

CANTON OBSERVER

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2014 • hometownlife.com

Township facing water rate hike

Detroit Water and Sewerage Department proposes 5.59-percent increase

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton has been hit with a 5.59-percent increase in wholesale rates announced by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department. That number, however, is just one factor local officials will consider before setting new rates that take effect May 1.

Canton residents averted an increase last year after township officials absorbed a 9-percent rate hike from Detroit by adopting internal cost-cutting measures and using \$2 million of the township's \$19.6 million water-sewer fund balance.

Moreover, last year's flat water rates came after Canton officials in 2012 managed to give residents a 2.3-percent decrease.

"I would say that our rates are probably going to go up this year," Public Works Manager Bob Belair said Monday.

Even when they dipped into the water-sewer fund balance last year, Canton's elected officials indicated they cannot make that a common practice as they tackle rates.

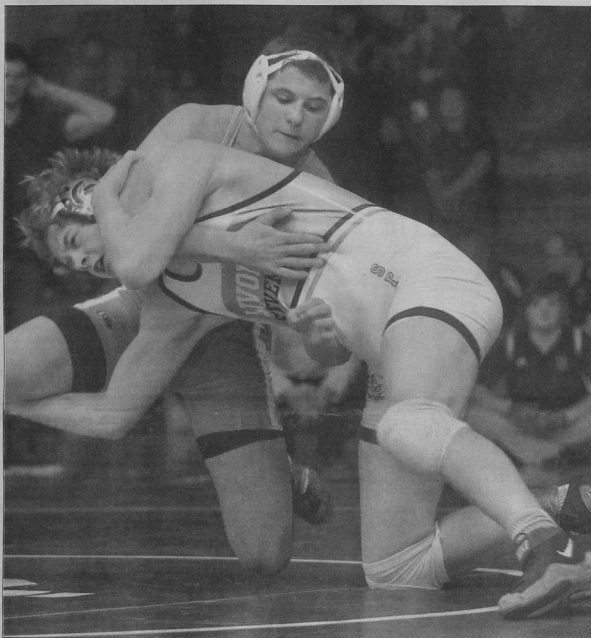
Under the current rate structure, an average Canton household using 32,283 gallons of water every three months

pays a quarterly bill of about \$343. That's based on a combined water-sewer rate that Belair said is \$10.11 per 1,000 gallons.

New rates will be calculated and rolled out during public forums – yet to be announced – before they are approved by the Canton Township Board of Trustees for a one-year period starting May 1.

See WATER, Page A2

Mat mastery



Plymouth's Hussein Youssef (top) got a take-down with one second left in OT to beat Stevenson's Connor Vaughan, 4-2, for the 171-pound title at the Observerland wrestling tournament. For more on the tournament, please turn to page B1. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cold pushes schools toward snow-day limit

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

The decision to close school Tuesday, when the wind-chill factor plummeted to minus-20 degrees, was a pretty easy one for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools administrators to make.

It was Plymouth-Canton's fourth inclement weather day of the year. And it wasn't a tough decision, in fact, administrators made the call early Monday afternoon.

"The predicted wind chills (for Tuesday) were going to be in the danger zone," Plymouth-Canton spokesperson Kate Dietrich said.

The decision to make Wednesday the district's fifth snow day of the year took a little longer; the call was made later Tuesday evening.

Like the choice to close Wednesday, these decisions aren't always easy to make. Wednesday, for instance, was a tougher call. The National Weather Service was predicting wind-chill factors that hovered right around minus-20 degrees. The biggest factor in the decision was – and always is, according to officials – student safety.

"We err on the side of caution and safety of the kids," said Kurt Tyszkiewicz.

See COLD, Page A2

Canton ready to usher in dog season

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

It's hardly the sultry dog days of summer, this winter of discontent and the despised polar vortex.

Even so, Canton Township Clerk Terry Bennett is urging residents to get their dogs ready for warmer days.

Pooch owners have until March 31 to renew their dog licenses and their memberships to Canton's dog park on Denton, north of Cherry Hill.

Dog license renewal costs \$5 per dog for one year.

"After April 1, it's \$10," Bennett said.

Residents who get a new dog after April 1 only have to pay \$5.

Dog owners need to show that their pets have had their rabies and distemper vaccines. Dogs that are too old or sickly for distemper shots need to get a letter from a veterinarian.

"Then I can waive it," Bennett said. The clerk's office is located at 1150 S. Canton Center. The phone number is 734-394-5120.

Dog owners also face a March 31

See DOGS, Page A2

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11:59 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 9. Each dinner is valued at \$70.



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Woman facing charges in IKEA scam

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Westland woman used fraudulent gift cards at the Canton IKEA store to remodel her kitchen and buy a cowhide rug for her home, police say.

Rather than living in comfort, however, the 51-year-old woman could be facing a 93-day stay in jail.

Canton Detective Sgt. Chad Baugh said the suspect is facing a misdemeanor charge of receiving and concealing

stolen property after merchandise was stolen from IKEA and then returned, apparently without receipts, to obtain credit on gift cards.

The woman then used the gift cards to go on a spending spree that police reports estimate at

\$1,197. According to police reports, the suspect returned stolen merchandise such as chair covers and eventually accumulated enough to buy items such as a kitchen table and chairs. Canton police arrested

the woman last week and released her with charges pending. She is accused of carrying out the scheme last fall.

Police had searched her residence and found the IKEA items she allegedly bought using fraudulent gift cards,

authorities said. Police also confiscated a 38-caliber pistol from her home.

The investigation was continuing.

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Comcast offers Olympic extras

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Comcast Corp., a nationwide cable, phone and Internet provider and the owner of broadcast giant NBC Universal, is launching a battery of enhancements for television and online viewing of the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia.

At a press briefing Monday at Comcast's regional headquarters in Plymouth Township, officials said subscribers to the company's Xfinity system will see beefed-up Olympics coverage and technology that will let them customize and control the way they watch the games, whether on computers, mobile devices or traditional TV sets.

For example, the NBC Sports Live Extra app, available through the Xfinity X1 platform, will give users the ability to watch more than 1,000 hours of streaming on-line video on their regular television sets.

Comcast provides service to Plymouth and Canton



Comcast Corp. is offering enhancements in both coverage and technology for viewing the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, such as an NBC Sports Live Extra app that will allow customers with Comcast's X1 platform to watch streaming online video on their television sets. The games in Sochi begin Friday, Feb. 7.

townships, among other area communities.

"We want to make it easier for our customers to find the content when they want it," Jason Gumbs, Comcast's vice president of marketing, told several media representatives.

TV, online viewing

The games in Sochi begin Friday, Feb. 7. Comcast will offer 500 hours of coverage on five NBC Universal

television networks — NBC, MSNBC, CNBC, NBC Sports Network and USA Network — and more than 1,000 hours of streaming video on as well as 25 Internet channels. There will also be video on demand, events listings, athlete profiles and a "barker channel" that will have sportscaster Bob Costas recapping each day's action and directions to on-demand content for viewers who want to see

highlights. Comcast customers can find Olympics coverage on the Internet through their computers or mobile phones at www.NBCOlympics.com.

There's also Olympics microsite www.Xfinity.com/Olympics/, with information about the games and links to online coverage.

Comcast used the announcement of viewing enhancements and increased Olympics coverage to also introduce the Product Knowledge Lab at its Concept Drive office. The lab, outfitted with Comcast Internet, cable TV and telephone systems and a giant-screen television, is designed to let employees, people from partner companies and members of the media try out different features, Gumbs said.

"When we're not doing these demos, this is our man cave," joked Randy Jones, Comcast's public relations director for the region.

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COLD

Continued from Page A1

the district's executive director of staffing, student services and policy and the point-man on such decisions. "We have to think about what temperatures are going to be when kids are standing at the bus stop, waiting on a bus that might not be on time."

"Sometimes it's a no-brainer, like (Tuesday)," Tyszkiewicz said. "Other days, like Wednesday, are on the bubble because the predictions aren't so sure."

Wednesday's closure left Plymouth-Canton with just one more snow day before it hits the state-mandated maximum of six. Once a district hits six, missed time has to be made up.

The time can be made up in a few ways. Districts can simply add days at the end of the school year (an unpopular option, particularly with students), add minutes to each school day through the end of the year or target scheduled days off (for things like professional development). Districts can also petition the state Department of Education for a waiver of the make-up requirement.

There are many districts well over the six days — Lake Orion, for instance, is at 11 days already. Tyszkiewicz pointed out — but Plymouth-Canton still has a couple of days left. According to Tyszkiewicz, that's because Plymouth-Canton caught a break over the Christmas/New Year holiday break.

While other districts returned to school Jan. 2, Plymouth-Canton waited until the following Monday. Many districts ended up calling off school both Jan. 2-3. Plymouth-Canton was also spared the use of a snow day last Friday, when most districts closed schools, but Plymouth-Canton was already off for a records day.

Plymouth-Canton's snow-day decisions are reached after consultation with a 17-district consortium that participates in a conference call whenever inclement weather threatens school. The call includes district representatives and a meteorologist, who "provides all the weather information we need," Tyszkiewicz said. "There is no hard-and-fast rule" about when to close, Tyszkiewicz said. "There are a lot of factors. Most of the people on the call are superintendents and they let the other (consortium) members know what they're doing. After that, a lot of them follow suit."

When actual snow is coming, the decision is a bit harder. Tyszkiewicz, maintenance chief Bruce Haarla and Director of Transportation Kurt Miles are the "designated drivers" — administrators who actually hit the road to determine whether they're drivable.

After consultation with Superintendent Dr. Mike Meissen and other administrators, the decision is made whether to risk the district's bus fleet on the roads.

"Every community is a little different," Tyszkiewicz said. "For instance, Wayne-Westland has a larger at-risk population than we do. They have to consider the number of kids who can't afford things like hats and good coats."

The district is often in a no-win situation. A school off too early and it inches toward the maximum number of days off. Wait too long and frustrated parents flood the district with phone calls and emails. So far, according to Tyszkiewicz, that hasn't been much of a problem.

"The biggest concern for parents is what they're going to do with their children" on a snow day, he said. "We've been fortunate to be able to call (snow days) early enough that we've been able to alert parents early so they can make child care arrangements."

DOGS

Continued from Page A1

deadline to renew their membership to the six-acre, fenced-in dog park where pets, in dog park or free-leash. Canton residents pay \$25 for up to three dogs, while the cost is \$50 for non-residents.

Dog members who fail to renew their memberships will find after April 1 that their electronic key fob no longer works to gain entry to the park — at least until they renew their privileges. Dog owners obtaining park memberships for the first time also face a one-time, \$20 deposit for the electronic



It's time to renew dog licenses and dog park memberships in Canton. BILL BRESELER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

key fob. However, that fee is refundable if membership is discontinued. The dog park is divid-

ed into two sections, one for larger dogs more than 20 pounds and one for smaller dogs.

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WATER

Continued from Page A1

Local rates are expected to suffer after the area last year witnessed a rainy season, causing residents to curb their outdoor water usage, Belair said. That caused Canton to use an estimated 2.5 billion gallons of water, or nearly 300,000 gallons less than what it had pledged to buy from Detroit.

"We had a real wet summer," Belair said.

In the often-puzzling arena of water rates, Canton and other communities that consume less water than they have agreed by contract to buy end up getting penalized.

"That will probably have an impact (on Canton's rates)," Belair said.

Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy has said local officials are hopeful of easing future rates possibly by moving, as some communities have, toward using a water storage facility. That would allow Canton

to ease usage during peak morning and evening hours.

LaJoy has said Canton is awaiting word from Detroit on whether the township might be able to use a DWSJ facility near Joy and Morton Taylor roads for water storage.

Belair, meanwhile, said Canton tries to be as fair as possible to residents when setting rates.

"We try to be as conservative as we can," he said.

Local officials will have a better handle on rates in coming weeks as they calculate local costs and blend those with the 5.59-percent rate increase announced by Detroit.

Local officials also have voiced hope for long-term efforts to ease water rates amid a restructuring of DWSJ. Canton resident James Faunone, as chair of the Detroit Board of Water Commissioners, is among those at the forefront of ongoing talks and decisions.

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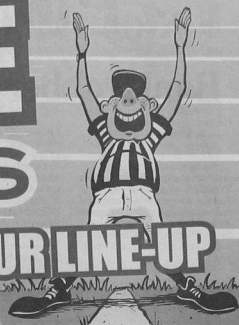
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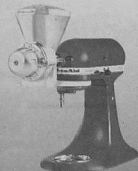
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Bank robbery suspect faces competency hearing

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Canton bank robbery suspect is expected to learn in February whether he will be found competent to stand trial following allegations he seized money from a Comerica branch inside the Kroger store near Canton Center and Ford roads.

Nathan Michael Kuhn, 28, faces a competency hearing Feb. 24 in front of Wayne

County Circuit Judge Richard Skutt, whose ruling also is expected to determine whether Kuhn should be held criminally responsible. Kuhn, described as a drifter who has lived in Livonia and Westland, remained jailed this week as he awaits his next court date. His release would require \$50,000 toward a \$500,000-10-percent bond.

Kuhn was arrested at a



Kuhn

Wayne motel after the Comerica branch was robbed last Oct. 24 by a man who passed a note to a teller, implying he had a gun and demanding money, Detective Sgt. Chad Baugh has said.

No shots were fired and no one was injured as the suspect escaped with an undisclosed amount of money. Kuhn could face penalties ranging up to life in prison if he is convicted

as charged.

Kuhn's arrest in Wayne came after police received a tip that he had been seen there. Baugh has said officers forced their way into the motel room "without incident" after the suspect tried to block police from entering. A not-guilty plea has been placed on Kuhn's record as he awaits the outcome of his case. Kuhn had been scheduled for a competency hearing this month, but it was delayed by the court.

According to court records, Skutt has ordered Kuhn to stay away from the Kroger store and its employees — if he is able to post bond and be released from jail.

Just 11 months prior to his arrest, Kuhn had been paroled for incidents involving uttering and publishing, or forging a check or other financial document.

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CANTON CRIME WATCH

Prescription fraud

Canton police arrested a 23-year-old Belleville man suspected of engaging in prescription fraud at the Meijer store at Ford and Canton Center, a police report said.

The report said a suspect had dropped off two prescriptions Friday evening to be filled for hydrocodone and amoxicillin. He was supposedly dropping off the prescriptions written out by a Plymouth doctor.

However, Meijer already had received notification from a Plymouth doctor that someone had been getting prescriptions filled using her name. Police happened to spot the suspect when he returned to get the prescriptions, but he began running from the pharmacy area, a police report said.

Police chased him out of the store and he was captured. Officers confiscated the two prescriptions, along with a small amount of

marijuana.

Police spoke with the suspect's mother, who said she intended to help get him into rehab.

iPod theft

A Canton mother told police that her 17-year-old son, accused of stealing an iPod while he was visiting a female friend, has a drug problem and has been involved in thefts, a police report said.

The teen is facing larceny charges amid allegations he stole the iPod sometime prior to Monday while he was visiting his friend in the 1500 block of Brookdale, northeast of Palmer and Lotz.

The female friend, 16, told police she picked up the suspect and brought him to her residence. She said they had been in the basement when she later discovered the iPod was missing.

Police caught up with the teen at a home in Plymouth and recovered

the iPod. He told police he didn't realize he had put it in his pocket, the police report said.

Hit-and-run driver

A 39-year-old Garden City woman contacted police after she said she was the victim of a hit-and-run driver while she was driving near Cherry Hill and Haggerty about 9:35 a.m. Saturday, a police report said.

The woman told police an SUV struck her Honda Odyssey from behind on westbound Cherry Hill Road. She said the driver stopped his vehicle, got out, looked at the damage to his SUV, got back in his vehicle and drove off.

Home flooding

Canton police went to Stone-Road, near Canton Center and Saltz, to force entry into a home that was flooding after a water pipe had burst, a police report said.

Police went to the scene to assist firefighters who already had arrived to try to address heavy water flow inside the house, which was unoccupied. Police contacted the property manager about the incident.

House egged

A man who lives in the 43700 block of Howland, northeast of Palmer and Sheldon, has fallen victim to the old-fashioned crime of having his house pelted with eggs, a police report said.

The 54-year-old man returned home Monday from an out-of-town trip and learned his house had been egged for the second time in a month. He notified police, but said he wasn't aware of any suspects.

—By Darrell Clem

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Phone fraud

A Plymouth Township woman who was unable to access her account with a cellular service provider last week learned the account had been hacked by someone who changed the primary phone number and added another line.

The woman told police that after having trouble accessing her account, she contacted her provider and was told she had been "de-enrolled," a Plymouth Township Police Department report said. The primary number had been changed

to what had been a secondary number on the account, the account's address changed to a street in Grosse Pointe and another phone number added, the report said.

The account was cancelled. Police advised the woman to monitor her credit reports for further signs of fraud.

ID theft

A township woman Saturday received a cellphone bill for nearly \$406 from a service provider with

which she doesn't have an account, police report. The bill showed that three phones had been purchased on the account, a police report said.

The report was filed for the victim by her mother, who said her daughter has an account with another provider, police said.

Fraud try

A man with a single-family house for rent in the township last week reported an apparent attempt by someone else to collect rent on it.

The man told police he had advertised the house on several websites at a monthly rent of \$1,100. He said he later received an email from a woman who was interested in renting the house, but that she was responding to a notice on a site on which he hadn't advertised. The woman's understanding was that the rent was \$800 a month, he said.

The rental notice was taken off that particular site.

—By Matt Jackman

Canton cops arrest Westland city council member

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A Westland councilman was arrested early Jan. 19 for drunken driving in Canton.

Adam Hammons, recently elected for a second term as council president pro tem, was pulled over at 12:52 a.m. while driving his 2012 Ford Fusion on Cherry Hill near Highlands.

"I was attending a charity event on Saturday evening, Jan. 18, in Canton Township. I made a poor decision by drinking alcohol that night and driving home. I truly regret my decision," Hammons said. "I will take full responsibility for my actions and apologize for any embarrassment this event may have brought upon my family or the residents of the city of Westland."

A Canton police officer noted the eastbound vehicle was swerving within its lane. After he was pulled over, Hammons apologized, telling the officer his wife was trying to call him, police said.

The officer reported administering a Breathalyzer test, which resulted in a 0.12 blood-alcohol reading. Under Michigan law, a 0.08 blood-alcohol level is considered legally drunk when driving.

Police said Hammons was held until sober and released with an appearance ticket setting for him for a Feb. 4 arraignment in 35th District Court in Plymouth on a charge of operating while under the influence of alcohol.

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Canton cops schedule coffee session

The Canton Police Department has scheduled another Coffee with a Cop for Feb. 26, at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway.

The coffee session will be held from 10 a.m. to noon and is open to the public.

Coffee with a Cop provides a unique opportunity for community members to ask questions and learn more about the

department's work in Canton's neighborhoods and business districts. The majority of contacts law enforcement has with the public happen during emergencies or stressful situations. Police say those situations are "not always the most effective times for relationship building." Coffee with a Cop breaks down barriers and allows for relaxed one-on-one

interaction.

"We hope that community members will feel comfortable to ask questions, bring concerns or simply get to know our officers," Deputy Chief Scott Hilden said.

"These interactions are the foundation of community partnerships."

Requirements to host a two-hour session of Coffee

with a Cop include having a Canton location, being open to the public and coffee is provided for attendees.

Coffee with a Cop is a national initiative supported by the United States Department of Justice. Similar events are conducted across the country. This program aims to advocate the practice of community policing through improving rela-

tionships between police officers and community members one cup of coffee at a time.

The Canton Police Department would like to hold multiple sessions throughout the community this year. Any business or organization interested in hosting a two-hour session of Coffee with a Cop can contact the police department at 734-394-5401.

Local authors remember Detroit's country beat

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Musically, Detroit may be synonymous with Motown, the MCS, Iggy and the Stooges and Aretha Franklin.

But thanks to the migration of people from the rural south during the 1930s and '40s, the Detroit area was also a hub for country music for decades.

"There was a big migration from the South all over America in the '30s — people went to California and the Midwest. That led to a popularization of country music," said Craig Maki, author of *Detroit Country Music* with Keith Cady. Subtitled *Mountainers, Cowboys and Rockabilies*, the book focuses on Detroit-based country music performers from 1940-60. Both Maki and Cady are musicians — Maki plays rhythm guitar and sings, while Cady plays upright bass — and also have experience as classic country music disc jockeys.

"I was going to college and got into doing radio. I was interested in a rockabilly show — the guy (who did the show) was leaving and I took the slot," Maki said. "People said I made music here. I used to collect records. Growing up, I had no idea about the music in Detroit."

Maki started tracking down



"Detroit Country Music" authors Craig Maki (left) and Keith Cady spent 13 years working on their book.

some of those local country musicians for interviews, collecting newspaper articles and photos. He joined forces with Cady 13 years ago to produce the book.

"I got into it through rockabilly. I like the style. When I examined the roots, the musicians were really friendly people and had so many stories," Maki said.

Self-taught musicians

The musicians were all self-taught, Cady said, but had to be flexible in what they could play to meet popular demand.

"They could play anything — some played seven nights a week in Detroit," Cady said.

"They were able to hone their craft. A lot switched between jazz and country. When you play live every night, you have to be flexible. These were the best musicians, but they had been forgotten."

"There were country (music) clubs, but they had to play what was popular — that

meant rock 'n' roll, even some polkas," Maki added.

With country music in clubs, recording work and also country music programs on mainstream radio stations like WWJ-AM (950), Detroit became an attractive location for many country musicians.

Maki, a Southfield resident who works in communications for Blue Cross, and Cady, who lives in Romulus and works in operations for the Wayne-Westland Community Schools, both said working together helped keep them working on *Detroit Country Music* as the years passed.

Detroit Country Music, published by the University of Michigan Press, is in its fourth printing. It's available on Amazon and also as an eBook.

For a local presentation, Maki and Cady will speak at the Livonia Library Civic Center branch at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 4.

rogers@hometownlife.com
313-222-5428

NorthRidge Church volunteers work to feed the hungry

NorthRidge Church has a big idea to help the hungry.

The Rev. Brad Powell, senior pastor, and others hope to make a difference with the 2 Million Meals Campaign.

One billion people are experiencing hunger, 66 million children go to school hungry and 6,200 children die a day from poor nutrition, Powell said in announcing the campaign.

"It's tragic, but it would be even more tragic if we did nothing. We can make a difference," he said. "In 2011, NorthRidge packed 1,000,000 meals in three days with the help of 5,000 volunteers. When I first cast the vision, I wasn't sure what would happen. It was big, bold and unlike anything we had done before."

"Not only did we reach our goal — we blew it away. Through our 2014 initiative, we want to show God's love to twice as many people, by packaging 2,000,000 meals in three days with 10,000 volunteers!"

NorthRidge is partnering with Feed My Starving Children, a nonprofit Christian organization based in Minnesota.

The organization produces a scientifically engineered food formula aimed at saving the lives of malnourished children.

The formula consists of a mixture of rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and 21 vitamins and minerals.

Volunteers from NorthRidge Church's three campuses, which include locations in Plymouth Township, Brighton and Saline, will be working almost non-stop Feb. 14-16 starting at noon Friday until 4 p.m. Sunday to reach its 2,000,000-meal goal. The packing will take place in 11 two-hour shifts, with 900 people packing during each shift, at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

The Showplace is donating 65,000 square feet of space for the event.

"Within days of our announcement, we had over 4,000 volunteers sign up. People get excited to be a part of something big that changes them and their world and we encourage participants to invite their family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. We look for opportunities to make a difference," said Michael Miller, director of stewardship and outreach.

Miller said that in addition to packing the meals, organizers are raising the funds to pay for the meals. "At 22 cents a meal, even our young kids can get involved and make a real difference. A \$50 donation buys 227 meals," he said.

According to John Cherico, development adviser for FMSC, this is one of its largest events and will help FMSC finish its fiscal year with more than 50 million Mobile Pack meals.

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Bundle up, the snow is falling.



Students from Marshall Upper Elementary School of Westland discuss their entry in the Future City Competition, held Jan. 27 at Novi's Suburban Collection Showplace. From left are Natalie Reed, Andrew Biber, Jack Mortson and Brendan Schema. This year's engineering challenge was to design a way to move people about a city in the future. Schools from all over Wayne and Oakland counties participated in the program. JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Middle schoolers explore engineering, work to solve problems of the future

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Some students showed their smarts Monday and had a great time at the same time.

The Engineering Society of Detroit, based in Southfield, coordinates Michigan's Future City competition, in which students use software, research skills and math/science knowledge to build a model city. A number of schools presented their models and findings to judges Monday, Jan. 27, at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi during regional competition.

"What happens to wastewater?" asked judge Peggy Matta of the U.S. Green Building Council. She and two other judges were examining the presentation of Southfield's MacArthur K-8 University Academy.

"We're looking at how they protect the environment," said Matta, one of a number of adult volunteers at Suburban Collection Showplace that day.

This year's competition, the 19th annual, had a transportation theme. From MacArthur were students Erin Andrews, 11, an eighth-grader from Southfield, Ariel Slappy, 13, an eighth-grader from Southfield, and London Jones, 12, a seventh-grader from Southfield.

Their team had about 15, the girls said, and worked on their model for some three months. Their city is "Pavatt: The Floating City." Islanders there live in Grand Original Green Igloos and wind and solar power are used.

The surface is of grass or permeable cement.

"I like the ability to create things and to solve problems," said Jones, who like her classmates is considering an engineering career. Their school model included a tube for travel with pods that could go as fast as 760 mph. Andrews noted there are bicycles that come from a backpack design, as well as wheelchairs for the disabled that can go in the tube.

Math's a focus

"I have learned so much about math and science," said Slappy, who used numbers to design to scale. "It was a lot of work."

She liked presenting for the judges in this, her second year of competition: "I actually have fun presenting to the judges. It was better than I thought it would be."

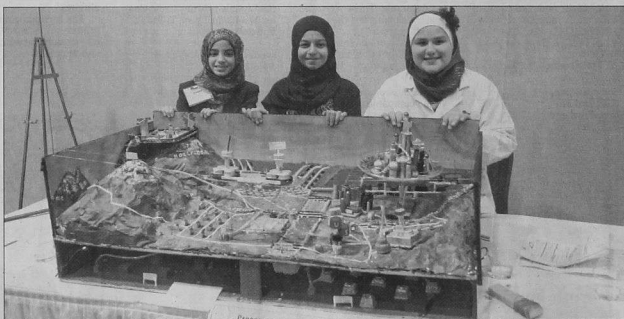
MacArthur K-8 took third place Monday.

Also participating was Crescent Academy International of Canton, which had two teams. Areesha Hasan, 12, a seventh-grader, Amina Hafeez, 13, a seventh-grader, and Amirah Aabed, 12, also a seventh-grader, all live in Canton. The girls were happy to explain their city of the future.

"This is Utopia, the city of the future," Aabed said. She explained the pollution of Los Angeles led to its end and its replacement.

"Utopia's very environmentally friendly," Aabed said, noting the downtown spins slowly to avoid disorienting people. "It's one big windmill."

Hafeez noted the iconic Hollywood design incorporated into the city of the



Crescent Academy International team No. 2 students Amina Hafeez, Areesha Hasan and Amirah Aabed stand with their Future City model. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN



WDIV-TV (Channel 4) meteorologist Andrew Humphrey speaks about the many opportunities that are available to the kids in the engineering field.

future. Hasan said agriculture is separated from industry.

"I'm thinking about it," Aabed said of an engineering career. "I want to invent something." Their team's city also mixed country, suburbs and city. T2 (squared) transportation tubes took people between zones.

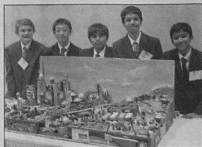
Over at Marshall Upper Elementary School in Westland, the sixth-graders were working on Krania, located in Winter Water Valley, Mich. Krania has 81,712 people, an average IQ of 135 and is "Your Destination for Education."

Presenters for Marshall were Jack Mortson, 11, Brendan Schema, 11, and Andrew Biber, 11, with Natalie Reid, 11, as alternate presenter. All are Westland residents in a sixth-grade Talented and Gifted class.

"This is the Krania Metro," Mortson said, noting its left-right design. Schema said there's an Area Criminal Control spot for law enforcement.

"It gives them a better view of the city," Schema said.

Biber noted the hydrogen-powered cars. "They give off water vapor," he said, which in turn powers the People



Jain Temple of Greater Detroit School team members (from left) David Brooks, Kevin Zhang, Prithvi Patil, Yug Chauhan and Rishabh Parekh stand with their Future City Model. They finished in the top five.

Mover or Metro.

"I think it fits better because you know the area," Schema said of their Michigan location. Some other teams chose to put their cities overseas.

"This was a class project," said Marshall teacher Diane Krzyaniak, a Livonia resident. Students began their work in October.

'So proud of them'

"I am so proud of them," Krzyaniak said. "It boggles my mind how much teamwork, how much enthusiasm they have had." Her team of 31 worked with engineering mentor Stephanie Fowler, who does consulting with GZA GeoEnvironmental of Livonia. Fowler would visit the Westland school each Monday to work with the team.

"Engineers are leaders and mentors," Fowler said. "It's a great opportunity to work with the community, especially kids."

Mortson spoke for his classmates about possibly pursuing engineering later as a career as their mentor did. "She's very helpful."

The Westland city planner also visited the class, Krzyaniak added. "The kids get so much out of it," the teacher said. "This is our future and we've got to expose

them to as much as possible."

St. Valentine Catholic School of Redford had presenters Fiona Baughman, 13, of Redford, Paul Schulte, 13, of Livonia, and Alexa Terry, 13, of Redford, all eighth-graders. Their city of Illu Sun was off the coast of Australia.

Illu Sun has two main modes of transportation, plus emergency pods. "They can get to a hospital or emergency center quickly," said Terry, whose father is an engineer.

The public transportation for Illu Sun is underground, with tunnels allowing travel up to 600 mph. "So that cuts down your commute times drastically," Terry said.

"I was always looking forward to being able to do Future City" when younger, Schulte said.

'Learned a lot'

"St. Valentine is really proud of their city," Baughman added, noting classmates are excited about the annual competition. "We learned a lot of new stuff about the city," she said of regional finals day Monday. They learned from the judges and also educated them, Baughman said.

St. Valentine took second-place honors Monday. First place went to St. John Lutheran School of Rochester. Athanasius Kircher Academy of Belleville took fifth.

Like many participants, the three from St. Val's are considering engineering careers, a goal of the competition. Students in sixth, seventh and eighth grade work on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) activities, applying them to real-world problems. This year's theme was "Tomorrow's Transit: Design a Way To Move People In and Around Your City." Students used SimCity software, wrote an essay and made a presentation to the judges. Students are challenged to build a city 150 years into the future using engineering principles.

jbrown@hometownlife.com



The BeckRidge Youth Choir debuted with a Dec. 5 concert.

Youth choir readies for spring season

The BeckRidge Youth Choir, fresh off its Christmas concert, is getting ready for its spring season.

Director Keri Mueller, vocal music teacher at Workman Elementary School in Canton, leads the choir.

"Getting kids fired up about singing is something I am very passionate about," Mueller said. "There's nothing more rewarding than helping kids fulfill their own passion for music."

The BeckRidge Youth Choir gave its premiere performance Dec. 5. "I was so very proud of them," Mueller said. "They worked really hard to make some great music and they certainly didn't disappoint. We are going to do something equally as fun for spring.

We are singing music from different decades— from the '50s to today."

In addition to helping children explore their artistic interests, Mueller believes building relationships within the choir and with the director is vitally important.

"I believe we sing better when we really get to know each other," she said. "It takes the work out of rehearsal and makes it more meaningful and fun for me and the kids."

Members of the BeckRidge Youth Choir come from as far away as Northville and a number of the children are homeschooled.

When we created the youth choir, we not only wanted to bring kids together from Plymouth and Canton, but from

outside our local area," Mueller said. "Music breaks down lots of barriers, it creates social opportunities for kids and the more we get to know and work with each other, the better we function as a society."

The BeckRidge Youth Choir meets 6:30-8 p.m. each Thursday at the BeckRidge Chorale Rehearsal Studio and Performance Center in Canton.

The group welcomes second-through sixth-grade students and sessions include training in reading music, vocal technique, rhythm and movement.

For more information, visit its website at www.beckridgechorale.org/youthchoir or call the office at 734-667-3127.

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Avoid making investments in your company's stock

Another successful auto show has come and gone. It's certainly nice to see that the Detroit Three (General Motors, Ford and Chrysler), as they are known, are back on their feet.

I think everyone, particularly here in southeast Michigan, is rooting for the continued success of the U.S. auto industry. That being said, one of the questions that I am frequently asked, particularly by General Motors and Ford employees, is how much of their 401(k) plan should be invested in company stock.

If I was an employee at Ford or General Motors, at the present time I would not own company stock in my 401(k) plan. Not because I'm dissatisfied with the company nor because the stock is not a good investment. It has to do with being a good investor.

The first issue is whether loyalty should enter into the equation when you're talking about an investment. As far as I'm concerned, loyalty means nothing when it comes to invest-



Rick Bloom

MONEY MATTERS

ing your money. As investors, we have to recognize that companies are not loyal to their shareholders and, thus, shareholders should not be loyal to the companies.

Strategy is key
Investors should make investment decisions based upon overall strategy, what's currently in one's portfolio, individual goals and objectives and risk tolerance level.

As an employee, one should be loyal to an employer and do whatever he/she can to benefit it. However, as investors, we have to look at things differently. The goal is to protect and grow your money.

Loyalty is a great attribute to have as an employee or a family member, but it is not a good one to have as an investor. Investors must act dispassionately and make decisions based upon goals and objectives.

Allowing loyalty to enter into the equation only complicates the decision-making process. Therefore, when it comes to making an investment, put loyalty to the side

and focus on the more important things.

Diversification is another reason I do not recommend an employee of Ford and General Motors invests in company stock. After all, you don't want two risky eggs in one basket and that's what happens when you have your job and investments in the same company.

When General Motors went into bankruptcy many people not only lost their job, but also lost a substantial portion of their portfolio.

The advice of not keeping all your eggs in one spot doesn't only apply to employees in the auto industry; it also applies to any employee who invests in their employer's company.

If the company begins to have financial difficulty, your job and investments can be at risk. Protect yourself and either avoid or hold investments in a company stock. Good luck.

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

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Observer: How did you first decide to open your business?

Hub LLC: I decided to begin Hub because I felt there was an unfilled niche market where residential real estate was missing the business perspective and commercial was lacking a personal touch.

Observer: Why did you choose Plymouth?

Hub LLC: We chose Plymouth because it is a small town where Hub can make a

HUB, LLC

Business name and address: Hub, LLC, 829 Penman Ave., Plymouth

Name and title: Shelby Fulkerson, broker/owner

Hometown: Plymouth
Business opened: 2011

Number of employees: Four and growing

Hours of operation: 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., or by appointment

Business specialty: Real estate, residential and commercial

Contact: 734-667-1481; www.hubrealtysolutions.com

difference as the local expert for residential and business customers.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Hub LLC: Our process is unique due to how we partner with our customers to help them fully understand their goals and implement a plan that

best fits their needs.

Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Hub LLC: We have continued to grow through referrals from our satisfied customers, along with foot traffic into our downtown office.

Observer: Do you have a funny tidbit to share about your experience as a small-business owner?

Hub LLC: We have a window display showcasing Plymouth listings; however, more people tend to stare at the great Dane on the couch. His name is Linnus.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Hub LLC: The real estate market is constantly changing and often reflects the economy, but there are always opportunities out there for those with business knowledge and pas-



Hub, LLC is a full-service, personalized, independent real estate company that specializes in buying and selling, lease facilitation, property management, relocation, investments, remodeling and renovations.

Observer: What's in store for the future of your business?

Hub LLC: We've had a wonderful first two years and are looking to expand our reach in the area. We are currently seeking motivated individuals to join our team.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON CHAMBER CHAT



Blast Pain recently held a ribbon-cutting at its new Plymouth location. Blast Pain is a laser therapy center that treats many types of joint, muscle, circulatory and inflammatory conditions. Cutting the ribbon is owner Kathy Groman, who is joined by Blast Pain's employees and ambassadors from the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce. Blast Pain is located at 975 S. Main and can be contacted at 734-454-1000.

X-Treme Networking

The Canton Chamber of Commerce is teaming up with the Detroit Red Wings for a new X-Treme Networking Event for the team's Feb. 3 game against the Vancouver Canucks.

Transportation to and from the game, refreshments on the bus and one ticket to the game cost \$65. Tickets are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The bus leaves the Canton chamber office, 45525 Hanford, at 6 p.m.

The event is sponsored by Bovitz CPA, P.C., and Twisted Rooster. For more information, call the chamber at 734-453-1040.

Speed networking

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts a speed networking event 7:45-9 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, at the Red Olive banquet room, 1051 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth.

Cost is \$10. The event is designed as a fast-paced hour of networking with 40 to 50 other

chamber members.

For more information or to register, email terri@plymouthchic.org or call 734-453-1540.

State of the Schools

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce and the Canton Chamber of Commerce partner with officials of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools to host the State of the Schools luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, at Plymouth High School.

Cost is \$15, with all proceeds being used for Student Citizen Scholarships. Dr. Michael Meissen, Plymouth-Canton's superintendent, will address the latest developments in the school district.

For more information, call 734-453-1540.

Membership to the Max

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts "Membership to the Max" at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, at the chamber office,

45525 Hanford, Canton.

"Membership to the Max" is designed to show chamber members how to use the Canton chamber to its full capacity. Chamber officials said it's their goal to "help our members redeem all of the advantages that accompanies their membership."

The event is sponsored by Showroom of Elegance. There's no cost to attend, but reservations are required. Call the chamber office at 734-453-1040 to RSVP.

Joint after-hours

The Canton Chamber of Commerce partners with the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce for a joint-chamber event 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26, at Stella's Black Dog Tavern (formerly Doyle's), 860 Fralick, Plymouth.

The event will provide members the opportunity to expand their network of professionals from businesses in neighboring communities.

There is no charge for the event.

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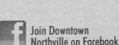
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February 15, 7:30pm
Sponsored by KB Jewelers

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February 22, 7:30pm
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Tickets (\$5 each) for the Movies at the Marquis are limited and may be purchased at the Marquis Theatre the night of each individual movie. The historic Marquis Theatre is located in downtown Northville at 135 E. Main Street. For more information and updates on Movies at the Marquis, visit www.downtownnorthville.com or call 248-349-0345.

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January means two things:

Pawning off excess cookies and cakes on your co-workers and hearing about the unfathomable new technology from the annual Consumer Electronics Show.

The 2014 Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas earlier this month showcased some wild technology. By comparison, this year's top gadgets make the smart fridges and three-dimensional printers from 2013 seem like typewriters.

One of the coolest pieces unveiled at this year's conference was a bendable TV produced by Samsung. This ultra flat-screen device can be curved to enhance viewing and comes as large as 85 inches. Of course, a TV that impressive will set you back.

In an unrelated story, does anyone have \$10,000 I can borrow?

Three-dimensional printers were also heavily talked about during the show. None were more impressive than the Makerbot Replicator Mini Compact 3D Printer, which is Wi-Fi compatible. This device isn't your average printer that puts ink on paper. Think of it as a giant box that actually creates miniature 3D replicas of any-



Jon Gunnells
TECH SAVVY

thing you need.

In the past few years, owners of these expensive devices have used them to make household objects like phone stands and pen holders, but 3D printers have even been used to print heart valves. Yes, you just read that correctly — there is a magical electronic box called a 3D printer that has saved lives by printing heart valves. Of course, no tech companies unveiled flying cars this year, so I suppose 3D printers will have to suffice.

Ultra high-def TVs

For the second straight year, ultra high-definition TVs were among the most talked about items. If you are like me, you didn't think TV's could get any better. These new ultra HD TVs are proof that televisions have a long way to go and all of our current TV's will once again be obsolete.

An ultra high-def TV is estimated to have four times better resolution than the regular HD models. Vizio lists a 50-inch ultra HD TV for approximately \$1,000. Prices should continue to fall.

Some of the other wacky technologies unveiled at the 2014 show were recreational drones

of all sizes, racing robots that can be controlled by smart phones and more wearable sensors that track a user's activity similar to a FitBit or Nike Fuel Band.

The show featured advanced intuitive keyboards to help users type without looking and clip on mini-keyboards that pair with touch-screen iPhones.

There was a \$199 hydrogen-powered fuel cell which can be used to give power to developing countries, as well as solar-powered phone chargers.

One of the biggest themes of 2014 was tracking.

We already discussed fitness trackers that monitor your movements, caloric intake and sleep patterns, but CES 2014 showcased more trackers to help you find belongings.

Arguably the best such tracker is called the Mother, which is a central hub with 24 removable tracking pieces that can be stuck to everyday objects you often misplace, such as your wallet, keys, phone or child. Just don't lose the hub, otherwise your money would have been better spent helping me buy a bendable TV.

Jon Gunnells is a freelance writer and social media planner. Email jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Twitter: @GunnShOw.

WHEEL GOOD TIME

Preschoolers get creative for their own auto show

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

There were no flashy exhibits, perfectly dressed models or an international press corps. Just a princess in a tiara and rows of vehicles in all shapes, colors, sizes and designs.

It was auto show time at the Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool in Westland and while the designs may not have got them a Motor Trend Car of the Year Award, they did earn medals for their 3- and 4-year-old "owners."

"This is the fifth year we've done this and it just seems to get bigger and better each year," teacher Darlene Taig said.

The first-year students brought in cardboard boxes and worked on the cars in the classroom. They used paper plates for headlights and wheels. But Taig decided to make it a parent-child project.

"They just have so much fun," she said. "They're so proud of themselves. I've been hearing about the cars for two weeks. And the parents, too. I've been seeing stuff on Facebook about the cars."

Parents worked with the youngsters and some designs were simple, like a flaming red fire truck with hoses or a pink car with color-coordinated feather boa trim. Others were more elaborate designs, like the Batmobile, modeled after the one in Tim Burton's movie of the same name, a *Pete the Cat* car with mismatched high-top sneakers for tires or a bright yellow *SpongeBob SquarePants* car.

'Work in progress'

Most were made from cardboard boxes, but Raina Mosie was sporting a pink Jeep made of wood with "a real seat and carpet" and rubber tires.

"It's a work in progress," said her father, Jay Jn. Mosie of Canton. "She wanted a Jeep because I had a Wrangler and she loved it. She keeps asking



Kids climb into their rides at the Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool's 3-year-olds auto show. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Ezra Bousley-Crane's car is personalized with his name.



Spencer Kenyon gives a big grin from inside his little Superman car.

me when I'm going to get a real one."

An engineer for Chrysler, Mosie decided to do more than a cardboard box car. He had heard about the auto show last year when Raina was in the 2-year-old program. He couldn't

wait for his daughter to be 3.

Her car runs — it's powered by a drill battery — and has brakes and even a spare tire on the back.

"It's going to be a fully functional vehicle when we get done," Mosie said. "What's

missing now is integrated steering."

It was a given that Aubrey Dugger's car would be a Ford Mustang — a pink Ford Mustang. She even had a Ford key to "start it."

"Her daddy works for Roush and her favorite is the Mustang," mom Danielle said.

"That's what we had to do. It was her choice for the interior, exterior and color. She insisted that it have the 5.0 on the side so people knew it was a Mustang."

The car is destined for her bedroom, but the night before

the show, Aubrey wanted it in the garage with the other family vehicles.

"She said it had to stay out with the car and truck," the Westland resident said. "She and her daddy worked hard on it. They were up until midnight working on it. It had to be perfect."

The 'Pete' car

Paige LeBourdais was the proud owner of the *Pete the Cat* car. A storybook character, Pete happens to be the mascot for the Westland preschool.

"I asked if she wanted Pete. She said yes and we did it," her mom Tina said. "All the kids love *Pete the Cat*."

LeBourdais said building the car wasn't too bad. The hardest part was the tail. She used a Styrofoam wreath and removed a section to give the look of a curled tail. Paige helped cover it in blue tape. The vehicle has mirrors, heart-shaped taillights and cupboard door handles. The shoes/tires have shoelaces.

Paige plans to park it in the garage and said the best part about it is "driving it." Lucas McZachin was the proud owner of the Batmobile. While the distinctive fins and pointed nose were cardboard, the undercharge was a wagon because the youngster "wanted it to move," his father Neil said.

"He wanted to put a jet engine in it, but I told him that was out of our price range," the Westland resident said. "He helped do the work, he did all the taping. I used spray paint, but in retrospect, I could have used regular paint and he could have helped do that, too."

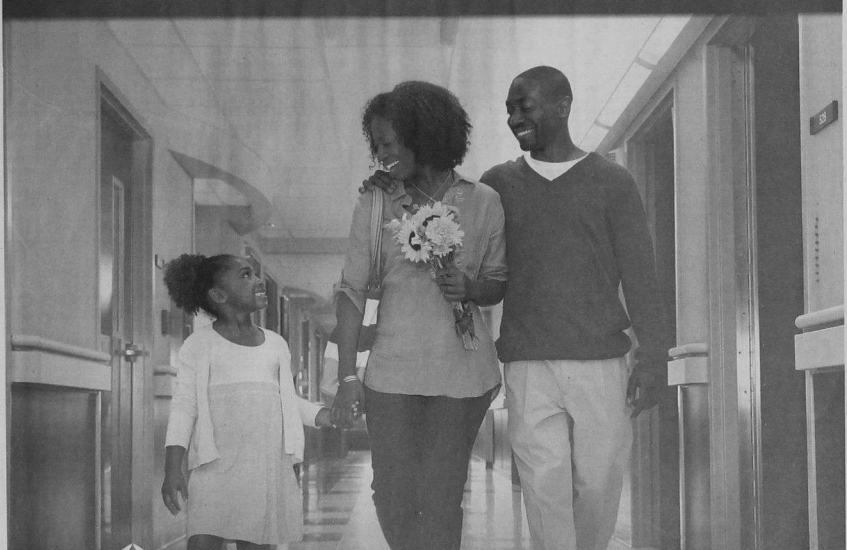
Lucas is a fan of *Batman* and made sure he had his *Batman* costume in it. Right now he watches the *Lego Batman* movie, but his dad looks forward to the day when he can watch the adult *Batman* movies with his son.

For Taig, last Thursday's auto show was one of two for the preschool. The 4-year-olds had their own show Friday. She couldn't wait to see the designs.

"It's amazing what they come up with," she said.

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OUR VIEWS

‘Jeffress Center’ a fitting tribute

College’s president gets deserved honor

Congratulations to Dr. Conway A. Jeffress, president of Schoolcraft College, for having a building named after him!

It is an honor that is certainly well-deserved. Jeffress has been tireless supporter of Schoolcraft College for the past 32 years, the last 14 as president. His accomplishments are many and we’re glad the Schoolcraft Board of Trustees acknowledged them in such a public way.

Under Jeffress’ leadership, the college has added buildings and programs while remaining financially sound and keeping tuition affordable.

For example, last May the Board of Trustees approved issuing \$18 million in bonds for improvements that it will pay back over the next 15 years without having to go to voters for a tax increase.

Those improvements include renovating the former American Community Mutual Insurance building at the corner of Seven Mile and Haggerty, now called The Jeffress Center, which will be used to house classes for Schoolcraft’s new bachelor’s and master’s degree partnership program with Wayne State University and the University of Toledo that begins this fall. Degrees in business, nursing, engineering, criminal justice and more will soon be available at Schoolcraft’s main campus in Livonia.

Other improvements covered by the bond include overhauling the college’s mainframe computer, adding a parking lot and building a road around the back of campus so motorists can get from Six Mile to Seven Mile without going onto Haggerty.

Moody’s Investment Services, the nation’s leading bond credit rating agency, issued Schoolcraft College one of its highest ratings because of “solid financial management that has controlled expenditure growth and utilized tuition raising flexibility to maintain strong financial revenues.”

Also under Jeffress’ leadership, the college built and opened the Vista Tech Center in September 2003, remodeled the Brader Library in 2005, built the Biomedical Technology Center in 2008 and created the Public Safety Training Complex in 2013.

While Jeffress has served as president, the college and its labor unions have worked cooperatively together, negotiating fair contracts that contribute to a peaceful relationship and allow everyone to concentrate on their respective jobs.

At the same time, the college has kept costs to students affordable, giving them a way to gain knowledge and work skills without having to take on a huge amount of debt.

The college and community have benefited greatly from Jeffress’ vision and we are pleased the new building will remind everyone of his contributions for many years to come.



Jeffress

COMMUNITY VOICE

What is your favorite winter pastime?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



“My favorite winter pastime is reading while curling up with my dog (Dex).”

Eva Davis
Plymouth Township

“I work out at Planet Fitness (on Canton Center).”

Carrie Neilson
Canton

“Reading and using my Kindle. I love my Kindle.”

Phyllis Hartwick
Canton

“Reading. Outside of reading, I watch movies and go on the computer.”

Rhoda Wolshon
Canton

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Camera is my voice

As a journalist and freelance photographer over the years, my work has morphed into book form and working on projects that inspire me. Most of that nowadays is historic research and the learning I garner from it. On Saturday, Jan. 25, around 6 p.m., my Kodak Easy Share slipped out of my pocketbook either at the McDonald’s in Plymouth or at Macy’s in Westland. I am at a loss for words right now as there are 3,000 or so pictures in the camera and on a chip that was in the mahogany case that I carried with it. The white cord was hanging on the camera as I upload pictures often.

The value of the camera is nothing, it is the contents that I have produced for my work and research. As a disabled veteran, my work is important to me, as I find that there is a love of history in the way I present items to others. To whomever picked up the camera, I am asking that you please return it either to McDonald’s in Plymouth or Macy’s in Westland. Even if you don’t want to go there, you can drop it off at a police station anonymously and I will gladly pick it up.

Perhaps the person who found it is also earnestly looking for me to return it to and I certainly appreciate that. All I know is my work is valuable to me and my camera is my voice.

Cheryl Martin
Canton

Board priorities

What are the priorities of the Plymouth Township board? Are the majority of the board members listening to the residents? Not long ago, the board voted to close a fire station, citing lack of funds. Recently, without any “public” involvement or knowledge, a bond issue for \$2.2 million (of which \$1.9 million has been sold to date) was passed by the

majority of the board for an unnecessary pavilion and amphitheater.

This is not “free” money. We the property owners will have to pay that money back with interest (that is a tax increase on us all). However, these facilities will be used by a very small fraction of township residents. Incidentally, the General Fund Budget is growing a deficit for the third year.

In addition, Treasurer Edwards and Clerk Conzelmann were interviewed by this paper in December, “promoting” a \$26 million recreation complex that would be built and maintained with Plymouth Township tax dollars alone. Out of the seven members of the board, right now, we hear only two members, Trustees Doroshewitz and Curmi, who are asking questions and speaking up for fiscal responsibility in representing the voters of Plymouth Township.

We want to publicly thank them. They do not have the majority voice on the board. If you want “your voice” to be heard attend board meetings, contact board members and write letters to this paper. For specific dates of board meetings (which are held at 7 p.m. each Tuesday in township hall), board members’ phone numbers and email addresses, see the front of your new township calendar.

Larry and Diane Cooper
Plymouth Township

Known by choices

I am a senior citizen resident of Plymouth Township and I am very concerned about the choices our township board members have made without any public knowledge or vote of the citizens. Bonds were sold to construct a pavilion and an amphitheater in the Township Park. This is money that will have to be paid back by taxpayers. Treasurer Ron Edwards was quoted as proposing a recreation center for the township at a cost of somewhere in the

\$26-million range. It is estimated the cost for the pavilion is \$625,000, and what will be the cost for the amphitheater?

All of these structures will need constant maintenance and upkeep and employees and entertainment costs will have to be paid, as well. Ron Edwards is also proposing to spend our money on conducting a survey on taxpayers’ views on having a recreation center. This should not even be subject to a survey.

Plymouth Township is comprised of many senior citizen and elderly residents. Many senior citizens are now paying a state pension tax, along with high health insurance and prescription drug costs. The majority of our working residents have families to support and many have lost their jobs. If they have been lucky enough to find new employment, they are still suffering from their economic downfalls.

A tax increase of this size to support all or any of these unnecessary additions is totally absurd and will force many of our citizens to move out of our already beautiful and safe community. During his campaigns, Ron Edwards has always preached about taxes in the township and that is why home buyers decide to settle here. Higher taxes will not bring people in – it will keep them out. Since the township has no responsibility to find and maintain our subdivisions, it all falls upon the homeowners who also have high association fees in addition to taxes.

Since the board decided to close a fire station that is crucial to the whole township because they did not have the funds to keep it open after Plymouth broke away from us, it clearly shows that they are considering recreation far more important than the safety of our citizens.

Bonnie Mettje
Plymouth Township

GUEST COLUMN

Mental health goes mobile with fresh ideas

Gov. Rick Snyder called for greater civility at the top of his recent State of the State address. The Mental Health Commission clearly took note with a thoughtful, bipartisan report and unanimous support for all recommendations.

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley and State Community Mental Health Director James Haveyman, along with legislators from both sides of the aisle — are to be commended. Together, they produced an actionable set of recommendations that would significantly enhance both the lives and outcomes for individuals and families in our state living with mental illness, developmental or intellectual disabilities and substance abuse.

The Mental Health Commission charge is simple: “To address

gaps in the delivery of mental health services and propose new service models to strengthen the entire delivery spectrum of mental health services throughout the state of Michigan.”

The authors understand that this will require more than statistics and budget numbers, the victims are real individuals with real families. They live throughout our state. No code is excluded.

After taking time to listen to mental health professionals, patients and the family and friends that love them, the commission exceeded its expectations in less than a year. Among the many highlights of the report are the following recommendations:



Vicki Buciere
GUEST COLUMNIST

» Review technology guidelines and reimbursement policies to identify the barriers to promoting innovative initiatives such as telemedicine services, improved access to appropriate treatments and early interventions regardless of location.

» Incorporate programs to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness that can be a primary deterrent to seeking care.

» Develop collaboration between the Department of Education and the Department of Community Health to develop early-intervention and best practices models to address mental health needs of students.

» Additionally, the commission recommended revising Executive Order 2013-6 to extend the life of the Mental Health and Wellness Commission through 2015. This would effectively highlight the need to overcome transportation challenges for those with developmental and intellectual disabilities, mental illnesses and disorders stemming from substance abuse.

It is suggested that all these recommendations are to be viewed within the context of

investment value and long-term impacts, as well as more efficient integration and coordination of services.

When Snyder entered office more than three years ago, he called for the “reinvention” of our great state. The Mental Health Commission’s report echoes that call by examining the need for better coordination of mental health care across the state.

I would encourage the commission to explore ways that innovative technologies can best be utilized to bring treatment options out of the Dark Ages and into the 21st century. In far too many cases, mental health treatment options remain stuck in the past while the world continues to change.

As the demand for mental health and substance abuse treatment services increase, we need to be prepared to meet with high-quality, cost-efficient, alternative-service delivery models and that has been an impetus for the development of BLUESPACE counseling, LLC services.

Research shows that virtual, Internet-based counseling is confidential, tailored to individuals and highly effective. It provides better access, reduces stigma and provides the opportunity for early intervention.

Because of its “here and now” orientation, clients feel less anxious and are more comfortable remaining in their own environment. As a result, they are more likely to participate in follow-up appointments. Such “on-site” treatment is prevention-oriented and less costly because the necessity of the traditional brick and mortar facility is eliminated.

Virtual counseling allows the client to choose electronic or digital counseling options for mobile phone or video chat sessions (using mobile apps). For those not connected to the Internet, users can still opt for the more traditional telephone counseling session.

Michigan can leap ahead by melding “high tech” with “high touch” in ways that reduce costs, while enhancing the quality of services. As a mental health entrepreneur, I am pleased with the leadership we are witnessing in Lansing

Vicki Buciere, LMSW, ACSW, SAP is a virtual and substance abuse BLUESPACE counseling, LLC (www.bluespacecounseling.com) and has more than 25 years experience in the areas of inpatient and outpatient mental health and substance use disorders and crisis intervention services. You can reach her at info@bluespacecounseling.com.



Brad Kadrich,
Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
Executive Editor

Grace Perry,
Director of
Advertising

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Love Thy Neighbor

Dates/Times: Feb. 3-21, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon Saturday

Details: The Salvation Army's Food Pantry is asking its neighbors to "Love Thy Neighbor" by donating specific items to the food pantry. Among items they're looking for are deodorant and shaving items, toilet paper, body soap, dish soap, detergent, shampoo and conditioner, Hamburger Helper, canned chicken and tuna.

Contact: Email Laurie Aren at laurie_aren@us.salvationarmy.org or call 734-453-5464.

Night for the Museum

Date/Time: Saturday, Feb. 15, 6 p.m.

Location: Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center, 8768 N. Territorial, Plymouth

Details: This is the Plymouth Historical Museum's annual auction fundraiser. Merchants in Plymouth and surrounding areas have stepped up and donated numerous items for the live auction and raffle. In addition, diners will be entertained with a performance by 12-year-old Makenzie Ryder as well as the Plymouth Fire and Drum Corps. The ticket price of \$75 per person includes appetizers, a plated gourmet dinner and dessert; a cash bar will also be available. Tickets can be purchased at the museum during open hours or online at http://www.plymouthhistory.org/Events/A-Night-For-the-Museum_1118.html?sort=Box%20201402 using PayPal. Tickets should be purchased by Feb. 7.

Contact: Call 734-455-8940.

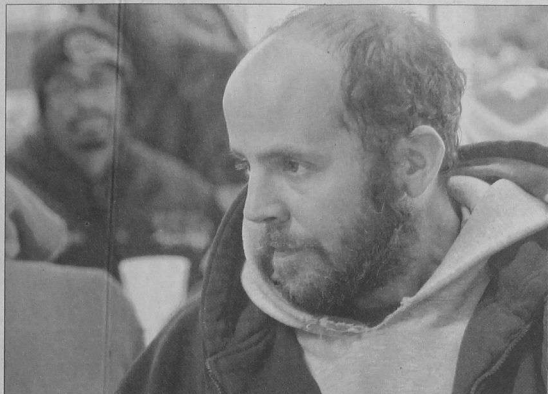
Canton newcomers

Date/Time: Wednesday, Feb. 5, 7-15 p.m.

Location: Sunflower Clubhouse, 45800 Harford

Details: In celebration of Women's Heart Health Month, the Canton Newcomers and Neighbors club will be hosting a themed "Things We Love" adult general meeting. In addition to getting Canton's "scoop" from the club's number-one requested speaker, Canton Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin, the evening will include a recipe exchange, a heart-healthy salad bar, a raffle to benefit Canton's own Partnership of the Arts and more.

Helping the homeless



Lighthouse Home Mission's Warming Center and Soup Kitchen in Westland has been a refuge from the cold for the homeless like Douglas Knight. The Warming Center is open from 7 p.m. to 8 a.m. seven days a week through March 31. The soup kitchen is open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Lighthouse also has a food pantry and clothing party and helps people with referrals for services. Appointments for food and clothing are required by phone only and are available from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday and Friday. People interested in making donations can contact Lighthouse Home Mission at 34033 Palmer, Westland, or by calling 734-326-3885. BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The club meets the first Wednesday of each month, September through May and hosts a June family picnic.

Contact: To learn more about the club, order a complimentary February newsletter and/or RSVP for the free Feb. 5 meeting, contact Noreen at 734-981-0486, email nybar@yahoo.com or visit www.cantonmccommend-neighbors.org.

Toastmasters move

Date/Time: Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Location: Rose's Restaurant, 201 N. Cherry Hill, Canton

Details: Canton Communicators Toastmasters Club is changing its meeting place to Rose's Restaurant. Guests are welcome and appreciated. Toastmasters officials say the club is "an inexpensive way to gain communication skills, confidence and leadership training." More information is available at www.cantoncommunicators.com

Contact: Robert Birch, email rbirch12002@yahoo.com

Vendor fair

Date/Time: Saturday, March 8, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: Canton High School cafeteria, 8415 N. Canton Center Road, Canton

Details: The Project Graduation vendor fair will feature a variety of vendors to address all graduation party needs, including tents, inflatables, photo booths, catering, bakeries and more. There will also be a variety of vendors available for visitors to shop, including Tastefully Simple, Tupperware, Cookie Lee Jewelry, Scentry Fragrance Warmers, Mary Kay, Velata Chocolate Warmers and more. Proceeds will benefit the Senior All-Night Party. Admission is free.

Crafters needed

Date/Time: Aug. 30-31

Location: Old St. Patrick Catholic Church, 5671 Whitmore Lake Road, Ann Arbor

Details: Crafters are needed for Old St. Patrick's 38th annual Labor Day Weekend Festival, which will now include an Arts & Crafts Show. Artisans interested in participating as a vendor can visit the church's website (www.stpatrickaz.org) and send in the application.

Contact: Carla or Jeanine at ocpfestival@gmail.com for more information.

Medicare/Medicaid counseling

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

Location: United Home Health Services, 2200 N. Canton Center, Ste. 250, Canton

Details: United Home Health Services offers free individual counseling with a certified MMAP (Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program) counselor. The counselor can help you understand your Medicare/Medicaid eligibility and the various plans, apply for Medicaid, research and enroll in Medicare Part D Drug Insurance, understand Medicare supplemental plans, find pharmaceutical assistance programs, identify and report Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse. No appointment necessary.

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

Oz in ice

Date/Time: Sunday, Feb. 9, 4-7 p.m.

Location: The Manor at Glacier Hills, 1200 Earhart Road, Ann Arbor

Details: Glacier Hills celebrates 40 years with Oz in Ice. Ice Dreams of Plymouth will showcase 10 ice sculptures based on themes and characters found in *The Wizard of Oz*. Beverages

appropriate for the season will be served. This event is free and open to the public, and no tickets are required.

Contact: Call 734-913-0730.

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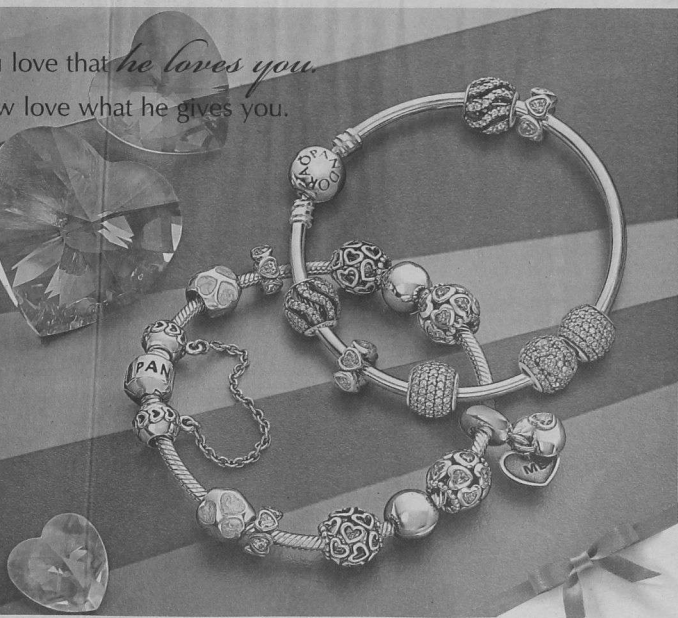
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<p>Boar's Head Blazing Buffalo Chicken \$7.49 lb. <small>Save \$2.00 lb.</small></p>	<p>Dietz & Watson Garlic Cheddar Cheese \$6.99 lb. <small>Save \$2.00 lb.</small></p>	<p>Boar's Head Colby Jack or Colby Cheese \$6.49 lb. <small>Save \$3.00 lb.</small></p>	<p>Tillamook Cheddar Cheese Med. or Sharp \$6.99 lb. <small>Save \$2.00 lb.</small></p>	<p>Cucina Andolina Parmesan Cheese \$5.99 lb. <small>Save \$1.00 lb.</small></p>

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<p>BBQ Pulled Chicken</p>	<p>\$7.99 lb.</p>
<p>BBQ Baby Back Ribs Save \$3.00 lb.</p>	<p>\$9.99 lb.</p>
<p>Joe's Party Dips Buffalo Chicken, Crab or Spinach Bacon Ranch Save \$1.00 lb.</p>	<p>\$7.99 lb.</p>

BAKERY

<p>Original Caramel or Sweet-N-Spicy Pops Save \$1.00 lb.</p>	<p>\$8.99 lb.</p>
<p>Jumbo Chocolate Chip Cookies Great Desert for Game Day</p>	<p>\$9.99</p>
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	<p>Power Trail Mix</p>	<p>\$3.49 lb.</p>
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SECTION B (CP)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2014
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
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SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR
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OHL HOCKEY

Whalers looking to end slump

Plymouth drops three games in three days

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Much like anybody traveling Up North last weekend, the Plymouth Whalers hit a rough patch with three losses in three days.

After a 5-1 loss Friday at Kitchener and a 6-2 defeat the next night against Sarnia at Compuware Arena, the Whalers fell 4-2 on Sunday to host Sault Ste. Marie.

Despite the weekend skid, Plymouth (17-26-0-5, 39 points) remains in the eighth and final playoff spot in the Ontario Hockey League's Western Conference.

The Whalers will look to get back on track with back-to-back home games Friday and Saturday, against Kingston and Belleville, respectively. Both games will start at 7 p.m.

In Sunday's contest at the Essar Centre, Plymouth took a 1-0 lead at 16:11 of the first period when Connor Chatham registered his eighth goal of the season.

Assisting was Vincent Scognamiglio.

That lead held up until Patrick Watling evened things up at 3:50 of the second.

He sent a shot past Whalers' goalie Zack Bowman (35 saves).

Plymouth went back up by a 2-1 count, when Matt Misteles scored his 11th goal of the year from winger Bryce Yetman and defenseman Gianluca Curcuruto.

Things went south from that point on, however. The Greyhounds beat Bowman twice within 52 seconds midway through the middle stanza to take a 3-2 lead. Tyler Gaudet and David Miller tallied those goals.

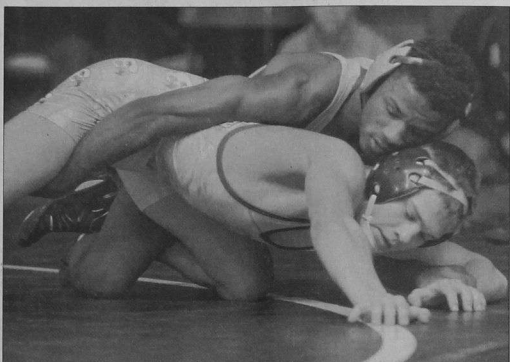
Andrew Fritsch then padded the lead with an empty netter at 19:43 of the third.

Saturday night, before 2,210 at Compuware, six different skaters scored for Sarnia as the Sting cruised to a victory.

Plymouth's bright spots were Curcuruto and Carter Sandiak, each tallying a

See WHALERS, Page B4

PREP WRESTLING



Plymouth's Brandon Harris (top) tangles in the 112-pounder final with lower weights MVP Michael Volynyuk of Harrison. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER (STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

'Cats rule Observerland

Plymouth wins tournament for first time; CC places second

By Brad Emmons
Staff Writer

Solid from top to bottom, Plymouth added another trophy to its already crowded 2013-14 wrestling case when it captured its first-ever Observerland Invitational title Saturday at Livonia Churchill.

The Wildcats, who have already garnered the Wayne County and KLAA South Division dual meet crowns, scored a team-high 212.5 points in the 23rd annual event.

The Novi Detroit Catholic Central Blue-White team (95) finished a strong second, while defending champion Westland John Glenn (177.5), Livonia Franklin (131) and Wayne Memorial (120) rounded out the top five.

Plymouth earned places in all 13 weight classes, with senior Mohamad Youssef and junior Hussein Youssef earning individual titles at 119 and 171, respectively.

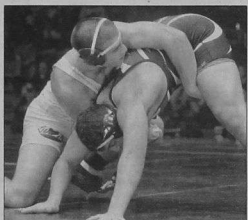
Adding seconds for the Wildcats were Collin Reed (103), Brandon Harris (112) and Jon Con (145) and Joey Shaver (160).

"I was pretty happy with the way our guys wrestled today," Plymouth coach Quinn Guernsey said. "We came with a goal to try and get a lot of our guys to place and get a lot of guys on the podium. We brought 13 guys and all 13 made the podium, so mission accomplished as far as that goes."

The Wildcats also got a third from Michael Jordan (285), while Spencer Schiftra (125), Dylan Dwyer (135) and Sterling Schiftra (140) added fourths.

"We had a great round in the semifinals," Guernsey said. "Spencer Schiftra had a good run over a regional qualifier. Sterling Schiftra upset the No. 1 seed at 140. The whole quarterfinal round was good. I think we had 10 guys in the semifinals, which is a solid day."

CC, meanwhile, fielded a split squad after the No. 2-ranked Shamrocks (Division 1) had a double-dual home meet scratched Saturday against



Salem's Mitchell Gross (left) edged Churchill's Baker Hadwan for the 189-pound title, 5-4.

Complete Observerland Invitational results, B3.

Midwest prep powers Cincinnati (Ohio) Moeller and Marmion (Ill.) Academy.

Catholic Central earned four individual titles, led by 145-pounder Malik Amine, who was the Division 1 state champion last year at 140.

The Shamrocks also got firsts from Trevor Zdebski (125), Greg Johnson (135) and Eli Joseph (140).

"The real exciting thing was the younger guys — the freshmen and sophomores — that came in today unseeded and placed in the top five," CC assistant coach Kevin Griffin said.

"That's the most exciting to me. Then we had a few senior wrestlers — Eli Joseph and Greg Johnson — who are beginning to show what they're made of and ready to make individual

See TOURNEY, Page B3

Malcolm up for MHSAA honors

Plymouth Christian Academy senior forward Jen Malcolm is one of 120 finalists for the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Scholar-Athlete Awards for 2013-14.

Malcolm is one of the finalists eligible for one of two scholarships for Class D female student-athletes.

Malcolm

Farm Bureau Insurance underwrites the Scholar-Athlete Awards and will present a \$1,000 scholarship to each recipient.

Students must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 (on a 4.0 scale), and previously have won a varsity letter in at least one sport in which the MHSAA sponsors a post-season tournament. Students also were asked to respond to a series of short essay questions, submit two letters of recommendation and a 500-word essay on the importance of sportsmanship.

Plymouth hosts icers to host food drive

The Plymouth varsity boys hockey team and Plymouth United Way are teaming up to host a canned food drive before Saturday's game against Salem at Arctic Edge Arena in Canton.

Plymouth and Salem are scheduled to start their game at 7:30 p.m. but fans are encouraged to bring nonperishable food items to the arena. Any fan that brings an item will receive \$1 off admission.

Arctic Edge is located at 46615 Michigan Ave. near Canton Center Road. Call the arena at 734-487-7830 for general information.

Canton girls lacrosse

The Canton High School girls lacrosse team is having an informational meeting for students and parents.

The meeting will be 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, in the Canton High School Career Center, Room 127. No experience is necessary.

For more information, contact head coach Dave Bower at 734-634-8797 or via email, cantongirlslacrosse@gmail.com.

SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL

SWINGING SENIORS

Canton senior softball team in the works, but new squad needs players

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Bob Mosher looked up from his cup of coffee at Grand Traverse Pie Company in Plymouth and smiled.

"We're not looking for su-

perstars," said the 74-year-old Mosher, a Canton resident. "This is a recreational league. This is about getting older gentlemen senior guys ... off their sofa to join us."

Mosher is a player and co-manager for a Canton-based team in the Suburban Senior Softball League of Western Wayne County — a league governed by Amateur Softball Asso-

See SOFTBALL, Page B4



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BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING

Plymouth tankers riding the wave

Wildcats best Churchill, gaining steam with every meet

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Plymouth's varsity boys swimming and diving team continued to make a splash this season.

The Wildcats — featuring a number of freshmen contributors — earned an impressive 122-64 win over Livonia Churchill last Thursday to improve to 3-0 in the KLA.A.

Tuesday's much-anticipated campus matchup against Salem was postponed due to school closings.

But Wildcats head coach Kenn Forbes is enthusiastic about how his team is gearing up for showcase events such as this weekend's Wayne County Invitational at Grosse Pointe South and the MISCA meet on Feb. 8.

"We had a lot of nice time drops (against the Chargers) and made a few more cuts that we were looking for," Forbes noted. "We earned three more automatic cuts for the Wayne County Invite."

"... One of them was Ben Yang in the 50 free, then Garrett Beuprez got (MISCA cuts in the) 200 IM and the 500

free."

No worries

Forbes cited the performance turned in by freshman Brian Cowell despite some qualms about going back-to-back in the 500 free and 100 backstroke events.

"He (Cowell) came up to me and said he was nervous about having to do both the 500 free and then the 100 back just after that," Forbes said. "I told him not to worry, that he is more than prepared and to just relax and have fun."

"Next thing we saw, he had a 19.8 second time drop in his 500 free and then went on to PR his 100 back, too. It's awesome."

Forbes added that the team's success also is bolstered by camaraderie and how well assistant coaches Ronson Webster and Vikki Jouney (diving) bring to the mix.

"My assistant coach Ronson Webster really brings a lot every day," Forbes said. "Our styles complement each other, and he brings a great energy to the team."

"It's only his second year as a coach after I brought him in last year. I had coached him and his two younger brothers at Redford Union and so he



Plymouth's Aniketh Visal (pictured from earlier this season) won one individual event and was part of a victorious relay team last Thursday against Livonia Churchill. BILL BRISLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

already knew what I expected and ran with it."

Jouney, who also is the diving coach for the Plymouth girls team, "is still doing wonders with our five divers. Every day they improve and you can tell they have fun doing it."

PLYMOUTH 122 LIVONIA CHURCHILL 64

Jan. 23 at Churchill
200-yard medley relay: 1. Plymouth (Keegan Kendall, Garrett Webster, Michael Wischer, Matt Weiner), 1:54.24; 2. Churchill (Daniel Saltzman, Kevin Taylor, Jose Meleendez,

Jackson Norwood), 1:54.34; 3. Plymouth (Bronson Knowles, Ben Yang, Aniketh Visal, Brandon Burger), 1:57.17.

200 freestyle: 1. Ben Yang (P), 1:58.56; 2. Jake Jarvis (LC), 2:19.29; 3. Ryan Soules (LC), 2:13.99.

200 individual medley: 1. Beuprez (P), 2:10.85; 2. Knowles (P), 2:19.29; 3. Meleendez (LC), 2:25.34.

50 freestyle: 1. Burger (P), 24.52; 2. Weiner (P), 24.91; 3. Kyle Reppenhagen (LC), 26.13.

1-meter diving: 1. Ethan Burke (LC), 220.85 points; 2.

Justin Baker (LC), 181.80; 3. Steve Haywood (LC), 122.70.

100 butterfly: 1. Alex Johnson (P), 1:01.34; 2. Wischer (P), 1:05.1; 3. Tyler Opydeck (LC), 1:07.9.

100 freestyle: 1. Ryan Heinze (P), 53.85; 2. Kevin Taylor (LC), 54.33; 3. Burger (P), 54.99.

500 freestyle: 1. Beuprez (P), 5:18.96; 2. Jack Boczar (P), 6:02.13; 3. Jarvis (LC), 6:04.61.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Heinze, Weiner, Burger, Johnson), 1:39.32; 2. Plymouth (Yang, Nathan Chmika, Cameron Zinn, Visal), 1:41.7; 3. Churchill (Saltzman, Taylor, Meleendez, Norwood), 1:41.81.

100 backstroke: 1. Visal (P), 1:03.13; 2. Kendall (P), 1:05.0; 3. Tyler Gala (P), 1:14.07.

100 breaststroke: 1. Yang (P), 1:13.71; 2. Opydeck (LC), 1:14.13; 3. Reppenhagen (LC), 1:14.86.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Johnson, Chmika, Yang, Reppenhagen), 3:41.86; 2. Churchill (Taylor, Meleendez, Norwood, Saltzman), 3:42.57; 3. Plymouth (Wischer, Kendall, Heinze, Beuprez), 3:46.32.

100 meet records: Plymouth, 3-0 KLA.A South Division, Churchill, 0-3 KLA.A South.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Canton girls lax

The Canton High School girls lacrosse team is having an informational meeting for students and parents interested in playing lacrosse this season.

The meeting will be 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5 in the Canton High School Career Center, Room 127. No experience is necessary and everyone is welcome.

For more information, contact head coach Dave Bower at 734-634-8797 or via email at cantongirls-lacrosse@gmail.com.

Rocks seek assistant coach

Salem Girls Track & Field is looking for an assistant coach for the 2014 spring season that specializes in the throwing events of shot put and discus. If interested, contact the Salem athletic department at 734-416-7774, head coach Dave Gerlach at 734-416-7708 or refer to the camp. Plymouth coaching positions on the district www.pccs.k12.mi.us.

BANTAM AA HOCKEY

'99 Stingrays seize Silver Stick title

The '99 Plymouth Stingrays had quite a run during the International Silver Stick tournament held recently in Port Huron.

The Stingrays emerged the champions, going 6-0 against some of the top Bantam AA teams from the U.S. and Canada. It was capped by a 2-1 victory over the Miami (Fla.) Toros, who came into the tournament with a 51-0 overall record.

First-period goals by John Kalijan (Northville) and Brendan West (Plymouth) proved to be the difference with assists going to Jared Lee (Plymouth) and Kalijan, respectively.

Defenceman Jack Sargent (Northville) and Kalijan were named to the all-tournament team, while Drew Broyles (Livonia) and Bill Lally Award as the Silver Stick's most outstanding goalie.

The Stingrays, overcoming a 2-0 first period deficit, reached the final with a 5-2 semifinal victory over the



Celebrating after winning the Silver Stick tournament played in Port Huron is the '99 Plymouth Stingrays Bantam AA team.

London (Ontario) Junior Knights as Jagger Joshua (Dearborn) scored what proved to be the game-winning goal in the final period.

In the opening round, the Stingrays downed the Nassau County (N.Y.) Lions, 8-0, as Carson Lulich (Academy) scored twice out, while West, Lee, Daniel McKee (Northville), Kalijan, Scott Granzotto (Northville) and Ryan Fonda (Novi) also added goals.

Captain Marty Mills (Canton) and Sargent both collected two assists, while Broyles earned the shutout.

In the second round, the Stingrays defeated the Littleton (Col.) Hawks, 5-2, on goals by Granzotto, West, Lee, Fonda and Kalijan.

Shane Bryans (Northville) and Emerson Taylor (Plymouth) chipped in with key assists in the balanced offensive attack, while Marcus Morton (Westland) was the winning goaltender.

The Stingrays followed with a 6-3 third-round victory over the Toronto (Ontario) Penguins thanks to two goals by McKee and one each by Kalijan, Sargent, West and Lulich (short-handed).

Morton was the winning goaltender again sending the Stingrays to the quarterfinals where they earned a 5-2 triumph over fellow Michigan Amateur Hockey Association District 4 USA Eagles, the Dayton Region champion.

McKee notched a hat trick in the win, while West added two goals.

Broyles, meanwhile, won the goaltending battle against USA's Kate Froling.

Rounding out the Stingrays, now 39-8-3 overall, are Eric Budd and Joe Fontana, both of Plymouth.

The head coach is Tom Bryson, who is assisted by Jim Bryans and Lynwood Taylor. Bob Mills is the team manager.

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**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY FIRE DEPARTMENT
Firefighter/Paramedic**

The Charter Township of Plymouth is currently accepting applications to establish an eligibility list for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic pursuant to the Township's receipt of a 2-year SAFER grant. Work to be performed includes saving lives & reducing property damage through rescue techniques & fire suppression operations. Applicants must be a certified Michigan Firefighter Level I & II, Hazmat Operations Level Certified and must be licensed as a Paramedic by the State of Michigan. Evidence of licenses & certifications must be presented at the time application is submitted.

Additional Requirements: Must be 18 years of age or older, U.S. Citizen, possess a high school diploma or equivalent, have and maintain a valid State of Michigan driver's license and must have and maintain a good driving record. Valid Certification from a Fire Training Academy recognized by the Civil Service Commission and current and valid completion of the IAFC Candidate Physical Agility Test (CPAT) within the preceding 365 days is required. Additional requirements are listed in the position specifications. Applicants must successfully pass an oral Board interview.

A post job offer requires that an applicant must also pass a drug screening, background investigation, psychological exam and a pre-hire physical examination.

Starting annual base wage is \$38,230.29.

Applications are available in the Plymouth Township Clerk's Office, 9955 N. Hagerly Rd., Plymouth, MI, during regular business hours, 8:00am to 4:30 pm, Monday-Friday, or online at www.plymouthwp.org. Applications will not be mailed. All applications must be turned in to the Clerk's Office no later than 4:30 p.m. February 6, 2014.

The Charter Township of Plymouth does not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, religion, age, national origin, color, marital status, handicap, height or weight, in the employment or provision of services.

Nancy C. Conzelmann, Clerk
Date: 2/10/2014 10:24:14

**PLYMOUTH CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
PLYMOUTH, MI 48170
SECTION 00 11 13**

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for the Plymouth Canton Community Schools', consisting of the following:

- Roofing Replacement Work at:**
- Allen Elementary School
 - Field Elementary School
 - Erkness Elementary School
 - Gallimore Elementary School (Alternate Bid)
 - Maintenance Building
- Exterior Building Lighting Replacements at:**
- Allen Elementary School
 - Bird Elementary School
 - Farrand Elementary School
 - Gallimore Elementary School
 - Ishaler Elementary School
 - Laurel Elementary School
 - Starkweather Academy at Fielg
 - Bentley Elementary School
 - Field Elementary School
 - Hulsing Elementary School
 - Smith Elementary School
 - Canton High School
 - Tanager Center

P-CPE Athletics and Site Improvements will be received at the office of Mr. Brodie Killian, Deputy Superintendent of Business & Operations, Plymouth Canton Community Schools, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170 until 1:30 PM, local time on Tuesday, February 11, 2014 at which time they will be opened and read publicly at Plymouth Canton Community School, E.J. McElendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170. Bids received after this time and date will be returned unopened.

Faxed or e-mailed proposals will not be accepted. This Project will consist of separate sealed bids for the following Bid Divisions of work:

- 102: Asphalt Paving / Site Concrete
- 143: Electrical
- 156: Exterior Bleachers
- 159: Roofing

Bidding documents prepared by TMP Architecture, Inc. will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., 24117 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI and Builders Exchange, Lansing.

Bid Documents will be available beginning at 12:00 P.M. on Wednesday, January 22, 2014 via the following:

- Bidders may obtain one (1) set of "As bid" bidding documents for a refundable \$50.00 deposit, beginning at 12:00 P.M. on Wednesday, January 22, 2014, by contacting the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., at (248) 427-8400. Deposit checks should be payable to Plymouth Canton Community Schools. Deposit will be refunded upon return of complete documents in good faith.

Bidders may download bid documents from Gradebeam.com free of charge by contacting the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., at (248) 427-8400.

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc. The bid envelope(s) being bid is to be identified on the outside of the envelope.

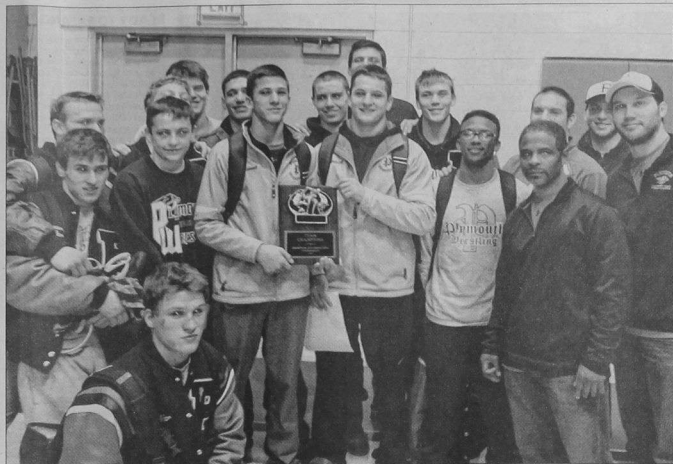
There will be a pre-bid meeting held on Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 10:00 A.M. at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., located at 24117 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the project, schedule and to answer any questions that bidders may have. All Bidders are encouraged to attend.

All bids should include 2 copies (1 original, 1 copy) of the Proposal Pricing Form (Section 90 41 26), Proposal Execution Form (Section 90 42 00), and the Iran Economic Sanctions Act Affidavit. This form is required by Section 1287 of the Revised School Code, as amended, MCL 386.1287, and this form must be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted. The Iran Economic Sanctions Act Affidavit may be found in section 90 42 10 of the Bidding Requirements - General Contract Manual.

All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security, in either the form of a bid bond or certified bank check, in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to Plymouth Canton Community Schools. All bids as a guarantee that if the proposal is accepted, the school district is secured from loss of or damage by, failure, refusal, the withdrawal of the bid or failure of the bidder to disclose any facts or performance. Further, if the bidder will execute the contract and file the required bonds within ten (10) days of award of notice of award.

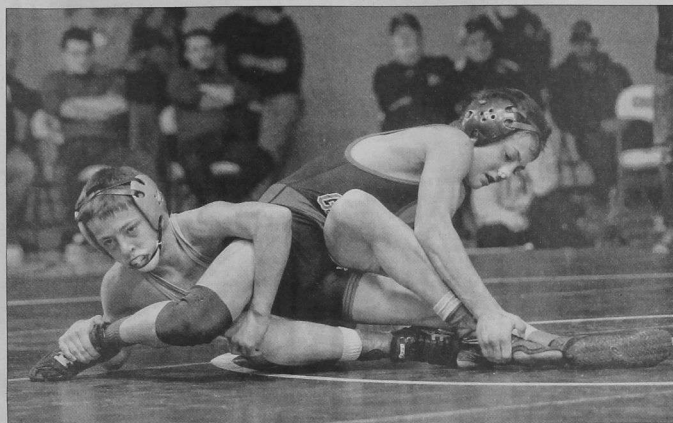
If awarded a contract, the successful bidder may be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond. Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informality and irregularities in the bidding.

This project is authorized by Plymouth Canton Community School's Board of Education Secretary Kimberly Crouch, END OF SECTION



Plymouth, coached by Quinn Guernsey (far right), earned its first-ever Observerland Invitational wrestling title Saturday at Churchil.

BRAD EMONS



John Glenn's John Siemasz (right) and Plymouth's Collin Reed compete in the 103-pound class. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

OBSERVERLAND RESULTS

23rd annual OBSERVERLAND WRESTLING TOURNAMENT RESULTS
Nov. 25 at Churchil
TEAM STANDINGS: Plymouth, 212.5 points; 7. Now Detroit Catholic Central, 193; Westland John Glenn, 177.5; 4. Lincoln Franklin, 131; 5. Wayne Memorial, 120.6; Belleville, 107.5; 7. Farmington, 89.5; 8. Lincoln Christian, 86; 9. Livonia Western; 10. 10. Salem, 77.31; Luthersburg High Westland, 61.12; Farmington Hamilton, 51.1; Northfield, 41.14; Garden City, 11.
CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS
103 pounds: John Glenn (WV) defeated Collin Reed (P) 9-2. **2nd place:** Josh Mustin (CC) dec. Chase Walczewski (Farmington), 10-7. **5th place:** Aaron Reddick (CC) pinned Brandon Estes (WV), 1:56.
112: Michael Volyanyuk (PH) p. Brandon James (P), 5-11. **3rd:** Cal Swain (WV) p. Joe McGrath (CC), 4:27. **5th:** Ethan Englehart (LD) p. Jack Detrick (WV), 1:56.
119: Mohamed Yousef (PH) won by major dec. over Chris Brown (Bel), 12-4. **3rd:** Josh Perez (CC) dec. Tim Way (WV), 6-1. **5th:** Chase Spence (WV) p. Jeremy Nelson (LF), 0:20.
125: Trevor Zabeck (CC) won by technical fall over Kevin Huynh (WV), 18-3. **3rd:** Austin Koehler (Bel) won by major dec. over Spencer Schlar (Bel), 10-2. **5th:** Jack Anderson (LF) p. Shonie Wong (WV), 4:57.
130: Nathan Atenza (LF) won by tech. fall over Jesse Jones (Farm), 1:56. **3rd:** Dan Allen (PH) dec. Dylan Dwyer (P), 10-5. **5th:** Spencer Compe (Dwyer) dec. Peyton Benavides (WV), 11-5.
135: Greg Johnson (CC) won by major dec. over Caleb Richter (WV), 11-2. **3rd:** Lannely Howell (Bel) p. Gaber Cotton (PH), 3:25. **5th:** Daniel Abson (P) dec. Steve Spencer (WV), 1:02.
140: Eli Joseph (CC) p. Sanders (WV) (LS), 1:59. **3rd:** Sander Alarande (WV) won by injury default over Sterling Schlar (P), 1:59. **5th:** Brandon Bellant (Bel) dec. Zack Lucif (CC), 3:17.
145: Malik Amine (CC) dec. Jon Conn (P), 7-1. **3rd:** Caleb McCabe (Salem) dec. Jake Terrell (LS), 7-3. **5th:** Zachary Francis (WV) dec. Caleb Brown (Bel), 10-8.
152: Nick Frazer (LF) p. Aaron Helton (WV), 2:08. **3rd:** Majd Harem (LS) won by injury default over Nick Lummus (WV). **5th:** Ryan O'Connor (CC) dec. Sam Campbell (P), 7-1.
157: Jordan Atenza (LF) p. Joey Swain (P), 1-51. **3rd:** Connor Thumbar (Salem) dec. Zack Tulley (CC), 6-2. **5th:** Matt Justice (Farm) won by major dec. over Andy Austin (Bel), 3-0.
172: Hussein Yousef (P) dec. Connor Vaughan (LS), 4:1 (overtime). **3rd:** Matt Cella (WV) p. Josh Lambert (WV), 1:36. **5th:** Adam McGrath (CC) dec. Ryan Foster (Salem), 11-7.
189: Mitchell Gross (Salem) dec. Baker Hedeon (LS), 5-4. **3rd:** Brandon Underwood (Bel) dec. James Penner (WV), 10-5. **5th:** Michael Valenzar (CC) dec. Tarik Terami (P), 5-2.
215: Jordan Brown (WV) won by tech. fall over Trent Bekker (Farm), 24-9. **3rd:** Joe Forti (LF) dec. Thomas Kraper (WV), 11-4. **5th:** Sam Moody (WV) dec. Torrance Nichols (CC), 1-0.
285: Aaron Mauldin (WV) dec. Nate Ivney (WV), 11-4. **3rd:** Michael Jordan (P) dec. Jake Mercier (CC), 7-5. **5th:** Joe Guafar (Farm) p. Dave Touley (Bel), 7-08.

to the finals was a pretty good goal for him. That's the goal -- to wrestle better than what you're seeded and for the most part we did that today."

Franklin went three-for-three in the finals, led by senior Jordan Atenza (160), the upper weights MVP who stayed undefeated on the year. Atenza was a Division 1 state runner-up last year at 152.

Younger brother Nathan Atenza, a freshman, also came away with the 130-pound crown, while Nick Frazer contributed a first at 152 for the Patriots.

"It was pretty much what we've done all year," Franklin coach Dave Chivla said. "The good kids do good, the average kids do average and the kids that still need some work look like they still need some work. It was pretty much what I expected, but we're not getting the upsets that we need."

"The kids that win ... we pretty much know they'll win. We need some other kids to step up if we're going to do something at the end of the year. We see little flashes of them now and then, but haven't seen enough of them yet, but we still have some time. Hopefully when we need them, we'll get them."

Farmington Harrison's Michael Volyanyuk (112) earned the lower weights MVP title.

Other individual Observerland champions included Salem's Mitchell Gross (189), who edged Churchill's Baker Hadwan, 5-4, and Wayne's Aaron Mauldin (285), who defeated Irvine, 11-4.

The closest finals match of the day came at 71, where Yousef needed a takedown with only one second left in overtime to defeat Senior Connor Vaughan, 4-2.

bemons@hometownlife.com
313-222-6851

TOURNEY

Continued from Page B1

and team runs for us." Zdebski, who was third in last year's state individual finals at 119, is rounding back into form after suffering an early season injury.

"He (Zdebski) was out with a broken hand and we just wanted to send him to a good tournament where he could wrestle good matches," Griffin said. "And that worked today. It allowed him to get his gas tank up. He's been off the mat, but he's proven his focus has stayed the same on winning a team and individual title this year."

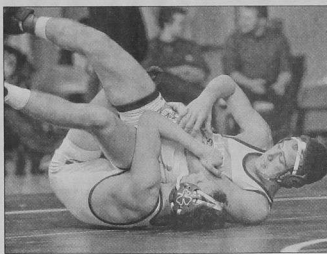
Amine meanwhile, decided Conn in the finals, 7-1. "I think the guy I was most impressed with was Jon Conn," Guernsey said. "I discussed whether he'd go 140 or 145, but we eventually decided to go 145 to get the better match against (Zachary) Francis of Lutheran Westland. We were

thinking that we could do better at 140 with Sterling Schiflar than 145. So we show up yesterday (at the weigh-in) fully expecting to see Jon having a great day at 145 and all the sudden Malik Amine (of CC) walks in, so then it sounds, 'Oh, crap, but all right, well. We're going to have a good finals match, I guess' and it was. I was happy with the match. Jon was in there fighting and it was a good match."

Meanwhile, John Glenn had 10 wrestlers place, paced by individual champions John Siemasz (103) and Jordan Brandon (215), the latter of whom was a 2013 Division 1 state runner-up.

Nate Irvine (285) and Kevin Huynh (125) added runner-up finishes.

"Our kids wrestled well today," Glenn coach Bill Polk said. "I think our meat grinders every weekend paid off a little bit here because we were beating a lot more kids with better records than we had in a lot of weight classes. We had a lot of lower seeds upset higher



Catholic Central's Eli Joseph (bottom) pinned Stevenson's Sandro Lytwyn for the title at 140. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

seeds, so overall, I can't complain of the way things have been the last couple of weeks. They stepped it up today a little bit."

Polk said everything pretty much went according to form.

"No real surprises," he said. "I knew they all could do what they did, but we had some fifth, sixth seeds knock off some second seeds. My 215-pounder (Irvine) bumping up to heavyweight and making it

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Young Pummill thrilled to coach Lady Ocoets

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Youth will definitely be served with the recent hiring of 22-year-old Shannon Pietruszka as the new Schoolcraft College women's volleyball coach.

Pummill, a Garden City native, replaces Rod Brumfield, who resigned last season after going 16-19 overall and 6-4 in the MCCA's Eastern Conference. Brumfield's record overall record was 88-62 overall and 34-16 in the conference during his four seasons as the Lady Ocoets' coach.

Pummill spent last season as a student assistant under Karen Graves at Concordia University. The former Shannon Pietruszka played two seasons

of volleyball at Concordia and two seasons at Marygrove University, also under Graves.

"I never thought an opportunity like this would come at such a young age, but I'm really excited about it," Pummill said. "I think this year I'm just really trying to bring a brand new approach to the program, make some changes and I'm really hoping to compete at the top of our conference and the National Junior College Athletic Association. We want to be at least in the top half of division."

Schoolcraft athletic director Sid Fox said Pummill stood out during the interview process and was the clear-cut choice. "She's very energetic, a lot of enthusiasm," Fox said. "She was highly recommended by

the coach (Karen Graves) at Concordia and a great candidate. I felt like she could contribute a lot of our program. She's handled some of the recruiting there. We just think she can turn the program around a little bit. We interviewed her twice. We had a preliminary interview and for an hour-and-a-half had a final interview and she was very impressive."



Pummill

The 2008 Garden City High grad, however, won't turn 23 until October.

"We were a little concerned, to be honest, but the coach at Concordia (Karen Graves) said she's far more mature than her

chronological age," Fox said. "That was good to hear and how she related to the student-athletes up there at Concordia."

The new Schoolcraft coach has already been on the recruiting trail and has scheduled open tryouts both at the end of February and in June.

Pummill said eight of the eligible returning 12 players have committed to return to play next fall for Schoolcraft. Among those returning include Julene Pummill, another Garden City grad who happens to be Shannon Pummill's sister-in-law (Shannon is married to Ron Pummill, who played basketball and golf at both Garden City and Schoolcraft.)

Shannon Pummill, who recently began her student teach-

ing duties at Hamilton Elementary in Wayne-Westland, said she is prepared for the upcoming challenge of coaching at the collegiate level.

"I've been with Karen for five years now," said Pummill, who was a two-time all-state softball player at Garden City who helped the Cougars to the 2008 MHSAA Class A state title. "She taught me so much good practice drills, her overall philosophy of the game. I just really want to thank her for what she gave to me."

"I'm just really excited to step up and put out my own team and put what I've learned over the years to good use. I'm really blessed, I know that."

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Good sportsmanship, camaraderie and diversity are key components of the 65-and-older softball league. A new Canton team is forming, but players are sought.

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page B1

ciation rules for players age 65 and up.
Not far from his coffee cup was a stack of advertisement placards with all the details about the membership drive.
He is trying to recruit enough senior citizens with "average" talent and a hankering for fun and friendship to join what would be a second Canton team.

With the two Canton squads and the addition of teams based out of Dearborn and Taylor, the SSSLWCC would field eight squads for 2014. Other existing teams are from Livonia, Redford and Westland.

Check it out

So far, according to Mosher—who began playing softball nine years ago, after retiring from his career in engineering—about five players already are in the fold for the second Canton team (which he will not help run).
That means there is impetus to get the word out so that all of the rosters will be filled with up to 20 players by the time the 32-game season begins in late April.
An informational meeting, where prospective players can attend and commit to the venture, is scheduled for 10 a.m.



A batter rips the ball down the third-base line during 2013 action of the Suburban Senior Softball League.

Monday, Feb. 17, at Canton Coney Island.
The restaurant is located off of Lilley Road south of Joy. "I'm looking for diversity," Mosher said. "I'm looking for fun guys that are friendly, that really want to socialize."

And even though the expansion team will have home games played at Canton Sports Center (part of a sprawling complex on Michigan Avenue), players do not have to live in the township to join.

For example, the team Mosher plays for (sponsored by Henry Ford Village in

Dearborn) is co-managed by a Livonia resident, 70-year-old Vince DeMassa.
"I handle the computers and I'm good with photography," Mosher said. "Now Vince is a real player. He's played ball his whole life."
Slated to run the second Canton team are Livonia's Ron Klimzak and Northville's Les Osenowski, who are age 65 and 69, respectively.

Fun and safety

What Mosher and others will tell those who stop by Canton Coney Island is the league isn't about running (p)

the score (the league only permits five runs per half-inning) but rather getting guys out for some fun, exercise and kibitzing at postgame gatherings.

"We're looking for people, a lot of this is socialization," Mosher said. "I always encourage them to come to lunch with us after (games)."

"We always go to a place, a restaurant. We have several restaurants that we go to because half our games are at home in Canton and the other half are out on the road."

It does help if players have some softball experience and the ability to still run from Point A to Point B.

"There are some good guys, we don't look for talent," he said. "We look for average, guys with average skills. In other words, if they can run a little bit, that's good."

"If they can't ... it is important to get first base without walking."

Mosher stressed that prospective players also need to at least have an idea about what they can or can't do at an advanced age before signing up.
"There's only one guy that I can think of (that) made me a little nervous," he said. "He just didn't have the balance or the reaction skills. We're thinking about safety, No. 1."

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READY TO EXPAND

What? A new Canton senior citizen softball team is being formed to join the Suburban Senior Softball League of Western Wayne County. Need? The team needs up to 20 players who either are 65 or who will turn 65 during 2014. The formation of the squad will give the Canton area two teams in the league, which is governed by the Amateur Softball Association. The league also has teams based out of Livonia, Redford, Westland, Dearborn and Taylor.

Meeting? Information meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 17, at the Canton Coney Island restaurant, located off Lilley Road south of Joy Road (next to the Secretary of State office).

Mission: According to longtime league player, manager and spokesman Bob Mosher of Canton, the objective of the league is to play fun, competitive division ball but also provide an avenue for senior citizens to get important exercise and socialization. Players with average abilities are sought rather than "superstars" and the league values diversity and camaraderie.

Cost: There will be 32 games, mostly with start times of 10 a.m.; Canton home games take place at Canton Sports Center on Michigan Avenue. Mosher is one of the players and managers for the existing Canton-based team, sponsored by Henry Ford Village in Dearborn. The season begins in late April and runs until August.

Fees: Sponsors take care of most of the costs, but each player will be asked to pay \$25 in league fees. Most of the money helps pay for game umpires.
Info: Call 734-502-7477 or email bobphoto@comcast.net.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MU's Melcher helps corral Mustangs

Rachel Melcher notched her sixth double-double of the season Saturday as the Madonna University women's basketball team romped to a 90-57 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference win over visiting Marygrove College.
Melcher, a 5-foot-9 junior guard from Birmingham Mar-ian, finished with 16 points and 15 rebounds as the Crusaders improved to 10-11 overall and 8-6 in the WHAC.

Lizzy Otten and Chelsea Williams chipped in with 15 and 14 points, respectively, while Tiffany Zito pulled down a career-high 14 rebounds.

MU, which led 46-29 in intermission, made 32-of-43 free throws total in the fouled-filled game.

Clara Moore and Arielle Edwards scored 15 and 12 points, respectively, for the last-place Mustangs (2-10-14), who committed 23 turnovers and shot only 17.7% from the floor (23 percent).

Schoolcraft routed

Five of the six players who dressed scored in double figures Saturday as host Kirtland Community College (5-7, 2-5) rolled to a 90-52 MCCA Eastern Conference victory over Schoolcraft College (7-11, 3-5).
Lizy Martin paced the victorious Firebirds with 27 points and 12 rebounds.

Kirtland, which led 43-22 at halftime, also got contributions from Natalie Buker (20 points), Olivia Smith (16 points, 10 rebounds), Tabitha Kibby (12 points), and Erica Buchner (10 points).

Chelsea Wesley paced the Lady Ocelots in scoring with 14 points, while Brianna Berberet added 11.
Schoolcraft made only 20-of-71 shots from the floor (28.2 percent).

WHALERS

Continued from Page B1

goal.
Sarnia's onslaught chased Plymouth starting goalie Alec Nedeljkovic, who stopped 27 of 31 shots before Bowman rebounded with just under 16 minutes to play in the game.

Bowman gave up just one goal in eight shots with Sarnia's final marker an empty net.

Both of this weekend's games at Compuware will be aired on Comcast CN-900; the Saturday game will be broadcast live on 88.1 FM (WSPD).

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MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Naubert fuels MU comeback triumph

Bobby Naubert scored 15 of his team-high 28 points during the second half Saturday as the host Madonna University men's basketball team rallied for an 86-77 victory Saturday over visiting Marygrove College.

The 5-foot-10 senior point-guard from Livonia Stevenson raised his career point total to 1,759 and the NAIA All-America sits just three points away from taking sole possession of the No. 2 spot on the MU career scoring list, passing Mike Massey (1998-2002), and his 1,761 points.

MU now 16-6 overall and 12-2 in the Wolverine-Hoosier

Athletic Conference, trailed 68-61 with 10:00 to go after a layup by Diante Taylor.

The Crusaders took the lead for good, 77-75, on a pair of free throws by Naubert with 2:45 left. The MU stand-out made 12-of-13 free throws on the day to go along with five assists and five rebounds.

Senior guard Travis Schuba chipped in with 16 points, while senior Derrick Lennen came off the bench to add nine points and eight rebounds. Junior center Donald Owens contributed eight points and seven boards as the second-place Crusaders won their ninth straight.

Darryll Dixon led Marygrove (2-20, 1-13) with 29 points and eight rebounds in the loss. He was 5-of-11 from three-point range. Taylor chipped in with 14 points.

Ocelots stumble

Jeremiah Williams tallied a game-high 24 points Saturday as host Kirtland Community College (5-10, 1-6) posted a 91-86 MCCA Eastern Conference triumph over Schoolcraft College (10-8, 3-5).

Others in double figures for the Firebirds included Collin Craven (19), Micah Thomey (15), Bryan Layton (13) and Jack Ocozbek (11).

PREP FOOTBALL

Filiatraut returns to coach at Divine Child

Former Churchill coach back at alma mater

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

The lure of coaching high school football again has John Filiatraut returning to his alma mater.

After a year's absence, the former Livonia Churchill coach is headed back to Dearborn Divine Child where he'll replace Steve Robb, who was not retained after going 3-6 in his only season as the Falcons' coach.

The 44-year-old Filiatraut, who spent 16 years as Churchill's varsity coach before stepping down following the 2012 season for a family consideration, is a 1987 Divine Child graduate who played under coach Wes Wishart.

Last season, Filiatraut coached his younger son's Livonia St. Michael's fifth- and sixth-grade team. His oldest son, Matt Jr., a senior at DC, played offensive guard for the Falcons in the fall.

"The opportunity was there," Filiatraut said. "I'm very excited to be there. I met the kids on Monday. That was great. I'm just really happy to be in there and to be coaching again. I did miss it last year. I missed high school football and this will be a good, new challenge."

Filiatraut, who played football at the University of Wisconsin, became the Churchill varsity coach at age 26 and spent 16 seasons with the Chargers, which won the 2007 and 2012 (with his best season coming in 2012 when Churchill finished 10-1, capturing both the KLA A South Division and Kensington Conference championships).

Divine Child, now a member of the Catholic League's AA Division, has an enrollment of approximately 800 students. The school spawned such players as former Lions quarterback Gary Danielson, along with former University of Colorado coach and Prom-

ise Keepers founder Bill McCartney.

"The biggest change for me personally is that it's just a smaller place," Filiatraut said of Divine Child. "At our meeting on Monday I met 53 returning players. At Churchill that's a big class. But that's (incoming) sophomores, juniors and seniors. I just have to get my head around coaching at a smaller place. I expect for me to improve a little bit, but it's unreasonable to expect there is going to be 150 kids playing football here. The place only has 400 boys or so. We have some good skill kids coming back and our line will be a little young, but we'll get them going."

Filiatraut he is putting together a staff which will include alumni relations director Scott Dickey, a hold-over from the previous staff.

"I've been at Churchill for so long," Filiatraut said. "It's a

little strange leaving there, but the colors are the same and that's good. A couple of holdovers that are teachers in the building. The staff is coming together. We're definitely not done yet. Once I get Scott's commitment and from some of the other guys in the building, I was fully on board with it."

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Filiatraut's wife, Janice, was also on board with his decision to return to the high school coaching ranks.
"She's very supportive," John Filiatraut said. "Anybody that knows me knows that I wouldn't do anything without her backing me up. Without her support I definitely couldn't do it. She's been great and she's very excited."

"At this point I have a better vision what good football looks like and how to run a good program. I feel like I've cut my teeth and I'm ready to go. I just have a better vision of what should happen. In that regard I'm very excited."



Filiatraut

JANUARY

FILM
Time/Date: 6:45 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31
Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills

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

FEBRUARY
AUCTION
Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16
Location: Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland

DINNER DANCE
Time/Date: 6-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15
Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills

DUELING PIANOS
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8
Location: St. Damian, 30055 Joy Road, Westland

MARCH
CHILDREN'S CONCERT
Time/Date: 1:30 p.m. March 2
Location: Sacred Heart Banquet and Conference Center, 29125 Six Mile, just east of Middlebelt

GRIEF SUPPORT
Time/Date: 7-8:45 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 2-March 25
Location: Faith Covenant Church, 35415 W. 14 Mile at Drake, Farmington Hills

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5-26
Location: Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple West Bloomfield
Details: Howard Lupovitch delivers his four-part series "Sacred Remnants: Redivivus Treasures of the Jewish Past" on DVD. Topics are "The Dead Sea Scrolls: A New View of Ancient Judaism," Feb. 5; "The Cairo Geniza: The Day-to-Day Lives of the Jews of Islam," Feb. 12; "The Aleppo Codex: The Real Text of the Torah," Feb. 19; and "The Soviet Archives: The Unknown World of Eastern Europe," Feb. 26

POMEGRANATE GUILD
Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9
Location: Prentis Apartment community room, located on 10 Mile, east of Greenfield in Oak Park
Details: The group will hold a fabric, yarn, pattern and half-finished project swap. The Pomegranate Guild of South-eastern Michigan studies and creates jewelry needlework

WIDOWED FRIENDS
Time/Date: 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2 to March 9
Location: St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia
Details: This bereavement support series is designed to help deal with emotions, loneliness and other issues experienced after the loss of a spouse. Widowed Friends is a peer support group in the Archdiocese of Detroit.
Coming up: Dinner, games and fellowship, Wednesday, Feb. 12, at Corvi's Italian Restaurant, 27919 W. Seven Mile, Livonia. Social hour at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 27, at Cot's is \$15 and includes buffet, beverage, dessert, tax and tip. Pay at the door with cash only in the exact amount. RSVP by Feb. 8 to Cookie at 248-537-2183. Pat at 248-545-8348 or Carol at 248-924-3677

MARCH
CHILDREN'S CONCERT
Time/Date: 1:30 p.m. March 2
Location: Sacred Heart Banquet and Conference Center, 29125 Six Mile, just east of Middlebelt, Livonia
Details: "The Donut Man" Rob Birkoff and his sidekick Duncan will perform original Bible story-songs such as In The Beginning and The Miracle Song Families are encouraged to sing along and dance in the aisles. Tickets are \$5 at the door; children under 2 are admitted free.
Contact: the Rev. Joseph Marqui at 734-522-3166
GRIEF SUPPORT
Time/Date: 7-8:45 p.m. Wednesday, beginning March 12 for five consecutive weeks
Location: St. Michael the

Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia
Details: "Grieving with Great Hope" is for anyone who is mourning the loss of a loved one. It is conducted by Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization co-founded by John and Sandy Oshughnessy. Register through the ministry's website or through the church

SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE
Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 8
Location: Concordia Lutheran School, 9600 Levee, Redford
Details: Tour the school and view the annual spring carnival. Includes carnival games, book fair, food and more. New students can receive a coupon for \$5 in free carnival tickets by calling the campus or visiting online

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY
Men's Bible study

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.
Locations: Kirby-Coney Island, 21200 Hubbard, Northville Township
Contact: John Shulenberger at 734-464-8491
New Life Community Church
Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m. Friday; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays
Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville
Contact: 734-846-6615
Our Lady of Loreto
Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday
Locations: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township
Details: Scripture study
Contact: 313-534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursdays
Location: School library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: Catholic author and Bible scholar Jay Michuta leads the study of Acts of the Apostles.

Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200, or www.livoniaatmichael.org
Ward Presbyterian
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays
Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville Township
Details: Learner's Bible study is held
Contact: 248-374-5920
FAMILY COMMUNITY MEAL
Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday
Location: The Salvation Army, 27500 Shawawee, Farmington Hills
Details: Free meal
Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12
FOOD BANK
New Hope Church
Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only
Location: 44815 Cherry Hill, Canton
Contact: Call pastor Nancy Brown to schedule an appointment at 734-270-2528.

Prayer breakfast: Save the date

The 40th annual Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast is planned for Thursday, May 1, in St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman, Livonia. Gen. Charles Moss Duke Jr., the 10th man to walk on the moon, will be the featured speaker. Duke and fellow astronaut John Young landed on the moon in 1972 and stayed a record-setting 71 hours and 14 minutes. Debbie Hart, a Livonia native, will perform a patriotic music program. Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$10 for K-12 students. Invitations to the event will be mailed March 13. RSVPs are due April 15. For more information, call Sally Butler at 248-476-9427.

Passages

How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-0968 • oebobits@hometownlife.com

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

FERGUSON, KIMBERLY KAY
January 25, 2014, Age 44
Westland. Dearest mother of Cody Ferguson, Eric Conner and Katelyn Conner. Dear daughter of Mary and the late Leonard Ferguson. Beloved sister of Sandra Ferguson. Loving grandmother of Halleigh Cleverley and Riley Conner. Interment at Parkview Cemetery. Services handled by the Ut Funeral Home. Please view a memorial and send a tribute at www.uthfh.com



LaRICHÉ, GAIL FRANCIS (NEE CROUCH)
Age 81, resident of Northville, Michigan, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on January 26th. Beloved wife of 60 years to Louis H. (Leo) LaRiche, Sister to Wayne (Bonnie) Kryzak. Loving mother to Michele (Paul) Griffith, Jacqueline Gordon, Scott (Dawn) LaRiche, John LaRiche, Jim (Maureen) LaRiche, Bob (Tara) LaRiche and Suzanne (Mark) Mercuci. Amargosa grandma to Lindsey McKown (Craig), Diane Griffith, Steven, Amanda and Jeff LaRiche, Jessica (Chuck) Kenney, Chastity (Ryan) LaRiche, Joey, Denise, and Justin (Brittney), Amber and Ryan LaRiche. Grandmother to James R. Gordon. Gail was born on December 15, 1932 in Canton, Ohio. She attended Wooten High School where she

was very involved in theater. Gail went on to Nurses Training at Huron Hospital, in Cleveland, Ohio. It was at this time she met the love of her life, Lou. She was grateful for a life well lived which included: raising her seven children, travels around the world, and time spent at her condo on the Seata Key Beach in Sarasota, Florida. Gail enjoyed sewing, reading, opera, bible studies, golf, tennis, water skiing, power walking, pilates and cross-country skiing. She was active in the community and the Catholic church, in Findlay, OH, Plymouth and Northville, MI. Her volunteer work included nursing home visits, migrant worker ministries, Meals on Wheels, Girl Scouts, Eucharist Lay Ministry, Rotary Club (Treasurer), Society, teaching catechism, and being a member of the O.G.C. funeral choir. Visitation will be held at Schradler-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, on Wednesday, January 29th from 2-8 with the Rosary at 7:00 pm. Visitation will continue Thursday, January 30th at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 47650 N. Terminal Rd. (at Beck), Plymouth, MI at 11:30 a.m. until time of Funeral Mass, at 12 noon. Memorial donations may be made to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI 48154 (angelahospice.org) or Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, 4597 Warren Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105 (sistersofmary.org). To leave a condolence, visit www.schradler-howell.com

View Online www.hometownlife.com



MEISSNER, ELIZABETH J.
January 26, 2014 of Birmingham Beloved wife of the late Walter. Loving mother of Joan (Craig) Moeschberger, Carol (John) Hoag and the late Nancy Binzer. Grandmother of Jeff (Tammy), Chris (Deanna), Tom, John, and Sarah. Great-grandmother of Charles, Bryan, Cole and Kaitlyn. Sister-in-law of Elsie Sweeco and Bertha (Richard) McCoy. Funeral at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, 2225 E. 14 Mile Rd., Birmingham, Monday 11 a.m. Friends may visit beginning at 10 a.m. Visitation at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 1368 N. Crooks Rd. between 14-15 Mile Rds.), Sunday 2-6 p.m. Memorials to Our Shepherd Lutheran Church - Love for Others Fund. Obituary and condolences at lynchfuneraldirectors.com



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Children's Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Services held at: Saint Andrew Episcopal Church
13630 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road
Nursery provided • www.fellowshippresbyterian.org

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



Benny Reeves (second from right) and the Paul Carey Trio

Musician with Motown roots plays at Elks blues series

Benny Reeves and the Paul Carey Trio will perform 7-10 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, at the Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth.

The event, sponsored by the Detroit Blues Society, is part of the monthly Blues@The Elks music series. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

Reeves has serious Motown roots as a founding member of theContours and the brother of Motown legend Martha Reeves. As a soulful backup singer, his resume is a veritable Who's Who of the greats of Motown. Reeves will perform favorites of the era and plenty of jump and down-home blues.

Carey is a veteran guitarist on the Detroit scene, having been affiliated with such acts as Thornetta Davis, the Sun Messengers, Alberta Adams, Sir Mack Rice and others.

Call 734-453-1780 for more information.

Cancer fight 'dragon boating' film focus, shown Saturday

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Csilla Gutay of Plymouth Township is a woman on a mission.

She lost her best friend, Patty Arthur of Canton, to breast cancer when Arthur was only 45. Gutay's friend left behind husband Tom Joseph and the couple's twins, who just turned 8.

"I'm hoping to raise awareness," said Gutay, a vehicle integration engineer with Ford Motor.

She's focused on awareness of cancer and the benefits of exercise, such as paddling a dragon boat. In the boat, there are 20 paddlers, one drummer in the front and one steer person in the back.

"I read about all the benefits of how it helps people recover," she said.

Gutay had never heard of dragon boating until Patty Arthur had a recurrence of breast cancer and Gutay read about dragon boating on the Mayo Clinic website.

Gutay started a team in late 2012 to help her friend as well as a neighbor recuperate after treatments.

"Just imagine a big, long stretched canoe, like a limo," she said. There are 10 rows of two people in the middle who heed the drummer's commands.

"You have to get all 20 people paddling at the same pace. It's very much a team sport. Everybody has to pull together." Dragon boating originated in ancient China.

Gutay, who's organizing a Saturday, Feb. 1, documentary screening on dragon boating at the Plymouth District Library,



Members of Motor City Dragons paddle across Lake Orion during the Dragon on the Lake Festival.

is a firm believer in its health benefits for patients.

A Vancouver, B.C., physician did research showing such exercise benefited cancer patients. "It stimulates the lymphatic system," she explained.

Learning dragon boating

Gutay doesn't own a dragon boat, which is 40 feet long and weighs some 600 pounds, but is fundraising toward that goal. Participants in Windsor and Wallaceburg, Ontario, have three breast cancer survivor teams whose members were able to help with teaching and training.

Those teams invited Gutay and others to practice. She

benefited from their more than 10 years of experience.

From there, Gutay's team was formed, the Motor City Dragons within the Ford Employee Recreation Association Ford Canoe & Kayak Club.

The season here runs April to October, with the Motor City Dragons meeting in Dearborn to carpool to Tecumseh, Ontario, for practice. The team won a bronze in competition in Lake Orion, as well as a silver with some Canadian members completing the team in Toronto competition.

"Dragon boating's actually the fastest-growing water sport in the world," she said. *Awaken the Dragon* will screen at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, the Plymouth District Li-

brary, 223 S. Main. The 90-minute documentary looks at dragon boat team made up of cancer patients in Charleston, S.C. Its producer/director, Liz Oakley, filmed the group for more than two years. A Q & A with Motor City Dragons will follow the screening. No reservations are required.

Down the road, Gutay is focused on fundraising and hopes to form a 501(c) non-profit for the cause. A benefit walk as well as a yoga class are in the works.

"That's my vision for the team," she said of the nonprofit.

For more information, email Gutay at motorcitydragons@yahoo.com

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Gift Value
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In 50 words or less tell us what makes your Valentine so special and you could win dinner for two at Joe & Aldo's Italian Tavern.

Go to facebook.com/oehometown and look for the Valentine Contest icon. You can also go to hometownlife.com and select the Valentine Contest icon located in the DON'T MISS section of the website.

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Entry Deadline:

Sunday, Feb. 9 11:59 p.m.

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A GANNETT COMPANY

Theater celebrates romance in February

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

If you're looking for the perfect date movie head to the Marquis Theatre in Northville where romance will be on the big screen every Saturday next month. We selected contemporary favorites," said Kate Knight, Downtown Development Authority planning coordinator. "I've seen them all at one point and I'm looking forward to revisit them in 3D." Doors open at 6:45 p.m. and films start at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$5. The theater is located at 133 E. Main. The schedule includes:

» Feb. 1 — *Love Actually* stars Hugh Grant, Emma Stone, Liam Neeson, Laura Linney,

and Colin Firth. The film looks to love through several separate stories involving the ensemble cast. Starring "The Gallery" is sponsoring its screening at the Marquis.

» Feb. 8 — *Crazy Stupid Love* stars Ryan Reynolds, Emma Stone, Steve Carell, Julianne Moore, Marisa Tomei, and Kevin Bacon. It's also an ensemble comedy and focuses on a middle-aged husband whose life changes when his wife asks a divorce. Orin Jewers sponsors the screening.

» Feb. 15 — *Valentine's Day*, starring Julia Roberts, Jamie Foxx, Ann Hathaway, Topher Grace, Jessica Biel, Bradley Cooper, Jennifer Garner, and Ashton Kutcher, centers on cou-

ples and singles in Los Angeles, Calif., who would like to make up because of Valentine's Day expectations. It is sponsored by KB Jewelers.

» Feb. 22 — *When Harry Met Sally* stars Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan. The 1989 film raises the question, can women and men ever be friends? It follows Harry and Sally over the years as their friendship turns into a romantic relationship. Sponsored by Northville Physical Rehabilitation.

The film screening is part of the newly jump-started "Movies at the Marquis" series. Knight said the theater had offered films in the past, and was ready to resume its movie series after a

year-long hiatus. "It's something we would like to promote to bring visitors to downtown Northville, so part of that is continuous movies at the Marquis," Knight said. "Look for more (movies) in the future."

"We pitched the idea and formatted it a little differently. We're helping with promotion and licensing. It's an opportunity for them (the Marquis) to open their doors on Saturday night."

The Marquis mostly offers live performances and children's theater camps and is available for rent. It was originally built as an opera house.

"We'd like to do more frequent series. A spring series would be nice," Knight said.

Supporting restoration

Christina Zaviti of Northville, Marquis owner, is thrilled to partner with downtown merchants for the film screenings. "I'm hoping we get a lot of people in town," she said. "Hopefully it'll work out for the whole town."

She hopes movie goers will try out restaurants and that newcomers will visit Northville for the series. Zaviti added that all ticket sales will support Marquis restoration efforts, "especially the roof."

The businesses sponsoring the romance film screenings will offer pre-show festivities. Knight said Mary Star-

ring, owner of Starring "The Gallery," likely will entertain at her store. She also plans to sell items from her gallery at the theater. Orin Jewers will offer a sweet snack and champagne, Knight added.

"It's fun, very fun. Just before curtain they do a little giveaway," Knight said. "When you buy a (movie) ticket you're automatically entered and eligible for a terrific prize."

For more information about Movies at the Marquis, visit www.downtownnorthville.com or call 248-349-0345.

Staff writer Julie Brown contributed to this story.

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ANIMALS DETROIT ZOO
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through March 31
Location: 1696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak
Details: Admission is \$14 for adults 15-61, \$12 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$9 for children ages 2-14, child under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking.
FrogWatch: Classes teach volunteers how to identify frogs and toads by their breeding calls and gather and record data that goes into a national network. Classes set for noon to 4 p.m. Feb. 8, 5-9 p.m. Feb. 19 and March 6, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 2. Register by emailing to rjohnson@dzs.org.

Contact: 248-541-5717

ART & CRAFTS ARAB AMERICAN MUSEUM
Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1
Location: 13624 Michigan Ave., Dearborn
Details: Pewabic Pottery instructor Victoria Shaheen will lead a bowl-making workshop. March 6 will hand make and bowl from clay and decorate them. Includes a docent-guided tour focusing on Arab artistic heritage in America and the role of food and hospitality in culture. Fee is \$35 and advanced registration is required. Appropriate for adults and children 11 and over
Contact: 313-582-2266; arabamericanmuseum.org

GALLERY 6V7
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, during public performances, or by appointment
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: Glass sculpture by JB Wood is on display through May
Contact: 734-394-5300

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE
Time/Date: Gallery hours, 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, opening day reception is from 6-9 p.m.; show runs Feb. 7 through March 1
Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville
Details: eighth annual Member Exhibition
Contact: 248-344-0497; <http://www.northvillearts.org>

COMEDY EMERGENT ARTS
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Feb. 1
Location: The Mix Studio Theatre, 8 N. Washington Street, Ypsilanti



David Galido (left) of Novi is John Wilkes Booth, Keith Bruno of Farmington Hills plays Leon Czolgoz, Barb Gurnea and Ashton Kutcher, centers on couples and singles in Los Angeles, Calif., who would like to make up because of Valentine's Day expectations. It is sponsored by KB Jewelers.

DETAILS: Comedian John F. Donnell performs. Admission is \$7 at the door or on Brown Paper Tickets at brownpapertickets.com/event/552248
Contact: www.emergentarts.com

DANCE DETROIT OPERA HOUSE
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Saturday, Feb. 14-15 and 2:30 p.m. Feb. 16
Location: 1526 Broadway, Detroit
Details: Dance Theatre of Harlem performs, tickets range from \$25-\$80
Contact: 313-237-5100; 800-745-300

FILM BERMAN CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS
Time/Date: 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 1
Location: 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield
Details: Bess Kargman's award-winning documentary, *First Position*, follows six young dancers as they prepare for a chance to enter the world of professional ballet, juggling through bloodied feet, near exhaustion and debilitating injuries all while navigating the drama of adolescence. Admission is \$19; \$17 for Jewish Community Center members
Contact: 248-661-1900; www.berman.org

CHARLES H. WRIGHT MUSEUM
Time/Date: 5:30-8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31
Location: 315 E. Warren, Detroit
Details: Premiere of *Madman or Martyr*, a documentary about abolitionist John Brown and the Underground Railroad in Detroit. Luke Jaden, a Detroit County Day student, wrote, directed and produced the film. A Q & A with Jaden and some of

the cast will follow the screening. Free
Contact: 313-494-5800

MATRIX THEATRE
Time/Date: 8 p.m. screenings and 9 p.m. reception, Thursday, Jan. 30; 8 p.m. screening, Friday, Jan. 31; 3:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. screenings, Saturday, Feb. 1; 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. screenings, with award ceremony at 6:45 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 2
Location: 2730 Bagley, Detroit
Details: Second annual 2014 Detroit Dreaming Film Festival showcase the diversity, struggles and triumphs of the City of Detroit, through narratives, documentary, and shorts. Tickets are \$7 per screening block
Contact: 313-967-0599; www.matrixtheatre.org

PENN THEATRE
Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:20 p.m. Feb. 1
Location: 660 Pennington Ave., Plymouth
Details: *About Time*, admission \$3
Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Jan. 31 and 8 p.m. Feb. 1
Location: 17360 Lahser, north of Grand River Avenue, Detroit
Details: *True Grit*, \$5
Coming up: *Casablanca*, 8 p.m. Feb. 14 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 15; free admission. Shows, silent auction, RSVP recommended, but tickets are not required. Donations will be accepted.
Contact: 734-416-4278

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM
Time/Date: Doors open at 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15
Location: Golden Fox at Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center, and new seats. The variety program will showcase many of the past performers on the Barefoot stage, this time presenting talents in comedy, dance, music and song. Tickets are \$15.
Contact: 734-560-1493; www.jugstbarefoot.com

FUNDRAISER BAREFOOT PRODUCTIONS
Time/Date: 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 1
Location: 240 N. Main, Plymouth
Details: Proceeds from "Our Show of Shows" will help Barefoot pay its winter heating bill.

DETAILS: *When Harry Met Sally* stars Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan. The 1989 film raises the question, can women and men ever be friends? It follows Harry and Sally over the years as their friendship turns into a romantic relationship. Sponsored by Northville Physical Rehabilitation.

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Calendar release party benefits dog rescue

Detroit Bully Corps will release its 2014 calendar, "Strong Women, Strong Dogs" Thursday, Jan. 30, at US 12 Bar & Grill, 34824 Michigan Ave., in Wayne.

The Calendar Release Party starts at 9 p.m. Models featured in the calendar will be on hand for autographs and photo opportunities with party guests. US 12 hopes to raise more than \$10,000 from the fund-raiser.

All profits from calendars sales benefit Detroit Bully Corps and the 40 dogs in their rescue and rehabilitation program. Detroit Bully Corps is a nonprofit animal welfare organization dedicated to

rescuing and rehabilitating bully breeds, especially the American pit bull terrier. Many of the dogs in their program come from Detroit, including 10 puppies that were offered for sale on Craigslist when they were less than 24 hours old.

Photojournalist P.A. Rech of Palanimages.com donated his time for the project. Rech's work has appeared in *National Geographic*, as well as other international publications.

Calendars also are available online. Visit us12barandgrill.com for more information.



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big game snacks

The recipe for a successful sports party calls for three main ingredients—cheering friends, delicious snacks and fun activities for all.

When the weekend rolls around, who doesn't love an excuse to round up friends and family to watch a major sporting event? This Super Bowl Sunday, have the party at your place and score big points with your friends and family.

» **Fast finger foods**
When the game is on, guests don't want to sit at a table. People tend to watch standing up so they can cheer at exciting moments, or mingle if they're not that into it. That's why finger foods and appetizers are must-have menu items at game day parties, allowing guests to grab a quick handful without ever

missing a play.

» **Spice it up**
Kick up your party a notch and make sure your snacking spread boasts a variety of different flavor profiles.

» **Share the spread**
Don't be shy about asking friends to bring something to the party. People like to help the host by bringing a drink or an appetizer. As the host, make sure there is a good assortment of options, so that no one ends up bringing the same dish. As a rule of thumb, offer fruits and veggies, a meat or veggie dish and a dessert. When friends ask what they can bring, feel free to let them.

» **Kids corner**
While the adults are munching on snacks and watching the commercials, kids can get a

little bored. Be sure to have kid-friendly games, snacks and beverages to ensure they are as excited as the winning team. Try making a bean bag toss in your basement or set up a simple obstacle course for guests of all ages to try.

» **Satisfy every taste bud**
Many people are dealing with dietary restrictions, so it's important to prepare something for everyone. Provide a gluten-free snack option and at least one vegetarian option for your guests. Make everyone happy.

With a little preparation and some team spirit, your party will be a real winner. For additional recipe ideas for your game day bash, visit www.chexpartymix.com.

Courtesy of Family Features



MINI MAC AND CHEESE CAKES

1 cup uncooked gluten-free elbow macaroni
3 cups Chex cereal, finely crushed
2 1/2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese (10 ounces)
5 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
1 tablespoon gluten-free flour blend
1 cup whole milk, warmed
1 egg yolk, slightly beaten
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 egg white, beaten until stiff but not dry

Cook and drain macaroni as directed on package. Move oven rack to lower third of oven. Heat oven to 350°F. Lightly grease 12 regular-size muffin cups. In medium bowl, mix crushed cereal, 1 cup of the cheese and 4 tablespoons of the melted butter. Divide mixture among muffin cups; press firmly in bottom and up sides of cups with spoon.

In 3-quart saucepan, stir together remaining 1 tablespoon melted butter and flour blend with whisk; cook over medium heat 1 minute. Gradually stir in warmed milk with whisk; cook and stir about 5 minutes or until thickened. Remove from heat; stir in 1 cup of the cheese until melted. Stir in cooked macaroni, egg yolk and salt. Fold in beaten egg white. Spoon about 1/4 cup mixture into each crust-lined cup. Top with remaining 1/2 cup cheese. Bake about 20 minutes or until golden and puffed. Cool 5 minutes; remove from pan. Serve warm.



BUFFALO CHEX MIX

Prep time: 15 minutes
Start to finish: 15 minutes
Yield: 24 (112-cup) servings

4 cups Rice Chex cereal
4 cups Wheat Chex cereal
2 cups Parmesan-flavored crackers
2 cups pretzel twists
6 tablespoons butter
2 1/2 tablespoons Frank's RedHot Buffalo Wings

Sauce

1 packet ranch dressing mix
2 teaspoons celery seed

In large microwavable bowl, mix cereals, crackers and pretzels; set aside. In small microwavable bowl, microwave butter uncovered on high about 40 seconds or until melted. Stir in hot sauce and seasonings. Pour over cereal mixture; stir until evenly coated. Microwave uncovered on high 4 to 5 minutes, thoroughly stirring every 2 minutes. Spread on paper towels to cool. Store in airtight container.



GLUTEN-FREE MEXICAN CHOCOLATE BROWNIES

3 cups Cinnamon Chex cereal
3 tablespoons packed brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 cup butter or margarine, melted
1 box (16 ounces) Betty Crocker Gluten Free brownie mix
1/2 cup butter or margarine, melted
2 eggs

Heat oven to 350°F. Spray bottom only of 8-inch square pan with cooking spray. Place cereal in resealable food-storage plastic bag; seal bag and crush with rolling pin to make about 1 1/2 cups. In medium bowl, mix cereal, brown sugar and baking soda; stir in 1/2 cup melted butter until well mixed. Reserve 1/2 cup cereal mixture for topping. Press remaining cereal mixture evenly in bottom of pan. Bake 5 minutes. Cool 5 minutes. Meanwhile, in medium bowl, stir brownie mix, 1/2 cup melted butter and the eggs until well blended. Drop batter by small spoonfuls over baked layer. Carefully spread over baked layer; sprinkle with reserved 1/2 cup cereal mixture. Bake 30 to 34 minutes or until brownies look dry and set. (Brownies will be soft; do not use toothpick test.) Cool completely, about 1 1/2 hours. For brownies, cut into 4 rows by 4 rows. Store tightly covered.

Luau in January

Plymouth— Grab your grass skirt—and maybe a sweater—and get ready to bask in 70-degree temperatures at an outdoor pig roast and luau 5-9 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 30, at Stella's Black Dog Tavern, 860 Fralick. "The owner wanted to boost people's spirits. This winter has been long and cold," said Lindsey Seager, a server at the restaurant. "We're doing something different."

Seager said the outdoor patio at Stella's Black Dog Tavern, can hold a toasty 70-plus temperature as long as it's above zero degrees outside.

Cost for the barbecue meal is \$12. Add two special rum drinks and it's \$15. Seager said the meal comes with "all the fixings" and that the patio will be decorated in luau-style.

"It should be neat just to see everyone in grass skirts," she added. Reservations are recommended, but not required.

CITY BITES

Call 734-207-9656.

Kitchen Party

Nov.— CUTCO Kitchen, 43215 Grand River Ave., celebrates American Heart Month with a free demonstration and kitchen party, 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 18. Guests will get a chance to sample easy-to-make, heart-healthy recipes. Reserve a spot at the event by calling 248-679-1538.

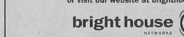
NOTICE TO BRIGHT HOUSE NETWORKS CABLE CUSTOMERS

This notice is for Bright House Networks cable customers of applicable channels for their cable programming through...

On or after March 21, 2014, the following channels will be added to the 30V service... On or after March 21, 2014, the following channels will be removed...

On or after March 21, 2014, the following Bright House Networks products, services and equipment will change... On or after March 21, 2014, the following services will be added to the 30V service...

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SUN HOMES

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Table with columns: NMLSP, 30 Yr., Pts., 15 Yr., Pts., 0.85. Rows include 15PMortgage, 1st Acquire Mortgage Lending, Acquire Mortgage Solutions, AFJ Financial, Ameriprise Mortgage Corp., Co-op Services Credit Union, Dearborn Federal Savings Bank, Fifth Third Bank, Gold Star Mortgage, Gold Star Mortgage, Group One Mortgage.

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ACROSS

1 Kipling hero
 4 Wading bird
 8 European capital
 12 Figure in 12
 14 Agreed with
 16 Cottage in combs
 17 Is supine
 18 Shopper's delight
 19 center
 20 Software theft
 23 Author
 24 Cyrus' empire, today
 25 Plasmium
 26 Dad's lad
 30 Prefix with red
 32 Snake River loc.
 33 Agree with sweet
 35 Explorer
 37 Ponce de

DOWN

1 Frequent
 2 Lord's note
 3 Geol. formation
 4 Asimov of sci-fi
 5 Crystal or Joel
 6 Not just a

Answer to Previous Puzzle

CLAP RCMP BRO
 REBA ERAS OOH
 AVER FERANUM
 MILLKOWA LINES
 TAPTAMP
 BOSSA FUSSIER
 RDS REF SEA
 RENEGED FSTOP
 GAS EAT
 ARBOR LABELED
 MAESTRO IOWA
 GEAR LIND L
 HOUND SDFP

Sudoku

12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	16	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42
43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52

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EXERCISE WORD SEARCH

WORDS

ADRENALINE, ASPERITATION, PILATES, BUDDY, CALORIES, POSTURE, CARBOHYDRATES, REPETITIONS, PROTEIN, CARDIOVASCULAR, RUNNING, SETS, SUPPLIA, SPORTS, LEXICISE, SQUAT, FITNESS, STAIRS, FORM, FREQUENCY, STRETCHING, LESS, WEIGHT, LIFTING, MARCHING, YINER, MEMBERSHIP, TONED, MUSCLES.

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

6	2	9	8	1	9	8	1	9	8
1	9	6	2	1	9	6	2	1	9
9	6	2	1	9	6	2	1	9	6
1	9	6	2	1	9	6	2	1	9
9	6	2	1	9	6	2	1	9	6
1	9	6	2	1	9	6	2	1	9
9	6	2	1	9	6	2	1	9	6
1	9	6	2	1	9	6	2	1	9
9	6	2	1	9	6	2	1	9	6
1	9	6	2	1	9	6	2	1	9

Word Search

ADRENALINE, ASPERITATION, PILATES, BUDDY, CALORIES, POSTURE, CARBOHYDRATES, REPETITIONS, PROTEIN, CARDIOVASCULAR, RUNNING, SETS, SUPPLIA, SPORTS, LEXICISE, SQUAT, FITNESS, STAIRS, FORM, FREQUENCY, STRETCHING, LESS, WEIGHT, LIFTING, MARCHING, YINER, MEMBERSHIP, TONED, MUSCLES.

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