June 15 at the PCEP varsity turf field.

Also, the Salem Rocks Lacrosse Booster Club is sponsoring a tailgate for attending the game. Hot dogs will be provided. Those planning on attending should bring a passing dish (last names A-D) should bring a salad/side dish; those with names M-Z should bring a dessert). All should bring their own soft drinks or bottled water.

Players need to bring their own equipment and either a reversible blue/white pinnie or blue and white T-shirt.

The alumni will take on the 2013 varsity team as a new tradition gets underway.

For more info and to RSVP your attendance to this event, send an email to msutfin@comcast.net.

Victory Honda open house

The Canton Victory Honda Hockey Association will be hosting its annual open house from 12 noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 8 at Arctic Edge Arena.

Attendees will enjoy free open skating and a hot dog and soda. Come see what the CVHA has to offer for the upcoming hockey season.

Arctic Edge is located at 46615 Michigan Avenue. For more information, contact Jonathan Castine at (734) 487-7830 or jcastine.arceticaresna@gmail.com.

Salem Rocks Alumni Baseball

The annual Salem Rocks Alumni Baseball game is slated for 12 noon Saturday, June 22 at the Salem varsity field. Cost to play is \$20, including a T-shirt with hats an additional \$20. Batting practice will begin at 10 a.m.

The RSVP is June 8. All proceeds will go to Kelly's Kidz.

For more information, e-mail salemrocksalumni@gmail.com.

Be a Miracle League Buddy

The Miracle League of Plymouth is looking for volunteers for the 2013 season, even if just for one game as a Buddy (to

help players make their way around the bases) or umpire.

As of mid-May, 144 of 480 available volunteer spots had been filled. To volunteer and help maximize the fun and baseball experience for Miracle League players (who have various physical handicaps), please go to www.miracleleagueplymouth.org or send an email to info@miracleleagueplymouth.org.

Salem soccer camp

Boys and girls going into grades three-eight in 2013-14 are invited to attend the Salem Soccer Camp.

The camp will take place 10 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday, June 17-20, in front of Phase 3 at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

For more information, contact coach Scott Duhl at elduh1@yahoo.com.

Wildcats skill camp

The Plymouth Wildcats football skills camp is set to take place from Monday, June 24 through Wednesday, June 26 at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park varsity turf field.

Sessions are as follows: 5-to-7 p.m. for youngsters entering grades 5-9; 7-to-9 p.m. for those in grades 10-12 this fall. Go to www.plymouth-wildcatsfootball.com or call Plymouth coach Mike Sawchuk (734-765-1766) for more information.

Summer kickball

Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation will offer summer kickball leagues on Thursdays starting the week of June 10 at Anderson Ball Fields (Atwood Park) in Wayne. The season includes 10 weeks, plus playoffs with a limit of 12 teams per night. Game times are 6:25, 7:35, 8:45 and 9:55 p.m.

Registration will be April 15 through June 3. The cost is \$200 per team.

All teams must register at the Wayne Community Center. (A managers meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, June 10 at the Wayne Community Center.)

For more information, call (734) 721-7400, or visit www.cityofwestland.com (click on parks and recreation, then athletics).

Rams crush Steel

The crisp sounds of wood bats could be heard once again Monday night at Ford Field as the Michigan Rams outslugged Michigan Steel, 9-4, in Livonia Collegiate Baseball League action.

J.P. Maracani went 2-for-3 with a double, triple and two RBI, while Brett Ramirez (Salem/Madonna University) went 2-for-4 with three RBI to pace the Rams, who evened their LCBL mark to 1-1-1.

Tyler Baker also chipped in with two hits and two RBI, while Jon Livonia drove in a run as the Rams broke the game open with five runs in the fifth inning and two more in the sixth to chase Steel starter Chase Kenaley.

Winning pitcher Jeff Sorenson (Livonia Stevenson/Wayne State) pitched five innings allowing three runs on four hits and two walks while striking out three. Luke McCatty went the final two innings.

Dan Muller (Livonia Franklin/Henry Ford Community College) went 2-for-4, while Chase Schmittou, Nate Gendron

and Randy Kuzdak each drove in a run for the Steel (1-1-1).

STEEL 3A, RAMS 1-4: On Sunday, the Michigan Rams and Michigan Steel opened their LCBL seasons with the Steel taking the opener, 3-1, behind Jake Varcie's complete-game three-hitter while the nightcap ended up in a 4-4 draw after eight innings due to a 2-hour and 30-minute time limit at Ford Field. Varcie struck out seven and walked five, while Donnie Eaton went the first 4-1 innings and took the loss for the Rams.

Eaton gave up three runs, but all were easily retired struck out seven and walked two. Chris McDonald (Stevenson/Hillside College) set the final five batters down in order.

Austin Nogiec and Travis Roderick had an RBI for the Steel, while J.P. Maracani had an RBI for the Rams. Evan Picchotta (Stevenson/MU) pitched 6.2 innings allowing just one earned run on five hits and four walks for the Rams. He struck out seven, but Steel rallied to collect two hits Gardner for two runs in the top of the eighth.

John Baker went the first six innings for the Steel followed by Ben Staley, who gave up two runs each in the seventh and eighth innings. Maracani, who had two RBI, Trenton Drumheller and Ben Yax also collected two hits for the Rams, while Dylan Yancy went 2-for-4 for the Steel.

Canton machine grinds to halt

By Tim Smith Staff Writer

After a sloppy 9-1 victory against Plymouth in Saturday afternoon's Class A district semifinal baseball game, Canton varsity coach Mark Blomshield offered up a word of caution.

"Northville won't be as forgiving," Blomshield said.

He was spot-on with that comment as the Chiefs gave up three runs in the first inning in the district final to the host Mustangs and never climbed back into the fray, falling 9-0. Northville (21-5) moves on to the Nov-hosted regional while KLA champion Canton wonders what happened — that a promising postseason run never materialized.

"You spot them three runs in the first inning, it doesn't matter if it's three or 300 if we're not going to hit the ball," lamented Blomshield following the loss. "(Northville pitcher) Jake Hansen did a nice job, we knew he was going to ... We just couldn't get anything going. That's the way we've been all year, up and down."

Canton finished the season with a 25-11 record.

"It's been fun," said

Canton senior left-hander Mike Stafford, the winning pitcher against Plymouth. "We had a good first game, came out ready to play. You know, it was against our park rivals, against Plymouth, and those are all my buddies. I'm just glad we got to at least beat them one more time."

"This game, I feel like we could have played a lot better. We just kind of came out dead and that's baseball. They're a good team and I wish them well in the regional, that's about all I can say."

Early trouble

The Mustangs jumped all over Canton senior pitcher Jake Miller in the first inning, parlaying three hits and four walks into a three-run frame. Miller forced two of the runs home with bases loaded walks.

Blomshield immediately went to junior Nick Hazergian to open the second inning.

The Canton coach was hoping that the Miller-Hazergian combo would work to perfection as it did in the recent KLA championship victory over Brighton.

Although Hazergian did slow the Mustangs a bit, Northville did make it 4-0 in the second on an outfield error and added three more in the third after the first two batters



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton outfielder Weston Price (No. 2) scores during a game earlier this season. Price and his teammates could not touch home plate in the Class A district final against Northville, however.

had been retired.

A two-run triple by Thomas Huber broke the game wide open.

Taking it from there for the Mustangs was senior righthander Hansen, who scattered five hits to five different batters and never really was in trouble.

Canton did get the first two batters on base in the fifth when junior shortstop James Hall and junior leftfielder Jake Boucher singled.

Hansen, however, got the next three Canton batters out without incident. The Mustangs finished off an impressive day that began with a 2-1 win over Livonia Churchill thanks to a run in the bottom of the seventh.

"There's a learning curve that goes with having new players and we experienced some of that during the season," Northville head coach John Kostreza said. "But today they really played their best baseball and we gave up one run in 14 innings to two pretty good teams."

Miscous mound

In the Canton win over Plymouth, the Chiefs broke a 1-1 tie with four unearned runs in the third and never looked back as Stafford gave up just four hits and struck out eight.

Victimized by a lack of defensive support was Plymouth senior pitcher Brian Schmid, who was

tagged for five unearned runs over 4 2/3 innings of work.

Canton opened the scoring with a run in the first on a balk, which followed an error on a potential double play.

Plymouth tried to get it right back as senior sparkplug Brandon Waack was safe on a bunt single, then stole both second and third base.

Waack was stranded, however, when Boucher made a nice running catch toward the left-field foul line.

In the bottom of the second, an infield single by senior outfielder Jamaril Eiland led to Plymouth's run. He moved around to third on a sac bunt and passed ball and scored on junior outfielder Conner Stella's base hit to center.

But Canton's first batter in the third was safe on an error and the Wildcats could not stem the tide. Hazergian (4-for-5, one run, two RBI) singled up the middle to plate junior outfielder Weston Price for the first run of the inning. Back-to-back errors scored two more runs and Hall ripped an RBI double to right to give the Chiefs a 5-1 edge.

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senior reliever Nate Percy, the Chiefs sent eight batters to the plate and scored three times to completely blow the game open.

A single by Hazergian made it 7-1 and Stafford followed with a two-run single.

Despite the season-ending defeat, Blomshield is enthusiastic about what 2014 and beyond might bring.

"We're graduating three guys, two of them with significant playing time (Stafford, Miller), the future's looking bright," Blomshield noted. "We're down but we're far from being out. I can tell you that. We got pretty much our entire starting lineup coming back."

"We're already looking forward to next season and getting things going."

As for Stafford, an over-powering outpunch who will pitch next year in Virginia at Liberty University, he will fondly recall his legacy at Canton.

"I'm pretty proud of what I've done," Stafford said. "I know all my coaches have really worked hard, pushed me throughout the years and I'm really thankful for that."

"It's been a lot of fun, I'm going to miss it. But I'm looking forward to college."

tmth1@hometownlife.com (734) 469-4126

PCA stops Warriors' 5-year reign

By Brad Emmons Observer Staff Writer

Lutheran High Westland's five-year reign of district titles came to an end Saturday as host Plymouth Christian Academy scored all nine of its runs in the fourth inning en route to a 9-6 victory.

That came after the Warriors reached the Division 4 district championship game with a dramatic come-from-behind 5-4 semifinal triumph over next-door neighbor Westland Huron Valley Lutheran.

But PCA captured their first district title since 2007 by erasing a 4-0 deficit and taking advantage of five Lutheran Westland errors.

But PCA captured their first district title since 2007 by erasing a 4-0 deficit and taking advantage of five Lutheran Westland errors.

al semifinals beginning at noon Saturday at Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett.

"To say I, disappointed," said Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade, whose team finished 21-5 overall and captured the MIAC Red Division. "Through three innings we hadn't given up a hit and had chances to blow the game open and didn't. The fourth was just a nightmare of an inning with so many errors on routine plays. We should have been out of the inning multiple times."

Winning pitcher Daniel Jipping added his own cause with a grand slam in the fourth, while Matthew Summer added two RBI for the victorious Eagles.

Summer collected two hits, including a solo homer in the fourth, while Matthew Read also added two hits and scored a run. "That was the last time Daniel swung the bat in the game as he was intentionally walked in his last two at bats," PCA assistant coach Joe Bottorff said. "I've been very impressed with some of the balls Daniel has hit this year, but that homer was about as far as I've seen a ball hit in a long time, maybe ever."

"I really can't get over how strong Daniel is," Jipping, who went all seven innings, allowed six earned runs on seven hits and eight walks. He struck out eight.

The Warriors were led offensively by Nick Andrezejewski (2-for-3, RBI) and Kevin Brewer

(2-for-3, RBI, two runs).

Losing pitcher Jordan Williams allowed nine runs, but all were unearned on seven hits and eight walks.

"This was a great game to be involved in," Bottorff said. "Both teams played hard and neither gave up after getting behind."

PCA 9, CALVARY 2: In one of the district semifinal games, winning pitcher John Lauch went six innings, giving up just one run on two hits and struck out seven. Daniel Jipping's three-run homer in the third put PCA up 3-0 and wrecked Cobb's single in the fifth upped that lead to 5-0.

A double by Lauch and singles by Michael Slater and Josh Slater keyed a three-run sixth for the Eagles.

bmorris@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6851

Church 'pledges allegiance' in concert

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church will present a concert of patriotic music, 5 p.m. Sunday, June 9, in its sanctuary, 4000 Six Mile, Northville.

"I Pledge Allegiance," featuring vocal and orchestral music, also will include a tribute to honor veterans

who have served, or are currently serving in all branches of the military. Ward Chancel Choir, Ward Orchestra and the Pulse Teen Choir will perform.

No tickets are needed for this annual event.

For more information, call the church at (248) 374-7400.

RELIGION CALENDAR

June

BARBECUE

Time/Date: 4-7 p.m. Saturday, June 8

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile, just west of Inkster Road, in Livonia

Details: Food will include: North Carolina Pulled Pork Shoulder, Southern Bar-B-Q Chicken, baked beans, cole slaw, red-skinned potatoes and lemonsade. Advance tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4 for children and \$22 for a family box. At the door, tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children and \$24 for a family box while supplies last. Carry out will be available. Bulk quantities also will be available; inquire for price.

Contact: (734) 422-1470

CONCERT

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Sunday, June 9

Location: St. James Catholic Church, located on 10 Mile, west of Taft, Novi

Details: "Overture" from "Oklahoma," highlights from "Annie," "Far from the Home I Love," from "Fiddler on the Roof," are among the songs in this concert that also original compositions by Matthew Ratzel. Tickets are \$10. Students are free with ID.

Contact: (248) 347-7778

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Time/Date: 1:30 p.m. Sunday

Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: The church, which describes itself as a small, friendly congregation with a "heart for God's word, now offers an afternoon contemporary service. It also offers a prayer service at 9 a.m., a worship service at 11

a.m., Sunday school at 12:30 p.m. and evening Bible study at 6 p.m.

Contact: Rev. Roger Wright at (313) 682-7491

DAY CAMP

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday, June 17-21

Location: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: Emmanuel Lutheran and Holy Cross Lutheran present this day camp for children completing kindergarten through sixth grade. Day camp activities include opening and closing worship, games, arts and crafts, nature activities, Bible study and more. Early bird registration is \$55 for first child in a family, \$50 for the second child, and \$45 for third child. After May 25, registration fees are \$60 per child. Registration packets are available at Emmanuel Lutheran or at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia

Contact: Judy Cook at Emmanuel at (248) 442-8822, or Cindy Channey at Holy Cross at (734) 422-1414

FINE ARTS CAMP

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. June 24-28

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

Details: Registration has begun for this camp for children entering grades 2-8. The theme of the week is "Joseph: from the pit to the palace." Youngsters will participate in fun-filled drama, art, music, hand bells and Bible time. They'll each choose one class to "specialize" in. The final day of camp will include an evening celebration when campers will show family and friends

what they learned during the week. Lunch will be included in the camp. Registration is \$35 by June 3. To register or for more information call the church or visit its website

Contact: (248) 253-3380; www.princeofpeacechills.org

ICE CREAM AND MUSIC

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. June 8

Location: Oakland Hills Community Church, 37150 W. Eight Mile in Farmington Hills

Details: Enjoy an ice cream cone while listening to the Chuck Tocco Band and Plymouth Stamping until her retirement, and then moved to Naples, Florida, where she lived with her husband for 18 years before returning to Plymouth. She traveled the world after 80. She was warm, loving, and generous, and had a remarkable memory. She enjoyed crossword puzzles, travel, and friends, and the occasional vodka martini. Plymouth was at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 1340 S Main Street, Plymouth, Thursday, June 6, 2-3:30p. Friends may visit beginning at 12noon.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or the Alzheimer's Association.

Location: Spicer House inside Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile in Farmington Hills

Details: The Guild studies and creates Judaic needlework. The June meeting will include a dairy potluck luncheon

Contact: Judy Galperin at (248) 661-5337

SINGLE PLACE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, June 6-20

Location: First Presbyterian Church of Northville, 200 East Main Street, Northville

Details: Participants will tell and listen to favorite memories, June 6; Joe Gagnon, the "Appliance Doctor" columnist for the "Observer & Eccentric" will answer questions about appliance problems, maintenance and care, June 13; cards and games night, June 20. Ice cream will be available for \$5 after each session

Contact: www.single-place.org

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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

LYNAS, HELEN JOY

Born in Bolshoi, Ontario, Canada on June 6, 1923. Deceased on June 4, 2013 and resided in Plymouth Township, MI Age 89. She is preceded in death by her parents, George Willard Krabis and Lillian (Whitely) Krabis, her beloved husband of 55 years, Albert Lynas; her beloved daughter, Linda Rowland; her brothers, Jack Krabis, Charles Krabis, Kenneth Krabis, and Walter Krabis; and her sisters, Margaret (Gordon) Gray and Florence Krabis. She is survived by her son-in-law, Christopher Rowland; her granddaughter, Erin (Cameron) McLean; her grandson, Ian Rowland; her great grandson, Matthew Rowland; her great-granddaughter, Melinda Rowland; her niece, Barbara Gray; and her nephews, Donald (Annette) Gray. Also survived by several life long friends. Joy emigrated from Canada in 1960, worked for Plymouth Stamping until her retirement, and then moved to Naples, Florida, where she lived with her husband for 18 years before returning to Plymouth. She traveled the world after 80. She was warm, loving, and generous, and had a remarkable memory. She enjoyed crossword puzzles, travel, and friends, and the occasional vodka martini. Plymouth was at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 1340 S Main Street, Plymouth, Thursday, June 6, 2-3:30p. Friends may visit beginning at 12noon.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or the Alzheimer's Association.

NARDINI, WANDA

June 3, 2013, Age 87 of Melvindale. Beloved wife of the late Alfio. Loving mother of Michael, Mark, Marius, Madelyn (Carl) Saravakis and the late Marianne. Dearest mother-in-law of Jody. Dear sister-in-law of Betty Rossetto and Beverly Rossetto. Dearest grandmother of Nina Tatiana, Tia, Matthew, Neil, Tim, Marisa, Verne, Elise, Julia, Angela and Carl. Loving great-grandmother of seven. Beloved aunt of 15 nieces and nephews. Wanda is preceded in death by her siblings Americo Rossetto, Mary Lacapelle, Erasmo Rossetto, Elia Pagano and John Rossetto. Wanda was a loving friend and mentor who will be deeply missed by all whose lives she touched. Visitation Thursday, June 6, 2013 from 3-8 p.m. with a rosary service at 7:00 p.m. at the Allen Park Chapel of Vora Funeral Home, 3900 Allen Rd. (313) 928-2300. Instate Friday, June 7, 2013 from 10:30 a.m. Mass of the Resurrection to follow at St. Danstan Catholic Church, 1526 Belton Street, Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan Memorial Park Cemetery. Donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and/or the charity of your choice. Visit our online guestbook and share memories at www.vorafuneralhome.com

ROTTLE, DENNIS IRA "Denny"

Saturday, May 25, 2013. Services held at 7:30 p.m. Online: www.rgrharts.com

SHANNON, BESSIE L.

June 1, 2013, Age 101 of Westland. Loving wife of the late Lawrence. Dear mother of Richard (Wendy), and David (Charlene). Grandmother of three and great grandmother of five. Funeral service from the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd. Westland, Saturday 10am. Mass of the Resurrection to take place at Woodmere Cemetery, Detroit.

Please view Memorials & send tributes at www.uhtfl.com

Uht FUNERAL HOME

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May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



SCHMIDT, JOHN H.

May 30, 2013 age 86 of Plymouth. Beloved husband of Kathleen. Loving father of Michael (Catherine), David, and Daniel. Proud Grandpa of Matthew and Christina. He served his country during World War II, while in the United States Naval Air Corps. Mr. Schmidt received his Bachelor's Degree from Thiel College in Pennsylvania, and his Master's Degree in Public Health from the University of Michigan. He retired as a Supervisor from The Wayne County Health Department. The family will gather with friends, Sat. June 8 at 10AM until 11AM Memorial Service at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 Sheldon (at Warren) Canton, Memorials may be made to Plymouth Historical Museum or St. Michael Memorial.

To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

VERMEULEN FUNERAL HOME

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Services held at **Saint Andrews Episcopal Church**
16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road
Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org

For Information regarding this Directory,
please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011 ext. 247
or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

Songs from the heart

Music CD, art sale benefit children with multiple disabilities

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Giving Songs and Guitar Grip are working hand-in-hand to raise money for children with multiple disabilities.

"We're doing a combination of art and music," said Mike Ryan, describing the upcoming event his Plymouth-based company, Guitar Grip, is sponsoring on behalf of Northville resident, Brent Johnson's nonprofit, Giving Songs.

Giving Songs a Hand, 8 p.m. Saturday, June 15, at Park Bar in Detroit, will include live music, food and works by local artists. Those same artists also will embellish hand-shaped guitar hangers that will be sold at the event, with profits benefiting Giving Songs. The nonprofit began raising awareness and funds for children with multiple disabilities in July 2012, when it produced and sold a compilation of songs by local musicians. A copy of the CD, *Giving Songs*, will be included with each \$25 ticket to the event.

"This event for us is huge. We are a young organization and just starting to see some growth," Johnson said. "Mike is connected with a lot of folks in the Detroit art scene. He approached us and thought a local organization that supports music and children and families was a good fit. And I couldn't agree more."

Ryan said he was searching for a way to reach out to a charity when he found out about Giving Songs.

"I was excited about the cause and what he was doing. Why not connect locally? It



Brent Johnson and his son, Jack, enjoy a beautiful day in Kellogg Park, in Plymouth.

seemed like a perfect fit," he said.

His company manufactures the hand-shaped guitar hangers that artists will paint and sell at the event.

"We're using the hands to get the artists excited to paint something different and unique. It's such a unique canvas and the interpretations are all different," Ryan said, adding that the hands will be priced between \$100-\$200.

They're designed to be mounted on the wall to hold a guitar, but can be used as decorative art pieces or for dis-

playing other items. Ryan said one customer sent him a photo of the product holding hockey sticks.

He hopes to use the event to launch a series of Guitar Grip hands that will continue to benefit Giving Songs. Guitar Grip's website also includes basic, custom and artist-embellished hangers shaped like male, female and skeleton hands.

Helping families

The *Giving Songs* CD, with 16 songs performed by more than 40 Metro Detroit musicians, is available from the group's

website for a \$10-\$1,000 donation. Proceeds from the recording and other donations have enabled Giving Songs, a volunteer group, to help one family buy a wheelchair lift vehicle. The organization also gave \$1,500 to the Penickton Center for Blind Children in Taylor.

Johnson said the group's focus is on giving individual grants to families in need of the special vehicles.

"The sky is the limit. Our generosity is limited only by our means."

The seeds for Giving Songs were sown in December 2011,

after Johnson and his wife were told that their son, Jack, now 3, had a terminal condition. Jack is blind and multi-disabled.

"I really hit a low point. I felt helpless," Johnson recalled. He had taken up guitar and began singing after he learned that his son was blind, figuring they might bond over music. Then, after hearing Jack's terminal diagnosis, Johnson decided to put his skills to use. He sang *Love Rescue Me* — which later became track 3 on the *Giving Songs* CD — and asked 50 family members and friends if they'd download the song and donate. Their donations would enable his wife to quit her job in medical technology at Beaumont Hospital and spend time with their son during his remaining days.

Generous donors

The e-mail was sent and resented, generating interest and dollars from as far away as Europe, Canada and China.

"It was bringing in thousands of dollars. It would have been hundreds of thousands of dollars and then we got the phone call indicating that Jack did not have a terminal illness. We refunded all of the money generated by the song, but what I learned was there is a lot of compassion in the world. That was the initial catalyst of Giving Songs."

"My brother-in-law is a studio engineer. I said, let's start recording songs and put a beautiful album together."

With 100 hours of donated studio time at Plymouth Rock

Please see GIVING, B7

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GIVING SONGS A HAND

What: A music and art event benefiting Giving Songs, a nonprofit organization that aids children with multiple disabilities and their families

When: 8 p.m. Saturday, June 15

Where: Park Bar, 2040 Park Ave., Detroit

Details: Art by Tony Roko of Plymouth and other artists; artist-embellished guitar hangers donated by Guitar Grip of Plymouth; performances by Amy Gore & Her Valentines; The Questions; special appearance by Retro Girls; auction of a guitar autographed by Mitch Ryder

Tickets: \$25 per person includes food

Contact: www.givingsongs.com

Open 7 Days a Week, 11-6pm, Wednesdays 11-8pm

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Arts Crafts

ART IS IN MARKET

Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. Thursday, June 13
Location: Inside Laurel Park Place, 37700 Six Mile, Livonia
Details: Meet artists, watch demonstrations, enjoy free coffee and desserts and get a chance to enter to win items from the gallery, at this customer appreciation open house. Five percent of sales from the event will benefit the William La Pratt Foundation, created to honor the late Bill La Pratt, one of the founders of Art Is In Market. The foundation was set up with the sole purpose of rescuing and administering funds in memory of La Pratt, and to bring awareness to the arts, as well as the advancement of spiritual cord research.

Contact: (734) 432-9177

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Dates: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday
Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit

Family Sundays: 2 p.m. Sundays: storytelling, performances; free with admission
Exhibits: Motor City Music: Detroit Photographs: Then and Now, through June 16; Shirin Neshat, includes eight video installations and two series of photos, through July 7; printmaking by Ellsworth Kelly, through Sept. 8
Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Friday, June 7; 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, June 8-30
Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: West of Center Show, which showcases contemporary art work
Contact: (248) 344-0497

VAAL

Time/Date: Through 28; artist reception is 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 6
Location: Livonia Civic Center Library, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia

Details: The Visual Arts Association of Livonia presents its spring art exhibit, "Artistic Expressions." This exhibit will be juried and will feature the art work of VAAL members. Art works in watercolor, acrylic, oil, pastel, photography and mixed media. Art may be purchased
Contact: (734) 838-1204; www.vaalart.org



Aubrey Fink (left), who plays Natalie, and Nathan Larkins, as Gabe, don't know what to think when they see their mother maniacally making sandwiches on the floor in Two Muses Theatre's production of "Next to Normal." Diane Hill plays their mother and John DeMerrell is their father, in the musical that runs Friday-Sunday, June 7-30 at Barnes & Noble, West Bloomfield.



"Hidden Secrets" by Peggy Kervan is among the contemporary art works on display this month at Northville Art House.

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday and one hour before and during public performances at the theater, as well as by appointment, through June 1
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: The are work of Xia Gao
Contact: (734) 394-5300; cantonvillagetheater.org

Author

MYSTERY THRILLER

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m. June 22
Location: The Books Connection, 19043 Middlebelt, Livonia

Details: "New York Times" best-selling author and Edgar finalist P.J. Parrish will be on hand with the newest Louis Kincaid mystery thriller, "Heart of Ice." P.J. Parrish is the pen name for two sisters with deep Michigan roots. Both grew up in Michigan. Kelly Nichols attended North-



Daniel Davis, a contemporary violinist, will perform June 22 at the Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, Canton. erm Michigan University and currently lives in Elk Rapids. Kristy Montee attended Eastern Michigan University and lives in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. "Heart of Ice" is the 12th novel by the sisters and the fifth set in Michigan
Contact: www.pjparish.com; (248) 471-4742

Dance

COMPLEXIONS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. June 22
Location: Music Hall Center for Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit
Details: Complexions, a contemporary dance troupe performs to the music of The White Stripes, Rolling Stones, U2 and others. Tickets are \$30-\$50; students pay \$20
Contact: Ticketmaster.com at (313) 887-8501



Complexions, a contemporary dance troupe, will perform June 22 at Music Hall in Detroit.

Film

COMPUWARE ARENA DRIVE-IN

Time/Date: Gates open at 7:30 p.m., with movies starting around 9:20 p.m. daily, June 7-Sept. 1. Closed Sunday, June 9
Location: 14900 Beck between Five Mile and M-14, Plymouth Township

Details: Cost is \$10 for adults; \$8 for children, 4-12; kids 3 and under are admitted free of charge. Students with proper ID are admitted for \$8 Sunday through Thursday. Patrons listen to the movies on the FM band of their car radio. Movies for Friday-Saturday, June 7-8 and Monday-Thursday, June 10-13 are: Iron Man 3 (PG-13) followed by Oz, The Great and Powerful (PG) on Screen 1; The Croods (PG) followed by Star Trek: Into the Darkness (PG-13) on Screen 2; and Fast and Furious 6 (PG-13) followed by The Hangover, Part III (R) on Screen 3

Contact: (734) 453-1780 or e-mail to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

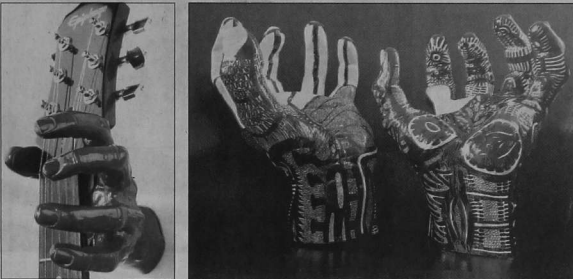
PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. every Monday
Contact: (734) 927-3284

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:25 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 7-8; 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, June 9 and 7 p.m. Thursday, June 13
Location: 760 Penningman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "42," "Admission," \$3
Coming up: "The Croods," 7 p.m. Friday, June 14, 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, June 15-16, and 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday, June 20; "Mud," 7 p.m. and 9:25 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 22-23, and 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, June 23; "The Sapphires," 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 28-29 and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, June 30



Guitar grips can be used to hang guitars or as unique art.

Embellished guitar hangers from Guitar Grip in Plymouth will be sold at the Giving Songs a Hand event, Saturday, June 15, in Detroit.

GIVING

Continued from page B6

Studies, Johnson began recruiting local musicians to perform on the CD that was taking shape. "As we would locate musicians, we'd bring them in and record the songs. It took four months to put together."

Johnson said the organization will continue to sell its first CD, but eventually will record again. It's all part of the Giving Songs mission.

"It's four steps: We find local talented musicians, record them in a professional studio, find people (to buy the CD) and help families with multi-disabled children."

To buy tickets for the Giving Songs a Hand event, for more information, to buy a CD or to donate to Giving Songs, visit www.givingsongs.com. The organization also lists resources online for families with multi-disabled children.



Plymouth resident Lee Hyland shows off the Giving Songs CD that he bought at Art in the Park last year. Hyland, a musician, performed on the CD.

Location: 884 Penningman, Plymouth
Details: Open mic for music and poetry
Featured artists: Ebb Tide, June 7; No Excuses, June 28; Kenneth Michael, June 28. Featured performer concerts start at 8 p.m.
Contact: (734) 454-0178

SWEET CRYSTAL
Time/Date: Show starts at 8 p.m.; the band will perform at 11 p.m. June 14
Location: Callahan Music Hall, 2105 South Blvd., Auburn Hills
Details: The Canton-based band will headline a show that also will include Trip N Dixie and Slight Return. Sweet Crystal is a Detroit Music Award winner in gospel/Christian rock music. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door available at www.atcallahans.com or Ticketfly.com
Contact: (248) 858-9508

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE
Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.
Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia
Details: Around the House Variety Show, June 7-8; Adjoa Skinner and YRLK, June 14; Jill Jack, June 15; Dolly Parton, June 21; The True Falsettos and Drive South, June 22; Germa and Jesse, June 28; Shari Kane and Dave Steele, June 29; Harpeth Rising, July 12; Brion Ribson with Chris Dupont, July 13; Jason Harrod with Kelsey Rotters, July 20. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted
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Grilled Ribeye Steak with Chimichurri Salsa

TIPS FOR PERFECT GRILLING

1. Clean and preheat grill on high.
2. Lightly oil everything before putting it on the grill. This helps the searing process and prevents sticking.
3. Season food before grilling.
4. Sear the outside of steaks when grilling. This helps with the flavor and juiciness.
5. Use tongs or a spatula to turn meat on the grill. Using a fork can damage the meat.
6. Cover grill as much as possible during the process. This helps to lock in the grilled flavor and will help prevent flare-ups.
7. Keep a spray bottle with water handy to douse any unexpected flare-ups.
8. Use the 60/40 grilling method. Grill for 60 percent of the time on the first side, then grill 40 percent of the time after turning over the food. This will make sure your food is evenly cooked.
9. Place cooked food on a clean plate. Never place cooked food on the plate you used to transport the raw food to the grill without thoroughly washing it first.
10. Allow foods to "rest" for 5 minutes between cooking and eating. This will help them retain moisture when you cut into them.

To get your grill time just right, download SteakTime, Omaha Steaks' free app with an innovative grill timer, at www.itunes.com/appstore.

Adventures in GRILLING

The next time you fire up the grill, give your taste buds a thrill with recipes that are inspired by some of the best cuisines from around the world. These recipes from Omaha Steaks will take you on a culinary adventure right in your own backyard. Sweet and spicy Korean, zesty South American and bold Mediterranean flavors make perfectly grilled steak even better.

You can find more adventurous recipes at www.OmahaSteaks.com.

Grilled Ribeye Steak with Chimichurri Salsa

Serves 4

4 ribeye steaks
Sea salt and fresh ground black pepper to taste
1 cup Chimichurri Salsa (see recipe)

4 cilantro sprigs
Begin by thawing steaks. Then season and grill to desired doneness.

Top each steak generously with Chimichurri Salsa. Garnish each steak with one cilantro sprig.

Chimichurri Salsa

Makes 1 cup

½ cup green onions, minced
2 teaspoons fresh oregano, minced
¼ cup red bell pepper, minced
¼ cup cilantro, minced
1 tablespoon jalapeño, minced
2 teaspoons fresh garlic, minced
½ teaspoon sea salt
¼ teaspoon fresh ground black pepper
1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
½ lime, juiced

Combine all ingredients and mix well.



Mediterranean Sirloin Skewers

Serves 4 to 6

2 pounds sirloin tips
1 cup Mediterranean Steak Marinade

4-6 skewers

Thaw sirloin tips.

Prepare Mediterranean Steak Marinade.

Drain sirloin tips and place in a resealable bag with marinade. Marinate sirloin tips in refrigerator for at least 8 hours or overnight. Agitate bag periodically to ensure marinade is well combined with the sirloin tips.

Preheat grill on high. Thread sirloin tips onto skewers. Grill for 4 to 5 minutes on each side.

Serve over couscous, pasta, salad or rice.

Mediterranean Steak Marinade

Makes 1 cup

½ cup extra virgin olive oil
2 teaspoons sea salt
1 teaspoon ground black pepper
¼ cup fresh squeezed lemon juice
2 tablespoons fresh garlic cloves, chopped
1 tablespoon fresh rosemary, chopped
1 tablespoon fresh oregano, chopped
¼ cup California chardonnay wine

Combine all ingredients and mix well.

— Courtesy of Family Features



Korean Barbecue Beef Tenderloin with Stir-Fried Bok Choy

Serves 6 to 8

1 3-pound tenderloin roast
2 cups Korean Barbecue Marinade (see recipe)
¼ cup Omaha Steaks Private Reserve American Steak Rub

1 pound Stir-Fried Bok Choy (see recipe)
1 14-ounce bottle Korean barbecue sauce
6-8 cilantro sprigs
1 teaspoon black sesame seeds
1 teaspoon toasted sesame seeds

Begin by completely thawing tenderloin. It will take 2 days in refrigerator or 1 hour in a sink full of cold water.

Remove tenderloin from plastic, and place in a large resealable bag with Korean Barbecue Marinade. Marinate overnight in refrigerator.

Remove tenderloin from marinade, and season with steak rub. Sear tenderloin on all sides on a pre-heated grill. Place in a 250°F oven for 1 hour and 15 minutes, or until the internal temperature is 125°F for medium rare.

With 15 minutes remaining, prepare the bok choy and heat Korean barbecue sauce.

Remove tenderloin from oven, let rest 15 minutes. Slice and serve. Garnish with cilantro and a mixture of sesame seeds.

Korean Barbecue Marinade

Makes 2 cups

1 tablespoon sesame oil
2 tablespoons garlic, finely chopped
2 tablespoons fresh ginger, minced
1 cup canned pear juice
½ cup soy sauce
2 tablespoons brown sugar
1 tablespoon crushed red pepper

Place sesame oil in a thick bottom pot and add garlic and ginger. Place pot on a medium burner and add the rest of ingredients and slowly bring to a boil. Bring heat down to a simmer and cook while stirring for approximately 5 minutes. Remove sauce from heat and refrigerate for up to one week.

Stir-Fried Bok Choy

1 tablespoon canola oil
1 pound bok choy, chopped
1/3 cup Korean barbecue sauce
1 tablespoon sesame oil
Sea salt and fresh ground black pepper to taste

In a wok, briefly heat canola oil. Add bok choy and cook for 2 to 3 minutes. Add Korean barbecue sauce and sesame oil to wok and mix well. Serve while hot.

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ACROSS

- 1 Pronto in ER
- 5 Land east of the Urals
- 9 Yodeler's perch
- 12 Las Vegas rival
- 13 Chemist's condiment
- 14 "Little Red" Book author
- 15 Filtration
- 17 Exercises at school
- 19 Long, long time
- 21 Not super
- 22 Wymonna or Naomi
- 25 Bucket of song
- 28 Liver go-with
- 30 Trouser length
- 34 Consumed
- 35 Two, for Livy
- 36 Bit -- not
- 37 Engage in rivalry
- 38 Leaflet
- 40 John Wayne movies

DOWN

- 41 — Minor actress
- 42 "Soapdish" whaler
- 48 Obsessed
- 50 It's knot work
- 53 Tanny
- 57 Home page (abbr.)
- 58 Limestone formation
- 60 Pored over
- 61 Leaves in a bag
- 62 Fencing weapon
- 63 Groves weary

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

MTS	HMOS	DEAF	AYE	EURO	EDNA	TREE	FOGR	GRIND	SONATA	GRATES	REL	III	AMEND	GEMLIKE	FOE	APR	ROM	TILLERS	INEPT	CARUSO	OHM	EGO	EGAD	RECALLED	LUKE	ETON	ONO	LEER	DATA	BAR
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SUDOKU

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

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Word Search

ceremony degree graduation mortarboard student
college diploma high school professor tassle
commence gown march school teacher

Word Search

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

Word Search

M	G	N	X	N	D	V	O	M	S	E	R	I	P	L	
C	E	R	E	M	O	N	Y	D	A	Y	B	F	H	O	
V	C	P	C	G	N	L	I	D	L	S	R	W	F	R	O
D	R	A	O	B	R	A	T	R	O	M	C	O	Q	H	
K	S	G	T	M	O	Q	L	A	D	M	S	H	S	C	
O	T	V	X	Q	M	E	K	I	U	S	J	H	U	S	
L	U	L	A	D	S	E	P	C	E	D	C	T	H	H	
O	D	V	S	Y	L	N	F	L	E	A	L	Q	G		
O	E	E	A	M	O	G	O	C	U	Z	N	R	I		
H	N	T	G	M	M	R	H	K	E	F	K	B	G	H	
C	T	R	A	E	P	R	H	C	A	E	T	O	Z		
S	Q	E	K	Y	L	D	E	G	R	E	E	M	W	O	
N	V	C	B	J	I	L	V	N	J	P	Y	Y	N	D	
L	T	H	R	I	V	E	O	Z	Y	V	Z	X	F		
E	C	R	A	Y	Q	S	Z	C	X	E	A	L	I	U	

SUDOKU

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Word Search

ceremony degree graduation mortarboard student
college diploma high school professor tassle
commence gown march school teacher

Word Search

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

Word Search

M	G	N	X	N	D	V	O	M	S	E	R	I	P	L	
C	E	R	E	M	O	N	Y	D	A	Y	B	F	H	O	
V	C	P	C	G	N	L	I	D	L	S	R	W	F	R	O
D	R	A	O	B	R	A	T	R	O	M	C	O	Q	H	
K	S	G	T	M	O	Q	L	A	D	M	S	H	S	C	
O	T	V	X	Q	M	E	K	I	U	S	J	H	U	S	
L	U	L	A	D	S	E	P	C	E	D	C	T	H	H	
O	D	V	S	Y	L	N	F	L	E	A	L	Q	G		
O	E	E	A	M	O	G	O	C	U	Z	N	R	I		
H	N	T	G	M	M	R	H	K	E	F	K	B	G	H	
C	T	R	A	E	P	R	H	C	A	E	T	O	Z		
S	Q	E	K	Y	L	D	E	G	R	E	E	M	W	O	
N	V	C	B	J	I	L	V	N	J	P	Y	Y	N	D	
L	T	H	R	I	V	E	O	Z	Y	V	Z	X	F		
E	C	R	A	Y	Q	S	Z	C	X	E	A	L	I	U	

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