

# CANTON OBSERVER

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THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2014 • hometownlife.com

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Find Spring Expo details inside today's paper.

**SPECIAL SECTION**

## Township considers adding equal rights chapter to ordinances

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

Canton Township residents who believe they're being discriminated against for any of a variety of reasons will have an avenue for relief if the Board of Trustees approves a new chapter to the township's Code of Ordinances.

The board Tuesday approved the first reading of the new chapter, Chapter 36, on a 6-0 vote (Trustee Tom Yack was absent). It's expected to take up the second reading of the ordinance at its May 13 meeting.

The new chapter, recommended by Trustee Steven Sneideman, protects township residents against discrimination with respect to housing, public accommodation, employment and other circumstances. It covers an individual's race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, height, weight, condition of pregnancy, marital status, physical or mental limitation, source of income, family responsibilities, sexual orientation, gender identity or HIV status.

Sneideman said that, while most people believe they are protected against most or all

of those things, the truth is they aren't.

"Polls have shown 80 percent of citizens can't believe there aren't already laws against (denying) equal access for all people," Sneideman said. "But there aren't protections (for instance) against discrimination for HIV status or gender identity. In Michigan, you can still be fired for being gay."

According to the new chapter, if a person believes they are being discriminated against, they can contact township officials, who would have the opportunity to try to enter into a conciliation

agreement with a party against whom a complaint was lodged.

In the event an agreement is unable to be reached, the township would have the right to write a citation for a civil infraction. Nearly all the classes provided protection under this ordinance are considered "protected" under other state and/or federal laws, but this ordinance would provide a more readily available avenue of redress.

According to Sommer Foster, director of political advocacy for Equality Michigan, a statewide lesbian-gay-transgender advocacy and anti-

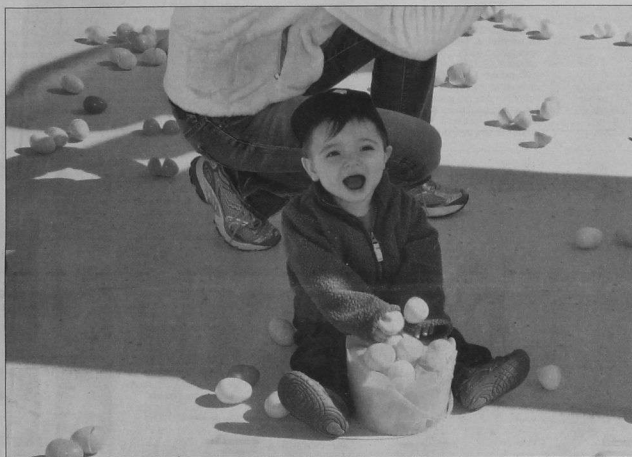
violence agency, 33 other municipalities have already passed similar ordinances.

"Most people think there are already protections," Foster said. "We're working with the Legislature to make changes, but we're happy with municipalities that have decided to be a leader."

Sneideman, the township board's lone Democrat, said he was happy the vote was unanimous.

"I'm pleased we got unanimous bipartisan support for this," Sneideman said.

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There were plenty of smiling faces, like this one, as some 1,000 kids took advantage of Canton's Easter Eggstravaganza. PHOTOS BY DYCK WISHER

## Easter Eggstravaganza provides excitement for kids

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

There was plenty to do and plenty of people doing it, as Canton Township hosted its annual Easter celebration over the weekend.

A crowd estimated at some 3,000 people took advantage of Canton's annual Easter Eggstravaganza at the Summit on the Park, including breakfast with the Easter Bunny and the always-popular Easter Egg Hunts.

Also on hand was Bartlett the Bear, the mascot for



Once the eggs were collected, of course, they had to be cracked open to find the goodies inside.

*"The Canton community came out in droves to celebrate spring with us."*

JENNIFER PROVENZANO  
Canton Leisure Services  
recreation coordinator

## Fields set for local elections

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

The filing deadline for local, state and federal elections passed Tuesday, so the field is set in races local residents will be deciding.

In the Plymouth-Canton area, the state House seat being vacated by Canton Democrat Dan Slavens drew the most interest, with four candidates in the running.

Only two of the local elections will have an August primary. Incumbent state Sen. Pat Colbeck, R-Canton, finishing his first term, is being challenged in the primary by Matthew Edwards of Plymouth. Edwards is the son of Plymouth Township Treasurer Ron Edwards.

The winner will face off in the November general election against Slavens.

Slavens was initially going to be challenged by Democrat John Stewart, a former three-term state representative from Plymouth Township, but Stewart withdrew earlier this year.

The other local primary will come in the race to replace Slavens, the term-limited representative of the state House 21st District. Three Democrats are vying for the November nomination. Kristy Pagan of Canton and Cornell Mathis of Belleville are political newcomers, while Canton's Natalie Mosher is a former U.S. House of Representatives candidate who has also worked on other political campaigns, most recently the failed effort of Dr. Sayed Taj, who lost to Kerry Benivolio in the 2012 election.

Retired U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Carol Ann Fausone of Canton has the Republican race to herself in that race. Geoff Boltach of Canton, who owns a small business in Brighton, dropped out of the race and has thrown his sup-

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## Miracle League could use some volunteers

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

The Miracle League of Plymouth, the baseball league that provides opportunities to play America's pastime to special-needs players, is approaching its 2014 spring season and can always use some help from volunteers.

Games begin Saturday, May 3, and the league is looking for volunteers to serve as buddies to the players and umpires for the games.

Anyone interested in volunteering is being asked to register by downloading a 2014 Volunteer Release Form at <http://www.miracleleagueplymouth.org>, then scan and return the form to [debra@miracleleagueplymouth.org](mailto:debra@miracleleagueplymouth.org). The forms can also be mailed to Miracle League of Plymouth, 525 Farmer St., Plymouth, MI 48170.

Groups can also sign up to volunteer, but will need one person as the contact person; that person needs to contact MLP Commissioner Deb Madonna at [debra@miracleleagueplymouth.org](mailto:debra@miracleleagueplymouth.org).

Once volunteers have registered, they can go to Volunteer Spot (<http://vol.spots845.com>).

enter an email address and choose their spots. VolunteerSpot will send an automated confirmation and reminders.

Madonna pointed out VolunteerSpot does not share email addresses; however, volunteers who prefer not to use an email address can contact Madonna individually and she will sign them up manually.

"We want you all to know that whether you can volunteer for one game or every game every week, your help is needed and appreciated," Madonna said. "It is reassuring to our players and parents to see a familiar face in the dugout. Players love their buddies. You can't imagine how important you are to the MLP players and families."

The spring season lasts seven games, with no games being played Memorial Day weekend. The fall season, also seven games, starts Aug. 16. There are no games Labor Day weekend.

Bilkie Field, where MLP games are played, is located at 357 Theodore, in downtown Plymouth. For more information, email [info@miracleleagueplymouth.org](mailto:info@miracleleagueplymouth.org) or visit the league's website at [www.miracleleagueplymouth.org](http://www.miracleleagueplymouth.org).

## CORRECTION

A story in the April 20 Canton Observer about a bowling fundraiser hosted by the Canton Community Foundation should have included Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528 as one of the sponsors.

## Area clinic's growth follows physical therapy's evolution

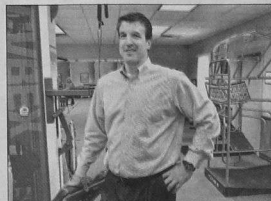
Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

Physical therapist Jeffrey Sirabian likens his job to that of a detective. He unravels the mystery of what ails his patients and works with them to make things better.

Sirabian, who founded Plymouth Physical Therapy Specialists in Plymouth Township 20 years ago and now operates 12 area clinics, still spends half his time working directly with patients at his original clinic, carrying a case-load like each of the more than 20 therapists who work for him.

"It's fun working with patients," Sirabian said Monday at the 5,000-square-foot clinic on Lilley. "It's satisfying." Sirabian said he considers himself lucky, explaining that his job fits the adage, "Love what you do and you'll never work a day in your life."

Sirabian, who got interested in physical therapy because of the routines he did - at home on his own - to recover from high school sports injuries, said an increasing body of research shows the effectiveness of physical therapy in treating musculo-skeletal problems. That, plus a specialization in treating athletes - PPTs works with athletic programs at several area high schools - has helped fuel growth in his business, including three new clinics in the last five



Jeff Sirabian, founder of Plymouth Physical Therapy Specialists, celebrates 20 years in business. BILL BREXLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

years. "We've experienced a lot of growth and the practice has gotten busier every year," he said.

Building relationships with more physicians and having therapists who also want to take on administrative duties - each of the satellite clinics is run by a therapist-director - also helped with the growth, he said.

### Sports clinic

Sirabian estimated that 30-35 percent of the business involves working with athletes, not including weekend warriors.

"We see a lot of high school athletes. We see some college and professional athletes, as well," he said. That work typically involves helping athletes recover from injuries, but also things like having therapists at sporting events and providing guidance on con-

ditioning and injury prevention, he said.

He's seen an explosion in high school sports - athletes are competing at higher and higher levels, he said, increasing the potential for injuries.

"It's amazing how big athletics has become," he said, with sports camps growing in popularity and even young athletes having personal trainers, he said.

Another change, he said, has been the increased use of physical therapy in treating different conditions. Someone with low back pain, for example, would have been medicated 20 or 30 years ago, he said, and if that didn't work, the next step would be surgery. Now, he said, physical therapy is often the first step and surgery a last resort.

Sirabian has a bachelor's degree in physical

therapy from the University of Michigan and a master's in health science/orthopedics from the University of Indianapolis. Like Sirabian, most of the 26 physical therapists he employs are former high school and college athletes.

"That seems to be a real common theme," he said. "Most of them have sports backgrounds."

Between all 12 clinics, PPTs has nearly 100 total employees.

### Continuing ed

PPTs therapists, he said, offer treatments "based on the best scientific evidence out there." Continuing education and keeping up with the latest physical therapy-related research published in medical journals are important for his therapists.

So is informing patients, helping them make lifestyle changes and establish routines that will keep them healthy.

"We want to educate you to take care of yourself so the pain doesn't come back," Sirabian said.

Sirabian of Novi still plays sports a bit himself, hockey and basketball, but "more golf than anything else," he said. With golf, he joked, no one is trying to tackle you or throw something at you.

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## EASTER

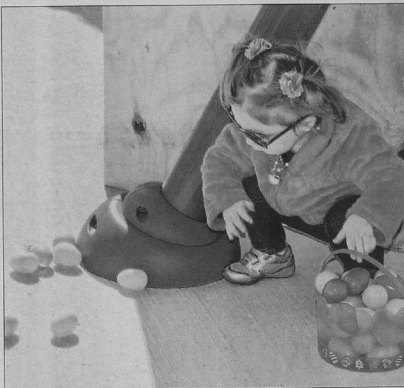
Continued from Page A1

Canton Leisure Services, who came dressed in his Easter best.

There were continuous egg hunts for two different age groups, organizers said, to make sure of age-appropriate hunting and no "missed starts." Kids took part in bunny-themed craft projects, carnival games and face painting. There was also a petting farm, plus the Meenie Weenie food truck was parked on-site.

Musical entertainment was provided by the family entertainers The Korfittes.

"The weather was truly an event-planner's dream," Canton Leisure Services Recreation Coordinator Jennifer Provenzano said. "The Canton community came out in droves to celebrate spring with us, inspired by an army of smiling staff and volunteers and an ar-



Baskets filled up pretty quickly at the Easter Egg Hunt in Canton.

senal of plastic eggs and chocolate, we were

thrilled with the turnout and the response to this

year's Easter Eggstravaganza."

## ELECTIONS

Continued from Page A2

port behind Fausone.

The primaries in the state House 20th District race are untested. Republican incumbent Kurt Heise of Plymouth, seeking his third term, will face off in November against the only Democrat to file, Nate Smith-Tyge, also of Plymouth.

And Wayne County Commissioner Shannon Price, a Republican from Canton elected to his first term in 2012 in the newly drawn 10th District (which covers Plymouth and Canton), will be opposed by Democrat Milan Peele, a UAW member from Canton.

One national race will also have a local flavor: Former State Department counter-terrorism expert Bobby McKenzie, a Democrat from Canton, jumped into the primary field for the U.S. House 11th District. He is joined by Bloomfield Hills urologist Anil Kumar, Nancy Skinner of Birmingham and Bill Roberts of Livonia.



Heise

Colbeck



Mosher

Slavens



Fausone

Pagan



Incumbent U.S. Rep. Kerry Benvenuto, a Republican from Milford, is being challenged in the primary by Commerce Township businessman David Trot, who owns a mortgage servicing and foreclosures company.

Candidates have until 4 p.m. Friday to withdraw and have their names left off the August ballot.

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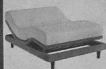
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# Suspect in online case waives exam

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer



Taylor

A 35-year-old Van Buren Township man charged amid allegations he was involved in robbing a 42-year-old Canton man after they became acquainted through Craigslist, an online advertising website that includes personals, will stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Eric Lee Taylor waived his preliminary exam Monday at 35th District Court. He's been scheduled for arraignment in circuit court April 28.

Taylor is accused of unarmed robbery, identity theft, receiving and concealing stolen property less than \$20,000, theft of the victim's vehicle and using a financial transaction

device — or credit card — without consent.

He could face penalties ranging up to 15 years in prison, if convicted.

Canton Detective Sgt. Chad Baugh said police found the victim's vehicle in the Ypsilanti area and recovered his laptop computer from the defendant's home.

The victim was expecting a return visit to his home on Hunters Way Court, near Geddes and Canton Center, from a man he had known about a year when he was robbed, Baugh said.

The victim opened his garage door about 11:30 p.m. Saturday, April 5. Rather than

being paid a friendly visit by the acquaintance, the victim was confronted by two intruders who entered his home through an access door off the garage, robbing him and fleeing the scene, Baugh said.

"We believe there was a gun involved," he said.

Baugh said the victim described the intruders as black males who had their faces partially concealed.

Baugh said it is believed the victim had known Taylor for about a year, adding, "He had met a man on Craigslist and had a relationship with him."

Baugh said the incident should serve as a warning to others who may be contemplating a private meeting with people through an online service.

"It can be very dangerous," he said.

Canton police are continuing to seek two other suspects who authorities believe actually went inside the victim's house, confronted him and robbed him of his 2012 Ford Escape, a laptop computer and credit cards.

Anyone who has information is asked to call the Canton Police Department at 734-394-5400 or make an anonymous tip by calling Crime Stoppers at 800-SPEAK-UP (773-2587).

Craigslist is used by people selling everything from cell phones to appliances to bikes. The site also includes job listings, personals and other sections.

According to the website, the "overwhelming majority" of users are "trustworthy and

well-intentioned." However, the site itself advises users to take common-sense precautions.

When meeting someone, Craigslist urges the following:

» Insist on a public meeting place.

» Do not meet in a secluded place or invite strangers into your home. In the Canton man's case, however, he apparently had known the defendant for some time.

» Be especially careful when buying or selling high-value items.

» Tell a friend or family member about any scheduled meeting — or consider being accompanied by a friend.

» Trust your instincts.

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## CANTON CRIME WATCH

### Retail fraud

Canton Police were dispatched to the Walmart on Michigan Avenue, after that store's loss-prevention staff reported they were holding a suspect for alleged theft of cellphone accessories.

Upon arrival, the officer was met by the suspect's father, who police said "was very upset" and said his daughter "had stolen property."

The loss-prevention officer told Canton Police he watched the female suspect via security video take a cellphone charger out of its packaging and conceal it underneath her shirt. He also observed the girl remove a cellphone case from its packaging and conceal it in her purse.

The girl then went through a checkout lane and paid for other items, but did not offer payment for the cellphone accessories, which were valued at some \$49.

According to the police report, the girl admitted to taking the items despite the fact she actually had the money to pay for them.

### Marijuana possession

At about 1:30 a.m. Monday, a Canton Police officer on patrol noticed a lone silver SUV parked on the west side of the JC Penney's building on Ford Road, sitting with its lights on.

Earlier in the evening, Canton Police had been told that other communities had been suffering break-ins of local businesses, a crime that had been picking up in Canton, as well, according to a police report.

Knowing this, the officer approached the vehicle, which then sped off. The officer affected a traffic stop and asked the car's two occupants what they were doing. According to the police report, they said they'd been at a hookah lounge and were just "killing time."

The officer, according to the report, smelled the odor of marijuana and asked the occupants if he could search the car. The driver denied permission, but the officer, with probable cause, searched anyway. He found a marijuana grinder, marijuana "nuggets" and other marijuana-related paraphernalia.

lia. The driver was arrested.

### Pawn problems

A Canton man brought his stepson into the Canton Police Department and asked police to arrest him for the theft of two of the man's long guns.

The man said his stepson had admitted to taking shotguns and pawning them for cash. He showed a receipt for one of the guns and said his stepson told him Canton Police had the other one in their possession, because the stepson had been arrested on a driving charge with the shotgun in his possession.

According to the report, the stepson told police he'd "fallen on hard times." Police did an Internet search on the stepson's name and found various other items he had pawned or sold, including a computer tablet the stepfather said belonged to him. Upon contacting the son's mother, police learned many of the other pawned items, including jewelry and coins, belonged to her.

—By Brad Kadrich

## PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

### Woman nabbed in party theft

A 21-year-old Plymouth Township woman was ticketed Saturday in the theft of cosmetics and a three-pack of panties from the Kmart on Ann Arbor Road.

Police were called about 3 p.m., according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report, after an employee confronted the woman outside. The employee reported seeing the woman put the items in her purse, then leave the store after paying for other items but not for the items in her purse, the report said.

The suspect was issued a ticket for third-degree retail fraud with a May court date.

### Beer stolen

A man drove off in a black Chevrolet Impala just after 3 p.m. Friday after shoplifting two cases of Budweiser from the CVS store at Sheldon and Ann Arbor roads.

The assistant store manager told police he witnessed the man "briskly" carry the beer from the store and asked him

for a receipt. The man replied that he had paid at the pharmacy counter.

The man then put the beer in the Impala's trunk and accompanied the assistant manager back to the store briefly while the assistant manager tried to confirm that he had paid for it, a police report said.

The man then left the store and drove off in the Impala; meanwhile, it was confirmed he had not paid for the beer, the report said.

### Identity theft

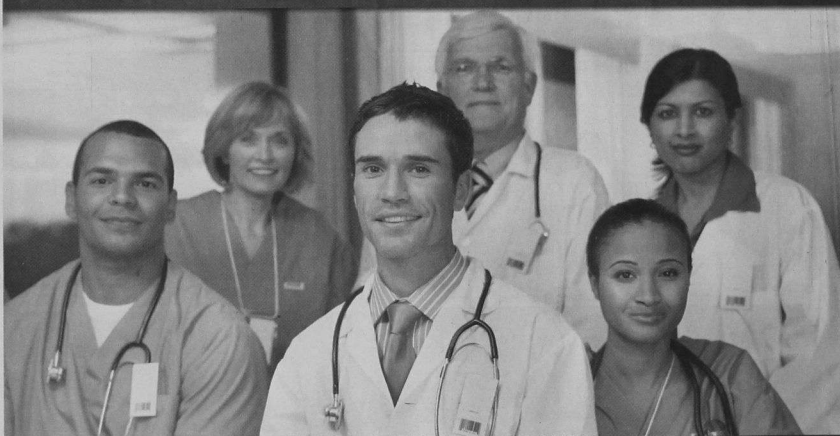
A township woman reported April 14 the theft of her Social Security number, a crime she discovered after filing her federal taxes.

The woman said she filed her taxes electronically April 10, but a short time later was notified that someone else had used her Social Security number. The IRS advised her to file a local police report, she told police.

There were at least two other reports of similar tax scams made in recent days.

—By Matt Jachman

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# Ficano kicks off re-election bid amid crowded field of hopefuls

By Marlon A. Walker  
Gannett Michigan

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano officially kicked off his hunt for a fourth term Monday afternoon, saying the focus will be on education, enterprise and investment opportunities that will attract and keep people.

"You shouldn't have to get on a plane to visit your kids and grandkids," Ficano told more than 100 people packed into the front hall at the IBEW Local 58 in Detroit.

Ficano's announcement had to share the spotlight with news that former Detroit Police Chief Warren Evans filed paperwork to run against him. Evans, who also served as Wayne County sheriff, is one of a few big names to join the race for the county's top spot.

By close of business Monday, Evans, Ficano, Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara, Westland Mayor William



Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano announces his platform for re-election during a press conference held at the IBEW Local 58 offices in Detroit. KIMBERLY F. MITCHELL | GANNETT MICHIGAN

Wild and state Rep. Phil Cavanagh had submitted paperwork with Wayne County election officials. Sigmunt John Szczepkowski Jr. of Detroit also has filed to run. Szczepkowski also ran unsuccessfully for mayor last year.

News of the packed field could mean an easier battle for Ficano, who is running under the

cloud of scandals, including his office being under federal investigation, a \$200,000 severance payment to former chief development officer Turkia Awada Mullin, the failed Wayne County Jail construction off Gratiot and St. Antoine and a grand jury probe that netted convictions of four former Ficano appointees and a vendor.



Former Detroit Police Chief Warren Evans, shown here in a May 2010 file photo, will run for Wayne County executive. WILLIAM ARCHIE | GANNETT MICHIGAN

"Honestly, I think Ficano — if he was running on his own — would be in trouble. But the more people who get in, the lower number (of votes) he has to get to win," said political consultant Stephanie McLean with Lansing firm GMT Strategies. "How many of these folks are going to raise some money and be serious?"

As sheriff, Evans battled with Ficano over the jail's population.

Evans was fired from his job as Detroit Police chief in July 2010 for what then-Mayor Dave Bing said was poor judgment in hawking a reality TV show and for being in a relationship with a subordinate.

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313-223-4531

## VVA chapter plans Agent Orange town hall

Veterans who may have been exposed to Agent Orange can learn about its possible effects on health and how it may affect future generations from 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Saturday during a town hall at Northville High School. The event is free and open to the public.

The Agent Orange town hall will feature Ed Martini, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Western Michigan University and an Agent Orange expert, and other resources, including a representative from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Martini is the author of *Agent Orange: History, Science and the Politics of Uncertainty*.

The National Academy of Science and V.A. have connected exposure to Agent Orange and other dioxins to diseases and birth defects.

Agent Orange was used to defoliate trees in southeast Asia during the Vietnam War.

The town hall is sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528 in Plymouth and is designed to inform veterans, their families and the community at large about Agent Orange and how to seek help for related health problems.

Reservations are required for the town hall, call 734-421-4805 and press 2.

Northville High School is at 45700 Six Mile.

## Friends of Rouge to hold river clean-up events

The Friends of the Rouge's annual river clean-up takes place in May and June.

Work days have been scheduled for May 3, May 10 and June 7, with the main event May 17. Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds are invited to participate in hands-on activities to care for the Rouge River.

"It is fun and rewarding work that has immediate gratification," said Cyndi Ross, the river restoration program manager for Friends of the Rouge. "Volunteers can see the fruits of

their labor in the form of large piles of trash collected from the river, piles of bags of invasive plants or gardens planted with native wildflowers. There is also the dramatic change in appearance of the work sites in just a few hours. Our volunteers are really making a difference."

Following are the dates and locations for events:

» May 3: Stewardship Network garlic mustard pull, Dearborn; Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn; Henry Ford Estate - Garlic Mustard Removal, Dearborn; University of Michigan Environmental

ell Park, Detroit; Goff Nature Preserve, Livonia; Park Clean-Up Day with Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox, Northville Township.

» May 17: Douglas Evans Nature Preserve, Beverly Hills; Flodin Park, Canton Township; Meadows of Canton, Canton Township; Workman Elementary Habitat, Canton Township; Ford Field Greenway Trail, Dearborn; Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn; Henry Ford Estate - Garlic Mustard Removal, Dearborn; University of Michigan Environmental

Interpretive Center, Dearborn; Parkland Park, Dearborn Heights; Rouge Park, Detroit; St. Paul of the Cross Retreat, Detroit; Shiawassee Park, Farmington; Botsford Commons Senior Community, Farmington Hills; Heritage Park, Farmington Hills; Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Campus, Farmington Hills; Coventry Gardens Park, Livonia; Allen Drive Park, Northville; Linear Park, Northville Township; Mead's Mill, Northville Township; Smith Elementary School, Byron Creek,

Plymouth; Plymouth Township Park, Plymouth Township; Lola Valley Park, Redford Township; Beech Woods Recreation Center, Southfield; Berberian Woods, Southfield; Kosch-Headwaters Preserve, Superior Township; Woodside Village Subdivision, Superior Township; Goudy Park, Wayne.

» June 7: Booth Park, Birmingham; Mill Race Village, Northville; Rotary Park, Novi.

Event details are provided on the Friends website at [www.therouge.org](http://www.therouge.org).



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**More Great Events:**  
**Outstanding Jazz Vocalist**  
**Wednesday, April 2**  
**1:30 p.m.**

Sheila Landis is a seven time winner of Detroit Music Award's "Outstanding Jazz Vocalist". Sheila will perform her unique style of jazz, Latin and blues. Join us for great music and refreshments.

RSVP by March 31.

**Grand Piano Dedication**  
**Thursday, April 10**  
**1:00 p.m.**

The Village Joy Singers, IVP's own Resident Choir, under the direction of Charlotte Whetten will dedicate our 100 year old grand piano. Join us as we celebrate this exquisite addition to our community.

**Mingle with Marilyn**  
**Friday, April 25**  
**1:30 p.m.**

Entertainment provided by Marilyn Monroe and Debra Jimmerson, a phenomenal mother/daughter duo. Don't miss this great performance. Refreshments provided.

RSVP by April 23.

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And they're off — kids rush in to scoop up the candy-filled eggs.

# EGGS-tra excitement

Kids storm township park for annual Easter hunt

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

It took about 50 volunteers more than an hour Thursday to prepare some 6,000 plastic, candy-filled eggs for this year's Plymouth Township Easter Egg Hunt.

It took hundreds of kids far less time Saturday to scoop them up.

The sun was shining, the Easter Bunny was smiling and the kids were eager for the annual hunt, sponsored at Plymouth Township Park by the Plymouth Lions Club.

"The kids have a ball," said Lions Club member Jo Ellen Hinker, who chairs the Easter Egg hunt. "And I think the parents have fun, too. I know the Lions have fun."

Hinker said the event generally draws some 200-300 kids, although her husband, fellow Lions member Doug Hinker, said he thought far more than that were there Saturday.

The kids were chasing after the thousands of eggs scattered around four baseball fields at the park. Doug Hinker said volunteers put those eggs together — and had a blast doing it — Thursday. Volunteers included some Lions and some Boy Scouts.

"They get together and shoot the bull and they don't even realize what they're doing," Hinker said with a laugh. "In an hour, they're surprised they got it done."



Sam Camalo, 3, of Livonia gives the Easter Bunny a high-five.

Volunteers from Busch's Market were on hand and Biggby Coffee provided coffee. The Plymouth Community Fire Department brought a fire truck, an ambulance and Sparky the Fire Dog for kids to enjoy.

Five-year-old Emily Baffy, in line with twin brother Jack, couldn't wait to get started chasing down the eggs.

"I'm excited," Emily said. "It's the Easter Egg Hunt!"

Emily's excitement wasn't surprising to Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume.

"It's a 'can't-miss' event," Reaume said. "The kids come out here and have a ball."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @bkadrich



This determined young man swooped in fast for his share of eggs.



Calleigh Davies, 2, of Plymouth enjoys a treat with her dad Brian before the Easter Egg Hunt.



Kids and parents wait for the Easter Egg Hunt to begin.

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## PLYMOUTH-CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

### New fitness studio

Orangetheory Fitness, the energizing group interval fitness concept that is sweeping the nation, will open its first Michigan location Friday, April 25, in Canton.

Grand opening festivities include studio tours, giveaways and the launch of the Orangetheory Fitness "Six-Week Weight Loss Challenge."

"We're excited to bring the best 60-minute workout in the country to Michigan," said Chad Smith, co-owner and head trainer of Orangetheory Fitness in Canton. "Orangetheory Fitness classes have proven to create huge results -- and with a consistent workout at our studio, you are guaranteed to get toned, lose inches and gain energy."

Led by professional trainers, the Orangetheory workout uses heart-rate-monitored interval training and short bursts of exercise to create a high-energy fitness experience.

Consistent with all Orangetheory Fitness studios, the 3,000-square-foot Canton location is outfitted with 12 treadmills, 12 rowing machines, suspension training and weights and features computer screens linked to heart rate monitors to track target workout zones.

The new Canton studio is at 41818 Ford Road. To learn more, visit [www.orangetheoryfitness.com](http://www.orangetheoryfitness.com) or call the Canton studio at 734-844-6100.

### Bank promotions

Bank of Ann Arbor is pleased to announce that Jacqueline Jenkins and Mizzi J. Talon, part of the Trust and Investment Management Group, have been promoted to vice



Jenkins



Talon

president.

Jenkins joined the bank in 2007 as a portfolio manager and business development officer and was promoted to assistant vice president in 2010. She coordinates all of the bank's 401(k) advisory services and serves as the relationship manager for a number of investment accounts.

Talon joined Bank of Ann Arbor in 2004 as a personal trust associate. She was promoted to trust officer in 2009 and assistant vice president in 2010. She has 20 years' experience in the trust field and manages a portfolio of estates, complex trusts and investment relationships.

### Bank awards

Monroe Bank & Trust was honored at the recent Michigan Bankers Association conference in Traverse City, winning three out of five awards for excellence in community involvement and marketing.

MBT won top awards in the categories of Financial Literacy Education, Public Relations (community service events) and Print Marketing (billboard, direct mail, newspaper and magazine advertising). Other winners included ChoiceOne Bank for Digital Marketing and Isabel Bank for Broadcast.

The print marketing category recognized MBT for innovative, powerful and integrated advertising across print media lines.



Scott LaRiche (center), flanked by son Steven and his father Lou, after winning a Dealer Education Award from Northwood University this month. He is executive manager and vice president of Lou LaRiche Chevrolet, which was founded by his father.

## Northwood University honors auto dealer LaRiche

Scott LaRiche, the vice president and executive manager of Lou LaRiche Chevrolet in Plymouth Township, is one of 10 auto dealers from around the U.S. and the Netherlands to win a Dealer Education Award this year from Northwood University.

The awards are given annually to recognize contributions toward improving education at

all levels.

LaRiche is a board member of the Detroit Auto Dealers Association and its current president; as DADA's leader, he has been active in the Courageous Persuaders program, which works to discourage teens from drinking and driving.

LaRiche will also chair the 2015 North American Interna-

tional Auto Show in Detroit.

He's also active in the Plymouth-Canton Community Literacy Council and the Plymouth Rotary Club and helped the Miracle League of Plymouth fund its Bilkie Family Field.

LaRiche received his award April 10 at the dealership from Northwood President Keith A. Pretty.

### YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

## Agency offers full-service insurance

**Observer: Tell us about your business, including types of services and/or products you feature.**

Burek: We are a full-service insurance agency that offers auto, home, business and life insurance. We also insure rental property, both occupied and

vacant. We can help protect all the toys our clients have, such as boats, RVs, ATVs, golf carts and motorcycles.

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

Burek: I had worked the previous 20 years with the same company in another field and found myself part of a restructuring early last year. I had a few opportunities in front of me and was trying to save some money on my insurance and looked into my coverages and found I was under-insured, so I started looking into changing my provider. Farmers Insurance called about an opportunity to join the company and start my own business. Through the direction of Milene Pliska's district office and her wonderful staff, I became fully licensed and started my insurance career.

**Observer: Why did you choose Canton?**

Burek: I have lived in the community for close to 20 years. Our sons graduated from the Plymouth-Canton school system and we still have a child who attends Plymouth High School. We raised our family here and both my wife and I love the area.

**Observer: What makes your business unique?**

Burek: I like to think about the way my previous insurance company interacted with me and

### DETAILS

**Name:** The Burek Agency

**Address:** 49378 Ford Road, Ste. B, Canton

**Title:** Scott Burek, owner/agent

**Hometown:** Canton

**Opened:** July 2013

**Employees:** Myself and another agent, Gary Stolz

**Hours:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, weekends or evenings by appointment

**Specialty:** Helping people protect what they have worked hard to gain in life. We like to say "Helping prevent a bad day from becoming a bad life."

**Contact:** 734-274-2800; [www.farmersagent.com/burek](http://www.farmersagent.com/burek); [www.facebook.com/scottburekfarmersinsuranceagent](http://www.facebook.com/scottburekfarmersinsuranceagent)

**that was very little. My rates would go up and all I received was a bill. I like to sit with my customers and try to earn their business by educating them on what needs to be protected and how I can help them accomplish that goal. We call them with every renewal, good or bad, and explain what may have changed on the insurance company's side and what we can do together to continue to protect them and make suggestions for the client.**

**Observer: How has it changed since you opened?**

Burek: Our philosophy of the customer first has not changed since we opened, but we do find ourselves scheduling more appointments around clients' busy

schedules. When we first opened, it was very difficult to find customers since we were so new, but we have sponsored the Plymouth Wildcats athletics this season and, with the help of the Plymouth Whalers, we have sponsored many events at the arena such as the March of Dimes, Breast Cancer Awareness and Military Appreciation events to get our name out there and show support for important topics in the community.

**Observer: Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small-business owner?**

Burek: Farmers Insurance commercials have Professor Burke telling consumers we want to make you a smarter shopper about your insurance. We have spent many hours educating clients about the coverages in their policies. For example, if a client has a basement and chooses not to have sewer and drain coverage since they have never had any issues with water, the \$7 or \$8 a month additional is nothing when the sewer backs up and damages the basement or Man Cave and they are not covered.

**Observer: Any advice for other business owners?**

Burek: Stick to your principles and beliefs to treat every customer as if they were family and do what is right for them. Sometimes you can try and cut corners, but if that is not in their best interest, then do the right thing.

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

Burek: We hope to continue to grow and start adding additional staff in the near future. We hope to be the go-to agency in the Plymouth-Canton area for all your insurance needs.

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# Reaching out to raise brain tumor awareness

Local teen, her family believe in helping, plan 5K benefit

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

Larry and Lynn Berg of Novi are glad their 16-year-old daughter Kaitlyn is in improving health. Their concern for their daughter continues, but the picture is a lot brighter.

Kaitlyn, a junior at Novi High School, began to have headaches in eighth grade. An MRI revealed a non-malignant brain tumor that required two surgeries. The teen also had radiation that ended more recently, also with good news.

"She's doing a lot better," Larry Berg said, noting Kaitlyn's been weaned off anti-seizure medications. She's been on a couple of college tours recently and hopes to study accounting or finance after high school graduation.



The Berg family of Novi (from left) includes Larry, Kara, Kaitlyn and Lynn. This year's benefit race is set for Saturday, May 10, at Providence Park Hospital in Novi.

Last year, the Bergs organized with others a benefit for the Chicago-based American Brain Tumor Association, held at Eastern Michigan University. The 2013

event raised some \$147,000, well over its goal.

## Upcoming event

The Bergs are hard at work on this year's ABTA

benefit, a 5K Breakthrough for Brain Tumors Race, set for Saturday, May 10, at Providence Park Hospital, Beek and Grand River, in Novi.

That day, the program will begin 8:30 a.m., the run at 9 a.m., followed by a walk. Berg is chairman of the event and the family team is "United Against Brain Tumors." For more information, visit [www.bts5k.org](http://www.bts5k.org).

Their family also includes sister Kara, 18, a freshman at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind., pursuing journalism studies. Larry Berg is vice president and general manager for Valassis Solutions.

He and Kate Butler, advancement manager, marketing and communications for the ABTA, recently shared their story.

"Larry has been a great advocate for our organization," Butler said by phone from Chicago. "Our goal is to raise money to support brain tumor research."

The ABTA also supports services for patients and their families. Butler said there are seven races around the country involving some

7,000 people, including an estimated 1,100 for the upcoming race in Novi.

## Supporters

Organizers here are pleased with business and community support, including the city of Novi and its police and fire departments. "They've really embraced our coming to Novi," Berg said. "We're very excited about a long-term relationship with the Novi community."

Northville resident and WDIV-TV (Channel 4) personality Chuck Galdica, a meteorologist who will soon become pastor of world outreach of Novi's Oak Pointe Church, will be the master of ceremonies. This year's event has a fundraising goal of \$180,000.

Butler said about 700,000 U.S. residents are now living with a brain tumor and nearly 70,000 new cases will be diagnosed this year. It's the second leading cause of cancer deaths among children, she said.

## Poll: 75 percent of voters support 'Classrooms and Kids' budget proposal

Three-quarters of Michigan voters support the "Classrooms and Kids" budget proposal that would redirect more money into classrooms without raising taxes, a new poll released Monday shows.

The Glengariff Group poll comes as the Michigan Legislature considers at least four school funding proposals: one from Gov. Rick Snyder, two from legislators and the "Classrooms and Kids" plan developed and supported by educators statewide.

The April 12-14 poll of 600 registered voters has a margin of error of 4 percent. The poll was paid for by the "Classrooms and Kids" coalition, a group of educators, superintendents and administrators.

The "Classrooms and Kids" proposal provides a \$250 to \$291 increase in per-pupil funding by reducing or eliminating \$186.2 million in categorical programs in the School Aid Fund. The categorical are mostly programs that reward performance and the adoption of cost-effective practices.

The proposal would also require an extra \$86 million above Snyder's budget, with \$34 million coming from the budget surplus and \$54 million from the general fund.

It is supported by the Michigan Association of School Boards, the Michigan Association of School Administrators, the Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators, the Michigan Association

tion of Secondary School Principals, the Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association and the Tri-County Alliance for Public Education.

"Classrooms and Kids" ensures the \$186 million that would otherwise be spent on special pots of money for some schools but not for others is instead spent evenly among all schools — and voters like the idea of treating all schools fairly and evenly," Livonia Public Schools Superintendent Randy Liepa said. "Classrooms and Kids" is a win-win. By streamlining the budget, we can send an additional \$250 per student right into their classrooms, where the money is needed most."

## Health care, retirement on agenda

Platinum Planning, LLC, hosts a series of educational seminars throughout the area designed to teach seniors how passage of the Affordable Care Act — dubbed Obamacare — will affect their retirement years.

President Barack Obama signed the act into law in March 2010. Platinum Planning officials said the law will impact senior citizens and said "it's imperative you learn and understand the changes."

The presenter of this informative seminar is a Michigan-licensed, independent insurance agent who represents numerous insurance companies. Those planning to attend should arrive 15 minutes early and spouses are urged to attend.

Reservations are requested and attendance is free,

but seating is limited.

The seminars are intended to provide information on, among other topics, the effects of the act on long-term care; explanation of the Independent Payment Advisory board; how to shelter your retirement from potential taxes; how to protect retirement assets from the markets' ups and downs; and how to reduce and/or eliminate taxation on Social Security.

The seminars take place: » 10 a.m. Thursday, May 8 — Livonia Civic Library, 32777 Five Mile

» 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 13 — Northville Library, 212 W. Cad

» 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Thursday, May 15 — Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main

To RSVP or for more information, call 800-0723-4704.



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Monday-Saturday: 10am - 9pm

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MONDAY, APRIL 28: 10AM - 9PM

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TUESDAY, APRIL 29: 3 - 9PM

Teachers receive 50% discount with valid ID

### BOOKBUSTER SALES

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY:

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## OUR VIEW

# New tests for teachers only a beginning

## State needs to address education

Raising standards required for becoming a teacher is a laudable goal, but making it tougher to enter the field won't by itself improve educational outcomes in Michigan. Our problems are bigger than that.

The state House of Representatives' Education Subcommittee recently approved \$3.6 million to revamp teacher certification tests. The appropriation would allow the Department of Education to accelerate efforts to toughen the exams, something state Superintendent Mike Flanagan has said is a priority.

We agree and we encourage both chambers of the Legislature to send it to Gov. Rick Snyder for his signature. It's been more

**But let's keep it real. Tougher certification tests won't by themselves lead to a higher level of performance in Michigan classrooms, nor will they address the underlying systemic — and political — issues that stunt professional growth in public education.**

than a decade since Michigan updated these exams, which by most accounts are laughably easy.

As *Bridge magazine's* Ron French reported in his "Building a Better Teacher" series last fall, when the education department beamed up the test, all aspiring teachers must take before they are allowed to student teach, the pass rate plummeted from 82 percent on previous exams to 26 percent. Flanagan at the time hailed the test as proof that the state was serious about letting only the most qualified teachers into Michigan classrooms.

The infusion of cash means that the department will be able to roll out the new tests in two years rather than the estimated 11 years it would have otherwise taken; that faster timetable is worth the investment.

But let's keep it real. Tougher certification tests won't by themselves lead to a higher level of performance in Michigan classrooms, nor will they address the underlying systemic — and political — issues that stunt professional growth in public education.

There's plenty of blame to go around when it comes to poor educational outcomes in Michigan, but too much of that blame is misplaced at the feet of teachers.

As a state and a nation, we can press for higher admissions standards into teaching programs and those programs can do a better job of aligning themselves with the demands of today's classrooms.

It's not at all clear, however, that so-called "smarter teachers" will fix what ails public schools, certainly not without significant efforts to improve the conditions and resources available to educators.

We've seen little evidence that our teachers lack skills or expertise. What they lack, rather, is time, guidance and support necessary to be fully effective and grow in their careers.

Poorly compensated relative to other professions, teaching in the United States has long struggled to be seen as a valued profession. Policymakers, many of them in Lansing, seem to prefer high-turnover teaching force that is minimally trained.

The overemphasis on standardized tests, punitive evaluation policies and bureaucratic regulations, combined with larger class sizes and resource-starved classrooms, combine to create a high rate of turnover among teachers. About 40 percent of all teachers leave within the first five years of starting their jobs — more than any other profession.

There's nothing wrong with demanding higher standards from aspiring teachers, but policymakers should take into account that high achievers have standards as well, among them the opportunity to work in an environment in which they feel valued and adequately compensated.

Until we decide that teaching is a serious profession that demands substantial public investment, we will not produce the skilled teachers that are needed to address the needs of our children.

## What do you think?



Construction has started and I-96 has been closed from Newburgh to Telegraph for a couple of weeks now. We're wondering what you think about two questions: Has it been hard on you as a commuter yet? Do you think, ultimately, it will be worth the effort? Send your opinions as a Letter to the Editor to bkadrich@hometownlife.com or BRESLER@STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Let it rain

On the heels of months of Koch brothers' *Americans for Prosperity* ads featuring the likes of Julie Boonstra and Shannon Wendt gauding lying about the lack of affordability of Obamacare by, among others, *Washington Post* fact-checker Glenn Kessler, we are now being bombarded by the ridiculous Republican Governors Association's "The Shower's Over" ads.

We all are aware that chairman Chris Christie has been mighty busy lately attempting to dodge the investigations of his own New Jersey state Legislature as well as a federal grand jury but can't they, and he, do better than this?

The most recent episode of "The Shower's Over" features the revelation that way back in 2002, then-state Rep. Mark Shauer, Michigan Democratic gubernatorial candidate, voted for a House bill that assessed a per-bed fee on nursing homes, the proceeds of which would be used to help finance background checks for nursing home employees — you know, those taking care of mom and pop.

This bill was passed with bipartisan support and was signed into law by then-governor Republican John Engler. Stranger yet, an iteration of the same bill was signed into law by Gov. Rick

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats: **Web:** www.hometownlife.com **Mail:** Letters to the Editor, Canton Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226 **Fax:** 313-223-3318 **Email:** bkadrich@hometownlife.com

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

Snyder after passage by an overwhelmingly Republican House and Senate in 2012. Are we supposed to be enraged at Shauer for supporting legislation that was signed into law by Republican governors? One begs the question: Doesn't the RGA do any research at all?

Another episode of "The Shower's Over" attacked Shauer for voting for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 which, according to the CBC, created between two and three million jobs, kicking off a run of 49 straight months of job growth resulting in a total of

more than 5 million new private-sector jobs, according to the BLS.

The bill also featured the largest middle-class tax cut in history. Shauer's alleged crime here was that that bill included a provision to purchase needed parts for wind turbines from foreign sources that were necessary to get a fledgling wind power industry off the ground in Michigan, since no domestic producers existed. This apparently is grounds for crucifixion.

Yet another episode of "The Shower's Over" involved a supposedly misguided state representative, Mark Shauer, who in 2007 authored a bill that would have placed a per-gallon tax upon Nestle and other Michigan bottled water miners. The purpose of the bill was to try to prevent aquifers from being pumped dry by private business interests, rendering large swaths of rural counties in central and northern Michigan that depend upon water wells essentially uninhabitable. Most people would call that a good idea.

Like Mark Shauer, I prefer safe nursing homes for my relatives, a protected water supply for our friends up north, jobs and less dependence upon fossil fuels. That is why I will support Mark Shauer for governor, so let the rain come down.

Mitch Smith  
Canton

## GUEST COLUMN

# District dropped ball on baseball seating

This column is in response to Tim Smith's article "District steps up to Title IX plate," *Observer & Eccentric*, April 4, 2014, which involves yet another P-CSS athletic director and school district debacle.

Unfortunately, Smith missed the boat on this issue. This is not really about Title IX. This is not about the government acting as "big brother." This is not about the boys team vs. the girls team. This is about the school district not communicating with those involved. This is about the district shunning accountability. This is about the district's mismanagement of the situation that resulted in prematurely tearing something down rather than giving the community time to build something up.

The complaint was filed in 2012. Had officials shared the information immediately, there would have been ample time to raise funds and construct something on behalf of the girls team. But we were not given that chance.

Smith missed an opportunity to shed more light on this situation via the 12-page summary of findings (OCR Docket #15-13-1020). The Department of Education/Office of Civil Rights sent it to Superintendent Michael Meisen on Oct. 31, 2013. Smith wrote, "An on-site audit late last summer also found that the baseball seating patio lacked a ramp to be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act." If this is true, it leads to many other questions:

Why are the visitor bleachers on the varsity football field (which lack a ramp, aisles and railings) in compliance? Why are the bleachers in the gymnasium and the aluminum bleachers on



Rebecca Minch  
GUEST COLUMNIST

the girls softball field in compliance? Why is the freshman field, which provides no seating at all, in compliance?

Why was the complaint really filed in 2012 and by whom? A prevailing theory suggests that a member of the girls softball coaching staff, at odds with a member of the boys baseball coaching staff, filed the complaint. If true, this is an example of Athletic Director Tom Willette's inability to manage personnel issues.

According to the report, "The softball coach told OCR that it was an 'amazing' facility until an incident in summer 2012 when the irrigation system got turned off by mistake and the grass burned out in the summer sun. She said the district had to spend thousands of dollars to reseed the outfield. The softball coach also told OCR that the perception might be that the district values baseball more highly than softball because of the seating patio at the baseball field."

The complaint was filed Oct. 19, 2012. The report goes on to say, "The athletic director called in a friend who specializes in landscape maintenance and did work to the field to help restore it." It would be interesting to know if the friend was the recipient of the thousands of dollars it cost to reseed the field.

Why did the district decide to resolve the complaint and demolish the seating structure prematurely, before the OCR even completed its investiga-

tion?

Willette stated in the report "that the seating patio was constructed about six years ago, before he started in his position, and it was constructed through the efforts of a parent and was paid for through the team's booster organization. He said that he is not particularly happy with the seating patio and he would not mind if it were removed."

Clearly, confirmation of when he actually became AD of boys baseball is needed. According to the August 2007, March 2008, August 2008 and March 2009 editions of the P-CSS newsletter, *The Communicator*, Willette is listed as the AD responsible for all boys baseball. Construction of the seating began in 2008 and was not completed until spring 2009.

This was a labor of love and gifts to future Plymouth baseball generations. For the parents, players and community supporters who donated valuable time and more than \$15,000 to be dismissed so callously by Willette, he is not particularly happy with the seating patio and he would not mind if it were removed; "is an insult to those who gave so much."

The district needs to explain to the community how this happened and why we were not given the opportunity to build something up before tearing something down.

If the district expects to move forward in partnership with future booster club support at the Park, officials are going to have to start by regaining credibility and eliminating the source of the problem.

Rebecca Minch is a resident of Canton.

# CANTON OBSERVER

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# Uniform ban violates team's free-speech rights

To expand upon Mick McCabe's article ("Salem girls have fired coach's back"), it's important you're aware of an ongoing development affecting my daughter and her varsity soccer teammates at Salem High School.

At practice Tuesday, April 8, the team was approached by Salem Athletic Director, Tom Willette, who informed them they would forfeit any future games – and face suspension – if they attempted to wear jerseys featuring their fired coach's last name above their numbers. As a sign of support and solidarity for their fired coach, the girls created custom jerseys which follow mandated uniform regulations from the Michigan High School Athletic Association and the National Federation of High Schools.

The following morning, in a meeting with Salem Principal Nancy Laws, my wife and daughter were told "our girls need to put this behind them and move on." Some of the highest-ranking administrators in our school district – from Superintendent Michael Meissen to K-12 Director of Student Activities Beth Savolox to Laws and Willette – are attempting to push the mis-handling of the Duhl situation under the rug to avoid further public embarrassment and bad PR.

Now they've taken it to another level. We believe that through intimidation, abuse of authority and manipulation, they're infringing upon the Constitutional rights of our children.

Page 5 of the board-approved 2013-14 P-CCS Student Code of Conduct addresses the issue of Freedom of Speech: "Students may practice freedom of speech, freedom of expression of ideas and freedom of the press keeping in mind recent Supreme Court decisions."

In 1969, the United States Supreme Court wrote in its landmark decision pertaining



**Jason Kaye**  
GUEST COLUMNIST

***Our girls certainly weren't creating a disturbance, a substantial disruption ... or using any profanity or vulgarity.***

to students' First Amendment rights. "It can hardly be argued that either students or teachers shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech and expression at the school house gate." What is commonly referred to as the Tinker Standard makes it clear: school district officials and administration may not silence student expression just because they dislike it.

Apparently, the P-CCS administration feels it can pick and choose when the First Amendment applies to students. Our girls certainly weren't creating a disturbance, a substantial disruption of the school environment or using any profanity or vulgarity. Our girls have practiced "dissent in an orderly and respectful manner." It's clear our district is attempting to shut our girls down because officials don't like the message.

An email from Willette, received in response to a clarifying inquiry, perhaps says it all: "All uniforms need to be approved by the athletic department before they are purchased and/or worn in competition. Requests for new uniforms need to come from the head coach of that sport." Taking into account that Willette and P-CCS consider the name "DUHL" – in place of individual players' names – an inappropriate reminder of this fiasco, is it

likely that Willette will approve them?

It's worth noting that the (interim) head coach for Salem was hired and brought in without any parent or student input or committee vetting process typically employed during head coach searches. Is it likely he'd want to request his team be afforded the opportunity to show its continued support for the man he's replaced?

The interim coach was brought in, according to Laws, Savolox and Willette "to help us move on." A nice guy in a bad position, it's clear the (interim) coach is trying his best to support the girls, but at the same time his unquestioned loyalty is in reinforcing the district's stance to "move on."

Our daughters aren't attempting to be freedom fighters or practitioners of civil disobedience, but rest assured they're getting a hands-on lesson in civics that'll be sure to resonate longer than anything read in a textbook. As far as we're concerned, we don't appreciate the administration of our school district telling our parent group – and then telling our children separately – to "move on." That's not how we raise our children, but I'm disappointed and embarrassed that's the way our district wants to educate our children: if you feel there's injustice, just walk away.

The question remains: is this really the direction our district wants to go? When students choose on their own accord to peacefully protest injustice, will our school district administration attempt to silence them whenever the message contains something the P-CCS administration doesn't want to hear? As painful as the message may be, perhaps some reflection will reveal opportunities to repair damage to the foundation.

Jason Kaye is a Canton resident and father of a Salem varsity girls soccer player.

## Beware of sub-prime mortgage offers



**Rick Bloom**  
MONEY MATTERS

I couldn't believe it when I read that some banks are once again starting to market sub-prime mortgages.

Sub-prime mortgages – one of the causes of the financial crisis – were offered to people who did not have good credit or could not come up with the 20-percent down payment to get a conventional mortgage.

Many people who got sub-prime mortgages ended up defaulting, causing them to lose their homes.

Not everyone should get a mortgage. Just because banks and other financial institutions are pushing mortgages doesn't mean you should get one or that you can afford one. All mortgage companies or banks care about is whether you qualify for a mortgage, not if you have the means of repaying it.

I know the general rule is that renting is not a good option and that people should consider buying as soon as they can. I believe that logic is wrong. In many situations, renting is a better alternative financially.

Many people think that if they're renting, they are throwing away their money. That is not the case. When you do the math and factor in the costs of maintaining a house, it is not necessarily a great investment.

Don't buy a home from an investment standpoint. A home purchase is about one's quality of life.

However, if a home doesn't increase the quality of your life, don't buy it.

One thing consumers should have learned from the financial crisis is, if you purchase a home, it is important to make sure that you own your home and that it doesn't own you. Too many people took advantage of these gimmicky mortgages only to find that they could not afford their home – and it ruined their credit.

Don't fall for that same mistake. Prior to purchasing a home, consider all the costs associated with ownership. In addition to principal and interest payments, factor in the cost of repairs, maintenance,

insurance and utilities. These costs tend to be much higher than if you rented.

I believe you must be able to put 20 percent down on a home in order to afford it. There are some cases when 10 percent is acceptable, however, those cases are rare.

Keep in mind that just because the mortgage company says you qualify for a mortgage doesn't mean you can actually afford it. Remember, in addition to paying your mortgage, you also have to consider such things as retirement. Don't sacrifice your retirement to purchase a home. Anyone who thinks that a home is a great investment that can eventually be sold and used for retirement is mistaken.

Unfortunately, some of the same predatory lending practices that existed before the financial crisis are creeping back into the market. The number of people refinancing is down. Mortgage companies are looking for new ways to market their products.

Consumers must be careful. Remember, it's not the mortgage company that determines whether you can actually afford a mortgage – you do. You must determine what your other costs are, such as saving for retirement and a child's college education.

Don't let anyone talk you into a mortgage; take your time and don't be afraid to seek independent advice.

Having a home is part of the American dream. However, having a home that uses all your resources and does not increase your quality of life is an American nightmare. Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like him to respond to your questions, please email [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).

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## SPORTS

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CCM HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

## SHOWCASE FOR SEALY



Team Michigan players, including Salem's Jake Sealy (red jersey) listen to the coach during Saturday's practice at Compuware Arena.  
PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI / EXPRESS PHOTO

## Salem senior gets chance to show hockey skills to 'hundreds' of scouts at tourney

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Jake Sealy's high school hockey career for the Salem Rocks ended more than a month ago, but good luck getting him to put his skates and sticks into long-term storage.

So he's headed to Minnesota this week to compete for Team Michigan at the prestigious CCM High School National Invitational Tournament — a showcase for top high school players across the country hoping to catch the attention of junior, college and professional scouts.

Sealy is the lone representative from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park to earn a spot on the Team Michigan Seniors roster. He follows Plymouth's Nick Schultz and Salem's

Mark McGee, who played for the team at the USA Hockey-sanctioned tourney in 2013 and 2012 respectively. And the 18-year-old forward, who tallied 113 career points at Salem (third all-time) doesn't mind missing his spring break if it means getting another kind of break.

"Definitely it's just more recognition," Sealy said. "Get my name out there and hopefully someone picks me up."

Sealy talked about the opportunity following Saturday's practice at Compuware Arena in Plymouth, where the team skated on the Olympic side (opposite from Compuware's NHL-style rink employed by the Plymouth Whalers of the Ontario Hockey League).



Salem's Jake Sealy practices with Team Michigan's senior team at Compuware Arena.

See TOURNEY, Page B3

## CCM NIT ICE CHIPS

**What:** The annual CCM High School National Invitational Tournament, featuring teams from Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota and Massachusetts. Hosting the tourney is Minnesota Hockey, in conjunction with Reebok-CCM, the Minnesota Hockey Coaches Association and the Minnesota Girls Hockey Coaches Association.

**When:** Thursday through Sunday in Plymouth, Minn., at the Plymouth Ice Center.

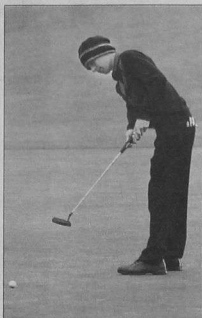
**Who:** Team Michigan is sending two teams to the regional tournament, attended by junior, college and professional scouts. One team is comprised of all seniors, including Salem's Jake Sealy and Farmington goalie John Lethem from Observeland teams. Other area players on the senior squad include Brighton's Tyler

Hayes, Brett Pietila, Danny Bosio, Brian Dowd, Aaron Sturos, Novi's Michael O'Reilly, Orchard Lake St. Mary's Anthony Scarsella, Brennan Blaszcak, Sam Nardicchio and Dakota Ulmer. On the U-18 team (primarily high school juniors) are Novi-Detroit Catholic Central goalie Spencer Wright, Northville's Jack Meacham, Orchard Lake St. Mary's Nick Borelli and Hartland's John Nagel.

**Games:** Four games are guaranteed for both the senior and U-18 teams. It is possible for both Team Michigan squads to face each other on Sunday.

**Websites:** For more information during the tournament, including game results, go to [www.minnesotahockey.org/page/show/1154689-2014-boys-nit](http://www.minnesotahockey.org/page/show/1154689-2014-boys-nit)

## BOYS GOLF PREVIEW



Canton's Donnie Trosper sends a putt on its way to the bottom of the cup during a 2013 match. BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Chiefs eye continued success

Two-time all-stater Trosper spearheads Canton lineup

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Yes, the Canton Chiefs lost key golfers Alex Champagne, Tyler McMahon and Brent Perry from the 2013 team that qualified for the MHSA state finals.

But veteran head coach Tim Alles still has all-stater Donnie Trosper — a junior who was among the state's elite golfers his first two seasons.

Along with a handful of varsity returners and several youngsters with quite a bit of upside, the Chiefs very well could keep the positive momentum building in the KLA South Division standings and subsequent conference and state tourneys.

"We will be led by a strong junior class which includes our best player, Donnie Trosper," said Alles, entering his 20th season coaching the Canton boys team. "Donnie is certainly one of the best high school golfers in the state."

Trosper and the trio of 2013 graduates spearheaded Canton's 8-2 record in the KLA South. Last year's squad finished sixth overall in the conference and then placed 14th out of 15 teams at the state finals.

The loss of Champagne, McMahon and Perry opens up some big opportunities for others including juniors Noah Lindlauer, Chris Dooley, Carter Schenk, Josh Johnson and Hunter Schlamp.

"So far in practice, the other juniors have been posting consistent scores in the low 40s, which will need to be competitive in the KLA," Alles said. Added to the mix are freshmen Dominic Dimaya and Suhass Potluri, who Alles said have "shown a lot of promise" during early practices.

According to Alles, how successful the 2014 Chiefs can be is linked to overall consistency over 18-hole increments.

"Consistent, 18-hole scoring will be key for us this season," Alles said. "I feel that despite being a relatively young team we are also talented and confident in our ability to compete successfully with the majority of the schools in the KLA and other schools throughout the state."

The Chiefs will get an early test when they face last season's state runner-ups (Plymouth) on Tuesday, April 29.

[tsmith@hometownlife.com](mailto:tsmith@hometownlife.com)

## BOYS GOLF PREVIEW

## Wildcats want to finish the job

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Coming oh-so-close to a Division 1 championship has Plymouth's varsity boys golf team hungry to take that one final step to the top.

Not only did the 2013 team win the KLA South Division and Kensington Conference championships, it nearly won it all — finishing second only to Battle Creek Lakeview at the D1 state finals, falling via the fifth-player tie-breaker.

"Being runner-up last season and being that close is definitely in the back of everyone's mind," said Wildcats varsity head

coach Dan Young, taking over the reins from Nick Brandon (who is focusing on coaching girls basketball). "We were that close and to lose is motivation to do the extra this time around."

Yet one year's success doesn't automatically transfer to the following year, so Young expects his golfers to "put in the work" that will be required for another big season.

"We have to put in the work and know that we deserve it," he said. "The reps on the range, sharpening our short game and being ready for wind, rain ... Golf is hard and in order to be ready at the end you have to put in the work."

Of course, having three of last year's top five golfers back will go a long way for Plymouth's chances.

Seniors Chris Kozler, John Tatti and Evan Chipman lead the way.

Also fighting for spots on the varsity lineup card will be seniors Kyle Melnick, Lucas Winkler, Alex Decker and promising freshman Jack Boczar.

Rounding out the roster are senior Jack Marentic, juniors Andrew Lloyd and Connor Zydeck, sophomore Kyle Kozler and freshman Justin Kapke.

"We have an excellent group of golfers who are working very hard," Young said.



Watching his tee shot during 2013 varsity boys golf action is Plymouth's John Tatti. BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It won't take long for Young and his team to see how it stacks up against quality opponents. On Tuesday, April 29, Plymouth

will face Canton (also a state qualifier in 2013).

[tsmith@hometownlife.com](mailto:tsmith@hometownlife.com)

## BOYS GOLF PREVIEW

# Rocks tee off with rising expectations

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Salem's varsity boys golf team has plenty of talent as the 2014 high school season gets into the swing.

But Rocks head coach Ryan Nimmerguth is extra pumped up because of the nucleus of seniors who want to close out their prep careers on a high note.

"This team is led with great senior leadership, seven total," Nimmerguth said. "They have set the tone with the way they carry themselves and have been great in making sure this team meshes well."

"This group of seniors is hungry for success and expects to be contending for championships throughout the season."

At the top of the Rocks' lineup card will be senior twins Connor and Brady Cole (although the latter will be sidelined until early May due to an ankle injury) along with seniors Nick Danis and Jake Sealy.

"The last two varsity spots are wide open and could be filled by any of the other guys who are on the team," Nimmerguth said. "From practice so far it looks like junior Jakob Lenders, senior Jack McCormack and senior Franco Papp will get the first shot at those last few varsity spots."

Lenders is the only junior on the squad and Nimmerguth noted that he "will be a very important member of the varsity lineup."

Also battling to get into that lineup are seniors Noah Hirvela and



Watching his putt during a 2013 match is Salem's Josh Eldridge (right). Standing behind him is Adam Stadler of Livonia Franklin. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



During this 2013 varsity boys golf match, Salem's Adam Marcero follows through on a shot.

Josh Eldridge.

"Noah has shown tremendous improvement in his game so far in practice," Nimmerguth said. "And Josh is really working hard to get a little more consistent."

Salem hopefuls looking to make an impression include sophomores

Jake Lang, Adam Marcero, Hayden Winch, freshmen Matt Schaumburger and Shawn Weldon.

Nimmerguth said the sophomores have "shown great improvement early on and will be pushing for varsity spots all year long."

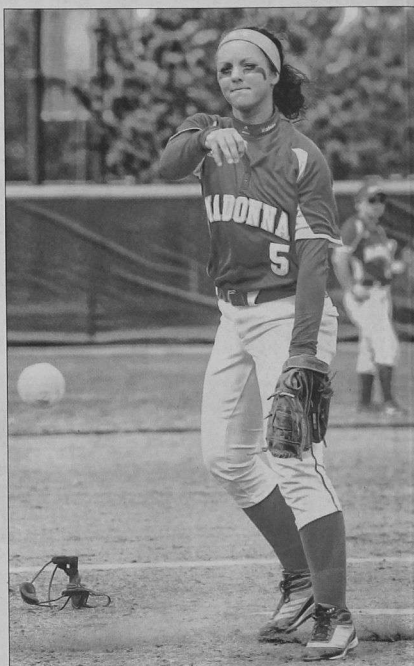
As for Schaumburger and Weldon, the coach stressed that they are "two good additions to the team who I believe will work hard to improve their game and could be contributing at the varsity level as early as next year."

The Rocks will open the regular Kensington Lakes Activities Association schedule next week, with back-to-back home matches Tuesday, April 29 against South Lyon East and Wednesday, April 30 against Novi.

This week, however, Salem will take part in a tournament at Farmington Hills Golf Club.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

## COLLEGE SOFTBALL



Madonna University junior right-hander Bree Crampton struck out 13 in a 5-2 Game One victory Saturday over visiting Concordia. PHOTOS BY MADONNA UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

## MU's Senior Day spoiled by Cards

Concordia wins nightcap, 2-1, to delay title celebration

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

Jerry Abraham could only sit in the dugout afterward and ponder "what if?"

The Madonna University women's softball coach and his Crusaders now have to play the waiting game to see if they'll get a share of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference title following a 2-1 setback in the nightcap of a double-header Saturday at home against Concordia University.

The Crusaders, now 31-8 overall and 15-3 in the WHAC, have finished their regular season. First-place Davenport University (29-7, 14-2) just needs a split in its final two games to claim the title outright.

Concordia (26-13, 9-3), with six games still to make up including a twin-bill this Saturday in Ann Arbor against Davenport, mathematically stays alive and kept its faint title hopes alive by spoiling MU's Senior Day.

"Now we've got to get help," Abraham said. "We had it right where we wanted it and we let it go, so now we've got to get help. But give Concordia credit. They're a good team and they played well. They kept the pressure on us and we didn't take advantage of opportunities. That's what happens in tight games."

MU took the opener in dramatic fashion, 5-2, thanks to Caitlyn Keuvelaar's walk-off 3-run homer, a no-doubter over the right center field fence in the bottom of the seventh.

The Essexville Garber grad, who finished with four RBI in the opener, was one of four seniors recognized between games, along with Kristen Drabek (Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central),



The Crusaders celebrate following Caitlyn Keuvelaar's walk-off 3-run homer to beat Concordia in the first game of a double-header, 5-2.

Erin Mayes (Ida) and Carlee Meek (White Lake Lakesland).

Emma Cook added two hits and scored four runs in the Game One victory, while starting pitcher Bree Crampton (17-5), who earned the victory, went all seven innings, allowing just four hits while striking out 13 and walking five.

Losing pitcher Kortney Loar (11-5) gave up five earned runs on six hits and five walks in 6½ innings.

MU, however, couldn't carry its momentum over to Game Two as Cardinals starter Corrina Rotondo (13-4) kept the Crusaders off balance with her gyrating delivery allowing just four hits and one walk in seven innings.

In the top of the third, Concordia got on the board on a double by Amy Trionfi followed by a double to left center by Cheyenne Brierley.

Concordia added the go-ahead run in the fourth when Katie Austin came home from third after Crampton, who came on in relief of starter Erin Combs (13-4) in the fourth inning, was handcufted by a soft line drive to the mound.

But MU got a run back in the bottom of the inning thanks to singles from Cook and Erin Mayes followed by a Concordia infield throwing error.

The Crusaders, however, were unable to score the game-tying run, leaving runners on bases in the fifth and sixth innings before going down in order in the bot-

tom of the seventh. Abraham said his team made some uncharacteristic mental mistakes.

"It was the little things, things we haven't done in a very long time," he said. "A couple of miscues with steals and not covering the bases. Base running mistakes. Hitting on 3-0, not taking first pitches, and not patient at all."

"I don't know. I thought we'd come out and explode the second game. We had everything going for us and I don't know what happened because we usually hit the ball all over the place. Not today. We didn't hit in the second game anyway."

MU, meanwhile, has wrapped up the regular season and remains idle until Wednesday, April 30, when the WHAC playoffs commence at Pace-setter Park in Sylvania, Ohio.

MU will play at 6:30 p.m. against an opponent to be determined. If Davenport clinches the title outright along with an automatic bid to the NAIA National Tournament, then MU will be the second seed.

And with more than a week off until the tournament, MU can only sit back and wait.

"We'll go back and do what we do," Abraham said. "It's no big deal. That's a long stretch without playing, so we'll try to get a game if we can go from there."

bebons@hometownlife.com



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WOMEN'S HOCKEY

# Still a Victory-ous ride

Victory Honda women edged in title game at USA Hockey Nationals

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Victory Honda's 19-and-over women's travel hockey team came just one goal short of capturing the USA Hockey Nationals earlier this month in Boston, Mass.

The Plymouth-based squad lost 3-2 to the Gulf Coast Seagulls in the title game in the Women's Tier 1 Senior B tournament.

Victory Honda reached the tourney after winning the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association state championship in its age bracket for the second consec-

utive season.

"We had a great week-end overall and I am extremely proud of our team," head coach Brad Johnson said. "We had three players in the top 10 in scoring for the tournament, including the top scorer."

Stacey Hochkins led all players in Boston with 15 points in six games. Contributing five goals and three assists was Kelly Gittelman (fourth overall) while Alexis Glenn tallied five goals and an assist, good for seventh in the tourney.

Splitting the net-minding duties and respon-

sing spectacularly were goalies Mary Beth Smith (2-0) and Brittany Zeches (3-1) who made 45 saves against the Anaheim Lady Ducks to advance Victory Honda into the finals.

"Obviously, we wanted to win it all," Johnson said. "But I can't be disappointed at all in the team."

"We just played a little too nervous in the championship (game) making some mistakes that we didn't make all weekend. But what a great run this year was."

Members of the team (listed alphabetically) included Nikki Betz, Alexis Bohlinger, Erin Cahill, Justine Cigna, Bethany Croskey, Jenna Donnelly, Stephanie Gierada, Gittelman, Lexi



Plymouth-based Victory Honda's 19-and-over women's travel hockey team is shown celebrating after winning the MAHA state tournament in March. The team then nearly captured the Women's Tier 1 Senior B national tournament in Massachusetts earlier this month.

Glenn, Hochkins, Jenna Leone, Lauren Lobert, Tatum MacLeod, Tricia MacLeod, Emily Nelson, Kristen Schwan, Smith, Becky Sonn, Kylie Tripp, Stephanie Voigt and

Zeches.

Johnson is following up that run by leading the Girls 19U Team East squad for the Meijer State Games of Michigan tournament later this

spring.

He also intends on returning to Victory Honda next season (tryouts begin in June).

tsmith@hometownlife.com

## TOURNEY

Continued from Page B1

"It's different than PCC (Plymouth Cultural Center, where Salem plays) because the boards are wider," Sealy said. "So in the offensive zone you have a lot more room to maneuver and make plays."

"I think I'm accustomed to it. I've been playing on Olympic ice here and there all my life, so I know the difference between the ice surfaces."

The reason for practicing on the bigger ice was to get the team ready for the CCM NIT. Games at Plymouth Ice Center in Plymouth, Minn., also will be played on an Olympic-sized rink (generally about 210 feet long and 98 feet wide; compared to 200-by-85 dimensions for NHL rinks).

"It's a big difference," stressed Team Michigan Seniors assistant coach Mark Vellucci, who just finished his first season at the helm of the Novi Wildcats after several seasons as Farmington, Conn. "Most of these guys don't play on Olympic ice, that's why we're scheduling it for here."

Sealy added that he already has an invitation to skate at the pre- and main camp of the North American Hockey League, a junior circuit for American players often with dreams on breaking into a college program somewhere.

He would love to follow the path taken by Team Michigan alums Mackenzie MacEachern (a former draft pick of the St. Louis Blues who plays at Michigan State University) and Colorado Avalanche draft pick Ben Storm, a defenseman at St. Cloud State University. "That's the dream," said Sealy, about someday turning pro. "But, just one step at a time."

### Cream of the crop

Also making the 10-hour bus ride to Minnesota is a second Team Michigan team comprised of high school juniors who will compete in a separate pool during the round robin. Coaching Team Michigan's younger players will be Sealy's Salem coach, Ryan



Getting in on a drill on the Olympic-sized ice sheet at Compuware Arena is Salem's Jake Sealy (middle). JOHN KEMSKI/EXPRESS PHOTO

Ossenmacher. "It's a tremendous opportunity for him," Ossenmacher said. "You're talking about the best players in the state of Michigan and all that high school hockey has to offer, so to be selected for that is a huge honor for him and it's good for our program."

"There are 12 forwards from the state of Michigan and he's one of them."

Coaching the Team Michigan Seniors are Orchard Lake St. Mary's head coach Brian Klawow and Vellucci.

One of Vellucci's former players with the Falcons, goalie John Lethamton (who backstopped Farmington to the 2014 Division 3 state title), is on the senior team roster. Vellucci's Novi defenseman Michael O'Reilly also is making the trek.

"We'll play three games guaranteed, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and depending on how we do we'll play Sunday," Vellucci said. "The last two years this organization has gone two years ago we won it and last year we finished second. So it's a really good opportunity for the boys."

Vellucci estimated there will be "hundreds of scouts at this showcase."

Klawow will have four players from the St. Mary's Eagles on his roster, including defenseman Anthony Scarsel-

la, wingers Sam Nardicchio, Dakota Ulmer and center Brennan Blaszcak.

"It's a way for them to get good exposure, playing good competition on a national level," Klawow said. "Tons of scouts will be there, so they will have a lot of opportunities to showcase their abilities."

### Go for it

On Saturday, Scarsella was nursing a hand injury sustained during Friday's 1-1 inter-squad game against Compuware Midget Majors.

"It's a lot of fun, just getting together with a group of guys," Scarsella said. "I played on the team last year, so just getting together with a bunch of all-stars is an honor, it's humbling just to be picked for the team."

The junior team also played against Compuware and won 5-0.

Sealy might have been ready to change gears into spring sports (he also plays for Salem's varsity boys golf team), but Ossenmacher suggested he attend the late March tryouts for Team Michigan.

(He Ossenmacher) just told me to go to the tryouts," Sealy recalled. "We had tryouts at Chelsea, it was a weekend training camp kind

of thing and I ended up making it."

In addition to Michigan and Minnesota, states to be represented at the tournament include Wisconsin, North Dakota and Massachusetts.

The Ossenmacher-coached Team Michigan junior boys also will play at least three games and girls hockey teams also will compete at the tourney — hosted by Minnesota Hockey, in conjunction with Reebok-CCM, the Minnesota Hockey Coaches Association and the Minnesota Girls Hockey Coaches Association.

### Upping the ante

"The tournament itself is probably one of the most-scouted events you can find," Ossenmacher added. "You're going to have NHL scouts, right on down to most of the major colleges, and junior teams (primarily from the NAHL and United States Hockey League)."

"It's an opportunity to get exposure. If he (Sealy) does well, if any of those players do well they're going to get noticed."

That's exactly what Ossenmacher said happened for MacEachern, Storm and "countless guys who played juniors and Division 1" after skating at the CCM NIT.

Could it happen again for Sealy or any of the other Team Michigan players over the next few days?

Another strong, medal-winning showing by the team could do the trick.

Yet, according to Sealy, although the spotlight might be brighter and the stakes greater, it's still hockey — albeit faster and more physical than what is played in the KHLA.

It's the game he and all of the other Minnesota-bound players eat, sleep and drink. It's the game he didn't mind giving up his spring break for. "Ours is the week of the tournament," Sealy said. "But it's not going to be bad because hockey is a game that I love, so it's going to be fun playing there."

Whatever happens after that will be a bonus.

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## PREP BASEBALL

# Salem rides hot streak into Ohio

After a hard-fought 3-2 victory over Livonia Stevenson on April 16, the Salem varsity baseball team tuned up for its trip to the Cincinnati, Ohio-area with Saturday's sweep of Adrian.

The Rocks pounded out 28 hits during the road twin-bill, earning 11-4 and 10-7 victories.

In the opener, Andrew Hunt improved to 3-1 on the mound with three innings of relief (Nick March started the contest).

At the plate, Colin Pietron's two-run double in the sixth keyed a five-run rally that put the Rocks up 8-4. Cam Shaughnessy collected three hits and two RBIs in his varsity debut while Jack Driscoll and Alex Nicholson also added two hits each.

In Saturday's nightcap, Nick Micheliello and Josh Penn each tallied three hits and three RBIs while Brandon Gillen and Andrew Hunt added two hits and two RBIs.

Eric Scott was the starter and winner with Josh Penn coming in for a three-inning save.

With the sweep, Salem improved to 7-2 overall, going into the spring trip.

Meanwhile, the Rocks got the ball rolling on their hot streak by scoring two runs in the top of the sixth to edge Stevenson. The starter and winner was Tyler Brooks, who went the distance.

In winning rally, Driscoll singled, Mike Vernon walked and moved up on a fly ball. With two out, Gillen singled to left to plate both runners.

## Wildcat football

There is an informational meeting and pasta party 6-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 6, in the Plymouth High School cafeteria for all incoming freshmen football players.

Coach Mike Sawchuk and his staff will provide information on what will be required to become part of the "Wildcat Family" and help understand what is going on at the All Player/Parent Mandatory Meeting on Tuesday, May 20 (same time and location).

On May 6, freshmen can meet coaches, players and booster members and ask questions.

### 'Meet the Coaches'

Canton High School's football program is hosting a mandatory "Meet the Coaches" meeting for incoming freshmen players and their parents at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 1, in the Canton North Building gymnasium. Players and parents are asked to arrive for

the meeting at 6 p.m.

Contact Julie Buchler at juliebuchler@icloud.com for more information.

### 'FootGolf'

Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center of Plymouth is proud to announce that it is the first and only golf course in Michigan that has partnered with the American FootGolf League.

FootGolf is a combination of the very popular sports of soccer and golf played on a golf course on shortened holes with 21-inch diameter cups. On Saturday, May 10, the team on the Strategic Fox Course, Fox Hills will host a FootGolf kick-off tournament open to the public.

The rules are similar to the rules of golf. FootGolf is a game that is played throughout the world in many different forms, but in the U.S. it is regulated by the Federation for International FootGolf.

Fox Hills is located at 8768 N. Territorial. To sign up for FootGolf,

visit [www.foxhills.com](http://www.foxhills.com).

## 'Super Jess' 5K run

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's National Honor Society will host its fourth annual "Super Jess" 5K run at 8 a.m. Sunday, May 4, on the high school campus.

The event was created in 2011 in honor of 16-year-old P-CEP student Jesse Lindlbauer, whose sinus infection turned into an abscess which ruptured, causing a traumatic brain injury.

This year, the race will support one present P-CEP student and one P-CCS alum: Salem senior Jericca Fitzgerald and Salem alum Amy Ladenberger.

Jericca Fitzgerald was diagnosed with hydrocephalus, a rare medical condition in which fluid builds up in the brain. Jericca has undergone more than 30 surgeries and countless nights in the hospital since she was diagnosed in 2009. She attended Smith Elementary and West Middle School.

Jerrica is now a senior at the Park and is excited to graduate this spring.

Amy Ladenberger is a 25-year-old Park graduate who attended Hoben Elementary and Discovery Middle School.

She was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis, a disease which causes thick, sticky mucus to build up in the lungs, digestive tract and other areas of the body, when she was 3 months old. Within the last year, Amy underwent a double lung transplant and many other surgeries prior to that.

Registration will continue until race day. Sign-up forms can be found on the SJSK Facebook page, P-CEP website or in Canton, Plymouth and Salem mail offices.

Event fees are \$25 for adults over 18 and \$20 for all others.

For questions about the race or volunteering, contact the student coordinator of this event, Shannon Perry, at [SJSKcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:SJSKcommunity@gmail.com).

## Summer camps

On tap this summer through Canton Leisure Services are basketball and baseball summer camps instructed by Canton coach Pat Watson.

The camps will emphasize drills and skills that cover offense, defense and defensive plays in game situations. Mornings will be spent on drills focused on improving fundamentals, while afternoons will be used for scrimmages. Participants should pack a sack lunch and a water bottle.

Basketball: There will be three weekly basketball camps at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway. Sessions (for ages 7-14) will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. as follows: Session 1, July 7-11; Session 2, July 21-25; Session 3, July 28 through Aug. 1. The fee is \$150 for residents and \$160 for non-residents.

Baseball: The baseball camp is slated to run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

July 14-18 at Canton Sports Center, 46355 W. Michigan Ave. Ages 7-14.

To register, visit [cantonfun.org](http://cantonfun.org), call Canton Sports Center at 734-483-5600 or visit either Canton Sports Center or Summit on the Park and inquire.

## Woods top netter

The weekly honors continue to roll in for the Davenport University women's tennis program as they grabbed their fifth WHAC Tennis Player of the Week nod in Angelica Woods.

Woods joins Alyssa Fuentes, Emily Spiech and Lutzkihus in being honored as the WHAC Women's Tennis Player of the Week after helping the Panthers defeat Aquinas and Spring Arbor.

Woods, who is 20-9 in singles matches this season, will lead her team into the NATA National Tournament qualifier this weekend as the WHAC will be paired with schools from Iowa



# Boston's Krug eyes series vs. Red Wings

Livonian helps anchor top-notch Bruins defense

By Brad Emmons  
Staff Writer

Although he just turned 23, these Stanley Cup playoffs won't be Torey Krug's first rodeo.

With 15 Stanley Cup games already under his belt dating back to last year's Game Six loss to Chicago in the Finals, the defenseman from Livonia now gets to face his childhood heroes, Detroit, when his Boston Bruins take on the Red Wings in their Eastern Conference first-round series. Game Four is at 8 p.m. Thursday at Joe Louis Arena.

Krug has parlayed a stellar 2013 playoff run with a solid first full NHL season.

In 79 games, Krug tallied 14 goals, including six on the power play, to go along with 26 assists and a plus 18 rating as the Bruins captured the President's Trophy for the best overall record in the league.

"The Wings came in as the eighth seed, but Krug knows Detroit is no ordinary eighth seed."

"For us we're not looking at it as a one against eight matchup," said Krug, who signed originally as a free agent out of Michigan State in March of 2012. "There's so much respect for both sides in the series that no one is taking each other lightly. They're a dangerous team because they've been there. They have a lot of guys that have had success in the past. They have that tradition in their locker room and know what it takes. It's moved on from year-to-year and they found a way to get into the playoffs this year and keep the tradition going."

Before the series began, many predicted the underdog Wings

could make things plenty interesting against the NHL's best regular season team. Detroit then went out and won the opener, 1-0.

## On the upset alert?

"They have a lot of speed," Krug said. "Their young guys are fast and they work hard. Their older guys are very smart and intelligent with the puck. They play great defense as well. Any time you have a guy like Jimmy Howard in your net, he can steal a game and two for you. That has the makings of a dangerous team in the playoffs."

Krug, who attended Churchill High before going to the USHL's Indy Ice for his senior year, would be the first to admit he grew up watching and cheering for his hometown Red Wings. And he kept a close eye on one player in particular.

"One of the guys I admired was (Pavel) Datsyuk," Krug said. "He's a wizard with the puck. I think there's not many weak points to his game and that's what makes him fun to watch. He's good with the puck, good without the puck."

Krug, who played 63 games in Providence before getting called up during last year's Stanley Cup playoffs, has settled in nicely with the Bruins' defensive corps.

"Coming into the season I had high expectations of myself," Krug said. "I think the coaching staff, my teammates did as well. One of the things I wanted to do was make sure I remain a special player and unique to my situations so that I gained a consistent position in the lineup. I think I did that with the power play."

Despite the Bruins sweeping both the Eastern Conference and Atlantic Division titles, Krug suffered the usual



Boston Bruins defenseman Torey Krug, a 23-year-old Livonia native, will face the Red Wings in the first round of the Stanley Cup playoffs. TOMMY GILLIGAN/USA TODAY SPORTS

ups and downs of an NHL player.

"I think the key was to make sure you manage those," he said. "I watched Zdeno Chara and Patrice Bergeron. They made sure that when you are playing well, and when they have their ups, that they're not too high. When they're struggling, and they're not playing as well, they don't get too down on themselves. They try to remain consistent and I think that's important for me personally."

And when the Winter Olympic break came in February, Krug had mixed emotions. He listed as 5-foot-9, 181 pounds, has spent his entire hockey career erasing the stereotypes that he was too small to play in the NHL.

"I was playing real well individually before the break," said Krug, who spent a portion of the period vacationing in Cancun with his wife Melanie. "That's my favorite movie to play hockey. If you look at my past three seasons I've had successful Februaries. I was sad to see it come, but at the same time it was very nice because you got to walk away from the game a

little bit."

## Back to work

Following the Olympics, the Bruins didn't miss a beat and finished 54-19-9 while winning home ice advantage throughout the playoffs.

A lot of team's success was due in part to a young defensive corps of players that includes Kevin Miller, Dougie Hamilton, Matt Bartkowski and Krug.

They have filled the void admirably after key defenseman Dennis Seidenberg exited the lineup in late December with a season-ending injury. Krug, listed as 5-foot-9, 181 pounds, has spent his entire hockey career erasing the stereotypes that he was too small to play in the NHL.

He's the only Bruins defenseman listed under 6 feet and dwarfs in comparison to the league's tallest blue-liner, 6-foot-9 teammate Chara.

"It's a question I'm always asked and I answer, 'I don't know anything else other than I've always been small,'"

Krug said. "It's not like at one time I was big and all the sudden I'm small and I need to adapt. I've just had to survive. It's definitely a driving force when people say you're too small to play and too small to move onto the next level. Or you're only on the team because you're dad is the coach."

Those are some of the influences that push you forward and provides in the back of your mind motivation. Each year it seems I've had to prove someone else wrong."

During the regular season, Krug played twice at Joe Louis Arena against the Wings and he'll be back again for Games Three and Four, and possibly a Game Six.

Krug, however, will be in lock-down mode for the playoffs. He said Twitter account will go silent.

"It's the time of year you want to make sure there's no distractions and focus on what you can," he said. "I got out of the way earlier in the season. We've been there twice and got to see

a lot of family members afterwards, and a lot of friends as well."

"This time around it's all business. Not going to be meeting with as many people. I'll still talk to my parents, but that's about it. I'm going to try and keep everything away and focus on our job."

## Tough times

Krug, however, remembers the aftermath of last year's Boston Marathon bombings that rocked the city.

"I was playing in Providence at that time," he said. "The playoffs got started and I hadn't got called up. My parents were actually in town for the weekend. On that day my parents came up to Boston. We had lunch in the city. I dropped my parents off and as soon I dropped them off, I'm driving away and see all these police cars and ambulances driving up and down the highway. A lot of traffic. I started freaking out."

"I was trying to get in touch with them and I couldn't because the cell towers were blocked and no one could get a hold of each other. That was scary."

Things eventually returned to normal, even though painful memories have lingered through the one-year anniversary.

But at least for a few weeks, the Bruins helped prop the Boston area up on its feet, going all the way to the finals before losing a heart-breaking Game Six to the Blackhawks, 3-2, to end the season.

"There's a lot of things this city has had to deal with over the past couple of years, but they're pretty tough," Krug said.

With another crack at the Stanley Cup and expectations high, Krug hopes to become another who is Boston Strong.

bemmons@hometownlife.com

## Cover Contest

You've Got the (Christmas) Look We Want!

Here is your chance to be on the cover of O&E Media's "Christmas in July" special section. Adults, children and families are welcome to participate.

### GRAND PRIZE:

- Cover of "Christmas in July"
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### HOW TO ENTER:

In person at the Spring Expo Tuesday, April 29 at Schoolcraft College. Come dressed in your best or goofiest Christmas attire. Photos will be taken between 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

### JUDGING:

The winner will be selected using a combination of readers' voting on facebook.com/OEHometown beginning May 2 and staff picks.



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## BOYS TRACK AND FIELD

### Chiefs show signs of breaking loose

Many excel at city meet despite team's 3rd-place finish

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Despite finishing third at last Thursday's city track and field meet, Canton varsity boys coach Jess Shough is optimistic that the Chiefs can step it up following spring break.

Canton tallied 51 points, just 1.5 points behind Plymouth — who Shough said his team "led all the way until the end." Victorious was Salem, with 71.5 points. "I was pleased with our effort and (there was) much improvement in many areas, including our freshmen who scored two of our three

first places," said Shough, citing Jermal Vaunado in the 110 hurdles and Brennon Pelland in the 300 hurdles.

Also outstanding for the Chiefs were senior pole vaulters Kyle Zander, Grant Mast and junior Teddy Lang who placed 1-2-3, respectively.

Shough added that the team scored in all but three events (long jump, shot put and 1,600-meter relay) and "we should have scored in the shot put except for a foul on the last throw by Shawn Deese. Our other field events did well with Collin Caffrey finishing second in the discus and Brett Lee finishing second in the high jump."

Canton's other standouts included sprinters Alan Jones and Jacob Mallard (2-3 in the 200

dash), distance runner Ammar Chisti (second in the mile; third in the two-mile), hurdler Bryan Eastman (third in the 100 hurdles; fourth in the 300 hurdles), Isaac Penick (fourth in the 400) and Peter Bruchnak (fourth in the 800).

Shough noted the second-place finishes by the 4-x-100 and 4-x-100 relays. "The relays will get better as we improve our exchangers."

After returning from spring break Monday, the Chiefs will face plenty of competition in a short time frame.

"We have a tight schedule following the spring break with four meets that week," Shough said. "So we have to get a lot of good preparation before the break."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

## ROUNDUP

Continued from Page B3

in an Unaffiliated group.

### Think spring golf

PGA teaching professional Tami Beal is offering a series of spring golf classes and events at Hickory Creek Golf Course, 3525 Napier Road, Superior Township.

Two open houses, which feature free golf games for the whole family, will be 1-4 p.m. Saturday, April 26, and Sunday, May 18, at Hickory Creek.

Among the first sessions for adults include: Get Golf Ready — 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 7; Senior Casual Golfer — 10 a.m. Tuesday, May 6; Senior New Golfer — 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 6; Ladies clinics, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 6.

Among the first sessions for youths include: Junior (ages 8-17) — 5

p.m. Thursday, May 8; Little Linkers (ages 5-8) — 11 a.m. Saturday, May 3.

Adult drop-in clinics are also available in the Golf Enhancement sessions — 6:45-8 p.m. each Monday (locations and times subject to change by season); and Golf Conditioning — 10:30-11:30 a.m. each Saturday (January through November) at Hickory Creek.

To register for free classes, visit Beal's Facebook page at Trainwith-TamiGolf.com.

For more information, email TrainwithTami@gmail.com or call 734-731-0238.

### MU cross country

Madonia University will stage its summer cross country base camps for serious high school runners from 8:45-9:45 a.m. July 28 through Aug. 1. The cost is \$75.

MU will also hold long runs from 7:30-9 a.m.

Saturday, July 12, July 19, July 26 and Aug. 2, at Cass Benton Park. The cost is a \$2 donation for each long run.

For more information, email Madonia cross country coach Pat Daugherty at pdaugherty@madonia.edu.

Daugherty can also be reached during the evenings at 734-658-0226 (cell) or 734-432-5634 (office).

### Motor City Hoops

The MetroPCS Motor City Hoops Classic, a new 3-on-3 basketball tournament, will be Saturday and Sunday, June 7-8, on the Detroit Riverfront.

The Classic will have divisions for all ages and skill levels with both men's and women's teams invited.

Team registration is under way with the deadline Friday, May 23.

To register or for more information, visit motorcityhoopsclassic.com.



## RELIGION CALENDAR

## APRIL

## FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY

**Time/Date:** 8 a.m., 10 a.m., noon and 3 p.m. April 27

**Location:** Our Lady of Good Counsel Roman Catholic Church, 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth

**Contact:** 734-453-0326; www.olgcparrish.net

## POMEGRANATE GUILD

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. Sunday, April 27

**Location:** In the community room at Prents Apartments, located on 10 Mile east of Greenfield in Oak Park

**Details:** Judy Galperin will lead a Swedish weaving (hand embroidery) workshop. Attendees will be in creating bookmarks, place mats and challah covers. The group also will prepare for its dinner on May 13 at the Farmington Festival of the Arts, "Grow with the Arts."

**Contact:** Judy Galperin at 248-661-5337

## RECOLLECTION DAY

**Time/Date:** Registration at 8:30 a.m., Mass 9 a.m., Saturday, April 26

**Location:** St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, located at West Chicago and Inkster roads, Redford

**Details:** The Rev. Ben Luedke will lead participants through a day of prayer. The program, which runs until 3 p.m., is sponsored by the Association of Christian Therapists. Cost is \$5. Participants may bring a sack lunch. Coffee and snacks will be provided

**Contact:** Antoinette McDermott at 313-255-9676 or email Kris at fuzs@comcast.net

## TRIVIA NIGHT

**Time/Date:** Doors open 6 p.m., game begins 7 p.m., Saturday, April 26

**Location:** St. Simon and Jude Catholic Church, 32500 Palmer, Westland

**Details:** Cost is \$20 per team of four individuals and popcorn, 10 kinds of questions, popcorn, six hot dogs and six chips per team. No registrations at the door; www.stsimonandjude.com/trivia.html

**Contact:** Kathy Hansen at 734-716-4436; stsimonandjude@gmail.com

## YOM HASHOAH

**Time/Date:** 5 p.m. Sunday, April 27

**Location:** The Berman Center for the Performing Arts, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

**Details:** In recognition of Yom HaShoah - Holocaust Memorial Day - the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit will host a service at 5 p.m. Requiem, a film featuring 150 chorale voices singing in a capella cantata composed by Cantor Daniel Gross of Adat Shalom Synagogue in Farmington Hills. The film version was recorded last year at the Orchestra Hall in Detroit

**Contact:** jcdet.org

## MAY

## ANTIQUE APPRAISAL

**Time/Date:** Noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 4

**Location:** Commerce United Methodist Church, 1155 Commerce Road, Commerce Township

**Details:** \$5 donation for each item appraised; silent auction and lunch items available. Proceeds go toward restoration of 1841 chapel

**Contact:** Linda Komatowski at 248-305-3191

## COMMON GROUND

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Friday, May 2

**Location:** Connection Church, 3855 S. Sheldon Road, Canton

**Details:** Kids' night out with a God focus for women and girls, 13 and over. Includes teaching, outreach for homeless veterans, giveaways and party. Lifesavers, Rice Krispies Bars, packaged plastic utensils, Ritz snack mix, and easy-open cans of fish or meat will be collected at the event

**Contact:** 734-397-1777, Ext. 111; tam@connectionchurch.info

## RUMMAGE ITEMS NEEDED

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. May 12-14

**Location:** Antioch Lutheran Church, 33360 W. 13 Mile, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Items are needed for the church's rummage sale. Leave donations in the church hallway. Donation receipts will be on a table near the back door

**Contact:** Judy Glas at 248-626-7906; antiochcafb@globalnet.net

## RUMMAGE SALE

**Time/Date:** 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 1, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, May 2, 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 3

**Location:** Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, between Newburg and Wayne Road, Livonia

**Details:** \$2 admission per adult Thursday only; free admission Friday and Saturday. Saturday half-price sale

**Contact:** 734-422-0149

## SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE, ROUND-UP

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to noon and 1-2:30 p.m. Monday, May 19; kindergarten, Young 5's and preschool roundups, 1-2:30 p.m. Friday, May 9

**Location:** St. Genevieve Catholic School, 28933 Jackson, Livonia

**Details:** Preschool through eighth grade. School tour available

**Contact:** 734-425-4420

## ONGOING

## CLASSES/STUDY

**Men's Bible study**

**Time/Date:** Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.

**Location:** Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Hagerty, Northville Township

**Contact:** John Shulenberger at 734-654-9491

**Our Lady of Loreto**

**Time/Date:** 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

**Location:** Six Mile and Beech Day, Redford Township

**Details:** Scripture study

**Contact:** 313-534-9000

**St. Michael the Archangel**

**Time/Date:** 7:30-8 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday

**Location:** School library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road

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

**Contact:** 734-261-1455, Ext. 200, or www.livoniamichael.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 Shawawsee, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Free meal

**Contact:** 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

## MOMS

**Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**

**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May

**Location:** 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

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

**Contact:** Ethnie Defoe at 248-227-6017 and Judy Flescar at 734-658-2463

## Dunning Park Bible Chapel

**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Thursdays

**Location:** 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

**Details:** MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope

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

## PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

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

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

**Details:** All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service

**Contact:** 313-563-0162

## PRAYER

**Nardin Park United Methodist Church**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesday

**Location:** 29887 W. 13 Mile, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Participants in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests

**Contact:** 248-476-8860

## St. Edith Church

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday

**Location:** 15089 Newburg, Livonia. Enter through the back

**Details:** Music, singing, prayer

**Contact:** Grace at 734-464-1896, Shirley at 734-464-3956 or Geri at 734-464-8906

**St. Michael Lutheran Church**

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

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

**Location:** 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

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

**Contact:** 734-459-3333 for additional information

## SINGLES

**Detroit World Outreach**

**Time/Date:** 4-6 p.m. Sunday

**Location:** 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 304

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

**Contact:** The facilitator at 313-283-8200; info@dwdo.org

**First Presbyterian Church**

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

**Location:** 200 E. Main St., Northville

**Details:** Single Place Ministry; cost is \$5

**Contact:** 248-349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org for additional information

**Steve's Family Restaurant**

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday

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

**Details:** Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet and offer support

**Contact:** 313-534-0399

## Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

**Time/Date:** 11 a.m. Sunday

**Location:** 40000 Six Mile, Northville

**Details:** Single Point Ministries, for 30 and up, offers fellowship, coffee, doughnuts, conversation. Cost: 248-374-5920

## SONG CIRCLE

**Congregation Beth Ahm**

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

**Location:** 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

**Details:** Sing zemirot (Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in translation as well as the original Hebrew

**Contact:** 248-737-1931 or email nancyellen879@aatt.net

## SUPPORT

**Apostolic Christian Church**

**Time/Date:** 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily

**Location:** 29667 Wentworth, Livonia

**Details:** Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AARP, I-C Older Americans Act

**Contact:** 734-261-9001; www.woodhaven-retirement.com

**Detroit World Outreach**

**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday

**Location:** 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 202

**Details:** Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling

**Contact:** 248-555-2222, Ext. 244

## Farrington Hills Baptist Church

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August

**Location:** 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills

**Details:** Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

**Contact:** 248-433-1011

## Merriman Road Baptist Church

**Time/Date:** 1:30 p.m. second and fourth Thursday

**Location:** 2055 Merriman, Grosse Pointe

**Details:** Metro Fibromyalgia support group meets; donations accepted; or call Ruthann with questions at 734-987-2519

## Riverside Park Church of God

**Time/Date:** 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

**Location:** 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

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

**Contact:** 734-367-4220 or 734-464-0590; www.riversideparkchurch.org; or email to rpdm@riversideparkchurch.org

## St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays

**Location:** 16360 Hubbard, Livonia

**Details:** A weekly drop-in Food cupboard (nonperishable items) is available

**Contact:** 734-421-8451

**St. John Neumann**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesdays

**Location:** 44800 Warren Road, Canton

**Details:** Overaters Anonymous meets

**Contact:** Mary at 734-634-7154 or Jennifer at 734-812-6077 for additional information

## St. Thomas a Becket Church

**Time/Date:** Weigh in is 6:15-6:55 p.m.; support group meeting starts at 7 p.m. Thursday

**Location:** 555 S. Lilley, Canton

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

**Contact:** Margaret at 734-838-0322 for additional information

## St. Thomas a Becket Church

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday

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

**Details:** Overaters Anonymous

**Contact:** 248-559-7722; www.oa.org for additional information

## Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

**Time/Date:** 5 p.m. dinner (optional); 7 p.m. worship; 8 p.m. small group discussion; 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee/desserts)

**Location:** 40000 Six Mile, Northville Township

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

**Contact:** 313-579-2100, Ext. 149; www.solariscenter.org

## Passages

View Online: www.hometownlife.com

Call to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oceb@hometownlife.com

**Deadlines:** Friday, 4:15 p.m. for Sunday paper

Wednesday, 9:45 a.m. for Thursday paper

**ELWELL, JR. CHARLES W. "BILL"**

Age 69, of Livonia, formerly of Northville, April 18, 2014.

**Details:** Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

**Contact:** 248-433-1011

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# Local choirs pay tribute to Gershwin, Broadway, Hollywood, the heavens

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Bid in a silent auction and hear a mix of contemporary and classical tunes Sunday, April 27, in Bloomfield Hills.

Celebrate the sun, moon and stars with celestial songs next weekend in Livonia.

And give a nod to Gershwin the week after that in Garden City.

Local choruses, chorales and choirs are wrapping up their seasons with annual spring concerts over the next month with a wide variety of music and themes.

"We do a show, not just a concert," said Shelly Addison, manager of the Farmington Community Chorus. "We'll have dancers from the chorus dance and small acts, from solos to quartets. We have one guy doing a comedy song. We try to put on almost like a variety show."

The group of approximately 60 singers, accompanied by drums, piano, saxophone, clarinet and flute, will pay tribute to the music of George Gershwin at 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 9-10, at Garden City High School, located on Middlebelt between Ford and Warren roads. Tickets are \$12 in advance from chorus members and at farmingtonchorus.com; and \$15 at the door.

The chorus will give listeners a taste of their upcoming concert from 2-2:30 at the Festival of the Arts, Saturday, May 3, at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. It also will sing some Gershwin tunes during its appearance Aug. 28 in Heritage Park, as a part of the annual Stars in the Park summer music series.

"Everything on this show is a Gershwin tune," said Ginny Lundquist, soprano, and a chorus co-founder. "We memorize old music, so we're not holding pieces of music up between us and the audience. It helps us make a connection with them."



Farmington Community Chorus will perform music by Gershwin May 9-10 at Garden City High School.

Lundquist joined the group when it was called the Kendallarks, after the neighborhood, Kendallwood, where its members, "basically wives of Ford executives," lived. Lundquist said the all-women choir added men to its ranks, changed its name and became a city parks and recreation-sponsored activity in 1980. She said the chorus is beginning to plan for its 35th anniversary next year.

## Challenging music

The Madrigal Choral, which rehearses at Adat Shalom Synagogue in Farmington Hills, also got its start as an all-women choir. It originally was called the Madrigal City of Detroit when it was founded in 1914. Its members joined with singers from the all-male Orpheus Club to form the Mad-

rigal Choral of Southfield in 1980. The new group, which later shortened its name, broadened its repertoire to include jazz, popular, spiritual and ethnic songs, in addition to classical music.

"We are a semi-professional choir. The music is challenging," said Mary Simmons, vice president of development. "The year I joined, I got all this music and the first thing they went over was Verdi's *Requiem*. I thought, oh, dear, what have I done?"

Simmons, a Farmington resident, stuck it out and now looks forward to both rehearsals and concerts. "It feeds my soul. I get home Tuesday nights (after practice) and I'm physically exhausted, but it feels so good."

## Fundraiser concert

Simmons and other members of the 10-voice choir will sing a variety of "favorite songs" including *Shenandoah*, *Ching-a-Ring Chaw* by Aaron Copland and *Easter Hymn* by Pietro Mascagni, at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 27, at the Academy of the Sacred Heart, 1250 Kensington, Bloomfield Hills. The Academy of the Sacred Heart Upper School Concert Choir and Middle School for Girls Advanced Choir, will be the guest singers. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for students and seniors and \$40 for a family of two adults and two children, 18 and under. They cost \$2 more in all price categories if purchased at the door. Buy them in advance at mcs.net/notes.org or by calling 734-804-

1377.

The performance will include a silent auction to raise money for scholarships. Here's a sampling of other local choirs with upcoming concerts:

» **Livonia Civic Chorus:** "Touch the Sky," 3 p.m. Sunday, May 4, at Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, between Seven Mile and Eight Mile, Livonia. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for seniors and students, available from chorus members, at the Livonia Recreation Center or by calling 734-542-9071. Tickets at the door are \$15.

"We'll sing songs about stars, sun, moon and wind," said Peggy Gaskill, president. Selections include *Aquarius*, *Good Morning Star Shine*, *When You Wish Upon a Star*, *Fly Me to the Moon*, *It's Raining Men* and more.

» **Harmony Town Chorus:** "Barbershop Showstoppers," with special guest quartet, Bucket List, 3 p.m. Sunday, May 4, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. The show will include musical hits from Hollywood. Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$14 for youth. Call 734-394-5460 or visit cantonvillage-theater.org.

» **Plymouth Oratorio Society:** 4 p.m. Sunday, May 4, First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth. The concert will consist of *Te Deum* by Antonin Dvorak and *St. Nicholas* by Benjamin Britten. The Michigan Sinfonietta Orchestra and soloist Mary Ann Balfour also will perform. A free will offering will be taken. For information, call 734-455-8353 or visit: plymouthoratoriosociety.org.

» **Cherry Hill Singers:** "It's a Grand Night For Singing," includes Broadway classics, 7:30 p.m. May 2, at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. Tickets are \$12. Call 888-459-4887 or visit beckridgecherryhill.org.

## GET OUT! CALENDAR

by airbrush master Tom Theives  
Contact: 248-344-0497; http://www.northvillearts.org

### PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. Friday, April 25  
**Location:** 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth  
**Details:** An open life-drawing event for artists with costumed professional model and an Arabian Nights theme, is open to all ages, although children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult. Bring your own art supplies. \$10 at the door includes refreshments  
Contact: 734-416-4278 or email lsap@plymoutharts.com

### VILLAGE THEATER

**Time/Date:** Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday and during public performances; artist reception, 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 29  
**Location:** 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton  
**Details:** Glass orbs and columns created by Paul Starkard and photography by Ron Farina, Bernie Meyers, Dave Chlemelevski and Dennis Krukowicz; lunch buffet and panel discussion by the artists will be held at noon, Wednesday, April 30. Tickets are \$15, available at cantonvillage-theater.org  
Contact: 734-394-5300

### COMEDY

#### EMERGENT ARTS

**Time/Date:** Open mic, 8 p.m. Sunday, April 27, following 5 p.m. "Comedy Dojo" class  
**Location:** The Mix Studio Theater, 8 N. Washington St., Ypsilanti  
**Details:** Chilli Chillis, national headliner comedian and former staff writer for *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno*, coaches new and experienced comics in the nuances of their craft during his Comedy Dojo. Mark Sweetman emceeds the open mic. \$5 suggested donation at the door. For more about the fee-based classes, visit ChilliChillis.com  
Contact: 734-985-0875

### DANCE MUSIC HALL

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Saturday, May 3  
**Location:** 350 Madison, Detroit  
**Details:** Moscow Festival Ballet performs Giselle. Tickets range from \$30-\$50  
Contact: 313-887-8501

### FILM

#### PENN THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday, April 24 and May 1, Friday, April 25; and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, April 26-27  
**Location:** 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth  
**Details:** *The Lego Movie*, admission \$3  
Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penn-theatre.com

### REDFORD THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Friday, April 25, and 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, April 26  
**Location:** 17360 Lahser, north of Grand River Avenue, Detroit  
**Details:** *Three Stooges Film Festival*, \$6  
Contact: 313-537-2560

### MUSEUM

#### PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

**Time/Date:** 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday, through June 8  
**Location:** 155 S. Main, Plymouth  
**Details:** Vintage Runway exhibit features men's and women's clothing fashions from 1820s-1970s; admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for ages 6-17  
Contact: 734-455-8940

### MUSIC

#### BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

**Time/Date:** Open mic sign up, 6:15-6:45 p.m.; performances 7-9 p.m., April 26  
**Location:** The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth  
**Details:** Open mic musicians may perform two songs, original or cover. Featured performer is "Soundcheck" consisting of Frieda Dickinson, Carol Sissen, John Craven and Steve Heavrin. Jessica Carmichael hosts. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Annual memberships are \$25 for individuals and include free admission  
Contact: Scott Ludwig at BSFPresident@aol.com for additional information

### JAZZ@THE ELKS

**Time/Date:** 7-10 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month  
**Location:** Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth  
**Details:** On April 29, Johnny Trudell Quartet will play jazz favorites. \$10 donation at the door includes hors d'oeuvres  
Contact: 734-453-1780 or email plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

### MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

See GET OUT, Page B7

### ANIMALS DETROIT ZOO

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Labor Day, with closing time at 6 p.m. Wednesdays in July and August  
**Location:** 1696 Service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak  
**Details:** Admission is \$14 for adults 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens 62 and older, and for children ages 2-18, children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking  
**Senior Day:** Seniors, 62 and older, and a caregiver admitted free from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 30. Features live music, tractor train tours, bingo and senior resource area  
**Greenfest:** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, April 26-27, featuring earth-friendly crafts, endangered species and green scavenger hunt, rock climbing wall, family yoga classes, animal enrichment, exhibits by local conservation groups and entertainment by Joe Reilly and the Community Gardeners. All activities are free with zoo admission. Anyone who brings a wine cork, rinsed Capri Sun pouch, empty chip bag or cell phone for recycling or is carrying a refillable water bottle, will receive a reduced admission price of \$8  
Contact: 248-541-5717

### ART & CRAFTS

#### JANICE CHARACH GALLERY

**Time/Date:** Noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, May 12 through May 26  
**Location:** Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield  
**Details:** The works of Abraham Loewenthal are on exhibit. Loewenthal's paintings incorporate themes of Kabbalah, holidays and prayer with contemporary details  
Contact: 248-432-5448

### LIVONIA ARTISTS CLUB

**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, May 2-30  
**Location:** Livonia City Hall lobby, located on Five Mile, east of Farmington Road, Livonia  
**Details:** The club, which was founded in 1960, will hold its 54th annual Exhibit Contact: Yvette Goldberg at 248-476-2313

### NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

**Time/Date:** Gallery hours, 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through April 26  
**Location:** 215 W. Cady, Northville  
**Details:** "Detritus," an exhibit of works



Aaron York (left, standing), Pam Gunderson, Randall Birk, Rachel Kain (left, seated) and Catherine Ray will sing songs from Rodgers and Hammerstein musicals, May 2-4 at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, in Livonia.

## Paul's Players sing Rodgers and Hammerstein

Paul's Players presents "Some Enchanted Evening," a musical revue of songs from Rodgers and Hammerstein shows, 7:30 p.m. May 2-3 and 2 p.m. May 4, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia.

Songs will include *Surrey With the Fringe on Top*, *A Grand Night for Singing*, *There Ain't Nothing Like a Dame*, *Do I Love You, Oklahoma*, *Bali Hai* and others. Tickets are \$12 for

adults, and \$10 for seniors and students. To reserve tickets, call 248-347-4134, or email paul-players@gmail.com. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Cast members are Pam Gunderson of Redford, and Randall Birk, Rachel Kain, Sue Krekelor, Catherine Rayes, and Aaron York, all of Livonia. Patricia Hutchison directs this performance, with Sandra Main-Niemi as pianist.

## Concert benefits Trinity House



Folk duo, Lac La Belle, will perform along with the Motor City Troubadours, 8 p.m. Friday, May 2, at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia. Tickets are \$15, \$12 for Trinity House Theatre subscribers. Proceeds will benefit Trinity House, a nonprofit venue that presents music and theater in Livonia. [www.trinityhousetheatre.org](http://www.trinityhousetheatre.org).

Check us out on the Web every day at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

## GET OUT

Continued from Page B6

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 3  
**Location:** Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 40500 Cherry Hill Road, Canton  
**Details:** Performance features Andre Myers, composer and narrator; tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors, and \$5 for youth  
**Contact:** 734-451-2112; [michiganph.org](mailto:michiganph.org)

### SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Friday, April 25  
**Location:** VistaTech Center on the main campus, located on Haggerty between Six Mile and Seven Mile in Livonia  
**Details:** Percussion Group Cincinnati; admission is \$20 for adults, \$10 for students  
**Contact:** 734-462-4403; [www.schoolcraft.edu/music](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/music)

### TUESDAY MUSICALS OF DETROIT

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 25  
**Location:** Max Fisher Music Center (Orchestra Hall), 3711 Woodward, Detroit  
**Details:** The concert features Bill Bastress, trumpet; Mark Watson, bass-baritone, and Dzhou Zhao, piano, playing music by Handel, Liszt, Balakirev and a new composition by David DiChiera, founder and director of the Michigan Opera Theatre. Admission is \$35 and includes and afterglow  
**Contact:** 313-520-8663; [TuesdayMusicalsOfDetroit.org](http://TuesdayMusicalsOfDetroit.org)

### TRINITY HOUSE

**Time/Date:** Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.



The Moscow Festival Ballet will perform *Giselle* May 3 at Music Hall in downtown Detroit.

### Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

**Details:** Erin Zindie, April 25; Michigan Fingertyle Guitar Society presents Muriel Anderson, April 26; Gurf Morlix, April 27; open mic, April 29; Rod Picott, May 3; Empty Chair Night featuring Annie and Rod Capps, Joel Palmer, and Dan Hazlett, May 4; open mic, May 6; Bill Bynum and Company, May 9; Four Block Empire with Cold Tone Harvest, May 10; The Choir, May 11. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted.  
**Benefit concert:** Features Lac La Belle and the Motor City Troubadours, 8 p.m. Friday, May 2, at Trinity Church of Livonia, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia. Tickets are \$15, \$12 for subscribers. Proceeds benefit the theater  
**Contact:** 734-464-6302

### VIVACE MUSIC SERIES

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Saturday, May 10  
**Location:** Birmingham Temple, 28611 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Paul Vondoliano, a classic guitarist, will play works of the Baroque era, including

the music of Bach and Ponce. Tickets are \$23 general admission, \$20 for seniors and students  
**Contact:** Joyce Chereah at 248-788-9338 or Ann Sipher at 248-661-1348

### THEATER

#### BAREFOOT PRODUCTIONS

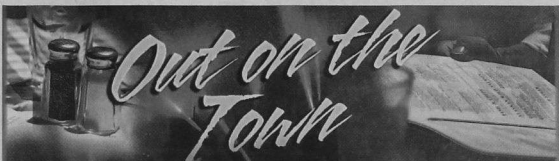
**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. April 25-26 and May 2-3; 2 p.m. April 27 and May 4; afterglow follows the performance on April 26  
**Location:** 240 N. Main, Plymouth  
**Details:** *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*, is a raunchy comedy about five reluctant bridesmaids at the wedding reception of a mutual friend. Each has her own reason to avoid the party, and they come together to share jokes, tears, and revelations. Open to age 18 and over. Tickets on April 26 are \$20 and include the afterglow; all other performances are \$15  
**Contact:** 734-500-1493; [justgobarefoot.com](http://justgobarefoot.com)

### FARMINGTON HILLS YOUTH THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Friday, April 25 and Saturday, May 3; 2 p.m. Saturday - Sunday, April 26-27 and 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, May 4  
**Location:** Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** *Disney Camp Rock* The Musical features 130 cast members, ages 6-adult. The musical tells the story of youngsters who show up for another great summer at camp, but discover that a newer, flashier camp in town threatens the existence of their beloved Camp Rock. Tickets are \$10; children, 3 and under, are free  
**Contact:** 248-473-1848; at [https://fhty.org](http://https://fhty.org)

### MOTOR CITY YOUTH THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. April 25-26 and May 2-3, and 2 p.m. April 27 and May 4  
**Location:** 27555 Grantland, Livonia  
**Details:** *Peter Pan*. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors  
**Contact:** 313-535-8962; [mcy-t.org](http://mcy-t.org)



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## SWEET 'N SAVORY TERIYAKI KABOBS

Makes 4 to 6 servings

- $\frac{1}{2}$  pound boneless, skinless chicken breast, cut into 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ - to 2-inch cubes
- 18 medium shrimp, shelled and deveined ( $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  pound)
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup olive oil
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup prepared mango chutney, chopped if coarse
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup bottled teriyaki sauce
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 19 large bamboo or metal skewers (about 12 inches long)
- 1 medium yellow onion, cut into  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch wedges
- 1 medium red onion, cut into  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch wedges
- 2 firm, ripe mangos, peeled, pitted and cut into large cubes
- 1 large green bell pepper, halved, trimmed, seeded and cubed
- Nonstick cooking spray, as needed
- Ginger Mango Dipping Sauce (recipe follows)

Place chicken and shrimp in shallow glass pan or large re-sealable plastic bag. For marinade, combine oil, chutney, teriyaki sauce and vinegar in small bowl with lid. Pour half of marinade mixture over chicken and shrimp. Cover or seal and marinate in refrigerator at least 3 hours, preferably overnight. Cover and refrigerate remaining marinade for basting. If using bamboo skewers, soak in water at least 1 hour before using. To prepare kabobs: Drain and discard marinade from meat. Thread chicken, yellow and red onion, mango, green pepper and shrimp alternately onto skewers. Be sure to keep enough room at one end of each skewer for a "handle." Coat grill grate with nonstick cooking spray. Place skewers over medium coals, and grill for 12 to 15 minutes or until meat is done and vegetables are tender. Brush often with reserved marinade and turn skewers until cooked through. If needed, use spatula to gently loosen skewers before turning as they may stick.

Arrange skewers on a platter and serve with Ginger Mango Dipping Sauce.

Alternate preparations: Omit shrimp and use 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  pounds boneless, skinless chicken breast, cutting into 36 cubes and using 2 per skewer. Instead of grilling, place kabobs in broiler pan coated with nonstick cooking spray and broil 3 inches from heat about 10 to 15 minutes or until done, basting and turning as needed.



# MAKE DINNER SIZZLE WITH GRILLED KABOBS

Kabobs are a simple way to enjoy many of your favorite fresh flavors in a single meal. With their easy preparation and quick cooking time, kabobs make a perfect weeknight meal when served over rice along with a crisp salad.

The potential combinations of meat, vegetables and fruit on a kabob are nearly endless. Spring/summer varieties of onions are especially well-suited for kabobs. Their flavor ranges from sweet and mild to slightly pungent. Easily identifiable by their tissue thin skin, spring/summer onions are higher in water content, which gives them a tender crisp texture when grilled.

### Kitchen tips

For the best results, follow these tips from the National Onion Association:

1. Chill onions at least 30 minutes before cutting, and use a sharp knife to reduce tearing.
2. Soak onions in ice water overnight to dampen their flavor, yet keep their crisp, juicy texture.
3. Cut onions can be refrigerated up to 7 days in sealed containers.

Before you begin experimenting with kabob combinations of your own, try this deliciously simple recipe, which melds chicken and shrimp with two colors of onion, bell pepper and mango for a sweet and savory main dish. Remember to cut ingredients into uniform pieces and leave space between each piece to ensure your kabobs cook evenly and thoroughly.

Add a tasty side salad and dessert for a complete meal.

Find additional recipes at [www.onions-usa.org](http://www.onions-usa.org).

Courtesy of Family Features

## GINGER MANGO DIPPING SAUCE

Makes about 1 cup

- 1 mango, halved, pitted and scooped out of skin (about 1 cup)
  - $\frac{1}{4}$  cup frozen orange juice concentrate
  - 2 teaspoons grated fresh ginger root (or  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon ground ginger)
- Combine ingredients in electric blender and puree until smooth.

## AVOCADO CITRUS SALAD WITH MARINATED ONION

Makes 4-6 servings

### Marinated Onions (recipe below)

- 2 oranges
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup olive oil
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup rice vinegar or white wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 avocado, halved, pitted and skin removed
- 1 grapefruit, peeled and sliced, seeds removed
- Endive and/or small romaine lettuce spears

Marinated Onions: Peel and thinly slice 1 medium red onion. Combine  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup rice vinegar,  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup honey, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup water in jar with tight lid; shake until well blended. Add onions to the jar. Shake jar to coat onions in liquid, then refrigerate overnight or for at least 6 hours. If necessary, shake the jar 2-3 times during the 6 hours to be sure the onions marinate evenly.

Grate 2 teaspoons of orange peel. Combine orange peel, oil, vinegar, and honey in a small jar with a lid. Pare and slice orange; remove seeds. Slice avocado.

For each serving, arrange endive and/or romaine leaves in a spoke-fashion on individual plates. Portion oranges, avocado and grapefruit pieces onto the center spokes of endive and/or romaine. Lift Marinated Onions from liquid with a fork and transfer to the top of each salad. Drizzle with dressing before serving.



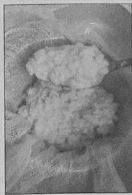
## ANNUAL FAVORITE

# MAKE A SPRING EGG CHEESE

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer



Beat 24 eggs and combine with  $\frac{1}{2}$  quarts of whole milk. Place in a pot over a pan containing approximately one inch of water on medium heat. Stir constantly, scraping the bottom of the pot occasionally.



Cut several pieces of cheesecloth and place over a strainer, making sure the ends of the cloth extend beyond the strainer. Place the strainer over a bowl or large plate. When the liquid mixture has congealed into the consistency of loose scrambled egg, spoon it into the cloth. Excess liquid will pass through the cloth into the dish or bowl below.



Pull the ends of the cheesecloth together, allowing the congealed mixture to form a ball. Wear clean, heavy rubber gloves to squeeze excess liquid from the hot cheese ball. Tie the ends of the cloth together with string.



Hang the cheese ball over a bowl to catch excess liquid. Cut it down when dry — or after it has hung overnight. Remove the cheesecloth. Rub butter or margarine over the cheese. Place in an overproof pan and place in a 325-350 oven for 10 minutes. Cool. Slice. Goes well with beets or beet relish. Store in the refrigerator.

I crave egg cheese once a year. That's as much as my heart and arteries will allow — just once annually. Made with two dozen eggs and whole milk, it's one of my family's favorite springtime traditions. It has its roots in Eastern Europe and is a "must make" at or just after Easter.

The recipe, passed down from grandmother to mother to daughters, makes enough for two cheese balls, which last at least a week when sliced thin and paired with beets or beet relish.

If you want to give it a try you'll need a pot, strainer, cheesecloth, string, double boiler or a pan deep enough to hold an inch of water along with the cooking pot. Ingredients consist of the eggs, whole milk and a little butter.

Follow the photos for step-by-step directions. If you have a favorite food or family specialty that you'd like to share with readers, send a list of ingredients and directions and a few photos that show the progression of the recipe to [sdargay@hometownlife.com](mailto:sdargay@hometownlife.com). Make sure the photos are in jpg form attached to the email. Include your phone number or email address.





Realtors are pleased with solid sales in 2014. GETTY IMAGES/STOCKPHOTO

## ECONOMIST: HOME SALES STEADY FOR 2014

Existing-home sales are expected to retain the healthy gains seen this year, while prices will stay on an uptrend in 2014, according to a forecast presentation at a residential forum during the 2013 Realtors Conference & Expo. Lawrence Yun, chief economist of the National Association of Realtors, said existing-home sales have shown a 20 percent cumulative increase over the past two years, while prices have gained 18 percent, but incomes have risen only 2 to 4 percent in the same timeframe.

"We've come off of record high housing affordability conditions in the past year, and are now at a five-year low, but conditions are still the fifth best in the past 40 years," Yun said. "While the median-income family in many areas will still be well positioned to buy a home in 2014, income is barely budging given growth in consumer prices."

Yun said the other headwinds moving forward include limited inventory conditions in many areas and mortgage lending standards that are still unnecessarily stringent. "Although home sales have recovered over the past two years, mortgage purchase applications have been flat for the past four years, even with rising sales," he said.

With higher mortgage interest rates, he expects refinancings to collapse in 2014 to the lowest level in at least 15 years, and hopes purchase applications will begin to rise. "This is an incentive for banks to increase mortgage origination, especially considering the low default rates in recent years. But even with cheap mortgages for the past four years, all-cash buyers stayed high, accounting for over 30 percent of sales," Yun noted.

Beyond bank motivation, Yun said Washington policies for mortgage lending have been too restrictive. He cited rising fees for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, higher Federal Housing Administration premiums, as well as Dodd-Frank banking regulations, which have been strangling community banks. In addition, Yun said banks are holding onto funds for potential Department of Justice lawsuits, rather than making

**"Housing starts are the only way to alleviate inventory shortages. Housing starts need to rise 50 percent to meet underlying demand."**

**LAWRENCE YUN**  
chief economist of the  
National Association of Realtors

them available to mortgage borrowers.

He said job creation, and hopefully a relaxation in stringent lending standards, will offset higher mortgage interest rates. Existing-home sales this year are forecast to rise 10 percent to nearly 5.13 million, but should hold fairly even at about 5.12 million in 2014. Limited supplies were the biggest factor in price performance in the past year, with inventory bouncing around 13-year lows, and seriously delinquent mortgages have been trending steadily down. The national median existing-home price for all of 2013 was up just over 11 percent, to about \$197,000, then increase nearly 6 percent this year.

Yun expects the inventory shortages to be felt again this spring. "Housing starts are the only way to alleviate inventory shortages," he said. "Housing starts need to rise 50 percent to meet underlying demand."

Housing starts are forecast to hit 917,000 this year and reach 1.13 million in 2014, which is still well below the underlying demand of about 1.5 million. New-home sales were forecast to total 429,000 in 2013, and grow to 508,000 this year.

Inflationary pressure may begin to build during the course of 2014, with consumer prices projected to rise 2.7 percent, but Yun said inflation could reach 4 to 6 percent in 2015. Mortgage interest rates are expected to trend upward and reach 5.4 by the end of next year.

Yun projected growth in Gross Domestic Product to be 1.7 percent in 2013 and 2.5 percent in 2014. "If not for the housing recovery, we could be on the

verge of a recession," Yun noted. "The rent component of inflation is rising, so the only way to tame price growth is new home inventory."

Since the economic downturn, 8.8 million jobs were lost, but only seven million have been regained. "We need another six to eight million jobs to get back to normal," Yun said. The states with the fastest job growth are North Dakota, Utah, Idaho, Texas, Colorado, Minnesota, Georgia, Washington, Arizona and New Jersey. The unemployment rate is projected to decline to about 6.7 percent around the end of 2014.

Based on the forecast, the top 10 markets to watch for a housing turnaround in 2014 are Salt Lake City; Naples, Fla.; Tampa, Fla.; Atlanta; Boise, Idaho; Houston; Charlotte, N.C.; Denver; Seattle; and Tucson, Ariz.

Also speaking was John Krainer, senior economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, who said near-term economic momentum is weakening, but improvement in growth is expected going forward. "Inflation has been subdued, and is expected to remain below the Fed's 2 percent target over the next few years," he said. "Despite improvement in the labor market, the unemployment rate remains elevated but will be falling slowly."

Krainer notes improved household net worth, aided by rising home values, is supporting consumption spending, but home sales and inventories are not growing as expected. "New-home sales are significantly underperforming, and have been bouncing around World War II lows," he said.

"There is a big disconnect between rising home prices and inventory slowing down," Krainer said. Normally, higher levels of new construction would be expected in a rising sales environment.

Krainer notes there is a relationship between the share of underwater mortgages and the number of homes for sale. "In markets where we saw a high percentage of underwater home owners, we also saw lower inventory levels."

## Cuba: Interesting land some old ways remain

**Q: We are thinking about visiting Cuba through a cultural exchange; can we buy real estate there?**

A: As best I can tell from talking to Cubans on my visit, you must be a resident or have close relatives such as a wife or parents or have business with the government to own real estate. Surprisingly many of the apartments in Havana are owned by their inhabitants and over the last two years, the government has allowed them to sell them. Nor do they pay any taxes at this time but the government is looking into implementing it for the first time. The housing in downtown Havana is extremely overcrowded, but in the Miramar region, where Castro purportedly lives, there are upscale private homes formerly owned by upper crust families before the revolution in 1959, but don't count on investing there for the foreseeable future.

**Q: I have heard about cultural exchanges between the United States and Cuba where you are able, as US citizens, to learn more about the country and its neighborhoods. Do you have any experience or knowledge about that?**

A: Yes, I recently went on an educational cultural exchange which is allowed by the U.S. government under certain circumstances. Because of the shortage of raw materials and almost everything else, because of the embargo, etc. Cubans must be creative and innovative in not only fixing its old U.S. cars, but building and refurbishing homes and apartments. I visited a neighborhood where a famous artist not only artistically decorated his own house, but much of the neighborhood in graphic and colorful designs, similar to what we have seen by an artist in Detroit attempting to cover up blight. Many of the homes that were formerly owned by rich Cubans before the revolution are now embassies and government offices which are well maintained on beautiful boulevards; yet much of the homes and buildings remain unpainted. It was an interesting visit.

**Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling, Renting, Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95, plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. "Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and BarnesandNoble.com. He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. It is available for \$9.95, plus \$2.20 for tax, shipping and handling. Call 1-888-644-4433 or visit [meisner@meisner-law.com](http://meisner@meisner-law.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.**

## REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

### Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures.

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. each Thursday at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email [june-quantum@gmail.com](mailto:june-quantum@gmail.com) for your reservation or additional information.

### Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 6-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

Members are free, and costs \$20, which will be applied to their membership. The Red Lobster is next to 7-11, near Trenton Road.

Any questions or concerns, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-0991 or Wayne Koehler at 313-819-0919.

### Seminar each Tuesday, Thursday

A free seminar on government-insured reverse mortgages is offered by Colonial Mortgage Corp. at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday and at 2 p.m. each Thursday at various locations. RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

### Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96.

Email [Greer@addedvalueallrealty.com](mailto:Greer@addedvalueallrealty.com) or visit [FreeForeclosureTour.com](http://FreeForeclosureTour.com).

## HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 2-6, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

<b>BEVERLY HILLS</b>		
16244 Buckingham Ave	\$273,000	
31220 Churchill Dr	\$273,000	
<b>BIRMINGHAM</b>		
1584 Ashford Ln	\$519,000	
2822 Dorchester Dr	\$170,000	
1061 Forest Ave	\$375,000	
1313 Latham St	\$395,000	
185 Northwestern Blvd	\$939,000	
<b>BLOOMFIELD HILLS</b>		
5363 Brookdale Rd	\$650,000	
726 E Fox Hills Dr	\$93,000	
2489 Hickory Glen Dr	\$345,000	
1750 Woodward Ave	\$142,000	
<b>BUTLER</b>		
<b>BUTLER TOWNSHIP</b>		
523 Newburne Pointe	\$400,000	
5481 Provincial Dr	\$395,000	
1844 Rockledge Ln	\$60,000	

1114 S Timberview Trl	\$194,000	
1930 W Square Lake Rd	\$245,000	
5167 Woodlands Ln	\$292,000	
<b>COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP</b>		
6075 Birchcrest Ln	\$60,000	
3895 Ranya Dr	\$258,000	
5338 S River Dr	\$180,000	
954 Sherbrooke St	\$250,000	
<b>FARMINGTON</b>		
32231 Valley View Cir	\$188,000	
<b>FARMINGTON HILLS</b>		
26649 Palmer Ave	\$165,000	
26338 Branchwater Rd	\$219,000	
25260 Carrollton Dr	\$274,000	
38633 Darbyshire	\$123,000	
37873 Glengrove Dr	\$315,000	
21503 Hancock St	\$128,000	
30657 Ranglemeadow	\$168,000	
Club Dr		
32153 Red Clover Ct	\$195,000	
27577 Red Run Dr	\$194,000	
28308 Ridgebush Rd	\$195,000	
27673 S Bridle Hills Dr	\$133,000	
30733 Shawnae Rd	\$95,000	
<b>LIVONIA</b>		
32463 Sprucewood St	\$190,000	
33500 Stocker St	\$130,000	

28418 W Eight Mile Rd	\$27,000	
Unit A3		
22151 W Brandon St	\$125,000	
27682 Westcott	\$150,000	
Crescent Cir		
21623 Whittington St	\$117,000	
27682 Westcott	\$185,000	
27310 Wellington Rd	\$625,000	
<b>LATHROP VILLAGE</b>		
17381 Wilshire Blvd	\$123,000	
<b>NORTHVILLE</b>		
44121 Galway Dr	\$267,000	
37847 W Greenwood Dr	\$275,000	
45498 Bristol Cir	\$406,000	
23780 E Lo Bost	\$124,000	
45589 Emerald Forest Dr	\$339,000	
25986 Glenbrook	\$425,000	
41700 Kirkwood Dr	\$175,000	
25827 Strath Haven Dr	\$230,000	
41457 Twaing Pl	\$375,000	
<b>SOUTH LYON</b>		
57298 Hidden Timbers Dr	\$419,000	
1014 Paddock Dr	\$198,000	
1137 Paddock Cr	\$267,000	
24681 Padstone Dr	\$80,000	
789 Pepper Dr	\$190,000	
61850 W Eight Mile Rd	\$400,000	
24630 Wedgewood Dr	\$138,000	
<b>SOUTHFIELD</b>		
21539 Avalon Ln	\$43,000	
30226 Bayview St	\$129,000	
28232 Bell Rd	\$140,000	
18179 Cornell Rd	\$114,000	
25583 Fairbrook Rd	\$155,000	
21763 Hidden Rivers Dr	\$41,000	
<b>SOUTHFIELD</b>		
19623 Middlesex Ave	\$172,000	
20446 Midway Ave	\$40,000	
21235 Midway Ave	\$29,000	
20130 N Greenway St	\$190,000	
28426 Pierce St	\$72,000	
29821 Rambling Rd	\$115,000	
19131 Red Maple Ct	\$165,000	
25487 Saint James	\$190,000	
500 Town Ctr # 302	\$105,000	
21300 Wallace Dr	\$63,000	
<b>WHITE LAKE</b>		
955 Mallock St	\$145,000	

## HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 23, 2013, to Jan. 3, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

<b>CANTON</b>		
45336 Arlet Dr	\$225,000	
854 Bristol Ct	\$295,000	
4004 Cornerstone Dr	\$122,000	

44974 Danbury Rd	\$280,000	
51210 Federal Blvd	\$85,000	
8367 Orhan St	\$135,000	
3683 Parklawn Dr	\$156,000	
1714 Steeplechase Rd	\$330,000	
<b>GARDEN CITY</b>		
33440 Donnelly St	\$65,000	
2635 Leonia St	\$75,000	
<b>LIVONIA</b>		
28142 Elmira St	\$100,000	

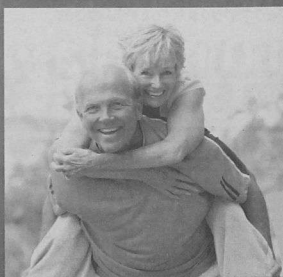
36027 Hees St	\$132,000	
14417 Knollton St	\$160,000	
8863 Louise St	\$135,000	
35823 Parklawn Dr	\$146,000	
15424 Sunset St	\$148,000	
19401 Victor Hwy	\$120,000	
<b>NORTHVILLE</b>		
39528 Village Run Dr	\$281,000	
<b>PLYMOUTH</b>		
46825 Bletchhill	\$296,000	
14860 Farmbrook Dr	\$187,000	

<b>REDFORD</b>		
17678 Gaylord	\$60,000	
25520 Graham Rd	\$57,000	
15512 MacArthur	\$50,000	
14214 Semarole	\$28,000	
<b>WESTLAND</b>		
38259 S Jean Ct	\$100,000	
38036 Sherwood St	\$32,000	



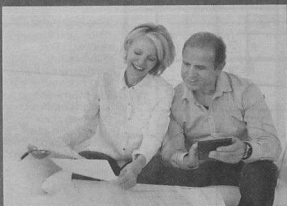






## The Spring Expo is for Active Adults on the GO!

Learn to live healthy, make wise financial decisions and enhance your life to make it the best ever.



### ENTER for a chance TO WIN!

#### Christmas in July Cover Contest

Come dressed in your zaniest, most traditional or goofiest Christmas outfit to enter. Photos will be taken and voted on. Winner will be featured on the cover of the O&E Media Christmas in July publication and receive a \$100 gift card.

#### Celebrate Dad Father's Day Promotion

Bring your dad to enter to win a tribute gift package. Photos will be taken and voted on.

# Spring

Life in

# GO



When you are prepared you can live **Life in Go!**

**Tuesday,  
April 29, 2014  
2 p.m. – 7 p.m**

Schoolcraft College  
VisTaTech Center  
18600 Haggerty Road  
Livonia, MI 48152

**New Hours**

**Pre Event Fun 1:00 – 1:45 p.m.**

Play a fun version of Family Feud and win great prizes

\*\* First 100 people win passes for a movie and pizza!

**During the Spring Expo 2 p.m. – 7 p.m.**

- ▶ 50+ Exhibitors
- ▶ 19 Diverse Workshops & Demonstrations
- ▶ Free Photos taken at photo booth
- ▶ Entertaining version of "Win It In a Minute Show" by Entertainment Network
- ▶ Prizes
- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Free Admissions and Parking

For additional info including workshops & demonstrations times and topics, go to [hometownlife.com/2014SpringExpo](http://hometownlife.com/2014SpringExpo) or call 313-222-2414.

#### Entertainment Sponsors:

St. Mary Mercy Hospital Livonia and Humana

#### Food Sponsors:

SMART and Twisted Rooster