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Canton Dems seek to broaden voter base

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Bolstered by political gains and shifting population trends, the fledgling Canton Democratic Club has seized upon a local non-election season to broaden its base of support and ratchet up efforts to sway voters next year and beyond.

Formed early this year, the club evolved after western Wayne County Democrats began honing their focus on local communities while still rallying to support state and national party platforms, organizers say.

Canton club leaders hope to recruit and support candidates

— both by campaigning and raising money through a political action committee — amid hopes they can win seats on the township board and county commission and in the state Legislature.

Yet they say their goal isn't just to win political races. They hope to protect women's reproductive choices and workers' collective-bargaining rights, while continuing the fight for better health care and same-sex marriage — issues they say make the Democratic Party more inclusive.

Their motto: Moving the conversation forward.

Diverse group

"We're a diverse party," Sommer Foster, the Canton club's vice president, said, "and we want to promote equality."

Club secretary Kate Borninski said she and others also are concerned over what she called a lack of funding for public schools. "It's disastrous what has happened to public education," Borninski said.

Without question, Canton Democrats have made gains in what for decades has largely been a Republican stronghold. The club's president, Steven Sneideman, stunned political



Steven Sneideman, Sommer Foster, Kate Borninski and Trevor Turo-Anderson gathered to talk about the new Canton Democratic Club. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Corey Archambault poses with one of her elementary students from her training community.

At 'Peace' with her choice

Canton High graduate enjoying service in Panama

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

When Corey Archambault was in college at the University of Evansville, her efforts at volunteering and community service brought her in contact with a variety of adults, all dedicated to the same kind of work.

As she got to know them, Archambault — a 2008 graduate of Canton High School — talked to them about things

they wished they had done in their youth and heard answers ranging from volunteering to traveling. Determined not to let that happen to her, Archambault took the path she figured would solve the problem.

She joined the Peace Corps.

"During my junior year, I made a pact with myself that I would not have those same regrets, that a career would come in time and, while I am young, I should focus on discovering myself and

having an adventure," Archambault said. "What could possibly be a better adventure than living in another country, in a rural area, solely working to meet the needs of that community?"

Maximizing impact

Archambault, who earned bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees from Evansville, has been serving in Panama since February, working with local teachers to teach English to students from kindergarten through 12th

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Residents plead for help with ditch woes

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton residents upset by ditch drainage woes along a stretch of Geddes Road pleaded Tuesday evening with township officials to intervene.

"We are going to drown," resident Patricia Duthie said. Duthie was among 25 condominium owners from Woodbridge Estates, on Geddes between Beck and Denton, who attended a township board meeting to voice fears the problem will only worsen as seasonal fall rains approach.

Canton Municipal Services Tim Faas promised to try to get Wayne County involved in finding a solution along the county-maintained road.

"The county is really the key player that we have to have at the table," Faas said.

Residents said the ditch hasn't drained properly since they began moving to Woodbridge Estates in early March 2005. The complex has about 200 homeowners.

They said they can't pump water from their neighborhood ponds into the Geddes ditch because it's already too full, raising concerns about potential flooding of their property. Some residents said standing water in ponds has risen dangerously close to electrical boxes.

"There needs to be some oversight by the township," resident Sandra Miller said. "It's a wonderful community and we want to keep it that way, but if there's no oversight, we see (the problem) continuing."

Residents said they haven't had success trying to get the developer to fix the problem, so they implored the township to get involved and get Wayne County involved in talks that could lead to a solution.

"We desperately need your help to get Wayne County in the room," Duthie said.

dclm@hometownlife.com

Twitter: @CantonObserver

Canton baseball fields get 'huge' donation

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Canton youth athletics group has donated an estimated \$85,000 to repair deteriorating baseball fields at Griffin Park and Pioneer Middle School.

"It's a huge chunk of money," said Abe Vinitzki, Canton Leisure Services park and sports supervisor. "It's a big deal."

The Greater Canton Youth Baseball Softball Association has made the investment to support athletic fields used by an estimated 2,200 boys and

girls it serves from Canton, Plymouth Township and Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

The group hired Clarkston-based Homefield Turf & Athletic to complete the work this week on two of three baseball fields at Griffin Park, on Sheldon north of Cherry Hill, and to four fields at Pioneer Middle School.

"It's exciting," Coralee Ott, GCYBSA program coordinator, said Tuesday. "We hear all the time what great fields we have. It's better knowing



Workers were busy this week repairing baseball fields at Griffin Park. GREATER CANTON YOUTH BASEBALL SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

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FIELDS

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there's a safe environment out there that's nice and new." The association's board of directors, using money accumulated from sources such as registration fees, chose to spend \$60,000 on Griffin Park and \$25,000 on the Pioneer fields.

The Griffin Park work includes putting in new in-field surfaces and rebuilding the batter's boxes. Ott said a similar project was being done at the school.

Ott said the decision was made for far-reaching repairs rather than stop-gap measures.

"You can fix and fix and fix, but sometimes you just have to start over," she said.

Vinititski said Canton provided in-kind services for the project, but he lauded GYBSA for coming forward with the money for the repairs. The association has a volunteer board made up of representatives from Canton, Plymouth Township and the school district.

"They donate money every year to help offset our operating costs," Vinititski said. "It's a great story of a combined effort of Canton Township and a volunteer organization working together to improve a park when the economy is still not great."

dclm@hometownlife.com
313-222-2238
Twitter: @CantonObserver

PEACE

Continued from Page A1

grade. She's serving in what she described as a small agricultural community in the middle of the country, in a community framed by rivers in a valley in the mountains.

She said co-teaching, rather than having a classroom of her own, is a "key to ensuring sustainability and maximizing the impact" she has on English instruction in the country. She helps plan and facilitate lessons, which she said allows her to introduce a variety of language instruction techniques such as grammar games and jazz chants, which are simple repetitive rhymes.

"Teaching English is incredibly rewarding," Archambault said. "It allows me to enable others to become better educators and English speakers, which aligns with my passion for professional development."

Teaching English has been her primary project, but it's not all she's been up to. She also helps with various other projects – judging an English spelling bee, coaching a contestant for the national English spelling bee and traveling to various schools to prepare teams for a Readers Theater competition, in which members stand on stage and read scripts from various stories, practicing their fluency and pronunciation.

She also recently offered a seminar for teachers on communication classroom activities and looks forward to future seminar experiences. At the moment, she's working with the Ministry of Education to offer more seminars during school breaks and a seminar on classroom management for all



Corey Archambault stops for a quick pose while hiking through her Panamanian community.

teachers in the province (not just English teachers).

Her decision to join the Peace Corps came as no real surprise to her mom, Plymouth Township resident Erin Archambault. It fits right in, she said, with her daughter's personality.

"Corey has always been a very independent spirit," Erin Archambault said. "She's always been one to go her own way and do what she thinks is right."

Some assumptions

It hasn't always been what she expected. She said she expected "tacos and a huge canal," but discovered Panamanians don't eat tacos. And while the Panama Canal is "an impressive blip," it is, nonetheless, a blip.

"There are mountains, beaches, rain forests and even a desert," she said. "Panama is incredibly diverse and there is so much to explore. My experience has been wonderful, but I can't help but wish that my taco assumption was



Second-graders strike a pose. "They love when I bring my camera to school, since most have never seen one or had the opportunity to have their picture taken," Corey Archambault said.

correct."

While the conditions and the culture have been an adjustment – she eats "pretty much the same food" every day (made from some sort of bean, mostly) – her Spanish skills have come in handy living in a mostly Latino community.

But the people, she said, have been great. While in her "training" community, she lived

with an older couple she calls her Panamanian "mom and dad." Her mom was a housewife, her dad a mason.

"They were a great family to live with and were very patient and helpful whenever I committed a cultural faux pas or used the incorrect vocabulary," she said.

"When I moved to my site, I received another host family to help with the transition and provide support throughout the two years. The family has been wonderful to me and their love of practical jokes and sarcasm made it very easy for me to feel comfortable living here."

Lessons learned

Erin Archambault isn't surprised her daughter is getting along so well with the people.

"Corey is very creative, she's taught the kids how to make friendship bracelets and, when

"There are mountains, beaches, rain forests and even a desert. Panama is incredibly diverse and there is so much to explore."

COREY ARCHAMBAULT
Peace Corps volunteer from Canton

she didn't have a lot of supplies, she used plastic or paper bags," Erin said. "She loves the people."

Archambault's commitment is a two-year deal – "She wanted to give two years of her life back to humanity," her mother said – and she's learned much in her first few months. That pales in comparison, she said, to the lessons she expects to learn.

And she's learning most of it on the fly, having never received the "checklist" of procedures she'd hoped to get because no such list exists.

"Flexibility is necessary to carry out development work; my job is constantly changing and evolving," Archambault said. "What I accomplish a year from now could be vastly different from anything I currently imagine. It's OK to not have all the answers right now."

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DEMS

Continued from Page A1

observers last November when, as the lone Democrat, he became the top finisher among candidates for part-time township trustee positions.

"I think we have made great strides in the community," Foster said during a group interview at Sniedeman's home.

Outside analysis

Bill Ballenger, political analyst and editor of *Inside Michigan Politics*, said Democrats can potentially make advances in Canton by tapping into demographic changes, sending precinct delegates to county conventions, working to mobilize voters who are new to the community and educating them about the club.

"It gives some structure and organizational capacity to an otherwise amorphous group of largely new people who have moved into the area and who may not have that much of an identity with each other or the township," Ballenger said.

"This is a way for a political party to say, 'You're one of us now. We're all together. We're neighbors. We want you to know you've got friends.'"

Since February, the club's membership has increased from just over 30 to more than 100. Trevor Tutro-Anderson, the treasurer, said the organization has raised \$2,700. Though the numbers are small, leaders remain undaunted by the challenges of expanding the organization. Sniedeman said efforts have begun to reach out to the Canton Mosque and the Hindu Temple of Canton, among other community groups.

"We'd like to get a good, diverse base in our club," he said.

Political observers have said Canton's changing demographics may be helping Democrats due to an influx of voters more

likely to support their party's ideals. After the 2010 U.S. Census, African Americans accounted for 10.2 percent of Canton's 90,173 residents, up sharply from 4.5 percent a decade earlier. Asian Americans, including a growing Indian population, made up 14.1 percent of the population, up from 8.7 percent.

"I think that has been the driving force behind it," Sniedeman said, referring to the changing political landscape.

GOP response

Pat Williams, a second-term Republican Canton trustee, said he and other GOP elected leaders have sought to represent all local residents.

"We are all very much aware of the changing demographics in Canton over the past decade," he said, "and we try to keep our focus on making all residents happy with our performance."

This year, the Canton Democratic Club raised \$1,800 for Relay for Life to help the American Cancer Society, set up an informational booth at Liberty Fest, sponsored a dessert social in Heritage Park and initiated phone calls and letters using a registered voter database.

"It has been pretty successful," Tutro-Anderson said.

Moreover, the club has started a website, www.cantondems.com, begun monthly meetings at township hall and lined up Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mark Schauer for a 6 p.m. Oct. 18 spaghetti dinner fundraiser at Livonia's Burton Manor.

Julie Rowe, the club's membership officer, said the organization isn't expected to endorse local candidates in election primaries but, rather, push for votes in general elections. She said involvement in primaries could occur if it is learned that a candidate files as a Democrat without endorsing the party's ideals.

"What we aim to do is get good Democratic candidates elected to office," she said.

Dems gain votes

Sniedeman's first-place showing wasn't an isolated development.

Consider:
 • State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, has won three consecutive two-year terms, though she cannot run next year due to term limits. However, she had relied more heavily on support from Van Buren Township and Belleville until she witnessed an uptick last November in Canton votes.

• Dr. Syed Taj, a Democrat, surprised many political observers in 2008 when he captured a township board seat. He lost his 11th District U.S. House bid last year to Republican Kerry Bentivolio, but he carried Canton.

• Democratic state House candidate Tim Roraback garnered 6,474 votes compared to GOP incumbent state Rep. Kurt Heise's 3,914 in the Canton portion of the 20th District, though Heise's support outside of Canton gave him a relatively easy win.

• One Republican candidate, Shannon Price, pushed against the Democratic tide last November, winning Canton and the Plymouths to defeat Wayne County Commission rival James Amar.

"With this year quiet on Canton's political front, observers say it's the best time for the Canton Democratic Club – or any political group – to organize."

"They've got everything to gain and nothing to lose by starting early and getting organized," Ballenger said. "They're not going to lose ground, it seems to me, or be set back by having made the effort. Very often, they can strike gold right away."

dclm@hometownlife.com
 313-222-2238
 Twitter: @CantonObserver

Neglected kids removed from home

By Darrell Clem
 Staff Writer

A 24-year-old Canton woman notified police that her 6-year-old son was missing when she went to his school bus stop the morning of Oct. 3 to deliver something he had forgotten.

A police investigation revealed the boy had never gone to the bus stop but, rather, had spent the night at a neighbor's house where he was found, a police report said.

The incident prompted Canton police to contact Child Protective Services, which allowed a church acquaintance of the mother to assume custody, temporarily at least, of the boy and a 1-year-old child in the home.

The incident comes as one report by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services cites a "compelling and

undeniable" correlation between substance and child maltreatment.

Here's the police report synopsis of the incident that occurred last Thursday in the Sherwood Village mobile home community on Canton's southeast side:

The mother told police she had walked to her 6-year-old son's school bus stop to give him some medication and didn't see him there. She said she had last seen the child a half-hour earlier when he woke her to say he was going to school.

At another point, the mother told police she had gone to the bus stop to take the boy a folder.

The police report indicated the mother hadn't fed the child and couldn't say what he was wearing. Authorities learned the mother was under the influence of prescription drugs –

Xanax and Vicodin. Police found the boy at a neighbor's house, where he had spent the night. Police found the mother's 1-year-old son in her home; he was described in the report as being dirty with food in his hair.

The mother told police her children had different fathers, one who lived in West Virginia and one in Inlster. She told police both fathers are drug addicts.

Police notified Child Protective Services, which sent a representative right away to remove the children from the home. The boys were placed with a church-going friend of the mother as the investigation continued.

Police issued a citation to the mother for child neglect.

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Plymouth mom, son arrested after chase

By Tammy Stables Battaglia
Gannett-Michigan

A mother and son were arrested after leading Ferndale police on a high-speed chase after a road rage incident.

Ferndale Police Lt. William Wilson said Monday the son, who was dressed as a woman, was hit by a car on Eight Mile after his mother let him out of their rolling vehicle during the chase Friday.

"He bailed out of a fleeing car dressed as a woman like that, the officers don't know what's going on — a disguise

for a robbery?" Wilson said, adding that the pair was not involved in any theft. "That's one of the concerns when he goes running out of a fleeing car."

Wilson said the incident began as a road rage situation in Detroit just before 11 a.m. Friday. A driver called 9-1-1, claiming the mother, Latanya Tippet-Rhodes, 50, of Plymouth, threw hot coffee on her and was following her in her car. At the same time, both drivers spotted and flagged down a passing Ferndale Police officer. Both cars pulled into a parking lot near



Latanya Tippet-Rhodes (right) of Plymouth is accused of fleeing police. Her son, Drake Rhodes, 23, was captured after running from the car. FERNDALE POLICE

Nine Mile and Hilton with the officer. But as the officer was investigating, Tippet fled with

her son, Drake Rhodes, 23, also of Plymouth, in the front seat of their Chevrolet Cruze.

Police said Tippet-Rhodes fled at speeds of up to 80 mph on Nine Mile, Hilton and Eight Mile roads. But she slowed on Hilton to let Rhodes out of the car. He attempted to flee across seven lanes of Eight Mile, but was hit by a car. He tried to keep running, but police caught him. He was treated and released from a local hospital for minor injuries, Wilson said.

Officers also captured Tippet-Rhodes, who spit on

medical personnel trying to treat her after she claimed to have medical problems. She was taken to a local hospital for evaluation before being taken to jail.

Tippet-Rhodes was arraigned Saturday on charges of fleeing and eluding, resisting police and driving with a suspended license. Bond was set at \$75,000. Her son was not charged with a crime in Ferndale. But he was taken into custody on outstanding warrants out of Washtenaw County, including one for resisting and obstructing police, Wilson said.

Crash on Hines Drive forces airlift of two to U-M Hospital

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Two women were airlifted to the University of Michigan hospital Tuesday night after an accident closed down part of Hines Drive on Livonia's south side.

Lt. Tom Goralski of the Livonia Police Department said the accident took place at about 8:30 p.m. Tuesday between two cars traveling in opposite directions on Hines Drive, northwest of Joy.

He said the incident was an offset head-on collision involving a 42-year-old Inkster woman driving a 1999 Chevrolet Trailblazer and a 20-year-old Canton woman driving a 2003 Chevy Impala. Both were airlifted to U-M in Ann Arbor with non-life threatening injuries, including some bone fractures.

Sgt. John Gibbs said it appears the woman driving the Trailblazer veered left of center while traveling on Hines Drive.

A 19-year-old Livonia man was a passenger in the Impala and was taken via rescue squad to Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills with minor injuries.

Both Livonia police and the Livonia Fire Department responded to the scene, shutting the road down for several hours while investigating. Goralski said police continue to investigate the cause of the accident and if any driver was at fault.

Gibbs said it appears alcohol may have been a factor, but police will not have toxicology results for several weeks.

dveselenak@home
townlife.com | 313-222-5379

False report

Canton police, patrolling an area near Michigan Avenue and Lotz due to what a police report called a "high incidence of drug crimes and prostitution," cited a woman for providing false information to a police officer.

The incident happened shortly before 10:30 p.m. Monday. The report indicated an officer saw a dark blue Chrysler Sebring backed into a parking space with its lights on before the driver pulled out and went to a fast-food restaurant drive-through.

Police ran the vehicle's plate and learned its owner had a misdemeanor warrant out of Brighton. Police stopped the car when it pulled into the Days Inn parking lot, learning the 21-year-old Chelsea woman didn't have a driver's license with her and that she gave police a wrong name.

The woman was cited and released for providing false information to an officer.

Domestic incident

Police went to The Crossings, an apartment complex southeast of I-275 and Joy Road, after receiving reports of a domestic violence incident that could involve a gun, a police report said.

The incident happened around 8 p.m. Saturday. Police received a report that a 19-year-old woman

CANTON CRIME WATCH

had been assaulted by her boyfriend. She had called a friend of hers about the incident and said she wasn't being allowed to leave the apartment. She also said the boyfriend had intentionally crashed a car in Detroit earlier in the day while she and her child were inside.

The alleged victim said her boyfriend had grabbed her by the neck and hit her during the dispute at the apartment complex. Her friend notified police, then authorities learned the boyfriend and his brother may have been on their way to the friend's apartment with a gun in retaliation for her having reported the incident, a police report said. Police learned the friend also had received threatening texts.

A police report indicated the alleged suspect and his brother already had been banned from the apartment complex. Police arrived, ordered the suspect to the ground and handcuffed him as the investigation unfolded. He told police he and his brother hadn't threatened anyone and had merely taken a walk to smoke some marijuana.

The woman who claimed she was assaulted by him has a 1-year-old child with him and is pregnant. She was fearful of talking to police because of possible repercussions, the police report said.

During an investigation, police

found a gun in the apartment. It was described in the report as a pistol with a rod welded into the barrel to make it incapable of firing bullets. Ultimately, police arrested the suspect for domestic violence and his brother was held on a bond violation for trespassing on the property.

Gun arrest

Police arrested a 23-year-old Sterling Heights woman for having a 9 mm handgun without a permit and having drug paraphernalia during an incident that occurred shortly before 1 a.m. Oct. 3, a police report said.

Police stopped a black Kia at Ford Road and I-275 after noticing the vehicle had only one working headlight. An officer could smell marijuana from the vehicle. The driver told police she had a handgun and a "stun gun" in her possession. She said they belonged to a friend who had left them in the vehicle.

Police found the handgun on the floorboard and the stun gun in the woman's purse. They also found a device used to grind marijuana.

The woman was placed under arrest and the car was towed.

—Compiled by Staff Writer
Darrell Clem from Canton
Police Department reports.

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Ford exec: Manufacturing to play huge role in county communities in the future

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

It's time to make manufacturing cool again to the youth of western Wayne County.

That was part of the message delivered Tuesday night by James Tetreault, vice president of North American manufacturing for Ford Motor Co., at the inaugural Western Wayne Business Leadership Banquet.

"We expect so much more than we did 100 years ago. It's very high-tech," he said. "It's really critical we have the best workplace in the world."

The dinner, which had a wide array of business and political leaders from the 18 communities that make up the Conference of Western Wayne, saw leaders from communities such as Livonia, Redford, Canton, Plymouth, Westland and Wayne attend. More than 350 people attended the event, which was spearheaded by members of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce.

Dan West, president of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce, said he was very pleased with how the night went and hopes it becomes an annual event among the communities. He said the message of bringing better manufacturing hit home in the area, which has three Ford facilities, including ones in Wayne and Livonia.

"We were very ecstatic," he said. "To me, it's just not the matter of having the networking message and the manufacturing message, which is important for our communities' young people to hear. When our manufacturers thrive, all of our communities thrive."

Tetreault spoke on the importance of keeping intelligent young people in manufacturing, an area that has seen significant changes in recent years. More work is being done by technically skilled employees using skills such as problem-solving and arithmetic.

He said that future can happen in western Wayne County, since it already has a base for manufacturing, especially through Ford. He said almost one-fifth of Ford's plant workers work in the area today.

"This is over 11,000 hourly workers all working in western Wayne County," he said. "A little more than 15 percent of our workforce operation is in western Wayne County."

Dan Dwyer, mayor of Plymouth, said the event was a great way to help champion the positives happening in the area, something that doesn't get a lot of regional attention. He said other communities have taken strides to market themselves positively and it's something the communities west of Detroit need to do as well.

"We see that Oakland County does a really good job of bragging about itself," he said. "Then there's western Wayne County, which is doing some incredible things. We do a terrible job of promoting that."

Canton Supervisor Phil LaJoy could not stay for the entire evening, as he and other board members had a meeting that

night, but he said bringing the communities all together is a good start.

"It's all about economic development, it's all about showing the advantages of western Wayne County," he said. "I'm looking forward to the next one. Hopefully, it will be on a different day."

Bill Wild, mayor of Westland, said what manufacturing companies, such as Ford, do in western Wayne County also benefits the cities and townships where these plants are located.

"Ford is a great corporate partner," he said. "They shop in our stores and use our restaurants and buy homes in our communities. We appreciate what Ford does in all of our communities."

To do that, Tetreault said companies are turning to communities to help train their future workers for jobs that are rewarding and good-paying. It's crucial people know that the option of working in a technical plant is a feasible option for those looking for work, he said.

"We need community partners to build this workforce for the future," he said. "We're falling behind."

Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey said he was impressed with how the inaugural dinner went in Dearborn and looks for-



Jill Engel, executive director for the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities in Canton, and Plymouth Chamber Executive Director Wes Graff. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ward to attending them in the future. He said Tetreault's address made it clear to him that educators and employers need to forge a stronger relationship to help grow the area's economy.

"I think the message was that unless the providers of education get together with the provider of jobs and find out exactly how we use education to produce the workforce that is necessary, it isn't going (to work)," he said. "I think education is a key part of it and it won't happen unless you have communication between the providers of jobs and those creating the skills."

Dwyer said the presentation got him thinking about putting those ideas into action sooner as opposed to later. He said he's already reached out to his fellow city officials about what they can do in Plymouth to bring and keep a skilled workforce to the area.

"This morning, I sent a message to my city commission team. It's something we have to start thinking about," he said. "That's a dialogue (that), if not for last night, would have never happened."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com 313-222-5379
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak



Ford's James Tetreault talks about changes in manufacturing. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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Church organist presents concert filled with classics and favorite hymns

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Childhood interest

Curtis Mathison would like to think the music played at Sunday services at the First United Methodist Church of Wayne and Westland are "a little bit of heaven."

"Good music enhances the senses and, surely, it sometimes is entertaining, but I hope it's also worshipful, so Sundays are out of the ordinary, not a mundane thing," Mathison said.

The church's organist for more than 30 years, he will take his seat at the church's pipe organ Sunday, Oct. 27, and do more than enhance the worship service. The Canton resident will present his biennial concert, performing the works of Bach, Franck and Mendelssohn and traditional church hymns, on the organ and piano.

The concert will be at 4 p.m. in the church, located at 3 Towne Square, between east and west Michigan Avenue at Newberry Street, in Wayne.

Mathison began preparing for the concert six months ago, coming to the church for two hours three or four times a week to practice; he also sometimes practices at home. Selections of Bach and Franck will be performed on the organ. Mendelssohn and variations of 10 church hymns will be performed on the piano, a gift to the church from Mathison in honor of his late wife Patricia.

"I hope everyone will like my concert, but the part I think they'll like best will be the songs, because they know them," Mathison said. "People love the hymns because they know them."

Mathison's musical interests date back to his childhood. Born on a farm and the "tail end child," he stayed at home to help his mother rather than work in the fields. He was introduced to the piano at age 9 and by age 10 he was practicing two hours a day.

He started playing the organ when he was a senior in high school and went on to college to study music, receiving his bachelor's and master's degrees in music theory and piano performance and his doctorate's degree in music education.

Mathison met his wife while in college and they literally made great music together, playing duets.

"We played organ and piano duets; people were crazy about our duets," Mathison said. "When she died, I got about \$4,500 in memorials and added to it to buy the piano for the church."

His late wife was from Detroit and the couple came to the city in 1954, when he became a church organist. In the 38 years since, he has been at Trinity United Methodist Church and West Outer Drive Methodist, both in Detroit, before joining First United Methodist in Wayne in the 1980s.

Years of teaching

He taught music in the Detroit Public Schools at the elementary and junior high levels for 30 years before retiring, but still has a private practice with about six students. He also worked with Music on the Move, teaching and supporting music education in private schools.



Curtis Mathison sits at the organ of the First United Methodist Church of Wayne and Westland, a seat he's had since 1984. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mathison has a stellar attendance record. He plays every Sunday unless "I'm on vacation" and has missed only one choir practice since 1954 and one Sunday due to illness — and that was because he was in the hospital and wasn't released until Sunday afternoon.

"He doesn't miss Sundays," member Keith Demolay said. "I get here at 7:30 a.m. and he's usually here by 8:15. If he's not here by 8:30, we're in panic mode and put out an APB."

Mathison has done concerts at other churches and in five different states. He also has been invited to perform in Florida and Virginia over the years. He said he gets a small intimate crowd of about 150 for his

concert at First United Methodist, adding that he's "made 75 phone calls" this year.

Those who attend will be treated to his performance of his favorite piece of classical music, Bach's *Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor*, as well as Mendelssohn's *Variations Serieuses* and church hymns like *Oh Come All Ye Faithful*.

He isn't sure how long he will be able to continue being the church organist and doing his concerts. At age 83, he said that decision will be made by someone else.

"How long do I keep doing this? God knows that answer," he said.

smason@hometownlife.com
313-222-6751
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Curtis Mathison plays Bach's 'Tocatta' and 'Fugue in D Minor,' his favorite piece of classical music.

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Cheyenne Watson, section leader for front line ensemble, practices before Saturday's competition. PHOTOS BY HELEN REBANDT

Marchers add another win

By Peggy Fenwick
Correspondent

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band took the top prize at the band competition held Saturday, Oct. 5, at Lamphre High School in Madison Heights. With its score of 75.55, the hometown band earned the highest score of the seven-band competition, a performance that also earned the band Best Visual, Best Marching and Best General Effect honors.

A percussion feature was added to this week's performance of the 2013 program, titled "Inferno." Plymouth High senior and percussion front line ensemble section leader Cheyenne Watson was very pleased with the performance.

"I think our show was really good this time," Watson said. "From a timing standpoint, we performed really well." According to Watson, the new addition to the program was a percussion piece highlighting the front line ensemble and the battery drums. The musical arrangement is called "The Rite of Spring" and the section leader was pleased with the results on the field.

When asked how this season's performance compares to last year's program, "The Last Dance," Watson said, "I think we are more musical this season. We are more expressive with the way we play."

Watson said she likes this year's theme, which portrays fire and hell through music and dance.

"I think it's a really awesome show. It's easier to portray and we can have fun with it. I cannot wait for folks to see the entire finished show," Watson said.

Sophomore Adam Hastings, a baritone sax player from Plymouth High, agreed this year's show is something special.



Canton High School senior Sarah Schmidt dazzles the crowd with her color guard performance.

"I think it's a cool concept," Hastings said after the band completed its performance Saturday.

Great Lakes Invitational

Local residents will get their first taste of the 2013 program when the Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters host the 2013 Great Lakes Invitational band competition Saturday, Oct. 19, at Canton High, starting at 4:45 p.m. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors.

Visitors will be treated to more than two hours of musical entertainment, with nine competing bands. Scheduled to perform are the high school marching bands from Woodhaven, Farmington, South Lyon, Southgate Anderson, Lakeland, Troy Athens, Livonia Franklin, Novi and, of course, Plymouth-Canton.

The Plymouth Fife and Drum Corp and the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' seventh- and eighth-grade music students will begin the show with the national anthem at 4:45 p.m. A performance of "Inferno" from the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band will end the evening with a 7 p.m. performance.

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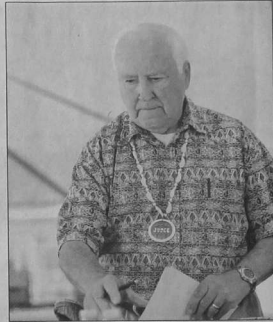
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Annette and Ken Horton were presented with a Chili Fest shirt signed by those who participated as they said good-bye and turned the event over to good hands.



Brian Taber of Canton enjoyed the Chili Fest with his daughter Arianna.



Longtime chili judge Dick Rzepecki of Plymouth used his discerning taste to pick his favorite chili.



The crowds came to taste some of the best chili in Plymouth this past Sunday. PHOTOS BY TOM BEALDOIN

Winners cap chili fest highlights

The 18th annual Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff and Motorcycle Show took place Sunday in downtown Plymouth, with chili and bike fans eating more than 60 different chilies in The Gathering.

- » Best Booth – Leo Buk, Nuclear Chili, Trenton.
- » People's Choice – Chris Thompson, Irish Fire Chili, Westland.
- » Salsa First Place – Gail Kyle, Gail's Salsa, Dearborn.
- » Chili Verde First Place – Richard Chauvin, South of the Border Chili, Windsor, Ontario, Canada.
- » Red Chili First Place – Diane Lentz, Bell Breezing Bordello Chili, Nicholasville, Ky.

The first-place winners in Salsa, Verde and Red Chili advance to the 2014 World Championship Chili Cookoff, sanctioned by the International Chili Society. For more info on the ICS, go to www.chilicookoff.com

In the Restaurant Chili Challenge, winners included TAP at MGM Grand Detroit (People's Choice) and Famous Dave's of Westland (best judged).

Net proceeds from this event will go to Western Wayne Habitat for Humanity and Penickton Center for Blind Children

Other restaurants included were Compari's On The Park, Doyle's Tavern, E.G. Nick's, Ironwood Grill, Nico & Vali Italian Market, Penn Grill & Bar, Plymouth ROC, Rusty Bucket Corner Tavern, Sean O'Callaghan's, The Picnic Basket Market-place and Jeff Zak Catering.



Synergy Dance Academy's 4- and 5-year-old girls group was ready to entertain the crowd in the middle of downtown Plymouth.



Other People's Choice finalists were the ladies from the "Chili Wenches" team – Karen Tulpa of Redford, Kim Martin of South Lyon and Cathy Cherkwick of Plymouth.



"Men in Kilts" – Paul Perlongo of Plymouth and Sean Skinner and Chris Thompson, both from Westland – enjoyed the Chili Fest. They were a People's Choice finalist.

Barefoot stages a Plymouth 'Murder'

The greatest hits of Edgar Allan Poe come together one fateful night in *Murder by Poe*, premiering at Plymouth's Barefoot Productions this October.

Black cats, tell-tale hearts and purloined letters all herald certain doom in the Gothic tales of Edgar Allan Poe. Following in the gruesome tradition of shows such as *Mindgame*, *Playing with Fire* and *Misery*, Barefoot Productions presents *Murder by Poe* as a fever dream of epic proportions.

When a young woman (played by Samantha Lowry of *Novi*) loses her way on a dark and stormy night, she encounters the mysterious Usher (he of the infamous house), who introduces her to the protagonists of four of Poe's best-known stories. Director Craig Hane had a

clear vision for the show from the beginning. "I see it as a nightmare come to life," Hane said.

Even the experienced cast found themselves caught off-guard by playwright Jeffrey Hatcher's twists and turns, according to Hane.

"It's like a puzzle," Lowry said. "The moment you think you've figured it out, it changes. And that's the whole thing that my character goes through: 'What have I gotten myself into and how am I going to get myself out of it?'"

Added Lanna Collins of *Garden City*: "Oh my! pretty much covers it. It's different than anything I've ever done. It's exciting."

Hane said fans of *The Raven* will not be disappointed, as Michael Corliss of *Livonia* will open the show with a



The Barefoot Productions cast brings "Murder by Poe" to the stage beginning Friday.

reading of Poe's most famous work, Richard Pentak of *Canton* and Terry A. Vivani of *Westland* will accompany him with *Lenore* and *Annabel Lee*, respectively, before all three perform the poem *The Bells*.

Rounding out the cast of *Murder by Poe* are Brian Plater of *Plymouth*, Mathew DeLisle of *Canton*, Jonathon and

Stacy Wennstrom of *Canton*, Eric Corliss of *Canton*, Beth Ducey of *Northville*, Gary Turnquist of *Plymouth* and Lauren Berryman of *Farmington Hills*.

Hane said audience members on opening night have the opportunity to attend the afterglow party, a new tradition at Barefoot that allows the public to mingle with the

cast and enjoy local cuisine following the Saturday, Oct. 12, performance. Catering will be provided by the former Grecian Cafe of Plymouth, which reopens Oct. 31 with an all-new name and upscale menu.

Murder by Poe opens Friday, Oct. 11, at the Barefoot Productions Theatre, 240 N. Main in Plymouth, and runs for

two weekends. Performances start at 8 p.m. Oct. 11-12, 18-19, while Sunday matinees start at 2 p.m. Oct. 13 and 20. All tickets are \$15, with the exception of the Oct. 12 show, when \$20 includes admission to the show plus the afterglow party.

To reserve tickets, call the box office at 734-560-1493 or visit www.just-gobarefoot.com.

BeckRidge open house shows off new digs

BeckRidge Productions has a new rehearsal and performance studio and officials want to show it off.

In order to do that, BeckRidge is inviting its "new" neighbors to look around, enjoy hors d'oeuvres and desserts and experience what BeckRidge is doing to keep music alive and thriving in the community by hosting an open house.

The open house takes place 7-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11, at BeckRidge Productions, 40525 Koppernick, in Canton.

According to musical director Michael Gross, the BeckRidge Productions tradition of "touching hearts one song at a time" began 40 years ago, when William Grimmer founded the Plymouth Community Chorus.



BeckRidge Productions officials are hosting an open house at the group's new studio on Koppernick in Canton.

The organization has since expanded its artistic offerings to include BeckRidge Chorale, Village Voices, Cherry Hill Singers, the BeckRidge Youth Choir, Canton Idol, BeckRidge On-Stage, the annual Memorial Day Concert—Because of the

Brave and is sharing space with Belo Drama-Theater for Youth.

Special entertainment is planned for 8:30 p.m. the night of the open house. For more information, call 734-667-3127 or email singing@beckridgechorale.org.

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Canton Community Foundation gets new director

The Canton Community Foundation began what officials are calling a "reinvention" after hiring Michelle Malamis as the organization's new executive director.

Malamis, who owns a master's degree of social work in community organization from Wayne State University, comes to the foundation and the Canton community with 15 years of experience in the nonprofit industry.

She lives in Livonia with her husband and two children.

With nearly 14 years

at Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit, Malamis comes to the Canton Community



Malamis

Foundation with experience that includes volunteer management, event planning, program and fund development, collaborative building, marketing and board development.

Foundation officials were impressed by two

programs she created along with lay leaders: Mentor Connection, a mentoring program that has served more than 400 Oakland County youth, and Project Build, a partnership with the Homebuilders Association of Southeast Michigan and The Home Depot that provides home repairs and modifications for low-income families and individuals with physical limitations.

"Michelle possesses the powerful combination of nonprofit leadership experience, passion

for the community and energy to initiate change that can take the Canton Community Foundation, which is entering its 25th year, in an exciting new direction," said Jerry Grady, who chairs the Canton Community Foundation. "Our primary focus has always been to connect donors with causes they care about and Michelle is dedicated to that mission."

Malamis said she's "excited to be in this wonderful position" to create the connections

between the generous individuals, businesses and organizations that want to be philanthropic with the individuals and nonprofit groups who have the needs.

"Community foundations can create huge community impact," Malamis said. "I am thrilled to be in the position to help with creating new opportunities for the individuals, nonprofits and the entire community here in Canton, Plymouth and surrounding areas."

The Canton Community

Foundation is a tax-exempt charitable organization that helps donors — individuals, families, organizations, businesses and nonprofits — create permanent funds to fulfill common interests and needs to improve life in the community and region.

To learn more about the Canton Community Foundation, contact Malamis at 734-495-1200, email mmalamis@cantonfoundation.org or visit the website at www.cantonfoundation.org.

Spotlight on Youth does 'Hansel and Gretel'

Theater-goers will be able to visit the forest with *Hansel and Gretel* when Spotlight on Youth brings what organizers are calling a "simply sweet" version of the well-known Grimm's fairy tale to the stage at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

In this rendition, Hansel and Gretel are in the company of guardian angels as they go deep into the woods looking for berries. The audience will even be won over by the Witch, who decides to

change her ways and provide the family with a treasure chest full of seeds to start the best garden ever.

Spotlight officials say the score by Mimi Sparks "provides the delightful tunes *Sing and Dance*, *The Magic Within* and *Celebrate*, just to name a few."

Hansel and Gretel runs one weekend only, Thursday, Oct. 17, through Sunday, Oct. 20, at the beautiful, state-of-the-art Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

Keeping small children in mind, the show is a little over one hour long, plus a 15-minute intermission. Bring the whole family, wee ones are welcome at Spotlight on Youth!

"As with all Spotlight on Youth shows, this show is fun and appropriate for the entire family," director Barbara Bloom of Novi said. "It has amusement for the very young and humor that reaches adults as well."

Sisters Kate and Lucy Nolan of Canton play

Hansel and Gretel; Allison White of Farmington Hills plays the Witch; Hayley Roukin of Canton plays Mother; and Derrick Gallagher of Southfield plays Father.

The play runs at 7 p.m. Oct. 17-20, with additional 2 p.m. matinee performances Oct. 19-20. Tickets are \$15 each and are available at 734-394-5300 or 734-394-5460 or online at www.cantonmi.org/villageheater or in person at The Summit on the Park or at the door.



Spotlight on Youth, featuring a cast full of local actors, brings "Hansel and Gretel" to the Village Theater Oct. 17-20.

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON CHAMBER CHAT

Auction opportunity

Anyone planning to attend the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce's 24th annual Dinner & Gala Auction who purchases tickets by Oct. 11 will receive five \$2 raffle tickets to use.

The tickets will give the purchaser the opportunity to bid on more than 70 different packages that range in value from \$50 to \$100.

The auction takes place 6-11 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1, at Laurel Manor in Livonia. This year's theme will be "Roaring in the 20s."

The auction is the chamber's largest fundraising event of the year, with more than 420 attendees; tickets are \$75. The funds raised at this event provide the resources for chamber officials to promote the community and make investments to enhance the quality of life in the Plymouth area.

Tickets can be purchased with a credit card over the phone at 734-453-1540 or in person at the chamber office, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail.

Pumpkin Palooza

The third annual Pumpkin Palooza takes place from noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 20, in downtown Plymouth for kids of all ages.

Enjoy games, activities, face painting and plenty of entertainment, including a magician, ventriloquist, haunted alley and much more.

There will be a costume contest for pets at noon (registration at 11:45 a.m.) in Kellogg Park, followed by a costume contest for children.

For a schedule, go to www.plymouthmich.org.

After Hours

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce sponsors its next After Hours event 5-7:30

p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 23, at downtown Plymouth's E.G. Nick's.

The event is designed as a networking opportunity with fellow chamber members and will feature food and a cash bar. After Hours events, chamber officials said, average between 60-100 attendees.

E.G. Nick's is located at 500 Forest Ave., in downtown Plymouth.

There is no fee to attend this event. RSVP by Oct. 21 to 734-453-1540 or terl@plymouthmich.org.

Halloween run

The 2013 Wicked Halloween Run takes place at 8 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 27, and features a 10K, 5K Run/Walk and the Monster Mile.

The run is sponsored by Kona Running Co. and officials urge runners to wear a costume. For more information and to register, go to www.wickedhalloweenrun.com.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

Jay's anniversary

It's been a year since Jay's Stuffed Burgers opened its doors at 600 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth. And just ahead of that anniversary, Jay's Stuffed Burgers was voted "Best Taste of Downtown Plymouth" as part of the Annual PENN-Taste-Tic Downtown Plymouth Restaurant Crawl.

According to owners Jay and Jon Kizy, business has been brisk throughout the eatery's first year. A local, one-of-a-kind restaurant, Jay's Stuffed Burgers draws regulars not only from places like Plymouth, Canton, Livonia and Westland, but also from as far away as Ann Arbor, Sterling Heights and Pontiac.

"We've got the best customers a business could ask for," said Jon Kizy, who believes a big part of the restaurant's success is that the owners and staff go out of their way to talk with and listen to their customers.

Jay's is known for its weekly special stuffed burgers and the owners said they're proud that in 52 weeks of doing business, they have yet to repeat a weekly special. Their regular menu features stuffed burgers like the Paul Bunyan Burger, stuffed with made-from-scratch mashed potatoes, and their Mac & Cheese Burger.

Visit GetStuffedAtJays.com for the menu and specials. For business opportunities, call 734-386-0654.

Best for work

For the eighth year in a row, Community Financial Credit Union has been named one of metro Detroit's 101 Best and Brightest Companies To Work For. This award recognizes companies for excellence in human resources practices that create exceptional work environments.

"This award depends in large part on data

collected from Community Financial team members and we appreciate their recognition of Community Financial as a great place to work," said Kathleen Hinchliff, manager of education and development. "We participate in this program as a way to help attract and retain the best team members to fulfill our community's financial purpose of enhancing the financial well-being of every member."

Awards are based on detailed questionnaires completed by nominated companies and their employees. Companies provide information about work place communication, work-life balance, employee education, diversity, employee recognition, retention and other elements of the work environment. The 2013 award competition included 1,000 nominations and more than 400 applications. All companies that participate receive reports that compare their human resources practices with an aggregate of other companies' data.

Top Realtor
The Michigan Association of Realtors recently named Gordon McCann the 2013 Realtor of the Year. McCann is an associate broker at Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel.

The Realtor of the Year award is the highest award bestowed upon a member of the association. It is given for outstanding achievements serving the MAR, the real estate profession and the community. The award was presented Sept. 25 during the annual MAR Expo and Convention at the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort in Marquette.

McCann is a veteran Realtor and has served Michigan's real estate industry in many elected and appointed positions. He was a director, trea-

surer, president-elect and president of Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors, as well as numerous committees. McCann was also instrumental in the formation of the Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors by merging that association with the Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors.

As a long-time resident of Plymouth, McCann is in his 19th year in real estate after being involved with sales and marketing in the health care industry for 26 years. McCann holds a bachelor's degree in marketing from Ferris State University and a master's degree in marketing from Michigan State University's Eli Broad School of Management. McCann continues to sell real estate in the Plymouth area and enjoys golfing and competitive time-trials in his Corvette.

Board appointment

The law firm of Miller Canfield announced Christy Baas, manager of global branding and media in its Detroit office, has been appointed as a member-at-large of the 2014 board of directors of the Legal Marketing Association Midwest Chapter. She also sits on the executive committee of the LMA's Detroit Chapter.

The LMA Midwest Chapter consists of marketing, business development and communications professionals working in the legal industry in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan and Missouri. It is part of LMA International, which has members from across North America.

Baas joined Miller Canfield in 2002. She received her bachelor's degree, magna cum laude, in corporate communication/public relations from the University of Michigan-Dearborn. She received the UM-D 2010 "Young Alumnaus of the Year" award. She lives in Canton.

Mettetal could get new flight school

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Marc Stobbe was eager to show off Canton-Plymouth Mettetal Airport on Saturday, Sept. 28.

The state-run airport held an open house that day and Plymouth Township resident Stobbe, assistant airport manager, and others were sharing their stories. Skies were blue at the airport at Joy and Lilley, just into Canton, as planes and a helicopter landed and took off.

"We knew there was a lot of interest in aviation and the airport," said Stobbe, a retired Westland Police Department deputy chief. He's been a pilot since 2004, learning while still a police man.

He first flew with Mark Neal, former Westland fire chief. "I went flying with him and I got hooked in," Stobbe said. The open house helped visitors become familiar with planes and pilots.

Mettetal is among the busiest small airports, he said, usually with local pilots. "It's a great asset to the community because of the business it brings in," he said.

Stobbe spoke of the "5100 hamburger," people who fly in for fun at local restaurants.

"I would say it's mostly positive for the neighbors," he said of community reaction. There are picnic tables where people can bring a meal and enjoy watching planes come and go. "A lot of people bring their



Katie Guello of Ann Arbor, a flight instructor with Solo Aviation, prepares for a takeoff during the Mettetal open house.

kids over here," Stobbe said. He envisions more people to visit the airport to see planes take off and land; part of the airport is restricted for security, but there is an area open to the public. "That was certainly at the event, which included concessions, live music and remote-controlled small aircraft on display. Those have to be used with care, Stobbe explained, to avoid interference with the regular planes.

Mettetal is run by the Michigan Department of Transportation and used by more than 100 pilots.

Sunny skies brought many visitors to the open house. "We ordered it up about a month ago," a smiling Stobbe said of the picture-perfect weather.

He flies as far as Florida and the Bahamas.

Theresa Whiting is chief flight instructor for Solo Aviation, based in Ann Arbor and Jackson. Solo is in talks with state officials, hoping to expand to Mettetal for

rental, learning to fly and maintaining aircraft.

Whiting grew up in Ann Arbor, graduating from Pioneer High School, and attended Western Michigan University, "which is one of the top aviation colleges in the country," she said. "It's been amazing, the turnout," she said of the open house, at which Solo offered \$25 plane rides. "It exceeded everyone's expectations."

She agreed airports benefit their communities. "It actually is a huge economic boon to the area," Whiting said. Ann Arbor's Katie Guello, a Solo Aviation flight instructor, was taking open house visitors for plane rides. "We go up in a circle and come back," said Guello, who first learned about flight on a school field trip to an airport.

"That's really all it takes," she said, adding she likes to be a good role model for girls and women.

jbrown@hometownlife.com

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Jay (left) and Jon Kizy, along with their mom Aliman Kizy, recently celebrated one year in business at Jay's Stuffed Burgers in downtown Plymouth.

OUR VIEWS

Miracle League producing just that

Many deserve thanks for program's success

They do it with little ballyhoo, before small crowds of friends and loved ones, without much fanfare.

But maybe the people who brought us the Miracle League of Plymouth deserve a little more attention for the miracles they've been working on Bialik Field the last three seasons. Hundreds of special-needs players, nearly all of whom would otherwise be denied the opportunities they have on Theodore Street, have had a chance to learn and to play and, most of all, to grow.

The league just finished its third season Saturday and it was another successful one. There are a lot of people responsible for that success, starting with commission (and mastermind) Deb Madonna, who is easily the most visible face of the Miracle League of Plymouth. It would be easy to say that, without Madonna, the league couldn't (or wouldn't) exist.

But Madonna would be first in line to tell you that's wrong. The success of this league, which includes lots of players from Canton, Plymouth and the surrounding area, is due to a level of teamwork that is unprecedented. If Congress could work this well together, we'd still have a functioning federal government.

Sure, it starts with Madonna and Bob and Shari Bilkie. But it flows down to volunteers who umpire the games — including Jeff Powers, Dave Visser, Larry Nag, Mike Jurin, Dan Kompoltowicz, Glen Kordick, Jesse Jenkins, Mark Madonna and Marcel Madonna — and the coaches who marshal the forces — league director Shari Bilkie, Todd Williams, Jack Klarr, Dale Moore, Rachel Koelzer, Jake Tanana, Sandy Linsner, Michael Domzalski, Mark Madonna, Pat Moylan, Hannah Moylan, Mike Jurin, Steven VanDusen, Rick Pasage, Nicole Nader, Mick Nader, Tricia Wolfe, Briana Wolfe and Katelyn Thomas.

They do it with a volunteer announcer who calls every game and with high school kids acting as "buddies" to the players. They make it happen with parents and siblings, grandparents and friends filling whatever role Madonna needs them to fill.

The cheers can be heard from blocks away and the smiles on players' faces are big enough to be seen on satellite photos. The Miracle League, for three seasons now, has done what it was designed to do: Give special-needs players an outlet they never would have had otherwise. And there's one large reason it's been such a big success. It's done with love.



The Miracle League of Plymouth just finished its third season of producing exactly that — miracles — for special-needs players from Canton, Plymouth and the surrounding area.

CANTON OBSERVER
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COMMUNITY VOICE

What letter grade would you give Congress? The president?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"I'd give Congress a 'D' and the president a 'B'-minus."

Tom Miner
Canton

"I'd say a 'D' (for Congress). The president, a 'C'."

Danna Fennoy
Romulus

"I'd probably give Congress a 'D' and the president a 'C'. Everybody needs to work together for the sake of the country instead of just doing the (political) party stuff."

Bhargav Patel
Canton

"I've given Congress a 'Z' and the president a 'C' — they need to get past this (fighting) and go forward."

Abdellah Oussadi
Canton

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Straight talk

The current GOP-forced government shutdown comes as a result of the failure of the GOP-dominated House to pass any continuing budget resolution without attaching provisions that will defund, repeal or strip necessary provisions from a law that they collectively despise, the Affordable Care Act.

This law was passed by both houses of Congress, signed by the president and upheld by the Supreme Court. Because the House Tea Party-inspired Republican caucus, including the likes of Kerry Bentivolio, despises Obama and his signature accomplishment, but sadly lack the votes to get a repeal bill through the Senate, hostage-taking and a shutdown are their only alternatives.

The idea here is that Republicans will vote to shut down the government by denying necessary funding and demand the entire legislative process be circumvented. This unnecessary crisis will theoretically force Democrats to do anything to end the suffering and relent to Republican demands to essentially kill Obamacare.

Republican House Speaker Boehner wants everyone to sit down and negotiate to end the impasse. So what's in it for Democrats, a functioning government at any cost? One would think that a functioning government would be an interest of all, but apparently not. By the way, Democrats have already compromised with Boehner, agreeing to support a continuing resolution at Republican sequestration funding levels in exchange for a clean budget resolution.

The current ridiculous Republican demand, since repeal or direct defunding isn't going to happen, is to delay or strip out the individual mandate. Republicans whine that this is only fair because the business mandate,

due to previous Republican whining, has been delayed by one year in the face of complaints that businesses weren't given adequate time.

Obama gave thoughtful consideration and through an executive order agreed to postpone the mandate in the spirit of providing a rolling fix, the type of which the ACA will need from time to time, being a law of great size and complexity. Since no good deed goes unpunished, Republicans now demand the same deference be extended to individuals.

Problem is that the individual mandate is essential to providing the funding and the risk pool necessary to allow insurance companies to offer affordable insurance for all while guaranteeing that pre-existing conditions do not prevent coverage. That the business mandate began in 2014 was not an essential where funding or pool size was concerned; hence, some presidential flexibility was possible.

When will this end? Looks as if the Republicans want to continue the shutdown with the upcoming debt ceiling negotiations to increase pressure to get what they want. Again, sadly, they will treat maintaining the full faith and credit of the U.S., something that should be of utmost importance to all, as strictly a Democratic demand and not necessarily one of their own if they can't extract other goodies for themselves, so much for being honest brokers.

Mitch Smith
Canton

No place for emergency manager

Having a law appointing an emergency manager to replace elected officials is the greatest affront to the concept of democracy in the United States.

This is a nation that bases itself on the idea of representative government. It is a nation that while we all believe could do

better, encourages all citizens to cast their votes for people to represent them in government.

Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox wrote a letter to the editor of *The Detroit News* saying she thinks we need an emergency manager to be appointed to run our county in the weeks of our in-droves last year, voting for a proposal to overturn the emergency manager law, only to find a partisan Legislature working in the wee hours of a late-audience session in December to just turn around and pass another emergency manager law assigning even more power (and salary) over elected representatives in Michigan than even before.

I have attended county commission meetings, listened to the talking heads on radio and had to see Commissioner Cox at meetings and on television always complaining about the way things are going, hoping I would be able to detect even the slightest glimmer of a profound idea from her as a member of the commission. As nearly the lone Republican on the commission, I think all I hear is her frustration being unable to advance her unproductive agenda, presiding as vice chair of the commission. I wasn't surprised seeing her cast her vote against the new county ethics ordinance, saying it didn't go far enough.

It has been said, living in Wayne County, a veteran of foreign wars and a believer in the concept of representative government. I do not believe in anyone being appointed "managers" have greater powers and authority than those elected by the people I live with in this community. Commissioner Cox, thank you for showing your true colors for us all and stating for us your stand against a representative way of government.

R. Burnett
Livonia

OUR VIEWS

Look both ways before hiking speed limits

Legislation to be introduced in Lansing this fall to increase speed limits, including to as high as 85 mph on some sections of expressway, should be considered dead on arrival... so that more drivers do not arrive at the hospital that way.

For years, we have been told that speed kills. It was the justification for all those speeding tickets we've been handed. It was the justification for all those hikes in insurance rates when we earned points on our driver's licenses.

Now, state Sens. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge, and Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba, are proposing to raise speed limits as a safety improvement.

"For decades, it's been proven that if you post the proper speed limit, it's safer. You have fewer accidents and have better traffic flow," Jones said of his plan to draft the bill for lawmakers to consider this fall.

A Michigan State Police spokesman pointed out that in some sections of expressway where the speed limit has been lowered to 55 mph, those who follow the limit "create chaos."

These points may be well-taken, but the most horrific accidents we typically see involve expressway crossovers ending in head-on collisions. At

But increasing the maximum may only increase the problem. There will always be speeders, who then may be going 90 or 95 mph.

A 70 mph speed limit, cars on opposite sides of the expressway close on each other at 140 mph. At 85 mph, that differential speed would be a mind-bender, 170 mph.

The best argument for increasing speeds comes from Livingston County Road Commission Manager Mike Craine, who points out that different speeds driven by different drivers on the same side of the expressway cause problems, including lane changes and weaving.

But increasing the maximum may only increase the problem. There will always be speeders, who then may be going 90 or 95 mph.

And law-abiding drivers will then be going up to 85 mph. We doubt that drivers who now putter along the expressway at 60 mph will ever be convinced to drive at speeds they're not comfortable with. Nor should

they. Think of elderly drivers, new drivers and parents with cars full of kids who just want to take it easy when they are on the road. Do we tell them they have to zoom along at 85 mph or stay off the expressway? Are we going to post signs on the entrance ramps that say "Speed demons only"?

We'd be more convinced this was really an effort to improve safety by limiting the differential speed if the proposal was to raise the minimum from the current 55 mph. Or to review those sections of road where the speed limit has been lowered to determine whether that lowered speed is appropriate.

The senators argue they want to eliminate speed traps and increases in insurance rates. That's fine, but those concerns could be addressed in other ways.

Some other states have increased speeds, proponents argue. It seems to us that lawmakers should study how well that works out before moving ahead on such a proposal. Do higher speeds improve safety or just the opposite?

On this proposal, legislators should look both ways and proceed cautiously... just like we should drive.

Rummage sale to benefit family looking to adopt

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

All it took for Shannon Dulock to want to meet a teenager from the Ukraine in a local exchange program was a photo on Facebook.

"I saw his picture because they were trying to find him a home and he resembled my husband when he was younger. It was uncanny," she said. "I thought 'There's something about this boy, I need to meet him.'"

And after spending several weeks with the teenager named Zhenia, Dulock, her husband Joe and her three children, and all who reside in Canton, decided they wanted to step up and adopt him when he returned to an orphanage in Ukraine after spending more than a month in the United States.

"Within three days, we

knew. We knew that he was going to be our son," she said. "It was meant from God to adopt him."

But the decision to adopt Zhenia is a costly one, running tens of thousands of dollars in fees, airfare and other expenses. That's why a rummage sale is scheduled to take place this weekend to help raise money for the family to bring the boy back to the U.S. for good.

The sale, which will see all funds raised go toward benefiting the family, will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the American Legion Post 32, located at 9318 Newburgh in Livonia.

Claudia Halls, a Farmington Hills resident overseeing the sale, said she has already collected a wide array of goods that will be for sale Saturday morning.

"Our friends and family are trying to gather donations from people so we can do as much as we can in the four hours we've got," she said.

She doesn't have a target goal for an amount raised this weekend, but said everything that is not sold will be donated to Purple Heart to help people in need.

Dulock said the boy will be forced out of his orphanage when he turns 16 in less than two years and many children end up on the wrong end when they are forced out before they are ready.

She said the boy and her three children all got along very well during his time with the family, leaving no doubt in their minds that they wanted to adopt him and bring him to Michigan.

She said there was one family in Italy that wanted to adopt the boy, but he declined to go with



The Dulock family, from Canton, wants to raise enough money to help bring a Ukrainian boy named Zhenia, located at the right in the front row, to the U.S. to adopt him. A rummage sale is planned to take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the Livonia American Legion Post 32.

them, saying how he knows his future lies across the Atlantic Ocean.

"He said, 'My family's in America.' He knew in his heart this is where he

help raise funds. Those interested in learning more or donating can do so by visiting youcaring.com/dulock. She said the process takes months to complete and the family hopes he'll be in Canton with them sometime in 2014.

Anyone interested in helping with the rummage sale or anyone who would like to donate items can contact Taffie via email at cgtgaff@scglobal.net.

Dulock said while some people question the reasoning behind adopting an older child, she and her husband know he needs a family just as much as a younger child.

"The older children, they need homes," she said. "He'll still need parents for the rest of his life."

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United Way seeks 'Difference' volunteers

Want to make a difference by helping a senior citizen or a person with a disability?

Plymouth Community United Way is looking for volunteers to clean yards and do light chores Saturday, Nov. 2, in the city of Plymouth and Plymouth and Canton townships.

Volunteers will meet the day of the event at a new location, as Plymouth First United Methodist Church opens the doors of its facility for PCUW to provide a continental breakfast and instructions.

Check-in time is 7:30 a.m. Volunteers are asked to bring rakes, garden tools and gloves and have their own transportation to travel between homes. PCUW will supply the yard waste bags, which will be distributed at the church.

All ages are welcome, but those under 18 need to be accompanied by an adult. To volunteer, call Randi Williams at 734-453-6879, ext. 7, or email randi.williams@pcuw.org before Oct. 18.

For more information and an application, visit www.plymouthunited-way.org.

Goodwill job fair

Date/Time: Friday, Oct. 11, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Location: Goodwill store, 41937 Ford Road in Canton.

Details: Metro Detroiters seeking employment opportunities can embrace a new career path at a job fair to fill a variety of available positions including jobs at Goodwill retail locations. Goodwill staff members will be on site to collect applications and conduct pre-screening interviews with job candidates. Job seekers may apply for a variety of full- and part-time positions at the Commerce, Canton and Dearborn stores, including store merchandise processors, retail associates, material handlers and commercial licensed drivers. Participants should bring a current resume and be prepared for an on-site pre-screening interview with Goodwill human resources professionals or members of management. Applications are available for completion on-site or in advance at www.goodwilldetroit.org/careers. Applicants should have at least a high school diploma or equivalent.

Heise coffee

Date/Time: Friday, Oct. 18, 7:30-9 a.m.

Location: Panera Bread, 20140 Haggerty, Northville.

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

Contact: Call toll free 1-855-REP-KURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Local pastor prays at Senate



Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, welcomes the Rev. Raymond Haselnuhn (right) to the Michigan Senate. Haselnuhn is pastor at the First Baptist Church of Canton. He delivered the invocation before a recent Senate session.

Soup and salad

Date/Time: Friday, Oct. 11, 5-8 p.m.

Location: Mayflower/L. Gamble VFW Post #6695, 1426 S. Mill in Plymouth.

Details: The 4th District Ladies Auxiliary hosts a Soup and Salad Fundraiser for Camp Trotter-Children's Scholarship Fund. Cost is \$5 for a spoon at the door.

Auction 'Friendly'

Date/Time: Wednesday, Oct. 16, 6 p.m.

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

Details: Canton Newcomers and Neighbors sponsors a night of socializing, raffles and prizes for every age/interest, complimentary finger dessert buffet, and beverages for purchase all

to support the social and charitable efforts of the Canton Newcomers and Neighbors Club, and you are invited. Scope out the over 50 raffle prizes and determine bidding strategy for items such as Busch's baskets, an Ashka gift certificate or tickets to the Purple Rose Theatre.

Contact: Call 734-981-0486.

Canoe race

Date: Saturday, Oct. 12

Location: Wayne County's Lower Rouge Parkway in Wayne

Details: Teams are still needed for the first Logjam Classic Canoe Race on the Rouge River. The three-mile race is part of the Rouge-A-Palooza festival. Teams consist of two paddlers and will be timed. Only 30 boats will be entered in the race.

Contact: To register or for more information, contact Kurt Kuban at 734-716-0783 or visit the Rouge-A-Palooza page on Facebook.

Puzzle class

Date/Time: Tuesday, Nov. 5 and 12, 10 a.m. to noon

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main in Plymouth

Details: The Plymouth District Library hosts a Sudoku Puzzle Intro Class to teach folks in a few easy steps how to enjoy the popular Sudoku puzzles. It's a free class, but registration is required.

Contact: Call 734-453-0750, ext. 4.

Plymouth Newcomers Mixer

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 12, 9 a.m. to noon

Location: Plymouth Orchard and Cider Mill, 10685 Warren in Plymouth.

Details: Plymouth Newcomers & Neighbors kicks off its programming season with a Fall Kick-Off Mixer. Longtime residents and those new to the area are welcome to stop by and learn more about Plymouth Newcomers and Neighbors. Plymouth Newcomers & Neighbors is a non-profit organization formed in 1959 to provide social events and activities for residents of Plymouth, Michigan and other surrounding communities. Newcomers has social events from September through May. These events are held in a variety of locations with different themes, including philanthropic activities, monthly interest groups, seasonal parties, family events and more.

Contact: For more information, contact membership@plymouthnewcomers.com, on Facebook (Plymouth Newcomers & Neighbors) or at www.plymouthnewcomers.com.

Hearing loss seminar

Date/Time: Wednesday, Oct. 30, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Hilton Garden Inn, 14600 N. Sheldon in Plymouth

Details: Learn how to identify if you have a hearing problem, how to enhance communication and listening skills, understand common hearing issues and see the latest advancements in hearing technology. Complimentary refreshments will be served.

Contact: To register for the event or to find out more information, call at 734-451-0800. Registration for the event closes Oct. 25.

Blues @ the Elks

Date/Time: Tuesday, Oct. 22, 7 p.m.

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

Details: Blues @ The Elks starts this month in cooperation with the Detroit Blues Society. The event highlights David Vest on

keyboard with local favorites George Bedard on bass and R.J. Spangler on drums. These are all seasoned professional performers. Donation at the door is \$5. To learn more about David Vest's extensive entertainment career, go to his website www.davidvest.com.

Contact: For more information, call 734-453-1780 or visit www.detroitbluesociety.org or www.plymouthelks1780.com.

Free rock concert

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 12, 8 p.m.

Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council's Joanne Winkelman Hulce Center for the Arts, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth.

Details: The Plymouth based group D'Art Band will perform a mix of original music and classic rock at this free concert as part of the PCA's Saturday Night Concert series.

Delta Kappa Gamma craft show

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

Location: West Middle School, 44401 Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth.

Details: Delta Kappa Gamma, an international society of women in education that provides scholarships for Plymouth-Canton students pursuing a degree in education, hosts its 29th annual craft show. Juried crafters will display handmade jewelry, pottery, clothing, seasonal decor, metal sculptures, gourmet foods and more. Breakfast and lunch items will be available in the cafeteria. Admission is \$2.

Contact: For more information, contact Debbie Cortellini at debcortelli@comcast.com or Alice Chronko at dachronko@hotmail.com.

Miller Woods tours

Date/Times: Sundays, Oct. 20 and 27, 2-4 p.m.

Location: Miller Woods, entrance on Powell Road between Ridge and Beck, Plymouth Township.

Details: The Friends of Miller Woods host fall tours through the nature preserve. Tours are free, last about 60 minutes and include historical information about the Miller family as well as facts about the ecosystem, fall colors and the unique trees in the woods. Dogs and strollers are not allowed in the woods.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a proposal for **Purchase of Musical Instruments**. Specifications of the Request for Proposals (RFP) are available by contacting Tiffany Brindza, Purchasing and General Ledger Associate, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools at tiffany.brindza@pcscs.net or (734) 416-2975. Proposals will be accepted as specified in the Request for Proposals at PCSCS - E.J. McClendon Educational Center located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170 on or before **Thursday, October 17, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.** The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

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

Publish: October 10, 2013

CLM000007 5x8.5

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SECTION B (CP)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2013
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
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SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR

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KLAA BOYS SOCCER

Rocks win 2-0 for conference crown

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Early bounces Monday night went Salem's way and the Rocks captured the KLAA Kensington Conference championship with a 2-0 victory over Canton.

First, Canton hit the goal post and a subsequent penalty kick resulted in the first goal of the game by Salem's Connor Cole.

Before halftime, the KLAA Central Division champion Rocks scored again when Jay Lee finished a nifty feed from Brady Cole and strong defense and goalkeeping by Collin Hewett made the two-goal spread hold up.

In the process, the KLAA

South Division champion Chiefs lost for the first time this season (Canton now is 15-1-3).

"One of the strengths of our team all year is coming out and being organized, connecting and getting chances right away," Salem boys soccer coach Scott Duhl said. "I think we were fortunate to catch a break. One, they got in, they probably had the best chance early, our goalkeeper touched it, it hit the bar.

"And then we got in and off a rebound we were fortunate to get a penalty call."

Salem (10-1-5) went up 2-0 with about 13 minutes remaining in the first half when recent JV callup Jay Lee neatly finished a play started by Bra-

dy Cole.

Nice finish

"I tell you what, Jay Lee can run with the best of them otherwise I don't think he would have caught it," Duhl said. "Just a little dink if you will to get it over the goalkeeper and in."

"For me, just a good little combination play between the front players. That's something that we've lacked all year."

Canton coach Mark Zemanski credited the Rocks, who bested the Chiefs in the conference title matchup for the second consecutive season. But Zemanski measured his words when discussing the turning point of the contest.

"We came out strong and (Carter Schenk) hit the post, on a beautiful feed by Griff Parks," Zemanski said. "And then they got a PK call. I don't want to say a whole lot about it, I was disappointed in the call."

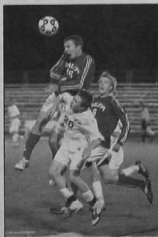
That play took place about 10 minutes into the contest, played on the turf field at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park instead of the grass soccer field (which was deemed unplayable).

Not too long after that, a hand ball in the box resulted in the Cole PK goal.

Tough spot

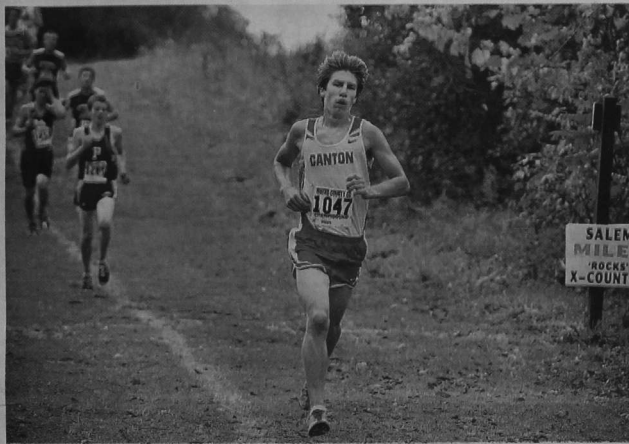
"I think it (PK) put us in a hole," Zemanski said. "We

See SOCCER, Page B4



Battling for the high-bouncing ball Monday night are Salem's Matt DeMoss (No. 16) and Canton's Hunter Olson (No. 20). At right for the Rocks is Brady Cole. JOHN KENSKI/EXPRESS PHOTO

WAYNE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP



Canton's Billy Toth (No. 1047) cruises toward the finish line at Saturday's county meet. Toth finished 12th. ANN ESPINOZA

WAYNE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Salem girls harriers finish 3rd

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Strong challenge by Salem's girls cross country team aside, nothing happened at Saturday's Wayne County Championship to change Northville's status as the team to beat.

The Mustangs easily topped the field at Willow Metropark in New Boston with 27 points, with Grosse Pointe South second with 59.

Showing they could hang in there against Northville were the host Rocks, earning a third-place finish (77 points) and having six runners earn all-county medals for finishing within the top 35.

"Northville is ranked No. 2 in the state in Division 1 and Grosse Pointe South is sixth," Rocks varsity girls cross country coach Dave Gerlach said. "We knew those were going to be the two teams to beat at this competition and I thought our kids did a nice job competing today."

GF's Ersula Farrow garnered first-place medalist honors, finishing the 5,000-meter race in 18:15.89, followed by Northville's Rachel Coleman (18:27.69) and Lexa Barrott (19:32.76).

In fifth place was Salem's Anya Cho, finishing in 18:57.64.

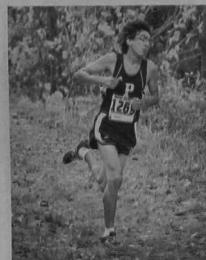
See GIRLS XC, Page B3



Running in sync for Salem's varsity girls cross country team Saturday are (from left) Elizabeth Tripp, Kayla Hughes, Anya Cho, Emily Marcano, Kayla Kavulich and Natasha Stevens. ANN ESPINOZA

COUNTY CRUISERS

KLAA teams, individuals nearly run the table at Wayne meet



Plymouth's Zane Berlanga keeps chugging along toward his third-place finish Saturday at Willow Metropark. ANN ESPINOZA

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The recent trend of KLAA varsity boys cross country teams dominating the annual Wayne County Championship Meet continued unabated Saturday at Willow Metropark in New Boston.

KLAA teams took eight of the first nine spots and individual performers took every spot in the top 10 and all but five of the 35 all-county awards.

Northville won the championship with 21 points, followed by runner-up Plymouth (85), Livonia Churchill (106), Livonia Stevenson (133) and Wayne Memorial (180) in the top five.

Nick Noles (16:01.76) and Jason Ferrante (16:09.47), both of Northville, won the first two spots in the individual standings, beating out Plymouth's Zane Berlanga, third with a time of 16:15.90.

"He (Berlanga) beat both those guys last week, he's right there," Plymouth head coach Jon Mikosz said. "He had a

little off week, he was feeling a little off, so he could easily be at the top."

"He should easily be in the 15s come the next couple meets. I'm proud of how they did, we just got to keep driving and going."

Other Plymouth county medalists included Matthew Pahl (13th, 16:41.75), Max Rogowski (22nd, 17:02.63), Blerim Mema (23rd, 17:03.60), Liam Cardenas (24th, 17:04.08) and Mayur Patil (35th, 17:16.80).

According to Churchill coach John McGreevy, his team did a strong job running as a pack and did what it set out to do.

"The goal going in to the meet was to be in the top three," McGreevy said. "We attained that goal, to be competitive with Plymouth and Stevenson, which we were."

"Plymouth ran really well today and Northville was lights out. So I was very pleased with what the kids did today."

See BOYS XC, Page B3

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YOUTH HOCKEY

Girls urged to try hockey for free

In conjunction with the World Girls Ice Hockey Celebration weekend, Compuware Youth Hockey along with the State Champion Compuware Girls 12U AAA team will be hosting a Girls Try Hockey For Free event 10 a.m. Sunday at Compuware Arena.

Girls from the 12U team and their coaching staff, as well as Plymouth Whalers, will be on hand to assist girls wanting to come and give hockey a try — all for free.

Players will assist the girls in equipment selection, getting dressed, fitted for skates, and on ice assistance. All equipment is available and will be supplied.

Go to www.maha.org/TryHockey.aspx to register.

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OHL HOCKEY

Lorentz's overtime goal lifts Whalers to victory

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The young Plymouth Whalers have a tough road to hoe in the coming weeks, playing just three of 14 games to open the 2013-14 OHL season at the friendly confines of Compuware Arena.

But it doesn't hurt to get a taste of home cooking, as Plymouth scored in overtime Saturday night to nip Saginaw 4-3 in front of 3,276 fans to improve to 3-5-0.

Forward Zach Lorentz bunted a hybrid shot-pass taken from the left circle by linemate Ryan Hartman (2 goals, 1 assist) past the extended arm of Saginaw goalkeeper Nikita Serebryakov at 1:20 of extra time, giving the Whalers their second power play goal of the night and the all-important two points.

"It was kind of a desperate play," Lorentz said. "We drew it up on the board what we were trying to do on the 4-3 in OT, but Hartman, he tried to take a shot and it got blocked and came right back to him."

"He saw me in front of the net and I just got a stick on the puck and luckily got the goal. I kind of got blocked out there, saw the puck coming and I just put my stick in the air and tried to get a little deflection on it. I saw it go in the net and it was a surreal feeling, it was great to get the win."

Starting the winning play and earning the second assist for Plymouth was defenseman Gianluca Curcuruto.

It took two late goals in the third by Saginaw (3-4-1-0) to send the contest to overtime, largely because of the sensation-



Zach Lorentz (No. 9) displays plenty of emotion after his game-winning goal Saturday night for the Plymouth Whalers. PHOTOS BY RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

al goalkeeping of Plymouth's Alex Nedeljkovic. Through the first two periods, the Whalers were outshot 30-15 but the man they call Ned yielded just one goal (by Eric Locke) to give Plymouth a 3-1 edge after 40 minutes.

"He's played well," Whalers head coach Mike Vellucci said. "He made some big saves when he had to. We were really getting outshot and he's held us in."

Saginaw sliced the deficit to 3-2 on a wrap-around by Nick Moutrey following a Whalers' turnover behind the Plymouth net.

Then, with 7:22 remaining, Sean Callaghan blasted a shot from the right circle off the far post past Nedeljkovic to tie the contest.

Plymouth, coming off two road losses in two nights, took an early 2-0 advantage on goals by Hartman (from Mathieu Henderson) and forward



Gianluca Curcuruto (No. 32) and other Plymouth Whalers players mob Zach Lorentz (No. 9) after his overtime goal.

Francesco Vilardi, netting his first OHL goal on a play set up by Plymouth rookies Bryce Yetman and Yannick Rathgeb.

"It's a hard part of the year," said Vellucci about the rugged early season schedule. "I think we play 15 out of 20 on the road, or 10 of our first 13 on the road. So it's tough, it's a grind. You got to learn to

play on the road... If we can get through this stretch then we'll have a bunch of home games."

Up next for the Whalers is a Friday road game at Sault Ste. Marie, followed by a contest set for 7 p.m. Saturday at Compuware against Kitchener.

Plymouth then goes on a four-game road trip that runs through Oct. 23.

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PREP FOOTBALL - WEEK 6

Last-second field goal stuns Salem gridders

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Having dominated the first half Saturday night, Salem led 20-0 and looked poised to make it two straight victories.

That's not how it played out, to the chagrin of Rocks varsity football coach Kurt Britnell, as visiting South Lyon did all the scoring following halftime—including a 28-yard field goal by Vince Candella as time expired to give the Lions a stunning 22-20 victory.

"We didn't block, and couldn't tackle either," Britnell said. "We let them nickel and dime us in the second half."
Candella's chip kicked capped off a decisive winning rally orchestrated by South Lyon quarterback Anton Skupin.

The Lions had the ball at their own 28-yard line with 29 seconds left and the Rocks Skupin (15-23, 170 yards, two TDs) proceeded to complete clutch passes of 21, 22 and 19 yards to wide receiver Erich Stephenson to set up a first-and-10 from just outside Salem's 10-yard line.

The winning field goal wasn't without controversy. "They snapped the ball before they (officials) blew the whistle," Britnell said. "Obviously, they thought it was simultaneous, but it's a delay of game if you snap the ball before the whistle's blown (to officials) to begin play."
"It should have been a 5-yard penalty,"
Salem (1-5) lost any chance

at a playoff spot with the KLAAs Central Division loss. "Young guys in pressure situations, I don't know," Britnell said. "This hurts. We thought we could maybe run the tables here and get a chance. But now we just got to play football and play it out."
Costly mistakes keyed Salem's slide, keeping the Rocks from adding to their lead. At the top of the list of those miscues were two botched snaps that pushed the Rocks' offense back 13 and 18 yards, respectively, stopping the offense cold.

Touchdown nullified
The biggest miscue was a chop block penalty against a Salem lineman early in the fourth quarter to nullify what

looked like a 25-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Alex Nicholson (9-19, 140 yards) to receiver Michael Hoover.

"They called it on our guard," Britnell said. "But they didn't call it on them (Lions) down there (in the red zone) on one of their conversions and it was the same thing."
Instead of Salem building a two-touchdown lead, the Lions (4-2) hung around long enough to close the gap to 20-19 with 2:39 remaining on a 25-yard pass from Skupin to Stephenson (8-120 yards).

The second half was a complete reversal of the opening 24 minutes, when Salem allowed just 34 yards on defense while building a 20-point lead. Salem took the opening

kickoff and drove the ball 72 yards in 10 plays to score on Nicholson's nine-yard pass to Hoover, who caught four passes for 90 yards (all in the first half). Alex Kendrick added the extra point for a quick 70-advantage.

Kendrick followed up with 35- and 22-yard field goals to make it 13-0 with five minutes to play in the first half. Solid running by Drake Jordan (20-76) and a 13-yard pass to Brenden Sherrod kept those scoring drives moving.

The Rocks then went up 20-0 when Nicholson fired a 20-yard touchdown pass to Sherrod, who caught the ball right under the goal posts in the back of the end zone.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

PREP FOOTBALL GRID PICKS

Week 7	Emons	O'Meara	Smith	Wright
Last week	10-2	0-2	9-3	10-2
Overall	61-17	61-17	48-30	58-20
All games start at 7 p.m. unless noted				
Friday, Oct. 11				
Stevenson (2-4, 1-3) at Salem (1-5, 1-3)	Salem	Stevenson	Stevenson	Salem
Churchill (1-5, 1-3) at Franklin (3-3, 2-2)	Churchill	Churchill	Franklin	Churchill
John Glenn (3-3, 2-2) at Wayne (0-6, 0-4)	John Glenn	John Glenn	John Glenn	John Glenn
Clarenceville (6-0, 4-0) at RU (1-5, 0-4)	Clarenceville	Clarenceville	Clarenceville	Clarenceville
Det. Osborn (2-4) at Garden City (2-4)	Garden City	Garden City	Garden City	Garden City
Thurston (3-3, 2-2) at Crestwood (2-4, 1-3)	Thurston	Thurston	Thurston	Thurston
Canton (6-0, 4-0) at Plymouth (5-1, 3-1)	Canton	Canton	Canton	Canton
Bloomfield (1-5, 1-4) at Farmington (1-5, 1-4)	Farmington	Farmington	Bloomfield	Farmington
N. Farm. (4-2, 3-2) at Royal Oak (2-4, 2-3)	N. Farmington	N. Farmington	N. Farmington	N. Farmington
Saturday, Oct. 12				
both 1 p.m. starts				
Oak Park (5-1, 4-1) at Harrison (5-1, 4-1)	Harrison	Harrison	Oak Park	Harrison
Luh. West. (1-5, 1-3) at Liggett (3-3, 3-3)	Liggett	Liggett	Liggett	Liggett

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Canton sweep past slybers Zebras

Canton's varsity girls volleyball team continues to excel, winning in three sets Tuesday over Wayne Memorial.

The Chiefs, now 22-5 overall and 7-0 in the KLAAs South Division (first place), defeated the Zebras 25-11, 25-15 and 25-11.

"We had a nice team effort tonight that started with good serve receive," Canton coach Steve Johnson said. "We are starting to see huge improvements in parts of our lineup that we have been really working on in practice."

Several players had key roles in the KLAAs South victory.

On the attack, KILL leaders were Lauren Schnack (7), Courtney Kurkie and Annie McDougall (each with five).

Helping set them up at the net were Chelsea Janice and Rachel Buzenberg, with 15 and 11 assists, respectively.

And defense again was strong, spearheaded by Madison Kietly's 12 digs.

Schnack chipped in with seven digs while Hailey Diedrick added five.

The Chiefs will return to KLAAs action Thursday night at Livonia Churchill.

Plymouth falls

Lauren Fallu's 22 digs proved pivotal Tuesday as Livonia Churchill (22-9, 3-2) avenged a loss earlier in the season with a 25-15, 25-17, 25-21 KLAAs South Division triumph Tuesday at Plymouth (18-7-1, 4-4).

Sophomore setter Rayna Yetts added 26 assists and 12 digs, while Natalie Pank and Mackenzie Hamer paced Churchill's hitting attack with 10 and eight kills, respectively.

YOUTH FOOTBALL

P-C Steelers shut out Belleville

The Plymouth-Canton Steelers varsity football team improved to 4-0 on Sept. 28 with a 56-0 victory over Belleville.

Steelers who found the end zone included: Andrew Davis, Aaron Garbarino, Nick Prevo, Chase Cunningham, Chase Eversy, and Joseph Vespaziani.

Blowing open huge holes on the offensive line were Charlie Shaver, Jackson King, Calvin Vos and Chase Willis.

In addition to the punishing ground attack, the Steelers scored on a 60-yard touchdown pass from Ryan Young to AJ Neal, and a Parker Selby scoop-and-score of a Belleville punt blocked by Seth Trozak.

The Steelers shutout was attributed to a swarming defense led by linemen Andrew Cilia and Caden Brant. Vespaziani and Connor Engle kicked off Belleville passes.

SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

should have been able to overcome that and we did not. So I give the credit to Salem. I think they wanted it worse than we do, our boys will learn from it, we'll improve and get better from it."

Zemanski added that the Chiefs "struggled a little bit on the turf with the pace of play that's still no excuse. They deserved to win the game. We'll be ready for them and hopefully we'll see them in district finals."

Connor Cole said the Rocks wanted to play a complete game against the Chiefs, unlike Saturday when a 31-half-minute lead evaporated in a 3-3 deadlock.

"We knew we had to come out strong, they're a tough opponent," Cole said. "We came out and played strong on Saturday, but this time we

finished it out."
The conference title looks like the division crown for the Rocks. But there are still a lot of obstacles ahead.

For example, first-year head coach Duhl expected the Rocks to have another stiff test Wednesday in the association title game (against either Walled Lake Northern or Grand Blanc).

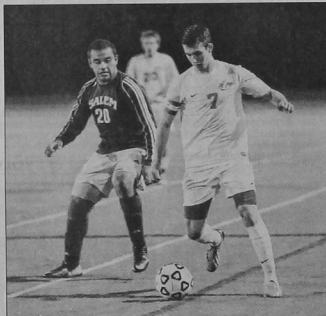
"But we understand there's bigger prizes" Duhl noted. "And this is part of things that we want to accomplish, but no doubt do we want to make a run in the state tournament. We know we'll probably have to see the Chiefs again down the road."

CANTON, SALEM 3. On Saturday on Senior Recognition Day at the CEP varsity soccer stadium, these campus rivals played to a draw for the third time this season.

Salem took an early 1-0 lead before Jason Ren tied the match for Canton. The Rocks countered with two goals to lead 3-1 at halftime but the Chiefs rallied on goals by Andrew Newton and Sam DeLay.

Collecting two assists for the Chiefs (15-0-3) was Hunter Olson while Griffin Parks also assisted on a tally.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Canton's Griffin Parks (No. 7) controls the ball Monday while Salem's Waid Kandah (No. 20) closes in. JOHN KEMSKI / EXPRESS PHOTO

YOUTH FOOTBALL

Team effort lifts varsity Canton Lions

The Canton Lions Varsity youth football team defeated the Ypsilanti Braves 28-0 Sunday to improve to 4-2 for the season.

The defense worked together to shut out the Braves with tackles by Max Mulvaney (two sacks), Jayceon Johnson (two sacks), Ruben Williams, Cody Bartos, Nick Krone, Bradley Tyszkiewicz, Kyle Petruski, Chase Meredith, Noah Brown (one interception), Jayden Dunham, Alex Azzouz, Matthew Steeples (one sack) and Julian Gocaj.

Williams recovered a fumble and returned it to a touchdown while Sam Beydoun, Chris Trappe, Meredith and Mulvaney played well on the line.

The offense was equally as impressive in the win. Ruben Williams contributed an offensive touchdown with a carry in the first quarter. Steeples and Brown also drove up the score with touchdowns.

Tim Wiggins' block sprung Mike McMullen on a nice run with other contributors including running back Jaalen Williams and receiver Spencer Brown.

The Lions look forward to increase their record when they meet the Dearborn Heights Redskins on Oct 19 after a bye week.

JUNIOR VARSITY LIONS. The Canton Lions JV team came out ready to battle the Ypsilanti Braves on Sunday, Oct. 6. The game opened with a Justin Reynolds kick return for a touchdown. Following with TDs went Cameron



Freshmen Malcolm Clements (No. 24) and Darrell Johnson (No. 5) congratulate each other Sunday.

Williams and Van Davis. An interception return by Luca Holden gave Canton another score in the fourth quarter.
The offensive line of Jacob Over, Joe Kacich, Jack Mulvaney, and Sean Britt, held the Braves back while opening holes for running backs Seth Humes, Calvin Brown, Kameron Arnold, Sean Britt and Dalton

Humphrey. Delaney's play was just as stellar as the efforts of 20 Huttons, Blake Prosky, Nick Azzouz, Drew Seth Buse, Tyler Thompson, Andrew Azala, Adam, Tyszkiewicz, Williams, Jerome Menech, Christopher Little, David Kacich, Humphrey and a fumble recovery by Sheldon Liu.

FRESHMAN LIONS: The Canton Lions Freshman team remained undefeated as they earned a 40-19 win over the Ypsilanti Braves.
Darrin Johnson opened the scoring with a touchdown, and after the Braves tied the game, Canton bounced back on two TDs by Ray Anderson.

J.V. FRESHMAN LIONS: The Canton Lions Junior Freshman team lost to the Ypsilanti Braves in Sunday's game.
Linebackers Parker Hillinger and Alex Winowira and the defensive line, including Austin Blackwood, Mohammed Brookins, Noah Jones, Zachary Alder and One Mill made tough tackles.

But those strong efforts, while still could not keep the Braves off the board.
The Lions offense battled, with key outside blocks from Terrence Banks and Randall Moore helping to open the field for long Lions runs.

YOUTH FOOTBALL

P-C Steelers extinguish Meteors; now 5-0

The Plymouth-Canton Steelers varsity football team improved its record to 5-0 on Sunday with an emphatic 30-0 victory over the Western Meteors in a Western Suburban Junior Football League contest played at Wayne Memorial High School.

Andrew Davis ignited the Steelers' score explosion for the Steelers with a long TD run. Davis followed the blocking of Aaron Garbarino, Parker Selby and Billy Ffloh.

AJ Neal scored the next two touchdowns for the Steelers,

following the crunching blocks of Nick Prevo, Seth Trozak and Danny Lanava.

Selby was perfect on all three of his two-point conversion kicks. Grant Harrison scored the Steelers' final TD behind strong blocking from Garbarino and Ryan McCauliffe.

The winners' defensive charge was spearheaded by strong tackling from Lou Baechler, Connor Engle and Sean McCormack. Harrison contributed an interception on a key fourth-down play.

Freshmen win

The Plymouth Canton Steelers freshmen football team upped its record to 5-0 with a 38-19 victory over the Meteors.

The Steelers' 319-yard rushing attack was led by Nate Cain (20 carries for 169 yards, two TDs and two extra-point runs), Luke Janack (74 yards and two TDs), and Andrew Iaquinello, who added an 8-yard TD run.

Iaquinello completed three of five passes for 33 yards and a 28-yard TD strike to Andrew Uhljan.

Offensive linemen Garrett Bair, Mikey Wolff, Joshua Martin, Charlie Tams, Andrew McGuire, John Delaney, and Brendan Church contributed to the scoring on Janack's 48-yard touchdown run.

Defensive leaders were Aidan Tafelski, Lucas Tafelski and Nolan Mathew. Iaquinello set up a scoring drive with a 53-yard interception return and Ryan Fisher had a fumble recovery. Tafelski recovered an onside kick.

ewright@hometownlife.com

RELIGION CALENDAR

OCTOBER

ANNIVERSARY MASS

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. Oct. 20
Location: St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Archbishop Allen Vigneron will serve at this 50th anniversary Mass. Dinner, entertainment and guest speaker are also planned at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Cost: \$60
Contact: 734-423-5950

ANNIVERSARY MASS

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 13
Location: Our Lady of Loretto Catholic Church, 17116 Olympia, Redford

Details: Bishop Francis Reiss celebrates the 60th anniversary Mass. Anniversary luncheon is at 1 p.m. at the Italian American Club, 39200 Five Mile, Livonia. Tickets are \$25 and are available at the church rectory
Contact: 313-534-9000

BLOOD DRIVE

Time/Date: 12 p.m. Oct. 14
Location: K of C Council Monahan Hall, 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Donors will receive free Guaraní Ice Cream instead of the traditional juice and cookies. Call to make an appointment to donate blood
Contact: Dan at 734-591-3237

FILM

Time/Date: 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10
Location: Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington, 25301 Halsted, Farmington Hills

Details: The documentary film, "Two Who Dared," screens, \$5 donation
Contact: 248-478-7272

LIVING ROSARY

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 16
Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: Candlelit recitation of the rosary
Contact: 734-261-1455

MASS OF ANOINTING

Time/Date: 1 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 19
Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: The annual Mass is designed for Catholics who are in need of physical, mental, or spiritual healing. Those planning to attend will register with the church office
Contact: 734-261-5331

POMEGRANATE GUILD

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13
Location: Prentis Apartment Community Room, located on 10 Mile, east of Greenfield, Oak Park

Details: The group, which studies and creates Judaic needlework, will prepare a Purim table display and finish Chanukah rummy
Contact: Judy Galperin at 248-655-5327

QUILT SEWING BLITZ

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12

Location: Timothy Church, 8820 Wayne Road, at Joy, in Livonia
Details: Quilts will be constructed for Lutheran World Relief. Instruction in cutting and sewing will be available
Contact: 734-427-2290; www.timothy.lutheranchurch.com

ROSARY RALLY

Time/Date: Noon-1 p.m. Oct. 12
Location: Madonna Nationality, located at Levan and I-96, in Livonia

Details: The Rev. Bernard Luedtke will lead the praying of the rosary
Contact: 734-591-0360

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11, and 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12
Location: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, between Newburgh and Haggerty, Livonia

Details: \$2 donation for preview sale on Thursday; \$3 bag sale (bags will be provided) and half-price sale on Saturday
Contact: 734-464-0211

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11 and 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Oct. 12
Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills

Details: \$3 and \$6 bag sale on Saturday. In addition to clothing and baked goods, sale items will include small appliances, furniture, books, linens, bedding, dishes and other household goods
Contact: 248-553-3380

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 15 and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 16
Location: First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial, west of Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: This fundraiser for a youth mission trip to Appalachia will include household items, clothing, jewelry, books, toys and much more for sale. Bag sale starts at noon on Wednesday
Contact: 734-453-5280

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Oct. 11 and 9 a.m.-noon, Oct. 12
Location: The Birmingham Temple, 28611 W. 12 Mile, on the south side of the street, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Farmington Hills

Details: The sale will include a specialty boutique, home wares household, electronics, toys, books, home decor, linens, shoes, clothing, furniture, sporting goods and more. Cash only. Items will be marked up 20 percent on opening day. A bag sale will be held on Saturday
Contact: 248-447-1410

TRUNK OR TREAT

Time/Date: 6:30-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 23
Location: Presbyterian Church of Farmington, 26165 Farmington Road, at 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Youngsters wear costumes and trick or treat from car trunk to trunk in the church parking lot
Contact: 248-474-6170

Location: St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia
Details: "Prasitelect," will include performances by five praise bands, with free will donations to help three local charities
Contact: 734-422-6038

CONCERT

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 17
Location: Congregation Shaare Zedek, 27375 Bell, Southfield

Details: Laurie Berkner will bring her "The You & Me Tour" to the Congregation. Berkner plays frequently on "Nick Jr." and has released eight CDs, and three DVDs. Tickets range from \$18-\$118 per person. The VIP \$118 ticket includes a meet and greet, gift bag and best seats in the house. Buy tickets on line or by calling the Congregation
Contact: 248-257-5544; shaarezedek.org/education/laurie-berkner

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Men's Bible study
Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.
Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville
Contact: John Shulenberg at 734-464-0491

New Life Christian Church
Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m. Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays
Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville
Contact: 734-846-4615

Our Lady of Loretto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday
Location: Six Mile and Beech Day, Redford
Details: Scripture study
Contact: 313-534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday
Location: School library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Catholic author and Bible scholar, Gary Michuta, leads a study of Peter
Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200, or www.livonia.stmichael.org

Ward Presbyterians

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays
Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville
Details: Learners' Bible study is held
Contact: 248-374-5920

FAMILY COMMUNITY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday
Location: The Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal for school-aged children
Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

FOOD BANK

New Hope Church
Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only
Location: 44815 Cherry Hill, Canton

Contact: Call pastor Ransy Brown to schedule an appointment at 734-270-2528.

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, MOPS: 7-8:30 p.m. first and third Thursday
MOPNext: Both programs run September-May

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Mothers of Preschoolers is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners;

MOPNext supports mothers of school-aged children
Contact: Rebekah Creeden at 734-522-6830 for MOPS and Susan Magner at 248-478-3643 for MOPNext details

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays
Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.
Contact: Amy at 313-837-3084 or Kristen at 734-452-0167

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday
Location: Dunk N' Dug, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.
Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER

Nardin Park United Methodist Church
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday
Location: 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests.
Contact: 248-476-8860

St. Edith Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday
Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back
Details: Music, singing, prayer
Contact: Grace at 734-464-1896, Shirley at 734-464-3656 or Geri at 734-464-8906

Passages

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PETERSON, GLORIA M. (PARZUCHOWSKI)

Age 82, passed away October 6, 2013 surrounded by her loving family. She was born on May 6, 1931, in Hamtramck, daughter of the late Michael & Anna Garmick. She is survived by her loving sons: Kim (Joanne), Chris (Sue), Paul (Kathleen), Scott (Mary), John (Linda), and Steven (Michelle) Parzuchowski, and her loving daughters: Gail (Dale) French, and Lynn (Ken) Genter. She is also survived by 22 grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and her loving nephews and nieces: Michael (Karen) and Dale (Wendy) Garmick. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Leo in 1977 and her second husband Arnold Peterson in 2005. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, October 9, from 2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. with a Rosary at 7:00 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. A funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, October 10, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 830 S. Lafayette, South Lyon. Online guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com

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May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

JACOBS, JOHN E.

October 5, 2013, age 83. Graduate of the University of Michigan. Spent his entire career with Ford Motor Company in the Detroit area and in Melbourne, Australia. Flew the world over with the Nomads Travel Club. Beloved husband of Carolyn. Dear father of Jeff (Cynthia) Jacobs, Nancy Jacobs and Linda Barlow. Grandfather of Ben and Chris (Beth) Jacobs, Heather, Scott and Amanda Barlow. Brother of Jean (Bill) Demich. Memorial Service Friday 11 a.m. at St. Johns Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon Road, Plymouth. Contributions to Crossroads of the Jacobs Parkmans Dissective Fellowship Fund. Share your memories at www.shcraider-howell.com

LEGGETT, FAYE ELIZABETH

Passed away at home with her favorite view of the beautiful Lake Huron on October 3, 2013, surrounded by family, friends, and her four-legged guardian, Harley. Faye was known as "Mom" to many people who crossed her path in life. Faye's love of life and entertaining family, friends, and strangers fueled the energy that she put into everything she did. The endless talents she shared with those around her included her famous "Oma's Peanut Brittle" at Christmas time, her love of gardening and her ability to whip up a meal in a matter of minutes. She cherished the friendships and memories made with her extended "Ford Family." She enjoyed her regular gatherings with the Red Hat ladies. Faye would light up a room when she walked into it. Within minutes of meeting her, you felt like family. She had a welcoming heart to anyone and everyone. She is preceded in death by her loving husband, Paul and her favorite son-in-law, Gary Lee Sefton. Faye is survived by her daughter, Donna Faye Sefton; her son, Chris; her favorite Danish exchange student/son, Kaare Langkilde and many beloved nieces, nephews, and family friends. Visitation will be from 1-7 on Sunday at the Pomeroy Funeral Home in Lexington. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday at the funeral home, with visiting from 10-11. Memorials in Faye's memory can be made to United Hospice of Marlette or Sanilac County Humane Society. www.pomeroyfuneralhomes.com

May you find comfort in Family and Friends

Your invitation to worship

Grid of church advertisements including: CATHOLIC (St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church, Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church), EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN (Ward Church), LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD (Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church), CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE (Plymouth Church of the Nazarene), ASSEMBLIES OF GOD (A Church for Seasoned Saints Open Arms Church), LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD (St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & School), PRESBYTERIAN (Fellowship Presbyterian Church).

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



Roy Orbison



John Denver



Johnny Rivers



Publicity photos show Dennis Charles of Garden City as Roy Orbison and one half of the Everly Brothers. Joe Tackett of Lake Orion impersonates John Denver, Johnny Rivers and one half of the Everly Brothers.

TRIBUTE ARTISTS MAKE MUSIC LEGENDS COME ALIVE

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Dennis Charles has portrayed Roy Orbison in tribute shows from Las Vegas, Nev., to Hawaii, Texas to Alabama, Atlantic City to Detroit and beyond.

This fall, the longtime local musician brings his act home to Garden City.

Charles and a handful of other tribute artists kicked off a monthly series of performances September at the Straight Farmhouse in Garden City.

"It was good," said Charles, sizing up the first shows of the season. "It's the first time I've done anything in that part of town."

He and other impersonators will return to the farmhouse at 8 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 20, to sing songs of the 1950s and '60s made famous by Orbison, Brenda Lee, the Everly Brothers, John Denver and others. Tickets are \$20. The Farmhouse is located at 6221 Merriman, 734-838-0650.

"You're selling memories. You take them (the audience) back to when they were 14," said Charles, adding that the act appeals mostly to the age

50 and over crowd.

"When you're doing an impersonation, you either look like someone or sound like someone. When I sing, I sing exactly like the record. I don't change anything. When people out there are listening to you, they are hearing that record in their head," Charles said. "You have to sing it exactly the way they sing it. When you do that, it's half the battle, because you have to sound exactly like the record."

Longtime musician

Charles, 64, has had years of practice perfecting his Orbison routine.

The native Detroit and oldest of eight siblings quit Chadsey High School when he was 16 years old to help support his family after his ailing father could no longer work. Charles had already played in a band and recorded for Pioneer Records for two years, before he took on a job at a bank in downtown Detroit.

"I was 17 and making \$98 a week at the bank," Charles recalled. "I answered an ad that said lead singer wanted for band. I auditioned and the next week I started singing with this band, making \$25 a

night cash. It really helped because my father was ill. I started singing in bars at 17 and I sang all around."

After a one-month stint in the U.S. Army — and discharge because of a physical problem — Charles was back singing with a band called Dave and the Trebletones. He worked impersonations into their shows.

"At that time I did a lot of Elvis. I did everybody," he said. "I didn't do the tribute thing until later on. We were working in bars, so we did everyone from Led Zeppelin to Elvis. I have a lot of range and can do a lot of different vocalists."

He started his own band, Dennis Charles and the Flashbacks, which performed from the mid-1970s to the late 1980s. While working as a club manager and disc jockey in 1988, Charles heard about an audition for an impersonator show in Las Vegas, Nev. A year later, he was signed on and began performing a tribute to Orbison in Las Vegas, on tour throughout the country and eventually for an 11-month stint in Hawaii.

"The best review I ever got was that of the California Mid-State

Fair in 1989 with Johnny Cash. We were one stage over from him. During a break I was leaning up against the bleachers, looking straight at his stage when he was singing and he sees me standing there and salutes me, and gives me the OK sign," Charles said, adding that Cash had once toured with the real Orbison. "I was so excited, I went and called my mom."

Out of the business

When he quit the show in 1995, Charles returned to Michigan and managed a club for 10 years.

"There was a time for two years that I didn't sing a note," he said. "I was still doing Roy, every once and a while I would get a call."

He signed on with Legends Live, which promotes tribute singers and bands, left the club and began singing more frequently. A few years ago he ran into a friend, Joe Tackett, who impersonates Johnny Rivers and John Denver. Both perform for Legends Live and appear individually in shows throughout southeastern Michigan. Together they also sing as the Everly Brothers.

They decided it was time to

THE SUPER NOVAS! ROCK & ROLL TRIBUTE SHOW

When: Doors open at 7 p.m.; show runs 8-9:45 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 20
Where: Straight Farmhouse, 6221 Merriman, between Ford Road and Warren Road, Garden City
Details: Impersonators will sing tributes to Roy Orbison, the Everly Brothers, John Denver, Brenda Lee and more. Includes pizza and pop
Admission: \$20, cash only
Contact: Dennis Charles at 313-400-5689

start their own tribute show.

"Everyone who's in our show also does their own shows. We all do different things in different places," Charles said. "But I wanted to do something in Garden City because I've lived here so long."

Charles also performs on Friday nights at Luciano's Italian Restaurant in Clinton Township. For more information about their tribute shows, call 313-400-5689 or email ZLT@Comcast.net.

GALLERY@VT

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, during public performances, or by appointment, through Oct. 28
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: The 21st annual Canton Fine Arts Exhibition includes 47 pieces, including paintings, sculptures, mixed media, charcoal drawings, pastels, ceramics and photography.
Contact: 734-838-0650, Ext. 8

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Oct. 26
Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: Terry "Under the (Inspired) Influence" includes works by Anita Andersons, Renee M. Dooley, Mary Fortuna, Diane Hawkey, Leanne Meixner, Juana Moore, Kate Paul, and Mike Sivak. The show will offer visitors a glimpse of what inspires the artists and compels them to create.
Contact: 248-344-0497; http://www.northvillearts.org

DANCE MUSIC HALL

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Oct. 20
Location: 350 Madison Ave., Detroit
Details: The Shanghai Ballet performs the classic Chinese folktale, "The Butterfly Lovers." Tickets range from \$30-\$250 at the Music Hall box office or at ticket-

master.com

Contact: 313-887-8500

FILM

MAIN THEATRE

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Oct. 16

Location: 118 N. Main, at 11 Mile, Royal Oak

Details: The Committee To Ban Fracking in Michigan and Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation present the film, "Gasland II" along with a Q and A with film director Josh Fox. The event is free

Contact: www.letsbanfracking.org; www.landmarktheatres.com

MJR DIGITAL CINEMAS

Time/Date: "The Crows," Oct. 12-13; "Turbo," Oct. 19-20 and "Despicable Me 2," Oct. 26-27

Location: Nine MJR theaters, including the Westland Grand Digital Cinema 16, 6800 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: Free fall children's film festival; parents pay \$1. Advance tickets are not available, and tickets are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis until theater is at capacity

Contact: 734-298-6257

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11, and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 12-13

Location: 760 Penningman Ave., Plymouth
Details: "Turbo," admission \$3

GET OUT! CALENDAR

Coming up: "The Spectacular Now," 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Oct. 18-19, and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 20; "Planes," 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25, and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 26-27

Shocktober Series: "The Mummy" with Boris Karloff, Oct. 10; "Phantom of the Opera," with Nelson Eddy and Susanna Foster, Oct. 17; "Abbott & Costello Meet Frankenstein," with Lon Chaney Jr. and Bela Lugosi. Shows start at 7 p.m. Admission is \$3

Contact: 313-453-0870; www.penn-theatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Oct. 11 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Oct. 12

Location: 17360 Lahser, north of Grand River Avenue, Detroit

Details: Three Stooges Festival with "Sharon My Scotch," "Disorder in the Court," "Uncivil Warriors," "Three Little Pigskins," "Brideless Groom," and "The Hot Scots." Tickets are \$5

Coming up: See "The Shining" with Jack Nicholson and Shelley Duvall, 11 p.m. Oct. 18. Tickets are \$5

Contact: 313-537-2560

HISTORICAL HISTORICAL HALLOWE'EN

Time/Date: Every half hour from 6:30-9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 6:30-8 p.m. on Sundays, weekends through October
Location: Greenfield Village, 20900

Oakman Blvd., Dearborn

Details: The Halloween event is modeled after the holiday as it was celebrated during the first half of the 20th century and includes a jack-o-lantern-lined path, costumed characters, storytelling and 1930s cartoons. Tickets are \$12.75 for members and \$15 for non-members, children under 2 are free

Contact: 313-9872-6001; www.thehenryford.org

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday-Sunday

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: The current exhibit, B4TV, highlights leisure activities for families and individuals engaged in before television. The exhibit runs through Nov. 10. Admission \$5 for adults and \$2 for students 6-17

Tea Time: The annual Masquerade Tea runs 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 3. Liz Kerstens, museum executive director, will portray Mary Seeley Davis, who was a Plymouth resident from the late 1820s-1895. Kerstens also will show her extensive collection of Victorian mourning items. The event includes a Victorian-style tea. Tickets are \$20 for members and \$25 for nonmembers if purchased by Oct. 18, after that date add \$5 to the price. Get tickets at plymouth-history.org

Contact: www.plymouthhistory.org; 734-455-8940

MUSIC

BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. the third Saturday of the month through May

Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: The event includes open mic performers and featured musicians. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Annual memberships are \$25 for individuals and include free monthly admission

Contact: Scott Ludwig at BPSresident@aol.com

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF DETROIT

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18

Location: The Jazz Cafe at Music Hall, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit

Details: Classical Jam opens the Society's inDepth music series. Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$40 the day of the concert.

Contact: www.chambermusicdetroit.org or call 248-855-6070

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

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

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge No. 1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres.

Contact: 734-453-1780 or email to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights

PICTURE IT: Fun Fall

Submit a photo of you having fun in the fall. You could win a \$25 gift certificate to Sky Zone Indoor Trampoline Park in Canton.

*Winner's parents may need to complete a waiver and registration online at skyzone.com before admission.

Fall is FUN!

Join Scoop's Birthday Club!

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ Zip: _____
 Date of Birth: _____
 Boy or Girl: _____
 Email: _____
 Phone: _____
 *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

What's the Difference?

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



Answers: 1. Leaf upside down 2. Missing "school" on building 3. Tree leaves are pink 4. Exhaust coming out of bus 5. Missing cloud

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

VRHTEAS EMIT

Did You Know?

LEAVES THAT TURN RED AND PURPLE DO SO THANKS TO THE PRESENCE OF SUGAR FROM SAP THAT IS TRAPPED IN THE LEAVES.

Autumn Word Find

Just in time for the fall season, find the hidden words in the puzzle.

APPLES	CLASSROOM	LEAVES
AUTUMN	COOL	SCHOOL
BRISK	FALL	SEASON
CHANGES	HARVEST	TREES

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

Courtesy of Metro Creative

Fire Prevention Month

Word about Safety: You can help mom and dad keep your home safe.

1. Never play with matches or lighters.
2. Remind your parents to install new batteries in smoke detectors.
3. Have home fire drills.
4. Know who to call in case there is an emergency.



All Dressed Up and on the Go!



Scoop hanging out with new friends at the Northville Victorian Fest.



Kurt Kuban Northville Record Editor with his two sons Kaden 6, and Kameron, 9.

Last month's contest question

"What is your favorite movie?"
 Sydney won tickets to Emagine Theatre. Her favorite movie is "Teen Beach Movie" by The Disney Channel
Sydney Spiridon, Garden City, 8



BIRTHDAY WISHES

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Ella Carlson
Berkley
10/8 | Sawyer Spiridon
Garden City
10/27 |
| Damian Born
Highland
10/11 | Grace Ho
Farmington
10/28 |
| Paulina Wrobel
Northville
10/16 | Khloe Flynn
Novi
10/28 |

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



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 Chrys 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

Mail contest entries, birthday forms and talent submissions to:

Scoop the Newshound, Observer & Eccentric Media, 615 W. Lafayette, Detroit MI 48226 or email your submission to cbjordan@hometownlife.com by **November 29**

Winning submissions will be announced in a future Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

HEARTY MEALS FOR CHILLY EVENINGS



Fall classics a taste treat for many

Brisk autumn evenings call for warm, homemade meals that bring the family together around the dinner table. Dishes that deliver savory flavors are sure to win over their hearts, as well as warm them.

If your taste buds call for a fall classic, cuddle up with a piping hot bowl of chili. The sweetness of brown sugar complements the blend of fresh garlic and Italian sausage in this recipe for Chiliville Chili. You can customize the robust flavor of this dinner-time staple by using mild, sweet or hot varieties of Italian Ground Sausage. Or try a kid favorite, Easy Sausage Pizza, which is served up without the hassle and fuss of standard homemade pizza recipes. Grab the garlic bread and, please, don't forget the Parmesan. You'll need them for these delicious recipes for Italian Sausage Rigatoni, Italian All Natural Ground Sausage Lasagna and Italian Meatballs.

Savory Sausage Additions

For those looking to add more flavor to their meals, head over to the sausage section at the local grocer. Here are some great tips and reasons for adding this hearty, bold protein to your family's favorite dishes:

- » Swap for spice
Add more flavor to your favorite meat meals by replacing half the ground beef with ground sausage.
- » Go for convenience
For those looking for added flavor without the hassle, go with ground sausage. Since there's no need to remove the casing it's added convenience.
- » Find your flavor
Many ground sausages come in additional flavors, so pick your favorite. Look for hot, mild or sweet varieties of ground Italian.
- » For more recipes, visit www.johnsonvillekitchens.com.

— Courtesy of Family Features

CHILIVILLE CHILI

Yield: 10 to 12 servings

- 16 ounces ground Italian sausage (mild, sweet or hot)
- 1 pound ground beef
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 3 celery ribs, chopped
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 3 cans (14.5 ounces each) diced tomatoes with green peppers and onions
- 2 cans (16 ounces each) kidney beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 can (14.5 ounces) beef broth
- 1 can (6 ounces) tomato paste
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1/2 crushed red pepper flakes
- Cheddar cheese, shredded (optional)

In large saucepan, cook sausage and ground beef over medium heat until meat is no longer pink; drain. Add onion, celery and garlic. Cook and stir for 5 minutes or until tender. Stir in tomatoes, beans, broth, tomato paste, brown sugar, chili powder, Worcestershire sauce, cumin and red pepper flakes. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 20 minutes. Sprinkle with cheese if you like and serve immediately.



ITALIAN SAUSAGE RIGATONI

Yield: 6 servings

- 1 package (19 ounces) Johnsonville Mild Italian Sausage Links, grilled
- 1 pound rigatoni pasta
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 large sweet red pepper, chopped
- 1 jar (26 ounces) pasta sauce of your preference
- 2 tablespoons Italian parsley, chopped

Cook sausage links according to package directions. Meanwhile, cook rigatoni according to package directions; drain and set aside. In a large skillet, heat olive oil until hot. Add garlic; sauté for 30 seconds or until golden. Add red peppers; sauté for 2 minutes or until crisp-tender. Cut sausage into 1/4-inch coin slices; add to skillet. Stir in pasta sauce; heat through. Add pasta; toss to combine. Sprinkle with parsley. Serve immediately.



EASY SAUSAGE PIZZA

Yield: 6 servings

- 8 ounces ground Italian sausage (mild, sweet or hot)
- 1 cup pizza sauce
- 1 pre-baked packaged pizza crust (12-inch)
- 1 1/2 shredded mozzarella cheese, divided
- 1/2 cup green pepper, chopped
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil, optional

If using ground sausage, pinch sausage into dime-size pieces. If using links, remove casings and also pinch into dime-size pieces. Spread sauce over crust; sprinkle with 1 cup cheese. Add Italian sausage pieces and green pepper. Top with remaining cheese. Bake according to crust package directions or until sausage is no longer pink (160°F) and cheese is melted. For finishing touch, drizzle with olive oil before cutting, if desired.



ITALIAN MEATBALLS

Yield: 6 servings

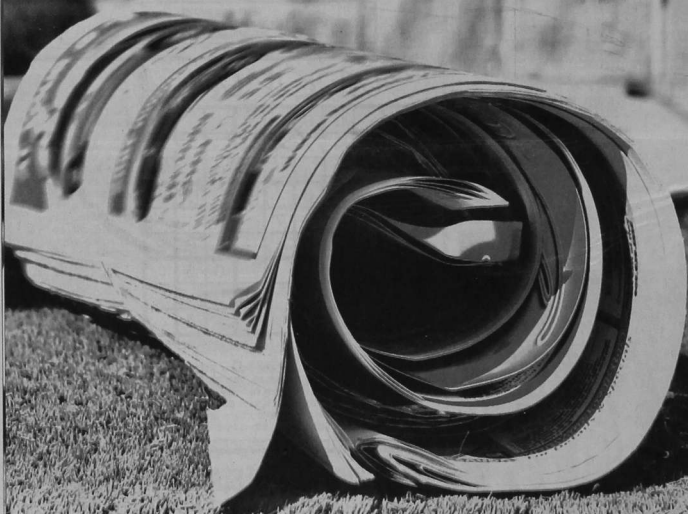
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 1/2 cup dry bread crumbs
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan Cheese
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 cup onion, finely chopped
- 16 ounces mild ground Italian sausage

Preheat oven to 350°F. In a large bowl, combine the egg, bread crumbs, cheese, milk and onion. If using sausage links, remove from casings. Add sausage to bread crumb mixture and mix well. Shape into 20 meatballs; arrange on shallow baking pan. Bake for 20 minutes or until meatballs are cooked through (160°F). Serve with favorite sauce and spaghetti.

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