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Canton scores high marks on new survey

Residents happy with township amenities

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A staggering 92 percent of Canton households gave high marks to local parks, walking trails, recreation facilities, the library, cultural offerings and sports venues, a new survey revealed, with 95 percent saying the amenities make the community a more desirable place to live.

Residents by far singled out the Canton Public Library as the community's most important facility, followed by

Summit on the Park recreation center and Heritage Park. The big three, so to speak, ranked much higher than other parks, golf courses and recreation facilities.

Survey respondents cited walking, biking and nature trails as their most important amenity, followed by large community parks, small neighborhood parks, indoor fitness facilities, indoor swimming pools, soccer fields and tennis courts, among other facilities.

Strengths, weaknesses

The findings come from a lengthy report unveiled Tuesday by ETC Institute of Ola-

the, Kan., a company commissioned by Canton Leisure Services and the Canton Public Library to survey a cross-section of local residents to determine strengths and weaknesses so local officials can develop a new road map for services.

In all, only 430 households bothered to fill out the seven-page surveys sent to 3,000 homes. Still, Ron Vine, ETC Institute senior vice president, said the findings reflect the larger community and have a margin of error of only 4.7 percent.

Survey results, publicly

See SURVEY, Page A2



The Canton Public Library has garnered high marks on a new survey. Here, patrons Azza Tulba, Myar Tulba, Kareem Bashir and Nihal Osman enjoy their time at the facility. BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



The new La-Z-Boy store, being built on a highly visible site on Ford Road west of Lilley in Canton, could open by late July. BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

La-Z-Boy site bustling as company targets July opening

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Construction workers are busy on La-Z-Boy's new Canton site as the re-bounding company hopes to open its latest store in late July.

La-Z-Boy chose a highly visible site on Ford Road west of Lilley after returning last year to metro Detroit with stores in Sterling Heights, Novi and Troy.

"We're happy to report that construction (in Canton) is on target, even with the challenging Michigan winter we faced," Amy Hellebuyck, manager of brand marketing and public relations, said Tuesday.

Company officials are striving for a Saturday, July 26, opening of its 15,682-square-foot La-Z-Boy Home Furnish-

ings and Décor showroom, where customers can select furniture and arrange home deliveries, Hellebuyck said.

After opening its doors, La-Z-Boy intends to roll out what she called "a variety of grand opening events" during the initial weeks.

La-Z-Boy has retrofitted and begun a new expansion after older stores, including one near Ford and Lotz, closed a few years ago. The company chose the new Ford Road site after surviving a brutal economic downturn.

"We chose the Ford Road site due to the proximity of other tenants in the area, the continued development in Canton and its growing housing market," Hellebuyck said.

To be sure, 70 new homes are coming to an area northwest of Ford and

Lilley, behind the La-Z-Boy site. Moreover, an upscale builder, Toll Brothers, plans the largest residential development Canton has witnessed in more than a decade when it starts a 274-home construction project, likely next spring, on the south side of Ford between Ridge and Napier, Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas has said.

Companies such as Monroe-based La-Z-Boy have taken notice, with Hellebuyck earlier calling the expansion in Canton "really exciting for us."

La-Z-Boy, under construction across from Outback Steakhouse, won site approval last September from the Canton Township Board of Trustees.

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District hires new bus company

Board votes to terminate deal with original group

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

For the second time in three years, the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education has changed the way the district transports its students to school.

The board voted 5-2 Tuesday night to hire Durham School Services on a three-year contract to provide transportation services. The contract starts July 1 and is for three years, with options for two, one-year renewals.

Durham replaces Michigan Educational Transportation Services, the contractor originally hired when the district privatized its transportation services in 2011. The board voted unanimously Tuesday to terminate the district's deal with METS, a contract that turned out to be more expensive and fraught with driver issues over its three-year life.

In a related move, the board Tuesday voted unanimously to hire Missouri-based TransPar Group, Inc., to manage its bus routing system.

Brodie Killian, the district's deputy superintendent for business and operations, said the Durham deal includes stipulations that should provide more accountability than the METS contract had.

See BUS, Page A2

Canton bank robbery leads to no contest plea, prison time

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A drifter who police say implied he had a gun while demanding money from a Canton bank teller pleaded no contest to bank robbery Monday — the same day a judge ruled he was competent to stand trial.

Nathan Michael Kuhn, 29, is expected to face 15 months to

15 years in prison when he is formally sentenced June 23 by Wayne County Circuit Judge Richard Skutt, a court clerk confirmed Monday.

Kuhn could have faced life in prison for an incident Canton police say occurred last Oct. 24, when he was accused of robbing the Comerica branch inside the Kroger store near Canton Center and Ford roads.

Kuhn's decision to accept a plea deal Monday came as Skutt ruled he was competent to stand trial, resolving an

issue raised in November by a defense attorney. The latest developments averted a trial and a potential sentence of life in prison.

Kuhn's trial had been delayed as attorneys sparred over whether he should be held criminally responsible for his actions and whether he was competent to assist in his own defense.

Skutt's ruling Monday came after Kuhn received an evaluation declaring him competent.

As he awaited the outcome

of his case, Kuhn had remained jailed with a \$50,000 bond — or 10 percent of \$500,000 — that was set when he was arraigned last October on a single count of bank robbery.

Canton police have described Kuhn as a drifter who had lived in Livonia and Westland. He was arrested in a Wayne motel room.

Canton Detective Sgt. Chad Baugh has said Kuhn passed a note to a bank teller, implied he had a gun and demanded money. No shots were fired

and no injuries reported during the incident.

Moreover, Baugh has said police had to force their way into the Wayne motel room to arrest Kuhn after authorities received a tip of his whereabouts.

Before his arrest, Kuhn had been paroled just 11 months earlier for crimes involving uttering and publishing, or forging a check or other financial document.

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SURVEY

Continued from Page A1

released Tuesday during a joint session of township and library officials, indicated 49 percent of Canton residents had participated in a recreation or library program during the last year, compared to the national benchmark of 35 percent.

"That's a very, very high number," Vine said.

Broken down, 71 percent of households with children under age 10 had participated, compared to 50 percent of families with youths 10-19 years old and only 33 percent of households with no children.

Swimming sells

Outdoor swimming pools and aquatic centers ranked highest among survey respondents who indicated Canton isn't meeting their recreation needs, Vine said.

An overwhelming 88 percent of respondents said they had used the Canton Public Library, followed by 78 percent for Heritage Park and 72 percent for Summit on the Park.

"It's so overwhelming that these are the key anchors of your community," Vine told local officials.

Canton Public Library Trustee Nancy Eggenberger gave the library Director Eva Davis for the facility's top ranking.

"I think we have a director who has a real pulse on what people are interested in," Eggenberger said.

Recreation trails have consistently ranked high on priority lists during past community surveys conducted for Canton Leisure Services. To that end, local officials sponsored efforts to link the Lower Rouge River Recreation Trail by a series of pedestrian bridges. Moreover, the trail is expected to be extended to connect to Flodin and Griffin parks.

"The survey just reaffirms what we have done and what we are continuing to do is on track," CIS Director Debbie Blumley-Honowat said.

Good grades

In all, 92 percent of survey respondents gave excellent or good marks to Canton's recreation and library facilities. Of those, 45 percent assigned an

An overwhelming 88 percent of respondents said they had used the Canton Public Library, followed by 78 percent for Heritage Park and 72 percent for Summit on the Park.

excellent rating — much higher than the national benchmark of 34 percent, Vine said.

Canton Township Trustee John Anthony said he didn't find the survey results surprising.

"We have the finest public library ever," he said, "and Canton Township is a great place to live, work and raise a family."

Among myriad findings:

» Of respondents who don't use Summit on the Park, 35 percent said it is too expensive. Only 19 percent said they are not interested in the programs.

» Significant numbers of residents said they would prefer more local programs focusing on hobbies, do-it-yourself home improvement, adult wellness, special events and technology, among other lower-ranked suggestions.

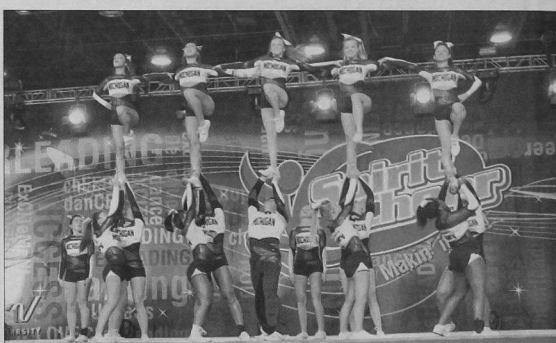
» An impressive 78 percent of households indicated they are very satisfied (40 percent) or somewhat satisfied (38 percent) with Canton Leisure Services. The library fared even better, with 89 percent of respondents either very satisfied (63 percent) or somewhat satisfied (26 percent).

» Despite the library's popularity, 70 percent of respondents cited at least one service it should include or expand, including having a notary public, more electronic device support and low-vision aids.

The survey indicated 84 percent of respondents like Canton's geographic location, 80 percent feel safe here and 67 like their own neighborhood.

Supervisor Phil LaJoy expressed those results. "It's a great place to live," he said.

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Michigan XTreme's senior elite team made the cheerleading world championships.

Plymouth gym continues to thrive

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

To paraphrase Mark Twain, reports of the demise of Premier Athletics' Michigan XTreme are apparently greatly exaggerated.

After another trip to the Cheerleading World Championships at Walt Disney World last month, a newspaper report hinting that Michigan XTreme had closed its doors couldn't be further from the truth.

Owner Lisa Hemme, a former Mrs. Michigan whose teams have won multiple national championships, said that not only is Michigan XTreme not closing, the gym — with some 300 students forming more than a dozen teams at various levels — continues to thrive.

"We have a quality, consistent product," said Hemme, who merged Michigan XTreme with Premier Athletics in December 2006. "Our mission is to teach kids to be self-confident, believe in themselves and have fun."

The gym got its start renting space in Hartland and then moved to Canton. Michigan XTreme finally found a permanent home at its current Plymouth location three years ago.

It worked out OK on its own the first few years, but Hemme saw an opportunity to merge it with Premier Athletics, a subsidiary of Varsity Brands Inc., which Hemme calls "the largest cheerleading company in the world."

She said the merger



Many Michigan XTreme athletes walked in the 2013 Thanksgiving Day parade in Detroit.

has been great for business.

Lots of resources

"When you're part of a company like Varsity Brands, you have an endless number of resources," said Hemme, a former U.S. Marine. "It was important to be part of a company like that. I believe in the culture and in the way they're trying to do with our industry."

Michigan XTreme fielded nine full-year and five half-season (May 2013 to May 2014) cheer teams this year, along with a pair of hip-hop teams and a team for special-needs cheerleaders it calls "VIPs."

Age groups range from the "Tiniest," 3-year-olds who learn basic elements of tumbling and cheerleading moves, all the way to collegiate level cheerleaders.

Hemme said many gyms are almost cut-throat in their competitiveness, but Michigan XTreme focuses on competing — and winning — in a positive way.

"Everything you do is

a path to your journey and goal that leads to the team goal," said Hemme, a Milan native who was a cheerleader at Milan High School. "We're here to build up kids. That's hugely important to me."

Education important

While Michigan XTreme loves the championships it has won, Hemme said there are more important things being taught, none of them more important than getting an education. The gym has sent cheerleaders to college programs at universities like Bowling Green, the University of Michigan and Ohio State, among others.

"We push college," Hemme said. "Education is the most important thing. And it's not just for the education; it's for the life experience."

Halle Lindberg, who has trained at Michigan XTreme since she was in middle school, is now studying health education promotion as a junior at Oklahoma State Uni-

versity. Lindberg, the daughter of Jill and Dan Lindberg of Canton, was part of the Team USA squad that won gold at the world championships last month.

"(Michigan XTreme) coaches were really helpful and taught me throughout the years," said Lindberg, who plans to go to grad school at the University of Oklahoma. "It was a family experience. You grow up with the kids who are on your team. It's not just cheerleading, but it's being a good person and time management and friendships. It's just a really, really good program to be part of."

Along with the cheerleading success, Hemme believes her teams have a responsibility to the community. Michigan XTreme takes part in a variety of charitable events, including going to veterans' homes, taking part in clothing drives and donating to scholarships handed out by the Plymouth Community and Canton chambers of commerce.

Hemme said the gym does those things to show its young people the importance of giving back.

"It's rewarding when you give back to people... Your community is made up of what people give back to it," she said. "It gives you a different perspective on things. When you can take kids into a different environment, they learn from that. That's really important."

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BUS

Continued from Page A1

"The way we have set up is along functional lines, so accountability is not divided," Killian said. "It will provide us the level of service that we need."

Killian said the contract with Durham will actually cost some \$50,000 more than the METS deal. However, he said, efficiencies found over the life of the deal will help the district more than recoup that cost.

Those costs, and a lack of information about how the success of the new deal will be measured, caused board Treasurer Mark Horvath and Trustee Mike Maloney to vote against the Durham deal.

"This is potentially going to cost more," Maloney said. "I don't feel confident... that spending the money makes the pain go away. I'm having a very hard time with this."

Though Trustee John Barrett said he realizes "there are issues with this," he expressed confidence in the administration's ability to manage the new deal.

"(Administration) has gone over this with a fine-toothed comb to eliminate the problems with the previous contract," Barrett said. "This is a necessary step



The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education voted Tuesday to hire Durham School Services to provide transportation.

in the right direction."

Board President Judy Mardigan said district funding, in the face of what board members have called a lack of support from Lansing, has forced the district into the position of privatizing.

"In hindsight, I wish we had never privatized transportation," Mardigan said. "Worse than approving this arrangement would be keeping the METS arrangement going."

The board was unanimous in its support for the TransPar management deal. The firm is being hired to oversee all aspects of the opera-

tions of the district's transportation system. TransPar will recommend short- and long-term plans to improve student transportation; assign students, schools, stops and buses to bus routes; recommend procedures for communication and problem-solving; evaluate the effectiveness of the system and; where appropriate, recommend changes to improve.

The contract with TransPar costs the district \$40,000 initially, plus an additional \$390,000 a year.

The firm, Killian pointed out, has managed transportation rout-

ing for huge districts such as public school systems in both Philadelphia and Chicago.

"We're bringing in some talent to get us where we need to be," Killian said.

Though he voted against hiring Durham, Horvath said he was supportive of the TransPar hire.

"The kind of routing improvements this company can offer are desperately needed," Horvath said. "These guys are going to offer services we desperately need."

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Canton police seek man in credit card fraud probe

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton police are seeking the public's help identifying a suspect sought for questioning amid a credit card fraud investigation.

Detective Sgt. Chad Baugh said the case involves a Canton victim's credit card that police believe was fraudulently "cloned" and used twice May 16 at an undisclosed retail store in Novi.

"He went through the



The suspect

checkout (lane) without being identified as using a fraudulent card," Baugh said.

Police have released a surveillance photo of the man believed he drives a gold-color sedan.

Information on his identity can be reported anonymously by calling the Canton Police Department at 734-394-5400.

Canton authorities haven't released the name of the store where the fraudulent credit card was used. Baugh said police are complying with a request from the retail chain's legal department not to divulge the company or store.

Man pleads guilty to sexually accosting woman in Canton

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A 20-year-old Romulus man has pleaded guilty to one of two counts of fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct following allegations he sexually accosted two women at Canton retail stores.

Christopher Neil Knight's plea in May averted a trial in Wayne County Circuit Court. He still faces sentencing by Judge James Callahan and could receive penalties ranging up to two years in prison.

Knight's plea came little more than a month after Canton police arrested him following two incidents along the Ford Road retail corridor. Prior to his guilty plea, he had been remanded to jail by Callahan



Knight

after he missed a court hearing and was taken back into custody, a court clerk said.

Under a plea deal, Knight agreed to plead guilty to one count of fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct in return for a second charge being dismissed.

Canton Deputy Police Chief Debra Newsome has said one incident happened about 12:30 p.m. Sunday, April 20, when a man grabbed a woman by the buttocks inside the JC Penney store on Sheldon east of Ford and pushed her before fleeing the store.

Not even an hour had passed before the same man was accused of accosting a woman who police say was walking to her car outside the nearby Kohl's store.

Newsome has said Knight was taken into custody after he returned to the JC Penney store and was spotted by workers, who notified Canton police.

Road rage

A 64-year-old Canton woman was arrested for being disorderly after police say she got out of her car on Sheldon north of Ford Road, caused a ruckus and beat another driver's vehicle with a cane.

Police rushed to the scene after receiving reports the suspect stopped her Toyota on Sheldon, blocked traffic, got out and approached a 24-year-old woman who had pulled her Mazda off the road and stopped in a driveway, a police report said.

Witnesses said the suspect was yelling at the other driver, who apparently had locked herself inside the car. The police report indicated the suspect kicked the woman's car, hit it with a cane and tried to open the door — all while yelling profanities.

The victim called police for help as the woman was causing minor damage to her car, the report said.

The suspect denied damaging the other driver's car. The suspect told police the other driver almost hit her vehicle. Police arrested the alleged aggressor for being disorderly.

CANTON CRIME WATCH

Woman dragged

Police arrested a 30-year-old Canton man for domestic violence following allegations he was dragging his drunken girlfriend near Lilley and Gloria, south of Saltz, because she was too drunk to walk after they had gone to a bar, a police report said.

The suspect, described in a police report as a criminal defense attorney, had been drinking and was sweating profusely when police arrived, a police report said. The incident happened just before midnight May 8.

The man had a cut under his right ear, grass stains on his shirt and his hands and knuckles had scratches. He told police he was trying to get his girlfriend home after she consumed too much alcohol.

The police report indicated the woman had tried to get away from the suspect and fought him. She, too, had minor scratches on her arms, back and feet. She was described as disheveled and had been crying.

According to the police report, the man and woman have five children between the two of them.

Window shot

Police went to the 49400 block of Hanford, near Ridge, following reports someone may have shot at a downstairs window of a home, causing damage, a police report said.

The incident happened between 5 p.m. Sunday and 2 p.m. Monday.

An 81-year-old man told police someone apparently shot what appeared to be a BB gun or pellet gun, causing damage to a window. He said his wife, who uses a wheelchair, heard a noise and then the damage was discovered.

The police report indicated the outside pane of glass was shattered.

Documents stolen
A 66-year-old woman notified police to report someone broke into her car, stealing tax documents, bank statements, death certificates for her parents, marriage and divorce papers and three college diplomas, a police report said.

The incident was reported Friday. The woman told police the items were taken from the trunk of her car.

— By Darrell Clem

House party

Police early Saturday broke up a house party on Plymouth Township's west side that was attended by a number of minors who had been drinking alcohol.

Acting on a complaint about a loud party and underage drinking, police arrived at the house on Plymouth Valley Drive shortly before 3 a.m. Saturday, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report. There were several people there, including some under age 21, who appeared to have been drinking, the report said.

Police learned it was an after-prom party that reportedly got out of hand, the re-

port said.

Officers gathered party goers — about 50, the report said — and told them to make arrangements to have a parent pick them up. Most did so, the report said, while some who said they had not been drinking alcohol were allowed to go home on their own if a police-administered preliminary breath test confirmed their stories.

The homeowners were issued a ticket.

Fraud try

A township man who had a federal income tax return falsely filed in his name earlier this year reported a different type of identity fraud May 28.

The man told police that his

employer told him the day before that someone was trying to file for unemployment benefits in his name. Police told him to monitor his credit records for fraudulent activity.

Larceny

An iPhone was reportedly stolen from a backpack at Pioneer Middle School, on Ann Arbor Road east of Beck, the afternoon of May 23.

The phone, a police report said, belonged to a student who had left it in her backpack during track practice that day. The phone, the complainant told police, was programmed to alert the girl's father's phone if it's turned on again.

— By Matt Jachman

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

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Paul R. Makela, MD

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YMCA hosts Father's Day run

Runners are invited to join the Plymouth YMCA as it celebrates a community tradition at the 35th Fathers Day Run, set for Sunday, June 15.

The morning of fun and fitness will kick off at 7:30 a.m. with Detroit Tigers mascot PAWS leading the start and the national anthem being sung by Plymouth attorney John Stewart.

Organizers said the Fathers Day Run offers an event for every age, 0-99. Runs include kids quarter-mile Fun Runs,

7:30 a.m.; 1-Mile Walk and 1-Mile Run at 8 a.m.; 5K Walk and 5K Run at 8:15 a.m.; and a 10K at 8:45 a.m.

The unique Morse Dental Group, 20th MDG Triple (10.3 miles), offers start times to run all three races. This year's new angle is "The One on Dad" and all runners wearing ties will be entered to win a Detroit Tigers ticket package. More information is available by visiting www.ymcadeloitrois.org/plymouth/Fathers-day-run.

run.

The event is endorsed by the Governors Council on Physical Fitness, Health and Sports and is part of the Pure Michigan Fitness series (www.michiganfitness.org), which confirms that it is a well-planned, high-quality event that considers the safety of the participant, promotes physical activity and has earned the Governor's Council seal of approval.

As a partner with the

Michigan Fitness Foundation, YMCA officials said the Fathers Day Run has "made a commitment to help in the mission to Get Michigan on its feet and directly contribute to the goal to revitalize the health of Michigan."

Volunteers are needed; contact Cindy Morency at cmorency@ymcadeloitrois.org. Proceeds from the event support the Plymouth YMCA Annual Financial Assistance Campaign.

LWW hosts candidate forum for county executive race

In partnership with the Democracy Institute of Henry Ford College, the League of Women Voters in Wayne County will host a forum for the candidates running for Wayne County executive in the Aug. 5 primary election.

The forum will be 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 12, at the ForA Auditorium in the Mazzara Conference Center at Henry Ford College, 5101 Evergreen, in Dearborn. Three Republican and 11 Democratic candidates

are running in the primary and all have been invited to attend.

The public is invited to attend the forum and submit questions for the candidates that may be asked by a League moderator. The forum will be taped and will be available on the websites of the three Wayne County Leagues: Dearborn-Dearborn Heights, Grosse Pointe and Northwest Wayne, as well as the WXYZ-TV (Channel 7) website.

Schofield picked for W-W board

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

It didn't take the Wayne-Westland school board very long Tuesday to decide who should fill a vacant board seat.

With just one candidate, the board skipped the interview process and went right to voting to unanimously approve

former school Trustee Cindy Schofield for the position.

"We have a very qualified candidate, I would say," board President Shawna Walker said. "She's a certified school board member and is still currently involved in the district."

The trustees voted 5-0, with board Treasurer Frederick Weaver excused, to appoint Schofield to the board. She will join the group Monday, June 9, at its monthly meeting.

Schofield had served on the board for 12½ years before deciding not to seek re-election in 2012. She has remained involved in the district, including serving on Wayne-Westland Literacy Corps at Taft-Galloway School in Wayne.

She also is involved in Wayne Ripple Effect, which is working to rejuvenate downtown Wayne through the Michigan Main Street Program.

"When I left, I had no in-

tervention of coming back, but it feels good to come in at this time," Schofield said. "This allows me the opportunity to help the board focus on having a new superintendent and you won't have to bring me up to speed. I'm already familiar with the curriculum programs."

"I look forward to working with you over the next few months," she added.

Schofield replaces John Goci, who resigned May 9. Goci was in the final year of his first full term on the board when he resigned. He cited "my health and my family need my attention at this time" for his sudden departure.

"Thank you for lending us a hand," board Vice President Thomas Buckalew said. "You have done so much for us. The Talented and Gifted Program and Literacy Corps are in part because of you. I'm grateful you were willing to step forward."

Trustee Charles "Trav" Griffin described Schofield as a "mountain on the school board."

Schofield, who is employed by Norplex Associates, a family owned rental property management business located in Westland, will serve until the November election, when the six-year term will be filled by voters. At that time, the board will need to decide if Schofield should serve until the end of December.



The June 7 show is great place to see all types of electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids up close. RENA LAVERTY

Electric vehicle show features displays, ride-drive opportunities

Organizers are calling the sixth annual Michigan Electric Vehicle Show, set for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, June 7, at Schoolcraft College, a "great opportunity to see all types of EVs and plug-in hybrids up-close," talk to the owners and ride or drive many of the cars around campus.

"This is the largest event of its kind in the Midwest," Michigan Electric Auto Association President Larry Tuttle said. "In addition to learning all about the latest EV and PHV technology and talking

to people who drive EVs every day, visitors can even ride and drive in several vehicles."

"With gas prices approaching the \$4 mark again, people begin considering electric vehicles and this show will provide all the information needed to make a good decision on purchasing or leasing an electric vehicle," Schoolcraft College Vice President of Instruction Rich Weinkauff said. "As a trusted educational institution in the area, Schoolcraft College is here to educate the community on this important technology and

show how it can change lives." The highlight of the show is the "Ride and Drive." Local dealers provide EVs for visitors to drive around campus. There is no better way to experience an EV than to get behind the wheel. In addition, EV owners participate in this program by offering rides to guests who would rather evaluate an EV from the passenger seat.

The show takes place at Schoolcraft College's main campus in Livonia. Visit www.schoolcraft.edu/evshow for more information.

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LEAVING HER MARK

Allen Elementary teacher retires after 37 years

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Debbie Maloni had one of "those moments" in her fifth-grade classroom at Allen Elementary School recently, a moment similar to hundreds, maybe thousands, of other ones just like it in her 40-year career.

It came while she was teaching her kids – and that's what the students are to her, "her" kids – a complex math equation. She saw them struggle to grasp it at first, then literally saw the light bulb go on as understanding hit.

"You could actually see the minute they understood it," said Maloni, who announced her retirement effective the end of the school year. "And the reason they understood it was because they were being taught it. That's something I'm going to miss."

Maloni started at Allen in September 1977, an Indiana girl hired by Tom Workman – who would later have an elementary school named after him – after she'd taught for four years in West Lafayette, Ind. Armed with a bachelor's degree from Indiana University and a master's from Purdue, Maloni leaped into the "family business" – her mom's a librarian, dad's a professor – as she'd planned since third grade.

Finding a home

"I liked everything about school," Maloni said. "I loved reading and learning new things. Learning is exciting. To this day, I still learn something new every single day."

"I hope that my excitement for learning is shared with the kids, because there is always new stuff to learn."

When Workman hired her, there was a classroom spot for Maloni and she kicked around for a while teaching art, music, science and gym at four different buildings. When a teacher went on maternity leave, Maloni got the classroom she wanted – and has kept it ever since.

She's taught second through sixth grade, but confesses fifth-graders are her favorite. She said she can "be myself with them," use her humor and "be firm."

"My expectations can be high and I can share my love of learning with them," Maloni said.

"(Fifth-graders) are my favorite. I love the kids. They're just emerging into becoming aware of the world. I love their spirit."

For most of her 37 years with Plymouth-Canton, Maloni has had a partner and a namesake: fellow fifth-grade teacher Gail Maloney.

Maloney, who has worked with Maloni for some 30 years, commended her partner because her kids always came first.



Allen Elementary School fifth-grade teacher Debbie Maloni, surrounded by students who love her, is retiring after 37 years at the school.



For one memorable Halloween, Maloni joined the staff in dressing up as Principal Jim Burt.

"I am very fortunate to have had Debbie as a partner who has always put children and their education first in every decision we have ever made together," she said. "Debbie's accomplishments at Allen School have been truly significant."

This and that

Maloni has taught a little bit of everything, but science has always been her favorite, because the kids dig it. "Kids love science," Maloni said. "It's their world, their curiosity. Kids love to know why things happen."

One of Maloni's chief worries is the effect the information age has had on kids' learning. With everything seemingly available on the Internet with just a few key strokes, veteran teachers like Maloni fret kids won't really be learning anything at all.

"Because all of that information is available at their fingertips, I worry kids won't put as much effort into figuring things out," Maloni said. "They can just Google it instead of having to dig for it."

That concern for the

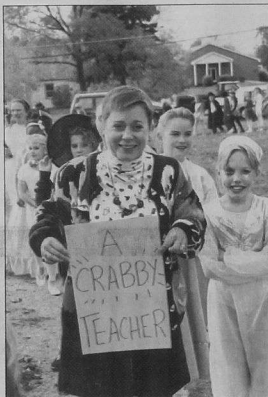
quality of the learning kids are doing doesn't surprise those who've worked with her. Former Allen Elementary Principal Marcia Moore said Maloni has "made her mark" on the Allen community and on the district as a whole, through her "dynamic approach to teaching and advocacy for lifelong learning, inside and outside the classroom."

"Energy and enthusiasm are (Maloni's) trademarks," Moore said. "There are so many fellow teachers, students and families who have been touched by Debbie's influence. I know she'll leave the classroom with a great sense of accomplishment and satisfaction."

Changing tide

Her profession has changed over the years. Maloni said the biggest difference now is there's too much to teach, with teaching to standardized tests and Core Curriculum.

She calls all the rigor "lofty" and said the volume of material required to be taught – and the schedule on which it's supposed to be taught – leave little room for



Allen Elementary teacher Debbie Maloni always teased her students that, if they don't want her to be a "crabby teacher," they should simply follow her directions.

actual teaching.

"It's all about pacing guides and being sure you're at a certain point at a certain time," Maloni said. "I'm not too good at this. You can't stop any more when kids don't understand."

Current Allen Principal Maureen Molloy, who has worked with Maloni for three years, called her a "dedicated teacher" with an "unyielding amount of energy."

"Debbie has made a significant contribution to the school over the years by bringing in special programs, starting clubs, sharing her love of learning and supporting her colleagues," Molloy said.

"The number of students she has touched over her 30-plus years of teaching is far-reaching."

Maloni said even that recent "moment" in class hasn't caused her to reconsider her decision to retire – "I'm 62 years old and it's time," she said – but the family will still be in the business. Her brother, son and daughter-in-law are all teachers (daughter Katie is a nurse), so the Maloni name will live on in teaching circles.

"Education is crucial," Maloni said. "It's been something that has made me feel good."

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LONG HISTORY

I'm in Mrs. Maloni's fifth-grade class at Allen Elementary School. Besides the fact that she's a fantastic teacher, I really hoped to have her in fifth grade because our family has a long history with her. My mom (Rose Martin) also had her as a fifth-grade teacher in 1979 and my sister (Mckenzie) also had her in 2008-09. Also, my grandmother (Ann Truskowski) worked at Allen in the cafeteria in the '80s and had a close relationship with Mrs. Maloni, also sharing the same birthday.

Mrs. Maloni is a fun teacher who jokes around with us kids but lays down the law when she needs to. She will be missed a lot at Allen, but we wish her all the best in her retirement.

Josh Martin
Allen fifth-grader

FAVORITE TEACHER

There is always that one teacher in your life that you will never forget and that teacher is Mrs. Maloni. At the beginning of the year, my mother received the email that told me who would be my teacher for the upcoming year. My teacher was Mrs. Maloni. My sister, Abigail, had told me that Mrs. Maloni was tough, she gave a lot of homework, but she prepared you for middle school. She sure did prepare me! She is also kind, thoughtful and fun. Mrs. Maloni is my favorite teacher in the years I have been at Allen Elementary, and I am so sad to see her go.

Grace Rembinski
Allen fifth-grader

MY MENTOR

Any teacher can put multiplication sums on a chalkboard, but Mrs. Maloni can do so much more. We can copy down the facts on the board, but Mrs. Maloni is sure to help us understand and use the knowledge we learn. She is a kind-hearted and enthusiastic teacher who has helped me through many obstacles. There's a glow in her eyes that shows her love of teaching. Mrs. Maloni is sure to point out all my strengths, and help improve on my weaknesses. With her helpful suggestions, you can tell that Mrs. Maloni really does care. It's sad to see her go, but Mrs. Maloni will always be remembered by both Allen School and her students. I can say for sure that she will always be a part of my life. Mrs. Maloni is my mentor, a guide to hold my hand through thick and thin. After all, the isn't just my teacher, she is my friend.

Khadja Kapuswala
Allen fifth-grader

Marrow donors get a chance to 'Be The Match' at local drives

The Be The Match Registry, North Central Region, announced its participation in the "Stanes Save Lives" drive providing local community members the opportunity to join others across the country who want to give the gift of life by joining the Be The Match registry, which is operated by the National Marrow Donor Program.

The local drive, hosted by Drs. Aram Bagdasarian and Samer Shoukfeh, takes place at Family Dentistry, 5958 Cantor

Center, Suite 100 (Essex Plaza), the following dates and times:

» Saturday, June 14, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

» Wednesday, June 25, 2-7 p.m.

» Wednesday, July 16, 2-7 p.m.

» Saturday, July 25, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

» Saturday, Aug. 9, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

» Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2-7 p.m.

"Thousands of patients with life-threatening diseases need transplants and do not find a donor in their fam-

ily. We are encouraging local residents to come to the drive to learn how they could help save a life," said Tarita Gibson, a spokesperson for the North Central Region donor center in Detroit.

The characteristics that determine whether a patient and donor match are inherited, so the most likely match is with a sibling. However, 70 percent of patients will not find a suitable matching donor in their family.

These patients can turn to the volunteer marrow and blood cell

adult donors and cord blood units listed on the Be The Match registry – the largest source for all types of blood and marrow cells available for unrelated transplants.

Although it is possible for a patient to match a donor from any racial or ethnic group, the most likely match is someone from a similar background.

"More people from diverse backgrounds are needed on the registry, so all patients in need can have a second chance at life," Gibson

said. Each year, thousands of patients are diagnosed with life-threatening blood diseases such as leukemia. For a chance to survive, these patients need healthy marrow and blood cells to help their bodies make new, healthy marrow.

Anyone age 18-44 who meets the health guidelines can join. Volunteers should be committed to helping any patient in need. To join, volunteers complete a short health questionnaire and sign a form stating that they

understand what it means to be listed on the marrow registry. Then, a cheek swab sample is taken to determine the tissue type to be matched against patients who need a donor. This information is added to the Be The Match registry.

For more information about marrow and blood cell donation, contact the North Central Region donor center in Detroit at 313-833-2624 or the NMDP at 800-471-4627. Online information is available at www.bethematch.org.

Book series teaches character traits

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Marian Nelson and Kris Yankee know it's a lofty goal, making readers young and old become better people. But with character education ebbing as schools today focus on the Core Curriculum, the pair felt this might be a perfect time for their five-book series, *Becoming a Better You!*

The first book in the series, *Are You Confident Today?*, was released in March; the second book, *Are You Respectful Today?*, releases later this month. The other three — *Are You Empathetic Today?*, *Are You Honest Today?* and *Are You Grateful Today?* — will be released in August, October and February 2015, respectively.

Nelson, the owner of Ferne Press in Northville, the publishing company producing the series, said each book covers a day in the life of a child and how "you can build, keep and share" these traits with each other.

"Our goal is to have readers, at home and school and in the community, see that building character traits in children are vital and that is all of our jobs to help children grow to be the best they can," Nelson said. "Learning these traits is intentional and purposeful and vital to the success of every person. This series is not the answer, but a springboard to awareness, sensitivity and understanding of yourself and others."

Traits lacking

Yankee, a Plymouth resident who has also collaborated with television weather personality Chuck Gaidica, said the series deals with the character traits she says

BOOK SIGNING

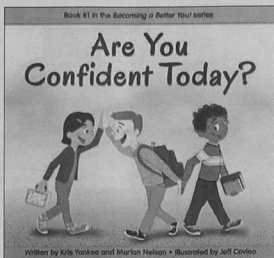
What: Author and publisher signings for the book series *Becoming a Better You!*
Who: Author Kris Yankee of Plymouth and publisher Marian Nelson of Ferne Press in Northville
Where: Barnes & Noble, 17111 Haggerty, Northville
When: 2-4 p.m. Saturday, June 7
Why: *Becoming a Better You!* is a five-book series centered around building good character traits in young people

are "sorely lacking in the world today," including confidence, respect, empathy, honesty and gratitude.

Each book, Yankee pointed out, uses everyday language and situations to help readers learn about and grow in each trait. She said both *Are You Confident Today?* and *Are You Respectful Today?* have "garnered wonderful responses" from parents and teachers alike.

"Character education used to be something that was a part of the school curriculum, but the emphasis now is more on testing and the standards of the Common Core," Yankee said. "While those elements are extremely important, by helping kids learn these character traits at a young age (or reinforcing these traits at a young age) both in and out of school, our goal is to help create confident, caring and responsible young citizens."

Nelson, the Northville publisher, said the firm has been battling around the ideas of concepts for a while, especially talking about empathy and respect, but then realizing that you need to have confidence for yourself



The first book in the series, "Are You Confident Today?", was released in March.

and others in order to have any of the other character traits.

Near and dear

She said character education is "near and dear to my heart," calling it "the framework for who we are and how we grow to become caring and productive people in this world."

"You can have all the academics you want, but without building character in people of all ages, you have a shallow foothold in life," Nelson said. "In the world today, we are seeing more examples of uncivilized and inhuman actions toward people. Our only hope is if we teach and encourage positive behavior traits in children and adults."

While Ferne Press has more than 165 titles exemplifying the company mission (to create a greater understanding of humanity through the written word), *Becoming a Better You!* is the first time the publishing firm has developed a series.

Nelson said the traits evident in the series "have been on my mind a long time."

"They are very impor-

tant to me and for everyone who works in our company," she said. "It is a vision we have all had and now is the time to produce them."



Yankee



Nelson

Yankee, whose *Are You Confident Today?* earned a 2014 Mom's Choice Gold Award in the Inspirational/Motivational category, said she stopped with the five books because "these are the most important traits." But she doesn't think the series will end there.

"Honestly, I think these five books are just the beginning," Yankee said. "I hope that Marian and I have other opportunities to expand this series into other areas and other types of books."

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Father's Day Celebration

Friday, June 13 | 1:30 pm

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Estate Planning & Asset Protection Workshop

Tuesday, June 24 | 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Elder Law Attorney Nicole Wipp will show you the simplest, smartest path to planning for your family, protecting your assets. Get info on the Veteran's Improved pension benefit as well. Light refreshments will be served.

Presented by: Family & Aging Law Center

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Presented by: Mario Messina

Father's Day Celebration

Thursday, June 12 | 1:30 pm

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Nashville Nights

Tuesday, June 24 | 6:00 pm

Put on your boots and grab your cowboy hat. It's time to join us for some foot stomping music and entertainment with the very talented Nashville stage performer Mark Edwards. Light refreshments will also be served.

Presented by: Mark Edwards

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S'craft trustees OK four-year culinary arts program

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Schoolcraft College took one more step last week toward offering a four-year degree in culinary arts.

The school's Board of Trustees voted to approve the plan for offering bachelor's degrees in two tracks: a bachelor of arts in culinary entrepreneurship and leadership and a bachelor of science in culinary nutrition and leadership. Now the college, located on Haggerty in Livonia, will have a visit from the Higher Learning Commission to try to receive its approval before having four-year degree students at the college.

"We expect that while process to take the next nine months," said Rich Weinkauff, the school's vice president of instruction. "Successful approval



Chef Shawn Loving, culinary arts department chairman at Schoolcraft College, said having students around for two additional years will allow for deeper training.

al by the Higher Learning Commission will allow us to market it and get real public with it."

The college is planning on enrolling students in its four-year program beginning in fall 2015. The school began the process last year after it received the

highest accreditation possible from the American Culinary Federation.

The process for offering a four-year degree at a two-year college such as Schoolcraft was OK'd by the state Legislature in 2012 for several specific areas of study, which include energy

production, concrete technology, maritime technology and culinary arts.

Northwestern Michigan College earlier this year became one of the first two-year colleges to grant a four-year degree, graduating students with bachelor's degrees in maritime technology. Other schools, such as Jackson Community College and Lake Michigan College, are planning to enroll students this fall in a four-year program for energy production after receiving approval from the Higher Learning Commission.

Schoolcraft is one of the first schools in the state to receive approval from its governing board to move forward with a culinary arts bachelor's degree program, said Mike Hansen, president of the Michigan Community College Association. He said the process of moving forward with four-year programs after the legislation was approved two years ago

now becomes more methodical, as the biggest hurdle before was approval from the state. "After we got that, then the process colleges have to go through is more procedural," Hansen said.

New aspects of program

Weinkauff said in addition to offering two new degrees, a new professional chef academy will also be available to a limited number of students in the program. The academy will be designed to provide more hands-on experience for students working under several professional chefs.

"That's kind of a unique angle to what we're providing at the bachelor's level," he said. "That's going to be an experiential component of the program."

Also planned for the program will be coursework detailing nutrition and food science, as well as the business aspect of

the culinary arts.

Chef Shawn Loving, culinary arts department chairman, said that some additional tracks are an important aspect of the field outside of the kitchen.

"Those two need to go hand-in-hand for success," he said. "That's very critical."

Loving said having students around for two additional years will allow for better relationships between instructors and students. Often, students are just getting comfortable with instructors in their last semester, he said. This longer period will allow for deeper training to prepare students to work after graduation.

"You realize that they did learn and that they got very competent," Loving said. "We get to embrace our students longer and I think it will build up a stronger success rate overall."

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Church showing cars for good cause

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Brightmoon Christian Church of Novi will offer its free Made in Detroit car show for the third year, set for Friday, June 13. The church is at 40800 W. 13 Mile, near M-5.

"It's open to the entire community," said church member and organizer Larry Smith, on the decision board. "It continues to grow every year. We are expecting over 200 cars this year."

The show begins at 4 p.m. and ends at 8 p.m. The cars will be able to get on the lot at noon. Anyone who would like to enter a car or motor cycle in the show can register online at www.madeindetroitcarshow.org or call at 248-668-7000.

This year, organizers will be raising money for Royal Family Kids Camp. This organization provides a one-week camp for foster care kids. There are vendors that will be selling food during the car show this year and several will be donating all money raised to Royal Family Kids Camp. The vendors are Buffalo Wild Wings, Rolling Stone Pizza, La-Marsa, Dan's Ice Cream

and Sugar Macarons.

Smith, a Beverly Hills resident, said last year's show included a 1932 Chevy roadster, also in the earlier church car shows. That car won the grand prize its first year in the show.

Show organizers have five categories for cash prizes and trophies.

Last year, car show organizers raised money for the Wood Bridge Community Center in Detroit and brought in about 50 of the youth to participate in the show. The money was raised by a barbecue grill that was donated by Quality Grills in Detroit. The grill was raffled off to people attending the car show.

UAW-GM and the March of Dimes will also raffie a 2014 Corvette this year. Price is \$40 for one ticket and \$60 for two tickets. The drawing will take place Thursday, June 19, at the UAW-GM CTR.

Smith said the Brightmoon men's ministry, Men of Brightmoon, puts on four major events each year, including the car show with a barbecue at the same time. Last year's show featured some 600 rib dinners which sold out, so new plans were put in place to

feed show visitors with food and help with vendors. Projects will help to send the foster camp kids to Royal Family Kids Camp.

"Every year it grows," Smith said, with close to 1,000 people attending last year. Pastor Jamie Kjos is big on supporting community organizations, especially those for youth, Smith said.

Last year, the church show also featured more than 200 cars in the show and many won cash prizes. The major sponsors for the show are: UAW-GM (Gold), UAW-Chrysler (Bronze), and VAS Center (Silver).

There is also live entertainment from Duane Parham and his Jazz Band from Detroit and lots of activities for kids, including face painting, slot car racing, micro reality car racing, giant trucks racing and a paintball target course.

The church draws people like Smith of Beverly Hills, as well as others from some distance away. "It's a big show and gives Novi 'bragging rights' in the car show realm," said Smith, who works with other men's ministry members and committee on the show.

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

ISSUES FORUM

Date/Time: Monday, June 9, 7 p.m.
Location: Canton Township Hall, 1150 S. Canton Center
Details: The Canton Republican Caucus hosts an issues forum consisting of factual presentations on issues affecting the residents of Canton Township, the Plymouth-Canton School District and other local communities. The two primary issues to be discussed are road repairs and the required funding and education and the related funding required. Presentations will be made by local, district, county and state level speakers.

FLAG RETIREMENT

Date/Time: Saturday, June 14, 2 p.m.
Location: VFW Post 6695, 1426 S. Mill, Plymouth
Details: June 14 is Flag Day and VFW Post 6695 will host a flag retirement ceremony, assisted by Boy Scout Troop 1539. The public is invited to the 30-minute ceremony, at which organizers say the public can learn more about our flag and how to properly retire it. Hot dogs, chips and pop will be provided following the ceremony.
Contact: Call 734-459-6700 for more information.

HEISE HOURS

Date/Times: Monday, June 9, 10-11 a.m. in Canton, noon to 1 p.m. in Northville and 3-4 p.m. in Plymouth
Locations: Parthenon Coney Island, 39910 Ford Road in Canton; Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady; and Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main.
Details: State Rep. Kurt Heise invites local residents to meet with him to share their perspectives and ask questions. Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office.
Contact: Residents are invited to call toll-free 855-REP-KURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Date/Time: Sunday, June 15, 7-11 a.m.
Location: Canton Plymouth Mettetal Airport, 8550 N. Lilley, Canton
Details: The EAA Chapter 113 hosts its annual Father's Day pancake breakfast. Bring the whole family for breakfast, helicopter rides and static displays. Proceeds help fund the

EAA 113 Aviation Scholarship Program. Free admission; breakfast costs \$6 for adults, \$4 for kids.

GHOSTS OF PLYMOUTH WALK

Date/Time: Sunday, June 29, 7 p.m.
Location: The walk circles Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth and lasts about 90 minutes. Participants should meet at the fountain in Kellogg Park.
Details: Participants can meet and greet some of the characters from Plymouth's past during the Plymouth Historical Museum's "Ghosts of Plymouth" walk. Hear the tales of early Plymouth from the characters themselves, such as Phil Markham (inventor of the Markham Air Rifle), his mistress Blanche Shortman and his spurned wife Carrie, colorful physician Dr. Luther Peck and George Starkweather, the first white male born in Plymouth Township. Tickets are \$10 per person (\$5 for children under 10) in advance or \$15 (\$10 for children under 10) at the park and can be purchased at the museum's website using PayPal or at the Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main Street.
Contact: Call 734-455-8940 for more information.

BLOOD DRIVES

Dates/Times/Locations:
 » Sunday, June 8, St. Kenneth Church, 14951 Haggerty in Plymouth, 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
 » Sunday, June 22, Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth, 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.
 » Monday, June 23, Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, 1-6:45 p.m.
Details: The American Red Cross sponsors the above blood drives.
Contact: Donors can make appointments by calling 800-RED-CROSS or going to www.redcrossblood.org and enter search by zip code.

GARDEN WALK

Date/Time: Tuesday, June 24, noon to 8 p.m.
Location: The walk features a variety of gardens, descriptions of which are located on the tickets.
Details: The 19th annual "Flowers are Forever" garden walk in Plymouth includes gardens with a variety of features, as well as many ideas that can be adapted to your own garden. Complimentary refreshments and a



Star performances

The P-CEP Unified Stars participated May 29 in the Special Olympics Project Unity state games at Central Michigan University. Project Unity is an education-based program that uses the sports and education initiatives of Special Olympics to build friendships, leadership skills and foster team building. The Unified Stars spent the afternoon participating in the bocce tournament. Team officials called it "a fun-filled day with lots of team spirit and high-fives." The entire team took home medals in the bocce tournament.

perennial sale will be at one of the gardens. Master gardeners will also be available to answer gardening questions. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 the day of the walk, half-price for children 12 and younger. The Trailwood Garden Club, a branch of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, is the sponsor. Tickets are available from Garden Club members, Backyard Birds on Main Street, Saxton's Garden Center on Ann Arbor Trail and Sideways on Forest.
Contact: For additional information, contact Marilyn Detmer at 734-454-4625.
CRAFTERS NEEDED
Date/Time: Oct. 18
Location: West Middle School, 44401 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth
Details: The Delta Kappa Gamma Education Society hosts its annual Juried Craft Show. Proceeds from the show provide scholarships for young people

who are pursuing a career in education and mini-garages for educators in the district.
Contact: For more information, contact Debbie Cortellini at debcortellini@comcast.net or 734-451-1525.
CRAFTERS WANTED
Date/Time: Sept. 5-7
Location: Downtown Plymouth's Fall Festival
Details: The Plymouth Fall Festival has openings in the Craft Show. Applications are available on the Craft Show page at www.plymouthfallfestival.com. Deadline for jewelry booth applications is June 30. Deadline for all other craft applications is July 15.
Contact: More information can be found on the web site or email Colleen Brown at craftshow@plymouthfallfestival.com.
MSU WINE TASTING
Date/Time: Friday, June 6, 6-8:30 p.m.
Location: Cantor's Market, on

Haggerty just north of Five Mile, Plymouth
Details: The Western Metro Detroit Alumni Club of Michigan State University hosts a wine tasting event, a fundraiser to provide scholarships to students transferring from local colleges to MSU. Enjoy a selection of eight or more wines and hors d'oeuvres by Cantor's. Live music will be provided by an ensemble of musicians from the College of Music and a talk will be given on the Wines of Michigan by MSU Professor Ron Perry. Admission is \$45.
Contact: To purchase tickets, visit eventbrite.com/cantors-festive-market-wine-tasting-event-tickets-11579413337. Call Tom Hess for information at 248-380-8519.
BNI MEETING
Date/Time: Each Thursday, 7-8:30 a.m.
Location: Red Olive Restaurant, 1051 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: The BNI Northville-The

\$1 million Referral Chapter meets every Thursday morning.
Contact: For more information, visit www.NorthvilleBNI.com
FOOD PANTRY
Date/Time: Open each Tuesday, registration 2-3 p.m.
Location: Abundant Life Church of God, 2100 Hannan, Canton
Details: Abundant Life Church of God hosts New Dimension Outreach Food Bank for anyone who needs food. The pantry is run by people who love and care. Registration is 2-3 p.m., free raffles are at 3 p.m., and food distribution follows the raffles. The pantry serves more than 100 families per week. Users will need a photo ID and proof of address.
Contact: For more information, contact Donna at 734-389-9658, Pastor Dan Smithman at 734-664-5848 or the church at 734-722-7688.

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Learning from your investment mistakes

I had a meeting recently with a former client, who decided in the midst of the financial crisis that he should liquidate his investments and go all cash.

He was a few years away from retirement and said he didn't want to take any more losses. His game plan was to get back into the market as soon as things got back on track.

He has been in cash for the last five years and that's what precipitated his call to meet.

The client spent the first half of the meeting beating himself up for his mistake. He recognized that he had let fear dictate his investment strategy. The result is he has not come close to recouping the losses that he incurred during the financial crisis.

He said in order to meet his goal of retiring in five years, he has to double his money – without being overly aggressive.

I told my former client it doesn't do any good to beat himself up for past mistakes. As investors, we need to learn from our mistakes. We cannot afford to always look in the rearview mirror. Just like markets are always looking forward, the same thing applies to investors.

Woulda, shoulda, coulda are words that just don't apply to an investor. It doesn't matter what you should have done in the past, the key is what you should do now. I find that investors who continually beat themselves up for past mistakes are generally unsuccessful. Every investor has made mistakes, even the great ones such as Warren Buffett.

Investors have to learn from their mistakes and not compound them by making another one. The mistake this client will be making is trying to double his money in five years.

Is it possible to double your money in five years?



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

Of course, however, to do so requires a gambler's mentality rather than that of an investor.

To double your money in five years would mean that you have to average more than 14 percent a year. Historically, that is nearly double what the markets have averaged. One of the biggest mistakes as an investor is to try to make up losses with unreasonable returns. Don't compound one mistake with another.

I explained to my former client that his goal of retiring in a few years is unrealistic. His income in retirement will not cover his living expenses. I told him to look for other alternatives – working longer and trimming living expenses.

In too many situations, investors who have lost money or missed out on an opportunity tend to take chances that they normally wouldn't. In reality, they suspend all principles of good investing and, in truth, become gamblers.

Remember, just because you're buying a stock doesn't make it an investment. Desperate people take unnecessary chances and put themselves in worse financial shape.

As investors, we have to accept the reality that we are going to make mistakes. It happens to everyone. The key is to learn from those mistakes. Just like the markets are always looking forward, investors need to do the same thing.

Good luck.

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

Butterfly enthusiast has kits to attract winged wonders

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

Residents can attract colorful butterflies to their gardens.

Brenda Dziedzic, owner of Brenda's Butterfly Habitat, located at Barson's Greenhouse at the corner of Maplewood and Merriman, is selling \$30 Monarch Rearing Kits to get gardeners started.

The kits contain two caterpillars, four swamp milkweed plants and instructions. Caterpillars turn into a chrysalis stage and then become butterflies.

The kit is packaged for success. "They also get this habitat," Dziedzic said.

By using Dziedzic's recommendation, gardeners can build a healthy habitat for butterflies in their gardens.

Residents don't have to wait for a butterfly to flutter by. They can invite them to stay a while. People don't need kits, if they plant swamp milkweed plants, she said.

"It's easy to grow and it provides a host plant for Monarchs," she said. "It attracts any other species of butterflies when it flowers."



Brenda Dziedzic is selling Monarch butterfly kits. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Eggs and caterpillars

Dziedzic is excited anytime she sees eggs or caterpillars.

She has a variety of butterflies and is looking forward to adding Question Mark butterflies in her garden and at the habitat. The silver mark on the underside of the hind wing is broken into two parts, a curved line and a dot, creating a question mark shape that gives the species its name.

That was made possible by a recent find of a mated butterfly by Tom Lipinski, who works at Barson's Greenhouse. "It was in the back greenhouse," Lipinski said.

Dziedzic, a Westland resident, is the founder of the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association and author of *Butterflies in the Garden*. She said it's important for people



A Monarch butterfly sits on a plant in Dziedzic's Butterfly Habitat at Barson's Greenhouse in Westland.

to avoid using pesticides, because they kill caterpillars and butterflies as easily as they kill unwelcome pests.

Dziedzic gives away surplus butterfly eggs and caterpillars for free, as long as people have a host plant or

will buy one. Admission to Brenda's Butterfly Habitat is a free will donation. It is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday through Saturday.

Volunteers needed

Dziedzic is also seeking volunteers each Friday and Saturday. Volunteers welcome people, make sure that people stay on the path, that there are no butterflies or caterpillars on the path and that no one tries to grab a butterfly.

To purchase a butterfly kit or to get more information, call Dziedzic at 734-788-0539.

"If they want to learn more, I will teach them as much as they want to know," she said.

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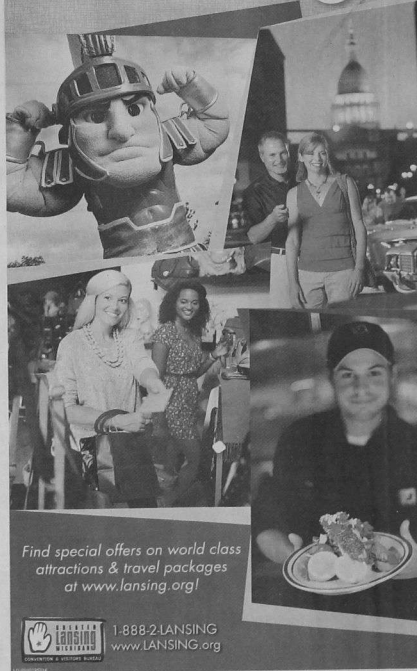
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PLYMOUTH-CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

Frankie's Friends

The Canton location of bd's Mongolian Grill and Frankie's Friends Charitable Pet Foundation host a dinner 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, June 10.

Diners are encouraged to bring a favorite pet photo and "have fun" during raffles and contests. The restaurant is donating 15 percent of all sales from the entire day to Frankie's Friends, supporting better treatment of pet cancers and other diseases.

The Canton location of bd's Mongolian Grill is at 42089 Ford Road. Call 734-844-5800 for details.

Five-star honor

Fremont Insurance, a Michigan-exclusive property and casualty insurance carrier, announced Plymouth-based Kennedy Nemier Insurance Agency has been named as one of the company's Five Star Agency award winners.

"Congratulations to the entire Kennedy Nemier Insurance team on achieving this recognition, we appreciate and value their partnership and we are proud to have them as part of the Fremont Insurance network of agencies," Fremont Insurance President and CEO Steve Monahan said. "In a highly competitive and challenging business environment and industry, this agency has been able to achieve continued success thanks to its customer-focused approach, industry expertise and commitment to their communities, all the qualities we look for in a Five Star Agency."

Each year, Fremont Insurance honors insurance agencies that maintain the highest business standards and performance. The Five Star Agency award recognizes agencies that have achieved long-term success in operating a profitable and growing business.

Board chair

Community Financial Credit Union announced



Lisa Kennedy from Kennedy Nemier Insurance and Kevin Kastra from Fremont Insurance.

Teresa Folino as the new board chair during a recent executive board meeting.

"I am proud to welcome such an experienced industry professional as Teresa to chair the Community Financial Board," President and CEO Bill Lawton said.

Folino has served Community Financial as a board member for 12 years. She is employed as a claims manager in the Medicare/Medicaid administrative unit for AAA Auto Club Group in Dearborn.

"I am very honored that the board of directors has elected me to lead our board," Folino said. "I look forward to working with the board and management to continue to grow the credit union and provide outstanding service to our members."

Folino has served on the board for other organizations in metro Detroit, including the Northville Community Parks & Recreation Department. She has also been appointed to numerous state and local

boards and committees, political campaigns from presidential to local races and the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce. Folino resides in Northville.

Folino took the position of board chairman March 20. She replaces Ronald Carlson.

Benihana winners

Sophie Mahken of Plymouth and Payton Dixon of Belleville were among those selected for their artwork contributions to Benihana's 2014 Children Helping Children Coloring Contest, part of the Children's Day program that culminated May 5.

With the help of Sophie and Payton's efforts, Benihana raised \$50,000 in support of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

More than 17,000 submissions were collected as part of this year's contest and these students were selected for their unique contributions. As a thank you, each received a Benihana hibachi dinner for eight people, a \$250 value.

Start-up company has Canton touch



Jeremy Lindbauer (from left), Paul Schrems and Nick Turnbull are co-founders of Ann Arbor-based TurtleCell. Lindbauer and Turnbull are Canton High School graduates; Schrems is from Breckenridge.

After spending entire walks between classes untangling his headphones, Paul Schrems tried to buy a product to cure his frustration.

Disappointed by the available solutions, the lead product designer for TurtleCell decided to focus his engineering expertise on designing a product which incorporated headphones into his protective case.

The next two years included 33 unique design iterations, five business pitch competitions, intense fundraising and talent recruitment. The result? Ann Arbor-based start-up TurtleCell will launch a solution for the frustration of tangled, broken and lost headphones — the first protective case for the iPhone 5 and 5s with retractable headphones.

The case is available for pre-order at TurtleCell.com. Pre-orders include a discounted price of \$39.95 — \$10 off the full retail price — and will be available in black, gray, red and aqua. All orders will be delivered in October.

The company was founded by three recent college graduates and is based in Ann Arbor. Schrems of Breckenridge is the director of product development responsible for product creation, testing and supplier relations.

The director of business development, Canton resident Nick Turnbull, a Canton High School graduate, oversees legal, financial and fundraising matters.

Canton resident Jeremy Lindbauer, also a graduate of Canton High School, is director of

marketing responsible for advertising, PR, social media and customer relations.

"As a group of audiophiles, we were challenged to meet our own expectations for both sound and aesthetics. After years of development, we have something that is truly unique, functional and sexy," Schrems said.

TurtleCell is the first case of its kind with premium, in-ear headphones built into the case. The headphones can be extended to any length for convenient, on-the-go listening.

When finished, retracting the headphones is simple — just press the retraction button on the side of the case. With a full-length set of headphones and ample protection, the TurtleCell maintains a thin profile with only seven millimeters of added thickness.

The headphones come standard with a microphone and full button control for safe, hands-free calling. Utilizing the phone's normal functionality is seamless with the snap of a switch, which allows you to engage or disengage the headphones. Subtle texture, combined with a sleek pattern, provides an

enhanced grip without sacrificing pocketability.

To ensure a full-scale launch, TurtleCell has partnered with Digital Treasures, an established mobile accessories manufacturer and distributor headquartered in Michigan, with more than 15 years of experience in the industry. The two companies unveiled the TurtleCell at this year's Consumer Electronic Show in Las Vegas, resulting in huge international interest from retailers. They expect the TurtleCell to be available nationwide by the 2014 holiday season.

The company, founded by three 20-somethings passionate about music and exceptional listening quality, was supported by several economic development organizations focused on assisting start-ups in Michigan, including Ann Arbor SPARK, the MSU Innovation Center and the Michigan Economic Development Corp.'s First Customer Program, which provides services to help start-ups reach their first customers.

TurtleCell is set on embracing its young start-up culture by delivering entertaining content to fans.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON CHAMBER CHAT



New home

College Nannies & Tutors hosted a ribbon cutting recently to announce its new location in Canton. College Nannies & Tutors is located at 42180 Ford Rd., Suite 302. Family members, employees, Canton Chamber of Commerce members and residents were all among the attendees.

Grub Crawl sponsors

The Canton Chamber of Commerce is offering members the opportunity to sponsor the chamber's annual Grub Crawl, set for 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, July 22. Four sponsorships are available; sponsorship deadline is June 12.

Menu Sponsor, \$500 — Includes company name on posters and menus, plus name on the T-shirt that 600 guests will be wearing the night of the event; also six tickets to the event.

Transportation Sponsor, \$500 — Includes company name in each Fun Bus, plus name on T-shirt that 600 guests will be wearing; also six tickets to the event.

T-Shirt Sponsor PLUS, \$135 — Includes company name on T-shirt, plus two tickets to the event.

T-Shirt Sponsor, \$75 — Can't come to the event? The chamber will list company name on the T-shirt (600 shirts).

To get a sponsorship application and for more

information, call the chamber at 734-453-4040.

10-member Connection

Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce members can sign up for the June 12 10-Member Connection, setting them up to make new business contacts in an hour, in addition to doing a short three- to four-minute presentation about their business.

The session takes place 8-9 a.m. at the chamber office, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail, in downtown Plymouth. Chamber officials said the connection is "great for building mutually beneficial relationships that can bring new customers, expand business or provide referrals for everyone involved." Attendees will all be from different industries.

For more information, call Teri at 734-453-1540.

Chamber golf outing

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Com-

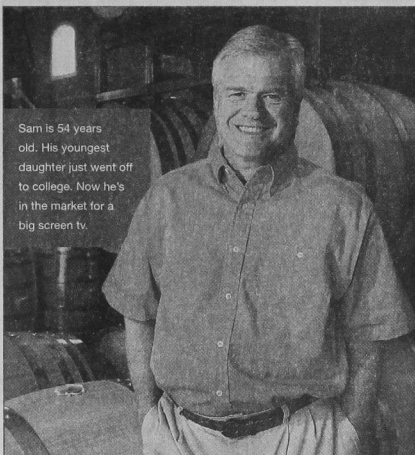
merce sponsors its annual golf outing and auction Monday, July 21, at the Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center.

The event is a scramble that will include lunch, dinner, plus open bar throughout the day and on the course. All company foursomes receive a sign on the course. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., with tee-off at 11 a.m. Box lunches will be available to eat in the clubhouse or to take on the golf cart. The cost is \$205 per golfer or \$820 per foursome.

Hole sponsorships are \$150 and all other remaining sponsorships are \$300. All sponsors will have signage, be listed in the program and on the website. There are sponsorships available for on-course games and other high-profile parts of the outing to give sponsors maximum exposure. Sponsorships must be confirmed by June 30.

For more details or to participate, contact the chamber at 734-453-1540 or emails@plymouth-mich.org.

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OUR VIEW

Lesson learned?

School board must be careful with custodian decision

Plymouth-Canton Board of Education President Judy Mardigan said Tuesday, at a special meeting of the board, that she wishes the board had never privatized the district's transportation services.

It was a fairly stunning announcement, especially considering she made it at a time when the board is considering – most believe has already decided – the privatization of its custodial and maintenance services.

It's not surprising, however, Mardigan feels that way. The contract with Michigan Education Transportation

Services was fraught with problems, from cost increases to the more prevalent driver issue. METS consistently lost drivers – the district on more than one occasion put out a public plea for substitute drivers – and parents complained frequently about late, or even non-existent, buses.

If that's not enough of a cautionary tale about the woes of privatization, board members have also heard from staffers in neighboring school districts who've already privatized their custodial work.

And they aren't happy about it.

Tales of dirty classrooms, soapless rest rooms and a general lack of knowledge about the district and its students have been common complaints. Affected staffers say salaries – and, more importantly, morale – are lower.

The district's 68 custodians would, according to district officials, get first crack at jobs under the new vendor and would, in many cases, actually get a raise. But bus drivers heard the same refrain and it didn't work out so well for them.

Privatizing custodial services is estimated to save the district between \$600,000 and \$1.1 million and the board is almost certain to vote in favor at its Tuesday meeting. Board members blamed Lansing almost exclusively, saying legislators have done precious little to help the district and pointing out some neighboring districts get as much as \$1,000 more per pupil. That situation isn't likely to change – there's

no political will in Lansing to spend any more money on education or to make any changes to the tax code to help schools.

"It's Lansing's fault!" is a claim that's beginning to fall on deaf ears, though, as the district pays for a variety of studies and gives raises – as it did last fall – to administrators. Staffers who keep providing concessions to custodians have had their pay reduced 10 percent and agreed to 17 unpaid furlough days each of the last two years – would rather the district find another solution.

The school board, trying to shave a \$6.3 million deficit this year after making some \$30 million in cuts over the last five years, may have very little choice but to privatize. Members were certainly caught between the proverbial rock and a hard place.

It'll be a shame if the custodians have to provide the landing space.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Missed opportunity

I think it would be good for the citizens of Plymouth to take a look at how the city has handled downtown valet parking in front of Compair's, Flamma and The Sardine Room (all wonderful restaurants with a common owner).

Compair's valet service takes up five prime public parking spaces. Compair's paid 21 centers per hour when you consider the \$400 fee they paid for the five spaces over 24 weekends at eight hours per day (this includes the two additional hours where no parking signs blocked the valet spots prior to the 6 p.m. starting time, see photo).

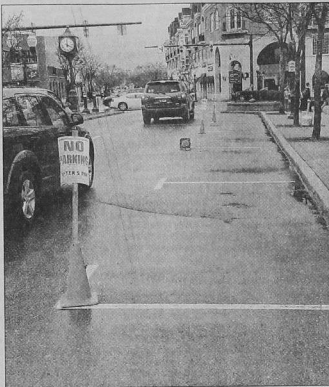
Anyone who has parked in Ann Arbor, Royal Oak, Birmingham, etc., will know that \$1 per hour is at the low end of a more appropriate hourly parking rate. Had the city negotiated a fairer rate of \$1 per hour, net revenue to the city would have been \$1,980 rather than \$400; thus the city missed an opportunity of \$1,500.

According to the mayor "...the way the DDA and the City Commission have chosen to look at the topic is that we are not paying anything for the service, it is available to anyone and everyone and, most importantly, it frees up 40-50 parking spots in the downtown at absolutely no cost to the city."

My contention is that there was a lost opportunity cost of \$1,500 and that there is also the appearance of impropriety as the valet spots in reality are primarily for the benefit of one private business owner (I observed the valet parking for a period of time and confirmed what the valets told me; it is rare that anyone valets parks and goes anywhere else but into Compair's).

The citizens of Plymouth can decide for themselves if the city has made a wise financial arrangement regarding valet parking. Moreover, the citizens can decide if the way this was handled is an indicator of the way other more substantive financial decisions are being made in an \$8 million annual budget.

Since I've also documented



Valet parking along Main Street in downtown Plymouth.

deficiencies in the city's snow removal ordinance enforcement and resulting fines and have seen missed opportunities in the home addition permit process (resulting in lost permit fees and future increased assessments). I would like to see the city do a better job of optimizing its existing revenue opportunities rather than considering or asking for more money from an already highly taxed population. If you don't think the city can do a better job at managing our money, just look at the downtown "compass" for direction.

Jack Wilson
Plymouth

Terrorist trade?
So we traded five terrorists for one deserter?
Sounds like a good deal to me, President Obama.

Tom Kelly
Plymouth

Union irony
I could not help but notice the irony of two stories that appeared in the June 1 edition

of the *Canton Observer*.

The first ("District fears privatization vote") showed how the PCS administration and board are giving serious consideration to privatizing custodial services so that "30 percent" can be saved for the upcoming budget year. The second ("Union Dues") profiled Bob Morris' new book about his father Ken, who was instrumental in the history of the UAW.

As I read the article about the sacrifices that Ken Morris and many others made to ensure that a strong middle class was formed in the post-World War II era, I couldn't help but wonder what he would think of the possible elimination of even more union jobs in the school system.

He would probably point out (as the article did) that the privatizing of transportation at P-CCS hasn't worked out financially or in reliability.

And I'm sure that he would as offended as I am about the comment from board Treasurer Mark Horvath that custodi-

al work "is not part of our core business."

As a 22-year veteran teacher whose grandfather was an elementary school custodian, I absolutely dispute that custodians are not an integral part of the school system. Students and staff have daily interactions with custodians, bus drivers, coaches, para-pros, lunch workers, etc., and they are all an important part of the team that makes schools run smoothly.

Custodians are kind of like umpires in baseball. Most people don't notice them unless things go wrong. So when they do go wrong, I would prefer that experienced people with a vested interest in our schools are the ones who are working in them.

Andrew C. Jackson
Canton

Disaster awaits

On April 19, I submitted a letter to the editor of the *Plymouth Observer* with regard to the proposed privatization of our schools. Additionally, I emailed the entire group of board members my concerns and provable experience with regard to the specific privatized company hired by the Northville Public Schools system to take over their custodial services; namely Grand Rapids Building Services.

I also made the offer to each and every one of those members to make use of my first-hand knowledge of how this "service" is supposed to work by letting me speak to them individually. I was grouped by calling me with my provided phone number or at least emailing me with questions or concerns.

In an action to the newspaper publication and the two emails sent, I spoke to the board directly at two of its open meetings. Unfortunately, none of the board members cared enough about real expertise and first-hand knowledge to follow up with me for further information.

I have been informed that June 10 the board is going to vote on whether or not to privatize the custodial/maintenance departments of our schools – with G.R.B.S., the very company about which I

warned it.

The Board of Education needs to be held directly responsible for acting in such an irresponsible manner and without at least interviewing the teachers of the Northville Schools or other school employees familiar with G.R.B.S. Our neighboring school district has every opportunity to help in this ridiculous endeavor, or I have spoken to several teachers from the Northville School District who would gladly tell our board what they have found to be the regrettable situation in their schools based on their own experience from many classroom situations.

I have done my homework, why hasn't the board done theirs? One might think that the title, "Board of Education," would infer making educated decisions. Your Board of Education has more than a few decisions for which members must all be held accountable.

T.L. Cavanaugh
Plymouth

Culture shift

This is the time of the year when all of the brightest and best are featured in your newspaper. Spelling bee winners, scholarship winners, and your Academic All-Stars are pictured flashing big smiles across their faces and rightfully so.

Has it occurred to the educators and/or parents that most of the top winners are of a different culture? I have noticed this year after year for several years.

Doesn't this tell our educators and our parents that other cultures place a much higher priority on education in our country than our American parents and teachers do? Why are our native kids pole on the academic totem pole? What can be done to return our kids to the highest scholastic achievements?

It seems apparent that dumbing down and making sure that each child is a winner so that he/she doesn't feel bad is not working.

Nancy Austin
Canton

GUEST COLUMN

School board making short-sighted decisions

I am writing in response to the May 14 articles regarding the decisions made by the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools board to keep Gallimore Elementary open and to refrain from accepting students from outside district boundaries.

Due to these decisions, the school board is now bent upon drastically cutting media specialist and reading/math interventionist positions throughout the district. Both of these positions have a direct impact on



Heather Wandervall
GUEST COLUMNIST

reading, which is the foundation of education.

I believe the school board is extremely short-sighted in not foreseeing the impact this will have on the future of P-CCS. Lower reading abilities will lower scores on national/state assessments, which will lower district appeal, which will further lower enrollment,

which will lead to schools of choice after all.

The board's decision to cut these positions may slap a bandage on budgetary cuts this year, but will create larger, deeper problems next year and for the next decade.

P-CCS seems to proudly market itself in three areas: diversity, 1:1 technology and above-average test scores on national/state assessments. Apparently the school board is proud of P-CCS' diversity until it reaches unacceptable numbers, which is reflected by the latest decision to refuse enrollment to non-residents.

We already have the services in place for incoming students without adding additional budgetary funds. Rather than adding more diversity to our district at no cost, the board would prefer cutting services to

current residential students.

Plymouth-Canton communities strongly supported the new 1:1 technology program, as evidenced by the bond approval last year. Now the board is going to undermine this vote by cutting positions of those who directly implement this exciting program. Media specialists are the ones in each school building who are training teachers how to implement technology into their classrooms, as well as teaching students how to use this technology on a daily basis.

Not only are they the forerunners in training, but they are also the first problem-solvers who are available at a moment's notice when issues arise with state-mandated technology curriculum in the classrooms.

Finally, interventionists and media specialists

are the front line in the fight against illiteracy, which directly affects test scores on assessments. Whether right or wrong, the current environment in education relies heavily on these assessments as a way to "grade" teachers and schools. I currently have four children in the P-CCS system and I have repeatedly heard administrators boast their schools' above-average scores. It is no surprise that test scores are directly affected by reading abilities.

I want the school board to know that the media specialist and interventionist positions here at P-CCS have made a life-changing difference in our children. Our daughter began first grade with no reading abilities and her numerical sense was nonexistent. Her educational future looked over-

whelming and bleak.

However, her school offered daily reading interventions, which in the end also offered math intervention. With the help of these interventionists, she has made considerable growth this year. Without these vital teachers, our daughter would already be left behind in first grade, facing a nearly insurmountable obstacle to education.

I am distraught over the methods the school board is using to cut the positions. The board should be open and forthright in its leadership rather than making false decisions behind closed doors during last-minute emergency sessions. I urge the public to attend these meetings and voice their concerns in these regards.

Heather Wandervall is a Canton resident.

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'The Great Detroit' film heads to area theater

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

Native Detroiters Anthony Brogdon is proud of his hometown and wants the world to know of the Motor City's rich history and efforts to bring it back.

Brogdon recently produced his first film to tout all that is good about Detroit, its people and its history. *The Great Detroit, It was-It is-It will be*, will be shown at the Civic Theater at 7 p.m. today (June 5) in downtown Farmington.

Tickets are \$7. "You are guaranteed to learn something about Detroit that you didn't know," said the Oakland University graduate and accountant. "The film will show the other side



Detroit-based filmmaker Anthony Brogdon took about three years on his film project.

of Detroit. We have such a rich history. I want to inspire people who live here about what a great city Detroit really is." The film, which includes interviews of 55 Detroit residents, is also balanced to show the troubles the city has had, Brogdon said.

But the real focus of the film is what a history-rich and interesting city Detroit really is from still being the automotive capital of the world to the Motown music that's being passed down to younger generations. Once Brogdon was

certain of what he wanted in his film, it took about three years until the product was finished. "I admit that 1% of those years was dormant for the lack of money," he said.

With money out of his own pocket and contributions through patron ads on his website, www.as-strongdetroit.com, Brogdon got the ball rolling and worked with a local camera man to produce the film.

"I wrote the script, conducted the interviews and did everything except hold the camera," Brogdon said.

Public showings

The film has already aired at the Main Art Theatre in Royal Oak and the Detroit Histori-

cal Museum, as well as the Cass City Cinema on Cass Avenue in Detroit. Following the film's debut at the Civic, it will be shown June 13 and 19 at the Senate Theater near Michigan Avenue and Livernois in Detroit. It will also be shown in Lansing and Ann Arbor.

The DVD of the movie has also been released and is sold throughout metro Detroit in gift shops and convenience stores and on amazon.com.

The film will feature Detroit's history, to how the city became a manufacturing powerhouse, to Henry Ford's first plant, to Motown, to the arts community and to the many nonprofit organizations that are working to make a difference in the

city, Brogdon said.

Brogdon is also working to air the film in other major U.S. cities, including Atlanta, which is set for July, as well as Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., and Phoenix.

"I am also trying to get it accepted at film festivals," he said.

Brogdon has long been interested in writing. His first successful attempt was called *Food Soldiers*, a play about mentorship which was produced at a number of area stages. "I've already adapted the script into a screenplay and it will be my first feature length film, scheduled for a late 2014 release," he said.

jmaliszewski@hometownlife.com
248-396-6620

Women's park program includes kayaking, archery

By Laura Colvin
Staff Writer

Women looking for something fun to do this summer might want to check out the Kensington Women's Adventure at Kensington Metropark.

The program, which takes place from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 28, gives adult women an opportunity to try out new outdoor skills and experiences.

"Working for a park system, we saw the need to create an environment to try new things in a safe environment," said metropolitan Park Manager Debbie Cavallaro, who founded the Women's Adventure program 15 years ago.

The program includes opportunities to try activities such as kayaking

and archery.

"We always do the kayaking, since we're adjacent to the Huron River," Cavallaro said, noting the river is exceptionally high this year and offers plenty of opportunity for wildlife viewing. "We have certified kayak instructors who make it very safe and comfortable; they go through everything, explain the dynamics of the boat, so by the time you get in the water, you feel very comfortable with where you're headed, what you're doing and what your goal is - and it's different for everyone."

Participants also enjoy the archery part of the program, she added, since it's an activity many haven't tried before.

"This year, we also



Women enjoy kayaking on the Huron River during a recent Kensington Women's Adventure program at Kensington Metropark.

have a life coach coming to do a meditation-type exercise," she said. "It's a very mindful experience."

Cavallaro said the program is appropriate

for friends, family members and others who want to share the experience, as well as individuals. Lunch, water and all equipment is provided.

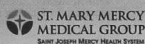
"There's a lot of camaraderie," she said.

The program, which costs \$60, is limited to 30 participants. To register,

call the Kensington Farm Center at 248-684-8632. Kensington Farm

Center is located inside Kensington Metropark, 2240 W. Buno Road, in Milford.

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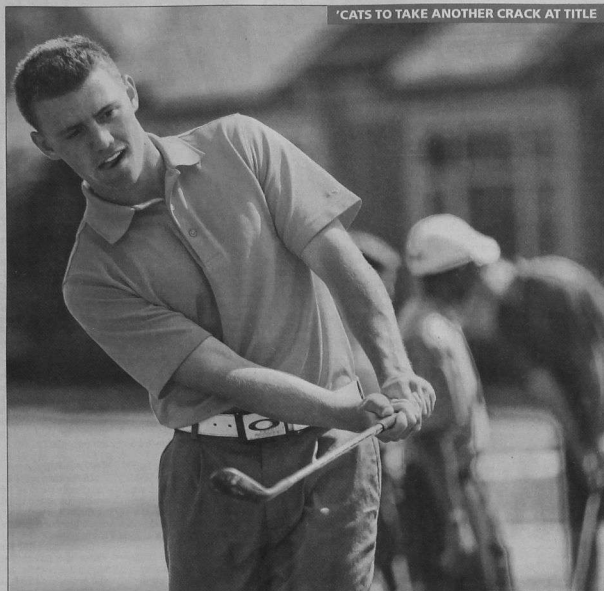
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SECTION B (CP)
THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2014
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SPORTS

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Getting a practice cut in at Fox Hills last week is Plymouth senior co-captain Chris Kozler. BRIAN QUINTOS

FINAL APPROACH

After near-miss at last year's final,
Plymouth boys golf team gets another chance

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Ever since the Plymouth Wildcats lost the 2013 Division 1 boys golf title due to a fifth player tiebreaker, all of the team's focus has been to get back to Forest Akers East in East Lansing.

Maybe with a little more work on the putting green at home course Fox Hills, the tiny shortfall between championship and runners-up can be bridged.

Nothing else has been on the minds of senior co-captains John Tatti, Chris Kozler and other returning golfers from last spring's near miss — seniors Evan Chipman, Kyle Melnick and Alex Decker — since the 2014 season convened.

On Friday and Saturday at the Michigan State University course, the veteran Wildcats will have that one last crack at glory before dispersing to college or other future destinations.

"Really, every shot counts when it comes down to it," said Tatti during a practice at Fox Hills in Plymouth Township one day after Plymouth finished second at the Lake Forest Golf Club-hosted regional. "You can't mess around on the putting greens, you've got to take your time. Make your shots, play well."

"One shot is what it really came down to (in 2013), just a single shot out of the four scores we took. It came down to the fifth score."

Last year, Plymouth and Battle Creek Lakeview were deadlocked after two days with tallies of 601. Still, the Wildcats were foiled in the tiebreaker. Tatti and Kozler registered scores of 149 and 152, respectively while Chipman shot a 158.

Tatti and his teammates (other than talented freshman Jack Boczar, already a lineup card fixture) clearly remember the heartache of coming up just short of the ultimate.

See WILDCATS, Page B3

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Whalers' future cloudy

Karmanos: 'Hockeytown' needs to support team

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Don Eiland said he always wanted to coach the Plymouth Whalers, ever since he became the first building manager at Computware Arena when it opened in the mid-1990s.

"I'd watch them practice, because I was a manager at the rink the first day this rink opened," Eiland said. "I've watched Plymouth practice every day, and it was always a dream to maybe coach at this level." Now that the 50-year-old Eiland is getting that opportunity, he hopes it won't be a one-and-done situation.

Eiland and new Whalers general manager Mark Craig (incidentally, Eiland's coach some 34 years ago) were formally introduced at Friday's press conference at Computware.

Both take over from former coach-GM Mike Vellucci, who in late April was hired as assistant general manager and director of hockey operations with the NHL's Carolina Hurricanes.

Yet it remains to be seen what the future might hold for Eiland and Craig or the Ontario Hockey League franchise beyond 2014-15. That's because Computware Arena and Whalers owner Peter Karmanos — also during the press conference — made some blunt remarks about whether he could assure the franchise remained on solid ground for the long term.

Earlier this year, rumors persisted that Karmanos was considering moving the Whalers to Ontario (with Hamilton a top spot, although Chatham could emerge) because the OHL team goes largely ignored by the masses (media and fans, alike) in Hockeytown.

Numbers game

"Well, to be frank about it, it's tough running an OHL team in a major league city," said Karmanos, answering a question during the press conference. "Our attendance (2,500 per game in 2013-14) has been good, but it's not great."

"I look down (Highway) 401, you see the London Knights selling out every game. You know if you had to sell the team, you might want to move into one of those cities, rather than keep it playing here."

Karmanos, however, did say that "if we could get attendance where we think it should be here I think the future is great."

"If we continue to draw a couple

See WHALERS, Page B3

D1 SOFTBALL DISTRICTS

Chiefs capture district crown

Warren pitches Canton to wins over Plymouth, Churchill

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer



Canton senior pitcher Hanna Warren delivers a pitch to a Plymouth batter in Saturday's Division 1 softball district semifinal at Northville. BRIAN QUINTOS

June 7 regional at Novi. Canton improved to 21-2 overall and is the top-ranked D1 team in the state.

It is the second consecutive Division title for the Chiefs and first for new coach Al White, who came over to Canton last summer following a long, distinguished coaching career at Madonna University.

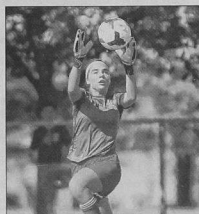
See SOFTBALL, Page B2

D1 GIRLS SOCCER DISTRICTS

On to the regionals

Plymouth's Robb, defense stymie Rocks in district final

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer



Snaring the soccer ball during Saturday's district final is Plymouth senior goalkeeper Kylie Robb. JOHN KEMSKI/EXPRESS PHOTO

All Plymouth needed was one goal and senior goalkeeper Kylie Robb would do the rest.

Indeed, that's how Saturday's Division 1 varsity girls soccer district final played out on the grass field at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

The Wildcats went up 1-0 late in the first half against Salem on a goal by sophomore Megan McCurry. Robb closed the door the rest of the way to lead Plymouth to a 2-0 win and second consecutive district championship.

"I tell you what, Kylie Robb was unbelievable today," Salem head coach Scott Duhal said. "She made some big-time saves. For me, she was really the difference in the game."

"We hit a shot from 25 yards out that I would tell you 90 percent of the goalkeepers in the state give up the

goal. She dives back behind her and pushes the ball, it hits the crossbar and then over. She dominates her whole 18 (yards)."

See SOCCER, Page B2

SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

With the victory, the Wildcats (12-6) will face top-ranked Northville at 5 p.m. Wednesday at Dearborn in a regional semifinal.

"That's a very talented team, they've been ranked No. 1 in the state all year," said Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich, about Northville. "We've got a challenge in front of us."

Saturday's game against the Rocks — playing well in the underdog role with earlier victories in the districts against Livonia Churchill and Canton — was another challenge for Plymouth.

"Our midfield really did a good job of adjusting and dealing with the changes they made," Neschich said. "Because they made several adjustments through the game that we had to counter-adjust to."

Scoring the winning goal in the 36th minute of the first half was McCurry and the Wildcats added an insurance goal in the second half when freshman Rachel Rubio (JV from the Plymouth UP) scored against Salem freshman goalkeeper Skylar Brant.

McCurry finished off a strong, persistent play by sophomore Katie Chipman, Plymouth head



The Plymouth varsity girls soccer team celebrates winning the Division 1 district championship Saturday. PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI / EXPRESS PHOTO

coach Jeff Neschich said.

"They cleared the first corner kick that Katie took," Neschich said. "We got it back out to Katie and she hit it far bar and then Megan just touched it in."

According to Duhl, whose team finished 6-9-4, the game was very competitive and could have gone either way. "It was a pretty good game, only Plymouth was better in the most important areas," Duhl said. "In front of their goal they were great and in front of our goal they were great, and that was the difference in the game."

"But it wasn't like we didn't have chances."

Chipping in

Unselfishly, Robb said it was the work of her defense that made all the difference in the winning outcome.

"I'm very lucky to have such good defense, I can always count on them and today they were spot-on," Robb said. "... I think Sydney Rouse did extremely well, considering she doesn't usually play defense, she had to step in for someone who had an injury (Emily Burkman)."

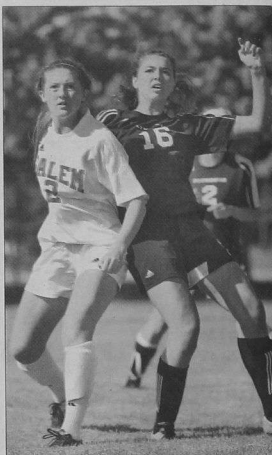
"Hannah Badger came off the bench and did a great job on defense. Kelsey Melnick came in off the bench and did a great job and of course,

our four starters, Alyssa (Dillon), Jillian (Aguirre), Lauren (Babcock) plus Sydney did a great job as always."

Concurring was Neschich, although he agreed with the assessment that it was a plus having several players with previous postseason success under their belts.

"It's always helpful to have kids who have the experience of winning in the big games, or being in the big games," Neschich said. "The seniors really stepped up today and took care of business."

"Sydney's been playing in the D and midfield for us kind of all year



Salem's Leah Moss (No. 2) and Plymouth's Megan McCurry (No. 16) square off during Saturday's Division 1 district final.

with the injuries we've had, and she was such a key to our victory today."

Neschich, like Robb, cited the "quality minutes" logged by Badger and Melnick.

"With the heat out here, we just had to cycle players and try and keep people as fresh as we could," he emphasized.

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SOFTBALL

Continued from Page B1

"That's why I came here, to win championships. And this is the first one," White said. "They are just playing with such confidence, and the senior leadership is where it's at. I got five great seniors right there that will not let them (teammates) rest in that dugout."

Another Canton senior who did a lot of damage all day long was shortstop Paige Aresco. She drilled



Plymouth's Lindsay Lutton (No. 22) safely reaches second base ahead of the throw to Canton shortstop Paige Aresco (No. 14). BRIAN QUINTOS

a double and home run in her first two at bats as Canton got the early jump against Wildcats

junior left-handed pitcher Mikayela Marciniak. Against Churchill, Aresco went 4-for-4 and

knocked in three runs. Also collecting two hits each in the final were Warren, juniors Hannah Shuler and Nicole Clark.

"I told the coach before the first game that Paige is going to be on today," White added. "And that's what we need."

The Chiefs also needed to know about Warren. She was held out by White during a recent showdown against South Lyon East for the conference championship to help her rest up for the districts.

"That was our big plan, just chill out, give it one more week, and one more week of rest is really good when you're recovering from an injury," Warren said. "I feel good, it's a little weird because I haven't pitched in about a month. But ankle wise I feel great."

Big and small

Both Warren's and Aresco's round-trippers against Plymouth were no doubters, but the Chiefs succeeded with

some small ball too.

In the first inning against Plymouth, Canton strung together Aresco's double and singles by senior Kaitlyn Keys, Warren and Shuler to go up 2-0.

After the Aresco home run made it 3-0, the Wildcats got on the board with a run in the fourth. With one out, Lutton ripped a double to center and moved to third on a passed ball.

Junior Brittney Miller swung at a third strike that eluded the Canton catcher and Lutton trotted home while Miller went around to second on a throwing error before Chiefs senior second baseman Kendyl Richter saved a run with a diving stop-and-throw of a smash off the bat of senior Celeste Miller.

Canton answered immediately in the top of the fifth as junior Nicole Clark doubled and Warren launched her homer.

Another Canton player with a solid all-around game was junior third baseman Halee Warren. She doubled twice and made an outstanding running catch of a looping liner down the third-base line in the fifth, retiring junior Alex Rakovitis on the play.

"It's always a tough one to swallow to lose against Canton," Plymouth coach Bev McManus said. "I really thought we were the better team coming in today, but we made too many mistakes and they made a lot of great plays. And we

couldn't string our hits together."

Wildcats' senior catcher Brooke Senkbeil said Warren "pitched a great game, she shut us down. Props to her."

Early jump

In the district final, the Chiefs went up 1-0 with a run in the third against Chargers sophomore pitcher Melanie Richardson.

Sophomore Elizabeth Yager opened the frame with a bunt single, and she promptly stole second and moved to third on Richter's sacrifice bunt. Yager then scored on a sacrifice fly by Aresco.

Canton blew the game wide open with four runs in the fourth and three more in the fifth.

Three of the fourth-inning runs came home on Churchill errors, although Clark, Shuler, Yager, Aresco and Keys all singled to keep the rally rolling.

Base hits by Clark, Halee Warren, senior Bryn Birchler, Yager and Aresco yielded three runs in the fifth to put Canton up 8-1 (Churchill had scored in the fourth when Richardson singled home senior Julia Twigg, who also singled).

"It was swinging it pretty good this weekend," Aresco said. "It helps once one person starts hitting, we start rolling. Our bats really exploded these last two games."

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METEORS MAKE IMPACT



The Livonia City Soccer Club's under-14 Meteors soccer team won the Novi Jaguar Invitational May 11 with a 4-0 record. Competing with teams throughout the Midwest and Canada, the Meteors outscored their opponents, 9-1. The Meteors are (front row, from left) Tatiana Ivanac, Farmington; Gabriela Sgambati, Farmington; Sarah Dressing, Livonia; Loren Kruger, Livonia; Bella Wingate, Canton; (back row, from left) Morgan Rodeheffer, Commerce; Mallory Rodeheffer, Commerce; Leah Kiura, Novi; Kayla Gaccho, Livonia; Amy Babon, Livonia; Anna Barkach, Farmington; Erin Abramczyk, Farmington; Katherine Ristola, Livonia; Natalie Hawkins, Livonia; and Allison Lentz, Livonia. Not pictured are Meghan Swaney, Commerce; and coach Ken Shingledacker, Livonia.

Warriors win another district championship

Williams strikes out 13 in 8-2 triumph over Hawks

Winning district baseball titles has become a habit at Lutheran High Westland.

The Warriors chalked up their seventh title under 10th-year coach Kevin Wade with an 8-2 victory Saturday at home over next-door neighbor Westland Huron Valley Lutheran.

Lutheran Westland, which improved to 15-6 overall, moves into the Division 4 regional semifinal beginning at noon Saturday, June 7, against host Sterling Heights Parkway Christian.

Sophomore Jordan Williams

allowed just two hits and struck out 13 in giving seven innings on the mound for the Warriors. His only drawback was eight walks, but he still got the victory.

Williams also went 2-for-5 at the plate, including a double, four RBI and three runs scored.

Brandon Ruelle added two hits, including a double and RBI, while senior catcher Mark Mika went 2-for-4 and scored twice for the victorious Warriors.

Lutheran Westland led 3-2 after four innings before scor-

ing one run apiece in the fifth and sixth. The Warriors put it away with three more in the top of the seventh.

LTV senior left-hander Ryan Schaffer, who beat Plymouth Christian Academy in the district semifinal, 6-5, with six strong innings, used up his 10-inning allotment for the week by giving the first two innings in the nightcap against Lutheran Westland.

Schaffer, charged with the loss, allowed one run before giving way to Adam Hodgson, who allowed three runs over the next three innings. Jordan Rundstadler finished up as the Hawks ended their season at 6-7 overall.

Crazy semifinal

Huron Valley Lutheran prevailed 6-5 in a crazy district semifinal over PCA as Hodgson's RBI double in the top of the eighth scored Schaffer, who reached base on a walk, proved to be the game-winner.

In the top of the seventh, HVL tied it when Milan Monk scored on a passed ball after being hit by a Michael Slater pitch.

PCA then loaded the bases with no outs in the bottom of the seventh, but Schaffer worked out of the jam highlighted by his own clutch defensive play.

Each team collected eight

hits with PCA committing four errors, while the Hawks had three.

PCA used three different pitchers with Johnny Lough, who worked the first 4 1/2 innings. He allowed three runs (two earned) on five hits and five walks while fanning six.

Michael Slater, who came on in the eighth, was charged with the loss.

Hodgson, the HVL starter, gave up four runs (two earned) in two innings. He also had two hits and an RBI, while Rundstadler contributed two hits and an RBI.

Joshua Slater and Lough each had two hits for the Eagles, who finished 6-9 overall.

D1 BASEBALL DISTRICTS

Chiefs floored by Northville's Flohr

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Following Canton's come-from-behind 3-2 victory over Plymouth in one of Saturday's Division 1 baseball district semifinals at Novi, the Chiefs were pumped up to carry that momentum into the finals.

Unfortunately for Canton, those plans were stopped by Mustangs junior lefty pitcher Evan Flohr, who defeated the Chiefs 5-1 to advance Northville into the D1 regionals June 7 at Novi.

Both teams scored in the first, but then Flohr and Canton senior southpaw Nick Hazerigan kept putting zeroes up on the scoreboard with Hazerigan pitching in and out of trouble during the blazing hot afternoon.

Canton head coach Mark Blomshield said Hazerigan ultimately tired in the sixth, when the Mustangs cracked the code with four runs to bust the game open. Starting the surge was a bunt single by junior Nick Zalewski, recording the first safety of the contest for Northville.

Capping it off with a two-run double to right field was junior Kevin Bak.

"They string together a big inning and we didn't," Blomshield said. "Both teams pitched well, both teams played good defense and made big plays."

Blomshield said Flohr consistently got ahead in the count "and we were trying to battle out of the hole the entire game."

Canton got out to a 1-0 lead early on an infield single and stolen base by senior Weston Price, a single by Robert Guadagno and an error by pitcher Hazerigan. Chiefs missed an opportunity to score more that frame.

"It was 1-1 into the sixth; that's how close this ballgame was," Blomshield said. "We ran ourselves out of an inning; in the first inning we had a chance to tack on one more run."

Chiefs edge 'Cats

The most compelling game of District 32 was the Plymouth-Canton matchup, featuring gung-ho pitching, highlight-reel defense and clutch hitting. A line-drive single to right in the sixth by Canton junior catcher Nick Romanowski scored senior James Hall with the ahead-run.

"That was a very good baseball game, wasn't it? Clutch hitting by both teams, great pitching by both teams," Plymouth head coach Jason Crain said. "It comes down to a couple plays. They made the great plays."

Canton senior righty Brent Mattmore for the distance for the win, striking out nine. The only run he gave up came in the first.

Starting strong for Plymouth was sophomore right-hander Cameron Stella, who blanked the Chiefs until the fifth when he gave up the tying run.

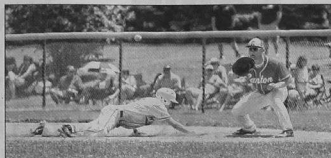
WHALERS

Continued from Page B1

thousand people a game, we're going to take a look some options."

A major thorn in the side of Karmoos and the rest of the organization is the lack of attention and attendance despite the team having unprecedented success on the ice with 23 consecutive playoff appearances and an OHL championship in 2006-07. Fourteen of those were with Vellucci behind the bench.

And the Whalers have en-



Plymouth's Andrew Hejka dives back to avoid getting picked off by Canton first baseman Nick Hazerigan during Saturday's district baseball semifinal. BRIAN QUINTO

The Wildcats struck quickly again Wednesday. Opening the first inning with a solid single to center was junior Andrew Hejka (two hits) and he scored on a two-out base hit up the middle by junior Seth Hubbard.

The Chiefs were fooled on their bid to get the equalizer in the third, thanks to a great play by Plymouth senior center-fielder Matt Busch.

Leading off with a base hit was Romanowski (three hits) and senior centerfielder Weston Price stroked an opposite-field double to right to give Canton runners at second and third with one out.

Stuck in the Guadagno double made a bid for a sacrifice fly to medium-depth center field. But Busch measured the fly ball, caught it and fired a one-hopper to junior catcher Andrew Josey, who then slapped the tag on courtesy runner Andrew Loehnis for the double play.

Canton responded in the subsequent half-inning with an eye-opening defensive gem to steal a run from the Wildcats.

With one on and one out, sophomore Kyle Wotter belted a facer that looked certain to sail over the head of Canton senior leftfielder Jake Boucher.

But Boucher turned on a dime and ran full-out with his back to the infield, sprinting and sprawling to snare the liner in the webbing of his glove.

Boucher had the presence of mind to throw the ball to a relay man who easily doubled off junior Patrick Downing — being waved around by coach Jason Crain.

"I thought it was way farther than it was," Boucher said. "I just took a step back, because I knew it was hit well. I was surprised he got that big of a piece on it, I just kept running, stuck my glove out and caught it."

"I knew they thought it was way over my head so I had to get the ball in, I was falling down and tumbling and stuff so I just threw it to wherever it went ... I heard their coach, as I was running to go get the ball 'Let's go, let's go' to the kid who was first. So I knew he had to be going to third."

Canton finally drew lefty in the fifth on a double to left by Romanowski and pinch-hit RBI single to center by junior Grant Slomkowski.

Both teams scored in the sixth inning.

The Wildcats briefly re-

gained the lead (2-1) with junior lefty batter Jared Merandi and Hubbard getting on base and moving into scoring position on a fielder's choice. Following with a run-scoring single to left was Josey.

A one-out error and wild pitch contributed to Canton's two-run rally in the bottom of the sixth. It still required a two-out single to left by Hall to tie the game at 2-all and then Romanowski followed with his tiebreaking safety.

Staked to the lead and needing just three more outs for the victory, Mattison dialed it up. He struck out the first two batters and got Hejka on a grounder to shortstop to seal the deal.

"I was just trying to hit the ball up the middle," said Romanowski about his RBI single.

"We and my coaches, we've all been working on that."

The catcher wasn't surprised with the way Mattson threw to close out the victory.

"He's a warrior, he'll go out there and carry the team."

Salem falls short

In the first contest of the day, Northville blanked Salem 1-0 with a run in the bottom of the sixth enough for senior pitcher Taylor Turner — who gave up just a single to Tyler Brooks and a double to Josh Peck.

"It was that curveball, I've never seen a curveball like that before," said Salem senior shortstop Jack Driscoll about Turner. "I don't think any of us have. We were just in front and not expecting it, I guess."

Brooks, a junior, also was outstanding on the mound as he kept Salem in the game.

But Northville senior Tim Eisp rated a double to break the scoreless tie in the bottom of the sixth and the Rocks could not mount any kind of comeback in the seventh.

Driscoll was robbed of an extra-base hit in the top of the first. The entire complexion of the game might have changed had the ball found green space instead of an outfielder's glove. "I thought I had it down, but they were playing us to the right side the whole game."

Despite the defeat, Driscoll said the 2014 season was "the best season I played in my three years on varsity. We're family and brothers, we just click. Everything worked out, except for this game. But that's just how baseball is."

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WILDCATS

Continued from Page B1

mated goal.

They want it

But the KLAAs Kensington Conference champions also are extremely confident and comfortable on the Forest Akers East stage — this year marks the Wildcats' fifth consecutive trip to the D1 finals.

"I feel good to have a chance again, especially because losing by one stroke last year really stunk," Chipman said. "We're going in confident. We know how it feels when you're in that position."

"We just feel confident. We're hungry, we want to win it."

It is a vice easily picked up by Canton's first-year head coach Dan Young, who followed Nick Brandon (the 2013 coach) at the helm.

The program's first four trips to the finals were under the guidance of coach Chris Moore.

"First of all, golf is very difficult," Young emphasized. "It's a tough, tough game if you haven't played it much. (It's tough) even if you've played it a lot."

"So to be that close their whole four-year career ... they've won multiple championships at every level when it comes to the league and the state tournament and the one big prize is still out there. That's what we're thinking about. We just want to win our best, and see what happens."

Comfort zone

Familiarity with Forest Akers is a plus, of course.

"The more times you play a course I feel like the easier it gets," said Tatti, who will be playing in his fourth D1 final. "You know where to miss your shots if you have to miss your shot. But yeah, the more times you play it the more you know it."

According to Kozler, in his fourth year with the varsity but playing Forest Akers for the third time this weekend, the course "sets up for our team."

"We've all played it multiple times, myself and Tatti and Chip we've been here before," Kozler said. "I've been here for three years (on varsity playing both days of the state championship), we know what it feels like to be there."

That should help us out in the long run. Being comfortable playing golf, hopefully we should (bypass) the nerves that some other teams may face."

Even Boczar, who was still



Plymouth senior co-captain John Tatti is going to the state golf finals a fourth straight year. PHOTOS BY BRIAN QUINTO

in eighth grade last season, has a handle on Forest Akers East and the competitive challenge that looms. Boczar walked the course during the finals with Kyle Rodes, last year's "Mr. Golf."

By the way, Rodes capped off his brilliant high school career by nabbing the individual co-championship with a two-day score of 143.

"I've known Rodes for a while, but I just followed him around," Boczar said. "It gave me some motivation to play and practice harder and make it this year."

Finish strong

They did, and the Wildcats will be looking for that elusive state championship this week.

Moreover, Kozler said the way the 2013 team battled back to even have a chance in the first place should provide a confidence boost when par turn into bogeys or tee shots go awry.

"Last year we were down three strokes going in to the second day, and we all kind of just went out there, we're like 'Let's just play our best,'" Kozler said. "We ended up making a comeback from three strokes, which in golf is a hard thing to do."

"We were pretty happy about that. We learned to don't give up on yourself. Just try to finish it out at the end of the day."

The outcome remains to be seen. But Young knows the Plymouth Golf program blueprint of excellence and determination implemented a dozen years ago by the school's first coach (Moore) will continue regardless.

"With Chris Moore and Nick Brandon, the tradition has been set that the guys at Plymouth, and the girls (2012 D1 state champions), train very hard and we're just trying to keep that going," Young said. "The fact is that we work hard at it, we've had a lot of success, and it all starts with Chris Moore."

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Plymouth's formidable lineup features seniors (from left) Alex Decker, Kyle Melnick, John Tatti, Chris Kozler and Evan Chipman. They are accompanied by freshman Jack Boczar (not pictured).

best franchises, if not the best, on the ice in the OHL.

"But we're operating in Hockeytown, it's an NHL city. It's tough. It just depends how long all these guys here want to fight the good fight."

Karmoos said the OHL is "a great, great brand of hockey that's coming to games. They are generally on the weekend ... It's well worth the dollars that you pay for a ticket."

Get the word out

Both Elland — a longtime coaching fixture with the Compuware Youth Hockey Program, helping develop Wis-

niewski and Vancouver forward Ryan Kesler of Livonia, among others — and Craig said they were hopeful that the Whalers would be given longer than one season to turn things around from an attendance standpoint.

"Mr. Karmoos always does things the right way," Elland said. "He's been here for how many years? He's had options to move it before, but he's passionate about hockey, he's passionate about this city."

"So I think he'll do everything he can to stay here."

Craig added that more needs to be done to help potential Whalers and OHL fans

understand just how top-notch the league's brand of hockey is.

"I think we all know that he is a great owner and he's going to do everything he can to continue to support us here," Craig said. "But at some point, if we can't build the fan base to a high enough level, he's going to be tough on him, and I get it."

"I think the key is, we need to find a way to get people to identify with these kids. Coming to the game doesn't do it. We need to find a way to get people to come to multiple games."

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Canton lacrosse goalie Smith signs with D-II college

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Throughout his career with Canton's varsity boys lacrosse team, Collin Smith has been a stand-up guy.

And for goalkeepers, that is a very important characteristic. Smith, 18, will get to continue playing his favorite sport and position at Wheeling Jesuit University, a Division-II college in West Virginia.

Smith, a Plymouth resident whose parents are Patrick and Anne, recently signed to play for WJU's men's lacrosse program.

"I loved the campus and my visit with all the players,

showing a united team," said Smith, about his college choice. "(WJU) coach Kevin Dugan was a swaying factor in my decision. He is excited for me to be a WJU goalie and shows a strong commitment to the team and (players') education."

Beyond falling in love with the campus and clicking with the coach and future teammates, Smith also wanted to keep playing because "I love the game of lacrosse."

Anybody watching him compete for the Chiefs in recent seasons certainly could see that's the case.

Also a varsity hockey defenseman for Canton, Smith combined the hard-nosed com-

petitive style and bulky size he used on the ice with his aggressive, all-out style of goal-keeping.

Smith often would drift far away from the cage to get to ground balls and help out his defense. If it meant an occasional bump along the way, that didn't bother him in the least.

Scramble mode for him often meant finding a way to stop the ball.

In 2013, he was named MVP of the Chiefs' boys lacrosse team and he holds the school record for most saves in one game with 39.

Smith said he started playing lacrosse when he was at Our Lady of Good Counsel,

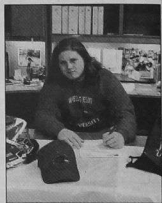
"where I became a goalie just because we needed one. My high school lacrosse experience helped me grow as a student-athlete because I played lacrosse all year."

He noted additional time playing summer lacrosse on Team Total, coached by Dwayne Hicks. He traveled to high-level tournaments for each of three summers.

"These tournaments got me noticed and the recruiting began," Smith said.

Perhaps lacrosse was in his blood all along. Older brother Jordan Smith plays NCAA D-II men's lacrosse at Limestone College in South Carolina.

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Canton senior boys lacrosse goalie Collin Smith signs to play the sport at Wheeling Jesuit University in West Virginia.

PREP TRACK & FIELD FINALS

SALEM TONNERS HIT

Big day features Kavulich smashing own records in 800; Canton's Dixon third in high jump

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Kayla Kavulich capped off her brilliant Salem track and field career with an all-state showing at Rockford.

Kavulich finished fourth in the 800 run with a time of 2:13.58, breaking her own Salem and Plymouth-Canton Educational Park records.

A warm day brought out some great performances, "Salem girls coach Dave Gerlach said. "The athletes persevered through the first hot day of the year and really stepped up on the state stage today."

"Three school records and two all-state athletes and we left Rockford very happy and proud. Kayla ran a terrific tactical race in the 800 dash. Isabel had to overcome a slow seed time and ended up scoring out of the third heat today. They were both amazing."

The other Salem record referred to by Gerlach was in the 400-meter relay. The tandem of Nakia Stiger, Johnson, Brynna Samuals and Rodriguez set the new standard with a time of 49.74.

Rebecca Falzon was 17th in the discus (10-6.1) while Rachel LaFollette was 50.84 in the 300 hurdles earned her 20th place.

There were bright spots for other Park teams:

Canton: In addition to Dixon, Kyle Zander (17th, pole vault, 12-4) and Darren Davis (20th, 200 dash, 23.39) placed well for the boys.



Salem's Kayla Kavulich (second from left) finished fourth at the D1 state meet in the 800 run.

For the girls, Emily Meier registered 107.5 in the discus, good for 14th overall while Jocelyn Moraw tied for 10th in the high jump (5-foot even).

Plymouth girls: The Wildcats' Katherine Harris tallied a 5-0 mark in the high jump to the M-row.

In the 100 hurdles, Holly Stark and Kirsty McInnes finished 19-20 with respective times of 16.57 and 16.72.

Other strong performances were turned in by Ryan Draper (21st, 100 dash, 12.93), the 400-meter relay team of Asia Tate, Anna Lukens, Katie Salanga and Gabby Alferia, Ashley MacBrien, Jaden Veady and Davis (20th, 4:12.95). Also, pole vaulter Emily Welch registered a 9-06, for 24th overall.

Plymouth boys: Highlights for the Wildcats boys team included Jonny Dalton and Bertram Mema finishing 13th and 17th, respectively, in the 800 run. Dalton came in with a mark of 1:55.98 while Mema finished in 1:56.98.

Also, Plymouth's 3,200 relay team finished 10th (7:58.32) while the 1,600 relay came in 21st (3:33.17).

Salem boys: The lone performer was Chaz Jeffress. He came in 21st in the two-mile run with a time of 4:36.14.

Division 4

In the Division 4 boys meet at Hudsonville, Plymouth Christian Academy teammates Joey Fanelli and Jacob Bailey had good show-

ings in the 800 run, albeit short of all-state honors.

Fanelli finished 17th with a time of 2:08.78 while Bailey came in 18th (2:08.97).

On the girls side, PCA athletes did not garner all-state accolades, but senior Terra Crown set a new school record in the girls 3,200 run with a time of 12:11.7, good for 11th overall.

PCA's 3,200-meter relay team of Megan McHugh, Allie Crececius, Rachel Smith and Crown placed 14th (10:33.19), setting another school record.

OTHER AREA QUALIFIERS

DISCUS: 14. Emily Meier (Canton), 107 feet, 5 inches; 17. Bertram Mema (Plymouth), 156 feet, 10 inches; Emily Welch (Plymouth), 96 feet, 6 inches; 10. Katherine Harris (Plymouth) and Jocelyn Moraw (Canton), 50 feet, 10 inches; 11. Holly Stark (Plymouth), 16 feet, 5 inches; 12. Kirsty McInnes (Plymouth), 16 feet, 7 inches; 13. Ryan Draper (Plymouth), 12 feet, 20 inches; 22. Stehlahn Johnson (Canton), 20 feet, 8 inches; 15. Kyla Kavulich (Salem), 51 feet, 6 inches; 40. Emily Welch (Plymouth), 9 feet, 6 inches; 20. Plymouth (Gabby Alferia, Ashley MacBrien, Jaden Veady, Davis), 4:12.95, 3:20.00 relay; 19. Salem, 3:33.17.

BOYS DIVISION 1: 43.5. High jump: 16. (Ike) Dan Roberts (Lutheran Westland), 54.7; 800: 17. Jay Kavulich (PCA), 2:28.18; 1600: 18. Austin Olson (Lutheran Westland), 4:41.7; 3200: 25. Hunter (Lutheran Westland), 11:17.25; 1600 relay: 17. Lutheran Westland (Jacob Daverport, Weston Warren, Garrett Kempf, Harper), 3:43.06.

BOYS DIVISION 2: 10.13. Allie Crececius (PCA), 12:11.7 (school record).

BOYS DIVISION 4: 21.39. 800 run: 13. Jonny Dalton (Plymouth), 1:55.98; 17. Bertram Mema (Plymouth), 1:56.98; 1.600 run: 21. Chaz Jeffress (Salem), 4:36.14; 1.600 relay: 21. PCA, 3:33.17; 3,200 relay: 10. Plymouth, 7:58.32.

BOYS DIVISION 1: 10.13. Allie Crececius (PCA), 12:11.7 (school record).

BOYS DIVISION 2: 10.13. Allie Crececius (PCA), 12:11.7 (school record).

BOYS DIVISION 4: 21.39. 800 run: 13. Jonny Dalton (Plymouth), 1:55.98; 17. Bertram Mema (Plymouth), 1:56.98; 1.600 run: 21. Chaz Jeffress (Salem), 4:36.14; 1.600 relay: 21. PCA, 3:33.17; 3,200 relay: 10. Plymouth, 7:58.32.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Father's Day Run

Join the Plymouth YMCA as it celebrates a community tradition at the 35th Fathers Day Run, Sunday, June 15.

The morning of fun and fitness will kick off at 7:30 a.m. with the Detroit Tigers' mascot PAWS leading the start and the National Anthem by Plymouth attorney John C. Stewart.

The Fathers Day Run offers an event for every age. There will be a Kid's Fun Run (7:30 a.m.), 1-mile walk/run (8 a.m.), 5K walk/run (8:15 a.m.) and 10K at 8:45 a.m.

As on tap will be the unique More Dental Group, 20th MDG Triple (10.3 miles) offering start times to run all three races.

As a partner with the Michigan Fitness Foundation, the Fathers Day Run has made a commitment to help in the mission to revitalize the health of people in the state.

Meanwhile, volunteers for the event are needed. Contact Cindy Morency at cmorency@ymcadetroit.org.

Proceeds support the Plymouth YMCA Annual Financial Assistance Campaign.

Canton girls track fundraiser

The Canton girls track and field team is trying to raise \$2,000 by June 9 to help purchase awards, equipment and new uniforms.

The team is collecting donations on Underdog funding.com, a crowd-funding site started by former Central Michigan University track and field athlete Megan Newsum.

Underdogfunding.com was launched with the goal of helping keep youth sports affordable.

Visit underdogfunding.com to donate.

Go to Next Level

The Spring Arbor University baseball staff and Next Level Baseball Academy is running a camp Monday, June 30, and Tuesday, July 1, at Canton Sports Center.

Times run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day and are for young youngsters ages 7-13. The cost is \$99 or \$129.

Registration fees include a NLBA drawing bag, NLBA T-shirt and bag of sunflower seeds.

Coaches of all ages are

invited to walk around the camp and observe drills taught at the college level.

Canton Sports Center is located south of Michigan Avenue between Canton Center and Beck roads.

For more information, contact Sports Academy assistant baseball coach Ryan Marken, ryan.marken@gmail.com.

Wildcats football camp

The 2014 Plymouth Wildcat Football Skills Camp will be held June 23-25 at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park varsity turf field.

Youngsters who will enter grades 5-9 next fall will go from 5-7 p.m. each day; those going into grades 10-12 will go from 7-9 p.m.

Visit www.plymouthwildcatsfootball.com to download a camp brochure and get additional information.

Any questions, contact Coach Mike Sawchuk at 734-765-1766.

Canton football camps

Three summer football camps being run by the Canton Chiefs high school program are slated for June and July. All three offerings will take

place at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park varsity field.

Visit www.cantonchiefsfootball.com to download a flyer.

» **Wing T Camp:** The camp is for players entering grades 10-12 in fall 2014. Times are 9 a.m. June 16 and 8-9 p.m. June 17-19. Contact Tim Baechler at 734-455-7691.

» **Skills Camp:** The camp is for players entering grades 7-9 in fall 2014. Times are 5-7:30 p.m. June 9-12; 5:30-7:30 p.m. June 14-17. Participants who sign up can get both camps for the price of one. Contact Richard Muti at 248-229-2738.

» **Fundamental Camp:** The camp is for players entering grades 3-6 in fall 2014. Times are 9 a.m. to noon June 23-26. Contact Enza Lanava at 313-300-1173.

Woods top netter

The weekly honours continue to roll in for the Dayton University women's tennis program, which grabbed its fifth WHAC Tennis Player of the Week nod in Angela Woods.

Woods joins Alyssa Fuentes, Emily Splich and Puck Luttikhuis 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 NAIA National Tournament which starts this weekend as the WHAC will be paired with schools from Iowa in an Unaffiliated group.

Think spring golf

PGA teaching professional Tami Bealer is offering a series of spring golf classes and events at Hickory Creek Golf Course, 3525 Napier Road, Superior Township. Adult drop-in clinics are also available including: 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 classes, visit Bealer's Facebook page at TrainersTamiBealer.com. For more information, email TrainwithTami@tami@gmail.com or call 734-731-0238.

bemons@hometownlife.com

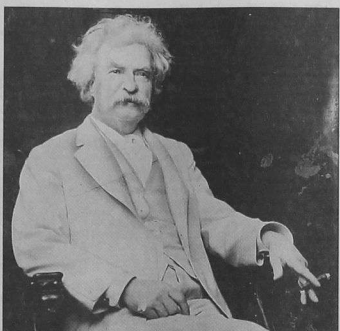
Enjoy Mark Twain stories, boost cause

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Mark Twain's witty quotes and humorous stories will keep the audience laughing Saturday, June 7, when Masonic Lodge, Lola Valley 583 F & AM presents "An Evening with Mark Twain," in Redford Township. The one-man show by Patrick Tucker, a Mason and actor from Brighton, will raise funds for Redford Interfaith Relief, the faith-based coalition that assists Redford residents in need with food, clothing and referrals. Rob Tripp, a Mason and Redford resident, suggested the event to RIR.

"One of the things about being a Mason is giving back to the community. I said, look, I've got a fundraiser idea. I'll do the leg work and you sell the tickets," Tripp said.

Sue Pherson, RIR executive director, said the Redford Ministerial Alliance, which created the nonprofit relief organization in 1998, loved the idea. "This is the first time we are doing a fundraiser like this. It is a wonderful opportunity that Rob Tripp, Patrick Tucker and their fellow Masons at Masonic Lodge 583 presented to RIR," Pherson said. "Rob presented a video clip of 'An Evening With Mark Twain' to us at the Redford Ministerial Alliance meeting in April. Everyone at the Redford Ministerial Alliance



Mark Twain photographed in 1907.

thought it was a great opportunity for an interesting fun night out and committed to selling the tickets at our RIR churches and in the community.

"The 'Evening With Mark Twain' video reminded me of going back in history, sitting in the living room with Mark Twain like he was my grandfather. What great stories he can

tell," she said.

Original show

Tucker, who works as an engineer at Johnson Controls, has been involved in community theater in Michigan and Indiana for more than 35 years. He has performed with the Livingstone Players and is involved with the Society for Creative

Anachronism, a medieval reenactment group. Tripp said Tucker fashioned his own show from Twain's material.

"There is no copyright, and that makes all the ticket proceeds go to Redford Interfaith Relief," Tripp said. The Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundation also will match funds raised by the event.

Doors will open at 7 p.m. and the show will start at 7:30 p.m. on June 7, at the South Redford Administration Building, 26141 Schoolcraft. Tickets are \$10 and available by calling RIR at 313-387-9802 or the Redford Township clerk's office at 313-387-2750. Many churches donate. Redford Township also are selling tickets.

Pherson said RIR was voted Best Nonprofit in Redford and honored by the Redford Chamber of Commerce last month.

"RIR provided our community over 153,000 meals last year. To many of our families, this help made the difference of them being able to pay their rent or mortgage to prevent more homelessness and vacant homes in our community," she said. "This was possible thanks to RIR volunteers that donate over 10,000 volunteer hours every year."

RIR is located at 18499 Beech Day. Visit its website at RedfordInterfaithRelief.org.

Pastor plans fall trip to Holy Land

The Rev. Steve Schaefer, pastor of the Mt. Hope Congregational Church in Livonia, will lead a 10-day trip to the Holy Land, beginning Oct. 27.

The tour will include stops in Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jericho, the Mount of Olives, the Upper Room, the Old City of Jerusalem, the Garden Tomb and more. Schaefer said he hopes the trip will awaken a deeper understanding of Jesus' teachings, rejuvenate spiritual lives and be a "once-in-a-lifetime" experience for participants.

The travel/study program has been arranged by Educational Opportunities, a Christian tour company and will combine sightseeing with lectures and unique experiences. The cost of the pilgrimage is an all-inclusive price of \$3,195, departing from Detroit Metro Airport. The trip is open to the public. Schaefer's tour is limited to a maximum of 30 travelers. For more information, contact Schaefer at 734-425-7280 or visit the Mt. Hope website: www.mthope.com.

RELIGION CALENDAR

JUNE

CAR WASH

Time/Date: Noon, June 14

Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: Donations support "Faith in Action" mission team trip to South Dakota

Contact: Melissa at 734-466-8694

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Thursday, June 12

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church, 26375 W. Chicago Road, in Redford

Details: The Konetsky Quartet of St. Petersburg, Russia, will perform sacred music. Admission is free

Contact: the Rev. Timothy Barna at 313-937-2120 or the Rev. Roman Star at 313-538-1142

DAY CAMP

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., June 16-20

Location: Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Holy Cross and Emmanuel Lutheran churches sponsor the camp for children, ages 5 through sixth grade. Get registration forms and information packets at Emmanuel, 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia, or from the church's website, www.emmanuel-livonia.org

Registration is \$60 per child.

Contact: Judy Cook at 248-442-8822

FILM

Time/Date: 8 p.m., Friday, June 20

Location: Faith Community Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: Bring a church or blanket to see Lord of the Rings, a family movie, on the church lawn

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 5:30-8 p.m., Sunday, June 22-Wednesday, June 25

Location: First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland, 3 Town Square, Wayne

Details: The theme is "Neighbors around the World." Youngsters will visit Australia, Zimbabwe, Japan, the United Kingdom and Mexico through life lessons. There also will be Bible time, music and recreation

Contact: 734-721-4801

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Men's Bible study

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

Location: Kirby's Conely Island, 21200 Hagerty, Northville Township

Contact: John Shulenberger at 734-454-9491

Our Lady of Loretto

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

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daily, Redford Township

Details: Scripture study

Contact: 313-534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel

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

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

Details: Catholic author Gary Michuta leads a study of Acts of the Apostles

Contact: 734-617-1455, Ext. 200, or www.livoniastmichael.org

Ward Presbyterian

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Mondays

Location: Room A101, 40000 W.

Six Mile, Northville Township

Details: Learn the Bible study is held

Contact: 248-374-5920

FAMILY COMMUNITY MEAL

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

Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shawwassee, 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 kindergartners

Contact: Ethnie Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Flezar at 734-458-2463

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., first and third Tuesdays

Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

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

Contact: Amy at 313-837-3084 or 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

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oeobits@hometownlife.com

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

BOYER, RICHARD H. "DICK"

81 years old, of

Bluffton, South Carolina

entered heaven on Thursday, May 29, 2014. Dick

was born October 23, 1932 in

Detroit, Michigan to the late

George L. and Virginia L. Boyer

A retired Vice President from

Lucas Fluid Power, formerly

Robert's Engineered Products,

he spent over 25 years in the hydraulic distribution business.

Dick proudly served his country in the Korean War as a US Marine from 1951-54. He spent all of 1952 in Korea and was awarded the Korean Service Medal with 3 stars. He was an active member of the Korean War Veterans Association and of the American Legion. Dick was a member of Saint Gregory the Great Catholic Church and an honorary life member of the Knights of Columbus Council 12263. He is survived by Edith Marie Boyer, his loving wife of 55 years and his daughter Susan (William) Wilkins of Brighton, MI and son LiCol Richard (Stacie) Boyer, USMC (ret) of Gilbert, SC. He is also survived by five grandchildren: LTJG David (Lizette) Boyer, USN of San Diego, CA; Rebecca and Bridget Wilkin of Brighton, MI and Brian and Erin Boyer of Gilbert, SC and sister Janet Morn of Strettsboro, OH and numerous nieces, nephews and their families. He was preceded in death by his sister Barbara Boyer and brother George L. Boyer, Jr. Funeral arrangements are pending with interment planned at Fort Jackson National Cemetery.

DESCHAINÉ, THOMAS JOSEPH

of Westland passed away May 31, 2014 at the age of 67. Cherished husband of Nancy, father of Mark (Bethany), Karen, and Laura O'Connor (Kevin), grandfather of Dakota, Jack, Jenna Rain, and Alex, step grandfather of Heather and Trisha, step great-grandfather of Michael, Justin, and Kasan, brother of Robert Jr. (Connie) and Kathleen Horning (Mark) and uncle of many nieces and nephews. He was born January 10, 1947, in Jackson, Michigan, to Robert and Rose Deschainé. Tom was a proud and decorated veteran of the US Army (Vietnam) and a graduate of Eastern Michigan University. Tom was a teacher who started his career in the Cherry Hill School District and retired from teaching as a much-loved science teacher at John Glenn High School (Wayne-Westland Community Schools).

Among Tom's many recognitions, in 1997 he was awarded with the Outstanding Science Educators Award by the Metropolitan Detroit Science Teachers Association. In retirement, Tom became an avid fly fisherman, fly tier, published author on Michigan's rivers and fly fishing historian. Family will receive friends at 9:30am before a 1:00pm funeral mass at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Westland, Michigan on Friday, June 6, 2014. Tom's final resting place will be in the Fort Custer National Cemetery in Augusta (Battle Creek), Michigan. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to St. Mary Community Outreach Center in Wayne, MI.

MAC, VICTORIA "VICKI" JOYCE

June 1, 2014, Age 52. Beloved wife of Dr. Loving mother of Crystal, Robert, Celia, and Ashley. Proud grandmother of Anne and Malachi. Visitation Thursday 4:00pm with Funeral Services Friday at 11am at Hubbard Family Funeral Home in Westland (734) 331-3349. The family wishes her God Speed and she will definitely be missed.

Online condolences at: carterlinefuneralhome.com

McArthur, Michael C.

Age 65 of Northville, formerly of Plymouth, died 5/29/14.

Online condolences at: carterlinefuneralhome.com

OLENCZUK, ABIGAIL ROSE

Age 17, of Livonia, May 31, 2014. Beloved daughter of Steven and Kathy, loving sister of Brian. Granddaughter of Thomas and Sandie Olenczuk and Richard and Barbara Dillander. A Memorial Service was held on June 4th at St. Aidan Catholic Church in Livonia. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to the Abigail Rose Olenczuk Memorial Fund, LOC Federal Credit Union 22981 Farmington Rd, Livonia, MI 48336-9924. Please share a memory at www.rgrharris.com

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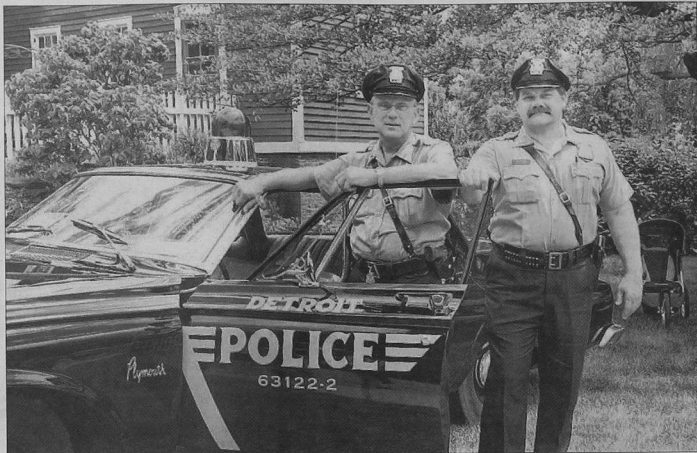
By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

When George Patak displays his 1963 Plymouth station wagon at summer car shows, he brings a bit of the Detroit Police Department's old 14th precinct with him.

The Farmington Hills man restored the wagon as a Detroit scout car, the "14-1," with vintage dome light, siren, hand-held spotlight and two-way radio. A CD player hidden in the glove compartment plays real Detroit police calls from the era and Patak dons a uniform complete with an authentic badge and weapon to complete the nostalgic scene.

"I always wanted to be a cop since I was a kid," said Patak, who retired in 2005 after 20 years on the police force in Ann Arbor and seven on the Wayne State University campus. "It's the only thing I ever wanted to do. My folks bought me a police radio so I could listen to police calls. If I got a call (from nearby) I would get on my bike and go to the call. Mostly traffic accidents. I have a vivid memory of (police) driving a station wagon like the one I restored. In those days, they had no EMS. They had a stretch-er that folded. They'd take you to the hospital. You got a pillow, a blanket and a ride to the hospital."

Patak and his car will be on hand at the Cars R Stars Show, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, June 8 at the historic Packard



George Patak (left) and his friend, Craig Schwartz, a retired Detroit police officer, look like they've stepped from a time machine with Patak's restored 1963 Plymouth, and their vintage-style uniforms.

Proving Grounds, located on Van Dyke, south of 23 Mile in Shelby Township. Other local residents with their restored vehicles will include Ray Savage of Canton with a 1947 Chevy Vernor's stake truck and Ed Meurer of Farmington Hills with a 1954 Chevy panel fire rescue truck and a 1958 Imperial limousine.

The show features historic commercial vehicles in addition to cars. Admission is \$5 and children under 12 are free.

Patak also will participate in the Motor Muster at Greenfield Village, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, June 14, and 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 15, at The Henry Ford, 20900 Oakwood



George Patak (left) and friend Mark Bando, both retired police officers, act the part of 1960s-era Detroit police officers. DAVID MAHALAB

2014 Summer entertainment EVENTS

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- The Temptations and Four Tops - 6/21
- Foreigner, Styx and Don Felder - 7/10
- Willie Nelson and Allison Krauss & Union Station - 7/31
- Beach Boys - 8/10
- Tony Bennett - 8/15
- Yanni - 8/17
- Doobie Brothers - 8/27
- Hall & Oats - 9/21
- Toledo Zoo Tickets
- Movie Tickets
- Pizza Coupon

AND MORE

Bldv., Dearborn. The car show, demonstrations, nighttime cruise, special Mustang display and dancing in the streets, are free with Village admission. Seniors, 62 and up, \$22; adults, 13-61, \$24; youth, 5-12, \$17.50. Children 4 and under and members of The Henry Ford, are admitted at no charge.

"I could make a career out of going to car cruises every year. I do the Motor Muster, the Dream Cruise (Law Enforcement Vehicle Parade) and whatever other classy show comes along," said Patak, whose car was named Best Restored Law Enforcement Vehicle at the 2010 Woodward Dream Cruise. Patak is married, the father of two grown daughters, and a grandfather. He bought the car in 2008 on eBay, had it shipped from Virginia to Michigan and then spent several months restoring

it. He had begun collecting parts from flea markets and online stores years before with the dream of some day restoring a vehicle.

Restoring the car

The station wagon originally was used at a U.S. Air Force base in Nebraska for shuttling pilots to their air planes and then was donated to a fire department.

"It was a plain Jane Plymouth," Patak said. "It never had a radio in it. It had two-speed electric (windshield) wipers — on and off."

When Patak bought the car, its brakes had been updated to disc brakes and its engine had been replaced. The former owner raced the car a few times and then sold it.

"One of the first things was to tone the engine down," Patak said. He had a uniform recreated, borrowing an au-

thentic badge and gun from a retired Detroit police commander. Another friend, who recorded Detroit police calls as a kid, offered a CD of the recordings.

While at a Fourth of July party that year, Patak, who had just finished restoring the station wagon, was introduced to a Detroit police officer who had driven the same model car while on the job in the early 1960s. He showed the fellow party goer the vehicle.

"He said, 'My God, you've got my car.' He looked inside and I said, 'I'm doing it all from memory, from when I was a kid in the 1960s. He said, 'what is it exactly?'"

For more about Cars R Stars, visit carsrstars.com or call 586-247-5921. For more about the Motor Muster at Greenfield Village, visit henryford.org or call 313-982-6001.

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Annual Chamber music festival celebrates Bach

The Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival will focus on the music of Johann Sebastian Bach, June 14-29 at the Seligman Performing Arts Center in Beverly Hills, and other locations in southeastern Michigan.

The 21st annual festival, titled, "In the Shadow of Bach," also will explore Bach's influence on subsequent composers. More than 20 concerts will take place during the two-week festival.

Cellist Paul Watkins of the Emerson String Quartet, will make his Festival debut, 8 p.m. Saturday.

June 14, at the Seligman Center, located on the campus of Detroit Country Day School, 22305 13 Mile Road in Beverly Hills. Watkins will take over the role of artistic director next season following in the footsteps of pianist and founding artistic director James Tocco. Watkins and Tocco will perform publicly together for the first time on opening night in Brahms' *Sonata for Cello and Piano No. 1 in e minor, Op. 38*. The work is "an homage to J. S. Bach."

The festival will welcome composer Peter

Schickele as the 2014 Stone Composer-in-Residence. Schickele is known for presenting the "lost works" of his alter ego, P.D.Q. Bach. He will perform 8 p.m. Saturday, June 21, at Seligman Center and 7:30 p.m. Monday, June 23, at Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills. The Seligman Center concert will feature three works by the farcical composer, along with *So You Want to Write a Fugue* by Glen Gould, Heitor Villa-Lobos' *Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5*, *Geographical Fugue* by

Ernst Toch and Wagner's *Meistersinger Overture*. The concert at Temple Beth El will celebrate Schickele's music, along with a composition by PDQ Bach.

Returning artists will include 2014 Cleveland Quartet Award recipients, the Ariel Quartet, which was named quartet-in-residence at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. The quartet will perform Beethoven's *String Quartet No. 13 in b-flat, Op. 130* with Grosse Fuge on opening night at the Seligman

Center. It also will perform 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 17, at St. Hugo of the Hills, 2215 Opdyke, Bloomfield Hills and at the PDQ Bach concert, June 21 at the Seligman Center.

The festival's closing night, 8 p.m. Saturday, June 28, at Seligman Center will include the performance of Brandenburg Concerto No. 3, No. 4, and No. 5. Festival artists will be joined by Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings. Eisenhower Dance will also perform during Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 with chor-

eography by artistic director Laurie Eisenhower.

For a full list of concerts, visit www.greatlakeschambermusic.org.

Subscriptions for the series start at \$90. Single tickets for weekday concerts are \$35 regular/ senior and \$10 for students. Tickets for Saturday night concerts at Seligman Centre are \$40 regular/senior and \$10 for students. All tickets are \$5 more if purchased at the door. Order online or by calling 248-559-2097.

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ANIMALS

DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Labor Day, with closing time at 8 p.m. Wednesdays in July and August.

Location: 4696 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 2-14, children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking.

Contact: 248-541-5717

JANICE CHARACH GALLERY

Time/Date: Noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, through June 26

Location: Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: The works of Avraham Lowenthal are on exhibit. Lowenthal's paintings incorporate themes of Kabbalah, holidays and prayer with contemporary design.

Contact: 248-432-5448

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Gallery hours, 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, June 6-28, opening reception is 6-9 p.m. Friday, June 6

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "West of Center" show is an eclectic contemporary exhibit that includes sculpture, encaustic, acrylics, photography, mixed-media, oil, watercolor, glass/ceramic, found object and more.

Contact: 248-344-0497; <http://www.northvillearts.org>

VISUAL ARTS ASSOCIATION OF LIVONIA

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, through June 30; artist awards presentation, 7 p.m. Thursday, June 5

Location: Livonia Civic Center Library, second floor Fine Arts Gallery, 33000 Civic Center Drive, off Five Mile, east of Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: "Artistic Expressions" exhibit will feature work by association members in all media, including watercolor, acrylic, oil, pastel and mixed media. Work will be available for sale.

Contact: 734-838-1204

COMEDY

EMERGENT ARTS

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Sunday

Location: The Mix Studio Theatre, 8 N. Washington St., Ypsilanti

Details: Comedian Chili Challs coaches new and experienced standup comics at weekly workshops. An open mic show follows the class.

Contact: info@emergentarts.com; www.chilichalls.com

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

Time/Date: 8 p.m., Friday June 5, and 9 p.m., Friday-Saturday, June 6-7

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Featured comedian Ryan Singer has appeared on the nationally syndicated radio show *Bob & Tom*, and was a regional finalist in Comedy Central's *Open Mic Fight* Tournaments. He is 112 Thursday and 116 Friday-Saturday.

Contact: joeyscomeclub.net; 734-261-0555

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, June 5, 9:30 p.m., Thursday, June 6, and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Saturday, June 7

Location: Fourth and Troy Streets in downtown Royal Oak

Details: Mike Speerberg's comedy is fueled by stories of home and family, love of country, and being drunk in public. Tickets are \$18.

Contact: 248-542-9900; info@comedycastle.com

FILM

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. June 20-21; 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. June 22 and 7 p.m. June 26

Location: 760 Pennington Ave., Plymouth

Details: *Heaven is for Real*, admission \$3

Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. June 7

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

Details: *Spite Marriage*, \$7

Coming up: *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* and *Way of the World*, \$5, 8 p.m. June 13 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. June 14

Contact: 313-537-2560

HISTORY

KESEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, June 27 through Sept. 7

Location: 434 State St., Ann Arbor

Details: The exhibit, "Ancient/Modern: The Design of Everyday Things," examines how inhabitants of the ancient Mediterranean and Near East both resembled and differed from contemporary Americans by juxtaposing ancient and modern objects. The exhibit will feature a permanent opening lecture by Donna Braden of The Henry Ford 6 p.m. Tuesday. Admission is free.

Contact: 734-764-9304

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

BERMAN CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Monday, June 16

Location: On the campus of the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Chad Smith, drummer for the Red Hot Chili Peppers, will be interviewed by Gary Graft, a music journalist. After the interview, Axis Music ensembles will perform with Smith. Tickets are \$17 for ages 17 and older, \$27 for 18 years and older. Seating is reserved. Buy tickets 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Berman Center box office, online at therberman.org/box-office, or at the Berman Center, up to two hours prior to the event

Contact: 248-799-8100

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Time/Date: 4 p.m. June 8

Location: 26165 Farmington Road, just east of 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Geoff Gallante, 13-year-old trumpet soloist, performs with Stan Kenton drummer Jerry McKenzie's trio, Just Jazz, with McKenzie on drums, Terry Lower on piano and Ray Tini on bass. A contribution of \$15 per person is requested.

Contact: 248-957-8028

BLUES@THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7:10 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month

Location: Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 225, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: The Alligators perform Tuesday, June 10, with David Kramer on vocals, William Dale on harmonica, Frankie Lee on bass, Jon Johnson on drums, and Nick Tabarian on guitar. \$5 donation at the door.

Contact: 734-453-1780

JAZZ@THE ELKS

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



See *The Wizard of Oz*, June 17-29, at the Detroit Opera House in Detroit.

Location: Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Dobbins, Krahne, and Weed Trio perform Tuesday, June 24. Sean Dobbins drums, Kurt Krahne plays bass and Tad Weed is on keyboard. \$10 donation at the door includes hors d'oeuvres

Contact: 734-453-1780 or email pymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

TOKEN LOUNGE

Time/Date: Doors open at 5 p.m., June 5

Location: 28949 Joy Road, Westland

Details: Dog Fashion Show, Psychotic and The Bunny The Bear perform this concert for all

ages; advance tickets, \$12, at the door, \$15

Contact: 734-513-5030

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m. *Location:* 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: The Flying Lintini Brothers, June 6; The Reverend Robert Williams, June 7; Christopher June 13; The Blue Flowers with Ryan Dillaha, Steve Kovich, June 20; Tracy Kath Thomas, June 21; The 77's, June 26; The Hackwells, June 27; Wisaal with The Webbs, June 28. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers.

Only cash and checks accepted.

Contact: 734-464-6302

SPOKEN WORD

The Moth StorySLAM

Time/Date: 4 p.m., doors open; 7:30 p.m., stories begin, Thursday, June 5

Location: Cliff Bell's, 2030 Park, Detroit

Details: Audience members who want to perform a five-minute story — without notes — on the topic, "celebration," can put their names in a hat for a chance to get up stage. Admission is \$5 at the door. A limited number of 150 presale tickets will be available online one week before the show.

Contact: themoth.org

THEATER

DETROIT OPERA HOUSE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Sunday, June 17-29

Location: 1526 Broadway, Detroit

Details: North American tour of the new stage adaptation of *The Wizard of Oz*, with Danielle Wade, a Windsor, Ontario, native as Dorothy. Tickets range from \$24-\$79

Contact: 800-982-2787; www.broadwaydetroit.com

EMERGENT ARTS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, June 5-7; 2 p.m. Sunday, June 8

Location: Mix Studio Theatre, 8 N. Washington St., Ypsilanti

Details: *Appointment With a Highwire Lady* by Russell Davis. Tickets are \$12 general admission and \$10 senior and student admission. Buy online at www.emergentarts.com or with cash or check at the door.

Contact: 734-985-0875

STILL GOT IT PLAYERS

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Thursday, June 5, 7 p.m. Friday, June 6, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, June 7, and 2 p.m. Sunday, June 8

Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 5000 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: Spotlight Players' senior troupe presents *Murder in the Heat*, a murder mystery/comedy. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors and youth, available at canton-mi.org/villagetheater

Contact: 734-394-5300

Check these Local Businesses offering Great Values and ready to serve you...enjoy!

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Anyone dining in with us NOW thru Fathers Day, and presenting this AD gets a Free \$4 Car Wash Certificate, from Westland Truck & Car Wash. 28735 Joy Rd.

- We cater graduation parties, showers & family reunions.
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SUMMER SNACKS THAT POP

Whether you're gathering the neighborhood kids for a backyard celebration or going on a weekend hike with family, you can make fueling up for the fun easy with snacks the whole family can enjoy. Everyone loves popcorn, and this tasty treat is easy to incorporate into a wide range of nibbles perfect for summer. Popcorn's wholesome taste makes it an excellent partner to ingredients that tease your taste buds with flavors that are sweet, salty or even zesty.

Creating a delicious trail mix to carry on an adventurous hike is a cinch when you combine fresh popcorn with your favorite sweet dried fruits and lightly salted nuts. Or, if you're staying closer to home, use popcorn treats as a more nutritious alternative to traditional party desserts.

Each of these recipes features freshly popped popcorn paired with common ingredients that appeal to both kids and adults for summery snacks that are big on both flavor and fun.

For more creative recipes that give some pop to your summer, visit www.popcorn.org.

Courtesy of Family Features

SWEET N SALTY POPCORN PRETZEL STICKS

Yield: 6 sticks

6 tablespoons peanut butter
3 cups popped popcorn
Sugar sprinkles
1/2 cup mini chocolate chips (optional)

Spread 1 tablespoon of peanut butter over each pretzel, leaving a two-inch "handle" without peanut butter. Press and roll popcorn onto peanut butter to coat. Sprinkle with sugar sprinkles. For optional chocolate drizzle, place chocolate chips in small sealable plastic bag and seal. Microwave 30 seconds or until chocolate is melted. Clip small corner from bag and squeeze to drizzle chocolate over popcorn. Sprinkle with additional sugar sprinkles. Allow chocolate to harden before serving.



CHILI LIME POPCORN SNACK MIX

Yield: 1 quart

1 quart popped popcorn
1 teaspoon brewer's yeast powder
1 teaspoon lime juice
1/2 teaspoon chili powder
1/2 teaspoon salt

Preheat oven to 300°F. Spread popcorn on baking sheet. Sprinkle yeast powder, lime juice, chili powder and salt over popcorn. Heat about seven minutes and toss just before serving. Serve warm.

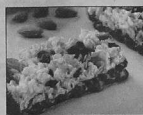


BLUEBERRY & POMEGRANATE POWER BARS

Yield: 12 bars

8 cups popped popcorn
1 1/2 cups old-fashioned rolled oats
1 cup dried blueberries
1/2 cup pomegranate seeds
1/2 cup toasted and coarsely chopped whole natural almonds
1/2 cup honey
1/2 cup light brown sugar
2 tablespoons butter or margarine
6 ounces melted bittersweet chocolate

Line 13-by-9-inch pan with foil; spray with cooking spray. Combine popcorn, oats, blueberries, pomegranate seeds and almonds in large bowl. Combine honey, brown sugar and butter in small saucepan. Cook over low heat to boiling; boil two minutes. Pour over popcorn mixture and mix thoroughly. Using damp hands, press mixture firmly into prepared pan. Refrigerate until firm, about two hours. Cut into 12 bars. Dip bottoms of bars into melted chocolate. Place on wax paper-lined pan. Store in tight covered container in refrigerator until ready to serve.



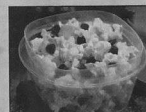
POPCORN TRAIL MIX

Yield: 5 cups

1 quart popped popcorn (air popped)
6 ounces diced, dried fruit (apricots, apples, etc.)
8 ounces raisins

Place freshly popped popcorn in large bowl. Add diced fruit and raisins. Toss popcorn and fruit until combined thoroughly.

Note: Add whatever fixings your family enjoys, such as dried fruits, seeds, nuts, etc.



Vegetarian cooking class

Farmington Hills — Barny Huang will demonstrate how to prepare Vegetarian Fajitas with Portabella Mushroom and Spanish Rice, 10 a.m. Friday, June 6, at Zong Shu Temple, 23845 Middlebelt. RSVP by emailing michigantemple@yahoo.com.

Food Trucks

Novi — Check out food truck cuisine 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 10, at to Novi's Haggerty Corridor Corporate Park, 27870. Scheduled trucks include Jacques' Tacos, The Mac Shack, The Mean Weenie, The Pita Post, Smokey

Rhodes BBQ and Treat Dreams. A local band, The Reefeermen, will entertain during lunch.

Farmers market opens

Westland — Find home-made creations, like soaps, jewelry and children's tutus, gourmet and gluten-free foods, honey, fruits, vegetables and more at Westland's Farmers Market, which opens for the season Thursday, June 5. It's open 3-7 p.m. every Thursday in the Westland City Hall parking lot, located on Ford Road, between Wayne Road and Newburgh; 734-226-7222. Look for a new Market building in a new location — Central City Park —

this summer. Check out these other local markets that are open for the season:

► **Birmingham**, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Oct. 19, in Public Parking Lot 6, on the east side of North Old Woodward, north of Maple; 248-530-1200.
► **Canton**, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, through Oct. 19, at Preservation Park, 500 N. Ridge Road, Canton; 734-394-5375.
► **Farmington**, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, through Nov. 8, at the Sundquist Pavilion in George F. Riley Park, Grand River Avenue, at Grove; 248-971-5882.
► **Lathrup Village**, 2-7 p.m. Wednesday, through Oct. 16, at

the municipal complex, 27400 Southfield Road; 248-557-2600.

► **Milford**, 3-8 p.m. Thursday, through Oct. 23, 115 E. Liberty; mfm.inquiries@gmail.com or 248-496-7056.

► **Northville**, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, through October, corner of Seven Mile and Sheldon; 248-349-7640.

► **Plymouth**, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday through Oct. 25, at The Gathering, on Penniman, across from Kellogg Park; 734-453-1540.

► **Royal Oak**, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, year-round, 316 E. 11 Mile, east of Main; 248-246-3276.

► **South Lyon**, 9 a.m. to 3

p.m. Saturday, through October, at the corner of Pontiac Trail and Liberty; 734-775-8139 or 248-437-1735.

► **Wayne**, 3-7 p.m. Wednesday, through Oct. 29, at Goudy Park, behind City Hall, 3355 S. Wayne Road; 734-786-8401.

Opening dates for other markets: Redford Township, 10 a.m. Sunday, June 15, at the Marquee, 15145 Beech Daly; Livonia, 8 a.m. Saturday, June 21, at Wilson Barn, 29350 W. Chicago Road; Novi, 9 a.m. Saturday, June 28, at the Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile; Clawson, 9 a.m. Sunday, July 13, in Clawson City Park, 1080 N. Custer, a half-mile north of 14 Mile, west of Main.

CITY BITES

REAL ESTATE

JULIE BROWN, EDITOR
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FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Luxury homes displayed at Homearama offer improvement ideas for homeowners at all levels, organizers say.

Homearama return signals growth in housing market

Dominic J. Moceri, who leads the Moceri Companies Development division, announced recently that "Our dedicated trades worked tirelessly through this winter's bitter cold and snow to keep construction of our spectacular Pinnacle community on track for completion this summer. Our custom home building partners also worked side-by-side with their subcontractors through terrible weather conditions to insure that all six multi-million dollar Homearama 2014 'masterpieces' will be finished for the gala preview opening to be held on Aug. 27, 2014." Pinnacle is located at Silverbell and Adams Road in Oakland Township.

Moceri reported that the developer and builders were faced with budget overruns of more than \$2.5 million to deal with this winter's weather-related construction issues. "We're all in this together, committed to hosting the first Homearama in over a decade. We only have four months to build and decorate six amazing homes that would normally require up to two years each to finish, so we are very focused. Ultimately, there will be nearly 60,000



Getting Homearama work on track has taken teamwork. Organizers are excited to have Homearama return.

square feet of indoor/outdoor living space – as much as you would typically see in 25 new model homes. This unique event will be truly over the top in every detail. The market for luxury homes is very strong and we are sparing no expense to amaze every single Homearama guest," he said.

Michael Stoskopf, CEO of the Home Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan (HBA) remarked, "Homearama is a public service activity of HBA and is held to offer everyone who owns, or would like to own a home, the opportunity to experience firsthand the one-of-a-kind concepts that are found in the finest \$1.8-\$4 million custom homes. While many who visit during

the 17-day run of Homearama 2014 will be lookers and dreamers – not necessarily buyers – this event will help them 'Bring the Dream Home' as they see concepts they can later bring into their own homes."

After its Charity Preview on Aug. 27, Homearama will be open to the public from Aug. 29 (Labor Day weekend) through Sept. 14, 2014. Custom home building companies, all professional builders, members of HBA, that will feature homes during the event include:

Arteva Homes – Brian Solitzer & Vito Terracciano, Cranbrook Homes – Sebastian Lombardo, MJC Concepts – Michael A. Chirco, Moceri Companies – Frank Moceri.

"With the improving economy, the sharp rise in demand for new homes, the many technological advances that make new homes a valuable investment and today's favorable interest rates," commented Stoskopf, "conditions are optimal for the families of our area to experience these magnificent dream homes that will be lavishly decorated and landscaped by some of the nation's best professionals."

Additional information on the homes and builders, including photos, renderings and floor plans may be viewed now at www.HomearamaHBA.com. Advance ticket sales, with online discounts, will begin on the website in June.

Senior making buy could be in for bad time

Q: My friend is thinking about buying a cooperative in a senior citizen community. The cooperative doesn't own the land on which the cooperative is built. Do you see that as a problem?

A: I see it as a huge problem for those persons that buy into a cooperative not knowing what the nature and extent of the land lease is. This has been a downfall for certain developers who have used the Florida technique of development by requiring a perpetual recreation lease of certain amenities in order to maximize their profits by continuing to receive rent from the association for decades after they have sold all of the units. This typically places a huge burden on the cooperative association to utilize a substantial portion of its maintenance fees collected from its members to pay off a land lease which will never get paid off for decades. Moreover, the land lease typically makes the cooperative totally responsible for maintaining the land, including retention ponds as well as paying the taxes. It is a great deal for the developer and, in our opinion, a lousy deal for anyone buying into it.

Q: I am wondering if it is much cheaper in the summer time in Naples, Fla., in regard to buying property.

A: Most everything is cheaper in Naples, Fla., during the summer, but not necessarily buying property, unless someone has had it on the market for a long period of time and is in a hurry to sell. However, some deals can be had after May. I'd roughen up, 30, and you're best advised to contact a Realtor now to see what opportunities are available, particularly those properties that have been listed for two months or more.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Quitting 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 248-644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

Robert Meisner

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Jan. 21-24, 2014, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
18915 Bedford St	\$409,000
18231 Beverly Rd	\$380,000
18620 S Chelton Dr	\$379,000
409 Sheridan Dr	\$175,000
BIRMINGHAM	
1250 Birmingham Blvd	\$400,000
1971 Bowers St	\$550,000
1383 E 14 Mile Rd	\$89,000
865 Emmons Ave	\$340,000
1409 Emmons Ave	\$188,000
383 Greenwood St	\$425,000
407 Kimberly St	\$419,000
152 Lewis St	\$290,000
452 Park St	\$375,000
1400 Smith Ave	\$605,000
1609 Torrey St	\$250,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
23 N Berkshire Rd	\$105,000
4593 Chelsea Ln	\$1,050,000
2150 Long Lake Rd	\$240,000
430 Fox Hills Dr # 4	\$52,000
2159 Klingensmith Rd	\$175,000

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
5745 Charing Cross Rd	\$425,000
5809 N Adams St	\$126,000
6720 Orinco Cir	\$45,000
5699 Raven Rd	\$345,000
495 S Cranbrook Cross Rd	\$255,000
6676 Woodbank Dr	\$190,000
5595 Woodland Park	\$302,000
COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP	
8460 Buffalo Rd	\$157,000
5103 Carinas Way	\$379,000
1809 Carriage Hl	\$358,000
1867 Glen Iris Dr	\$159,000
3676 Sandbar Dr	\$321,000
FARMINGTON	
20336 Grand River Ave	\$241,000
23005 Warner St	\$116,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
31810 Belmont St	\$165,000
25122 Branchwater Rd	\$166,000
25364 Briarwyke Dr	\$155,000
33735 Cadillac St	\$133,000
29422 Earth Ln	\$520,000
28269 Grand Duke Dr	\$240,000
36600 Grand River Ave	\$350,000
28014 Green Willow St	\$125,000
21290 Juniper Cir	\$140,000
21851 Kensington St	\$146,000
21382 Magnolia Ct	\$174,000
29406 Pendleton Club Dr	\$64,000

23149 Purdue Ave	\$149,000
28426 W Eight Mile Rd	\$32,000
Unit #3	\$120,000
20912 Waldron St	\$202,000
FRANKLIN	
30175 Oakleaf Ln	\$630,000
Unit #3	\$200,000
989 Byron Dr	\$155,000
847 Laurel Ln	\$108,000
6956 Martindale	\$115,000
1192 S Hickory Ridge Rd	\$103,000
NORTHVILLE	
45459 Nine Mile Rd	\$600,000
45355 Byrne Dr	\$228,000
47153 Dunsany Ct	\$265,000
20804 E Glen Haven Cir	\$65,000
21131 E Glen Haven Cir	\$138,000
9107 Glen Haven Ct	\$145,000
3133 Sherrie Ln	\$185,000
465 Welch Rd	\$129,000
NOVI	
27613 Albert St	\$300,000
22668 Beckenham Ct	\$572,000
47303 Bramblewood Ct	\$59,000
27032 Bramblewood Ct	\$271,000
28089 Carlton Way Dr	\$189,000
41644 Chattman St	\$320,000
39964 Crowdings	\$122,000
51173 Halffield St	\$408,000
25804 Lochmoor Ln	\$349,000
27627 Sloan St	\$130,000

24480 Taft Rd	\$135,000
22606 Woolsey	\$90,000
21944 York Mills Cir	\$555,000
SOUTH LYON	
54280 Birchwood Dr	\$330,000
52494 Fremont Dr E	\$520,000
517 N Reese St	\$138,000
1138 Padlock Dr	\$289,000
24338 Ravine Dr	\$457,000
25494 Stanley Ln	\$352,000
25294 Willowbrook Dr	\$438,000
SOUTHFIELD	
28273 Berkshire Dr	\$92,000
15790 Fairfax St	\$135,000
29836 Fall River Rd	\$120,000
26772 Franklin Pointe Dr	\$60,000
30300 Harbor Ct	\$165,000
24353 Marshall St	\$106,000
17120 New Jersey St	\$130,000
23950 Plumbrook Dr	\$146,000
29171 Rambling Rd	\$100,000
5000 Town Ctr # 2003	\$210,000
WHITE LAKE	
8878 Arlington St	\$225,000
8845 El Dorado Dr	\$193,000
9656 Mandon Rd	\$405,000
331 Raventree St	\$259,000
8079 Trenton Dr	\$316,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free, formal presentation 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 jane.quantum@gmail.com for more information or additional information.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne County 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. It will be Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

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

Any questions or concerns, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-9091 or Wayne Koehler at 313-819-0919.

Seminar each Tuesday, Thursday

A free seminar on government mortgage 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.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Feb. 10-13, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
50380 Amberley Blvd	\$536,000
847 Atherton Dr	\$75,000
1744 Brookdale Dr	\$274,000
1696 Fern Ct	\$185,000
50326 Hancock Rd	\$380,000
1154 Oak St	\$154,000
7645 Koppnick Rd	\$182,000
5167 Marlowe St	\$174,000
45667 Morningglide Dr	\$250,000
3159 River Meadow Dr	\$230,000
3596 Shepherd Ct	\$226,000
1906 Steeplechase Rd	\$80,000
1023 Torrey Hill Dr	\$270,000
GARDEN CITY	
6458 Helen Dr	\$60,000
30325 Rush St	\$84,000
LIVONIA	

38925 Ann Arbor Trl	\$135,000
19377 Blackburn St	\$184,000
31530 Bobrich St	\$160,000
36224 Club Dr	\$40,000
36232 Club Dr	\$40,000
20336 Grand River Ave	\$240,000
37852 Howell St	\$148,000
18260 Lathers St	\$30,000
9702 Louise St	\$95,000
32323 Lyndon St	\$125,000
14233 Melvin St	\$126,000
13359 Merrimood Park	\$174,000
18685 Millburn St	\$130,000
37098 Munger Dr	\$160,000
33777 Norfolk St	\$229,000
9970 Operto St	\$124,000
38888 Orangefield St	\$146,000
19811 Saint Francis St	\$90,000
33675 Wood St	\$165,000
15092 Yale St	\$135,000
NORTHVILLE	
18206 Blue Heron Dr	\$370,000
41331 Lagdon Ave	\$115,000
16946 Niagara Ct	\$532,000

18950 Overlook Trl	\$165,000
12005 Surrency Ln	\$105,000
41230 Windsor Ct	\$104,000
PLYMOUTH	
1099 Ann Arbor Rd W	\$174,000
44600 Joy Rd	\$90,000
44800 Joy Rd	\$200,000
49558 Newport Dr	\$84,000
9624 Normandy Dr	\$355,000
16212 Negaunee	\$415,000
9260 Oakview St	\$176,000
14205 Shadywood Dr	\$180,000
REDFORD	
9084 Krieh St	\$70,000
20518 Lexington	\$38,000
9668 Marion	\$85,000
12248 Nathalie	\$69,000
16212 Negaunee	\$90,000
9305 Riverview	\$40,000
17460 Wakendens	\$59,000
9328 Winston	\$58,000
WAYNE	
3512 Barry St	\$15,000
WESTLAND	
1104 Abbey Ct	\$160,000

32527 Avondale St	\$100,000
37470 Berkshire Cir	\$105,000
30743 Beechnut St	\$75,000
32025 Birchwood St	\$99,000
375 Carson Dr	\$141,000
7606 Gilman St	\$75,000
30559 Hivley St	\$72,000
33670 Hivley St	\$57,000
29770 Lacy Dr	\$120,000
30955 Louise St	\$120,000
7769 Manor Cir	\$43,000
4895 Matthew St	\$32,000
7649 Melvin Ave	\$106,000
1584 S Schuman St	\$54,000
38189 N Jean Ct	\$106,000
5806 N Karle St	\$70,000
6675 N Willowood St	\$110,000
31140 Palmer Rd	\$48,000
36323 Palmer Rd	\$100,000
31761 Palmer Rd	\$70,000
731 Rahn St	\$100,000
1584 S Schuman St	\$58,000
1511 S Walton St	\$58,000
7658 Terri Dr	\$140,000
924 Van Sull Dr	\$110,000

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