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Canton won't subsidize bus service



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Commuters arrive in Canton from Ann Arbor when a now-threatened bus service started in 2009. Indian Trails once provided buses; now the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority does.

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A commuter bus service between Canton and Ann Arbor could screech to a halt after the Canton Township Board of Trustees voted Tuesday to reject a proposal to spend \$15,000 a year to subsidize it.

Canton officials said they couldn't justify paying hundreds of dollars for each of the 35 passengers who, according to the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority, use the bus service on a typical weekday. The decision came despite an appeal by riders who climb aboard for workplaces such as the University of Michigan and the VA Ann Arbor

Healthcare System.

AATA's Board of Directors is expected to decide as early as June 20 whether to halt the service by late August, idling commuter buses that make two morning and two evening stops at the Canton Meijer and Cherry Hill Village. The service started in 2009.

Riders said the commuter service reduces vehicular traffic, eases fuel usage, helps workers battle soaring gasoline prices and has a lesser impact on the environment.

"It's a mass transit system, and that is the future of any community," said Eileen Sinclair, a Canton resident and U-M medical technologist who rides the bus.

Fair is fair

Reached after Tuesday's meeting, Mary Stasiak, AATA's manager of community relations, said about 35 passengers a day typically use the service. That means Canton could be paying over \$400 a year to subsidize each rider.

Canton officials said they don't provide such subsidies for other people, except for older and disabled residents who are provided transportation to places such as hospitals. Officials said a decision to help AATA riders wouldn't be a fair use of taxpayer dollars.

"It's a personal responsibility to get yourself to work and

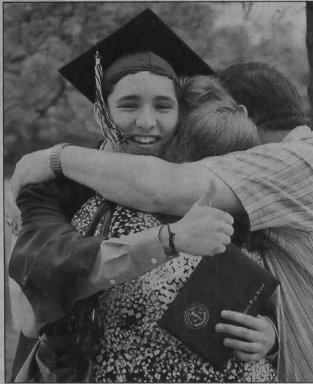
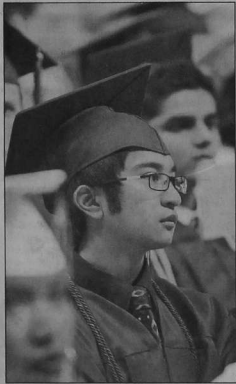
Please see **BUS, A2**

Into the future



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton High School graduate Arianna May Kurilli (above) sings along with "Pomp and Circumstance," while it's a big family hug for Plymouth graduate Lloyd Platis (below right) and parents Colleen and Steven Platis, and Salem graduate Brian Quintos (below left) and his classmates listen to commencement speeches during commencement ceremonies Sunday at Eastern Michigan University. For more sights from commencement, please turn to pages A5-6 and page A8.



B.L.O.C.K. closes as changes loom

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A beloved era for Canton ends Friday when The B.L.O.C.K. Youth & Teen Center closes its doors, ending an eight-year run inside a place where youngsters 11-17 years old spent countless hours receiving tutoring, playing games, practicing piano, doing homework, watching movies and making friends.

Except for summer outreach efforts to serve at-risk youths, a hiatus looms until the program

returns next school year inside a third-floor area of the Canton Administration Building — closer to Summit on the Park, Heritage Park and the Canton Public Library.

Youngsters are saddened to leave The B.L.O.C.K., a place at Michigan Avenue and Sheldon Road they say has helped them improve their grades, stay out of trouble and have fun while their parents work.

They make friends from diverse back-

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



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rochelle Wilkinson started out as one of the kids at The B.L.O.C.K.; now she works there.

Canton cop's hearing delayed, plea expected

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

The preliminary exam for Canton Police Lt. Jerry Hardesty, facing a variety of gun charges in connection with his possession of a rifle, was delayed again Tuesday after lawyers asked 35th District Court Judge Mike Gerou for an

adjournment.

The delay was to give Hardesty and defense attorney John Freeman time to prepare for new information in the case and in anticipation of a potential plea deal. The hearing was rescheduled for 8 a.m. July 19, at which time lawyers told

Please see **HEARING, A3**



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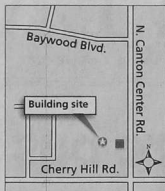
School board sticks with management firm

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

The reputation McCarthy & Smith has built managing construction projects for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools since the mid-1990s was the key factor in the Farmington Hills construction management firm getting the contract to manage projects in the district's \$114.4 million bond.

Although the contract still has to be negotiated — no dollar figures have been released — the district's Board of Education voted 4-3 Tuesday night to hire McCarthy & Smith to manage the various projects, including the construction of a new middle school and a variety of capital improvement projects.

Board President John Barrett, Vice President Judy Mardigan, Treasurer Sheila Paton and Trustee Kim Crouch voted for the hire, Secretary Adrienne Davis and Trustees Mike Maloney and Mark Horvath



The new middle school being built by Plymouth-Canton Schools will be located just west of Canton Center Rd. on Cherry Hill Rd., behind Rose's restaurant.

opposed it.

Mardigan cited McCarthy & Smith's long history of success with district projects as reasons she supported the move. McCarthy & Smith was the con-

struction manager on the successful construction of Discovery Middle School, Plymouth High School and Dodson Elementary School, all in 1999, as well as the 2004 construction of Workman Elementary School and the 2011 remodeling/construction of the office wing at Salem High School.

Successful stint

All of those projects, Mardigan pointed out, were brought in on time and under budget.

"This is a vendor who has had amazing success in this district," Mardigan said. "They've managed some really difficult situations and they deserve our support. I'm strongly in favor of McCarthy & Smith."

Those who opposed the motion all agreed to the quality of McCarthy & Smith's work, but were opposed to hiring the firm without seeking competitive bids. Administrators told the board they'd researched McCarthy & Smith's fee structure and discovered it was "at

the bottom of the market" in terms of cost, Superintendent Jeremy Hughes told the board.

But Maloney wasn't convinced.

"Everyone sharpens their pencils in a bidding process," Maloney said. "I'm very nervous about doing a single-source contract. It's not a knock (on McCarthy & Smith). ... As they say in the commercials, past performance doesn't guarantee future success. A competitive bidding process will always produce superior results."

Hughes had been pushing for the board to also stick with TMP as the district's architect without a bidding process, but questions about the design of the new school scuttled that idea.

Design choices

Administrators would look at a variety of designs, including perhaps a two- or even three-story building, that would maximize the footprint and

allow more space around it. But trustees, spurred by Mardigan, favor the design used in the construction of Discovery Middle School, which would ostensibly cut down on design costs.

"I'd like to see the alternative designs," Mardigan said. "If there's a compelling reason not to use Discovery, I'll listen, but I'd have to be convinced."

The board's bond oversight committee is set to meet Tuesday with the bond steering committee to discuss the design options. In the meantime, trustees put aside the hiring of an architect.

"We're going to spend literally millions of dollars," Horvath said. "We'd be doing a disservice to our students and to the community by not getting the maximum dollars back to the classrooms. I can't support anything other than a proposal (process) for the architect."

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Charitable community aids Open Door food pantry

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Open Door Ministry, a Canton-based food pantry that has helped fight area hunger for a decade, has benefited this season as community groups raise money and volunteer their time to help the organization, an offshoot of Canton's Connection Church.

"It is amazing how so many groups are pitching in to help out at Open Door Ministry," Director Steve Darr said.

From its warehouse on Lilley south of Michigan Avenue, Open Door Ministry provides food each week to about 450 families from communities such as Canton, Westland, Livonia, Plymouth, Garden City, Redford, Belleville, Inkster and Ypsilanti.

Open Door recently received \$1,100 from Canton Newcomers, a local charity and social group that raised money

from a recent Mom-to-Mom sale.

"We very much appreciated their very generous donation," Darr said.

America's Most Wanted Car Club plans to donate money to Open Door from a fundraiser at Liberty Fest, starting with a kickoff registration 5-8 p.m. Friday in Canton's Heritage Park.

Next up, Antonio Coleman, social director for Pilgrim Village Apartments in Canton, has issued a public invitation to The Taste of Canton, a charity pool party set for 7-11 p.m. Friday, June 28, at the complex, located at 7655 Balmoral Drive, west of Lilley between Warren and Joy.

Coleman said the event, sponsored by Tonio Entertainment and L.R. Management, has been confirmed for the complex's clubhouse and pool area for attendees 18 and over. There is no admission, but those

attending are asked to make a donation for Open Door Ministry.

"We just want to do the best we can (to raise money)," Coleman said. The event includes food tasting, a juice bar but no alcohol, music, dance lessons such as salsa and the hustle, prize raffles and vendors around the perimeter of the pool area.

Coleman said prizes are to include a Canton-based dinner-movie-hotel package, a visit to a massage business and gift certificates, among others.

Coleman said he heard about Open Door Ministry through the church he attends, Lifechurch, at Warren and Haggerty in Canton.

"We're promoting (the pool-party fundraiser) as a community event," he said.

Registration isn't necessary, but anyone who has questions may contact Coleman at tonio.

ent@gmail.com.

Meanwhile, Darr said Open Door Ministry on an ongoing basis has about 50 different organizations helping out with finances, volunteers and prayers.

He said the Open Door recently had 40 Girl Scouts from Canton Charter Academy come out to help.

"We receive help from local businesses, schools, clubs, churches, youth groups and many individuals throughout this community," Darr said.

"The people of this community are clearly letting their light shine as they reach out to those in need. We are so blessed to have such a great organization in which to serve."

For more on the organization, go to www.opendoorfoodministry.org.

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CANTON CONNECTION

Graduation memories

O&E Media photographers took hundreds of high school graduation photos over the past few weeks. These photos are available as framed keepsakes, prints or on T-shirts and coffee mugs. Browse the graduation galleries on our website, hometownlife.com and you just might find an image you want to add to the family album. Every graduation photo is for sale and purchasing one is as easy as clicking on the yellow "buy photo" button above each image.

License suspended

The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs has immediately suspended the license to practice as a pharmacist of Babubhai A. Patel of Canton based on his conviction in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Michigan.

Patel was convicted Feb. 1 of multiple counts of Health Care Fraud Conspiracy, Health Care Fraud Aiding and Abetting, Conspiracy to Distribute Controlled Substances and Distribution of Controlled Substances, Aiding and Abetting, all felonies. Patel was sentenced to imprisonment for a period of 204 months, and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$17,365,901.

On June 4, AARA issued an order summarily suspending Patel's license pursuant to the Public Health Code.

Help for walk

Canton Observer editor Brad Kadrich is representing O&E Media by walking the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer 3-Day in August, and anyone who wishes to have a chance to help. To donate, simply visit www.the3day.org, click on the "donate" button and search "Brad Kadrich." The walk is Aug. 16-18.

BUS

Continued from page A1

home," Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said, adding "it's not the taxpayers' responsibility."

Riders pay fees such as \$90 for a 30-day bus pass, less than the \$125 they once paid, Bud Freer, AATA communications specialist, said the authority already had agreed to return fares to \$125, but she said Canton's \$15,000 subsidy still is needed.

Alternative rides

"One of the ways to invest in your community is through mass transit," Freer said, addressing the township board.

Chelsea already has agreed to allocate \$15,000 to keep a similar bus service rolling there, where Stasiak said an average of 45 passengers ride each day. U-M also has helped by offsetting a portion of fares for its employees.

Freer said van pooling might be an alternative. AATA officials said it would be difficult to continue Canton's bus service without a subsidy when Chelsea and U-M have pitched in to help.

"It's unfortunate that that's where we stand today," Stasiak said.

Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said Chelsea, as a city, gets certain state transportation dollars that Canton, as a township, doesn't.

Cameron Gibelony,

who earned his doctorate from U-M and works for the Dean's Office, said he chose to live in Canton partly because it offered a commuter bus service. Other riders appealed to Canton to better market the bus routes.

Dwindling funding

"There are a lot of people who might be interested in coming to Canton (to shop) by bus," said Sandra Myers, a Plymouth resident who uses AATA to get to her secretarial job at VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System.

Stasiak said the commuter service for Canton and Chelsea costs \$328,000. Much of the federal funding that helped

start it has dwindled.

Township Trustee Steven Sneiderman said most Canton residents likely wouldn't want their tax dollars used to subsidize the bus service, which also draws riders from several other communities. He suggested AATA try to better market its service and consider seeking grants to support it.

LaJoy described local officials as "extremely disappointed" that AATA could halt what has been a "great service."

"We encourage them to keep the program going," he said.

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B.L.O.C.K.

Continued from page A1

grounds. They come from public schools and charter schools. They literally are leaving behind their handprints and names on the walls, courtesy of glow-in-the-dark paint that decorates the popular "glow room" — a supervised area where they gather for games or television.

Yet, these youngsters are resilient, and some say they are eager to move to a new place where they can spend their after-school hours and summer weekdays.

Sad and glad

"I'm sad we're leaving this building, but I'm glad we have a new place to go," Maddie Damron, 14, said Monday afternoon, practicing piano at The B.L.O.C.K. "Being here has helped me meet people."

Rochelle Wilkinson, a 23-year-old senior counselor, is one of nine part-time employees at The B.L.O.C.K. As a youngster, she had participated in the program when it was housed at the Summit.

"It's nice to see the program grow and see more kids come to see what it's



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kathy Borg posts a notice for the farewell party.

all about," she said. Stephanie Pavlo, full-time recreation specialist, said The B.L.O.C.K. (Building Leaders Out of Canton's Kids) usually helps about 60 youngsters each weekday. She has watched them mature.

"I believe it teaches them tolerance and understanding," she said Monday, standing in a popular game room decorated with pool tables, air hockey, foosball and other amenities. Positive messages are painted on the walls to inspire the children, who also get to take field trips to places like museums and parks.

Chance Seller, 16, a

B.L.O.C.K. regular for over a year, offers his own testimonial for what has made the program a success.

"I like to come there because some of my friends come here, and it keeps me out of mischief," he said. "I can play piano and video games with my friends. We can sit and talk or eat food like Ramen noodles."

Seller is among the youths who have toured the new digs at the Canton Administration Building.

"I feel like it's going to be better," he said, saying it's closer to the Summit

and activities such as the annual Fishing Derby in Heritage Park.

Good times

Nia Talley, 11, learned about The B.L.O.C.K. from her older sister Zoe, 15.

"I like it because it has a computer lab where we can do our homework," Nia Talley said.

She described herself as "excited" for the impending move but said she hopes the program keeps amenities such as the glow room, where a group of girls Monday clapped hands and sang a song from the movie "Pitch Perfect."

Eleven-year-old Hunter Martin didn't seem to mind the move as long as the program remains intact with its employees. "The staff members are really nice."

Her friend Aliyah Jordan, 11, said she is "a little sad" to leave the Michigan Avenue building, but she said the Summit swimming area will be closer "so we can hang out together and have a good time."

Jasmine Whiteside, 14, said she is eager to have a new cafeteria area. She also said she is happy she will be closer to the Canton library.

This Friday, a farewell

party happens 6:30-10:30 p.m. at The B.L.O.C.K. It costs \$7 for youngsters, though outreach youths get in for free. It includes food, games and activities. It's a time to say goodbye, and those attending are asked to register at www.cantonfun.org or in person at the event, Pavlo said.

"We have a lot of emotions and memories here," she said, but she is confident the move will work out just fine. "It's exciting to have change and start fresh again."

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HEARING

Continued from page A1

Gerou in open court Tuesday they expected either a plea deal to have been reached or for Hardesty to waive the exam.

Freeman didn't describe the new information, but said it was only presented to him Monday, but "should have been provided weeks ago" by the prosecution. "That information is currently under review, and the defense team continues to evaluate the case in an effort to resolve it in a manner consistent with (Hardesty's) best interests," Freeman said. "We're grateful (Gerou) provided us with more time to evaluate the case."

'Reluctant' decision

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Tom Trzcinski had no comment following the hearing. Gerou said he granted the adjournment "reluctantly."

"We're ready (Tuesday)," Gerou said. "I don't want to come back (July 19) and be in the same place we are now."

Hardesty is facing charges of larceny of a firearm, receiving and concealing stolen property and felony firearms. He's accused of illegally possessing a firearm belonging to the Canton Police Department. Hardesty has been placed on administrative leave.

Both attorneys told Gerou Tuesday they expected a plea deal to be reached; if it isn't, Hardesty is expected to waive his right to a preliminary exam in 35th District Court. His case would then be forwarded to Wayne County Circuit Court. If tried and convicted on the felony charges, Hardesty could face penalties ranging up to 10 years in prison.

Weapon recovered

Hardesty, who has served on the police department's SWAT team, is accused of taking a rifle, Michigan State Police Lt. Mike Shaw said following Hardesty's arraignment last month. Shaw said the weapon has been recovered, though he declined to discuss details such as how long Hardesty is accused of having it. Shaw would only describe the weapon as a rifle.

Hardesty was promoted from sergeant to lieutenant in November 2007. He was hired by the department in 1988 as an officer.

He earned his bachelor's degree in business

administration and leadership from Concordia University in 2001. He earned his master's degree in organizational leadership and administration from Concordia in 2004.

Hardesty also has

served as a team leader in Canton's community policing program.

Staff writer Darrell Clem contributed to this report.

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Conductor Nan Washburn leads the Michigan Philharmonic into its summer schedule starting June 21 at Kensington Metropark.

Philharmonic summer shows have patriotic theme

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The Plymouth-based Michigan Philharmonic is offering Americana-themed concerts in three summertime performances this year.

The first is 8 p.m. Friday, June 21, at Kensington Metropark, an outdoor pops concert entitled *An American Salute*.

The show, which is free with the \$5 admission to Kensington, will feature patriotic favorites, the music of John Williams and John Philip Sousa, and performances of the music of George Gershwin by jazz singer ReGina Coles.

The 1812 Overture by Peter Tchaikovsky, with its signature cannon blasts, will round out the show.

The second new summer concert, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 29, at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth, will be a repeat performance of *An American Salute*, with free admission.

The last summer concert, *An American Salute in Motown*, is set for 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 9, at Campus Martius Park in downtown Detroit. That show will launch a series of free after-work concerts at the park.

"We're very pleased with these opportuni-

ties to continue to build on our momentum of more concerts in a growing list of southeastern Michigan communities," said Beth Stewart, executive director of the Michigan Philharmonic, in a press release. It has been the orchestra's goal for several years to take its shows to more audiences in a greater number of communities in the state.

The Michigan Philharmonic, formerly the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, was founded in 1945 and since 1999 has been directed by Nan Washburn.

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CANTON CRIME WATCH

Retail fraud

Canton Police arrived at the Walmart on Michigan Avenue, in response to a call about stolen clothing.

Upon arrival, according to police reports, Canton officers talked to the store's Loss Prevention Officer, who told police she saw the suspect choose two men's shirts from the men's clothing department.

She said the man also grabbed an MP3 player and an SD card from the electronics department.

The suspect, according to police, concealed all of those items under his clothing, then avoided all points of purchase on his way out of the store.

The LPO stopped him before he got out of the store, and recovered the merchandise without incident.

Canton Police held the suspect on a \$300 bond.

Glasses glommed

Canton officers responded to the Ford Road Walmart when store officials reported a woman stealing items.

When officers got there, the Loss Prevention Officer told them he saw the suspect, a 48-year-old Detroit woman, selected three pairs of reading glasses and quickly rip off the tags. The suspect was then seen concealing the glasses in her purse.

The woman was then seen in the cosmetics department, where she picked up two packages of eyeliner and a lipstick and put them on top of her cart, next to her purse. The suspect then

moved into the grocery department, where she was seen taking the makeup out of its packaging and hiding them in her purse.

At checkout, the woman completed a transaction for other items, but did not offer payment for the glasses or makeup, which officials valued at \$38.52.

Police cited the woman, who is due in 35th District Court in Plymouth on June 23.

Busted for blasting

Officers responded to the area of Lilley Road south of Cherry Hill when a local resident complained about fireworks being set off.

The complainant said he'd been driving around trying to find out who was setting off the fireworks. Officers eventually made contact with the man responsible after the complainant insisted on pressing charges.

Officers cited the two men, who are due in 35th District Court June 26.

Purloined perfume

The store manager at the Bath and Body Works store on Michigan Avenue, in Canton told police someone took 10 bottles of perfume worth nearly \$300 out of the store without paying for them.

The manager had no idea who might have taken the perfume, and there is no video surveillance of that area of the store. She told police the theft happened sometime between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. June 8.

—By Darrell Clem

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Thefts from vehicles

Vehicles parked outside condominiums on Newport Drive in Plymouth Township were targeted in a larceny and an attempted larceny last week, following a rash of four burglaries, plus an attempted burglary, in the same area the week before.

In the latest incidents, which occurred late on June 3 or early the next morning, all four tires and wheels were stolen from a Ford Taurus, and an attempt was made to steal the wheels from a Lincoln MKZ, according to Plymouth Township Police Department reports.

The theft of the Taurus wheels was discovered by a newspaper deliveryman who called police about 4:30 a.m. The car was resting on paving blocks, a police report said, that had apparently been taken from a neighboring yard.

In the attempted theft, police said, lugnuts had been removed and the wheel covers were sitting nearby, but the thieves had apparently been interrupted and fled the scene. Police said a responding officer found two distinct sets of shoe prints.

In other larcenies from vehicles:

- Video discs, cash sitting in returnable cans were among the things stolen from a Chrysler Town & Country van parked outside a Tavistock Drive on the night of June 5 or June 6. A window on the van had been broken, police said.
- An in-dash-board compact disc player was reported stolen Friday from a Chrysler Town & Country parked in the driveway of a house on Briarwood Drive. The van had been left unlocked, the victim told police.

—By Matt Jachman

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Join many other seniors, families and caregivers for a day that includes exhibitors and seminars by expert speakers on various topics including physical health, memory loss, keeping your brain active, meditation and spiritual wellness. Lunch is included with this free event.

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9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Seminar Presentations

9 - 10 a.m.

"Engaging the Mind - When Is Memory Loss a Cause for Concern?"
Geriatrician

10 - 11 a.m.

"Engaging the Body"
Aron Henderson, Exercise Physiologist

11 a.m. - Noon

"Engaging the Spirit"
Harsha Jayatilake, MD, Medical Director, Center for Integrative Medicine

Pre-registration is preferred. For more information or to register, call 734-655-1706 or to register online, visit stmarymercy.org/healthyagingconference.

Thanks to our sponsors:
ARAMARK Area Agency on Aging; The Senior Alliance; ComForCare; Evola Music; Preside Adult Day Ministry; HandyPro; The Hearing Center of Excellence; Traditional Care Unit at The Village of Redford; and lunch sponsors: Arden Courts and Home Instead.

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Canton seniors step into life's next phase

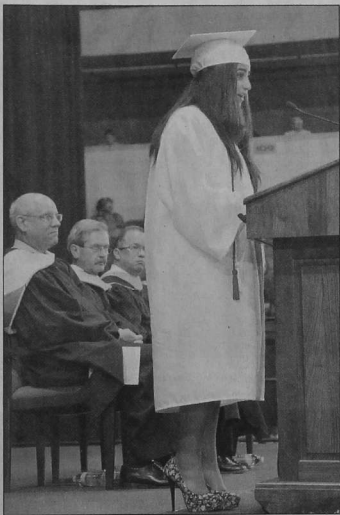
In his commencement speech Sunday to Canton High School graduates, Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Hughes recalled a poster of Albert Einstein a teacher from a former school district had sent him, with quote Hughes remembers to this day:

"Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that is counted counts."

The teacher's point, Hughes said, was there's much more to school, and to education, than what is measured by tests. And among the things that can't be measured, Hughes told seniors, is character.

"Character counts... but can't easily be counted or measured," Hughes told the graduating class, which numbered nearly 500 students. "I hope you leave here realizing that no matter what your grades were, what your GPA is, what your rank in the class is, or how much scholarship money you have earned, when you move on to the next phase in your life, you will be measured not only by how much you know and what you can do, but what kind of person you are."

For a complete list of graduates and more photos, visit www.hometownlife.com.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Class President Jennifer Ghandour addresses her classmates as Board of Education trustees Mike Maloney, John Barrett and Mark Horvath listen.



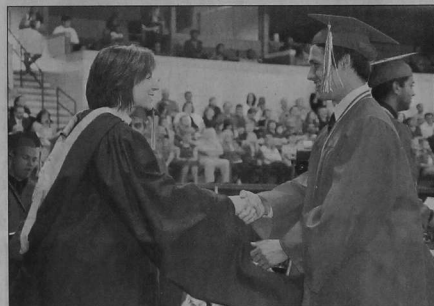
Kayla Mekell Ganster and Anna Lee Hothas wave to the video cameras.



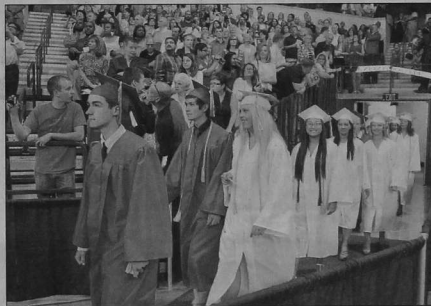
Senior Class Speaker Abby Madison steps forward to speak.



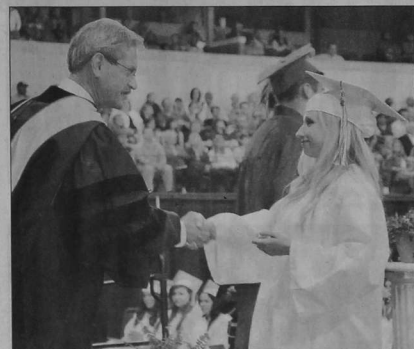
Emily Farhat and classmates enter the EMU Convocation Center for graduation.



Jeffrey Clayton Hess accepts his diploma from Board Treasurer Sheila Paton.



The Canton class of 2013 marches in to Pomp and Circumstance.



Emily Nicole Buck accepts her diploma from Dr. John Barrett, board president.



The PCEP Choir sings "Song To Tradition" just before diplomas are granted.



Dr. John Barrett, board president, has words of encouragement for Ibnul Farabi Khan.



Caps fly as the ceremony ends.

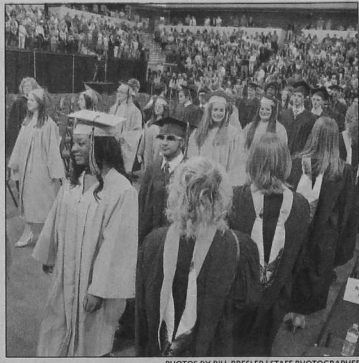
No more books for Wildcat seniors

More than 500 seniors bade classmates farewell and took their next steps into the future as Plymouth High School celebrated its 2013 commencement ceremony Sunday at Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center.

Superintendent Jeremy Hughes, in his final commencement speech (he retires at the end of the month) told graduates they should remember the people who've influenced their character.

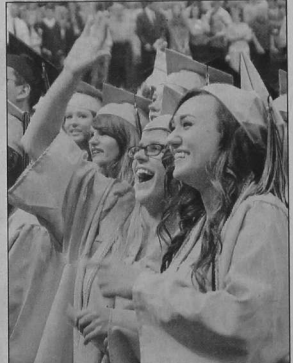
"I hope you have met, and will remember for the rest of your life a teacher, a principal, a counselor, a coach, a secretary, a security guard, a teacher aide, a food server in the cafeteria, a custodian, a bus driver that you will always think back on with respect," Hughes said. "These are the immeasurable things about life in school, the things that count but can't be counted. The little lessons that those of us who work in education hope every day that we are teaching. I hope some of us who have been in your life for all these years have been a character model for you and have given you inspiration, have made you stop and think about who you are and the kind of person you want to be."

For the full list of graduates and more photos, visit www.hometownlife.com

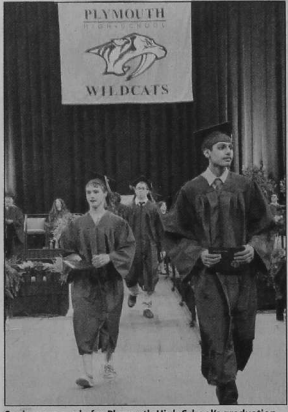


PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth High School's graduating class of 2013 enters the EMU Convocation Center.



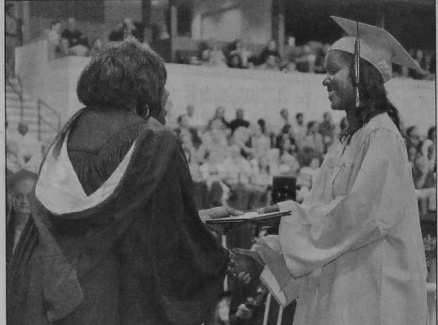
Tanja Dimovski and Valerie Jane Kolesar, watching the video monitor.



Seniors are ready for Plymouth High School's graduation ceremony.



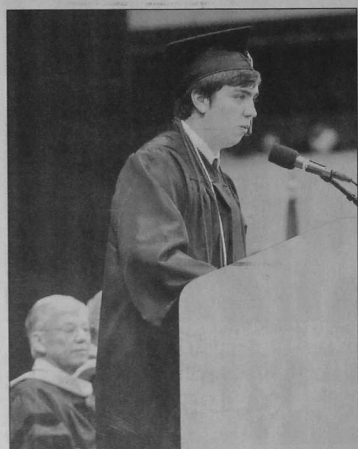
The PCEP Bands play "Pomp and Circumstance."



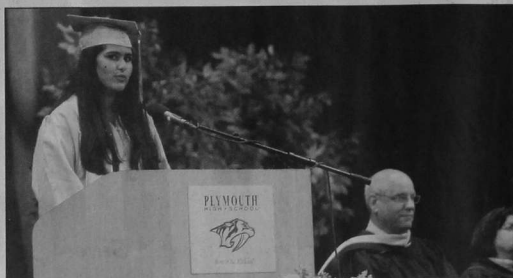
Ireana Elaine Cook receives her diploma from board member Adrienne M. Davis.



John Christopher Halpin receives his diploma from board member Adrienne M. Davis.



Mario Angelo Gruszczynski is Plymouth senior class president.



Plymouth Senior Class Speaker Shamaila Shahzad Ashraf addresses her classmates as Board of Education trustees Michael Maloney and Judy Mardigan listen.



Elizabeth Catherine Johnson receives her diploma from Dr. John Barrett.



The caps fly as the ceremony ends.



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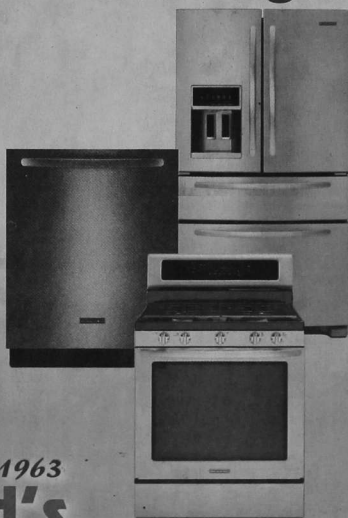


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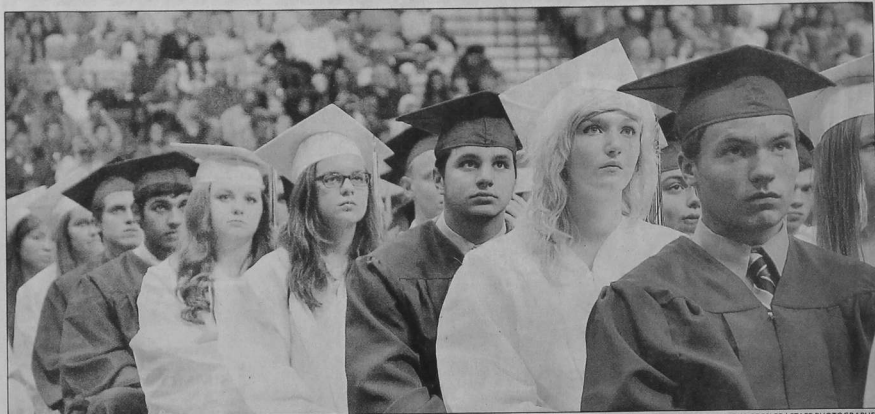
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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Waiting graduates listen to a few short speeches.

Future beckons for Salem's Class of 2013

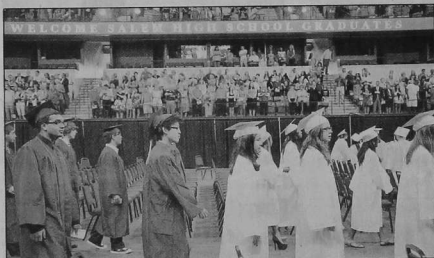
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Hughes knows the more than 480 seniors who passed through the halls of Salem High School this year had a variety of influences in their lives.

As he spoke to the Class of 2013 at Sunday's commencement ceremony at Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center, Hughes urged students, as they move into the next phase of their lives, to remember some of those who helped forge their paths.

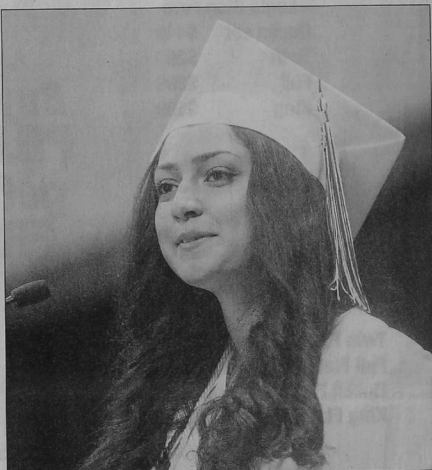
"I hope you have met, and will remember for the rest of your life, a teacher, a principal, a counselor, a coach, a secre-

tary, a security guard, a teacher aide, a food server in the cafeteria, a custodian, a bus driver whom you will always think back on with respect," Hughes said. "Practically everybody in this graduating class is heading on to some form of higher education ... I hope ... educators who have been in your life for all these years, have been a character model for you and have given you inspiration, have made you stop and think about who you are and the kind of person you want to be."

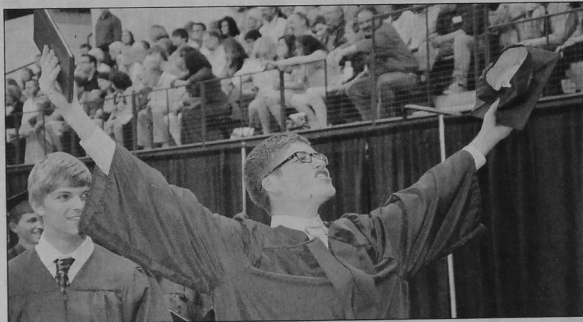
For a complete list of the graduates and more photos, visit www.hometownlife.com



The class of 2013 enters the EMU Convocation Center.



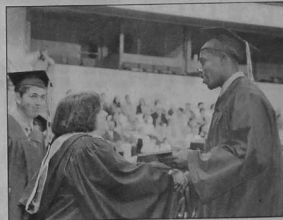
Senior Class Speaker Aysha Qamar.



Mason Anthony Mills, in the recessional.



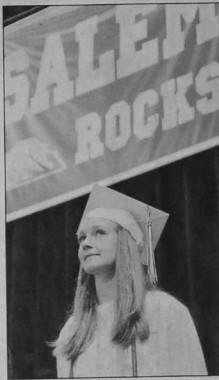
Iris Gayet, an exchange student from Gex, France, places her cap on host mom Andrea Hug.



Kesej LaRon Johnson receives his diploma from Board Vice President Judy Mardigan.



Caps fly as commencement ends.



Senior Class President Ciarra McCarthy.



Charlene Fay Dinogan accepts her diploma from Dr. John Barrett.

Hotel completes \$2.1 million rehab

When Commerce-based Truss Hospitality Development and Management bought the Plymouth Township Comfort Inn on Ann Arbor Road in December 2011, CEO Basil Bacall was determined to transform the hotel.

The gut rehab resulted in a \$2.1 million economic impact for southeastern Michigan employing almost two dozen companies local to southeastern Michigan.

"We wanted it to be an upscale hotel appealing to the global business traveler as well as the leisure traveler so we installed new amenities in the rooms and on the property," Bacall says.

A gray stone fireplace encased in glass was constructed as the centerpiece of the spacious new lobby lit by a chandelier. The walls to four rooms were knocked down to create a spacious breakfast room. A new business center

and a guest laundry have been installed. And a new indoor pool and a new fitness center, each with huge windows looking out on shade trees, were built inside the hotel.

Each of the hotel's 115 rooms got a makeover, with new furniture, plush bedding, a microwave and mini-fridge and thoughtful touches such as a lighted magnifying make-up mirror in every powder room. An airy second-floor lobby welcomes guests to the new executive conference room and a new meeting room. Both rooms can accommodate parties. When a July 12 summer wine and sushi tasting booked the space, the Comfort Inn offered a room discount to guests buying tickets to the event.

Comfort Inn manager David Trapani plans to partner with Plymouth restaurants and stores to offer special packages for wedding guests, bachelorette parties, golfing

weekends and girlfriend getaways.

"We look at Plymouth's vibrant downtown as one of our hotel's amenities," Trapani says. "Guests who do not want to bother renting a car can use our free hotel shuttle. It can take guests to a corporate office or a downtown Plymouth restaurant or even to wedding halls."

The Comfort Inn offers guests a free breakfast including oatmeal, juice, pastries, coffee, fruit and hot dishes such as eggs and waffles. International travelers can be provided with special breakfast items to match their preferences. For example, guests from Japan can be provided with miso soup, pickled plums, seaweed wraps, rice crackers and complimentary copies of the Nikkei newspaper.

Trapani plans a grand opening party in July so corporate leaders as well as Plymouth business owners can see the hotel's completed transformation.

BUSINESS BRIEFS



Vibe Credit Union's 2013 FUSE Scholarship recipients included (from left) Cassidy Wenzelberg, Thurston High School; Javonne Barrett, Cass Tech High School; Jacob Brown, Churchill High School; and Shannon Williams, Northville High School. Not pictured is Wyatt Clement, South Lyon East High School.

Vibe scholars

Vibe Credit Union awarded five high school seniors who will continue their education this fall with a \$1,000 college scholarship as part of their ongoing FUSE Young Adult Program. The five recipients were chosen based on letters of recommendation demonstrating their character, concern for the community, and scholastic commitment.

Vibe's FUSE program includes a FUSE Reward Savings account for children up to age 18; a FUSE ATM card for members at age 14; a FUSE Checking Account, debit card, and a FUSE Visa® Credit Card for members ages 16 to 23; and the FUSE Scholarship Program for high school seniors. "We strongly believe in building our future through attracting and retaining younger members," said CEO Tim Reagan. "Our FUSE program helps our younger members manage their money and build a sound financial future."

Historic markers

The Plymouth Preservation Network has received approval from the Plymouth Historical District Commission to install historical markers on four downtown buildings to educate visitors on the rich history of downtown Plymouth.

The first in a series of plaques will go on the Plymouth United Savings Bank (Greek Islands Cones); the Corner Building (Kilwins); the Pennington Buildings (336 Main); and the Michigan Bell Telephone Building (729 W. Ann Arbor Trail).

Leadership class

Applications are now being taken for the next Leadership Canton class, which will begin in the fall.

The Leadership Canton program provides an advanced knowledge of com-

munity resources, township structure and practices, issues affecting our community and networking opportunities.

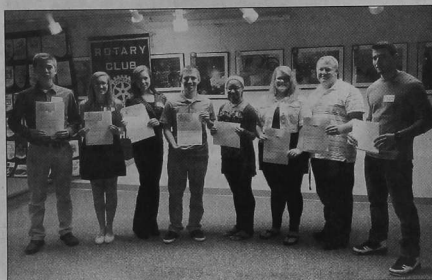
All graduates of the Leadership Canton program will be prepared to take on new opportunities for leadership roles within the community, their jobs, and even their own businesses. Although this program targets those who work at or own a business in Canton, anyone is welcome to apply. Download an application and read more about the program at www.leadershipcanton.com. For more information, call the Canton Township Supervisor's office, (734) 394-5185.

Top performance

Allstate Insurance Company has recognized Allstate exclusive agency owner Joseph Pacut for high standards in customer satisfaction, customer retention and profitability. Pacut Insurance Agency is now one of the top Allstate agencies in the nation in auto, property and commercial insurance and financial service sales.

Pacut Insurance Agency has achieved the distinctive Allstate Honor Ring award based on their 2012 achievements in serving customers and driving successful business results. For more than 60 years, the Honor Ring has been Allstate's symbol of outstanding achievement and honorees have proven to be champions in growing their agencies and serving Allstate customers.

"It's a tremendous honor to earn an invitation to be a part of Allstate's Honor Ring," said Joseph Pacut, Allstate agency owner. "My agency is fully committed to helping customers meet their protection and retirement needs throughout the year and we're proud of the recognition from Allstate."



Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. scholarship winners included (from left) Joshua Joy, Taylor Hoener, Madeline Smock, Nathaniel Benjamin, India Johnson, Chynna Colton, Daniel Vroman and Youssef Barakat. Not pictured is Angela Sun.

Rotary hands out scholarships

Fundraisers sponsored by the Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. paid off big for area students earlier this month.

Club officials June 1 handed out nearly \$8,000 in college scholarships to selected, deserving Plymouth-Canton Community Schools students who they said have "overcome adversity in their quest for

a high school diploma."

The students and their parents took part in a breakfast award ceremony at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

"We are proud to assist students who, through their courage, perseverance, spirit and creativity have demonstrated an appreciation of others and a commitment to their

community," club President Tim Patino said.

Scholarship funds are raised through various Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. events including "Bowling for Scholars" and spaghetti dinner fundraisers. This year's spaghetti dinner takes place Sept. 7 as part of Plymouth's annual Fall Festival.

Sump pump a defense against flooding

Making sure your sump pump works now can prevent problems later.

When the rain starts to fall heavily in Michigan within the next few months, you can prevent dealing with a flooded basement by having a working sump pump.

A sump pump is the first line of defense for many homeowners against getting water in the basement.

Officials at Canton-based Plumbing Professors point out when heavy rains — an inch or more in a short period of time — come, the pump located in the sump bucket works extremely hard to keep up with the amount of water flowing into the bucket. If and when that

pump fails, they said, the exterior walls of the basement and under the basement floor begin to fill up with water.

Matt O'Rourke, Vice President of Plumbing Professors says, "Picture an inside-out swimming pool," said Matt O'Rourke, vice president of Plumbing Professors. "The walls and floor can't handle the hydrostatic pressure and begin to leak. In some cases the water will overflow from the sump bucket causing the basement to fill with water."

"Sump pumps can fail due to age, power outages or even a blockage in the discharge line," O'Rourke added. "Any one of these failures will result in a

flooded or leaking basement."

Most sump pumps will last 5-10 years, but there is no real guarantee.

O'Rourke said he's seen pumps last 2-3 years or as long as 15. It all depends on the type of pump, housing of pump and the water tables where the home is located. Soil conditions and landscaping can also play a huge part in ground water management.

The most important thing for areas that experience a lot of rain, O'Rourke pointed out, is having some sort of secondary or back-up sump pump.

Plumbing Professors can be reached calling (800) 654-1300.



Lisa is a 39-year-old mom. She's in the market for a new SUV. (The soccer team did a job on the last one.)

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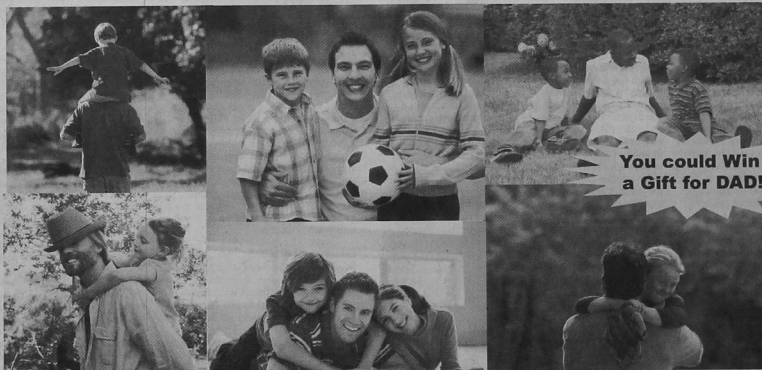
Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights



The Best Daddy in the Whole World! HEY KIDS!

You love dad a whole bunch! He does so much for you. It's your turn to do something nice for him. Send a picture of you and your dad and you could win movie passes to Emagine Theatre to admit 4 people and a special bonus Baskin Robbins treat for you!

Submissions must be received by June 30th. Send to cbjordan@hometownlife.com



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Name: _____

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Date of Birth: _____

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Email: _____

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*Parent's Printed Name: _____

*Parent's Signature: _____

Fill out the form and have your parents fill in their name and signature. Clip and mail, it's that easy!

* Required for Birthday Club

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Evan Lampley
Novi
6 / 2

Brady Brummell
Northville
6 / 17

Marvon Douthet
Detroit
6 / 5

DJ Anchak
Beverly Hills
6 / 25

Congratulations
to Jessica Stewart of Wayne, MI for being the winner of our Mom's Special Day Contest. Jessica won a \$25 Chili's gift Card to give to her mom.

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Chaya Jordan, Marketing Manager
Design/Layout:
Randall Masters, Graphic Artist

Interested in becoming a sponsor of Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights or have general questions?
Email cbjordan@hometownlife.com

Fun Stuff:

WORD SEARCH: MY DADDY

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

FATHER	PAPA	BEST
MUSTACHE	PARENT	FUN
SMART	LOVING	SUPPORT
DADDY	HERO	FRIEND
SMILE	MAN	TEACHER

N	H	X	Z	A	M	O	E	N	W
I	D	I	F	T	O	N	H	H	D
C	E	C	E	E	K	Y	M	A	N
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P	O	I	D	I	F	T	O	N	H
A	I	D	I	F	T	O	N	H	D
M	L	U	S						

What's the Difference?

There are five things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?



Answers: 1. Two blue blocks 2. Father has mustache 3. Block face is upside down 4. Gift missing pigtail 5. Photo on wall missing face

Courtesy of Metro Creative

End of the school year!

WAY TO GO! Kids you completed another great year in school. Now it's time to celebrate you!

Tyler, we are very proud of you! You worked so hard and it paid off- straight A's every semester! Except for one B+.

Love you! Dad, Mom & Natalie

Proud families!



Tyler Brown
Grade: 6
Marshall Upper Middle School

Congratulations Cory on a great year in your new school district! 4.0 entire year, NJHS, swimming track... what an awesome beginning to middle school! Keep up the good work! Love Mom



Cory Rauten
Grade: 7
Stevenson Middle School

Do you write, draw, make crafts, take photographs, or do something else that you would like others to know about?

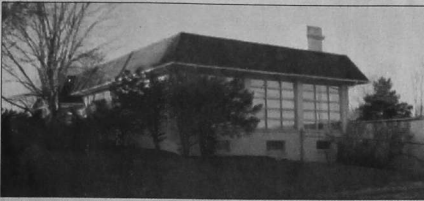


Show Scoop how it's really done!

Newshound Scoop
Went to the chicken coup
To eat some alphabet soup
With his boy scout troop.
He sat on a stoop
And then played some hoops
While twirling a hola hoop.
By Scoop

Deadline for submissions:

Mail all entry forms to: Scoop The Newshound, 41304 Concept Drive Plymouth, MI 48170
All entries need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Media by close of the business day on June 30
or email your form to: cbjordan@hometownlife.com Winners to be announced in a future Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.



The Partnership for the Arts and Humanities is looking for volunteers to take part in an "Historical Factory Clean Up" event to help beautify the exterior of the future home of the new Cherry Hill Arts District.

Volunteers needed for factory cleanup

The Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, an active non-profit organization that is committed to expanding the arts in southeast Michigan, is currently seeking volunteers to take part in an "Historical Factory Clean Up" event to help beautify the exterior of the future home of the new Cherry Hill Arts District.

The clean-up event is scheduled to take place on Saturday, June 29, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the property formerly known as Henry Ford's Village Industry-Cherry Hill Site, located at 50625 Cherry Hill Road in Canton. Recently purchased by the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, this 14-acre property includes a residential dormitory and a 50,000-square-foot factory built over a portion of the Lower Rouge River. This Canton landmark is also listed in the National Register of Historical Places, which recognizes historic properties worthy of preservation throughout the United States.

Volunteers attending the historical factory clean up are also encouraged to

bring canned fruits, vegetables or meat products to assist in filling a MSA Delivery Service 53' trailer that will be traveling to Oklahoma to deliver donated items to tornado victims.

Clean up projects will include landscaping, painting, trash and debris removal, and general beautification of the building's exterior. Volunteers of all ages are asked to meet in the site's parking lot and are encouraged to bring gloves, yard tools and additional equipment to assist with the clean up. "By hosting this clean up project we are making way for the first phase of the creation of the new Cherry Hill Arts District," said Jill Engel, Partnership for the Arts and Humanities Executive Director. "We hope that a large number of residents and local business representatives are able to come out and support our efforts and get a chance to witness the creation of our Arts District from the very beginning."

As part of the development of the Cherry Hill Arts District, the Partner-

ship is also teaming up with Tony Roko, a Ford auto-worker and nationally recognized artist who began his professional art career at the age of 18 when he was approached by Ford and the UAW and asked to paint murals on factory walls to lift employee morale as part of a factory beautification project. Roko is set to contribute his talents during this and future Cherry Hill Arts District beautification projects.

Joe Nader, the Executive Chef at Levy Restaurants at Ford Field where he oversees every aspect of food service in the \$5,000 seat stadium, will also be volunteering during the clean-up event. "I grew up in Canton, and I want to lend my full support to the clean-up and development of this facility," said Nader. "This type of center will ensure that the community will be able to experience the arts for many generations to follow." Volunteers are asked to RSVP at the Partnership's website at www.partnershipforarts.org. For additional information on the Partnership's Historical Factory Clean Up Event, call (734) 765-7061.

Canton professor donates to Charles H. Wright museum

Betty Brown-Chappell was born into poverty. She experienced racism and, as a woman, sexism. Those challenges, though, didn't stop her from accomplishing her dreams for an education. She and her seven siblings graduated from college because, in her close-knit family, failure was not an option.

Brown-Chappell became a social worker and activist, pledging she would advocate for poor and oppressed people, especially the children, the elderly and the disabled.

Brown-Chappell's history and life's work took center stage Sunday at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit, when the museum celebrated the new Brown-Chappell historical collection.

The collection is an archival history that documents Brown-Chappell's four generations of family members; her early life history; career as a black social worker and activist in Michigan; the mission of the Detroit



Chappell

more.

Brown-Chappell's affiliation with the Wright museum began nearly 23 years ago. One day, she came across an article that asked families to share their heritage with the museum. Thus began a great relationship.

"The information I donated ranges from the 1800s to the present and includes information about four generations — my paternal and maternal family members; my siblings; my husband Michael and our children," Brown-Chappell said. "I've also donated the majority of materials from my 17 years at Eastern Michigan University."

Her collection is the first donation of a private citizen to be formally opened to the public at the museum.

"The donation is impor-

tant," said Brown-Chappell. "First, I've taken charge of telling my own story. Second, I've put my collection in an institution where it will be preserved in perpetuity. Finally, I'm sharing the archives with others so they may learn and gain inspiration from my experiences."

Brown-Chappell is a strong advocate for various issues. She has testified before Congress on welfare reform; served as a People to People Ambassador to Eastern Europe; and met with Secretary-General Kofi Annan at the United Nations. She also testified before the Michigan legislature on social work licensing.

As president of the 8,500-member National Association of Social Workers-Michigan Chapter, she oversaw advocacy efforts that pushed for state licensure for social workers.

Her research interests include trends in aging and how race affects leadership. She teaches courses on social welfare policy and gerontology at Eastern Michigan.

AROUND PLYMOUTH-CANTON

CHILDREN'S CLINIC

Date/Time: Saturday, June 22, 10 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.

BLOOD DRIVES

Dates/Times/Locations:

• 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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OUR VIEWS

District right to stick with vendors

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education did the right thing Tuesday by sticking with McCarthy-Smith as the construction manager for the new middle school they need designed and built in time for the 2015-16 school year.

The school is part of the \$114.4-million bond passed by voters in May.

There had been some sentiment — and a brief push — to bid the work out, rather than continue with McCarthy-Smith as the district's construction manager. There is still some question about keeping TMP as the architect; no decision was made on that issue Tuesday, and discussions are set to continue next week.

The board should ultimately come to the same conclusion about TMP as they did about McCarthy-Smith.

Trustees Mark Horvath and Mike Maloney questioned the handling a multi-million-dollar construction project over to the two vendors without going through the bid process. They preferred to see how their costs compared to the market. The two trustees, neither of whom supported the bond proposal, have been adamant they're going to be good stewards of the money, and are pushing to check nearly every expenditure.

McCarthy-Smith has been the construction manager on the successful construction of Discovery Middle School, Plymouth High School and Dodson Elementary School, all in 1999, as well as the 2004 construction of Workman Elementary School and the 2011 remodeling/construction of the office wing at Salem High School.

There's lots of merit to that, and nothing wrong with watching where the money goes. But common sense also has to play a role, and both McCarthy-Smith and TMP have earned some trust capital over the years.

McCarthy-Smith has been the construction manager on the successful construction of Discovery Middle School, Plymouth High School and Dodson Elementary School, all in 1999, as well as the 2004 construction of Workman Elementary School and the 2011 remodeling/construction of the office wing at Salem High School. TMP was the architect for a number of remodeling projects (which were made possible because McCarthy-Smith brought in all the projects from the 2004 bond on time and under budget) from 2004-11. They also designed the Salem office wing.

And last year, when the district was looking at capital needs in advance of the 2013 bond proposal, McCarthy-Smith did the survey free of charge. One could argue they did it in anticipation of getting the contract, but that wasn't etched in stone.

Administrators did their homework and researched expected pricing from other firms, and determined both McCarthy-Smith and TMP were well within market value. Could the district have saved money by going out for bids? It's certainly possible?

Would it have been enough money to make it worth the learning curve and time delays such a process would have caused? Probably not.

Plymouth-Canton officials have said they want the new middle school open for the 2015-16 school year. The delay the RFP process would have caused wouldn't have been worth the money saved.

The district is operating on a pretty strict timeline. It makes no sense to reinvent the wheel. Hiring McCarthy-Smith and TMP is the right thing to do.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Are you going to Liberty Fest this year? What do you like most about it?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"We do go. The kids like the rides."

Kirk Fales
Canton



"Yes, I do go on a regular basis. I like to walk around and see all the good stuff they have."

John Deutschendorf
Canton



"I'll probably go with family and friends for the family enjoyment. It's a pleasant, wonderful atmosphere. I really like the diversity of it."

Leo Regular
Ypsilanti



"I haven't gone in a couple of years but this year I definitely plan on going. I want to see the classic car show."

Mike Nickert
Canton

GUEST COLUMN

Lock experts in Mackinac barn for real education reform

By Tom Watkins
Guest Columnist

During the annual Detroit Regional Chamber Policy Conference on Mackinac Island, the only thing more consistent than the lingering smells of horse manure and fudge is the call for school reform and additional school funding. Once again the chamber attracted some "big name" education reformers to Mackinac: former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush and former head of Washington, D.C.'s school system and now leader of Student First, Michelle Rhee.



Tom Watkins

Next year the goal should be to skip inviting "experts" from afar and instead focus on inviting the team of Michigan educators, policy and political leaders who have actually "fixed" our educational mess.

The news that the Buena Vista School District closed its doors along with the threat of the Pontiac Schools doing the same — even before the school year has officially ended — is a national embarrassment. This was followed by the sobering news that the Abbeon School District will be closing its high school next year because of it can't afford to keep it open.

There are nearly 50 school districts operating in a deficit, most for several years. Many school districts are so close to being underwater financially that the slightest wave will sink them.

The spotlight on these school messes should force bigger questions: Should we be perpetuating 550 local school districts, some as small as Buena Vista with 420 students? Is our system of funding schools sustainable? Are new revenues directed at our schools enhancing the teaching and learning of students or simply propping up unsustainable legacy costs?

Is it true that Michigan is ninth in K-12 education spending and 35th in performance? Are we getting the proper return on investment for the billions of dollars spent annually on our schools?

Maybe we should consider changing the name of the Department of Education to the Department of Health Care and Pensions — because that's exactly where any new resources flowing to our schools will end up. (See: 2004 Report: Structural Funding Issues Facing Michigan Schools in the 21st Century at www.michigan.gov/documents/michigan_schoolfunding_110803_7.pdf)

Does the legislature need to keep stepping into all this mess before they acknowledge there is a problem?

The current debate surrounding reform and new money for our schools brings to mind that old Miller Lite beer commercial, "Great Taste... Less Filling!" Which is it to be? More Reform. Less Money! or "More Money! Less Reform!" The fact is, our system of education needs a targeted dose of both.

We need to get serious-thinking people together to forge a compromise that matches sensible reform align with funding

increases which are targeted at teaching and learning. Reforms without resources won't cut it, any more than more money without reform will!

Providing more money without structural reforms and addressing unsustainable legacy cost is like pouring water into a glass with a hole in the bottom — wondering why the glass can never be filled. If we continue on the same course we will simply perpetuate the status quo which does not prepare our kids for our 21st century hyper-competitive, disruptive, knowledge economy where jobs and innovation can, and do, move around the globe effortlessly.

My solution? Gov. Snyder should bring the various sides together, lock them in a horse barn on Mackinac Island, and not release them until they find a shared vision and common agenda to address the need for resources targeted at teaching, learning, and structural reforms that address the unsustainable nature of our current system — one that is holding our children and state back. Sensible people with good will can solve this problem.

Perhaps being locked in a Mackinac horse barn until they do may be just the incentive they need to only get some real horse sense about the issues, but also get the job done!

Tom Watkins served as Michigan's state school superintendent 2001-05. He is a U.S./China business and educational consultant and can be reached at: tdwatkins8@gmail.com.

LETTERS

Food drive thanks

On behalf of The Salvation Army, I am sending our sincerest "thank you" to all who supported the most recent National Association of Letter Carriers food drive on May 11.

There are so many to thank and space doesn't allow us to mention all of you individually, but to our mail carriers and post office personnel at the Plymouth/Canton/Belle Isle post offices, thank you for allowing us to be the recipients of the food.

To Greg Stachura, we send our sincerest thanks for the donation of trucks and manpower.

To the many folks who donated baked goods, pizzas, chicken, hot dogs, sandwiches, pop, water, ice, paper products and monetary gifts again this year, thank you for feeding the volunteers and

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats: Web: www.hometownlife.com Mail: Letters to the Editor, Canton Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226 Fax: (313) 223-3331 E-mail: bkadri@hometownlife.com Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com. Deadline: Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

mail carriers. For all those that shared the information via fliers, posted it on their marquees, in their newspapers, newsletters and mailers,

and Facebook pages, you get our thanks as well.

To our many, many volunteers who came in and sorted all the food in less than two days — you are awesome. And to you who donated all the food, thanks for your continued support of both the mail carriers and The Salvation Army.

Finally, a word of thanks to Barb Mitchell and Tammy Bosman at the Plymouth post office and Gloria Gorny and Lois Spritz at the Canton post office for your tireless work in pulling all this together on behalf of our neighbors. This annual event has become a great tradition in our community and we look forward to another great year in 2014.

Laurie Aren, director
Family and Community Ministries
The Salvation Army



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Chiefs grab regional title

DIVISION 1
GIRLS SOFTBALL

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

It's been like a mantra for Canton varsity girls softball coach Jim Arnold, constantly reminding his players just how good they can be under the postseason spotlight.

On back-to-back June weekends the Chiefs have proven their coach to be correct — first knocking off top-ranked Plymouth in the Division 1 districts and then winning Saturday's D1 regionals at Novi High School with a 5-0 victory over South Lyon.

Not to be overlooked was Canton's nail-biting 3-2 win over perennial powerhouse Farmington Hills Mercy in the regional semifinal.

"I definitely do think that," said Arnold, about his team (now 29-5) using the victory over Plymouth as a springboard into the higher-stakes competition. "It was a very emotional game against Plymouth (on June 1 at Northville). They're a heck of a ball team. We came out with all kinds of enthusiasm, we hit the ball at the right time (and) we scored the runs."

"It proved to them that they can play. I've been telling them all year long they have the athletic ability to do it."

Junior shortstop Paige Aresco led the offensive assault against the Lions with two doubles, a triple and three runs while backing the sterling pitching of junior Hanna Warren with her typical sturdy defense.



Canton's varsity girls softball team exuberantly hoists their Division 1 regional championship trophy after Saturday's 5-0 win over South Lyon in the regional final at Novi.

Perfect timing

"There's some ball-players on this team that are coming through when they're supposed to," said Arnold, following his team's win over the Lions. "Right at the end, it makes it a lot easier to coach when they start getting those key hits. They're peaking and hopefully they get a few more games to go."

First up is Tuesday's D1 quarterfinal against Romeo at Saline. The game is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. A victory there propels Canton into Friday's D1 semis at Bailey Park in Kalamazoo. Canton's previous trip to the quarters was in 2011.

Warren said she had plenty of gas in the tank to follow up the win over Mercy with her 11-shutout effort against South Lyon (13-12) and is primed for the next challenge.

"We were all pumped, we were ready to go, we wanted this from Day 1," Warren said. "Coach always says win the last game. So we were pumped. Even though some of us were tired at the end we were picking ourselves up, eating Power Bars."

She added that her teammates continue to inspire her with flawless play behind her.

"The defense is play-

ing great the whole play-offs," Warren noted.

"Paige Aresco's scooping up things, Web (senior third baseman Jessica Webster) at third. Every-

one's been contributing." Aresco got the ball rolling against South Lyon with a walk and stolen base in the first inning. She came home on a sacrifice fly by senior catcher Catherine Porter, who keyed the earlier win over Mercy with a 3-for-4 performance and two RBI.

In the third, Aresco doubled against South Lyon starting pitcher Maddie Moser and came

Please see CHIEFS, B3

Bats go cold in quarters

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Taylor Weaver spoiled any dreams of a weekend at Bailey Park that Canton varsity girls softball players might have been having.

The Romeo junior struck out 11 Chiefs and allowed just three hits Tuesday as the Bulldogs edged Canton 2-1 in a Division 1 state quarterfinal in Saline.

"I can't complain about that," Canton head coach Jim Arnold said. "One game away from going to 'the Show' and that would have been nice to have those players go to Battle Creek (for Friday's semifinals). But it just wasn't meant to be."

Canton junior pitcher Hanna Warren was the hard-luck loser, giving up just four hits and striking out eight.

"Both pitchers dominated the game," Arnold said. "Our bats just went cold. We had more strikeouts in this game than we had in probably five games combined."

"That's unusual for us. I think we were a little bit anxious." Romeo, ranked No. 10 in D1 with a 33-8 record, took a 1-0 lead in the first when

Please see LOSS, B3

Salem men's lax 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 the game. Hot dogs will be provided. Those planning on attending should bring a passing dish (last names A-L 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.

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 Smith at eliduh@yahoo.com.

Adult golfers

PGA golf professional Tami Bealart will offer a series of summer adult golf classes at Hickory Creek Golf Course, 3625 Napier Road, Superior Township.

Among the classes offered include:
Get Golf Ready — 7-9 p.m. Mondays, June 24-Aug. 12 and Thursdays, July 22 and Thursdays, July 16-Aug. 13; 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, July 10-Aug. 7. Cost \$99 for five weeks.

Casual Golf — 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays, July 2-23 or 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursdays, June 27-July 25 (no class July 4). Cost is \$85 for four weeks. Refresher — noon-1 p.m. Tuesdays, June 25-July 9. Cost is \$75 for three weeks.

Private lessons are also available by appointment for \$45 per half-hour or \$195 (series of five).

To register, visit www.TrainWithTami.com.

For more information, email TrainWithTami@yahoo.com or call (734) 731-0238.

Rock climbers

Salem gridders Werner, Barakat moving up to the college ranks

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Last season, Cam Werner couldn't play football his senior year at Salem High School due to injury.

His classmate, Youssef Barakat, also was injured but did find a way to compete for the Rocks.

"The third week (of the 2012 prep season), that's when I messed my shoulder up real bad," said Barakat, a defensive back. "I always had to wear a pad over it and when I was hitting I'd always feel the shock in my shoulder."

"I had to overcome that and play through it the rest of the season. It didn't hold me back. My mind overcame the pain."

The injuries and adversity potentially could have had a negative impact on their finding

college football teams — but thankfully for Werner and Barakat that wasn't the case.

Werner, a clutch tight end before he was lost to his injury, signed to play at Kalamazoo College (NCAA Division III).

"Playing football in high school was a major passion of mine," noted Werner in a recent e-mail to the Observer. "So I know I am really lucky to be able to move on to the next level."

"Kalamazoo's football team is on the rise and I have experience with helping rebuild Salem Football so I know I can be an important part of the team."

Barakat is a "preferred walk-on" at D-I Eastern Michigan University.

"I wanted to play D-I



Two key members of Salem's 2012 varsity football team recently celebrated with their parents after they timed up opportunities to play college football. Youssef Barakat (front left) will be a preferred walk-on at Eastern Michigan University. Cam Werner (front right) will play at Kalamazoo College. Standing behind them are their respective parents, Abe Barakat and Melissa and Mark Werner. Not pictured is Youssef's mom, Hanan Barakat.

Please see ROCKS, B4

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Canton's Warren tops powerful Marlins

By Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

Canton junior Hanna Warren won the battle between her quality pitching and Farmington Hills Mercy's potent batting order in a regional softball game Saturday.

Warren pitched a two-hit shutout for six innings and saw the Chiefs through to a 3-2 victory in the Division 1 tournament at Novi High School.

Canton (29-5) went on to defeat South Lyon in the championship game later that afternoon in which Warren earned her shutout, 5-0.

Warren got the Marlins, who hit a state record 51 home runs this year, to hit the ball on the ground with few exceptions, allowing the left side of the Canton infield to make most of the plays.

"Our goal was to keep the ball in the ballpark," Canton coach Jim Arnold said. "If we can do that, we've got a heckuva chance of winning the game."

"We worked on jamming them and keeping them high. (Warren and senior catcher) Catherine Porter did an outstanding job of putting together the game plan for that game. I give all the credit to those two."

Jessica Webster had eight assists and junior shortstop Paige Aresco four for the Chiefs.

Until the seventh inning when the Marlins scored its runs, only one ball left the infield.

"We think we've got a



PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

A Farmington Hills Mercy base runner slides safely into second base Saturday as the ball rolls away from Canton shortstop Paige Aresco (No. 14, left). In the background for the Chiefs is second baseman Kendyl Richter.

heckuva defense and, normally, defense wins ball games, even against powerful hitters like they have," Arnold said. "They put a little scare in me in the seventh inning, but (the Chiefs) stayed focused and played a heckuva game."

"Webster has been playing like that all year; she's a phenomenal third baseman. She prides herself on her defense and is a great kid. Aresco has extremely quick feet to get in front of the ball, and she has one of the best releases going to first base."

Warren fanned three; the lone walk came in the seventh in which she also hit a batter. Five players had one hit for the Marlins (29-3).

Mercy freshman Abby

Krzywiecki went the distance and pitched a complete game. The Chiefs had eight hits and two walks. Krzywiecki struck out five.

Porter's big hit

The winning hit was a two-out, two-run single by Porter with the bases loaded in the top of the seventh inning, giving Canton a 3-0 lead.

Elizabeth Yager started the at-bat with an infield single. Aresco was intentionally walked and Sarah Wagner hit safely to fill the bases and set the table for Porter, who was 3-for-4. Wagner and Webster also had two hits apiece.

Canton had a 1-0 lead for much of the game after scoring in the first inning. Porter singled and pinch

runner Bryn Birchler scored on Webster's two-out double.

The Marlins didn't go down without a fight and made it interesting with a rally in the bottom of the seventh.

"We had the 3-4-5 part of the order up, which is what you want," Mercy coach Brandon Malinowski said. "(Warren) was jamming us and we tried to make adjustments. I think we finally caught up to her. She's a great pitcher."

Mercy started the bottom of the seventh with Jacquelyn Murphy's single and an RBI double by Alex Sobczak, who finished the season with 17 home runs.

The walk and hit-by-pitch loaded the bases for Elizabeth Carlson,



Canton pitcher Hanna Warren delivers a pitch to a Farmington Hills Mercy batter during Saturday's D1 regional semifinal.

who knocked in Sobczak with a single. Malinowski gave the hold sign to Jordan Ewald, who represented the tying run, as she rounded third base.

"We knew the right fielder had the best arm of the three (outfielders)," Malinowski said. "There were still no outs, so to send her there is questionable. The right fielder had the ball before she touched third base. In the spur of the moment, it's not something to do."

Defense wins game

The game ended with three straight bases-loaded fielder's choices. Webster and Porter combined to make consecutive force-outs at the plate, and Webster made the final putout at third base with an assist from Aresco.

"We were up 3-0; all of a sudden they load the bases and the heart starts pumping a little bit," Arnold said. "We stayed

focused and did what we had to do and, fortunately, came out of that with a 3-2 win."

"We knew we could play with them; we didn't get intimidated. We played good defense and we hit the ball at the right time. It was an outstanding win for Canton against a heckuva team in Mercy."

The Marlins lose only three seniors, but all are starters — center fielder Murphy, first baseman/outfielder Meghan Tharance and second baseman Carlson.

"It's a big three to replace," Malinowski said. "They've been there forever; they've been the heart and soul of the team. We're going to miss them."

"Any time you go 29-3 and accomplish the feats we did it's a great season. The girls were awesome to coach. It should be an exciting year for them next year."

Learning curve on upswing for Hawks

By Brad Emmons
Observer Staff Writer

The 2013 season continued to be a learning curve for the young Westland Huron Valley Lutheran girls softball team.

The Hawks, featuring all underclassmen, made Saturday's Division 4 regional final before losing to host Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett, 5-0, in the championship

after eliminating Allen Park Inter-City Baptist, 7-4, in the first semifinal. Last year, HVL fell to Royal Oak Shrine, 6-1, in the regional semifinal, so it was another step in the right direction.

"We bring everyone back next year," said Huron Valley coach Eric Ruth, whose team finished 15-9 overall. "We don't lose one girl, so we'll see what happens."

"We need more timely hitting and learning to forget your mistakes and move on. That's the key to this team. We dwell on our mistakes. But it was a great season. We had a lot of fun."

The Hawks left seven runners stranded against Liggett senior right-hander Ashley Tengel, who threw back-to-back shutouts on the day including a 1-0 semifinal victory

over Wixom St. Catherine of Siena.

Tengel scattered seven hits, struck out four and walked only one.

Liggett (26-4) earned its first regional title in eight years by scoring a run in the third before breaking the game open with four more in the fifth.

In the third, Courtney Slabough drew a one-out walk and Lva Evangelista's sacrifice bunt plopped over the head HVL starting pitcher Julie St. John, who was charging hard on the play. Emma Nicholas then followed with an RBI single to make it 1-0.

The Knights then sent nine batters to the plate in the fifth getting an RBI single from Evangelista, an RBI double from Anna Majewski and an RBI single from Taylor Slayton followed by an HVL infield error.

That five-run cushion proved more than enough for Tengel, who was the MVP of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

St. John, a sophomore right-hander, allowed eight hits, walked one and struck out one in six innings.

Dayna Schroeder, a

junior right fielder, collected two of HVL's seven hits.

In the semifinal, Jessie Strauch went 3-for-3 with a walk and three runs scored as the Hawks ousted Inter-City Baptist.

Anne St. John contributed two hits and knocked in three runs, while Brooke Kuehn went 2-for-4 and scored twice for HVL.

Julie St. John threw a complete-game seven-hit shutout. She struck out two and did not issue a walk.

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CHIEFS

Continued from page B1

around to score on Porter's groundout.

That 2-0 lead held up until the bottom of the fifth and Aresco was in on the action again.

First, junior second baseman Kendyl Richter (1-for-2, one run) laid down a perfect bunt down the third-base line for a single. She motored to third on Aresco's double off the top of the left-field fence.

With one out, Porter (1-for-2, three RBI) singled to right over the outstretched arms of South Lyon second baseman Colleen Graves to score Richter and Aresco to put Canton's edge to 4-0.

Canton added a run in the seventh for the final margin of victory.

Whatever it takes

Senior Brooklyn Sellers, pinch hitting, singled to left. Aresco knocked her in with a triple over the right fielder's head.

"I just really want to win, I want this team to go far," Aresco said. "I want to do as much as I possibly can to help this team out."

Rounding out Canton's offensive attack were Webster (1-for-3) and freshman outfielder Elizabeth Yager (2-for-3).

Warren said the team brought extra confidence into the Mercy game just from the way it got past Plymouth in the districts.

"Yeah, that was a pretty emotional game," Warren said. "And coming in today (against Mercy), one of the best-hitting teams in the state, compared to Plymouth they're equal in hitting. So that helped us a lot."

Now, it's proverbial turn-the-page time for the Chiefs.

"It's nice to go back (to the D1 quarters)," Arnold said. "Our motto is that helped us a lot and we're going to try our best to do that."

In the meantime, his players will look to stay the winning course against Romeo.

"Stay the same way, stay focused," Arnold said. "Do the things you're supposed to do and whatever happens, happens. Let's have some fun."

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LOSS

Continued from page B1

Weaver singled to score Morgan Gardner (who doubled).

Canton, who finished with a stellar 29-6 record, came back to tie the game in the third.

Senior Shannon Watson singled and Warren followed with a perfect bunt for another base hit.

Watson scored when the Bulldogs made a throwing error on the ensuing batter.

The 1-1 deadlock continued until the decisive bottom of the sixth. Danielle Szajna roped a two-base hit to bring in Kayla Noch, who started the rally off with a single.

"It was a great season," Arnold said. "Anytime you're double wins and single losses your team has done a tremendous job all year. I'm proud of the way they worked hard all year long."

The defeat marked the end of several outstanding Canton careers, namely those of Watson, Jessica Webster, Catherine Porter, Sarah Wagner, Brooklyn Sellers and Delaney O'Donnell.

"I'm losing six seniors, some real key players," Arnold added. "They're going to be hard to replace."

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D2 SOFTBALL

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Although she's only a freshman, Rozlyn Price is becoming the First Lady of Livonia Ladywood softball.

Building confidence with every late season start, the right-hander pitched a masterpiece in Tuesday's state quarterfinal at Novi as the defending MHSAA Division 2 champions blanked St. Clair, 2-0.

With the victory, the 32-9 Blazers will be making their fourth state semifinal appearance in five years and will face Tecumseh (31-5-3) beginning at 6:30 p.m. Friday at Battle Creek's Bailey Park.

Price, backed by an air tight defense, struck out five and walked only one to outduel St. Clair ace Brittany Schweiger.

"Price was right," Ladywood coach Scott Combs said. "The difference in the last two months is incredible. She listened to us. She did what we told her. We told her if you listen and throw to the spots we want you to throw to, we know how to get people out."

Price foiled the Saints (20-12-1) with a variety of pitches. And when she didn't throw strikes, she wasn't off by much.

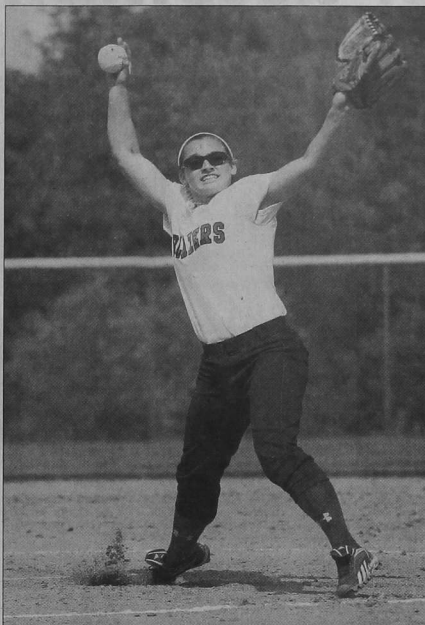
Not bad for a ninth-grader who succeeded four years ago as a freshman in 2012 Michigan Gatorade Player Brianna Combs (now at Cleveland State).

"This is by far the funnest game that I've pitched because everybody behind me was encouraging me and giving me so much support," Price said. "I really like that."

"The high pitch was working pretty well. Erika Selakowski did an amazing job at second (base). She was so giving me and I was proud of her."

Selakowski made a great diving catch in the second inning to rob Brittany Schweiger and had two other putouts.

Ladywood did not make an error, but that wasn't



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ladywood freshman Rozlyn Price threw a two-hitter, struck out five and walked only one in a 2-0 shutout of St. Clair in Tuesday's Division 2 state quarterfinal at Novi.

the case for the St. Clair.

"It's uncharacteristic of us to make four errors and we didn't hit the ball like we're capable either," Saints coach Kevin Mahn said. "Credit to them (Ladywood). They're a good team and they're going to give whoever they play next all they can handle for sure."

Price allowed her first hit in the third when Sarah Longuski's double to center sailed over the head of Ladywood center fielder Christina Meyer.

But Price buckled down and struck out the next hitter. In the fourth, she gave up a bunt single, but then retired 12 of the final 13 batters she faced.

"Just two hits and we only got one kid to second base once," Mahn said. "They were playing shallow (in the outfield) to take away base hits. They didn't think we were going to hit anything over their head. And basically that's what it was."

"We were trying to swing at that rise ball. It's a hard pitch to lay off of. It's a hard thing to do."

Ladywood, meanwhile, got an important run in the first.

Celeste Fidge's hard shot glanced off the glove of St. Clair first baseman Miranda Greig, which was scored an error. Andria Gietl then beat out an infield single on a close play and Selakowski brought Fidge home with a single.

The Blazers, who collected six hits on the day, added an insurance run in the bottom of the sixth.

Fidge, bound for the University of Toledo,

proved fleet of foot as she stretched a bloop hit to center into a double. Gietl, the senior first baseman, then followed with a sharp single to left scoring Fidge.

"With the help of our base running at practices, I think that's a big factor," Fidge said. "Nobody was there, so I just took it. But we all contributed definitely."

In the top of the seventh, Price got a flyout, and two pop-outs to end the game.

And it's been quite a transformation this season for the freshman.

"Briana (Combs) talked to her, coach Ron (Reinert) talked to her," Scott Combs said. "We just got her thinking that she could rely on what's called. Her first game of year she walked 10 and hit four. She was just all over the place with fear, but she's a very confident lady now and relaxed, and helping lead this team."

And the Blazers, who start four ninth-graders, appear to be peaking at the right time.

"We had to put a lot of freshmen in, but our seniors are our leaders," Combs said. "For that second run - senior (Fidge) leads off with a hustle double. Senior (Gietl) pops up and hits a single for an RBI. It was a huge run. Just how you could write it."

And Fidge believes the team has become a tight bond.

"Everyone gets along and we're a family, no matter what," she said. "I mean, don't get me wrong, we all have our bad days, but there's always every single one of us to pick us up. That's definitely what makes it different. It's not a cliché saying that a team is family. It's really true. You can go to them for anything and they support you on-and-off the field."

Meanwhile, Scott Combs returns once again to his hometown.

"I enjoy Battle Creek," he said. "I love the Old Country Buffet."

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Mayberry eager to start college career

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Hard work never bothered Josh Mayberry during his three-year Canton varsity boys basketball career.

And that willingness to give everything he had and more on the basketball court every single day is why Chiefs head coach Jimmy Reddy foresees nothing but success for the point guard at Dominican University.

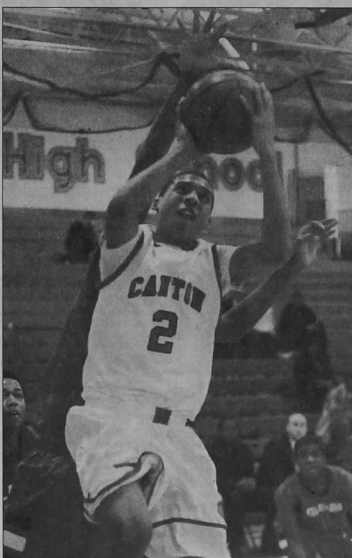
Mayberry recently signed with Dominican, a Division III school outside of Chicago in the Northern Athletics Conference. He is optimistic about seeing minutes as a freshman both at point guard and shooting guard.

"It was an absolute pleasure to coach Josh," Reddy said. "He is an outstanding young man of high character and the improvements he made on the basketball court from year to year were exceptional."

"Dominican University is getting a player that will come in and compete every day."

Mayberry, who averaged 12.6 points, 4.6 assists and 2.3 steals per contest as a senior en route to all-conference and all-Observer honors, stressed that his work ethic at Canton — not just during the season, either — will do nothing but help him at Dominican.

"Being at Canton showed me that if you put in the work in the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

gym, you will naturally get better," Mayberry said. "Coach Reddy really emphasizes getting better in the offseason and I think that makes him

a really great coach. He goes the extra mile for his players."

"... This will help me in college because he has put the mindset in me to

always get better. Whether you are doing shooting drills, dribbling drills, or working out, you should do something every day that will benefit you."

Josh Mayberry (No. 2) was a key performer for Canton's varsity boys basketball team the past three seasons. He will look to make an immediate impact in 2013-14 at Dominican University.

Mayberry said basketball wasn't the only reason he decided to play at Dominican. Other schools he was being pursued by included Albion, Adrian, Defiance and Marygrove.

"I chose Dominican because it is located near Chicago and that is a city that I love to visit," said Mayberry, whose parents are Mark and Marcia Mayberry. "They also have a very good business program at the school which is a field that I was looking to get into as a career."

Another plus was the fact friend Kevin Mack (a 2013 Salem grad) also is going to play basketball there.

"We used to play for Discovery together in middle school and we were very successful and had a lot of fun," said Mayberry, about Mack. "I decided (that) to play another couple of years with him may be more fun as well."

Mayberry will bring a winning resume to Dominican. He finished fourth all-time in Canton assists (183) and third all-time in steals (93) and was instrumental in helping the Chiefs win two KLA South Division titles, along with one Kensington Conference crown and one district championship.

"I am extremely proud of what Josh accomplished at Canton," Reddy said. "And I know he will excel at the next level."

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Grief accomplishment

Canton's Niermann is first from Park to earn D-I chance in girls lacrosse

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Being first is a legacy that Annelise Niermann doesn't mind having. Niermann, who just graduated from Canton High School, recently became the first girls lacrosse player from Plymouth-Canton Educational Center to sign with a NCAA Division I school.

She inked a scholarship with the University of Detroit-Mercy Titans — evidence that the Park is starting to yield quality college prospects.

"I am proud of my legacy," said Niermann, also a standout player her senior year with the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins varsity girls hockey team. "I think over the years I did what it took to show my talent not only to the Park program, but also to other school programs."

Having the girls see that one of their teammates has this opportunity, I hope it helps them realize that anything really is possible if you put your mind to it."

The midfielder caught the eye of Titans coaches while competing last summer and fall with the Detroit Coyotes travel team (Detroit Lacrosse Club).

The team took part in various lacrosse showcases in Maryland, Virginia



Annelise Niermann, who just graduated from Canton High School, recently signed her national letter of intent to play Division I lacrosse at University of Detroit-Mercy.

and Florida, which were attended by numerous college coaches.

Her hockey skills also had the attention of colleges, following her time with the 19U AAA-level Victory Honda team and the Penguins.

In fact, she said her experience playing hockey helped hone her lacrosse talents.

"The two sports are so similar and having the

hockey background has helped with development of the lacrosse skills," she explained. "Hand-eye coordination is dominant in both sports, and the concept... is the same."

"The main difference between the two is for hockey, you're skating with the puck and for lacrosse you're running with the ball."

Niermann said it is essential in both sports

to be "focused and ready for the game or I won't be able to play to my capability."

Being able to demonstrate creative flair both on the lacrosse field and ice rink also are elements of the two sports that Niermann enjoys most.

Meanwhile, she would be proud if future Canton, Salem and Plymouth lacrosse players follow her lead — both in atti-

tude and approach to the sport.

"I've been known as the player who likes to go out with a positive attitude and have a good time when I play," Niermann continued. "And I think that helps the girls loosen up and not feel so tense when it is game time."

"I think that now because the program is able to say they had a

THE NIERMANN FILE

Who: Annelise Niermann, 2013 Canton High School graduate

What: She is the first girls lacrosse player from Plymouth-Canton Educational Center to sign a national letter of intent to play the sport at a NCAA Division I school (University of Detroit-Mercy).

Other: Niermann also was a standout player for the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins varsity girls hockey team in 2012-13.

Academic honors: She carried a 3.55 grade-point average, won the President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence and was a National Honor Society member her junior and senior years.

Lax facts: The four-year varsity player made the All-Park teams in 2012 and 2013 and was KLAAs all-state honorable mention this season.

girl go off and play D-I lacrosse it will help the (Park) teams with striving to goals they wish to accomplish."

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Eagles suffer 9-1 loss in D4 regionals

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The wheels fell off early Saturday afternoon for Plymouth Christian Academy in a Division 4 regional semifinal baseball game against Allen Park Inter-City Baptist at Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett.

PCA could not overcome "overaggressive" miscues and fell 9-1 to the Chargers to end the season with a still-impressive 17-8 record.

The Eagles led 1-0 in the top of the first on a run-scoring single to right by Michael Slater (scoring leadoff batter John Lauch, who walked) and were looking for more against Chargers starting pitcher Nathan Estell.

But junior Daniel Jipping was caught stealing home plate to thwart the rally and Jipping — who started the game on the mound — immediately gave the lead back on a walk, two wild pitches and a ground out. The Chargers scored again in the third on an RBI triple to right by Luke Barber to go up 2-1 and tacked on to get two runs in each of the subsequent three innings to blow the game wide open.

"We got a little overaggressive," PCA assistant coach Joe Bottorff

PREP BASEBALL

said. "We knew we needed runs and I wasn't planning on doing that (steal of home) on that pitch."

"We had two outs, so it wasn't going to be a squeeze. It was going to be a straight steal of home. But I wanted the batter (Austin Greuber) to fake a bunt and do all sorts of things. It was my fault for not being as clear as I could have."

Jipping slid into the tag and was visibly upset about the play because "he really, really wanted to win this game," Bottorff continued.

"That's why I went out to talk to him, just to settle him down a little bit," Bottorff added. "He's not a pitcher, he's just got the best arm on the team. So he gets a little wild, tries to throw a little too hard. "He got a little anxious. He definitely carried that play to the field."

Other miscues plagued the Eagles throughout the game, however. In the fourth, PCA gave up two runs on wild pitches.

Error also contributed to the Chargers' rallies in the fifth and sixth when the game was, for all intents and purposes, decided.

A mix of breaking balls from Estell kept the Eagles off balance for much of the game.

After Slater's first inning single, the only other PCA hits were secured by Jared Cobb in the fifth and Slater in the sixth.

The Eagles' biggest thumper, Jipping, received the "Barry Bonds treatment" with one intentional walk and another walk where none of the pitches were remotely close.

"They didn't give him anything," Bottorff lamented.

Estell struck out the side in the seventh (along with two walks) to finish with 12 pitches.

"He had a good variety of pitches," Bottorff said. "But I knew when the curveball was coming every time. I tried to get it across. Pretty much every time he got ahead (in the count) he threw it. "We got a young team, a little inexperienced, a lot anxious. But they played hard."

Bottorff said he is losing only three players to graduation, namely Matt Read, Trevor Gogola and Matt Sumner, so "we plan on being back here next year with year of experience under our belt."

Inter-City Baptist (14-12 overall) lost 2-0 to University-Liggett in the Divisional-Liggett in the D4 regional final.

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Rams on a roll

The Michigan Rams moved into first place all alone in the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League Sunday by sweeping a double-header from the Motor City Pride, 10-3 and 9-2 at Birmingham Seaholm High School.

The Rams, who are one point up on the second-place Michigan Bulls and Michigan Red Sox, improved to 5-1 in LCBL action.

The Rams collected a total of 28 hits on the day while dropping the Pride to 3-4.

In the opener, Brandon Katta went 3-for-3 with a double and RBI, while Griffin Harms added three hits and scored two runs to pace the Rams' 16-hit attack.

Other top hitters for the Rams included Matt Avromov (2-for-4, two doubles, three RBI; Ben Yax (2-for-4, two RBI);

Trent Drummheller (2-for-5, RBI); and J.P. Maracani (2-for-5, RBI).

Winning pitcher Spencer Goebel went the first 4.2 innings allowing three runs — all unearned — on four hits and a walk. He struck out four.

Jeff Sorenson (Livonia Stevenson/Wayne State) and Kirk Stambaugh combined to throw 2.3 scoreless innings in relief.

Eric Schmidt, the Pride starter, took the loss.

In the second game, Evan Pischota (Stevenson/Madonna University) pitched five scoreless innings to pick up the victory. He allowed five hits, walked two and struck out four. Luke McCarty finished up.

Offensively, Drummheller and Justin Sherman each collected two

hits and two RBI, while Katta, Jon Newman and Harms contributed two hits and one RBI apiece.

Joe Killian went 2-for-4 and Tyler Schwanz knifed in two runs for the Pride.

RAMS 6, OKLAND A's 3: Right-hander Chris McDonald (Stevenson/Hillsdale College) pitched five innings to end the victory Friday as the Michigan Rams (5-1) downed the South Oakland A's (1-4) at Livonia's Bicentennial Park. McDonald gave up two runs on four hits and four walks, while fanning two. Reliever Jake Gardner went the final two innings to pick up the save.

Tyler Baker and Matt Avromov each collected two hits, while Brett Ramirez (Salem/MU) knocked in two runs. Jon Newman, Ben Yax and Justin Sherman added one RBI each.

South Oakland starter Bobby Purcell, who worked the first six innings, suffered the loss.

Core Clifton went 2-for-3 with two RBI in a losing cause.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Salem men's lax 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 PCEB varsity turf field. Also, the Salem Rocks Lacrosse Booster Club is sponsoring a tailgate

for after the game. Hot dogs will be provided.

Those planning on attending should bring a passing dish (last names A-L 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.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
734-469-4128

ROCKS

Continued from page B1

so I chose Estel," said Barakat, listing Wayne State University among other possibilities. "I thought they had a good program and they're headed in the right direction with coach (Ron) Engle. I'm just real excited. I've been working out every day, working hard, running and everything."

"Hopefully I'll get my shot and I can get a scholarship and maybe even start a couple years."

Barakat had an excellent senior season and was named to the all-KLAAs and All-Observer teams.

They persevered

Salem head football coach Kurt Britnell had plenty of praise for both Werner and Barakat, especially how they didn't let any roadblocks stop them.

"Cam has overcome a lot," Britnell wrote in an e-mail. "He missed his senior season due to an

injury after a very productive junior year."

"That was very tough on him from a physical and emotional standpoint. For him to work through that and keep the drive to play at the next level shows what good character and work ethic he has."

Britnell had similar comments about Barakat. "He almost didn't play, didn't go to camp with us," Britnell said. "But he turned out to be one of the best leaders of our team and has high character."

"So, he knows how to

work hard. And he'll have to continue that approach as he walks on at Eastern Michigan."

Werner, also a standout for Salem's KLAAs champion varsity boys basketball team in 2011-12, added that he was "very surprised" that such a prestigious school as Kalamazoo would still bring him on board as a recruit playing in 2012.

He is intent on proving to the Hornets they made the right call and can't wait to get started.

"After visiting Kalamazoo College I knew it was

the place for me," Werner stated. "And being a part of a team will make my experience that much better."

"Overall, I am very excited and humbled with this opportunity."

Just as pumped up to play college football is Barakat.

"I'm real excited and I can't wait until Aug. 1 when I report to camp and prove myself to the coaches and my teammates," Barakat said.

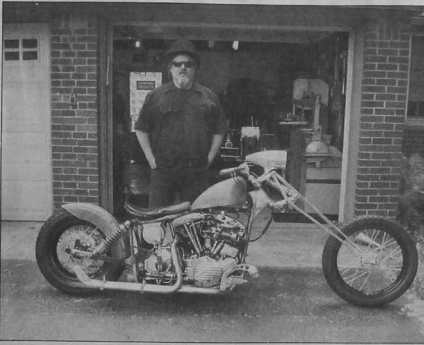
He also made sure to give some props to Britnell and assistant coach-

es Pat Ignagni, Ted Barker and Mickey Redmond among others.

"The mindset they brought there and the atmosphere over the past four years with Coach Brit was great," Barakat stressed. "And again, if it wasn't for him (Britnell) I wouldn't be in the place I am right now."

"I was happy with what I did the three years I was at Salem and I'm looking forward to the next four years at Eastern."

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Jeff Richards of Livonia and his award-winning chopper.

Pray with other bikers this Father's Day

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Motorcyclists from throughout the metro area will celebrate Father's Day on Sunday, June 16, with a Mass and blessing at St. Anne de Detroit Catholic Church, followed by a ride through downtown Detroit.

"It's a great thing for the bikes and the church and we thought Father's Day is a good day for it," said Jeff Richards of Livonia, a metal customizer for Motown Custom Cycles, the Detroit business that's sponsoring Blessing of the Bikes.

"At noon there is going to be a Mass geared toward motorcyclists. The priest will talk about the biker life. And then when the Mass ends, we'll be outside and we'll have a blessing of the bikes."

A bike show on the church grounds will follow, along with a ride through downtown, including Belle Isle.

Motorcyclists may gather at 11 a.m. at Motown Custom Cycles and ride together to the Mass or go directly to the church and park in the church courtyard.

Richards said Dave Arzola, owner of Motown Custom Cycles, created the event after learning that St. Anne's pantry needed more food.

"Dave is a big supporter of the area. His house and business is there. He goes to church at that church," Richards said. "They made an announcement at church about the pantry getting low and Dave said he'd see what he could do."

Attendees are asked to bring a non-perishable food item for the pantry to the Mass or drop them off at Motown Custom Cycles, 5671 Michigan Ave., Detroit.

Richards said he isn't certain how many motorcyclists will attend the Mass and blessing, but suspects it may draw at least 200 bikers.

"It's such a historical church," he added. "It's a treat to see it."

Richards, 54, has enjoyed "tearing apart and customizing" motorcycles since he was in his mid-20s. He worked as a hand-engraver and then as a jeweler before founding The Padded Cell, a custom metal and jewelry design shop in Royal Oak that became known for its one-of-a-kind metal purses.

"I always worked on a motorcycle when I was there," he added. "I always had one in the back."

Richards subsequently went on to work in a motorcycle shop parts department before landing at Motown Custom Cycles. In his spare time he likes to customize his own motorcycles. He earned a first place at Autorama for the metal work on one of his bikes this year.

Although the focus of the Mass and blessing is motorcycles, Richards said "everyone" may attend the event.

"Mini bikes, metric bikes, hot rods," he said. "You don't have to be a Harley. You can drive your car."

St. Anne's is located at 1000 Saint Anne Street, Detroit. For more information about the blessing, call the church at 313-496-1701 or Motown Custom Cycles at 313-445-3799.

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EGAN, JOSEPH LAWRENCE

Joseph (Larry) Lawrence Egan, 77, peacefully passed into the loving arms of our Lord Jesus Christ on Thursday, May 30, 2013 at the home he shared together with his surviving and loving wife Rose Egan in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Father Gundy of Santa Fe was present and performed last rites just prior to his passing. Joseph and Rose were wed at the Church of the Holy Earth, on October 9, 2002 and for 11 years were joyfully and happily married in Santa Fe, New Mexico, a home he greatly cherished and enjoyed traveling.

Joseph was born in Highland Park, Wayne County, Michigan on June 25, 1935 and is now joined in heaven with his parent's Ambrose and Florence Egan and wives, Shirley and Nancy, brothers Ernie and Jimmy, and two precious grandsons, Jessie and Jordan. Joseph is survived in loving remembrance by his brother Charles Egan, his wife Ellen, sister in law Patricia, and Joseph's children: Daniel, Michelle, Renee and her husband Dale, along with four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, additionally by his extended family of children: Cherie, Ronnie and Liz, Tammy and Laurence and Gregg; two grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. The graveside memorial service will be held at the Holy Sepulcher Cemetery, 25800 W. Ten Mile Road, Southfield, MI on Saturday, July 27, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. Interment and notification of wake will follow the ceremony.

SALO, RAYMOND W.

88, of Harvey and former Westland resident, passed away June 7, 2013. Celebration of life with veteran's honors on June 16. Condolences may be expressed online at www.swansonlundquistfuneralhome.com

May peace be
with you in this
time of sorrow.



GROVES, DOUGLAS ROY

Age 69. Beloved husband of Judy. Dear father of Jody (Mark) Cooper and Keith. Loving grandfather of Spencer and Grace. Brother of Sandra Taylor, Steven (Faith), William (Mary) Barbara (Garnet) Hampton, Mary Groves and the late Beverly. Nephew of Hazel Bond. Visiting Thursday 3-8 pm with a funeral service Friday 11 am at Charles Step Funeral Home 18425 Beech Daly (Between 6 & 7 Mile). Interment at Parkview Cemetery. Charles Step Funeral Home and Cremation Services



WELSH, ROBERT L.

Age 81, of Milford, passed away June 3, 2013. Preceded in death by Carol, his beloved wife of 56 years. Survived by his loving children, Laurie Welsh, Valerie (Neal) Knoerzer, Bob Welsh, Tom (Erin) Welsh, Patricia Welsh, grandchildren, Amy Florence and Michelle Pickup, Nicolas Knoerzer, Anna, Tara, Adam and Evan Welsh, Connor and Michael Welsh, Ashley (Stephen) Bakore, Brandon LaCarter, great-grandchildren, Alyvia Gaines, Vincent and Michael Bales, brother-in-law, John Edelbrock; sister-in-law, Liz Edelbrock; many nieces, nephews, extended family members, dear friends and coworkers. Service & Military Honors were held at St. Mary Catholic Church in Milford, Saturday, June 8. For further information please contact Lynch & Sons Funeral Directors, Milford 248-684-6645. LynchFuneralDirectors.com.

LYNCH & SONS

Funeral Directors

WALKER, MARK G.

December 2, 1953 - June 8, 2013. Mark G. Walker, age 59, of Livonia, passed away at his home on Saturday, June 8, 2013. He was born December 2, 1953 to Roscoe and Betty (Lyberg) Walker in Dearborn, Michigan. He graduated from Plymouth High School in 1972 and from Eastern Michigan University in 1977. He married high school sweetheart, Barbara (Baumgartner) in Plymouth, Michigan. Since 1986, they have made their home in Livonia, Minnesota. Mark began work at TRW in 1986. He retired in 2008 as a Supplier Development Manager. He will be greatly missed by his wife, Barb; son Jon (Allison) Walker of Maple Grove, Minnesota; daughter, Leslie Walker of Bristol, Wisconsin; grandchildren, Dylan and Morgan Walker; sister, Rita (James) Kennedy; his parents, Roscoe and Betty Walker; preceded him in death. He was passionate about family, computers, Tiger Baseball, stereos, and gadgets. He was probably the most loyal Detroit Lions fan that has ever lived. A Memorial Service will be held on Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. with visitation starting at 1:00 p.m. at Fawcett-Junker Funeral Home, Livonia, MN. Officiating will be Rev. Michelle Rem. Words of sympathy or remembrance may be left at fawcett-junkerfuneralhome.com. Services entrusted to Fawcett-Junker Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Livonia.



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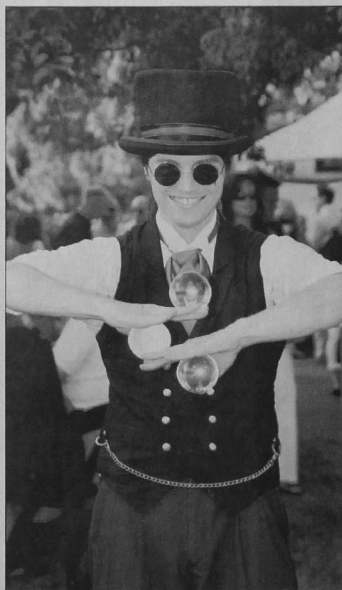
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ENTERTAINMENT

Party on the Boardwalk at Detroit Zoo gala

By Diana Wing
Correspondent



Performers from the Detroit Flyhouse will dazzle guests with acrobatics, juggling, fire breathing and more.

habitats as the sun goes down. Live and silent auction prizes include "Cruising and Cocktails on Lake St. Clair" for 35 people, and all kinds of sports and vacation packages. One auction prize involves the new Jane and Frank Warchol Beaver Habitat

that will open this summer. "It's really a neat thing, a "Boardwalk and Beavers Breakfast" for six ... people can bid on the opportunity to have breakfast out there on the Boardwalk overlooking the new Beaver Habitat.

Breakfast with the beavers or make a dinner date with lions.

The choice is yours for the right auction bid at the annual Sunset at the Zoo, a fundraiser that combines music, mingling, food, drinks, live and silent auctions, animal habitats and games, 7-11:30 p.m. Friday, June 14, at the Detroit Zoo.

This year's Sunset at the Zoo will showcase the park's 7,200-square-foot Boardwalk that traverses the Cotton Family Wetlands. The Boardwalk, where guests will mingle in the midst of the 1.7-acre pond and Michigan wetlands area, was opened last summer.

"It's an ecosystem that has native birds and fish and turtles—all kinds of flora and fauna," said Patricia Janeway, Zoo communications director. "It's really beautiful. When you walk on the Boardwalk you're almost transported to another world. It's a part of the Zoo that you were never able to see, at least not from this vantage point."

The Boardwalk is actually three walkways that converge on a deck, where guests will enjoy a champagne welcome, zoo-themed martinis and specialty drinks, a strolling supper and a dessert reception. More than 40 Detroit area restaurants will offer tastes of their signature dishes at the "Boardwalk Bash."

"Last year's Sunset was themed around our carousel, kind of a carnival-type atmosphere, and we're bringing back one of the elements that was so cool—the Detroit Flyhouse. We had acrobats and jugglers, and people just loved them," Janeway said.

Guests can dance to the music of The Jerry Ross Band, try their skill and luck at Boardwalk carnival games, and take in the Zoo's animal



Enjoy samplings of sweets and signature dishes from more than 40 restaurants.



Dance to the music of The Jerry Ross Band at Sunset at the Zoo, June 14.

And our beavers, by the way, are named June and Ward," Janeway said, referencing the characters June and Ward Cleaver from the 1950s television comedy *Leave it to Beaver*.

"We have our gourmet dinner for 12 with your choice of the giraffes, the lions, or the polar bears. That's always very popular. Another prize that's competitively bid upon is the "Fall Hayride Twilight Tour" for 12," Janeway said.

"We have a lot of things we call zoo-unique prizes because you can only get these experiences at the Detroit Zoo. Where

else can you have dinner with giraffes, lions or polar bears?"

Tickets for Sunset at the Zoo range from \$150 to \$750 per person and be purchased online at www.detroitzoo.org/sunset. A VIP reception will be held at the Zoo, 5:30-7 p.m., Friday, June 14 for those purchasing \$750 benefactor tickets and \$300 patron tickets. The 21-and-older gala is held rain or shine. The Zoo closes at 2 p.m. that day in preparation for the festivities.

The Detroit Zoo is located on 10 Mile (1-696 service drive) and Woodward Ave., in Royal Oak.

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Camp teaches kids about Civil War

The Plymouth Historical Museum is selling tickets to its second annual History Kids Kamp, set for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, July 27.

This year's camp will focus on the Civil War. Kids will spend the day recreating what life was like during war time, including dressing in period clothing, getting their picture taken, and participating in a chore race consisting of old-fashioned tasks from the mid-1800s. Children will be able to chat with Civil War soldier reenactors who can answer questions, demonstrate marching, and much more. President Abraham Lincoln also will stop by the camp.

Every child will receive a commemorative T-shirt to wear for the day, and the boys will be given the opportunity to "enlist" in the army.

Tickets for the Civil War history camp are \$30 per child by July 19 and \$35 after that date. Purchase of a new or renewed Daisy membership to the Plymouth Historical Museum will allow two children to attend for free. The camp is aimed at children, 6-12. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

Get tickets from the museum, 155 S. Main, or through its website, using PayPal, at www.plymouthhistory.org. Click on the events section.

Art fair offers youth competition, exhibit

The Orchard Lake Fine Art Show, which is held annually in West Bloomfield, will offer a youth art competition for children in grades K-8 or ages 5-12 this year. The fair, set for July 26-28, will be held on Powers and Daly Roads, south of Maple, west of Orchard Lake Road,

adjacent to West Bloomfield Plaza.

Young artists may apply for the show with their original and personally handmade art. Each entry will be individually judged by artists. Four prizes will be awarded: \$100 for the best art and three \$50 prizes for excellence in art.

Each entry is \$3, with a maximum of two entries per person.

To obtain an application, visit www.HotWorks.org or send a self-addressed and stamped envelope to Orchard Lake Fine Art Show, P.O. Box 79, Milford, MI 48381-0079.

For more information call 248-684-2613.

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Arts Crafts

ART IS IN MARKET

Time/Date: 5-8 p.m. Thursday, June 13
Location: Inside Laurel Park Plaza, 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 receiving and administering funds in memory of La Pratt, and to bring awareness to the arts, as well as the advancement of spinal cord research.

Contact: (734) 432-9177
CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. through July 15
Location: Costic Center, 28500 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Paintings by Marilyn Thomas are on exhibit. **Contact:** (248) 473-1856

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

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

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

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through June 30

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

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

VAAL

Time/Date: Through June 28
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 is juried and features 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

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 26

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: Xia Gao, a visual artist who primarily works with textile and fiber, displays her art. **Contact:** (734) 394-5300; cantonvillagetheater.org

Author

MYSTERY THRILLER

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m. June 22
Location: The Books Connection, 19403 Middlebelt, Livonia

Details: "New York Times" best-selling author and Edgar finalist P.J. Parrish will be on hand with the newest Lee 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 Northern 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 Kincaid's.

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



Tony Paneucci finds artifacts in old privy sites. He'll dig Saturday, June 15, at Nankin Mills in Westland.



The Yanks will perform traditional Irish music at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 15, at Conor O'Neill's Celtic Room, 318 S. Main, Ann Arbor.



Dave Bennett and his quartet will perform at Jazz @ the Elks, June 25 in Plymouth.

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

Film

COMPUWARE ARENA DRIVE-IN

Time/Date: Gates open at 7:30 p.m., with movies starting around 9:20 p.m., daily, through Sept. 1

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 showing Friday-Thursday, June 14-20 are "Man of Steel" and "Star Trek Into the Darkness" on Screen 1; "Epic" and "Iron Man 3" on Screen 2; and "Fast and Furious 6" and "The Hangover, Part III" on Screen 3. **Contact:** (734) 927-3284

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, June 14, 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, June 15-16, and 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday, June 20

Location: 760 Pennington Ave., Plymouth

Details: "The Crows," admission, \$3

Coming up: "Mud," 7 p.m. and 9:25 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 2-22, 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. **Contact:** (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

Historical

PRIVY DIG

Time/Date: 1 p.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, June 15

Location: Behind the Miller House at Nankin Mills, located at Nankin Drive and Ann Arbor Trail, in Westland

Details: Tony Paneucci, privy historian, leads an archaeological dig to unearth artifacts that were tossed into the backyard privy by families that once lived in the Miller house. Paneucci's specialty is bottles and glassware. Admission is

free. Home-school students and their parents can attend a special program at the dig, 1:30-3 p.m. Tuesday, June 18. Program fee is \$6 per child and \$2 per adult. **Contact:** www.parks.waynecounty.com; (734) 261-1990

Music

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last Tuesday of the month — except December

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds from Jazz Elks goes toward special needs and disadvantaged children and veterans. Clarinetist Dave Bennett's quartet will perform at the next concert on June 25. Playing with Bennett will be Cliff Monear on keyboard; Kurt Krahne on bass and Doug Cobb on drums. **Contact:** (734) 453-1780 or e-mail to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. every Monday

Location: 884 Pennington, Plymouth

Details: Open mic for music and poetry

Featured artists: No Excuses, June 21; 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-Musical 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: Adjoja Skinner and

YRLK, June 14; Jill Jack, June 15; Dolly Varden, June 21; The True Fallettos and Drive South, June 22; Genna and Jesse, June 28; Shan Kane and Dave Steele, June 29; Harpheth Rising, July 12, Brian Riborn with Chris Dupont, July 13; Jason Harrod with Keisey Rottiers, July 20. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted. **Contact:** (734) 464-6302

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, June 22

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

Details: The Rat Pack Show will take you on a trip back in time to the 1960s when swanky nightclub acts were all the rage. The show features performances by Gary Consello as Frank Sinatra, John Morello as Dean Martin and Nicholas Brooks as Sammy Davis, Jr. Tickets are \$22 and are available from www.cantonvillagetheater.org

Coming up: Daniel Davis, contemporary violinist, performs 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 29. Tickets are \$25. **Contact:** (734) 394-5460

THE YANKS

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 15

Location: Conor O'Neill's Celtic Room, 318 S. Main, Ann Arbor

Details: The band performs traditional Irish music. **Contact:** (734) 665-2968

Something different

DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily

Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

Details: Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free.

Sunset at the Zoo: A boardwalk-themed event at the Zoo's new boardwalk and beaver habitat, 7-11:30 p.m., Friday, June 14, strolling supper and dessert reception with tastes of signature dishes from more than 40 metro Detroit restaurants, specialty drinks, music by The Jerry Ross Band, performance by the Detroit Flyhouse, games, music, games, and silent and live auctions. For age 21 and older. Tickets range from \$150-\$750. Visit www.detroitzoo.org

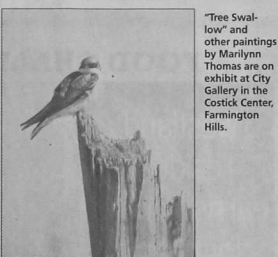
Contact: (248) 541-5717

GM RIVER DAYS

Time/Date: 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 21-22; and 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday, June 23

Location: Along the Detroit River from the William C. Milliken State Park and Harbor to the Detroit Wayne County Port Authority Terminal & Dock, just past the Renaissance Center

Details: Featured musical acts during the three-day festival include George Clinton and the P-Funk All Stars, the Guess Who, the O'Jays, Superlat, Soul Preacha's featuring Marcus Cole & Mark Allen and the Infatinations. Art work from 15 artists will be displayed along the river. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources will offer more than 40 activities, including campfire and s'more exhibits. A children's area will include puppet shows, face painting and other activities. A 5K walk/run is scheduled for



"Tree Swallow" and other paintings by Marilyn Thomas are on exhibit at City Gallery in the Costick Center, Farmington Hills.

Saturday and will benefit the Detroit RiverFront Conservancy. Admission is \$3 before 5 p.m. and \$5 after. **Contact:** www.RiverDays.com

Theater

BAREFOOT PRODUCTIONS

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. June 17-18

Location: Barefoot Productions, 240 N. Main, Plymouth

Details: Auditions for Barefoot Productions' upcoming comedy, "The Hallelujah Girls by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, and Jamie Wooten. Seeking six women and two men, late 40s to early 60s. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script. No headshots, resumes, or appointments required.

Contact: Mike Cuba at (734) 812-0102

TWO MUSES

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, through June 30

Location: Barnes & Noble at 6800 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield

Details: "Next to Normal," is a fast-paced musical that centers on what appears, at first glance, to be a typical American family with two parents and two bright, free-cracking teens. Their lives are anything but normal, because the mother has been battling major depression for 16 years. Two Muses Theatre will donate \$1 from each ticket purchase to Common Ground, a non-profit agency dedicated to helping youths, adults and families in crisis. Advance tickets are \$23 for adults and \$18 for students and senior citizens. Tickets are \$2 more at the door. **Contact:** (248) 850-9919; twomusestheatre.org

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FOOD CHALLENGE CHAMP

Westland resident earns honors for eating big sandwich

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

When it comes to talking about sandwiches, Craig Reed has a mouthful to say.

The Westland resident last week became the first person to eat the Italian Challenge Sandwich in under an hour at Loaf & a Pound Deli, in his hometown.

"That was pretty rough. There's a lot of deli meat and a lot of bread and not much moisture. I have a hard time with bread and a lot of dried things," said Reed, 31. "There was a lot of chewing, so it took me a while to get them down. With a bucket of water I can pretty much swallow it without much chewing. If I did it again, I'd probably bring keep."

Reed deconstructed the 7 1/2-pound monstrosity as he ate, dipping sections of the Italian bread loaf in water and wolfing down the two pounds of mozzarella, 1 pound of turkey, 1 pound of salami and 1 pound of ham in pieces.

"That sandwich was pretty gigantic. So, you have to take it



A 7.5-pound sandwich is no challenge for Craig Reed who finished it off in less than an hour at Loaf & A Pound Italian Deli.

apart to eat it," he said.

The \$19.95 challenge sandwich, which also includes lettuce, tomato, onion and special Italian dressing, is served on a dolly-decorated silver platter. It has been on the menu for two years, since the restaurant opened.

Deli manager Vera Greco has seen a lot of defeats in that time.

"I've had several people try, but it's a huge sandwich and no one was able to do it. We had a couple of businessmen try it. One had to run to the rest room and the other looked green. Then the Kiwanis Club came and thought they could do it. Then we had a huge guy, over 300 pounds, and he didn't do it."

"We laughed and said no one will get that done. Then here comes Craig who has done food challenges before. He managed to do it. He did it in 41 minutes, which was shocking to us."

Reed has downed massive quantities of food in less time. During his first food challenge at a Warren restaurant, he finished a 4-pound hamburger with a

pound of French fries in 20 minutes, then returned later in the year to whittle his winning time to 11 minutes, 9 seconds.

He doesn't like hot dogs, but he loves hot dog challenges and has managed 24 with buns in 1/2 minutes.

"I just eat the plain hot dog and dunk the bun in Crystal Light."

Swallow it whole

Eating technique varies from competitor to competitor. Reed said he generally chews the challenge food, but knows competitive foodies that swallow items whole.

"I had a giant piece of hamburger caught in my throat once. If I had panicked I would have been in trouble, but all I had to do was stay calm and I was able to get it out. The most important thing is not to panic. Once you start panicking your body starts reacting, but as long as you can stay relaxed, you can recover from something like that."

Reed acquired an appetite for food challenges after download-

ing a game about eating contests for Wii.

With most weekends off from his job at British Only Motorcycles and Parts in Garden City, where he keeps the company's website and eBay pages in shape, Reed had the time to participate in food challenges.

Stomach stretching

He got in shape for his first contest by eating more fruits and vegetables and drinking more water.

"Eventually it stretched my stomach," he said. "It's something you build up to first and I kind of had to work through some pain. It's not very comfortable having that much food in your stomach."

Reed generally eats only dinner and makes it a light meal when he's involved in a challenge.

"I watch what I eat the day before and after."

He rarely buys challenge food simply to savor its flavor at a leisurely pace.

Most challenges are \$30-\$40

and even higher," he said. "But there is a place in Roseville called Lazybones (Smokehouse). I have a challenge. I've never had a chance to go in and do it, but I used to order (the challenge food) because it was a 6-pound sandwich with a pound of fries for \$13.99. It was an amazing sandwich. So, I'd get it and eat it for a couple of days."

When competing, he regularly wins T-shirts, bragging rights and sometimes prize money — he figures he earned \$1,200-\$1,500 this year — by consuming large quantities of food within a specified time.

Greco plans to post his photo and name in what will become an Italian Challenge Sandwich hall of fame inside the restaurant. She also gave him a Loaf & a Pound Deli T-shirt and the challenge sandwich was free.

Reed hopes to visit the restaurant again before he moves this month to New Mexico, which is where his girlfriend lives. He met her at an eating contest and hopes she'll also try the sandwich challenge in Westland.



Eating contest champion Craig Reed makes his way through the Italian Challenge Sandwich in Westland.



Craig Reed shows off his new T-shirt from Loaf & A Pound Deli after devouring a mammoth sandwich in less than an hour. He's flanked by Jane Gorski, (left) and Simona Enea, both employees.

Monthly program encourages seniors to share recipes

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Strawberry Smoothies and BLT Pasta Salad made for a tasty lunch-time snack last week at Canton's Senior Center.

Mike Kobylarek of All Generations Home Care whipped up the beverage and salad during the monthly Recipe Roundup program at the center.

Each month, Kobylarek or his daughter, who works as a chef for the Dearborn Inn, demonstrate a recipe or two based on a theme. Seniors also bring their own recipes to the meeting.

This month's theme was favorite summer recipes. Next month is "Red White and Blue: Strawberries and Blueberries."

"My thoughts were summer is the time of year you want to be quick, something fast and still good," said Kobylarek, explaining his choice of a smoothie and pasta salad.

Cooking meals is among the many services that All Generations Homecare offers its customers, along with housework, gardening, and other chores.

Susan Doughty, senior specialist at the center, created Recipe Roundup earlier this spring and had planned to demonstrate food preparation herself, with the help of her staff.

Then she met Kobylarek. They agreed that All Generations Home Care would lead the monthly presentations.

"I'm trying to make nutrition one of my headlines for the year," Doughty said. "This particular program wasn't so much to talk about nutrition, but to get people interested in food."

She said some participants have brought in their own recipes and food to share, although most simply enjoy watching the demonstration and sampling its results.

The last Recipe Roundup for the year is 11 a.m.-noon, Monday, July 8, at Canton Club 55+, the Senior Adult Program at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, Call (734) 394-5485 for more information.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Today's recipe is Debbie Chamulak's Easy Lemon Panna Cotta.

Debbie Chamulak attended Recipe Roundup and shared this recipe:

Easy Lemon Panna Cotta

Serves 5-6

- 1 3-ounce package of lemon gelatin
 - 1 cup boiling water
 - 1 cup whipping cream or buttermilk
 - 1 teaspoon of vanilla
 - 1 cup of sour cream
 - Seasonal fruit, such as berries, cherries and peaches
- Dissolve gelatin in boiling water. Add heavy cream/buttermilk and vanilla. Blend in sour cream. (Mixture will appear slightly curdled). Chill until slightly thickened. Beat until mixture is smooth. Pour into 3-cup mold. Chill until firm, about 3-4 hours. Unmold and serve with seasonal fruit.

These recipes are from All Generations Home Care:

Strawberry Smoothie

- 8 strawberries hulled
- 1 cup skim milk

- 1/2 cup plain yogurt
 - 3 tablespoons white sugar
 - 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
 - 6 cubes crushed ice
- In a blender combine strawberries, milk yogurt, sugar and vanilla. Toss in the ice. Blend until smooth and creamy. Pour into glass an serve.

BLT Pasta Salad

Serves 10

- 1 package medium bow tie pasta
 - 1 pound sliced bacon
 - 1/2 cups Ranch dressing
 - 1 small onion
 - 2 tomatoes
- Cook pasta 8-9 minutes, drain and cool. Cook bacon until brown and crisp. In a large bowl, stir together Ranch, onion and tomatoes, mix in cooled pasta. Refrigerate overnight. Crumble bacon over top just before serving.

Fennel & Asparagus Frittata

- 1 teaspoon olive oil
- 4 tablespoons fennel (sliced)



Michael Kobylarek, owner of All Generations Home Care demonstrates how to make a smoothie.

- 1 small red potato (diced)
 - 3 tablespoons Parmesan cheese
 - 1 shallot (diced)
 - 4 whole eggs
 - 8 asparagus (sliced)
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Beat together eggs and cheese, set aside. Heat olive oil in a small skillet, sauté potato and shallot until tender. Add asparagus and fennel, cook for about 2 minutes. Add egg and cheese mixture, stir gently and set heat to low. Cover pan and cook until eggs are set, about 10 minutes

Curried Egg Salad

- 6 hardboiled eggs (chopped)
 - 1 teaspoon curry powder
 - 1 cup Greek yogurt (plain)
 - 1 teaspoon honey
 - 6 tablespoons diced red pepper
 - 1 teaspoon garlic powder
 - 2 tablespoons sliced green onion
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Combine all ingredients in a bowl and mix well. Serve on your favorite bread.

REAL ESTATE

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Technology hanging way Realtors are bought

Technology plays a vital role in today's society and is transforming the way Realtors do business. That's according to Curt Beardsley, vice president of product marketing for realtor.com®, who shared his perspective on the growing mobile technology environment at the "Industry, Technology and Vision" forum during the Realtors Midyear Legislative Meetings & Trade Expo. According to data from the 2012 National Association of Realtors Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers, more than eight out of 10 home buyers who used the Internet in their search reported that online photos and detailed property information were very useful. Forty-five percent of buyers found virtual tours very useful, and 41 percent liked interactive maps and neighborhood information. Realtor.com® offers potential home buyers all of these features on the site.

"Realtor.com®, NAR's official property listing website, is one of the most visited real estate sites on the Internet, attracting an average of 44 million total visits every month from more than 1 million unique visitors. The online world is continuing to blossom; lead generation has gone up 60 percent on realtor.com® and a lot of that is being driven by mobile," said Beardsley. "Mobile is helping change consumer expectations; smart-



phones are the backbone of our daily media use and should be the starting point for designing consumer experiences with clients."

Beardsley highlighted some new technology trends on the rise, including smart watches, a wearable watch device with enhanced technology features; Facebook Home, software for your phone that offers a more seamless version of the social media site; and geo-fencing, a new technology that alerts consumers when they are in

close proximity to something they may have researched online.

"Given the Internet's convenience and round-the-clock accessibility, it's not surprising that many home buyers first look online for properties and information when beginning their search. Most buyers rely on Realtor-supported online resources like multiple listing service websites and realtor.com," said National Association of Realtors President Gary Thomas, broker-owner

of Evergreen Realty, in Villa Park, Calif.

"After they've done their own real estate research, consumers can then turn to realtor.com® for the Internet's most comprehensive directory of Realtors who can help home buyers and sellers achieve their goals," said Beardsley. As the adoption of mobile smartphone devices has exploded, Beardsley said realtor.com® has positioned itself as the top-rated real estate app on all of the major platforms, including iPhone/iPad, Android and Windows 7. Mobile visits now account for 20 percent of realtor.com® traffic. Beardsley urged the audience of Realtors to stay abreast of technology trends and the many mobile tools available to help them build their business.

"Netflix is a great example of a business effectively leveraging customer trends. The company researched consumer content preferences and commissioned an original TV series based on what that data revealed; the resulting series is now the most watched on Netflix," he said. "What this means for real estate is that it's become vital to ensure that consumers can access information how and when they want—and if they can't, then their experience becomes frustrating. You must design the experience to match what consumers are trying to do," said Beardsley.

Pros: Pay, or regret later

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: I just found out that our management company recommended an attorney to sue because, as the told another managing agent, he gives her free advice. What is your comment about that?

A: Lawyers undertake all types of marketing strategies, and in the community association world, giving free advice or doing favors for management companies is something that some lawyers do in order to gain favor with the managing agents. However, if that was the sole reason why your managing agent picked this attorney, or otherwise



Robert Meisner

gave him or her preferential treatment in the selection process, you need to get rid of both the attorney and the managing agent. Remember, you get what you pay for!

Q: Our former management company who has handled a number of projects for a new developer, but who has disparaging comments about a prospective attorney who we wish to consider for our condominium association. We believe that these comments were made because the developer did not want this attorney to be engaged in representing our association. One of our board members is naively following the advice of our former managing agent. How can we convince him otherwise?

A: Generally speaking, when someone suggests unsolicited that you should not retain an attorney, CPA, or management company, there may well be an ulterior reason for doing so. Obviously, in this case, it would appear that the developer has buttered the bread of this managing agent including trying to dictate to the new directors of the condominium association after they have taken over control who should be representing them, presumably against the developer. When your opposition tells you who you shouldn't hire, that is probably the first person you should hire.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of *Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling, and Operating a Condominium*. It is available for \$24.95 plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. *Condo Living 2* is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and BarnesandNoble.com. He is also the author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$2.00 for tax, shipping and handling. Call (644) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column should be construed as legal advice.

VOICES & VIEWS: COMMENT ONLINE

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HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Feb. 18-22, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
44338 Bannockburn Dr	\$184,000
44042 Bannockburn Dr	\$150,000
6642 Burnham Dr	\$165,000
46325 Chesterfield Dr	\$305,000
50425 Coolidge St	\$230,000
41777 Copper Creek Dr	\$130,000
39434 Dorchester Cir	\$185,000
2011 Echo Woods Dr	\$260,000
5038 E. Liberty St	\$270,000
1068 Kings St	\$144,000
2611 Liberty St S	\$326,000
4777 Mornington Rd	\$297,000
7901 N Canton Center Rd	\$130,000
4007 Palace Ave	\$175,000
1156 Pinecroft Dr	\$115,000
2075 Premier Ln	\$77,000
50822 Redding Ct	\$500,000

42328 Ryeasote St	\$162,000
477 Sandalwood Rd	\$272,000
51181 Sleepy Hollow Ln	\$191,000
42608 Somerset Dr	\$144,000
390 Sylvan Dr	\$407,000
4350W W Arbor Way Dr	\$67,000
GARDEN CITY	
24590 Bridge St	\$76,000
31407 Sheridan St	\$70,000
LIVONIA	
1981 S Ashley Ct	\$103,000
37540 Bloomfield Dr	\$235,000
18321 Brentwood Dr	\$63,000
15749 Doris St	\$55,000
14409 Fairway St	\$144,000
20652 Golf Ridge Cir	\$30,000
16848 Grandon St	\$170,000
11301 Hillcrest St	\$100,000
29370 Jacquelyn Dr	\$130,000
29733 Jacquelyn Dr	\$140,000
32511 Lanchshire Rd	\$283,000
35211 Leon St	\$105,000
35777 Minton St	\$145,000
34915 Pembroke Ave	\$270,000
19345 Westmore St	\$40,000
NORTHVILLE	
16942 Algoquin Dr	\$395,000
44493 Broadmoor Blvd	\$321,000

16868 Dover Dr	\$138,000
49309 Hinden Ridge Dr	\$107,000
49406 N Glacier	\$255,000
470 Orchard Dr	\$679,000
16164 Pine Valley Dr	\$65,000
42621 Ravina Ln	\$295,000
39445 Springwater Dr	\$130,000
PLYMOUTH	
328 Adams St	\$200,000
11509 Aspen Dr	\$125,000
9038 Ball St	\$130,000
46865 Beaver Creek Dr	\$340,000
50443 Cottonwood Ct	\$300,000
9034 Elmhurst Ave	\$139,000
1740 Gloucester St	\$228,000
40755 Greenbriar Ln	\$195,000
11856 Lorenz Way	\$335,000
41221 Mill Race Cir	\$100,000
188 N Harvey St	\$172,000
696 N Harvey St	\$210,000
14474 Oxford	\$153,000
9380 Pineview Dr	\$333,000
50018 Standish Ct	\$415,000
674 Sunset St	\$160,000
1280 W Ann Arbor Rd	\$206,000
REDFORD	
46608 Five Mile Rd	\$42,000
8909 Brady	\$42,000

17661 Delaware Ave	\$41,000
9983 Lucerne	\$55,000
14266 Marshall Dr	\$157,000
14214 Mason Dr	\$136,000
16231 Negaunee	\$125,000
16231 Negaunee	\$85,000
17340 Olympia	\$50,000
24590 Orangeflam	\$45,000
14164 San Jose	\$2,000
25599 Student	\$119,000
9935 Tecumseh	\$45,000
26012 W Chicago	\$34,000
17025 Wakenend	\$137,000
15499 Woodbine	\$25,000
19150 Woodworth	\$27,000
9010 Worman	\$29,000
WESTLAND	
37186 Amhurst Dr	\$94,000
29136 Badgett St	\$100,000
55832 Castlewood Ct	\$58,000
7611 Cherrywood Dr	\$174,000
431 Darwin St	\$44,000
350 Larchmont Dr	\$115,000
38381 Mae St	\$50,000
7860 N Henry Ruff Rd	\$68,000
7783 Rivergate Dr	\$77,000
54542 School St	\$75,000
27669 Trailbrook Cir	\$50,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Jan. 28 through Feb. 1, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
31240 Cline Dr	\$275,000
32231 Verona Cir	\$191,000
11364 Warwick St	\$355,000
BIRMINGHAM	
1283 Halland St	\$450,000
533 Wallace St	\$850,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
4770 Burnley Dr	\$220,000
570 E Lake Road	\$1,424,000
36 Hidden Rdg	\$2,500,000
2360 Klingsmith Rd	\$131,000
506 Negenpointe Rd	\$168,000
6819 Orinoco Cir	\$224,000

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
1789 Blue Heron Ct	\$1,350,000
16242 Broomfield Ln	\$609,000
629 E Fox Hills Dr	\$176,000
2499 Parcels Cir	\$154,000
2095 Quanton Rd	\$970,000
26814 W 14 Mile Rd	\$380,000
1620 Westmoor Rd	\$240,000
42160 Woodward Ave Unit 72	\$80,000
COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP	
5151 Carinas Way Ct	\$308,000
5151 Gitting St	\$110,000
2032 Portlock Ave	\$212,000
FARMINGTON	
22420 Uiac St	\$55,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
23168 Albion Ave	\$75,000
34441 Chantilly Ct	\$290,000
31194 Country Way	\$120,000
25314 Crown Pointe Ct	\$293,000
16942 Gettysburg St	\$209,000
35377 Naples	\$293,000

29707 Pendleton Club Dr	\$39,000
20823 Randall St	\$160,000
38424 Saratoga Cir	\$148,000
29225 Scotton St	\$95,000
21524 Wheeler St	\$98,000
30364 Willow Rd	\$225,000
MILFORD	
746 E Liberty St	\$108,000
840 Hickory Ridge Cir	\$23,000
459 Napa Valley Dr	\$260,000
2505 Shirley St	\$110,000
2425 Valley Gate	\$345,000
NORTHVILLE	
502 Langfield St	\$130,000
NOV	
24690 Bethany Way	\$323,000
47603 Cheltenham Dr	\$571,000
24812 Olive Orchard St	\$55,000
23649 Stonehenge Blvd	\$70,000
39828 Village Wood Cir	\$57,000
SOUTH LYON	
24608 Brentwood Dr	\$431,000
23547 Bristleton Ct	\$343,000

22900 Chubb Rd	\$118,000
1080 Gentry Dr	\$290,000
24316 Heatherwood Dr	\$182,000
24316 Heatherwood Dr	\$126,000
425 Orchard Rd	\$165,000
28437 Potomac Trl	\$174,000
385 Princeton Dr	\$159,000
748 Stony Dr	\$153,000
56808 10 Mile Rd	\$179,000
52851 Trailwood Dr	\$2,000
52851 Trailwood Dr	\$65,000
53652 Silverwood Dr	\$234,000
SOUTHFIELD	
28418 Brentwood St	\$27,000
29650 Everett St	\$50,000
28102 Fontana Dr	\$82,000
26278 Franklin Pointe Dr	\$60,000
21617 Fraser Ave	\$33,000
29432 Guy St	\$139,000
18540 Jeanette St	\$172,000
TROY	
7428 Big Ben Trail	\$259,000
10293 Degrand St	\$330,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

New agents

Coldwell Banker Werh Manual recently welcomed a number of new associates to the company. They are: Birmingham—Sufian Hannon, Brenda Shapiro, Courtney Dunford; Clarkston—Jimmy Tottinham; Commerce—Tracy Sinals; Grosse Pointe—Lisa Hofmann; Inia—Al Cockrum, Kristine Bosley; Northville—Ellen Frink, Vita Good, Anna Kligman, Carol McGarvey; Rochester—Dean Accavitti, Greg Moran. "We are pleased that these exceptional people have chosen Coldwell Banker Werh Manual," said John North, CBWM COO. "We are always excited to welcome associates who share our core values of integrity, a passion for service, a positive attitude and

drive for results."

Free career seminar

Learn about the Keller Williams \$50,000 income guarantee during the seminar scheduled from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 20, at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100 in Plymouth.

For more information, contact Jim Raines at (734)459-4700, or jimrainses@kw.com.

Short sales

If you own more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures and what it takes to get started. Many sellers are misinformed or not sure about how the process works. Organizers will also dis-

cuss the internal workings of short sales. Bonnie David, broker-owner of Quantum Real Estate is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon. Additional parking across the street in back.

Please call the office at (248) 782-7330 or e-mail jane.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Free tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail georgias@addvaluearealty.com or visit Free-ForeclosureTour.com.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Participants will discuss what they have learned. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. each first Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate. Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to membership. Any questions, call Wayne Koehler at (313) 277-4168.

3
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