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SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2014 • hometownlife.com



KATE WINSLET

Learn how the Oscar-winning actress and mother of three balances it all.

Laloy touts promising year for rebounding township

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton rang in a promising new year amid indications of an improving economy, a slight increase in property values, efforts to ease water rates and initial steps toward alleviating Ford Road traffic congestion.

Despite lingering financial challenges, Supervisor Phil Laloy seemed optimistic—downright bullish on Canton—during an upbeat interview in his township hall office. His

sunny disposition defied the wintry day outside a third-floor window.

It's hard to imagine Canton could have a more vocal supporter than this former U.S. Marine and one-time soccer dad who rode his popularity as a part-time township trustee to the Michigan House of Representatives and back, serving as supervisor since late 2008.

"I've always been upbeat," Laloy said. "I've always seen the glass as half full."

With that backdrop, Laloy,



Phil Laloy is optimistic as Canton starts a new year.

2014, a new beginning, the year Laloy has renewed his vows to help the community continue to rebound, despite

his administration and his township board colleagues have weathered economic adversity that, due to falling property values, has cost Canton nearly \$20 million since 2007.

Yet this is the beginning, the year Laloy has renewed his vows to help the community continue to rebound, despite

another round of unpaid full-time wages for employees he said "have made such sacrifices" by accepting concessions during challenging times.

Here's a snapshot of what Laloy said looms for Canton:

Financial matters

Relying on conservative estimates from Finance Director Wendy Trumbull, Laloy said property values are expected to inch up 1.25 percent

See YEAR, Page A2

Canton firefighters battle fire in garage

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton firefighters battled a pickup truck fire that spread to a garage about 8 p.m. Monday at the Wethersfield condominium complex near Palmer and Haggerty roads, Fire Chief Joshua Meier said.

Firefighters fought the fire from inside the condominium and managed to limit the worst of the damage to the garage and the truck, Meier said.

"Our firefighters made an attack on the truck and the garage at the same time," he said.

The fire apparently started in the engine compartment of the pickup truck and appeared to have been accidental, fire officials said.

"The truck was parked in the driveway up near the garage," Meier said.

See FIRE, Page A2

ONE LAST LOOK

2013 a year of achievement, personal loss in Canton

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton residents and employees achieved milestones and suffered heartbreaking losses in 2013, while elected leaders welcomed signs the township's economic challenges may be easing.

Property values snapped a downward spiral and developers ramped up plans to build hundreds of new homes, while real estate experts pointed to strong competition among buyers as Canton's housing stock shrank.

Bartley Patterson, general manager of RE/MAX Classic, told the Observer in August that some buyers paid higher-than-appraised prices for homes to thwart their competitors. "It definitely is a good market right now," he said.

Canton witnessed an uptick in new businesses, while community organizations, such as the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, developed a blueprint to enhance the township's cultural image, partly by laying the groundwork to convert the old Ford factory in Cherry Hill Village into an arts complex.

Canton officials hired a consulting firm to develop a marketing plan amid a renewed push for economic development, while the Canton Public Library and Canton Leisure Services boosted the community's image by earning national awards.

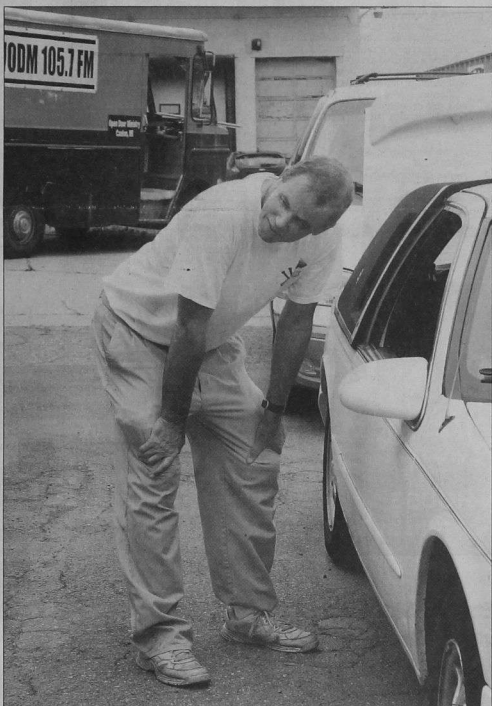
Meeting the need

For those left behind by an improving economy, organizations such as the Open Door Ministry food pantry responded with untiring compassion by marking its 10th year helping the area's poorest families.

Canton was named Michigan's safest place among communities with more than 75,000 people by Congressional Quarterly Press as the Canton Public Safety Department racked up more accolades by outside analysts.

Still, some residents endured sometimes bizarre incidents. Some families in Central Park South had to seek medical help for their dogs after someone laced bits of food with needles, pins and other sharp objects and placed them along walking areas.

Child predator Jesse Hermann, 34, was sent to prison for 6-20 years after he tried through Facebook to arrange a sexual encounter with a Canton mother and her 3-year-old daughter, while 57-year-old Robert Kahler was imprisoned for 30-60 years for sexually molesting a 9-year-old girl



Open Door Ministry director Steve Darr talks with a client who visited the food pantry for aid. (BILL BRESLER) STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

he befriended in his neighborhood. Plymouth-Canton Community Schools welcomed a new superintendent, Michael Meisen, during the same year local voters approved a \$114.4 million bond proposal for a new middle school, technology improvements and new buses. The district's culinary team defended its state title for a second year, one of many honors the district accumulated during the year.

Canton's fire and police departments saw a far-reaching turnover among high-

ranking officials, but officials called the transition seamless. Debra Newsome became only the second woman ever to achieve the position of deputy police chief.

In the fire department, Wendy Murphy-Stevens made history as the first woman ever named Canton Firefighter of the Year.

Canton marked the 10th anniversary of the death of Gordon "Lew" Stevens—the only township police officer ever to die in the line of duty after another vehicle struck his patrol car.

"He always thought you should treat people the way you would want your family to be treated," police Lt. Scott Hughesdon said.

Meanwhile, now-retired police Lt. Jerry Hardesty received a one-year probation sentence for willful neglect of duty amid allegations he had stolen a department rifle. Longtime Canton Community Foundation President Joan Noricks retired from her longtime position, now occupied by Michelle Malamis.

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Retooled festival is now 'all about ice'

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

In a year when the Plymouth Ice Festival is going back to basics, organizers of the 2014 festival know exactly who the star is going to be.

The ice festival organizer James Gietzen, who replaced Sam Walton as the producer of the festival, admitted his first year running the event would be "something of a rebuilding year," but says visitors—and there are expected to be thousands every day—will like what they see.

The Plymouth Ice Festival, the city's 32nd such festival, kicks off Friday and runs through Sunday, Jan. 12.

"We've adopted the saying, 'It's all about the ice,'" Gietzen said. "We're trying to do bigger ice sculptures, because the people like to see that. Hopefully, we'll have some bigger ice and some better ice."

While visitors will have 24/7 access to the sculptures that dot downtown Plymouth and Kellogg Park, they'll also get the chance to see some of the favorite attractions of the festival.

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Carving legend Ted Wakar of Canton Township at work at a previous ice festival. FILE PHOTO



PRICE: \$1

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
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Volume 39 • Number 57

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YEAR

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this year – not as quickly as local officials had earlier hoped, but an increase nonetheless.

LaJoy, Trumbull and other officials have worked to avert sudden financial crises by adopting a multi-year budgeting process that has served as a spending blueprint. They also have begun to chip away at legacy costs that had topped \$70 million in 2012, with a progress report due early this year.

Canton also has benefited from one-time revenues. Just last week, the township received \$417,000 from a developer who bought the former youth center property at Michigan Avenue and Sheldon Road.

Road work

LaJoy, after waging a decade-long battle for funding to improve traffic-choked Ford Road, said Canton this year will begin working with state and county officials after receiving a \$5 million grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation. State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, announced the news in mid-December.

The first phase is expected to involve the paving of Lotz Road between Ford and Cherry Hill roads, followed by other efforts to transform Ford Road into a boulevard. A specific timetable for the work isn't known, but Colbeck lauded LaJoy's untiring efforts to fix the problem.

"This funding came about in large part because of his efforts," Colbeck said.

In other road news, a traffic signal is expected during the first half of this year at the beleaguered Beck-Saltz intersection and Wayne County Commissioner Shannon Price has said Beck is slated for a widening project, though not until next year, between Warren and Ann Arbor roads.

Moreover, plans are expected to move ahead this year to widen Cherry Hill between Canton Center and Beck to accommodate two new schools.

"We did make a tremendous economic development push when things were bad."

PHIL LAJOY
Canton Township supervisor

Water rates

LaJoy said Canton is hopeful it will receive word this year on the feasibility of adding water storage to a facility owned by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department on land southeast of Joy and Morton Taylor roads. If the plan works, LaJoy said, it could help offset local water usage during peak hours and begin to soften water rate hikes.

"We're going to do everything we can to be creative in trying to reduce water rates," he said.

Economic growth

LaJoy takes pride in Canton's comparatively low vacancy rate among commercial properties, which he said "are near full occupancy" as the township continues to rebound from economic woes.

"We did make a tremendous economic development push when things were bad," he said.

Already, Busch's Fresh Food Market is working to open its store early this year in the old Farmer Jack site southeast of Cherry Hill and Canton Center roads. Bagger Dave's is bringing a new restaurant to Canton Center, just north of Antonio's Cucina Italiana, while La-Z-Boy is working on its new site on Ford west of Lilley.

Canton has armed itself with a new marketing study developed by OHM Advisors, Inc., in hopes of luring other companies.

"We've got that study," LaJoy said, "and we're going to use it."

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FIRE

Continued from Page A1

The fire occurred in the 1900 block of Hawks Nest Court, fire officials said.

Firefighters arriving on the scene found the truck fully engulfed in flames with the fire extending into the condo's garage.

The fire was quickly brought under control. Initial damage is estimated at \$20,000 to the structure and

\$15,000 to the vehicle.

During the fire, Canton firefighter paramedics also were dispatched to three emergency medical calls, including a cardiac arrest and an accident involving minor injuries at Ford and Morton Taylor roads, Meier said.

Canton called in extra firefighters and also received mutual aid help from Plymouth Township to help with the other calls.

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Sculptures, events, to keep visitors to annual Plymouth Ice Festival busy

Here's a list of things to do during the 32nd annual Plymouth Ice Festival, which begins Friday:

Carving contests

The 2014 Plymouth Ice Festival partners with local colleges and universities to produce the college carving competition, sponsored by Genisys Credit Union, in Kellogg Park. Watch live carving by college student participants as they compete to win a place on the podium in their sculpture category. All judging is done by experienced and professional judges.

» Saturday, Jan. 11 – College Individual Carving Competition
» Saturday, Jan. 12 – College Team Carving Competition

Interactive ice

Get your picture taken with some of the most amazing ice creations around. Make sure you see them all. There are a number of opportunities to take a "selfie" with some remarkable and unique ice sculptures.

Fire and ice

See two basic elements of our world light up the night sky in downtown Plymouth. Fire and ice are combined to create a dazzling display both Friday and Saturday. Towers are lit at approximately 7:30 p.m. each evening and will burn for approximately two hours.

Main Stage

The Community Financial Main Stage features live entertainment, awards ceremonies, presentations and music throughout the weekend of the festival.

Family fun

The Blue Care Network of Michigan Sports Family Fun Zone, presented by Sun & Snow Sports of Plymouth, gives visitors a chance to bring the family down to Kellogg Park for the opportunity to try cross country skiing. Seasoned professionals will demonstrate and explain the gear and theory of cross country skiing and then give the kids a chance to try it for themselves. This feature is open during all open hours of the event.

Hot Spot

The DTE Energy Hot Spot Warming Tent, in The Gathering across from Kellogg Park, allows visitors to warm up in style. The Hot Spot features more than 20 local vendors and businesses, product

demonstrations, a sitting area to take a load off your feet and – most importantly – lots of heat. The Hot Spot Warming Tent is open during all the official open hours of the event.

Festival food

The Ice Festival has more than 15 different options for dining, all conveniently located within a few steps of the main festival area. Enjoy festival favorites, such as elephant ears, popcorn, roasted almonds and hot chocolate. All food sales on-site can be enjoyed in the warmth of the DTE Energy Hot Spot, where tables and chairs are provided all weekend long.

Looking for a meal indoors? There are so many wonderful options within downtown Plymouth, from fine dining to a quick bite, candy, cookies and ice cream. Check out www.downtownplymouth.org for a complete restaurant listing.

Party Trailer

The newest and coolest video games will be available in the MVP Game Party Trailer on Penman. It's an enclosed (and warm) custom trailer with four 50-inch screens.

Party Lot

For the biggest party in downtown Plymouth, look to the E.G. Nick's Party Lot on Forest Avenue for cold beer, drink specials and live music. The tent opens at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and Big Ray and the Motor City Kings will perform from 8 p.m. until midnight both nights.

Visitors can also hang out on the front patio to catch some heat (from portable heaters) at the Swana Ice Lounge, featuring a bar made from blocks of ice. The lounge on Forest opens at 11 a.m. Friday and Saturday and at noon Sunday, Jan. 12.

On screen

The Penn Theatre on Penman Avenue in downtown Plymouth hosts showings of *Frozen*, at 7 p.m. Friday, 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12, and 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16. All seats \$3.

For more Ice Festival details and festival week events, visit the official festival website, plymouthicefestival.com.

Editor's note: Some information in this events listing was incorrect when it appeared in the Jan. 2 Ice Festival special section. The information above has been corrected.

FESTIVAL

Continued from Page A1

Three colleges – Henry Ford Community College, Oakland County Community College and Macomb Community College – will compete in individual (Saturday) and team (Sunday) carving competitions. The fire-and-ice towers, sponsored by the restaurant E.G. Nick's, will be back, as will the ice throne.

2013

Continued from Page A1

who had a strong background with the Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit.

Tragic news

Tragedy struck some local families last year. Canton resident Rinku Summan died in April in a cargo plane crash in Afghanistan. He was a first officer on the plane. The next month, the Canton Connection Church family mourned the death of Jordan Costa, 21, who died in a car crash in Ohio while heading south for a honeymoon with his wife of one day, Heather Favazza-Costa.

Canton's youth in June bid farewell to the former home of The B.L.O.C.K. (Building Leaders Out of Canton's Kids) on Michigan Avenue, but as the new school year started, they settled into their new digs at township hall, close to the library, Summit on the Park and Heritage Park.

Late in the year, Canton Goodfellows

decided to abandon its iconic newspaper sales at least for one year, but it didn't stop a small army of volunteers from raising the money the group needed to provide Christmas gifts for 407 children from 157 families, along with dozens of senior citizens.

"We're elves," volunteer Kathe Robinson said.

Others helped children in other ways. Detroit Area Diaper Bank founder Marybeth Levine of Canton smashed her fall campaign goal by collecting more than 250,000 diapers for social service agencies across metro Detroit. She had support from groups ranging from Girl Scouts to the Canton library.

By year's end, Canton had received good news about several road projects. The most prominent occurred as a \$5 million state grant was announced to start improving the Ford Road corridor, partly by paving Lotz Road between Ford and Cherry Hill.

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Digging out



An accumulation of some seven inches of snow had Canton residents like Ryan Kiley mowing the snow blow-er Thursday. He lives on Jackson Lane in Cherry Hill Village. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

After the hot chocolate, it was back to sledding for Derek and Claire Moraco of Canton.



David Moraco pours hot chocolate for kids Derek, 12, and Claire, 13, during a break from sledding.

Township opens warming centers, officials offers cold-weather tips

The Canton Public Safety Department announced Thursday that Summit on the Park and the Canton Public Library have been designated as warming centers for residents who need to escape dangerously cold weather. Hours for the library, 1200 S. Canton Center, are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. The phone number is 734-397-0999.

Hours for the Summit, 46000 Summit Parkway, are 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday. The phone number is 734-394-5460.

Canton Public Safety also offered the following tips for severe winter weather:

- » At home:
 - » Keep a flashlight, N.O.A. weather radio and a portable radio on hand, along with extra batteries.
 - » Store extra food — canned or dried food is best — a can opener and at least three gallons of bottled water per person.
 - » Make sure each household member has a warm coat, gloves, hat and water-resistant boots.
 - » Ensure that extra blankets and heavy clothes are

available.

- » Keep on hand items for infant, elderly or disabled family members.

- » Be aware of potential fire and carbon monoxide hazards when using a heating source, such as a fireplace, wood stove or space heater.

- » Don't forget pets — be sure to have suitable shelter with food and water.

When outdoors:

- » Be careful and avoid overexertion, such as shoveling heavy snow, pushing cars or walking in wet, deep, heavy snow.

- » Walk carefully on snow- and ice-covered surfaces.

- » Wear loose-fitting, lightweight, layered clothing with a waterproof outer layer. Don't forget a hat and gloves.

For vehicles:

- » Have the vehicle winterized — have a mechanic check the anti-freeze, tires, belts, hoses, battery.

- » Keep extra windshield washer fluid on hand.

- » Try to keep the fuel tank near full — gas stations may be closed during severe weather.

For more information, contact Canton's Emergency Management Office at 734-394-5357, by email at kricht@canton-mi.org or visit the website at www.canton-publicsafety.org.

Mackinac Center: Local state representative gets perfect 2013 voting record

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

A western Wayne County state lawmaker was among the 80 legislators with perfect voting records in 2013, according to the Midland-based Mackinac Center for Public Policy's annual Missed Votes report.

State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, was among those with perfect voting records over the past year in the Legislature of 110 representatives and 38 senators.

The 68 legislators who did not have perfect voting records missed 1,093 aggregate votes in 2013, according to the report.

There were 2,234 missed votes in the Legislature in 2012, but there were nearly twice as many votes taken that year than during the past year, stated Jack McHugh, the Mackinac Center's senior legislative analyst and editor of the center's Michigan Votes website.

In the Senate, there were 665 votes taken in 2013, while

in the House, 534 votes were cast.

Heise, whose 20th District includes Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville, Northville Township and a portion of Canton, also had a perfect voting record in 2012.

Among other local lawmakers:

- » State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, missed seven votes in 2013. Colbeck represents counts Canton, Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Northville Township and a portion of the city of Northville within

the 7th District.

- » State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, missed only one vote in 2013. Her 21st House District includes Canton, Belleville and Van Buren Township.

The dubious honor of having missed the most votes in 2013 among senators goes to Bert Johnson of Detroit. The Democrat missed 97 votes. On the House side, Macomb County Democrat Marilyn Lane, who represents the 31st District, missed 76 votes.

The 2013 figure was a vast improvement over the 21,162

missed votes in the 2001-02 legislative session, the year the Michigan Votes project began, McHugh said.

The Mackinac Center noted that lawmakers may miss votes due to illness, family emergencies or other reasons. The center also noted that House and Senate leadership are sometimes required to be off the floor during votes.

View the full report and search past years' figures at www.btl.ly/ldrj7ry.

Christopher Behnan contributed.

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Yatooma's Foundation helps kids, families who've lost parents

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Norman Yatooma knows what it's like to lose a father, with all the emotional pain and fear that comes with it.

So Yatooma, a Bloomfield Hills attorney, has spent the last 10 years helping families – especially children – who now know the same pain.

Yatooma's Foundation for the Kids, established in 2003, is a nonprofit designed to provide guidance, stability and financial assistance to families with children who have suddenly lost one or both parents. It reflects what happened to Yatooma, whose father was gunned down in Detroit in March 1993.

Ten years later, the foundation was born.

"To be able to work with kids who lost their parents is a blessing and to do it in (his father's) name and in his honor is wonderful," said Yatooma, founder and president of the foundation. "It's a beautiful silver lining to a very dark cloud."

The foundation has its roots with Manuel Yatooma, Norman's dad, who tried to break up a carjacking on the streets of Detroit all those years ago. The loss was devastating, as one might imagine, but over the years the family became determined to see something good come out of it.

After a family discussion around the dining table on Father's Day 2003, the foundation was born, with a heavy family influence. Norman serves as president, his wife Nicole is a director and his mom Andrea serves as foundation chaplain. Three younger brothers are on the advisory board.

Since its inception, the foundation has helped hundreds of families with financial resources for living expenses and at least some semblance of the parent's mentoring hand.

"The goal is to keep that family as stable as possible," said Jennifer Moore, a Canton resident who is the foundation's program director.



Norman Yatooma talks with Amanda Cergol of Pontiac and Cergol's children, 6-year-old Alison and 8-year-old Hunter.

Moore said the foundation, which operates largely on the generous support of donors, businesses and vendors willing to help families, accomplishes stability for its families with a variety of services, including everything from contractors, carpenters, lawyers and tutors to mentors, appliance experts and plumbers.

Yatooma's Foundation doesn't provide all of those services itself. That's where the community support comes in, largely from local businesses around the area.

Help has come from places like Art Van Furniture, which threw its doors open for last year's Christmas party for Yatooma families, and Lowe's in Canton, which sold the foundation a \$750 refrigerator for \$325.

"These are people who are willing to come in and help our families," Moore said. "We need people we can wrap around our families, local businesses that are ready and willing to help these families with whatever they need."

Most of the families the foundation helps come from Detroit, with a "good number" from Oakland County. Moore said the foundation is trying to expand its reach further into Wayne County, as well, but that the only real requirement is the

family be from Michigan. "Our services are available to anyone in the state of Michigan, but people don't always know we're here," Moore said.

Amanda Cergol is more than happy to testify to the good the foundation can do. Cergol, who lives in Pontiac with her children, 8-year-old Hunter and 6-year-old Alison, lost her husband to cancer in 2009.

Now a single mom who is working and going to school, she said the foundation – and Norman Yatooma himself – have made life much easier for her struggling family.

"My kids look up to Norman for a lot of emotional support," Cergol said. "I know I can count on the foundation if I need anything at all. They're there for you."

Cergol's family is one of some 55 "open" cases – those where the foundation is actively providing assistance – being handled at any given time, according to Moore. While the foundation has helped "hundreds of families" over the years, she said, active cases are those where the foundation is still doing something, regardless of how often.

"These could be people we hear from once a week and there are people we hear from on Tigers Day and then maybe not again until Christmas,"

Moore said. "Everything is specific to that family's needs."

The Tigers Day event is one of the many social events hosted by the foundation. The Tigers Foundation – "They've been incredibly generous," Moore said – sponsored three of them this year, sending 150 people to see the Detroit Tigers on three different occasions, the last in September.

Art Van has sponsored the Christmas party. Yatooma said the support of people such as furniture store mogul Art Van Elslander, radio personality Paul W. Smith and Sandy Pierce of First Merit Bank, among many others, is what allows the foundation to do its work.

"We had the heart for it, but not the experience," Yatooma said of his family. "People like Art Van Elslander, Paul W. Smith ... make it a great community effort."

And Moore said the kinds of events those people provide – Tigers games, Christmas parties and other gatherings – are a key emotional support, especially for the children. Moore said the foundation tries to do some sort of social event "about once a month."

"Many of our families have lost the ability to do the 'extras.' They can't afford to go to a Tigers game," Moore said. "And our kids are usually the only kid in their class who has lost a parent. When they're with us, they see others going through it and they know they aren't different. Plus, it's fun. They need to giggle like any other kid."

No one knows that better than Yatooma, who is committed to making it happen. He knows there's no replacing a parent, but believes there are things that can be done to reduce the pain.

"You can't replace a lost parent," Yatooma said. "But we're going to do everything we can to minimize the hurt. It's very personal to me."

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Canton students nominated for academies

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow has nominated 33 Michigan students – including three from Canton – for placement at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, N.Y.

"It's terrific that so many exceptional students from Michigan want to serve our country through military service," Stabenow said. "These individuals have demonstrated their commitment to excellence in and out of the classroom and I know that they will represent Michigan and our country well."

Local students nominated by Stabenow include Jason Kyles and Tyler Smith of Canton, both nominated to the U.S. Air Force Academy, and Hannah Urbaczewski, who hopes to get into the U.S. Naval Academy.

Students seeking appointment to a service academy must first obtain the nomination of their U.S. senator, their U.S. representative or the vice president. Students nominated by Stabenow's office went through a competitive application process that included interviews by community leaders.

Now that the students have been nominated, they must await acceptance for admission by the academy to which they have applied.

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Peters, Land stump across state for Levin's seat

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

Democratic U.S. Rep. Gary Peters isn't anticipating an August primary in his race to fill the seat held by longtime Sen. Carl Levin. But Republican opponent Terri Lynn Land sees the race as an opportunity to bring change for Michigan.

To date, Peters, who represents Michigan's 14th U.S. Congressional district, and former Michigan Secretary of State Land are the only two who have publicly announced their candidacies for the vacancy that will be left when Levin retires later this year.

"When Sen. Levin announced his intention not to run, I saw it as an opportunity in Michigan to change our representation," Land said. "I

believe people still remember me as Secretary of State."

No one is yet likely to place bets on who will be the winner. But some polls, such as one conducted by the Cook Political Report, an independent, nonpartisan newsletter that analyzes elections and campaigns, in December called the race "a toss up." Meanwhile, the Rothenberg Political Report, also a nonpartisan newsletter, has listed the race for Levin's seat as favoring the Democrats.

Like Land, Peters is already campaigning with his Listening Tours throughout the state and raising money. "We have been very aggressive," he said. "I think we have broad support in the Democratic Party."

Land calls Michigan a "relationship state. I have been traveling



Peters

Land

across the state. People know me and I know them."

Jobs, economy

Both candidates see jobs and Michigan's economy as a continuing major issue, despite improvement in the auto industry. "Michigan has really been hard hit because of dependency on the auto and manufacturing industries," Land said.

Peters, co-chairman of the Auto caucuses in the U.S. House, wants to continue his efforts to maintain the auto industry and to diversify the state economy. Both

candidates believe the state's economic success will be found in small businesses.

"Jobs and the economy is a major issue. But I think that is not government's job (to create jobs). Government's job is to help people be successful," Land said.

Peters and Land are on opposite sides of the fence on the Affordable Care Act. Peters believes the health care reform will be successful, while Land wants it repealed. "I have never seen a perfect bill," Peters said, adding that it can be tweaked as time goes on. "Take Medicare bills. We are constantly going back and fixing them."

Peters is adamant that the ACA cannot be repealed because of provisions, such as those prohibiting insurance companies from charging more — or not insuring at

all — people with pre-existing health conditions. Another important aspect, Peters said, is the provisions allowing children up to age 26 to be covered by their family's health insurance.

On the other hand, Land said those provisions should still be addressed without the ACA. She said promises have already been broken, such as to the more than 200,000 residents who are forced to change insurance. "They were told they can't keep their insurance after they were promised."

Working together

Yet Peters and Land believe both parties must come together and find a way to work with each other in Congress. "We need to take a practical, common sense approach to governing," Peters said. "You don't make

decisions based on ideology. The American people believe we need to come together."

Voters want transparency in government, Land said. "When I was Secretary of State, we put our budget and expenses online. The federal government should do it, too."

Land would agree with the need to work across the aisle. "I truly believe people want folks in government to work together. While Secretary of State, Land said, she accomplished a number of initiatives, such as modernizing the services offered, upgrading technology and making the website user-friendly.

"I did that by working with a bipartisan group," Land said. "I saved money in customer service. I didn't get everything I wanted. We just have to work together."

Woman pulled from burning home

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton firefighters found a woman who was described as unresponsive after they entered a burning home engulfed in heavy smoke and intense heat during a New Year's Eve fire in the 6000 block of Bunker Hill, southeast of Warren Road and Morton Taylor, officials said.

Canton Detective Sgt. Chad Baugh said it is believed the 69-year-old woman remained in critical condition.

Two days later, three of six people inside a home in the 4400 block of Fair Oaks, near Sheldon and Saltz, were taken to area hospitals for non-life-threatening injuries after fire engulfed a two-car garage and spread to the attic short-

ly before 7:30 p.m. Thursday.

Firefighters used multiple hose lines to battle that blaze, but encountered difficulties as their breathing apparatus and fire hose nozzles began freezing up due to frigid, wintry weather, Fire Chief Joshua Meier said.

"It was quite challenging for our crews on scene due to inclement weather," Meier said.

Damage to the Fair Oaks home was estimated at \$75,000. While at the scene, the fire department received five other calls, making for a busy day during poor weather conditions.

During the New Year's Eve fire in Bunker Hill, firefighters received word of the blaze about 8:50 p.m. Tuesday and rushed to the scene, getting

the victim out of the home and initiating rescue attempts before taking her to St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia. The woman was later transferred to the University of Michigan Hospital.

Firefighters quickly brought the fire under control and determined the woman was the lone occupant of the house.

Meier said the cause of the fire remains under investigation. Initial damage was estimated at \$60,000.

Baugh said a preliminary investigation indicated the fire was likely accidental.

"There is no sign of foul play at this point," he said.

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Bates' Hamburgers manager retires after 44 years

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

After 44 years, Sue Riley is finally putting down her spatula, hanging up her apron and retiring from a Livonia landmark restaurant.

Riley, a manager at Bates Hamburgers, retired earlier this week after working at the white food stand at 33406 Five Mile in Livonia since 1969.

She said nothing in particular led her to leaving the beloved business, but said it was time to go.

"I have things to take care of at home," the Fenton resident said. "I decided this year was the end of it."

Riley worked exclusively at the Livonia restaurant – Bates Hamburgers also operates a restaurant at Nine Mile and Middlebelt in Farmington Hills – doing a wide range of tasks. For the last 20 years, she was the day manager, running the grill for the stand's famous hamburgers with grilled onions, french fries and milkshakes.

Riley said she got into the restaurant after looking for work around Livonia, where she lived at the time. She got a job at Bates out of school, after baby-sitting for a woman who had worked at the hamburger stand.

"That's how I got here, and I just stayed ever since," she said. "You like who you work with, the customers are great."

'She's the best'

Since then, she's worked with humility, earning the support and love of her co-workers, including assistant manager Lorrie Berlan.

"She's the best. Makes me cry that she's leaving," Berlan said, fighting back tears. "She's like the wind beneath my wings. She's always helping me out. That's the kind of person she is."

She and her family then slowly moved farther away from Livonia, going to Commerce Township before settling in around Fenton. Riley said she'll be back to visit Bates, especially when she stops by to see family.

She has several customers whose regular orders she has



Sue Riley is hanging up her spatula after 44 years at Bates' Hamburgers. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

memorized. One such customer is Livonia resident George Hook, who has come to Bates regularly for the past 10 years for a cup of coffee in the morning.

One of the reasons he comes regularly for breakfast?

'Treats everybody right'

"Her beautiful smile," he said. "She treats everybody right."

Riley said she doesn't have a specific memory she holds dear from her time at Bates, but said she always enjoyed coming to work.

"Every day, there's always something here," she said. Laurie Johnston, Bates' general manager and daughter of the owner, said she'll miss Riley and her leadership skills in the kitchen.

"We've always worked well

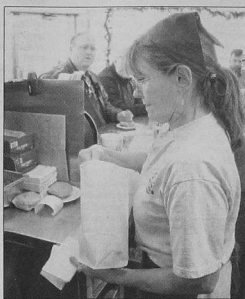
as a team," she said. "She's very good at leading her crew."

And even after 44 years of working around the smell of grilled onions, Riley said she still enjoys the Bates Hamburgers classics: cheeseburgers, french fries and a milkshake are her favorite menu items.

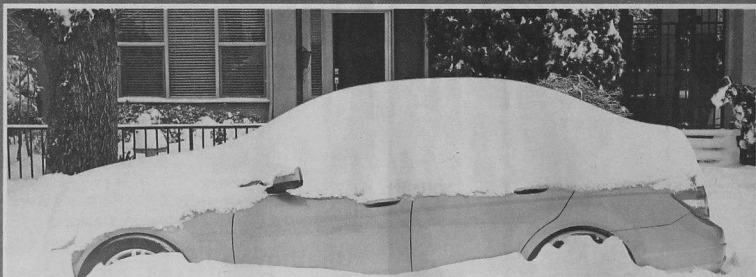
Berlan, who will be taking over for Riley, said she doesn't have the heart to remove her name from the roster board on the wall at the restaurant. She plans on leaving it open, since she didn't want to take her line.

"I'm not even going to put my name on the first line because I don't want to take her spot," Berlan said. "That spot's going to be blank. I don't want her to leave."

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We can't even imagine how many sliders Sue Riley has bagged in 44 years at Bates Hamburgers. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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Neil Diamond tribute concert helps local groups

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

The Westland Community Foundation is rolling out some beautiful noise at a concert later this month at the Village Theater of Canton.

The foundation is joining the Westland Chamber of Commerce and Canton's Partnership for the Arts and Humanities in sponsoring two concerts Saturday, Jan. 18, featuring Simply Diamond, a Neil Diamond tribute band.



LeBlanc

"I've always wanted to do something like this," said the foundation's president, Glenn Shaw Jr. said, "This is a pretty good named group that's coming in."

The three organizations are selling tickets for the two shows — a matinee at 2 p.m. and a special dinner/concert beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tickets for the matinee are \$25 each. Tickets for the evening event are \$75 each and include a strolling dinner and cocktail reception, followed by the concert at 8 p.m.

Shaw is confident the foundation will do well with the concerts. Four hundred tickets are available for the matinee

and a like number for the dinner and concert. The three groups will receive the proceeds from those tickets they each sell.

Raising money

The foundation is using the concert to replace money it had raised through charity poker nights held at the Electric Stick Poker Room in Westland. Shaw estimates the foundation took in an estimated \$16,000 a year from the charity poker nights, which came to an abrupt end when the Electric Stick and adjacent Marvaco's Italian Grill were destroyed by fire May 8.

"It was difficult to man up the concert nights, but it was good money for us," Shaw said. "We used to take in \$50,000 to \$60,000 a few years ago, but the last couple of years have been more like \$35,000. If we're successful with this, we'll be able to do more this summer."

The foundation's philanthropic efforts include more than \$25,000 in donations to the Wayne-Westland Scholarship Award, this Christmas and college scholarships given out to Westland high school graduates every year.

The chamber has partnered with the foundation on several events, but this is a first with the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities. Founded in 1998, its mission is to encourage the devel-

opment of the arts in the Canton community by providing artists with financial support, advocacy and education, as well as supporting the resident music and performing artist groups at the Village Theater and granting theater field trips for the Plymouth-Canton Community School district.

Sponsorships

In addition to having tickets, organizers are looking for sponsors. There's \$2,500 for a Diamond sponsor and \$1,500 for a Sweet Caroline sponsor, as well as program sponsorships of \$700 for Crackin' Rosie, \$400 for Hello Angel, \$250 for Song Sung Blue and \$75 for Solitary Man (Woman).

For tickets, sponsorships or more information, call the Westland Community Foundation at 734-595-7727, the Westland Chamber of Commerce at 734-326-7222 or the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities at 734-765-7061. Tickets also are available online at www.cantonvillageconcert.org or by calling the theater at 734-394-5460.

"It's going to be a great show and a nice evening," Shaw said. "It's a way you can really help out with our goal. We need money to keep helping the people out there."

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Retirees organize to address issues

By Leanne Rogers
Staff Writer

Once someone retires, it's easy to lose touch with your former co-workers.

Now some employees who worked together for the City of Westland have formed the Westland Alliance of Retirees.

"Our main objective is to help the retirees. We do all the unions. We will help with any problems and socialization," said city retiree Rita Briney, secretary of the group.

With 63 members currently, Briney said the group has filed as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

"The membership is growing. We're having a lot of problems getting the word out. If they knew about it they'd join," said Briney, who soon hopes to have a Facebook page for the group.

Getting in touch

Part of the difficulty reaching the city retirees is that many are no longer living locally. Briney said she is relying on emails and a lot of snail mail to get in touch with people.

"There are probably 200-300 people (retired from the city). People are all over the U.S.," said Briney, who lives in Canton.

"As we were reaching out it was hard to find people. And people have

"Our main objective is to help the retirees. We do all the unions. We will help with any problems and socialization."

RITA BRINEY
Westland city retiree

died over the years." While the police and fire department retirees have groups, Briney said there weren't similar groups for other retirees. The Westland Alliance of Retirees is open to all city retirees, including police and firefighters, she said.

Having worked in the Clerk's Office and Department of Public Services during 10 years with the city, Briney retired in 2010.

"Retirees used to be able to sit back and not worry. There was one particular problem that started everything," said Briney. "As we called people, they were having so many problems. There is practically no one working at the city."

Particular problem

The particular problem mentioned by Briney was the city's decision to eliminate mutual gains — a payment received by an employee when his or her spouse didn't utilize their medical insurance.

In the case of married city employees or retirees, each could have

their own insurance and claim mutual gains. "We want to help the city help us. We had one meeting and everyone had so much fun catching up," said Briney.

"You can't make old friends." Along with keeping in touch with former co-workers and addressing collective concerns, Briney said the retiree alliance is planning to do fundraising to benefit local nonprofits.

Serving as the group president is Kent Herbert, former Westland personnel director.

"We will probably meet next in February. We're informal. We will have quarterly meetings and hope to get one or two social events with the meetings," said Briney.

Due to a calendar year membership are \$50.

For more information, contact Briney at 734-981-8622 or rambri@hottmail.com.

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Twitter: @RogersObserver

Canton Historical Society names officers

The Canton Historical Society has chosen its board of directors for 2014, with Bill Teven continuing to serve as board president.

Other officers include Vice President Brad Caerniak, Secretary Karen Roberts, Treasurer Judy Krantz and board members Dave Curtis, Sue Goodchild, Greg King, Sandy Irwin and Kathy Martin.

The Canton Historical

Society is always looking for additional help, especially to work at the pole barn at Preservation Park and at the historic Bartlett-Travis House during the summer Canton Farmers Market in Cherry Hill Village.

For more information on the society or to volunteer, call 734-495-0274, send an email to cantonhist@comcast.net or go to www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org.

DIA director to speak at Livonia Town Hall

Graham W.J. Beal, director of the Detroit Institute of Arts, will be the speaker at the Jan. 15 Livonia Town Hall at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 1800 Meridian, Livonia.

He is a native of Great Britain and was born in Stratford-on-Avon and grew up near Hastings on the south coast of England. He has degrees in English and art history from the University of Manchester and the Courtauld Institute of History of Art of the University of London.

In 1973, he came to the United States to work at the University of South Dakota as an art historian. He has worked as a curator at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, the Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha, and as the director of the Museum of Art in Los Angeles County. He has organized more than 40 exhibitions that have toured nationally.

His most recent experience is protecting the art treasures that are in

the Detroit Institute of Arts. Lunch and lecture seats are available. The lecture begins at 10 a.m. and following the lunch, there will be a question-and-answer period. Tickets are \$45 and can be obtained by calling 734-442-0383.

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Schoolcraft College offers free math workshops

Schoolcraft College's Learning Support Services department is offering students and community members free back-to-school workshops in mathematics Monday through Friday, Jan. 6-10.

JumpStart! is a series of workshops offered at the beginning of the semester to prepare students for the topic and study skills that they need to be successful in upcoming math classes. It also serves as a refresher to students wishing to place into higher level courses — up to two levels higher in some cases.

The workshops are designed for advanced high school and college level students. Participants can choose sessions ranging from Math Survival Skills and Graphing Calculator to specific math and science refreshers. The classes are a way to get your brain in "playing shape" for the rigors of the upcoming academic year.

The classes include:
 » JumpStart! 4000 is a review of expressions linear equation solving, graphing lines and factoring polynomials. The class is 6-8:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 6, and is for

students entering Math 105, 106 and 113, Chemistry 201 and 202, Physics 051 and 104, BMET 124 and Electronics 137 and 145.

» JumpStart! 3000 is a review of four basic integer operations, order of operations, expressions and linear equation solving. The class is 6-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, and is for students entering Math 053 and 055 and Accounting 103, 201 and 202.

» JumpStart! 2000 is a review of fractions, decimals, percent and order of operations. The class is 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday,

Jan. 8, and is for students entering Math 047, 101, 105, 106 and 111 and Accounting 103, 201 and 202.

» JumpStart! 1000 is a review of the four basic operations in arithmetic and the foundation for all future mathematics courses. The class is 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, and is for students entering Math 45, Basic Math Refresher, Pharmacy Tech, TEAS and GED Prep, placement testing or students in need of a math refresher.

» JumpStart! Math Survival Skills. Math not your favorite subject?

Been a while since your last math class? Feeling anxious about taking a math class? Need a little motivation? Then this seminar is for you! Participate in a math study skills inventory and learn specialized classroom, homework, and test taking skills math students need to be successful in their math classes. The class is 10 a.m. to noon Friday, Jan. 10.

» JumpStart! Math for Science looks at rounding, proportion, basic statistics-mean, mode, median, range, scientific notation, metric conversion, data analysis-

reading and interpreting charts and graphs. The class is 1-3:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10, and is open to all students entering science classes.

Registration information can be found at the Learning Assistance Center section of the college's website, www.schoolcraft.edu or by calling 734-462-4436. To register, email your name, student number and workshop or workshops you wish to attend to LAC@schoolcraft.edu. Workshops are provided by the support of the Schoolcraft College Foundation.

Kensington Farm Center welcomes winter visitors

By Laura Colvin
Staff Writer

Maggie and Christopher Rometty flew in from Texas to visit family in Milford over the holiday season.

The day after Christmas — Leo, Hugh, Simone and Vania — visited with the animals and took a hayride at Kensington Metropolitan Farm Center. "We loved it," said Maggie Rometty after climbing down from the horse-drawn hayride. "The kids buried themselves in the hay to stay warm. It was fun."

Family member Sandy Schmel of Milford also came along, and said she and her husband frequent the park year-round.

"We had a great driver, she was very informative," Schmel said of the hayride. "We learned about the horses and the gardens and other places we passed along the way. The kids were very interested. They asked a lot of questions."

"A lot of people are surprised to find out we're open year-round or — sleigh rides, if there's enough snow on the ground — are available on weekends at the Farm Center during the winter."

"It can be fun for a family to take a blanket and go on a ride," said horse driver Matt Blakeley, noting the horses wear special winter shoes this time of year to help them get through the snow.

Riders, he added, sometimes see deer or other animals in the woods during the ride, or swans in the open part of the river.



The hay ride is one of the most popular activities at Kensington Farm Center. PHOTOS BY HAL GOULD/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Winter at the farm

While the Farm Center doesn't see the high volume of visitors during the winter months as it does during warmer weather, the animals are active and the farm remains in full swing all year long.

"A lot of people are surprised to find out we're open year-round and ask, 'What do you do with the animals?'" said farm interpreter and Animal Care Specialist Chris Williams. "We make sure they have a roof over their heads, or a wind break, but the animals actually deal with winter a lot better than most humans."

The farm is home to quite a few permanent residents, including four draft horses, three cows, seven pigs, 14 sheep, eight goats, two donkeys, two rabbits and several dozen chickens, ducks and geese. Visitors will notice a number of different body shapes, patterns and colors, since the farm boasts a variety of different breeds, as well.

For grazing animals, diets change with pasture and hay in the warmer months to primarily hay in winter. It's also important for farmers, Williams said, to make sure the heated water tanks are functioning so the animals stay hydrated.

Some of the older animals, like Rose, a Nubian goat, are put into the heated barn when it gets too cold outside. "She's pretty arthritic, but she still wants to be outside," said Williams, who's been working at the Farm Center some 25 years.

"So sometimes you have to be the voice of reason for her." In winter, he said, the heated barn is more enjoyable for the public, too, so visitors can stay warm and get a closer

look at the animals.

Mother animals with babies also stay in the barn during winter, pigs and cows, Williams said, deliver all year long.

Cookie, an 800-pound sow, is currently raising up a litter of six piglets born Nov. 30. The little squealers weighed in at birth around 1.5-2 pounds each. Now, just over a month later, they're up to about 25 pounds.

"Cookie's a real good mom," Williams said. "She's very protective."

In about two weeks, two additional litters of piglets are expected, and visitors, as always, will be welcome.

The farm is also currently home to a couple of baby goats, with more goats — and lots of sheep — due to give birth beginning in February and March.

Right now, Williams said, the sheep are at their woolliest and will be shorn during the farm's Spring Festival in



The barn at Kensington Farm Center is home to goats, pigs, rabbits, and sheep.

late April.

Lucky visitors to the farm center may catch sight of something else, too.

"We've had a bald eagle hanging around for the past week or so," said Williams. "People are surprised we actually see them here at Kensington."

All in all, he said, snow and colder temperatures shouldn't keep people away from the farm during winter.

"It's a good excuse to get out on a cold day," Williams said. "It's beautiful out here. Winter brings a whole new look to the park and the farm. It's a pretty place any time of the year, but there's a subtle beauty here in wintertime."

Farm Center hours

The Farm Center is open every day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. A metropolitan's vehicle entry pass is required to visit the farm.

Hayrides are available from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for seniors and children age 3-12. Kids under 2 years and younger ride free.

The farm's 2014 brochure, available in the Farm Center office, includes a coupon for a buy one get one free class. For more information, call the Farm Center at 248-684-8632.

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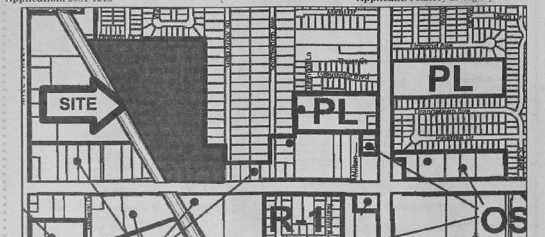
PROPOSED ACTION:
DATE OF HEARING:
TIME OF HEARING:
PLACE OF HEARING:

Request Approval of a Planned Unit Development Option
Wednesday, JANUARY 15, 2014
7:00 PM
Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of Plymouth Charter Township has received an application requesting approval for a PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT OPTION for parcel R-78-060-99-0002-707 & R-78-060-99-0002-708, pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 99. The property is located north of Ann Arbor Road, east of C&O Railroad, west of Gold Arbor Road. The site is zoned ARC, Ann Arbor Road Corridor.

Application: 2031-1213

Applicant: Pomeroy Living Plymouth LLC



LEGAL DESCRIPTION: for parcel descriptions, see tax records based on Tax ID no(s): R-78-060-99-0002-707 & R-78-060-99-0002-708

The application may be examined at the Plymouth Township Division of Public Services, Community Development Department, during regular business hours from 8:00AM to 4:30 PM. Written comments will be received prior to the meeting and may be mailed to 9955 N Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170 or call 734-354-3270 extension 5. The meeting will be held in the meeting room at the Township Hall which is located at 9955 N Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township meetings to individuals with disabilities at the meetings or hearings upon one week notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Supervisor's Office, 9955 N Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone: 734-354-3201. TTD users: 800-849-3777 (Michigan Relay Service)

KENDRA BARBERENA, SECRETARY
PLANNING COMMISSION

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MORNING STIFFNESS

Identifying that a patient is experiencing morning stiffness, brings a physician a long step forward in identifying the reason for joint pain. In the medical community, morning stiffness is more than a loss of flexibility in the morning that lasts until the hands warm up.

What physicians mean by morning stiffness is a profound loss of hand movement occurring because the hands can barely move. This stiffness can take hours to resolve including that at the least the patient needs an hour or more to dress because fingers cannot grasp buttons or even move shirts off of their hangers.

The reason for such extreme immobility of the hands is that fingers did not move during the night. Because of joint inflammation, the hand joints needed extreme arterial rest. Not moving during the night made it impossible for those joints to return to usual functions in the morning.

True morning stiffness reflects joint inflammation; that feature allows the physician to concentrate a limited group of probable causes. Rheumatoid arthritis is the most frequent one, psoriatic arthritis is another possibility, lupus is also a consideration.

Physicians keep in mind another entity, Dupuytren's Contracture. It may masquerade as morning stiffness, but has a completely different cause. The impairment occurs in the palm of the hands with a thickening in the mid palmar tissue between the palmar creases. The effect of this thickening is to bind down the flexor tendons causing through the palm to the fingers. The result is that in the morning the fingers will not bend until the palms are warmed up. The hands present as morning stiffness but the joints are normal.

Be cautious when co-signing home loan for family, friends

Q: Dear Rick: My wife and I have a dispute that I hope you can assist us with. My wife's sister, who is divorced and has financial challenges, has asked us to co-sign a mortgage so she can purchase the house she is renting. My wife wants to co-sign the loan, but I don't want to. My sister-in-law has been irresponsible with money and I don't think she can afford the home. What is the worst-case scenario if she does not repay her loan? My wife says the worst that could happen is that she loses the home. Is that true and if not, can anything else happen to us?

A: Unfortunately, if your sister-in-law defaults on the loan that you have co-signed, the worst is not that she loses the home but, rather, that you can be responsible for the loan. If your sister-in-law does not pay on the loan, the bank can demand payments from you. In addition, if the bank were to foreclose on the home, you can be personally responsible for the difference between what the home sold for and the outstanding mortgage. For example, if the outstanding balance on the loan was \$100,000 and the house went into foreclosure and sold for \$60,000, you can be on the hook for the additional \$40,000 (\$100,000 loan minus \$60,000 sale price). Furthermore, your credit rating can take a hit because you were a co-signer on a mortgage that went into default.

If you were held responsible by the bank, it is also possible that you would have no course of action against your sister-in-law. If she chose to



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

file for bankruptcy, her obligation to you would be discharged. The bottom line is that whenever you co-sign a loan, you should recognize that you can be held responsible for the full balance of the loan in case of a default.

I am frequently asked whether people should co-sign loans for friends and relatives. I always recommend proceeding with caution. Co-signing a loan is the same thing as loaning someone money. When it comes to loaning a family member or friend money, if you expect to be repaid you need to treat it as a business transaction. The terms such as interest, when payments are due and what happens upon default need to be discussed and put in writing. I think the same applies when you co-sign a loan.

I recognize that when it comes to family and friends, you may feel that money is not the most important issue. However, don't forget that the majority of divorces and family disputes revolve around money. Therefore, you cannot just dismiss the financial aspect.

On the whole, I discourage most people from co-signing a loan, particularly a long-term mortgage, because if the bank would not loan them money, why would you? Good luck.

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

Canton man accused of driving toward crowd, striking two

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Canton man is facing trial following accusations he struck two people with a car during a dispute in the parking lot of the Shell gas station at 40400 Michigan Ave., near Lotz, police said.

Detective Sgt. Chad Baugh described the injuries as minor. Jesse James Winchester, 20, could face penalties ranging up to



Winchester

four years in prison if he is convicted of two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon, failing to stop at the scene of a personal injury accident and assault and battery.

Winchester was ordered to stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court after he waived his preliminary exami-

nation Friday in 35th District Court. A clerk said he is free on bond.

Winchester was charged Dec. 26 for an incident police say occurred shortly before 4 a.m. Dec. 1 at the Shell station.

Baugh said it is alleged Winchester had an argument with multiple people after a woman who was with him had a conversation with another man at the gas station.

As the argument escalated, police said, Winchester is accused of getting into the woman's car, driving in reverse toward a crowd and hitting two people.

Police also responded to a disturbance that allegedly occurred Dec. 24 at Winchester's home and subsequently arrested him for the Dec. 1 incident.

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

United Way distributes emergency food

The next distribution of emergency food by Plymouth Community United Way is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 16.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program provides low-income Plymouth and Northville residents with canned, non-perishable and perishable items.

All recipients must preregister at Plymouth Community United Way, 960 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 2.

The supplemental food program can be used in addition to other assistance programs. Bridge Card holders automatically qualify,

but need to preregister. Recipients not currently on governmental assistance (food stamps, ADC and general) must provide documentation, including proof of income and residency, before receiving food on distribution days.

Distributions continue 9:30-11 a.m. the third Thursday of each month at St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Haggerty, south of Five Mile, in Plymouth Township.

For information and to register, call 734-453-6879, ext. 7, or send email to randi.williams@pcuw.org.

The food distribution is a U.S. Department of Agriculture program. In accordance with federal law and USDA policy,

PCUW is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

St. Mary Mercy announces first baby of new year

Nancy-Ly Truong was the first baby born at the St. Mary Mercy Birthing Center in 2014. Congratulations to mother Bich Van Truong. The Livonia resident gave birth at 11:47 p.m. on Jan. 1. Nancy-Ly weighed 6 pounds, 7 ounces at birth and was 19 and half inches long.



Bich Van Truong holds her baby, Nancy-Ly, at St. Mary Mercy's Birthing Center.

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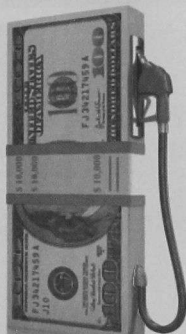
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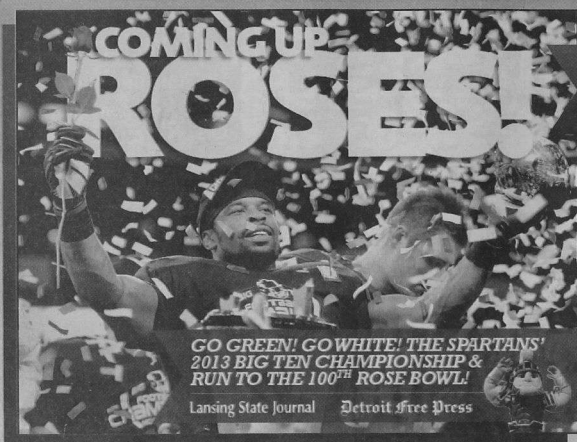
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SECTION B (CP)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2014
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
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SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR

TSMITH@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
734-469-4128

Teams make room for Thomann tribute

Salem coaching legend
to be honored Jan. 14By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Fred Thomann was a giant of a man in life. He is just as big in death.

The Plymouth-Canton basketball community is screeching to a halt and rescheduling several Tuesday, Jan. 14, contests in order to make sure a Salem High School-hosted tribute that evening will be the only game in town.

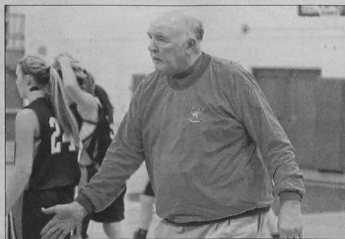
Thomann's Salem girls basketball team will welcome Livonia Stevenson for the 7 p.m. matchup of KLAAC Central Division squads. But more impor-

tantly, a tribute to the longtime coach is set to begin at 6:30 p.m.

In order for as many as possible to attend the ceremony, P-CCS co-athletic director Sue Heinmann announced several other games were moved to Monday, Jan. 13, including Salem at Stevenson boys and Plymouth vs. Canton girls (at Plymouth) and boys (at Canton).

"I have spoken to all parties involved and we are moving the ... games to accommodate all basketball teams and coaches to attend," Heinmann wrote in an email last week. "A special thank you to Stevenson's athletic administrator, Lori Hyman, and her boys basketball coaching staff for supporting this move."

See TRIBUTE, Page B3



Salem girls basketball coach Fred Thomann, shown during a game in early December, died Dec. 27. (JOHN KEMSKI / EXPRESS PHOTO)

Thomann
services

A memorial gathering for longtime Salem High School basketball coach Fred Thomann will be held 9-10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 11 at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

A memorial service will follow the gathering.

Thomann, who died Dec. 27, is survived by a sister, Gloria Shelton, and a niece, Tanya Thomann.

He coached high school basketball for four decades and was a teacher in the Taylor, Willow Run and Plymouth-Canton school districts for 30 years.

MU camps

Madonna University women's softball coach Jerry Abraham will offer fundamentals camps from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Jan. 11, 18 and 25 at the MU Activities Center.

MU also will offer a pitching camp from noon to 2:30 p.m. Jan. 12, 19 and 26.

For more information, email jbraham@madonna.edu or call at (734) 432-5612.

Hoop
contest

The annual Knights of Columbus Youth Free Throw Championship for boys and girls ages 9-14 will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19, at St. Thomas a Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton.

Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. and the contest is free.

For more information, call David Lengel at 734-516-4930.

Learn
to skate

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will offer its Session III eight-week learn to skate classes beginning Jan. 13 through

March 3 at Edgar Arena, 33841 Lyndon.

Registration is 6:30-8 p.m. (residents) and 7-8 p.m. (non-residents)

Wednesday, Jan. 8, at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, 1500 Hubbard.

The cost is \$64 for residents and \$78 for non-residents.

Among the classes offered includes:

Youth (ages 4 and up) - 5 p.m., 5:25 p.m., 6 p.m. and 6:25 p.m.

Monday's; hockey skills - 6:25 p.m.

Monday's; tots (3-year-olds) - 5 p.m.

Monday's.

Call 734-466-2918 or email Barb Gamber at bgamber@ci.livonia.mi.us.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE



Plymouth's Carter Sandlak scores in the second period Thursday against Sault Ste. Marie goalie Matt Murray. At right for the Whalers is Matt Misteale (No. 22). (RENA LAVERTY / PLYMOUTH WHALERS)

January jumpstart

Plymouth Whalers open
2014 with shootout win
over GreyhoundsBy Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Hockeytown's finally in the rear-view mirror for the Plymouth Whalers and they got back to business with Thursday's 3-2 shootout victory over Sault Ste. Marie.

Clutch goaltending by Alex Nedeljkovic kept the Whalers close during the third period of the matinee game at Compuware Arena so that forward Zach Lorentz could chip

in the equalizer with 55 seconds remaining in regulation.

Lorentz then scored during the shootout, as did Connor Chatham and Jordan Addesi—the latter's roof shot putting the Whalers in front.

All Plymouth needed to seal the win was another stop by Nedeljkovic and he turned aside Michael Bunting's bid to make the Whalers' first 2014 contest a triumphant one.

"He (Bunting) came down on my right side, he just brought the puck across," said Nedeljkovic, who made 32 saves and was the No. 1 star. "I just tried to follow him as best I could and get something on it."

Nedeljkovic also came up big in the third period. His goaltending kept Plymouth close enough so that Lorentz could score the tying goal, with the Whalers on the power play and

with Nedeljkovic pulled for an extra skater.

Hammering away at the puck near Greyhounds goalie Matt Murray (28 saves) were forwards Carter Sandlak and Lorentz. The puck finally dribbled into the crease behind Murray, where Lorentz chipped it in to make it 2-2.

Drawing the assists were Sandlak and center Francesco Vilardi.

"It's kind of a desperate play," Lorentz said describing his 16th goal of the season. "In the six-on-five at the end, we were trying to just throw it at the net."

"And I went backdoor and I saw the puck. We were jamming at it and I saw it sitting there. I just flipped it over the goalie's pad."

Also scoring for Plymouth (14-21-0-4) was

See WHALERS, Page B2

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Chiefs give Blue Devils run for their money

Turnovers costly in 47-40
loss to Grosse Pointe SouthBy Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The record shows that Canton's varsity girls basketball team only has a 3-3 record, following Friday's 47-40 loss to Grosse Pointe South.

But the reality is the team again showed it could have a long, successful season by pushing the state-ranked Blue Devils to the limit in the hard-fought tilt at Canton High School.

"They don't realize it, but

they're right there," said Canton head coach Brian Samulski about his team. "They have the capabilities to be really good."

"The first six games were a challenge, (and) they shouldn't be down about being 3-3."

Samulski stressed that the Chiefs "played three of the better teams in the state in Marian, Mercy and Grosse Pointe South. Those guys were ranked 1-3-5."

This week, the Chiefs open up the KLAAC South Division portion of the schedule with a game 7 p.m. Tuesday against visiting Westland John Glenn.

Canton players—paying tribute to the late coach Fred

Thomann by wearing Salem's colors (blue socks and headbands)—gave South plenty to think about.

The Blue Devils (8-1) led 15-12 after the first quarter and 30-23 at halftime, largely thanks to 21 Canton turnovers (the Chiefs made 32 for the game).


In the second half, the Chiefs did a better job of managing the basketball and as a result climbed back into the game.

A trey by senior guard Bre'nae Andrews (12 points) put the Blue Devils in front 35-28 with 30 seconds left in the third.

See CHIEFS, Page B3




Canton senior Paige Aresco goes for two. (JOHN KEMSKI / EXPRESS PHOTO)



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PREP BOWLING

Perfection: Sale's Rudis rolls 300 game

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

With every trip to the line, Salem junior Nolan Rudis knew he was one frame closer to perfection.

And Rudis didn't falter down the stretch, either. He capped an astounding week of bowling when he threw his final strike Dec. 20 at Westland's Town N Country Lanes — completing the first 300 game of his three-year varsity career.

"I was just telling myself 'Keep going, you've been here before, it's just bowling,'" recalled the 16-year-old Canton resident about his perfect game.

Rudis also threw a 257 against the Chiefs for a nifty 557 series. And just four days earlier, at Super Bowl in Canton, he threw a 289.

"I think I'm just in a little bit of a groove right now," Rudis said. "It's going good for

me lately."

Asked about his immediate reaction following the strike that clinched his 300 game, Rudis chuckled and said "I think I screamed 'Yes!'" Rudis said he "isn't really a cranker" who powers the ball down the lane, but rather is a spot bowler relying on sharp mental focus.

It helped his 300 quest to be at Town N Country because "I always liked it there. I know I can go in there and throw a good game."

According to Salem coach Kathie Hahn, the 300 game was also big from a team standpoint because it helped the Rocks defeat Canton 16-14 in the KLAFA matchup.

"On (Monday) Dec. 16 at Super Bowl, Nolan shot a nice 289 and he said to me 'I just can't get that 300,'" noted Hahn. "I told him it was coming, it was right there (and) to just keep doing what he's doing."



Salem junior Nolan Rudis walks back to the seating area at Town N Country Lanes in Westland following a strike during his 300 game.

"I never imagined it would be that same week. That was a huge start for the Salem boys varsity team. It really rallied around him."

Tough to beat

Hahn and co-coach Glenn Clark said Rudis earned the team's first "official" perfect game.

Ryan Clark came very close, with 297 and 299 games. Kevin Williams also threw a 300, but that was in an unofficial tournament at Super Bowl.

"To 557 will be a tough score to beat statewide for the entire season," Glenn Clark said.

With the big accomplishment in the books, Rudis said he now can concentrate on improving his game and helping the Rocks earn success this season.

Rudis also said he might consider bowling on a college team someday.

"I've thought about maybe bowling in college," Rudis added. "It all depends on how my high school (career) ... ends up."

Luckily for the Rocks, that's still a bit down the road.

smith@hometownlife.com

PREP WRESTLING

Another strong tournament showing for Wildcats

Plymouth finishes second at tough Yeti Challenge

Plymouth's varsity wrestling team continues to excel this season, going 4-1 at Saturday's Milford Yeti Challenge — good for second place.

The Wildcats nearly came away with the championship, falling 35-30 to Swan Valley in the finals.

"Most of the matches were very close and bonus points head end up being the difference," Plymouth head coach Quinn Guernsey said.

Winning their bouts for the Wildcats were Joey Shaver, Hussein Youssef, Michael Jordan, Brandon Harris, Mohamad Youssef and Sterling Schuster.

Plymouth reached the finals thanks to good showings in pool play against Lakeland (53-18), Trenton (46-24) and Jackson Northwest (42-24).

Then, the Wildcats faced Lake Fenton (No. 9 in Division 3) in the semi-finals and came away with an impressive 42-27 victory.

"It was a very competitive dual starting at the 140 weight class," Guernsey continued. "Lake Fenton established an early lead winning five of the first six matches."

Guernsey noted that Plymouth did well to limit the damage in those matches to just 23 points, especially Shaver, who held No. 2-ranked Carson Whaley to a decision.

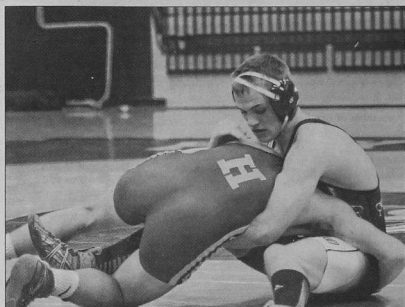
Hussein Youssef lost in overtime to No. 7-ranked Trent Yilger at 171 and

freshman Zach Lohrmann (215) overcame an early 4-0 deficit to pin his opponent.

Plymouth subsequently took control with a string of wins. Collin Reed pinned Bobbie Kincaid and Harris won 4-2 over Hunter Corcoran.

Mohamad Youssef and Schifter then came up big with back-to-back pins over state-ranked Jared Corcoran and Zach Zoll. Harris and Mohamad Youssef were undefeated on the day and both can keep their streaks going this weekend at the Howell Highland Duals.

Plymouth will go up against Howell, Anchor Bay, Ann Arbor Skyline, Lake Fenton and Rochester at the Howell tournament. Then, the Wildcats open the KLAFA divisional schedule.



Plymouth's Joey Shaver (right), shown from earlier this season, had another strong performance at the Yeti Challenge in Milford.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL

Tuesday, Jan. 7

Plymouth at Churchill, 7 p.m.

Salem at Northville, 7 p.m.

Liggett at PCA, 7 p.m.

Canton at John Glenn, 7 p.m.

Cahoon at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m.

HVJ at Macomb Christian, 7 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 10

S.L. East at Salem, 7 p.m.

Franklin at Plymouth, 7 p.m.

Northville at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

Wayne at Canton, 7 p.m.

Luth. Westland at HVJ, 7 p.m.

PCA at Franklin and Christian, 5:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Tuesday, Jan. 7

Calvary at Luth. Westland, 5:30 p.m.

HVJ at Macomb Christian, 5:30 p.m.

Duckett at Plymouth, 7 p.m.

Northville at Salem, 7 p.m.

John Glenn at Canton, 7 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 10

Manistee at Lathrop, 7:30 p.m.

Salem at S.L. East, 7 p.m.

Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m.

Stevenson at Northville, 7 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY

Tuesday, Jan. 7

Northville at Northville at Edger Arena, 8 p.m.

Monty vs. PCA Penguins at Arctic Pond, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 8

Franklin vs. Canton at Eddie Edick TBA

Franklin vs. Plymouth at Arctic Pond, 6:30 p.m.

Salem at OSM, 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 9

Ladyswood vs. G.P. South at Arctic Pond, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 10

Churchill vs. Salem, Franklin vs. Stevenson

at Edger Arena, 6 & 8 p.m.

Plymouth at USM Tourney, TBA

Saturday, Jan. 11

Ladyswood vs. Monty at Arctic Pond, 5:30 p.m.

Stevenson vs. Salem at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.

W.I. Wild vs. PCA Penguins at Suburban, 6 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING

Wednesday, Jan. 8

Clarensville Quad, 5:30 p.m.

John Glenn Quad, 5:30 p.m.

Franklin Quad, 5:30 p.m.

Northville Quad, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Bay City Western Dual, 8:30 a.m.

Luth. Westland Tourney, 9 a.m.

Stevenson Invitational, 9 a.m.

Wayne Tournament, 9 a.m.

Salem at P.H. Huron North, 9 a.m.

Garden City Novice, 9:30 a.m.

Warren Woods Tower Inv., 10 a.m.

Glavin Invitational, 10 a.m.

BOYS SWIMMING

Thursday, Jan. 9

Canton at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.

Franklin at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.

Wayne at John Glenn, 6:30 a.m.

Friday, Jan. 10

Salem, Stevenson at A.A. Pioneer, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Lakeland Invitational, 1 p.m.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Tuesday, Jan. 7

Brighton/Hawthorn at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 8

Salem vs. Canton at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 10

Canton at Farmington, 6:30 p.m.

Ladyswood vs. N.D. Prep at Sterling Lanes, 3:45 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 7

Wayne vs. Canton at Now Boat, 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 8

John Glenn vs. Wayne at Super Bowl, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 9

Ladyswood vs. Western Regina at Boat One, 3:45 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Plymouth tournament at Super Bowl, 1 p.m.

GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER

Wednesday, Jan. 8

Wayne Quad, 6 p.m.

Canton Quad, 6 p.m.

Salem Quad, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 9

Luth. Westland at MISC, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Luth. Westland Invitational, noon.

Stoney Creek Invitational, 3 p.m.

PREP SKIING

Wednesday, Jan. 9

Ladyswood Skiing at Alpine Valley, 9:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 10

Luth. Westland Skiing at Alpine Valley, 3:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 11

UM-Dearborn at Madonna, 7:30 p.m.

Schoolcraft at Oakland, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Madison at Aquinas, 1 p.m.

Schoolcraft at Henry Ford, 3 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 9

UM-Dearborn at Madonna, 5:30 p.m.

Schoolcraft at Oakland, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Madison at Aquinas, 1 p.m.

Henry Ford at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Friday, Jan. 10

Py. Westland at Sarnia, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Orissa vs. Py. Whalers at Compuware, 7 p.m.



Jordan Addeci of the Plymouth Whalers beats Sault Ste. Marie goalie Matt Murray during Thursday's shootout clinching the team's 3-2 win. (NENA LAVERTY / PLYMOUTH WHALERS)

WHALERS

Continued from Page B1

Sandlak, with 13:45 to go in the second period to the game at 1-1. Sandlak, who leads the Whalers with 18 goals, tapped in a cross-crease feed from winger Matt Mistle for the power-play goal. Lorentz started the play.

But the Greyhounds (26-8-1-4) regained the lead on a goal by Jared McCann with 3:37 left in the period. The Soo's first goal came at 19:59 of the first period, on a shot by Sergey Tolchinsky (from Andrew Fritsch).

Bouncing back

According to Plymouth head coach and general manager Mike Vellucci, the win was gratifying because it followed a disappointing 5-1 loss New Year's Eve to Windsor.

"This was probably one of our better games we've played as a team," Vellucci said. "We played really smart and got some good scoring chances."

"You get to compete and play hard every shift like we did tonight and we can't take minutes off like we did in Windsor. We did not play very well there from the get-go."

Vellucci and his players undoubtedly will never forget being part of the Hockeytown Winter Festival at Comerica Park in Detroit (the Whalers won 3-2 Dec. 29 against London), but now can focus entirely on moving up the OHL, Western Conference standings.

With the win over the Greyhounds, Plymouth is eighth in the conference with 32 points. The top eight teams make the playoffs.

"That was a great outdoor game (at Comerica), obviously, but today was a big win for us. We stuck to it," Vellucci said.

doubleheader) "was a great experience, but it's a new year. We're starting to play our game. I think it's going to be more positive from here."

Plymouth's win over Sault Ste. Marie followed impressive wins at Oshawa (first in the Eastern Conference) and against London.

"We see what the teams are like at the top of the standings," Lorentz said, "and we're trying to battle to get up as high as we can."

Notebook

► Plymouth had a new defenseman Thursday, as the team signed Alex DiCarlo to a 10-game stint.

DiCarlo succeeds defenseman and Canton native Tyler Sensky, who per OHL rules had to be returned to his previous team (Honeybaked Midget Majors) as of Jan. 1. Sensky played six games with the Whalers.

"He (DiCarlo) can only play a few games for us this year, but while we have injuries we can use him," Vellucci said about DiCarlo, a 2013 draft pick of the Whalers who hails from Ontario.

"He's going to be a great player for us, he's a big kid."

Vellucci said it is a good thing for the team's future to provide valuable playing experience to youngsters such as Sensky and DiCarlo.

"We're a young team this year," he said. "The more players we can get in there, the better."

► On the injury front, Vellucci said defenseman Alex Peters (leg) was about one week away from returning to action.

Meanwhile, the Whalers played Thursday without the services of forward Victor Cris Ryberg, who was struck in the jaw by a puck against Windsor. He is expected to make a speedy return to the lineup.

► Only about 1,400 attended the Plymouth-Soo matinee.

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Marlins whip wildcats in hoops win

By Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

Farmington Hills Mercy finished the old year with an impressive victory and a perfect 5-0 record in girls basketball.

In a battle between unbeaten teams Monday, Mercy throttled visiting Plymouth with its aggressive defense and rolled to a surprisingly easy win, 63-26.

The Wildcats jumped to a 6-0 lead at the start of the game, at which time Mercy coach Gary Morris called for a timeout.

"Once we hit some shots and were able to get our press going, that really turned the tide pretty quickly," Morris said. "We managed to come back and get the lead by the end of the (first) quarter."

"And I thought we played a really good second quarter. I thought we were very efficient at the offensive end and we were able to exert a lot of pressure (after made baskets)."

The Marlins roared back from the early deficit to lead by four points after the first eight minutes, 17-13.

Mercy held Plymouth to just 13 points over the last three quarters and no more than eight in any one quarter.

The Marlins surged into halftime with a 34-16 lead and extended their advantage to 47-24 at the end of three.

"They're a big team," Morris said, adding Plymouth's Shelby Cheston is 6-foot-4 and Leah Kliczinski is 6-1. "Conversely, we don't have anybody over 5-9 on the

floor."

That certainly was a concern of ours going in—that they would be able to use their size and cause us problems. Fortunately, we were able to get the tempo where we would prefer it to be.

We had seen them a couple times and they had been playing well. They're a team we thought would be a

challenge for us. Our style was able to bother them, fortunately for us."

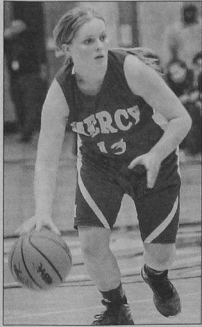
Senior Sierra LeGrande scored 16 points to lead the Marlins. Junior Taylor Jones was next with 13; seniors Candice Leatherwood and Allie Goryczka netted 11 apiece. Jada Woody had nine points and Cheston six for the Wildcats (5-1).

Leatherwood also had six assists. There weren't many rebounds to be had, according to Morris.

"I don't know how many turnovers we forced, but they didn't get a ton of shots," he said. "There weren't a lot of rebounds for us as a result."

"I thought we did a nice job taking care of the ball. We only had 10 turnovers on the night. We did shoot ball well, which always helps, and I thought we defended very well."

"We were able to get our pressure defense going and it led to some offensive opportunities for us. In addition, I thought we were very effective in our offensive sets."



Senior guard Paige Roberts helps get the Marlins into their offense. JOHN STORMZANO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Leahwood

Habrowski part of Notre Dame's national title team

By Marty Budner
Staff Writer

Matt Habrowski is a lucky charm on the pitch.

In his freshman year of high school, Habrowski was a member of Brother Rice's Division 1 state championship soccer team. Four years later, Habrowski, now a freshman at the University of Notre Dame, was part of the Fighting Irish men's soccer squad which recently captured the NCAA Division I championship.

Notre Dame won the 2013 College Cup with a 2-1 victory over Maryland in the national title game played Dec. 15 at PPL Park in Philadelphia. The Terrapins were seeking their fourth national championship. Instead, it was Notre Dame landing its first.

The 18-year-old Berkeley resident was more than happy to be part of season-ending championship runs at both schools.

"I [winning titles in his first year] didn't really register with me until after the tournament," Habrowski said. "I got a text from an old coach (at Rice) and that was really cool. And then I heard from a few others and who said something about that. My first years at both schools were something special."

Positive support

Habrowski was a redshirt defender for the Fighting Irish this year, but still an active member of the squad. He was a full-time practice participant who was "lucky enough" to travel with the team.

Although he didn't see game action, Habrowski felt just as much a part of the championship as any full-time roster player.

"It was awesome to win it," he said. "I was following them last year when they had the number one ranking and came up a bit short. I think the team was a little bit unlucky last year."

"As this year progressed, we knew we could do it," he added. "Each year there's a whole new team, a new dynamic to each team. That was understood."

Habrowski took particular pride in the fact he helped prepare his teammates for the storied tournament run. He said his role was to provide positive support and maintain a strong work ethic on the practice field at all times.

"The attitude of the entire team was great," Habrowski said. "No one put themselves above anyone else on the team. Even the guys who weren't playing, we kept a positive attitude."

"I think that really helped to make a difference. We were pushing the guys in practice and I think it was all about getting better as a team. We understood our roles, that we had a job to do and that was something special."

"We just took it a game at a time. We treated the tournament like we had five national championship games," he added. "They were all tough. We knew we had to go out and play hard at all times."

Habrowski played three years of varsity soccer at Brother Rice, serving as a

"The attitude of the entire team was great. No one put themselves above anyone else on the team. Even the guys who weren't playing, we kept a positive attitude."

MATT HABROWSKI
Notre Dame redshirt freshman

team captain both his sophomore and junior seasons. He helped lead the Warriors to two district titles and one Catholic League championship. The three-time letter winner also was a three-time all-Catholic League performer. Habrowski did not play his senior year at Rice, electing to hone his skills in the United States Soccer Development Academy with the Crew Soccer Academy Wolves, where he was teammates with fellow Notre Dame freshman and Detroit Country Day graduate Oliver Harris.

While with the USSDA, he was ranked as the 27th-best player nationally (sixth best defender) in the Class of 2013, according to Top Drawer Soccer.

"I ended up playing academy soccer and it is what it is," Habrowski said. "I think the training and practices really helped to contribute to my overall development and skill level and that is the way to go. But I did miss the feeling of not playing with my high school teammates."

Mental toughness

Veteran Notre Dame head coach Bobby Clark likes Habrowski's skill set as a left-sided central defender. Habrowski is considered a "smooth player who passes well and plays under control."

Habrowski not only improved on that skill set this year, but learned the necessary mental toughness needed to win a national championship.

Habrowski said he plans to bring that mental set into action as he strives to become a more integral part of the team over the next few years.

"I definitely felt like a part of the team even though I didn't play this year," Habrowski said. "Every guy on the team had the right attitude and there was that feeling of togetherness."

"We played the first three games at home before heading off to the College Cup. There was a lot of enthusiasm and we wanted to keep that winning feeling going at the College Cup. Once we got there, we had complete focus and were not distracted. We just jelled in the finals and were able to win it. That was awesome."

"I really learned a lot this year. I want to help this team compete at a high level while I'm there over the next few years," he added. "I learned that, to compete at that high level, you have to keep the right attitude. That is really important."

CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

Following up with two free throws was junior guard Alianza Brown, who tallied 19 points to lead South in the scoring department.

Hot streak

Canton, however, finished the frame with a free throw by senior forward Paige Arresco (21 points) to make it a 37-29 contest entering the fourth.

The Chiefs turned up the heat and the pace in the first part of the final stanza, reeling off the first nine points to go up 38-37 with 2:45 remaining.

Keying that surge were freshman wing guard Erin Hult (four points) and Arresco, each making a pair of field goals.

Arresco tied the non-league matchup with a driving layup and sophomore guard Natalie Winters canned a free throw to put the Chiefs up a point.

That seemed to light a fire under the Blue Devils (8-1), who last season lost in overtime to Grand Haven in the Class A finals.

Draining a jumper was junior guard Gerrra Rice (13 points), who tacked on a foul shot, putting South back up 40-38.

The Blue Devils would not relinquish that lead, helped along by several Canton misses at the foul line.

For the game, the Chiefs made just 10 of 19 from the charity stripe.

Scoring seven points for Canton was senior center Taylor Hunley, while senior forward Shannon Perry tallied four points off the bench.

"These kids aren't going to quit," Samulski said. "They're going to keep battling and playing hard. That credit goes



Canton senior forward Shannon Perry (No. 14) takes aim at the basket Friday against Grosse Pointe South. JOHN KEMSKI/EXPRESS PHOTO

to those guys. They play their butts off, they don't ever get down."

"We were able to come back, take the lead, and then down the stretch we don't execute well enough to win the game."

Work to do

Samulski said the Blue Devils' speed and defensive pressure had something to do with the number of turnovers.

But he took the blame for that.

"That's on me, I got to keep trying to find ways for this

team to get better," Samulski noted. "We're just not handling the ball real well, we're not passing and catching real well."

"... They pressure you and they speed you up, but we got to do a better job of taking care of the ball, being tough with the ball, being strong with the ball."

Samulski said he will work with his players in practice on fixing some of those issues and "helping these girls take care of the ball."

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TRIBUTE

Continued from Page B1

Heinzman, among others, will offer remarks about Thomann before the Salem-Stevenson game. At halftime, four players will be introduced and a reception will take place following the contest in the Salem cafeteria.

Meanwhile, the current team will wear blue wristbands with Thomann's initials for the rest of the season.

The 71-year-old Thomann died Friday, Dec. 27, following a heart procedure. He coached a total of 41 years at Salem, the first decade with the boys and the last 31 years with the girls. His 2013-14 team was off to a fine 5-1 start before news of his wife's coach's death shocked many over the holiday break.

Taking over on an interim

basis is one of Thomann's former players, Lindsay Klemmer, who graduated from Salem in 1990 and went on to a career at Madonna University. Klemmer joined Thomann's staff at the start of the current season, following five years as an assistant coach at Concordia University.

Among those stunned by Thomann's sudden passing was Plymouth's first-year varsity girls basketball coach Nick Brandon. The Wildcats wore blue headbands in Monday's game against Farmington Hills Mercy in tribute to Thomann.

"The players and coaches of the Plymouth basketball family are so lucky to have gotten to know coach Thomann through the years and he will be deeply missed by all involved with our program," Brandon said. "Coach Fred was like a walking encyclopedia."

BOYS BASKETBALL

Livonia Churchill made a gallant comeback, but came up short in a 57-48 boys basketball loss Friday night to visiting Valued Lake Central.

The Chargers, who trailed 40-30 after three quarters, pulled to within one with three minutes remaining on a pair of free throws and senior guard Donte Jackson who led all scorers with 26 points.

But Central, which improved to 5-0 overall, sealed the victory by making 10 of 14 free throws in the final quarter.

Justin Nafso led the Vikings with 17 points, while

Walter Kelsner added 10.

Jalen Reynolds contributed eight points for the Chargers, who shot only 3-of-8 (37.5 percent) from the foul line and 19-of-46 (41.3 percent).

Meanwhile, Central was 16-of-22 (72.7 percent) from the free throw stripe and 19-of-41 from the floor (46.3 percent).

Canton 6-0

Foot Canton turned back Saline 43-35 Friday night in a varsity boys basketball non-league matchup.

With the victory, the

Chiefs improved to 6-0 on the season with the league portion of the schedule beginning 7 p.m. Tuesday at Westland against visiting Northville.

"On a personal note, I am so fortunate to have been able to call coach Fred a colleague during the past few years and he was always full of wisdom and advice that has helped me tremendously as a young coach."

The Canton girls basketball team also honored Thomann during Friday's home game against Grosse Pointe South by donning blue socks and headbands. Chiefs head coach Brian Samulski wore a blue and gray shirt at the start of the game as a tribute to Thomann.

Salem's first game with Klemmer at the helm is 7 p.m. Tuesday against visiting Northville.

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Churchill comeback stymied by WLC

Chiefs improved to 6-0 on the season with the league portion of the schedule beginning 7 p.m. Tuesday at Westland against visiting Northville.

Details of the win were not available as of press time.

Clarenceville falls

Livonia Clarenceville (4-3) was limited to four first-half field goals in a 78-54 loss Friday to Dearborn Edsel Ford.

Brothers Chad and Craig Gaillard paced the winners with 19 and 14 points, respectively.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Battle of Fans set

The Battle of the Fans contest is on. The third annual battle, presented by the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Student Advisory Council, seeks to find the

state's top high school cheering section.

The submission deadline is noon Saturday, Jan. 11. Five finalists will be chosen, with the winners announced Feb. 21 and recognized March 21 at the Breslin Center. For more information, visit mhsaa.com

‘Ring’ing in the new year

Westland duo find the sweet science of boxing an appealing alternative to trouble

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Three years ago, Westland resident Cory Mulhern's aggressive nature was getting him into more trouble than he wanted or needed.

"I was getting in a lot of fights at school," remembered Mulhern, now 17. "Someone said I should start boxing to use my aggression in a positive way. That's when I started coming here."

"Here" for Mulhern – and several other Oberlin-area athletes – is the Dynamic Boxing Club, a Westland-based sanctuary for ring enthusiasts who are finding that a lot of sweat equity can lead to good medals and – someday, hopefully – green cash.

While still in his formative years in the ring, Mulhern is developing into a potential prize fighter.

Boxing at 201 pounds, he has carved out a 15-5 record thanks to a work ethic that his mentor, Paul Soucy, vigorously praised.

"The thing about Cory is that he is here just about every day," said Soucy, the owner of the Dynamic Boxing Club. "And when he's here, he's working."

"To be successful in boxing, you have to be totally dedicated to conditioning, which is 75 percent of the sport. And Cory has bought into that. If you're in great condition, you can go a long way in this sport. We'll teach you to box, but if you're in bad shape



Westland residents David Futeau (left) and Cory Mulhern are chasing their dreams of boxing glory at Dynamic Boxing Club in Westland. ED WRIGHT

and you're not willing to work, you're in the wrong sport."

Mulhern's weekly boxing regimen includes almost daily runs that cover three to four miles – no matter the weather. "I actually like running better in the winter than I do the summer," he admitted. "The less heat, the better."

Boxing's benefits – all non-monetary so far – have been plentiful for Mulhern.

"I am a lot more confident person now, especially when I win," he said. "I'm healthier because of all the working out I do, and I only get in a fight when I'm in the ring."

While he enjoys the physicality of the sport, Mulhern said the intangible aspects of boxing are also appealing. "It like the strategy that comes with it," he said. "You always have to be thinking, every time you're in the ring or else one punch can put you down."

Fellow Westland resident David Futeau has also been bitten by the boxing bug. Now 14 and a

freshman at Livonia Franklin High School, Futeau has already chiseled out an impressive 34-14 record between the ropes.

Although he has dabbed in several sports, including cross country, wrestling and baseball, it's boxing that now soaks up most of his competitive juices.

"The thing I like the best about boxing is that there are just three people in the ring – you, the other guy and the ref," he said. "If you don't win, the only one you can blame is yourself."

Futeau said he often spends six days a week at Dynamic, staying an average of two-and-a-half hours per visit.

"Boxing keeps me away from the bad crowd at school," he said. "If I'm here every day, I'm not going to be getting into any trouble."

Futeau said his match schedule fluctuates from one to four tournaments in a month.

He is currently taking the jump in weight classes from 95 to 119.

"Ultimately," he said, "I want to make the United

States Olympic Team in 2020 – that's my No. 1 goal."

There are a lot of guys who come in here and want to give it a shot, but they soon find out that they're not willing to give what it takes to be successful," he said. "If you're not willing to pay the price, if you're not willing to dedicate your self to the workouts, you need to try something else."

"We have a lot of guys who just want to come in and work out, try to lose weight and learn the art of self defense. And that's great. Any physical activity you can get is better than sitting doing nothing."

Soucy said only the self-motivated athletes succeed in the ring. "We don't chase after anybody who get in here and work out," he said. "If they want it bad enough, they show up. It's all about self-motivation."

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Glenn guard signs



Westland John Glenn senior point-guard Kaia Barnes (bottom, left), recently signed an NAIA letter of intent to play basketball at Olivet Nazarene (Ill.) University. The 5-foot-4 Barnes averaged 12 points per game last season as the Rockets finished 24-2 and reached the state Class A semifinals. Also on hand for the signing were (top row, clockwise from left) brother Genesis Barnes, Jr., and mother Tisha Barnes, father Genesis Barnes, Sr. and Olivet Nazarene coach Laren Stansits.

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COMMUNITY LIFE

Good times: Livonia, Oakland clubs present family event — with dogs

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Alan Dorfman says he turned a few heads when he took on chairmanship of the Oakland Kennel Club's annual Michigan Winter Dog Classic six years ago.

"I had people in dog costumes, and the kids loved it. I had face painting. I've seen some shows fall by the wayside. I want to make sure our show remains. That's why I wanted to open it up and make it a family event," said Dorfman, Club vice president. "It's the first family show of the New Year held in the Detroit area."

It's the only dog show of its size in the metro area this year. The Detroit Kennel Club canceled its winter show at Cobo Center because of a lack of sponsorship. Dorfman says the Michigan Winter Dog Classic in Novi may draw more vendors this year because of the Detroit cancellation, but stressed that it has always drawn 1,000-700 more dogs than the Cobo event.

The Oakland Kennel Club and Livonia Kennel Club have presented the Michigan Winter together for the past four years and will team up again for "Michigan's Largest Dog Show," 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, Jan. 16-19, at The Suburban Collection, 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and children, 7-12, and free for youngsters 11 and under. Family passes for two adults and three children are available for \$35. Parking at Suburban Collection costs \$5.

More than 7,000 dogs are expected to compete in the show, which includes conformation — where judges size up dogs according to a breed standard — agility, obedience and rally trials. Vendors, selling everything from motorized dog treadmills to photo portraits and antler chews, and local animal rescue organizations will be on hand. Duck herding demonstrations, weight pull contests, Canine Good Citizen testing and the My Dog Can Do That events return to the show this year.

"I invite people who have been going to the Cobo show to come to our show and take a look. All the events are under one roof. It makes a complete show," Dorfman said. "I've been asked to speak to clubs around the country on putting on a successful show."



A dog owner tries to coax his poodle over a hurdle with the help of a trainer during My Dog Can Do That, an event sponsored by the American Kennel Club.



A dog pulls several spectators on a wheeled cart during the weight pull event last year at the Michigan Winter Dog Classic.

Unbenched show

The Detroit Kennel Club show was a benched event, meaning that the dogs stayed on public view before and after competing in the judging ring. Dorfman and Lee Patten, show

chair from the Livonia Kennel Club, don't intend to incorporate that element into the Michigan Winter Dog Classic. "The handlers don't like it. You get a 6-month-old puppy being stuck in a crate all day and it's tough," Dorfman said.

"It's a real long day."

Patten said most exhibitors agree to stay at the show beyond their dog's judging time and many participate in "Meet the Breed" events Saturday-Sunday, enabling visitors to ask questions about the dogs and see different breeds up close.

The Livonia Kennel Club presents the Thursday-Friday portion of the show that includes duck herding and weight pull demonstrations. The Oakland Club also includes duck herding in its portion of the show, Saturday-Sunday, along with Meet the Breeds and the interactive My Dog Can Do That event.

"Weight pull — those are the huskies and other dogs with a sled that's loaded down with bricks or bags of dog food," Patten said. "I owned a collie years ago that did weight pull. He wasn't all that big, but was strong and powerful. The dogs either have it or they don't."

Interactive

Show visitors can't test their own dogs out on the heavy sleds, but they can sign up for an introduction to agility at the My Dog Can Do That program. The American Kennel Club introduced the event in 2011 at a show in Houston, Texas. When the AKC offered to run the program at the Michigan Winter Dog Classic last year, Dorfman didn't hesitate.

"I jumped on it immediately. There are still a lot of purists out there who say there should only be purebred dogs at the shows. But it's 2014, not 1940 and things advance. Sometimes change is good," Dorfman said. "The AKC brings trainers in. They set up weave poles, jumps, hoops, tunnels and people bring their pets, at no charge, to participate. They go in the ring and a trainer shows the owner how they can do competition events."

"We set a new record with 371 signed up over two days last year. It has really opened up the dog world to the public. Last year, we had people lining up around the room waiting to get into the ring with their dog. I've had 5-year-old kids take their dog in the ring at My Dog Can Do That. At other shows you're not allowed to come in with your dog, but we're doing it."

Patten and Dorfman say visiting dogs were well-behaved last year. They are allowed to see the rest of the show with their owners, in addition to trying the My Dog Can Do That event. Dogs must be at least 6 months old, have their rabies certificate on hand, and wear a buckle collar — no prong collars are allowed. Harnesses and leashes from 4-6 feet in length are permitted, according to Hillary Prim, public relations spokeswoman for the AKC. "Attending dogs should be social, good around strange people and dogs and noises, but no prior training is required," Prim noted in an email. "The trainers will give each owner/dog team a mini agility lesson and also will give all owners a list of dog training schools in the area."

Trainers use positive reinforcement. Owners may bring treats and toys to motivate their dogs.

For more information on the Michigan Winter Dog Classic, visit michiganwinterdogclassic.com.

Nonprofit calendars selling fast

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Cheryl Partin recently mailed her garden club's 2014 calendar to recipients in Louisiana, Aruba and Mexico. She has a few left for local customers, but they're going fast.

"It has been such a success. It's unbelievable," said Partin, recording secretary for the Garden City Garden Club and one of several club members who posed for calendar. "I didn't think this would happen."

The organization sold nearly 400 calendars since early fall. "We have 15-20 left."

Photographs in the calendar show what appear to be scantily-clad members in not-so-revealing poses outdoors during warm weather.

If you're longing to see sunlight, grass and flowers, Garden City Garden Club's calendar may have what it takes to keep your mind off the snow forecast for this weekend.

Proceeds from calendar sales fund scholarships for high school seniors. The calendars cost \$12 each and are available from Lucky Dog Luxury Daycare & Boarding, 5921 Middlebelt, Garden City, 734-261-1733. Or order through the Club's Facebook page at facebook.com/gcgcgm; visit its website at gcgc.weebly.com; or call Partin at 734/788-1319. Add \$3 for mailed orders.

Helping homeless animals

Four-pawed models lounge, peek out from under blankets



Paula Peck graces the cover of the Garden City Garden Club's 2014 calendar, featuring the organization's members in "revealing" poses.



Guardian Angel Animal Rescue's (GAAR) 2014 calendar includes photos of homeless and adopted dogs and cats that the Livonia-based organization has helped. This group is featured for November.

and smile at the camera in the 2014 Guardian Angel Animal Rescue calendar. The Livonia-based organization rescues, fosters and finds homes for animals that have been abandoned, abused and neglected. Its volunteers often rescue

dogs and cats from abandoned houses and the streets of Detroit. They also partner with other rescues to bring food, dog houses, straw and new tie-outs to chained dogs in Detroit.

The group's calendar includes photos of dogs and cats that have been adopted and those still awaiting new homes. Send a check or money order for \$10 to GAAR P.O. Box 511309 Livonia, MI 48151. All proceeds are used for GAAR's rescued animals.

The Michigan Humane Society, with shelters in Westland, Rochester Hills and Detroit, also offers a 2014 calendar with photos of pets submitted by supporters. Cost is \$15. The calendar is available from MHS' online store at www.shoppmichiganhumane.org. Proceeds benefit MHS' adoptable pets.



Monear

Jazz musicians perform at church arts series

First Presbyterian Church of Farmington's "Great Performances in a Sacred Space," series kicks off the New Year with a jazz show, 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5.

Cliff Monear Trio and vocalist Jan Franco will perform.

Monear, a product of Boston's famed Berklee College of Music, teaches in the Jazz Studies program at Wayne State University, and performs with his trio nationwide. He also serves as the exclusive Steinway & Sons representative to the Michigan jazz community.

Franco is a singer and songwriter, with broad vocal range and repertoire.

Admission is a suggested donation of \$15 per person or \$25 per family. First Presbyterian Church is located at 2616S Farmington Road, just east of the 11 Mile and Far-



Franco

mington Road intersection, in Farmington Hills.

For details about the performing arts series, visit www.farmington-pres.org/performing-arts.

SOCIAL SCENE

Fans get sneak peek of 'Downton Abbey' new season

By Julie Yolles
Social Scene Columnist

The children were nestled all snug in their beds, while visions of a Rose Bowl win danced in their heads. The lunches were made and homework all done, so now it was time for the adults to have fun.



Julie Yolles

SOCIAL
SCENE

At 9 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, Detroit Public Television (DPTV) will broadcast the long-anticipated Season 4 premiere of *Downton Abbey*.

PBS Masterpiece Theatre's Season 3 ended with a birth and the shocking death of beloved Matthew. Season 4 opens six months later after the tragedy. Now, for some 200-plus DPTV supporters, they're already in-the-know of the storylines and outcome of the Season 4 opener. The donors, many of whom are members of the DPTV Downton Abbey Society, attended an exclusive, sold-out *Downton Abbey* premiere screening last month at the Maple Theater in Bloomfield Hills. The event's *Downton Abbey*-inspired pre-glow included tea sandwiches and finger pastries, served amid silver, lace and a candlelabrum.

On Jan. 19, DPTV will show the Season 3 premiere of *Sherlock*, immediately following *Downton Abbey*. And now that Hanukkah and Christmas are finally over, let's move on to Valentine's Day gift ideas. How about *Downton Abbey* Season 4 – available on Blu-Ray and DVD Jan. 28.

Start your engines

That's right, the 2014 North American International Auto Show is upon us. This year's Charity Preview will be held 6-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 17, at Cobo Center and will benefit Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan, Boys Hope Girls Hope Detroit, The Children's Center, The Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation, Detroit Auto Dealers Association Charitable Foundation Fund, The Detroit Institute for Children, Detroit



Livonia residents Amy Fangbner (left) and Allen and Madeleine Phillips discuss possible plots for Season 4 of *Downton Abbey*. Madeleine Phillips threw in a wild card – perhaps Mary ends up with the chauffeur. PHOTOS BY JULIE YOLLES

PAL, Judson Center and March of Dimes Metro Detroit. Tickets are \$350 for the highly anticipated black-tie gala. Go to www.charitypreview.com. That same night, The Children's Center will hold "Detroit Razzle Dazzle," with a pre-event reception from 4:30-7:30 p.m. and a Roaring '20s-style celebration from 8 p.m. to midnight, at Ford Field to benefit the 85-year-old organization. Reserve tickets by calling 313-831-5535 or go to www.thechildrenscenter.com.

Contact Julie Yolles at socialscenejulie@gmail.com or 248-642-9465.



Plymouth residents and *Downton Abbey* fans Molly Kramer (left) and Jenni Renaud enjoy the premiere screening of the show's fourth season at the Maple Theater in Bloomfield Hills. Kramer is a big fan of Anna, the Lady's Maid, and Renaud loves the character, Lady Violet, played by Dame Maggie Smith.

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Send material for the Garden & Nature Calendar to Sharon Dargay, Observer & Eccentric, sdargay@hometownlife.com.

Livonia Garden Club

Lisa Steinkopf, a certified indoor landscape technician, will present a PowerPoint program on succulents at the next meeting of the Livonia Garden Club, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, at Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. She'll also have live examples on hand. Steinkopf is a member of the Garden Writer's Association and is the houseplant guru from Steinkopf Nursery, 734-466-2555.

Stoneflies

Friends of the Rouge need volunteers to help look for stoneflies in the Rouge River on Saturday, Jan. 25. Searchers meet at the University of Michigan-Dearborn at 9 a.m. and then carpool in 10-12 teams to Rouge streams located in metro Detroit. Volunteers must dress for the weather and be prepared to be out in the cold for several hours. Only trained team leaders go into the water; volunteers search through samples on the bank. Children, 5 and over, are welcome if accompanied by a participating adult and if they are dressed for the weather. Volunteers must pre-register by Jan. 10 on the FOTR website www.therouge.org or by calling 313-792-9621.

Heritage Park

» Getting To Know the Pines and Eating the Trees workshops will be held 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, and 3-8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9. The sessions are for ages 8 to adult. Participants will identify trees using a field guide, and then will explore the edible, medicinal, and utilitarian uses for a pine tree. They also will make a basic pine balm. Advance registration is required at recreg.fhogv.com or the Costick Center. The fee is \$35 per person. Participants should bring a lunch; all other materials will be provided.

» Owl Prowl is set for 6-7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10 and 17. Participants will take a guided night hike through the park in search of owls and other nocturnal animals. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Fee is \$3 per person. Register in advance at recreg.fhogv.com or at the Costick Center. Participants also may pay at the door, space permitting.

» The Junior Naturalist club meets 10-11:30 a.m. the second Saturday of each month. It's for ages 5-11 and is a "drop-off class." Topics are animal tracking, Jan. 12; owl prowling, Feb. 9; maple sugaring, March 9; signs of



Learn all about pine trees, Sunday, Jan. 5, and Thursday, Jan. 9, at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills.

spring, April 13; beginning birding, May 11, and bug and wetland exploration, June 8. The fee is \$10 per class in advance and \$12 per class paid at the door. Register online at recreg.fhogv.com.

» The nature center at the park offers classes for preschoolers Monday-Thursday mornings from Jan. 14 through March 6. Each class offers a different nature theme each week and time outdoors if weather permits: Nature's Little Artists, for ages 1½-4, 10-11:30 a.m. Monday, Little Trekkers, ages 1-4, 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Wednesday; Young Explorers, ages 4-6, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Thursday. Preregistration is required for Nature's Little Artists. The fee is \$56 for residents and \$66 for nonresidents. Little Trekkers and Young Explorers Preschool offer a drop-in fee of \$8 per class, paid at the door. Preregister at a discounted rate, also available online at recreg.fhogv.com or at the Costick Center. Heritage Park is located at 24914 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills; 248-477-1135.

English Gardens

» English Gardens experts will offer tips on growing flowers, vegetables and herbs from seed at a free presentation, 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11.

» Learn how to arrange fresh flowers at a free presentation, 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18, at all English Gardens stores except Ann Arbor and East-pointe.

» Get tips on attracting birds to your backyard, 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25.

» Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, 734-332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, 313-278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, 248-280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield; 248-851-7506.

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JANUARY

BETHANY

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 12
Location: Nelson's 30149 Ford Road, Garden City
Details: The group meets for breakfast. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit office of youth and family, providing support to divorced and separated persons of all Christian faiths.

Website: www.bethanysemi.org

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 9:11 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 12
Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, between Inkster Road and Middlebelt, Garden City
Details: All you can eat, pan-cakes, sausage and beverage, \$6

CONCERT

Time/Date: 6:10 p.m., Friday, Jan. 11
Location: Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church, 3600 Levee, Redford

Details: Christian concert featuring the Hosanna-Tabor Fire Wreath, The Savior's Army and Lost & Found, admission is free but love offerings are welcomed.

Contact: 313-937-2424

EXERCISE CLASS

Time/Date: 10:11 a.m. Monday, beginning Jan. 13
Location: St. John Neumann Parish, 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: Six-week class includes aerobic movements, balance and strength training, high repetitions with light and weights, abdominal and back exercises, yoga-oriented stretch and strength work, along with a devotion. Joe Mason, certified personal fitness trainer, teaches the class, which costs \$42. A portion of the proceeds goes to the parish.

Contact: 374-555-5910

LECTURES ON DVD

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7, 12, 22 and 29
Location: Congregation Beth Ahim, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: The series features scholars from the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. Each week's lecture is approximately one hour. A brief informal discussion will follow each lecture. Topics are: "Exodus and Sinai" featuring Michal Goodman, Jan. 7; "Prayer and Relationships" with Tova Hartman, Jan. 12; "The Spirit of Jewish Prayer," with Rabbi Lauren Berkun, Jan. 22; and "Ritual in 'The Jewish People'" featuring Shalom Hartman, Jan. 29.

Contact: 247-731-1931 or email to Nancy Gold at nancygold@nancygold79@att.net

SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 30
Location: St. Genevieve Catholic School, 28933 Jamison, Livonia

Details: Preschool, young 5's, K-8

Contact: 334-425-4420; stgenevieve.org/school

VOLUNTEER EVENING PROGRAM

Time/Date: Jan. 6
Location: St. Paul's Preschool and Day Care, 20805 Middlebelt

Details: New Young Five program begins. Preschool/day care runs 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday for ages 2

Contact: Karen or Robin at 484-744-2488

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19
Location: St. Kenneth Church, 14551 N. Higley, Plymouth Township

Details: Widowed Friends, a peer group of the Archdiocese of Detroit, invites widowed men and women to celebrate Mass, followed by friendship and refreshments.

Contact: Pat at 734-895-8246

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Men's Bible study

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m.

and study at 8 a.m.

Location: Kirby's Cone Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

Contact: John Shulenberger at 734-464-2691

New Life Community Church

Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m. Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and marital and family instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays

Location: 42200 Tyle, Belleville

Contact: 734-846-4615

Our Lady of Loreto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Road, Redford

Details: Scripture study

Contact: 313-534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 7:30-8 p.m., the second and fourth Thursdays

Location: School Library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Catholic author and Bible scholar, Gary Michuta, leads the study of Acts of the Apostles.

Contact: 234-261-1455, Ext. 200, or www.jvonistmichael.org

Ward Presbyterian

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays

Location: Room A01, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville

Details: Learner's Bible study is held

Contact: 248-734-5920

FAMILY COMMUNITY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday

Location: The Salvation Army, 27500 Shawwassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal

Contact: 248-447-1153, 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 Rana Brown to schedule an appointment at 248-731-2528

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., second Tuesday, September-May

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergarten

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: Any at 313-937-3084 or Kristin at 734-542-0767

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday

Location: Dunk N' Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

All Creatures U.S.
Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope

Contact: Any at 313-937-3084 or Kristin at 734-542-0767

PRAYER

Nardin Park United Methodist Church
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday

Location: 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Participate in an open line 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 734-3656 or Geri at 734-644-8906

St. Michael Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday

Location: 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

Canton

Details: Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.

Contact: 734-459-3333

SINGLES

Detroit World Outreach
Time/Date: 9-9:30 p.m. Sunday

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 304

Details: Divorce Overeaters group is designed for individuals going through divorce, who are divorced or separated. Occasionally includes guest speakers, open to the public and visitors are welcome.

Contact: The facilitator at 313-283-8200; lefwid@worldoutreach.org

First Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 7-7:15 p.m., social time 7:30 p.m., announcements 7:30-8:30 p.m., program; 8:30-9 p.m. ice cream social, Thursdays

Location: 200 E. Main St., Detroit

Details: Single Life Ministry, cost is \$5

Contact: 248-349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

Steve's Family Restaurant

Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursdays

Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 14 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Widowed men of all ages meet to discuss Widowed Friends Men's peer group. This is an informal "bark" group where men have an opportunity to meet other men.

Contact: 248-534-0399

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sunday

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville

Details: Single Point Ministries, for 30 and up, offers fellowship, coffee, doughnuts, conversation.

Contact: 248-734-5920

Song Circle

Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m. every Shabbat

Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Sing zemirot (Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services.

Lyrics are provided in translation with text as the original Hebrew.

Contact: 248-737-1931 or email nancygold@nancygold79@att.net

SUPPORT

Apostolic Christian Church
Time/Date: 5 a.m. to 11 p.m., daily

Location: 29667 Wentworth, Livonia

Details: Adult Day Ministry offers an adult daytime care program with a specific in dementia care. Not a drop-in center

Contact: 734-367-4220 or 734-464-0980; www.windside-parkchurch.org or email to parkchurch@windsideparkchurch.org

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday morning

Location: 16360 Hubbard, Detroit

Details: A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available.

Contact: 734-421-8451

St. John's Episcopal Church
Time/Date: 10 a.m. the first and third Friday

Location: 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: St. John's Support Group for the Caregivers of Alzheimer's patients or persons with other forms of dementia. Respite care is provided. The group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

Messages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

How to reach us:

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-419-4968 • oeoib@hometownlife.com

Deadlines:

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

CURMI, CECILIA

Passed away in Plymouth, Michigan at age 91, on December 31, 2013 from stroke complications. Immigrated from Malta in 1950 and lived in San Clemente, California until 1959 in Plymouth, Michigan in 1959. Beloved mother of four children: Thomas, Charles (Patricia) Curmi, and six loving grandchildren, Melissa (Dan) Leavoy, Kimberly (Jeff) Getton, Susan Callahan, Tricia (Michael) Struthers, Daniel Curmi, and Alicia Curmi. Also many nieces and nephews. Services were held on Friday, January 3, 2014 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Share your memories at www.schraderweb.com.

GILDO,

VALERIE ANN

Passed away December 30, 2013 after a courageous battle with metastatic colon cancer. She was a devoted wife to Larry for 44 years. She was a loving mother to Sherryll, and Denise (David) Griffin. She enjoyed being a grandma to Thomas and Nathan Griffin. She is survived by her siblings: Dino (Leslie) Lampron, David Lampron and Carol McCulloch. Val enjoyed going to the casino, shopping, talking, playing cards and hosting family parties. We will all miss our mother, wife, nine sister, aunt and good friend. A private Memorial Service will be held at a later date. Arrangements by Vermoulen Funeral Home-Jackson. To share a memory with the family, please log on to vermueulenfuneralhome.com

GUPCHIK, MARY ROSE (CORCORAN)

Born November 9, 1933. Passed away December 31, 2013, age 80, although she didn't believe it. Funeral Services were held Saturday at Hubbard Family Funeral Home in Westland (734) 331-3349.

MEIER, ANN

Age 68, a resident of Westland, Michigan, died on December 28, 2013 after a short illness. She was a Registered Nurse employed by H&A at Health Coach. Ann was a member of North Unitarian Universalist Church, CMSA and the Motown Milestones. She was predeceased by her mother, Anna Mitterer, her father, Joseph Mitterer and brothers Charles Meier and Joseph P. Meier. Ann is survived by four nieces and a nephew.

Retirement Community, Funding available from TSA, AAA-1 Elder Americans Act.

St. John Neumann
Time/Date: 7:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays

Location: 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: Overeaters Anonymous meets

Contact: Mary at 734-734-7154 or Traci at 734-718-5575

St. Thomas a' Becket Church

Time/Date: Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m. Sunday group meeting starts at 7 p.m. Friday, Saturday

Location: 555 S. Lilley, Canton

Details: Take Off Pounds. Sensibly encourages members of the organization to lose weight and keep it off for good.

Contact: Margaret at 734-838-0322

Unity of Livonia

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia

Details: Overeaters Anonymous

Contact: 248-559-7722; www.oa.org

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 6 p.m. dinner (optional); 7 p.m. worship; 8 p.m. small group discussion; 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee/desserts)

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville

Details: Celebrate Recovery helps men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and behaviors (addictive and compulsive behaviors); child care is free.

Contact: Child care, 248-734-7400; www.celebraterecovery.com and www.wardchurch.org/celebrate

THRIFT STORE

St. James Presbyterian Church
Time/Date: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford

Way of Life Christian Church
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday

Location: 9401 General Drive, Lilley Executive Plaza, Suite 100, Plymouth

Details: Women's fellowship is designed for women with a question to know God more in their lives.

Contact: 734-637-7618

TOUR

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. to noon first Sunday of the month

Location: The Solanus Casey Center, a Capuchin ministry, at 1780 Mount Elliot, Detroit

Contact: Connie McNutt at 734-895-1426

St. John Neumann

Time/Date: 7:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays

Location: 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: Overeaters Anonymous meets

Contact: Mary at 734-734-7154 or Traci at 734-718-5575

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Prevent frostbite, hypothermia with these tips

With the temperature in the teens, wind chill bringing the mercury below zero and another arctic blast of frigid air expected this week, both the Henry Ford Hospital Department of Emergency Medicine and the Michigan Humane Society (MHS) have tips for keeping individuals and their pets safe.

Prevention is the key for humans and animals alike. Individuals should dress appropriately. This includes layering clothing with a first layer that pulls moisture away from the skin, an outer layer that keeps the elements out and a middle layer that insulates. Hats are a must because the head is where 30 percent of the body's heat loss takes place. Gloves and face protection also are necessary in extremely cold weather.

Frostbite is caused by exposure to dry, cold temperatures below freezing. It can result in permanent damage and tissue loss. The most susceptible body parts are fingers, toes, cheeks, ear lobes and the tip of the nose because they are located at the most distant points of the circulatory system. A precursor to frostbite is frost-nip, in which the skin is numb, white and firm to the touch.

Early symptoms of frostbite include tingling, numbness and pain in the affected area. The skin turns white or gray, and is cold and hard to the touch.



A Michigan Humane Society rescue team member places straw in an outdoor dog house.

There is no feeling in the affected area. The skin may blacken and form a tough layer that eventually disappears, revealing new skin that will always be more susceptible to frostbite. Deep frostbite can involve underlying tissue, muscle, tendon and bone.

Get help

If you suspect you have frostbite, seek medical attention immediately. If transportation is delayed, rewarm the affected area in warm bath water. If a thermometer is not available, the water should feel comfortably warm to unaffected parts. Take warm, non-alcoholic fluids. Rewarming at the location should be avoided if medical care is available within two hours. When color returns, wrap the part in sterile gauze or a clean cloth, separating the fingers and toes.

Elevate the affected part after rewarming to decrease swelling and pain.

In the past 24 hours, (Jan. 2-3) we have seen one case of frostbite and one case of hypothermia in the Emergency Department at Henry Ford Hospital downtown. Said David Olejarczyk, hospital public relations spokesman.

Individuals suffer from hypothermia if their core temperature falls below 95 degrees Fahrenheit. This happens through exposure to cool and/or damp conditions. Cardiac arrhythmia also is possible when the core body temperature falls below 95 degrees Fahrenheit. The elderly, immobile and psychiatric patients are most at risk.

Symptoms include slurred speech, decreased coordination, uncontrollable shivering, cold and pale skin, blue lips and nails, stiffening of neck and limbs, memory lapses, stumbling, abnormally slow breathing and a slow, irregular heart beat. The condition worsens when the shivering stops, muscles stiffen and the skin turns bluish.

Seek medical attention immediately. A person with mild hypothermia can take warm, non-alcoholic fluids. When hypothermia is more severe, treatment varies based on age. A young person can be warmed in a hot bath, but warming for the elderly should be gradual. Make sure clothing is dry and wrap the person in blankets.

Warm pets, too

Pet owners should seek veterinary care immediately if their animal is cold to the touch or his paws and ears are pale. He may be suffering from frostbite.

"If we had our way, no pets would be kept outside in this weather," said Debby MacDonald, MHS chief cruelty investigator and facility director of the MHS Detroit Center for Animal Care. "But because the law allows them to be kept outside as long as they have adequate food, water and shelter, we're going to be out there making sure they have the

proper provisions."

If pet owners leave their animals outdoors for any length of time, they are required by Michigan state law to provide enough food and water, as well as adequate shelter. MHS recommends that dogs be provided a well-built, insulated, slant-roofed dog house. The interior should be just large enough for the dog to stand and to lie down comfortably and slightly elevated from the ground for air circulation. The door should face away from prevailing winds and have a protective flap to eliminate drafts. Clean, dry straw should be provided for bedding. An unheated garage or shed, overly-large dog house or one that lacks straw, or a tie-out in the open air are considered inadequate.

MHS also recommends: Small and short-haired pets stay indoors when the temperatures reach 15-20 degrees.

Increase the amount of food you provide for dogs left outside by 10-20 percent during the winter months. The extra calories are needed to help an animal stay warm.

Roaming cats often seek the warmth of car engines, so be sure to knock on the car hood or honk the horn before starting your car to startle them and give them a chance to escape.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVE

8 a.m. to 7:45 p.m. Jan. 16 at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster Road in Farmington Hills. Giving blood takes approximately one hour. To make an appointment, call 248-473-1800 or register online at www.redcrossblood.org. Enter the sponsor code costickcenter and follow the instructions to set up an appointment time.

DRUG SERIES

"Teens Using Drugs: What To Know and What To Do," a free, ongoing, two-part workshop series, is set for 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 4 and 11 in the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, Exhibition Room on the first floor, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti. "What To Know," on Feb. 4, will provide information on understanding and recognizing teen substance abuse problems.

"What To Do," on Feb. 11, will provide information on what should and should not be done when a teen substance abuse problem is suspected or identified. Call 734-485-8725, or email info@dawnfarm.org. FITNESS CLASSES

Farmington Hills Special Services Department offers a variety of exercise classes, including a bootcamp, Zumba, Z-Box Core, and cardio boxing, beginning Jan. 13. Register in

person, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Or register online at <http://trecreg.nhgov.com>. Contact Fitness Motivators at 248-987-6930 or go to www.fitnessmotivators.com for more.

HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Brent Lucas, from Envy Medical, will present on the Esteem, the only implanted hearing aid, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 8, in Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. For more information, call Tony at 734-664-3297 or email frack@comcast.net.

HEALTHFUL COOKING

Zhong Shu Temple, Michigan, will offer a vegetarian cooking class, beginning at 10 a.m. Jan. 10, at the temple, 23845 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. Call 248-579-4791.

Why So SAD?

Understanding Seasonal Affective Disorder is Half the Battle.

Ask A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Lemon
Internal Medicine

It's a new year and the hustle, bustle and stress of the holidays are all in the rearview mirror. It's time to relax and feel good about life right? Maybe, but we live in Michigan, and it's quite possible we won't see sunshine for the next 60 days. That fact alone is cause for depression, but did you know the seasons themselves can have a significant impact on your mood? Internist and GCH Health Expert, Dr. Zachary Lemon, shines a light on seasonal affective disorder, better known as SAD.

Q: What is seasonal affective disorder (SAD)?

A: Commonly misdiagnosed as hypothyroidism, infectious mononucleosis, or a number of other viral infections, SAD is our body's reaction to reduced exposure to sunlight. This is believed to have an unbalancing effect on our natural sleep cycles and other circadian rhythms, manifesting into a type of depression that tends to occur as the days grow shorter and colder.

Symptoms of SAD can begin to appear as early as mid-September and last into April and even May. While severity and duration varies from person to person, women have a greater risk for developing SAD. Symptoms tend to come and go at roughly the same time of year for each individual, and range from cases of mild to deep depression, moodiness, weight gain, fatigue and over sleeping, along with a decreased interest in sex and social withdrawal.

Q: Can SAD be treated?

A: In addition to being key in the prevention of seasonal affective disorder, exposure to bright light, particularly fluorescent lights, significantly improves depression in people with this disorder. Phototherapy is commercially available in the form of light boxes, which are used for approximately 30 minutes every day. The light required must be of sufficient brightness, approximately 25 times brighter than a normal living room light. Contrary to prior theories, the light does not need to be actual daylight from the sun. It's quantity, not quality, of light that matters in light therapy treatment. Phototherapy should not be confused with the use of tanning beds or booths. While the UVA and UVB lights used for tanning can provide a certain level of relief from the effects of SAD, the inherent dangers, such as skin cancer and premature aging of the skin, far outweigh any possible benefit.

Psychotherapy as well as antidepressant medication prescribed under a doctor's supervision, have been found to be an effective treatment for SAD. Individuals who suffer from seasonal affective disorder also benefit from the increased social support and understanding of friends and family during their more vulnerable times of the year.

If left untreated, some cases of SAD can become severe. So, don't brush off that yearly feeling as simply a case of the "winter blues". Take steps to keep your mood and motivation steady throughout the year. If you or someone you love may be suffering from SAD, make an appointment to see your physician or therapist right away.

If you need help finding a doctor that's right for you, call the GCH Physician Referral Line at 877-712WELL or visit us at GCH.org and let us connect you with a GCH Health Expert.

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9 pointers for networking rehabilitation

Kim Monaghan

Career Counselor

1. Questions?

Ask questions. Help guide the process by coming prepared with targeted questions that keep you both on track and on time.

2. Be a good listener. People love sharing their story, and it's a great way to learn from others' experience and expertise.

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3. Shoot for face-to-face. An in-person meeting is more personal and expressive and demonstrates respect for another's position.

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4. Be your best. Show your strengths, but not in a domineering way. People enjoy connecting with others who are "going places" with purpose and pride.

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5. Be at your best. Dress for success, be kind and gracious and treat the other person as if she has the authority to hire or promote. She just might.

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Unfortunately the word "networking" makes many people cringe. Somewhere along the line, this vital process in career advancement garnered a tainted reputation, a few battle scars and an unjustifiably abused moniker.

Perhaps, it stems from those who have missed networking to gain unfair advantages in their quest of climbing the corporate ladder.

Or maybe networking's a victim of word association, as it's often paired with strong arm sales techniques. It could also be that networking is simply misunderstood as just a process of waking up to complete strangers and attempting to carry on an interesting conversation about "whatever." Regardless of why networking is lacking its wounds, it's still the front-runner for career advancement.

The best way to move past networking's tarnished past is

to help it heal. This begins with re-associating the word with its true meaning: connecting. People love connecting, and thanks to the Internet, reaching out to random strangers has become an everyday habit. The key, however, to making networking healthy again is to approach the process respectfully. In other words, adopt a networking approach that's authentic by graciously spending time with others, getting to know them, learning from them, asking for advice and always offering the same in return.

Shown here are nine tips to get the most out of your networking experience, while contributing to its rehabilitation.

Kim Monaghan is a syndicated career columnist, professional certified coach, résumé writer and personal branding strategist who believes life should be simple, careers engaging and opportunities endless. www.KBMCcoaching.com.

6. Respect each other's time. Be on time, leave on time and don't abuse someone's generosity by scheduling too many meetings, unless it's a mutually agreed upon goal.

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7. Ask for referrals. Networking is about connecting and sharing connections. If your contact was gracious enough to share referrals, following through on contacting them shows respect.

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8. STAY POSITIVE

Stay positive. Even if you've been fired or are facing a work challenge, this is not the time for dumping your woes on others. Focus on the positive and you will leave a positive impression.

9. Say "thanks" and "thanks" again. Thank them for their time, and send them a handwritten thank-you note after your meeting.

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Car Report

Advertising Feature

With New Genesis, Sonata – and CEO – Hyundai Chases Growth



By Dale Buss

Many Hyundai dealers are optimistic that the change at the top of Hyundai Motor America has installed a "dealer guy" who will be more effective than his predecessor at getting U.S. sales off the dime. He'll also need to oversee the successful launch of a couple of important new products in 2014.

Hyundai jarred the automotive world with the announcement that Hyundai Motor America CEO John Krafcik stepped down as of January 1, replaced by David Zuchowski, the chief sales executive of the U.S. arm of the Korean automaker.

Zuchowski told me that the move was "a complete surprise" to him but stressed that "the very nice thing here is I'm coming into a situation that I'm very familiar with. We have a good strategy and business plan in place, and my job is to step into the role to take it from here."



David Zuchowski

Hyundai's new U.S. chief also told me that it's very clear what his priorities must be as he begins the new year at the helm: ensuring successful launches of a new Genesis in the first half of 2014 and a new Sonata in the second.

"Product is everything in our business, and ensuring the successful launch of those two products is the top thing I can

do," Zuchowski said.

Many dealers also were optimistic that the 55-year-old Zuchowski would allow them to up their game as he replaces the 52-year-old Krafcik, according to Automotive News. Scott Kirk, chairman of Hyundai's dealer council and owner of three Hyundai dealerships in Florida, told the publication that Hyundai dealers were "thrilled" to hear of Zuchowski's promotion.

Dealers have been generally pleased with Hyundai's consistent approach to incentive spending, the magazine said, which has helped their profit margins, and its hands-off approach to implementing facility improvements. "He is a dealer guy," Fink said of Zuchowski. "He understands the business, he can talk to the dealers, he can talk to the Koreans. He's a brilliant guy."

In a statement, his bosses said that Zuchowski "has consistently distinguished himself as a results-oriented and motivational leader in our industry. During his time at Hyundai, Dave has been instrumental in our growth, especially among our dealers. He exhibits a rare combination of passion, intelligence, creativity and diligence, and we are confident that he is the right choice to build on John's momentum and take Hyundai to new and greater heights."

In something that surely has helped prepare him for his new role, Zuchowski noted that he has broadened his duties lately "to find myself getting more involved in marketing and product

development than in the past." Nevertheless, he said, "I see no reason to make any dramatic changes for the sake of change."

There were few public hints before that Krafcik, who spearheaded Hyundai's transformation into a major brand in the U.S. market, might be leaving, especially so abruptly. But company leadership in South Korea presumably has been smarting from the necessity to reach a final settlement of \$210 million this month in the mileage-restatement fiasco that occurred last year under Krafcik's watch.

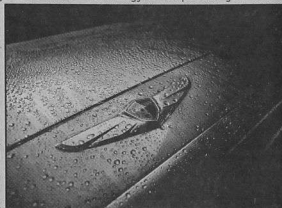
Even more significant may have been the fact that, this year, Hyundai experienced some slippage in the pace of its sales gains compared with the still-recovering U.S. industry overall and had to rely more than in the past on sales incentives and increased fleet sales.

In fact, the brand was beginning to look a bit more tentative lately under Krafcik than competitors such as Toyota and Honda which have come back strongly from their own difficult few years.

Hyundai bosses abroad just promised not to allow such problems go on much longer. Chung Mong Koo, chairman of both Hyundai and Kia, told Korean employees in an annual meeting that he's predicting a combined global increase in

deliveries for the two brands of only 4 percent, to nearly 7.9 million vehicles in 2014, which would comprise the slowest growth for the entity since 2006.

But he vowed that the company would invest in improving vehicle safety and technology as competition gets fiercer



Hyundai for now is keeping the mystery around the 2015 Genesis

and the global economy reaches a "low-growth era," according to Bloomberg.

And actually, Hyundai could use another dramatic lurch forward similar to the one it experienced under Krafcik, a bit of an industry connoisseur who typically speaks his mind. He led Hyundai to huge increases in sales volume and market share, garnered some top industry awards for Hyundai vehicles including the 2009 Genesis and 2012 Elantra, oversaw the stretching of the Hyundai brand to upscale models such as Genesis and Equus, and shepherded Hyundai's elevation to major platforms in American advertising including the Super Bowl and the Oscars.

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