

CANTON OBSERVER

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SUSAN SARANDON & MELISSA MCCARTHY

Crowds celebrate Liberty Fest

Heritage Park welcomes thousands to annual celebration

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Alexis Jaros of Canton had plenty of options for celebrating her ninth birthday. She chose Liberty Fest. "I wanted to come here for my birthday," she said. "I like the rides." Alexis giggled alongside younger sister Alivia, who was counting the weeks until her eighth birthday, as the girls made the festival rounds with their mother, Tamara Jaros. Alivia had her festival route mapped out.

"I like the Chinese dragon (ride) and I want to do the rock-climbing wall and the bungee jump thing," she said. Crowds flocked to picturesque Heritage Park for carnival rides, festival food, live entertainment, exotic animals, the Detroit Circus, a movie under the stars, an international talent stage — more than enough activities to celebrate Canton's 23rd annual summer kickoff. Twins Nolan and Alec Teodorri, 14, joined friends Richard Smith, Sami Saied and James Gimby as Liberty Fest got un-

der way. "I like the atmosphere," Alec said. "You can hear the people screaming from the rides and it's just a happy time for people to be here together." "It's fun to hang out with everyone and meet new people," Sami said. "It gives you a warm feeling inside to be here." That seemed to sum up the feelings of many who crowded into Heritage Park. Patricia McGuire and Kelly Childs, both from Canton Lei-



Jason Denny, 9, and sister Asha Denny, 11, react as Jason pops a balloon with a dart, earning a prize. BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

See LIBERTY, Page A2



Canton officials say road projects could improve traffic prior to the opening of an outlet mall.

Road plan stall met with dismay

Local politicians take legislators to task for lack of solution

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Local officials expressed dismay Friday with the lack of a comprehensive plan to repair Michigan's roads, while state lawmakers from the Plymouth area said the issue can still be revisited yet this year. The budget the state Legislature sent to Gov. Rick Snyder for the fiscal year that begins in October includes \$3.7 billion for the Michigan Department of Transportation, but Snyder had sought an additional \$1.2 billion and the House had approved a package that would have raised an estimated \$500 million. The Senate couldn't reach consensus on new road revenue. "I'm extremely disappointed that we can't get a resolution on a comprehensive plan," Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume said. "There's got to be a plan. I don't think that's debatable," said Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer, who also said "everybody's disappointed" in the lack of an agreement. "If they take the summer to come up with a good plan, I guess a couple months isn't going to kill us," Dwyer said, adding he's "cautiously optimistic" about the chances for a plan.

Earlier boost MDOT's road money — the department also spends money on other types of transportation, such as mass transit — typically is directed to state roads, but officials said there are ways legislation could be crafted to provide assistance for county and local roads. For example, Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township said, a supplemental appropriation earlier this year of \$215 million went to counties and cities across the state for local road maintenance after winter weather left many in poor condition. Heise said the 2014-15 MDOT budget includes a \$271 million boost from the general fund, but overall is slightly less than the current fiscal year because of reduced federal funding. Heise said the House plan to raise an extra \$500 million would have earmarked more existing money for roads, increased the penalties for overweight trucks, tied the gasoline tax to the wholesale price of gas and increased the diesel tax on trucks. "They ultimately never came up

See ROADS, Page A2

Ford woes might ease despite mall

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton officials say driving conditions along traffic-clogged Ford Road near I-275 could actually improve, even with a new outlet mall, due to road projects slated for next year. "It's not going to be any worse," Supervisor Phil LaJoy said, "and hopefully it's going to be a whole lot better." His remarks came after Baltimore-based Paragon Outlet Partners revealed it hopes to house as many as 100 stores by summer 2016 in a 357,000-square-foot outlet mall on the south side of Ford Road, between Lotz and I-275. "It's really an upscale thing," LaJoy said, saying the mall could potentially attract stores such as Calvin Klein, Nike, Banana Republic and Neiman Marcus. "People are waiting to go there." Still, some Canton residents worry that Ford Road, which many already avoid, could become nearly impassable if an outlet mall dumps even more traffic onto the busy thoroughfare. Even some township officials have concerns. Trustee Pat Williams said the outlet mall proposal amounts to "a home run for the community" by creating new jobs, stores and tax revenues, but he worries it could "add to the nightmare that already is Ford Road." Paragon's plans not. Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said county and state projects slated for next year are scheduled to occur before the outlet mall opens. Specifically, Lotz Road is slated for a \$5 million paving project between Ford and Cherry Hill. Faas said any outlet mall site plans by Paragon Outlet Partners would almost certainly include access to and from Lotz Road. "That will be paramount to getting

traffic in and out of this site," Faas said. Moreover, \$1.8 million in improvements are expected next year along Ford Road between Lotz and Haggerty, much of it near I-275. Those include longer lanes approaching interstate ramps; improving access from westbound Ford to southbound I-275; adding a lane at the end of the southbound I-275 off ramp to Ford; giving motorists on eastbound Ford at Haggerty more options to drive straight ahead or turn right; and connecting pedestrian walkways between Lotz and Haggerty. "It's going to help a lot," Faas said. The most recent traffic studies have indicated 40,000 vehicles a day move along Ford Road near the I-275 and Lotz area, he said. Officials say the outlet mall is expected to increase traffic by about 3 percent or 1,310 vehicles a day — a spike they believe the road could accommodate with improvements. Faas said Paragon's outlet mall isn't dramatically larger than a 350,000-square-foot retail site at Michigan Avenue and Beck — another area that gives officials a barometer to measure anticipated traffic flow. Longer term, Canton still hopes to secure federal and state dollars to transform Ford Road into a boulevard from the I-275/Haggerty area to west of Sheldon Road. To that end, local officials have submitted yet a sixth proposal to the U.S. Department of Transportation for TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) dollars. Canton officials say it's too early to know if the outlet mall could hasten action by the state or federal government for large-scale Ford Road improvements. Regardless, it's another possibility that plan to pursue. dclem@hometownlife.com Twitter: @CantonObserver

See MALL, Page A2

Mall plan divides residents

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Supporters say a new outlet mall proposed for Canton's east side will create hundreds of jobs, pump money into the area economy and make Canton — already home to Michigan's only IKEA — an even stronger shopping destination. Critics, however, fear new development is spiraling out of control, threatening locally owned small businesses and choking off traffic-besieged thoroughfares such as Ford Road. Canton resident Bill Tufts, 65, favors a plan by Baltimore-based Paragon Outlet Partners to build the 357,000-square-foot outlet mall featuring as many as 100 stores on the south side of Ford Road between Lotz and I-275. The site could open by summer 2016. "Personally, I think it's a good idea. I like outlet shopping," Tufts said, adding he has visited similar retail centers in Howell and Birch Run. Tufts suggested the developer, which stands to rake in huge amounts of money, should

Community Life.....	B5	Homes.....	C2	Services.....	C2
Crossword Puzzle.....	C3	Jobs.....	C1	Sports.....	B1
Health.....	B9	Obituaries.....	B8	Wheels.....	C3



Busch's delays store opening

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Conceding its customer base is disappointed, officials at Busch's Fresh Food Market confirmed the delay opening its Canton store until sometime next year.

However, officials are hopeful customers will find the wait was worth it.

The store's exterior is finished on the Busch's site southeast of Canton Center and Cherry Hill roads, but Carol Varga, the company's director of facilities, cited a delay involving the interior design.

"We went back out to market research to make sure we are designing it correctly for the neighborhood," she said, adding later "If we don't put the right products and services in that store, it will fail. We want to get it



Busch's has pushed back its opening date in Canton until sometime next year.

right for the neighborhood."

Customers awaiting Busch's opening have voiced their frustration to the *Observer* and through social media. Kristen Thomas, Canton's economic development manager, has said residents became hopeful of an imminent opening after the store's exterior sign was erected in recent months. Supervisor Phil LaJoy

said Thursday the community is eager to welcome Busch's, which is filling a longtime vacant building that once housed a Farmer Jack grocery.

"We're excited about it," he said. Varga acknowledged Canton is a diverse community and she said Busch's began to rethink its store interior plans to ensure the company meets the needs of local shoppers.

"We want to bring the people in that neighborhood the right products and services," she said, adding later. "There's a lot more to building a grocery store than people think."

Busch's has removed a coming-soon sign that had been posted near Canton Center. Rather, Varga said the company is working on a new banner for the store's exterior to note the 2015 opening.

Early on, Busch's had hoped to open as early as February of this year. Varga said officials haven't yet projected when the store is expected to open next year.

Company officials have said the Canton store will be Busch's 16th site. It will be about 56,000 square feet in size.

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ROADS

Continued from Page A1

with an alternative plan," Heise said of the Senate. "There was a lot of chaos over the budget."

But, he acknowledged, raising taxes is a tough call. "As many people complain about roads up here, we get just as many people saying, 'Don't raise my taxes,' especially with gas approaching four dollars a gallon," he said.

Return to Lansing?

Voters describe a plan and he would "be happy to come back to Lansing any time to finish this thing up," Heise said.

"We need a sustainable, predictable long-term funding plan for roads and we don't have that," he said. Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton Township, agreed with the need for a comprehensive roads plan, but drew the line at raising taxes.

"Clearly, we all want to fix the roads," Colbeck said. "I think we need to get serious about putting together plans that respect the pockets, the wallets, of our taxpayers."

The state already spends 53 percent more on roads per mile than the national average, he said, and has the fifth-highest gasoline tax. (The current tax is 19 cents per gallon for

gasoline, 15 cents per gallon for diesel fuel.) Money already in the state's budget needs to be put to better use, he said. Colbeck said he favors a change in appropriations policy in the short term that would spend more existing money on roads and, in the longer term, greater efficiencies that would yield savings, plus new ways of raising revenue without taxation, such as highway billboards or rest-stop concessions.

"There're a lot of moving pieces on this. It's not that simple, unfortunately," he said. The Senate did, Colbeck said, approve some non-revenue-generating provisions of the House legislation that seek greater accountability and efficiencies in road maintenance.

In Plymouth Township, which is dependent on Wayne County for local road upkeep, Reaume said roads should be built to last longer, as is done in some other countries, and that road salt should be replaced with alternatives that are less harsh on the pavement.

"MPT's a good organization. Let's give them the tools," he said. But he's not opposed to a tax increase, either. "They have the opportunity right now to make a courageous decision, to do it the right way. ... Something's got to change."

LIBERTY

Continued from Page A1

sure Services, worked a book sale to raise money for local children's summer camps. Kelly works with Camp Canton, which begins Monday, and Patricia is involved with Camp ABLE, which starts June 23 for youngsters who have physical, mental and emotional impairments.

Across the park, Jeanette Williams, Canton Leisure Services business operations coordinator, smiled Thursday as the three-day festival got off to a crowd-pleasing start.

"This is the perfect temperature for a festival," she said, unlike some years "when the temperature has been 95 degrees."

She and other CLS employees were on hand to help festival-goers have a good time.

"Our role is to make



Fifteen-year-old Gina Berber of Canton enjoys an elephant ear. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER (STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

sure everyone has a great experience when they come to the festival," Williams said.

Canton historian Bill Tesen wore his hat as Rotary Club secretary by the beer tent, where the club raised money to support a wide array of charities.

"It's a good time for the community and the Rotary Club," Tesen said. "It's a good event."

Abe Vinitzki, CLS park and sports supervisor, said the Heritage Park grounds were a little damp from recent rains as the event got under way.

Not to worry.



Evan Cunningham had a blast bouncing Thursday. He visited Liberty Festival with mom and dad, Kristie and John. They live in Plymouth.

"I always say Heritage Park is forgiving," Vinitzki said. With that, crowds screamed on rides and children savored their favorite festival food as residents from Canton

made memories, including Alexis Jaros' ninth birthday, that wouldn't likely fade soon.

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MALL

Continued from Page A1

be a good neighbor by agreeing to pay for road improvements to ease traffic congestion near Ford and I-275.

"You have to be responsible for the effects you cause when you build something," he said.

Canton resident Pam Cortese strongly opposes the outlet mall and said Canton is becoming overdeveloped, often by large companies that threaten a local way of life.

"I don't like it," she said. "It's not a good idea. We need to have our small businesses in Canton. I want to put the money back into Canton."

Canton Tech Chance Seller cited pros and cons to building the outlet mall.

"It would be good because it would draw more businesses and people," Seller, 17, said. "But it would take away business from some of

the local family owned stores. It's good because it would bring in more jobs, but it's only going to clog up Ford Road even more."

Like many motorists, Seller said he agrees to try to avoid driving on Ford Road.

Canton resident Eric Berdijo, 61, said he finds himself in the middle of the debate. He realizes the outlet mall would be good for business, but he, too, worries it could usher in even worse driving conditions along Ford Road.

"I do not take Ford Road," said Berdijo, who lives near Haggerty and Cherry Hill. Berdijo said he, his wife and their 19-year-old daughter have shopped at outlet malls in places like Birch Run. And though he has mixed feelings about the Canton proposal, he believes it would likely be successful.

"I know a lot of people who like to go to outlet malls," he said.

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CORRECTION

A story in Thursday's *Observer* about Wayne-Westland's 2014-15 budget should have stated that the district expects revenues of \$104.0 million and expenditures of \$104.4 million.

OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS

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UPCOMING DATES:

Wednesday, July 9

1:00-3:00 pm
Milford Library
330 Family Drive, Milford, MI 48381

Wednesday, July 23

10:00 am - noon
Ralph Richardson Community Senior Center
1485 Oakley Park Road
Commerce Township, MI 48390

Thursday, July 31

1:00 - 3:00 pm
Plymouth Cultural Center
525 Farmer Street
Plymouth, MI 48170

Tuesday, August 12

1:30 - 3:30 pm
Northville Community Center
303 W. Main Street
Northville, MI 48167



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Administration presents balanced school budget

By Brad Kadrich

Staff Writer

Plymouth-Canton Board of Education members have been forced to make some \$30 million in budget cuts over the last five years.

Make that more than \$36 million in six years.

District administrators Tuesday presented the budget for the 2014-15 school year, a balanced financial plan the board is expected to adopt at its June 24 meeting.

"We had to make difficult decisions while focusing on instructional excellence," said Brodie Killian, the district's deputy superintendent for business and operations.

Killian presented a budget with \$148.7 million in revenue and \$149.8 million in expenses. For now, the budget has been balanced using \$1.8

million from the district's fund balance, leaving the budget balance at a projected \$6.7 million.

Killian said he hopes to realize more savings at the bargaining table.

"We hope to end the cycle without having to use our fund balance," said Killian, pointing out the balance would then be some \$7.8 million, plus \$2.9 million in the district's Durant fund.

A variety of factors have conspired to put the district in its current financial position, Killian said, not the least of which is a dramatic drop in student count. With Wayne County experiencing a drop in its birth rate and with options such as charter schools, the district expects to lose 600 students next year and average a loss of some 300 students a year over the next

several years.

Plymouth-Canton's student population has dropped from more than 19,000 in 2008-09 to 17,205 in 2014-15.

The district projected a student count of 16,700 in 2015-16.

Killian said the district is expecting a \$109 increase in the state foundation allowance, but that total still leaves Plymouth-Canton lagging behind neighboring districts. According to Trustee Sheila Paton, Plymouth-Canton gets some \$848 less than either Northville or Livonia.

"Every single one of our surrounding districts ... gets a substantial amount more," Paton said. "I don't understand why a kid in Northville is worth more (to the state) than a kid in Plymouth-Canton."

Among the cuts made to

deal with the deficit, the district has laid off some 42 teachers. It cut 7.5 full-time-equivalent positions from its staff of 27.8 reading interventionists and dropped nearly 10 FTE among its media specialists.

The board also voted Tuesday to privatize the district's custodial services, cutting all 68 custodial positions.

Killian said those cuts were made because 87 percent of the district's budget is spent on wages and benefits, leaving precious little else to cut.

"Many of the cuts are in that 87-percent area," Killian said. "We're always looking to keep as many of those reductions away from the classroom as we can."

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ON CAMPUS

Ashland Theological Seminary

Two women from Canton were among a number of local residents who received degrees from Ashland University's Theological Seminary during its commencement exercises June 7. The seminary conferred 176 degrees to the members of its 2014 graduating class.



Wright



Dunbar-Bird

Vickie A. Wright received a master of arts degree in counseling.

Emma Dunbar-Bird received a master of arts degree in counseling and graduated with honors.

The Theological Seminary is a graduate division of Ashland University.

University of Delaware

Phillip Fleck of Plymouth has been named to the dean's list for the 2014 spring semester.

To meet eligibility requirements for the dean's list, a student must be enrolled full-time and earn a GPA of 3.33 or above (on a 4.0 scale) for the semester.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Lindsay Marie Spaulding of Canton and Monica Mackle of Plymouth were named to the spring semester dean's list by the College of Arts and Sciences. Qualification for the dean's list varies among the eight undergraduate colleges and the Honor Roll for undeclared students.

All qualifying grade-point averages are based on a 4.0 scale and a minimum of 12 or more graded semester hours. Students can be on the dean's list for more than one college.

Albion College

The following local students were named to the dean's list for the spring 2014 semester: Students named to the dean's list must achieve a grade-point average of 3.5 or above at the completion of the semester.

Brett de Bear recently graduated with a degree in English education and minoring in history education, with a concentration in the Fritz Shurmur Center for Teacher Development secondary certification program. She is the daughter of Robert and Jane de

See CAMPUS, Page A5

Isbister Elementary volunteer gets VIP treatment

By Brad Kadrich

Staff Writer

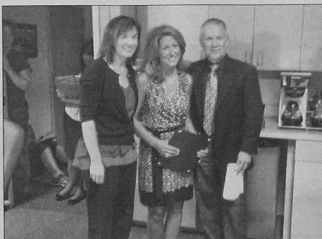
During the 2013-14 school year, Michelle Dorigo ran the Isbister Elementary School yearbook program, she once again chaired the school's annual book fair and she kept the fifth-grade Movie Night program going.

And that was in a year when Dorigo had decided to step back a little after years spearheading several programs as one of the school's top volunteers.

For her years of effort at Isbister, Dorigo was honored with the district's VIP award at Tuesday's Board of Education meeting.

"Michelle is one of my absolute favorite volunteers," said school board Trustee Sheila Paton, who served on the PTO with Dorigo. "I knew whatever she did was going to be done beyond perfect."

Dorigo served on the PTO for seven years and was on the budget committee for



Volunteer Michelle Dorigo (center) was honored by Board of Education Trustee Sheila Paton and Isbister Principal Lee Harrison.

five. She instituted Movie Night and ran the program for the first four years and also started a Cookies with Santa program she ran for years.

She ran the yearbook for four years and served on the

landscaping committee, where she was involved in everything from design to material procurement. "And she was out there doing the planting on the first day," Isbister Principal Lee Harrison said.

Dorigo did the fundraising for the pavilion paver program to replace a missing concrete slab in the school's pavilion — "We may have the only brick pavers ever in an elementary school pavilion," Harrison said — and helped create a bowling fundraiser. She created the Teacher Feature raffle that became a big part of the school's fundraising effort and institute a cookie walk for teachers.

And, according to Harrison, Dorigo chaired the Book Fair "so often Scholastic hired her." When no one stepped up to chair the book fair this year, Dorigo gave it life by volunteering to chair it.

"There's a certain level of elegance to the things she does," Harrison said. "The bar is set high when Michelle is involved. We're very fortunate to have had Michelle the last several years and we are very much going to miss her."

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Schoolcraft College expanding veterans' services with new space in fall

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Schoolcraft College has an expanded Veterans Services Office opening on its Livonia campus on Haggerty, north of Six Mile.

Plans are for the facility to open in September, with work now on schedule.

The facility will feature a lounge, said Pam Paxton-Keehler, the college's veterans services coordinator. Also on tap are study carrels. "Just a place to hang out," she said.

The college enrolls some 225 military veterans in a typical semester, Paxton-Keehler said. She's been on the job since 2009 with the Post-9/11 Bill to support

education for returning veterans.

The majority of the veterans have served in Iraq or Afghanistan, she said. "They seem to gravitate toward the public safety kind of careers," including police, fire and EMT. "We have some who are doing nursing."

"They're so anxious to move on and get home," she said.

Some are unsure of how to proceed with higher education. "We're a one-stop shop," said Paxton-Keehler, who can be reached at 734-462-4400, ext. 5346. "It is very overwhelming. We try to sort it out."

The military benefits in education can be tough to decipher, along with other services for veterans. Paxton-Keehler recommends veterans wishing to attend Schoolcraft first call her. There is a checklist for things like admissions, the placement test and more before registration.

She's housed in the college's McDowell Center with other student services. "We really hope to have much more robust referral help for them," she said, such as housing and VA health benefits.

"We really hope to make it more their own," she said of the expanded office.

The new office will have a space for Paxton-Keehler, the clerk at the



Many educational benefits for returning veterans are offered, with Schoolcraft's Pam Paxton-Keehler the college's veterans services coordinator. BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

entrance and both lounge and study areas.

"It's more than we've ever had before, so I'm ever excited," she said of the retrofitting of the existing space for veterans.

One veteran is Lawrence Smith of Canton, who earned an associate's degree with honors from Schoolcraft before heading to Eastern Michigan University, where he's almost completed his bachelor's

degree in public safety.

Smith, an officer with the Detroit Police Department, was encouraged to return to school by his wife, who is also former military. Smith served in the U.S. Army from 1983 to 2005, including in Germany, Japan and Egypt.

Paxton-Keehler is proud of Smith, as well as another student heading to the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. That student/veteran

earned the Purple Heart.

"It is amazing to watch them succeed," she said. "I love what I do. It's really opened my eyes. I have the utmost respect for these guys."

She didn't have much experience with returning veterans earlier in her life and said, "All they need is a little help. This is the best job on campus. It's just amazing."

jbrown@hometownlife.com

CAMPUS

Continued from Page A4

Bear of Plymouth and a graduate of Salem High School.

Grace Dougherty recently graduated with a degree in biochemistry and anthropology and a minor in cell and molecular biology and is a

member of the Prentiss M. Brown Honors Program. She is the daughter of David and Lu Dougherty of Canton and a graduate of Salem High School.

Eric Guindl is majoring in finance with a minor in business and organizations. He is the son of Robert Guindl of Northville and Sandra Wilkinson of Plymouth and a graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School.

Joseph Thomas recently graduated with a

degree in chemistry and philosophy and is a member of the Prentiss M. Brown Honors Program. He is the son of Patrick Thomas of Plymouth and Nina Thomas of Belleville and a graduate of Canton High School.

Lewis University

Paul Baumgart of Canton was among those honored on the dean's list for spring semester 2014. Baumgart was studying business administra-

tion.

To be eligible for this honor, students must have completed a minimum of 12 semester hours of credit with a grade point average of 3.5 out of a possible 4.0 and with no D or F grades.

Beloit College

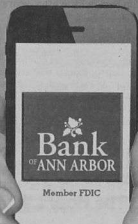
Andrew Rabe of Plymouth was recently named to the spring 2014 deans list at Beloit. Rabe is a junior.

Check balances at Plymouth Yoga Room.

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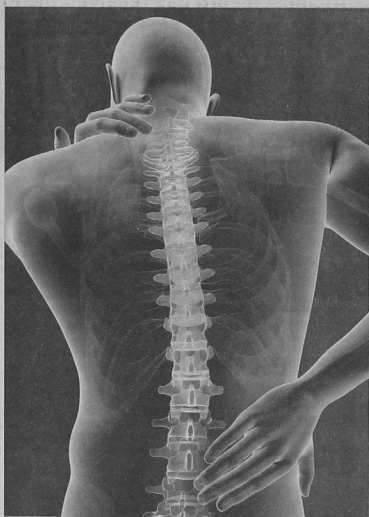
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Volunteers sew 'angel' gowns for babies who never make it home

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

Sewing has always made Dawn Lafferty happy. Now the Garden City resident is using her sewing skills to help ease the sadness of parents who miscarry, deliver a stillborn baby or lose an infant shortly after birth. Lafferty started a nonprofit called Angels Above Baby Gowns, where she and a group of women sew burial gowns for babies out of donated wedding gowns.

The group made its first delivery Tuesday to St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, dropping off 18 handmade gowns ranging in size to fit micro-preemies all the way up to full-term babies. Some gowns are for boys, some for girls and some are unisex.

Lafferty got the idea after reading an article about a woman in Georgia who lost a baby and fashioned a burial gown out of her own wedding dress and then started making them for others. "I couldn't stop thinking about that article," she said. "There's such a need for it. Most of those people haven't had baby showers (yet), every-

"I couldn't stop thinking about that article," she said. "There's such a need for it. Most of those people haven't had baby showers (yet), every-

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"I couldn't stop thinking about that article," she said. "There's such a need for it. Most of those people haven't had baby showers (yet), every-



St. Mary Mercy's Deborah Almsworth, R.N., director of the Birthing Center, of Canton, and Pamela Wrigley, R.N., assistant unit manager of the Birthing Center, of Livonia, look at outfits made by Jennifer McDonald of Redford and Dawn Lafferty of Garden City. Lafferty founded the new nonprofit organization Angels Above Baby Gowns. BILL BRUESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

children because of a kidney disease, but she was a foster mother to many babies through the years. She stays in touch with three of her foster daughters, including one who has blessed her with a grandchild.

Lafferty taught herself how to sew at age 10. When she worked for Michigan Bell, she would take home co-workers' dresses and slacks to hem them.

"I always said if I could sew every day, it would make me the happiest person in the

world," said Lafferty, who had to retire for medical reasons several years ago. "Now I am sewing every day." Lafferty also volunteers as a seamstress for the Friendship Center in Westland.

Sewing group meets weekly

Lafferty said she expects to surpass her goal for the nonprofit of 200 gowns by the end of the year. She has converted her basement into a sewing center, where a handful of women join

her from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. each Thursday to make the gowns. "We always have dessert and friendship with it," she said. Others volunteer by making gowns in their own homes.

One of Lafferty's former Michigan Bell co-workers, Jennifer McDonald of Redford, is a member of the sewing circle at Lafferty's house. "It's a wonderful thing," McDonald said, adding there is a need for the gowns and they may "help someone at one of the worst times of

their life." The mother of four and grandmother of three said she never lost a child. "I can't imagine the pain," she said.

Getting donations of wedding gowns has not been a problem - the group has a dozen right now. It also accepts donations of lace, buttons and other decorative trim. Contact Angels Above Baby Gowns, Garden City on Facebook or call Lafferty at 734-421-2322.

Lafferty has contacted several hospitals and St. Mary Mercy was the first to call back, she said. The donation was based on the need of about 15 gowns per year. Lafferty said the gowns come packaged with a prayer book and a tiny keepsake angel ornament. There is no charge to the families. Some parents like to have their baby photographed in the gown and then put the gown back in the box to keep as another memento, along with a lock of the baby's hair and hand and footprints.

"The directors at St. Mary, they cried," Lafferty said. "They were just so touched. Before we were back home, we had already received a call from one of the nurses who would like to donate her wedding dress."

ksmith@hometownlife.com
313-222-2098
Twitter: @KarenS87



Mystery game planned for downtown

By Matt Jackson
Staff Writer

Teams of amateur detectives will head to downtown Plymouth later this month to compete in solving a fictional kidnapping case as it unfolds in real time.

Ransom, scheduled for 8 p.m. Saturday, June 28, is the third participatory mystery brought to Plymouth by Quizzo Detroit, a pub trivia and gaming company that has taken games as far as Texas.

"It's a lot of fun in there, a lot of entertainment value, a lot of comedy," said Dujo Klemmer, a 1994 Salem High School graduate and Quizzo Detroit presenter who will play Deputy Dooley during the next Plymouth event. Klemmer's character will be giving the four-person detective teams in Ransom their initial instructions and going over their findings at the end of the night.

The idea, Klemmer said, is that the teams - up to 20 - will fan out to different locations downtown to search for clues to help them solve the kidnapping. Some clues will be inanimate, while others will be gleaned by talking to characters played by actors at some of the stops.

The teams will reconvene at 10:30 p.m. with Deputy Dooley to share their findings. The team that can solve the mystery will win gift cards from local businesses. In case of a tie, Dooley said, a quiz about information derived from the clues will determine the winner.

The cost to enter Ransom is \$80 per four-person team; part of the money will go to the Plymouth Community United Way. Preregistration is required; register by calling the 3627 or by stopping by the office at 960 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 2, Plymouth. Office hours are 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Friday.

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Look 10 years younger in 1 hour

'The Hour Lift' facelift now most popular cosmetic procedure - lasts for 10 years

"The results will last between five and 10 years, depending upon the patient."

Dr. Eric Seiger
Skin & Vein Center in Fenton

BY SALLY RUMMEL

She sits right, she works out and takes care of herself every day. She wants her face to reflect this same youthful vitality that the rest of her body shows.

That's why one local 69-year-old woman, who asked to remain anonymous, is in the pre-op area of the Skin and Vein Center in Fenton for "The Hour Lift," a mini-facelift procedure that's becoming more and more popular.

"We've been doing these for about 15 years, but they've become much more mainstream now since makeover shows on TV began to glorimize them about 10 years ago," said Dr. Eric Seiger, board certified dermatologist and cosmetic surgeon. "It's not a 'taboo' thing anymore."

Dr. Seiger estimates he has done between 2,500 and 3,000 of these procedures, on women as young as 24 and for a couple who was each 86 years old. "I'd say the median age for this surgery is about 58, and 95 percent of my patients are women. The results will last

between five and 10 years, depending upon the patient."

The difference between The Hour Lift and a regular facelift is that The Hour Lift involves cutting the skin and tightening the facial muscles, rather than moving the facial muscles. The areas primarily improved by a facelift are the jaws, cheeks and neck. There's a huge difference in recovery time and price.

"It's the difference between a three-day recovery and a two-week commitment," said Dr. Seiger.

The price is also a huge factor in a person's decision to undergo this procedure. Dr. Seiger says he used to charge \$3,800, and he cut the price to \$2,900 when the economy changed a couple of years ago. A full facelift will cost between \$6,000 and \$15,000 - depending upon the scope of the procedure. These elective cosmetic procedures are not covered by insurance.

"The number one thing that patients say to me is, 'I don't want to look 20 years old again. I just want to look in the mirror and be able to look as good as I feel inside. I want to feel refreshed,'" said Dr. Seiger.

For the 69-year-old patient who was waiting for her procedure, The Hour Lift was not only for her own self-esteem, but also for her success in the business world. "A youthful appearance validates your professionalism," she said. "This is how we get measured for our success."



Thinking about having 'The Hour Lift'?

Here's what to expect:

Q: What happens before the procedure?

A: Prior to surgery, you may be given a medication to help you relax. Local anesthesia is then administered to minimize discomfort.

Q: How long does the procedure take?

A: One to 1½ hours.

Q: What actually happens during the "One Hour Lift"?

A: Dr. Seiger makes a short incision and gently lifts the tissue under the skin, removing the excess skin and tightening the muscles. He then drapes the overlying skin, leaving the patient wrinkle-free with a firm, more youthful jaw line.

Q: What can I expect during recovery?

A: Post surgery, patients wear an ice-containing head garment for 24-48 hours. They are likely able to shampoo and wear make-up the day after surgery. Sutures will be removed in six to eight days, resuming normal activities within three days.

Q: Does it hurt? Will I bruise or swell?

A: Approximately 85 percent of patients experience no bruising. There is minimal pain, controlled with oral medication.

Q: How long will the results last?

A: Look five to 10 years younger, with results lasting usually five to 10 years.

Q: Can I talk to anyone who has had the procedure?

A: The Skin and Vein Center can arrange for a contact with someone who has had the procedure and agrees to speak to prospective patients.

Source: skinandvein.com



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A patient is prepped for a mini-facelift at the Skin & Vein Center in Fenton. Dr. Eric Seiger is assisted by nurse Amy Sowers and resident physician Kate Johnson.

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HAPPY FEET 2 (PG)

Q22 JUMP STREET (R)
11:00, 1:00, 4:00, 6:45, 7:15, 9:15, 9:50
PREMIAT LS 11:45
HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2 (PG)
11:00, 12:00, 1:55, 2:25, 4:50, 6:40
PREMIAT LS 11:55
Q10 HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2 (PG)
11:00, 12:00, 1:55, 2:25, 4:50, 6:40
PREMIAT LS 11:55
Q10 HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2 (PG)
11:00, 12:00, 1:55, 2:25, 4:50, 6:40
PREMIAT LS 11:55
X-MEN: DAYS OF FUTURE PAST (PG-13)
12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:20

Playing for Peanuts pays off for PFDC

The Plymouth Fife & Drum Corps recently accompanied the Kiwanis Club of Plymouth during its annual Peanut Day weekend fundraiser.

Donned in their red white and blue colonial uniforms and armed with their instruments, members certainly attracted lots of attention playing melodic fife and drum music. It was the biggest Peanut Day fundraiser the Kiwanis Club of Plymouth has had to date. A portion of the funds were earmarked to help with the costs of PFDC's annual 2014 tour.

Plymouth Kiwanis Club director and Peanut Day coordinator Richard Lake presented PFDC Ways & Means chairman Lisa LiGreci and PFDC fifer Elizabeth Manning with a certificate of appreciation and a check for \$1,400.

"I knew a lot of the people who stopped to drop a donation in my canister," Manning said. Along with other youth-focused organizations, Kiwanis Club of



Plymouth Kiwanis Club director and Richard Lake (right) presented PFDC Ways & Means chairman Lisa LiGreci (left) and fifer Elizabeth Manning with a certificate of appreciation and a check for \$1,400.

Plymouth has supported Plymouth Fife & Drum Corps in this manner for a number of years.

"Downstream support of youth activities like this is exactly what Kiwanis Club members contribute their time and efforts into their community," said Jim Moylan, the Kiwanis Club secretary. A total of 24 Kiwanis Club members and 55 PFDC members and parents volunteered to make this year's Peanut Day weekend a huge success.

The donation from Plymouth Kiwanis will go a long way to help with the costs of the PFDC's 2014 Tour.

"We've dubbed this year's tour 'The Presidential Tour,' as a major-ity of our performances

will be held at five United States presidents' homes," LiGreci said. This year, PFDC will travel to Virginia to participate in a wreath laying ceremony at The Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington Cemetery and perform with the United States Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, escort to the president of the United States."

Other scheduled performances include Mt. Vernon, Monticello, Montpelier, Berkeley Plantation, Colonial Williamsburg, Yorktown and many other historic landmarks in the area.

Anyone wishing to support the group can visit the PFDC fundraising website at www.go-fundme.com/Pease-Help-PFDC.

Canton library sets summer program

The Canton Public Library kicks off the Connect Your Summer reading program Monday, welcoming patrons of all ages to participate.

Connect Your Summer rewards participants for reading, attending a library program or using electronic media. The program strives to prevent "summer slide" – or summer learning loss – seen in children during their summer vacation.

Library officials say participants stay engaged and motivated with a variety of educational and entertaining programs, along with

prize opportunities. This year's program has an increased emphasis on reading.

Visit the library throughout the summer for programs and activities for all ages, including Teen Creative Writing, Made in the Mitten and Astute Artistry: Transform Yourself, as well as many others. Along with these programs, library patrons may also participate in MI Big Green Gym or MAP (Michigan Activity Pass).

Library officials say Connect Your Summer is a fun way to keep the

body and mind active and engaged through summer.

Participants may join at any point in the summer up until the completion date Friday, Aug. 15. The library will celebrate everyone's hard work on the Connect Your Summer reading program by hosting a party from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16.

For more information or a complete list of programs, visit www.cantonpl.org/connect-your-summer or ask any library staff. The library is located at 1200 S. Canton Center.

W-W halts union dues collections

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools will no longer collect union dues through payroll deduction.

The school board last week voted to rescind a resolution it passed in September 2013 that stated the district would continue to collect union dues as part of collective bargain agreements it has with its unions until the courts had "definitively" ruled on challenges of Public Act 53 of 2011.

"This will bring us into compliance with law," district Superintendent Greg Baracy said. "The school attorney says now is the time to rescind the previous resolution."

PA 53 of 2012 prohibits public school districts from collecting union dues through payroll deduction procedures. However, its implementation was challenged by the Michigan Education Association and its union affiliates. Although a federal judge did issue a preliminary injunction, it was reversed by the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, which also declined to rehear the case.

According to Deputy Superintendent Paul Salah, the Lansing School District filed a declaratory action to

get a court ruling on the act. An Ingham County Circuit judge issued an opinion and order March 27 that districts could not collect union dues. The school district filed a motion to rescind, which was denied May 6. No appeals of the decisions were filed by the May 27 filing deadline.

"I totally oppose this statute. I always have been and will continue," Trustee Charles "Trav" Griffin said. "This has the ability to inhibit the formation of organizations, in this case, unions. That's my personal opinion and I have a lot of good reasons for that. However, I have also taken an oath of office to uphold the law. I will be voting for this reluctantly because of my opposition to the law."

"I don't understand why they felt it necessary to enact this law," board Trustee Cindy Schofield said. "But it is the law and, therefore, we have to uphold it."

"It's a corny piece of legislation," board Secretary Carol Middel said. "There's nothing we can do about it. We're caught between a rock and a hard place."

The district will stop collecting dues with the start of the new school year in September and the unions will begin collecting the dues.

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

LIBRARY MUSIC SERIES

Time/Location: Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main

- Dates:**
- June 18, The Sound of Movies
 - How film music began and how music is used in films
 - July 9, Hollywood's Golden Age – The film score hits its stride as it accompanies some of the most iconic films of the 20th century
 - July 30, The Film Score Grows Up – After World War II, films and film music become darker and more realistic
 - Aug. 20, The Classical Film Score, Lost and Found – Big

changes in films and scores in the '50s but it all comes back again in the '70s.

Details: The Plymouth District Library will host music professor Karl Schmidt for a four-part series this summer. Schmidt will present music and video excerpts from films such as *The Jazz Singer* (1927), *Gone With the Wind* (1939), *The Best Years of Our Lives* (1946) and *High Noon* (1952), as well as a study of political and social changes that



Schmidt

influenced all forms of art, including film. This music series is made possible through the Michigan Opera Theatre's Department of Community Programs and the Friends of the Plymouth District Library.

Contact: Call 734-453-0750.

FILM FEST WINNER

Date/Time: Wednesday, June 18, 7:45-8 p.m.

Location: Canton Public Library, 220 N. Canton Center, Canton

Details: Stealing Home, winner of the recent Freep Film Festival audience award, will be screened at the Canton Public Library, with a follow up discussion with director Jason Roch, Professor of Communication Studies at University of Detroit-Mercy. The film chronicles the history of Tiger Stadium

and the recent action of the Navin Field Grounds Crew to remove and maintain the remaining footprint of this historic location. View the day-to-day efforts of the Grounds Crew and relive the fantastic history of the players and coaches who played at the corner of Michigan and Trumbull through vintage imagery of the field from the past 100 years, including cameos and comments from former Tiger players. This presentation is open to all ages and is a must-see for baseball fans and history buffs alike.

Contact: Call the library, 734-397-0999

COFFEE WITH COPS

Dates/Time/Location: Saturday, June 21, 2:44 p.m., at the IKEA store at Ford Road and Haggerty; Tuesday, June 24, 10 a.m. to noon, at the Canton Public Library, 1200 N. Canton Center.

Details: The Canton Police Department has scheduled its next Coffee with a Cop sessions, intended to give residents a chance to meet informally with police officers.

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 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 in-

Record winners

The Arab American and Chaldean Cantons, a nonprofit human service organization serving southeast Michigan, provided a record 30 scholarships to high school seniors from throughout southeast Michigan at its recent 12th annual Golf Outing and Scholarship Awards Dinner at Shenandoah Country Club in West Bloomfield. Nadia Karizat of Canton was among the winners. The funds raised at the event, through sponsorships, contributions and a raffle contest, benefited the organization's scholarship awards, as well as youth programs. Some 275 people attended at the sold out event.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Date/Time: Sunday, June 15, 7-11 a.m.

Location: Canton Plymouth Mettetal Airport, 8550 N. Lily, Canton

Details: The EEA 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 EEA 113 Aviation Scholarship Program. Free admission, breakfast costs \$6 for adults, \$4 for kids.

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-grants for educators in the district.

Contact: For more information, contact Debbie Cortellini at deb.cortellini@comcast.net or 734-451-1525.

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) or ad-

mission 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/Time/Location:

- Sunday, June 22, Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth, 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.
- Monday, June 30, Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, 1:45-4 p.m.
- Monday, June 23, VFW Post 6695, 1426 S. Mill, Plymouth, 1:30-7:15 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 25, Friendship Church, 1240 N. Beck, Canton, 1:45-4 p.m.
- Monday, June 30, Salem High School, 46181 Joy in Canton, 3:45-8 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.

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 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.

BNI MEETING

Date/Time: Each Thursday, 7:30-8:30 a.m.

Location: Red Olive Restaurant, 1051 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: The BNI Northville's \$1 million Referral Chapter meets every Thursday morning.

Contact: For more information, visit www.NorthvilleBNI.com.

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Review all loan options, costs

Q: Dear Rick: I'm a widower and most of my expenses are covered by a pension and Social Security. The rest is covered from dividends and interest I receive. In the near future, I will need some extra money. I've been told I have two options. The first is to get a home equity loan and use it on an as-needed basis. The second is to sell some of my portfolio, which I really don't want to do. I would have significant taxes to pay. Is there a third alternative I should consider?



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

verse mortgage. Not a reverse mortgage where you're pulling large sums of money out, but rather where you have a line of credit and draw upon it as needed.

It would allow you to keep your portfolio and not have to make payments if you draw upon the home equity line of credit.

Hollywood stars who push reverse mortgages make them out for everyone. They are not. However, a reverse mortgage can be a very valuable financial tool.

A benefit of the reverse mortgage is you never have to make payments. In addition, once you have the reverse mortgage, it can't be taken from you. Unfortunately, during the financial crisis, many people found that their home

equity loans had been frozen and, thus, unavailable to them. That won't happen with a reverse mortgage.

Which option is best? I'm not sure, because I don't have all the facts. However, it is nice to have viable options and that's what you have.

One last note, whether you end up with a reverse mortgage or a home equity loan, it is important that you deal with a reputable company. Also find out all the costs involved. Just because a company advertises on TV and radio doesn't mean it's a reputable company.

As always, talk to family and friends to see if they've used someone they have confidence in and never hesitate to email me for a reference.

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

At it is great that you are looking into the future and making decisions when you have time to thoroughly think through the alternatives and the options. The fact that you have a portfolio and equity in your home gives you options that a lot of people don't have.

In looking at your situation, there is a third alternative that you may wish to consider - a re-

chance to meet informally with police officers.

The first is 2-4 p.m. Saturday, June 21, at the IKEA store on Ford

Road at Haggerty. The other is from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday, June 24, at the Canton Public Library.

Police set next coffee sessions

The Canton Police Department has scheduled its next Coffee with a Cop sessions, intended to give residents a

year, plus health care and other benefits.

Eligible applicants must be 18 years of age; have a high school diploma or GED; be qualified to obtain a concealed pistol license; have a valid Michigan driver's license; and have passed all of the Michigan Sheriff's Coordinating and Training Council's pre-employment requirements, including the reading/writing examination and physical agility test. Further information

is at <http://misctc.org/standards.html>.

Those with felony convictions will not be considered.

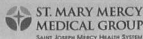
Applications are being accepted online and in person from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday at the Department of Personnel/Human Resources, 500 Griswold, 9th floor, Detroit.

More information is at waynecounty.com/hr/jobpostings.htm and sheriffconnect.com or by calling 313-224-5901.

Sheriff puts out call for new officers

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Applause for the soon-to-be grads. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

STARKWEATHER GRADS EARN THEIR DIPLOMAS

Seniors from Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools took part June 8 in their commencement exercises at Eastern Michigan University. On Thursday in the Gloria Logan Auditorium at Salem High School, it was Starkweather Academy at Fiegel's turn. Some 69 students earned their diplomas at Plymouth-Canton's alternative high school. They

included:
 Emily Allera
 Devon Ballard
 John Byars
 Charles Clark
 Davion Crawford
 Jake Dolin
 Steven Haradon
 Breanne King
 Justin Legel
 Sami Malhas
 Brandon Nichols
 Martin Peck
 Lucas Santana
 Robert Slotke

Shannon Sproule
 Deamon Taylor
 Chase Venning
 Akil Wade
 Connor Smith
 James Adamowicz
 Lindy Baron
 Sydney Beagan
 Corey Bellingham
 Shannon Benjamin
 Zachery Bohn
 Kyle Bone
 Shelby Broadnax
 Ivan Brown
 Tyler Brown

Stephanie Caudill
 Jalen Clark
 Mackenzie Cullen
 Lily Duncan
 Jennafer Dyess
 Gilford Edwards
 Leobardo Escamilla
 Alicia Fowler
 Jamie Gajewski
 Wade Goode Wade
 Ryan Graczyk Ryan
 Joshua Gross Joshua
 Madison Hatting
 Alexandra Hendersson
 Christina Holliday

Trenton Johnson
 Alexis Kurzyniec
 Nickole Labadie
 Hannah Lepper
 Nathaniel Ljewecki
 Willis Marshall-Beelen
 Sabrina McDiarmid
 Gerald Mayes
 Imani McGee
 Ericka Morris
 Kayla Newton
 Haile Noland
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MUMFORD AND SONS *Hopeless Wanderer*
ABRAMS *Sixth Floor*

DSO in Ypsilanti, Michigan
 Eastern Michigan University's Pease Auditorium, 494 College Place
Friday, June 27 at 8 p.m.
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 JoAnn Falletta, conductor
 David Krakauer, clarinet
DEBUSSY *Petite Suite*
GEORGE TSONTAKIS *Anasa: Concerto for Clarinet*
PROKOFIEV *Romeo and Juliet*
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All activities are free of charge.

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Seminar Presentations
9 - 9:45 a.m.
"All About Stroke" - How to reduce risks and recognize warning signs.
 Speaker: **Gail Schramek, NP**
10 - 10:45 a.m.
"Maintaining Independence As We Age" - What an assessment and prevention can do to help you stay healthy -
 Speakers: **Gerald Turlo, MD & Jessica Wealthas, LMSW**
11 - 11:45 a.m.
"Connecting Seniors and Caregivers to Resources" - Learn about exercise programs for seniors and supportive services available in the community.
 Speakers: **Julie Burt, AADP, CHC and The Senior Alliance Staff**
"Eating for a Healthy You" - Food demonstration
Mary Condon, RD
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Pre-registration is preferred. For more information or to register, call 734-655-1706, or visit stmarymercy.org/healthyaging conference.

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8 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Exhibitors

- "Ask the Nurse Practitioner"
- Joint health
- Stroke
- Heart health
- Exercise programs for seniors
- Eye and ear care
- Home health care
- Senior living
- Memory and balance screening
- Podiatry and physical rehabilitation
- Tours of Senior Assessment and Resource Institute

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James Adamowicz receives his diploma from board President Judy Mardigian.



Student speaker Hayleigh Zuk steps forward to say a few words.



Student speaker Sabrina McDiarmid talks to her classmates and the audience.



Last-minute photos before the ceremony begins.



Starkweather seniors enter the auditorium.



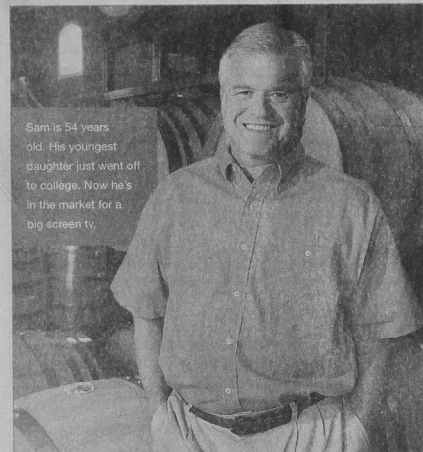
Sydney Beagan celebrates.



Applause greets the grads as they cross the stage.



Superintendent Dr. Michael Meissen addresses the crowd.



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New flag comes with history lesson for Skill Center students

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

When Gov. Rick Snyder signed legislation last October requiring every classroom to display an American flag and giving children the opportunity to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, it got Lisa Friedman thinking back to her time in junior high school.

Friedman, who teaches at the Western Wayne Skill Center in Westland, remembered how her school had gotten a flag that had flown over the U.S. Capitol.

It got her thinking that might be something nice for the center, which works with post-secondary cognitively impaired students.

She did some checking and found that for \$25, the school could choose a flag and even pick the date that it flies over the Capitol.

"We decided we should get a flag that had been flown over the Capitol on the anniversary of Michigan becoming a state — Jan. 26, 1837," she said. "We sent our request through John Conyers' office, since he's our congressman."

Several weeks ago, the center's 200 students and staff gathered by the flag pole to watch as the Ritual Team of American Legion Post 32 in Livonia helped retire the school flag and replace it with the new flag.

"None of us had been Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts for a long time, so we asked the Legion members to come and help us," Friedman said. "It was a beautiful ceremony."

Teachers prepared the students for the cere-



Members of the American Legion Post 32 Ritual Team explain the meaning of the flag during a ceremony at the Western Wayne Skill Center in Westland.

mony, using an online virtual tour of the Capitol to show them where the flag had flown, and did a whole unit on Michigan's statehood to help them understand the importance of the Jan. 26 date and the ceremony.

The students are ages 18-26 and come from school districts around

Wayne County, including Livonia, Wayne-Westland, Plymouth-Canton, Garden City and Redford. According to Friedman, the lesson plans helped the students "have a meaningful experience in honoring the flag."

The Legion members folded the old flag and

explained what each fold meant before raising the new flag.

"I didn't know there was all of this protocol," Friedman said. "The Legion member folded the flag and explained what each fold meant. Then they raised the new one. It was a beautiful ceremony. It was a sweet

ceremony for the students, who were so excited about it.

"It amazed me that 20 minutes went by and no one said anything. They were so happy to participate in that kind of an event. It was a pretty moving ceremony."

The new flag has been flown at the center ever

since the ceremony. "We've raised and lowered it every day and lowered it today (June 12) for the last time until September," Friedman said.

"This was really special for the students."

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W-W students delve in to STEM with paper rockets

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

You won't see NASA launching paper rockets, but Jim Shirmer does.

An auto technology teacher at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center, Shirmer and a collection of students and volunteers have visited Wayne-Westland's middle schools this spring to help seventh-graders launch paper rockets that incorporate STEM—science, technology, engineering and math—into the fun.

"I saw a demo of this at a Maker Fair, it looked like a lot of fun," said Shirmer, who manned a student-made inclinometer that measures the angle of the rocket's flight to determine its maximum height. "I'm always looking for something to do for the ambassadorship program."

The ambassadorship program is a requirement of the Square One Education Foundation, which supports such programs as the innovative vehicle design program at the career technical center. Serving as ambassadors, students reach out to younger students to foster interest in STEM and the programs at the center.

Shirmer built a test launcher, made a rocket and shot it off in his backyard before rolling it out at a spring festival at Walker-Winter Elementary in Canton three years ago. He expanded it to Stevenson Middle School, where his sister-in-law Sharon Wasik is a paraprofessional. Always looking for ways to incorporate STEM in classes, she liked its hands-on learning aspect.

Hands-on learning

"I wanted to do something with the kids at the end of the year. When Sharon heard that it gives hands-on learning, she wanted it for her students," Shirmer said. "Then when they heard about it at Franklin (Middle School), they wanted to try it."

Some 450 paper rockets were made by Stevenson seventh-graders using sheets of paper, tape and pieces of PVC pipe. They rolled the paper around the pipe to create their rocket's body, then cut out pieces for the nose cone and fins.

"It's actually a NASA project developed for STEM for lower grades," Wasik said. "No two rockets are alike. Each one is different and each one is tracked."

According to Wasik, the students have different ideas about the fins. Some put on three fins, some put on five. Some are large and some small. They also decorated them with decals and pink flowers. After they launch it for the first time, they're able to go to the rocket repair table to tweak it before trying another launch or building an entirely new one.

Each rocket has a number. After the launch, students checked to find out the angle of their flight and then went to a table where it was paired with a tangent to give them the height.

Some rockets soared, others flew only a few feet. Some even blew up at launch. Jonathan Frizzell's rocket went 70 feet. "I think the fins need to be smaller and the nose cone created too much air resistance," he said. "I'm happy it went over 15 feet."

Not much success

Deasia Rodwell didn't have much success with her rocket. It didn't go the first time and, after tweaking it, it only went up 26 feet.

"I actually did it at home twice and both times it failed," she said, theorizing that the length of the rocket had something to do with the lack of propulsion.

Wasik said there are



Joseph Pokorny's rocket bent on takeoff. "I had better results the first time," he said.

some rockets you look at and can tell they're not going to last, but students are allowed to use their imagination. In many cases, they tweak their designs after one flight.

"If you don't put the nose cone on right, it explodes," Wasik said. "You've got to make the fins smaller to make it stable, but if they're too small, it's unstable. There's a lot of science behind this. They learn about the design of rockets."

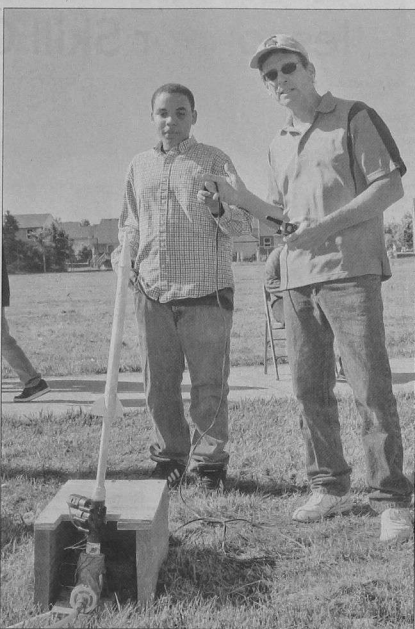
The program is inexpensive and very portable. Each rocket costs a half cent to make and the entire project can fit in a plastic bin. A generator powers the launch vehicle; pieces of PVC pipe provide the form to make the paper rockets and a piece of an exhaust pipe and a protractor from Harbor Freight are the inclinometer, according to Shirmer, who is looking forward to expanding the program to



Jim Shirmer, an automotive tech teacher, uses a student-made inclinometer to measure the angle of the rocket flight, which tells the maximum height of the flight.

the elementary schools. "I'd like to put the show on the road," he said. "We did it at Walker-Winter and it was a huge success. This is the stage where you have to catch the kids. After this, they lose the bug."

smason@hometovnlife.com
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Stevenson Middle School student Prince Selman is ready to launch his rocket, but not before retired teacher Don Borgeing makes sure that safe practices are followed. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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SPORTS

SECTION B (CP)
 SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2014
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Ladywood books trip to D2 finals

By Brad Emmons
 Staff Writer

Livonia Ladywood's victory Thursday in the Division 2 softball state semifinal over Wayland Union proved to be akin to an episode of the TV series *Survivor*.

The Blazers thought they had walked off the field in the bottom of the seventh inning with a 3-1 victory, only to be voted off the island on a controversial call by first base umpire Michael Walters, which sent the game into extra innings.

But Ladywood regrouped from the bizarre play at Michigan State University's Secchia

Stadium and won it with a run in the top of the 10th inning, when Rachel Hendrickson, who was 2-for-4 on the day, reached base on an error, moved to second on a sacrifice bunt and scored on Haley Lawrence's game-winning RBI single to parlay a potential defeat into a 4-3 triumph.

"I just know that we work harder than any other team out there and we just put in more work every day," said Hendrickson, a sophomore right fielder. "We're coached that when everyone else is going crazy, we know how to stay calm and just do what we've learned to do. We got a run in the last inning and that's what we needed to keep going."

Sophomore pitcher Rozlyn Price, who scattered 13 hits in going the distance, survived a tense bottom of the 10th by getting one of the state's most dangerous hitters, Sierra Mutschler (11 home runs, 83 RBIs), to pop out to second base for the final out with tying run on third and winning run on second.

The victory sends the Blazers (30-13), into their third state final since 2009. They were set to face Stevensville Lakeshore (35-9).

Ladywood collected just one hit through the first five innings against Wayland Union starter Mallory Teunissen, but struck for two runs in the top of the sixth as Hendrickson led

off with a bunt single followed by lead-off hitter Christina Meyer's infield hit. Both runners moved up on a wild pitch and raced home on Price's double, a deep fly ball to the warning track that eluded Wayland Union left fielder McKenna Toman.

After being silenced by Teunissen, who came into the game with 34-1 record, it was a matter of a slight adjustment at the plate to get the Blazers' offense going.

But Wayland Union refused to fold and got back a run in the bottom of the sixth.

Ladywood added a run in the top of the seventh to go ahead 3-1, thanks to a single by Morgan Larkin and a triple by

Hendrickson to deep center field.

Then the fireworks started in the bottom of the seventh. Down to its last strike, Oostdyk hit a grounder to third baseman Lauren Holdsworth, who caught the ball and fired it to first baseman Hallea Garcia in what appeared to be plenty of time for the final out.

But as she was coming off the bag, Garcia collided with Oostdyk and the ball popped loose. And while Ladywood was celebrating an apparent win, Mutschler scored and Bethany Teunissen alertly came all the way around from first for the game-tying run after Walters signaled the runner at first was safe.

2014 ALL-PARK GIRLS LACROSSE TEAM



The 2014 All-Park Girls Lacrosse team includes: (back, from left) Sarah Curtis, Plymouth; Megan Wieloch, Plymouth; Bridget Kerwin, Salem; Jenna Carter, Salem; Shannon Burke, Salem; Annika Nuler, Canton; and Jordan Church, Canton and (front, from left) Natalie Nowicki, Plymouth; Kiersten Vala, Salem; Rose Krasofsky, Salem; Melissa Neal, Canton; and Alexis O'Flynn, Canton. Also on the team are Lauren Britton, Salem; Marissa Cirino, Plymouth; Connie Cox, Canton; and Chaley Ewing, Plymouth.

PCA's lipping picks Chips

By Tim Smith
 Staff Writer

Daniel Jipping's dream of playing big league baseball is still burning, even though the Plymouth Christian Academy senior baseball star did not get picked in the recent Major League Baseball amateur draft.

But it will have to be pushed to the back burner for the next few years while Jipping plays NCAA Division I baseball at Central Michigan University.

"I'm truly blessed, honored and humbled to have even been part of the draft conversation," the 18-year-old Canton resident wrote in an email to the *Observer*. "I'm looking forward to being a part of a great organization at Central with excellent coaching."

"The fact that they (Chippewas) had two players drafted this year and one, that we know of, playing summer ball in the Cape (Cot League) speaks volumes about their program."

For a while, Jipping was mulling the possibility of getting drafted — the Texas Rangers showed heavy interest.

Had that taken place, he would have had to decide between the professional ranks (likely beginning in the low minors) and CMU.

The issue of "signability" apparently crystallized Jipping's decision to go the college route. He still will be eligible to be drafted by a MLB team, but not until he is 21 years old.

PCA baseball coach Joe Bottom said Texas scouts contacted Jipping before the June 5-7 draft began to determine whether or not he would be willing to sign even if drafted in a lower round.

Jipping could not provide that assurance.

"When the call came to assess his signability, Daniel gave them a pretty high round equivalent," said Lisa Jipping, Daniel's mom. "Due to the draft dynamics, overpaying in order to sign certain players and severely underpaying to compensate for that in order to sign other players, they knew in the end Daniel wouldn't sign and therefore didn't draft him."

That doesn't change his quest to play in The Show.

"His goal has always been to be a successful MLB player," Lisa Jipping said. "After countless hours of prayer and seeking wise counsel, he knew that he would have one shot at being a success, so he had to take the path that would make him the most ready."

"God made it clear that this path was through college."

Making his mind even more at ease about deciding to go to Central was the fact the first Michigan-born player drafted this year (fifth round, New York Yankees).

With the Eagles this season, Jipping batted .500 with four homers, 18 runs, 13 RBIs and 25 stolen bases.

Jipping and Canton's Nick Hazergian will be playing July 10 at Comerica Park in the Michigan High School Senior All-Star Game.

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Jipping

UPWARD TREND

Girls lacrosse continues to rise and shine at P-CEP

By Tim Smith
 Staff Writer

2014 ALL-PARK GIRLS LACROSSE

ATTACK

Marissa Cirino, Soph., Plymouth

Rose Krasofsky, Sr., Salem

Natalie Nowicki, Soph., Plymouth

Alexis O'Flynn, Sr., Canton

Kiersten Vala, Sr., Salem

Jenna Carter, Sr., Salem

Jordan Church, Jr., Canton

Connie Cox, Sr., Canton

Bridget Kerwin, Sr., Salem

Annika Nuler, Sr., Canton

DEFENSE

Lauren Britton, Sr., Salem

Shannon Burke, Sr., Salem

Sarah Curtis, Jr., Plymouth

Chaley Ewing, Sr., Plymouth

Melissa Neal, Sr., Canton

Megan Wieloch, Sr., Plymouth

GOALKEEPER

Melissa Neal, Sr., Canton

overall and 7-3 in the conference (third place). Canton, coached by Dave Bower, reached the regional finals for the first time thanks to victories over Saline and Novi before losing to Ann Arbor Pioneer. And the Plymouth Wildcats were not to be forgotten. The Dave Wieloch-coached team went 4-10 overall (2-8 in the conference), but still featured plenty of standout players.

All three coaches selected the 2014 All-Park Girls Lacrosse Team. A breakdown of the team (by position and in alphabetical order) is as follows:

Attack

Marissa Cirino, soph., Plymouth: In her first season as varsity, Cirino was a dependable performer who put up plenty of offense for the squad.

"Marissa has made the transition from JV to varsity very well," Wieloch said. "She was our second leading scorer and one of the young ladies I depended on to run the field. She was always interested in how she could help the team improve."

Rose Krasofsky, sr., Salem: Krasofsky shattered her own record for most Salem goals in a season with 73, including six against KLAAs champion Hartland.

The fourth-year varsity player and co-captain collected numerous honors, including first-team all-KLAAs, MWLCA all-state honorable mention, KLAAs scholar-athlete and MWLCA all-academic first team.

Over four seasons, Rose led the team in scoring, owning the team record and rewriting it this year with 73 goals on the season," Medley said.

Krasofsky will attend Adrian College, where she plans to play

See LACROSSE, Page B4

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FINAL GIRLS TRACK LISTINGS

- TOP 10 GIRLS LISTINGS SHOT PUT**
- Kalyn Brown (Plymouth) 40.8
 - Emily Moore (Canton) 40.2
 - Kyla Roland (Harrison) 39.4
 - Torrie Johnson (Plymouth) 38.6
 - Gabrielle Carter (Churchill) 38.2
 - Dominique Jones (Mercy) 33.9
 - Sophia Modes (Franklin) 31.6
 - Sion Penetration (Mercy) 31.6
 - Rebecca Falson (Salem) 31.2
 - Meredith Kruger (Canton) 32.8
- DISCUS**
- Emily Meier (Canton) 124.0
 - Torrie Johnson (Plymouth) 123.0
 - Rebecca Falson (Salem) 118.3
 - Gabrielle Carter (Churchill) 118.4
 - Kyla Roland (Harrison) 114.6
 - Joclyn Morris (Canton) 112.9
 - Sophia Modes (Franklin) 108.9
 - Sion Penetration (Mercy) 107.7
 - Karla Kordash (Churchill) 106.3
 - Maddy Pettigrew (Salem) 105.5
- HIGH JUMP**
- Ayanna Buckley (Clemencville) 5.4
 - Jamaya Dixon (RIJ) 5.3
 - Katherine Harris (Plymouth) 5.2
 - Justin Morris (Canton) 5.1
 - Hannah Gove (Ladyswood) 5.1
 - Julie Worth (Franklin) 5.0
 - Ayia Moore (Plymouth) 5.0
 - Oguchi Nwagwara (Mercy) 5.0
 - Arianna Allman (Mercy) 5.0
 - Maggie Law (Stevenson) 4.1
 - Kelly Whalen (Salem) 4.1
 - Juliet Howe (Churchill) 4.1
- LONG JUMP**
- Micah Wittingham (Clemencville) 16.5
 - Diane Serkowski (Stevenson) 16.25
 - Julie Howe (Churchill) 16.1
 - Taylor Pollard (Canton) 15.9
 - Jamaya Dixon (RIJ) 15.9
 - Jasmine Crowley (Franklin) 15.45
 - Cassidy Kovach (Plymouth) 15.425
 - Haley Foster (Plymouth) 15.3
 - Nicole Sakolchy (Stevenson) 15.3
 - Haley Weber (Plymouth) 15.25
- POLE VAULT**
- Sheila Mackintosh (Franklin) 11.6
 - Karla Janovick (Plymouth) 11.0
 - Amanda Fox (Churchill) 10.6
 - Isabella McKinley (Franklin) 10.6
 - Sonnen Pappas (Stevenson) 10.6
 - Emily Chatterjee (Stevenson) 10.6
 - Olivia Ratzek (Churchill) 10.6
 - Emily Welch (Plymouth) 9.10
 - Haley Metz (Plymouth) 9.6
 - Nicole Sakolchy (Stevenson) 9.6
 - Alyssa Milford (Stevenson) 9.6
- 100-METER HURDLES**
- Maya Roberts (Harrison) 14.26
 - Karrington Soles (N. Farm.) 14.04
 - Mikael Coleman (Harrison) 15.40
 - Cardiac Cannon (Harrison) 15.94
 - Holly Stark (Plymouth) 16.29
 - Micah Wittingham (Clemencville) 16.39
 - Natalie Soles (Churchill) 49.96
 - Makyla Bracy (Harrison) 16.94
 - Maddie Toal (Canton) 19.95
 - Jenna Miller (N. Farm.) 17.04
- 300 HURDLES**
- Micah Wittingham (Clemencville) 47.60
 - Kristy McInnes (Plymouth) 48.71
 - Morgan Melino (Harrison) 48.95
 - Rachel Falson (Salem) 49.14
 - Hannah Maki (Franklin) 49.58
 - Hannah Gove (Ladyswood) 49.62
 - Karrington Soles (N. Farmington) 48.64
 - Natalie Soles (Churchill) 49.96
 - Brynn Meeks (John Glenn) 50.33
 - Maya Roberts (Harrison) 50.34
- 1000 DASH**
- Ayia Gardner (John Glenn) 12.57
 - Bryli White (Franklin) 12.69
 - Elyse Draper (Plymouth) 12.65
 - Ayia Moore (Plymouth) 12.73

- Maya Roberts (Harrison) 12.76
 - Deja Hunter (Harrison) 12.8
 - Ayanna Buckley (Clemencville) 12.81
 - Elysa Kishner (Churchill) 12.89
 - Akili Echols (Franklin) 12.85
 - Jasmine Crowley (Franklin) 12.90
 - Ayia Moore (Plymouth) 25.98
 - Akili Echols (Franklin) 26.13
 - Elysa Kishner (Churchill) 26.25
 - Ayanna Buckley (Clemencville) 25.21
 - Shekiah Johnson (Salem) 26.26
 - Ayia Gardner (John Glenn) 26.39
 - Elysa Hoffman (Churchill) 26.40
 - Ayia Lukens (Plymouth) 26.41
 - Asava Bente (Harrison) 26.60
 - Mychal Lewis (N. Farmington) 26.64
- 400**
- Isabel Rodriguez (Salem) 58.06
 - Jewel Davis (Plymouth) 58.40
 - Julie Worth (Franklin) 58.41
 - Karla Kordash (Churchill) 58.98
 - Oguchi Nwagwara (Mercy) 1:00.26
 - Shekiah Johnson (Salem) 1:00.24
 - Ayia Gardner (John Glenn) 1:01.07
 - Ashly Macdon (Plymouth) 1:01.15
 - Keira Crockett (N. Farmington) 1:01.57
- 800**
- Kayla Kavulich (Salem) 2:13.98
 - Morgan Melino (Harrison) 2:22.97
 - Natalie Douglas (Franklin) 2:26.29
 - Jenna Wisner Luth. Westland 2:26.78
 - Maddy Twiss (Harrison) 2:28.49
 - Anya Cho (Salem) 2:29.58
 - Allie Crecelius (Phy. Christian) 2:30.76
 - Jenna Wisner (Churchill) 2:31.15
 - Alexis Lombardi (Churchill) 2:31.88
 - Jerry Rogers (Franklin) 2:32.40
- 1,600**
- Kayla Kavulich (Salem) 4:59.83
 - Jerry Rogers (Franklin) 5:13.95
 - Morgan Melino (Harrison) 5:14.94
 - Jenna Wisner Luth. Westland 5:16.60
 - Emily Brunell (Harrison) 5:24.54
 - Larri Harkins (Salem) 5:26.58
 - Natalie Stevenson (Salem) 5:30.93
 - Kathleen George (Churchill) 5:31.40
 - Lindsey Gallagher (Stevenson) 5:32.57
 - Olivia McInnes (Canton) 5:32.71
- 3,200**
- Jenny Rogers (Franklin) 11:55.74
 - Emily Brunell (Harrison) 11:42.64
 - Maddy Twiss (Harrison) 11:48.42
 - Kathleen George (Churchill) 11:48.42
 - Natalie Stevenson (Salem) 11:47.67
 - Catherine McInnes (Ladyswood) 11:51.0
 - Maria Odellari (Plymouth) 11:51.02
 - Lauren Anquette (Salem) 11:52.99
 - Karla Hughes (Salem) 11:59.03
- 400 RELAY**
- Franklin 49:17
 - Harrison 49:31
 - Plymouth 49:70
 - Salem 49:74
 - Churchill 50:44
 - Mercy 50:48
 - Plymouth 1:44:38
 - Churchill 1:44:54
 - Farmington 1:45:46
 - Harrison 1:45:69
- 1,600 RELAY**
- Plymouth 4:12.95
 - Ladyswood 4:18.69
 - Churchill 4:18.68
 - North Farmington 4:18.98
 - Churchill 9:54.59
- 3,200 RELAY**
- Franklin 9:54.59
 - Salem 9:56.12
 - Churchill 1:00:52
 - Sonata 1:01:14
 - Stevenson 1:02:14.9

All-Park boys lacrosse team sparked by stars

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Look out football. Evidence keeps growing at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park that lacrosse is a sport to keep an eye on.

This season's varsity boys lacrosse teams from Canton, Plymouth and Salem were riveting — particularly the weather-delayed matchup between the Chiefs and Rocks for the 2014 Park title.

In the KLAAs Kensington Conference, the teams had middle-of-the-pack years, however. Canton and Salem finished tied for fourth with Plymouth one rung below its campus rivals.

But the Chiefs enjoyed some postseason success, posting a 16-15 overtime win over Ann Arbor Huron in the Division I pre-regionals. It was Canton's first tournament victory in three years.

The coach of P-C-PEP champion Canton, Hank Lewandowski, was named Park Coach of the Year, while his stand-out senior goalkeeper, Collin Smith, nabbed Player of the Year accolades.

There was plenty of talent across the board and on all three rosters, but not every player could make the first team, selected by a panel of Park lacrosse coaches.

On the second team were the following: Attackmen Evan Bridge (Plymouth), Joey Krause (Salem), Carson Pakula (Canton), midfielders Brocton Baechler (Canton), Gerald Belanger (Canton), Justin Brodzik



It was another exciting and highly competitive season for the Canton, Plymouth and Salem varsity boys lacrosse teams. Players from all three squads were selected to the 2014 All-Park Boys Lacrosse Team.

(Plymouth), Connor Browne (Plymouth), Austin Currier (Plymouth); long-stick midfielders Andy Gregor (Salem), Andrew Withers (Plymouth); defenders Adam Cousineau (Salem), Ben Riley (Plymouth), Vince Troher (Salem); goalkeeper Mack Baker (Salem) and Trevor McManus (Plymouth).

Following is a rundown of the 2014 All-Park Boys Lacrosse first team:

Attack
Lucas Martin, soph., Salem: He collected 30 goals, 21 assists and 85 ground balls.

"Lucas had an outstanding season on the crease," Salem coach Paul Nemezsk said. "His unselfish play and nose for the goal were paramount to our offensive success."

Kyle Topper, sr., Canton: Topper's performance in 2014 was at the top of the charts. He scored 49 goals and registered 23 assists to pace the Chiefs.

"Kyle was a team captain and our offensive leader all season," Lewandowski said.

Topper will attend Davenport University on a lacrosse scholarship.

Noah Willer, jr., Salem: He collected 30 goals, 21 assists and 85 ground balls.

"Noah was there to provide it, scoring at a torrid pace all season — 53 goals and 50 assists."

Willer also was a batter, coming up with 135 ground balls.

"Noah was our best player this season," Nemezsk said. "Our offense ran through him. His scoring and passing were vital to our offensive success. He makes everyone around him better. Noah is receiving interest from multiple Division I colleges."

Midfield
Nolan Gilo, jr., Canton: Gilo tallied 13 goals,

49 ground balls and three takeaways.

"Nolan was our top face-off man, a steady defensive player and a team leader," Lewandowski said. "He has improved greatly from last season."

Austin McKee, sr., Salem: McKee provided all-round strong play and leadership, registering 10 goals, four assists and 72 ground balls.

"Austin was a captain who did everything for us," Nemezsk said. "He played offensively, defense, took face-offs, cleared the ball and played man up/man down."

McKee will play lacrosse at Lawrence Technological University next year.

Nolan Ouellette, jr., Plymouth: Ouellette played like a veteran with 14 goals, two assists and 24 ground balls.

"A late-season injury prevented him from rolling up even more impressive numbers."

"Nolan played far beyond his age," coach Brian Walsh said. "It was unfortunate to see him break his wrist. Otherwise, he would have broken 20 goals as a freshman."

Kyle Robertson, jr., Plymouth: He provided offense in bunches, scoring 44 goals along with 19 assists and 39 ground balls.

"Kyle was the best offensive player on our team," Walsh said. "He recorded hat tricks in both Park games (against Canton and Salem). He is one of the best players in our conference."

Long-stick midfielder
Brian Newton, jr., Canton: Newton collected 49 ground balls, drawing plenty of praise from Lewandowski.

"Brian has great field vision," he said. "He was always locked on to our opponents' best midfielders."

Defense
Jake Evalod, sr., Canton: The captain sparked the Chiefs with 57 ground balls and 35 takeaways.

"Jake was our best defenseman this season," Lewandowski said. "He will attend Indiana Tech next year on a lacrosse scholarship."

Paul Sommerville, sr., Salem: Sommerville had 41 ground balls and 32 takeaways.

"Paul was a captain and a two-year starter for us," Nemezsk said. "His ability to get the ball on the ground and clear it was critical for us this season."

Sommerville will play lacrosse at Aquinas College.

Ben Stover, jr., Plymouth: Whenever the Wildcats needed to put a defensive shadow on opponents' top players, Stover was equal to the task. Plus, he tallied 48 ground balls and 41 takeaways, along with two goals.

"Ben was our best defender," Walsh said. "He covered more than 14 all-state players this season."

Stover is receiving interest from multiple Division I colleges.

Goalender
Collin Smith, sr., Canton: A big and physical force, Smith sometimes played in front of his goal like the hockey defenseman he is during the winter months.

Smith roamed far and wide to make necessary plays and help out his defense. He also stopped 68 percent of shots directed his way.

"Collin made the big saves to keep us in games," Lewandowski said.

Smith received a lacrosse scholarship from Wheeling Jesuit University.

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Al-Area girls track team meets the standard

FIRST TEAM

Kalyn Brown, shot put, Harrison: The Hawks always knew they were going to score points to do well in the throwing events with Brown leading the way.

She is the city, OAA White and regional champion in the shot put. She was all-Oakland County (third) and finished 15th in the state. She had the area's best throw at 40 feet, 8 inches.

Brown: Brown was the city, regional and county runner-up in the discus. She was 11th in the state meet.

"Kalyn was great all year," coach Mark Babcock said. "She went above and beyond what her expectations were for herself."

"I can't say enough good things about Kalyn. She was a hard worker and a great performer all the way through. She's a really good kid. She performed well all year, in all the big meets."

Emily Meier, discus, Canton: The strong-arm sophomore not only won the Division I regional in both the shot put and discus (37 feet, 1 inch, 119.5 pounds), she earned all-state honors in the former at the state finals in Rockford.

Meier finished fourth in the shot put but was 11th in the discus. She was 40-24, also a new school record.

Coach Alan Jones credited Meier for her work ethic and determination, those efforts helped her improve from her early season distance of 106-10.

"Emily is very teachable and pays close attention to detail," Jones said. "Time and time again she has pulled through and at times it was on the last throw."

"Her attitude and approach has gained her a trip to the state finals as a sophomore. With two more years to go she looks forward to competing there each year to retire for a state championship."

AYANNA BUCKLEY, high jump, Clarenceville: The senior jumper, Division 2 all-state honoree by finishing tied for seventh in the high jump with a leap of 5-4 after taking fourth as a junior.

Buckley was also Public Schools of Livonia, regional and Western Wayne Athletic Conference champ in both the high jump and the 100 dash. In the 200, Buckley also was PSL champ, second in the WWAC and third at the regional.

Her season bests in the 100 and 200 were 12.81 and 26.25, respectively.

"Ayanna had a wonderful career at Clarenceville culminating in her 2014 track season," coach Brady Gustafson said of the three-sport standout headed to Ferris State to play volleyball. "She holds five school records and has been named all-state twice. She did not lose a dual meet event all season. She also anchored our 4 by 200 team."

Diane Senkowski, long jump, Stevenson: The team's high point scorer and freshman MVP took first in the Public Schools of Livonia meet (16-36) along with second in the Kensington Conference and third in the Division I regional.

Coach Kelly Graham spotted Senkowski in a first semester physical education class.

"I saw awesome quickness in her," Graham said. "I was so very happy she told me that she was going to be running for Stevenson. I knew I had a great athlete, but watching her excel this season I could see just how much more confidence she gained with each meet and event. She is a true competitor and I'm very excited to see what highlights she will have in her coming years. She will do awesome and have great success and will make a name for herself."

Sheila McKinley, pole vault, Franklin: The school record holder (11-6), headed to Siena Heights University, was the Kensington Conference, Public Schools of Livonia, Patriots Relays, Brighton and Stevenson Invitational champion during her senior season.

"Sheila worked really hard over the past year to improve her abilities," coach Dave Bjorklund said. "She came into the season with a goal of breaking the school record (11-2) and accomplished that in early April with a vault of 11-3 at the Patriots Relays."

"She later broke the record again at the Churchill dual meet (11-6) and hit that same mark again at the Charger Pole Vault Open in late May. Sheila was consistent in the vault to treat at the meets we went to this season."

Maya Roberts, 100 hurdles, Harrison: Roberts had a superb junior season, finishing third in the 100-meter hurdles at the Division I state meet with a career-best time of 14.26 seconds.

"She also won the Oakland County regional, OAA White and city championship titles in that event. She ran 14.52 at the county meet and 14.58 in the regional."

Roberts is the city champion in the 100 dash and 300 hurdles, too. She also anchored Harrison's second-team, all-area 400 relay that finished eighth in the state.

"Maya has been good all year," Babcock said. "She hasn't been hurt; she hasn't been sick. She's been consistent from day one. As a coach, you can't ask much more of an athlete."

"Hopefully, her performance at the state meet" will be that foundation anybody who has the desire to be a state champ builds upon. This is the thing that fortifies that dream. They need these experiences to grow."

Micha Willingham, 300 hurdles, Clarenceville: The senior was Public Schools of Livonia and WWAC champ in the 300 hurdles (47.6).

In the 100 hurdles, the state qualifier was regional (16:0) and PSL champ, while adding a third in the WWAC meet.

Willingham also excelled in the long jump, leading the area with a 16-5, including a first in the regional and seconds in both the PSL and WWAC meets.

"Micha had an outstanding career at Clarenceville breaking four school records and qualifying for the state meet all four years," Gustafson said. "She was member of the 4 by 200 team."

Bryah White, 100 dash, Franklin: The junior was Division I regional champion (school record, 12.60) and Kensington Conference runner-up (12.84), as well as the Stevenson Invitational champ.

White placed 20th out of a field of 26 at the state finals.

2014 ALL-OSERVER GIRLS TRACK TEAM

Shot put: 1. Kalyn Brown, Sr., Farmington Harrison; 2. Kyla Roland, Jr., Harrison; 3. Gabrielle Wilson, Jr., Rockford
Discus: 1. Emily Meier, Soph., Canton; 2. Tiome Anderson, Sr., Plymouth; 3. Rebecca Falson, Jr., Canton

High jump: 1. Ayanna Buckley, Sr., Livonia Clarenceville; 2. Jarmya Dixon, Sr., Redford Union; 2. Katherine Harris, Soph., Plymouth
Long jump: 1. Diane Senkowski, Sr., Livonia Stevenson; 2. Juliet Hope, Jr., Churchill; 3. Taylor Pelland, Jr., Canton

100-meter hurdles: 1. Sheila McKinley, Sr., Livonia Franklin; 2. Kayla Jurewicz, Jr., Plymouth; 3. Tasha McKinley, Sr., Franklin
300-meter hurdles: 1. Maya Roberts, Jr., Harrison; 2. Karilyn McLean, Sr., North Farmington; 3. Mikal Coleman, Soph., Harrison

400-meter hurdles: 1. Michal Willingham, Sr., Clarenceville; 2. Kinly McKinley, Jr., Plymouth; 3. Rachel Rose, Sr., Salem
100 dash: 1. Bryah White, Jr., Franklin; 2. Asia Gardner-Soph., Westland John Glenn; 3. Ryan Draper, Jr., Farmington; 2. Ariella Echols, Jr., Farmington; 3. Shekiah Johnson, Jr., Farmington

200: 1. Isabel Rodriguez, Jr., Salem; 2. Julie Worth, Soph., Franklin; 3. Jewel Davis, Soph., Plymouth
400: 1. Kayla Kavulich, Sr., Salem; 2. Morgan Merfous, Soph., Farmington; 3. Natalie Douglas, Soph., Franklin
800: 1. Maddy Trevisan, Soph., Farmington; 2. Jenna Wiener, Soph., Lutheran Westland; 3. Lauren Riquette, Jr., Salem
1,600: 1. Jenny Rogers, Sr., Farmington; 2. Emily Burt, Jr., Harrison; 3. Kathleen George, Jr., Churchill
3,200: 1. Farmington (Emma Roberts, Jr., Ariella Echols, Jr., Casey Hes, Jr., Arla Moore, Jr.); 2. Harrison (Daja Hunter, Jr., Mikal Coleman, Soph., Janna Davis, Jr., Maya Roberts, Jr.); 3. Plymouth (Aria Tate, Jr., Anna Lukens, Jr., Katie Salanga, Sr., Ryan Draper, Jr.)

5,000 relay: 1. Plymouth (Jewel Davis, Soph., Anna Lukens, Jr., Katie Salanga, Sr., Ryan Draper, Jr.); 2. Churchill (Chanel Gardner, Soph., Odiahluwa Johnson, Jr., Elysa Hoffman, Sr., Bertha Daniels, Sr.); 3. Farmington (Emma Roberts, Jr., Ariella Echols, Jr., Casey Hes, Jr., Arla Moore, Jr.)
1,600 relay: 1. Salem (Daja Hunter, Sr., Mikal Coleman, Soph., Janna Davis, Jr., Maya Roberts, Jr.); 2. Plymouth (Cathy Alfaro, Jr., Ashley MacKinnon, Sr., Jada Wood, Jr., Jewel Davis, Soph.); 3. Lathrop (Ashley Cho, Jr., Natalie Stevenson, Lauren Arquette, Jr., Kayla Hughes, Soph.); 4. Churchill (Megan George, Soph., Caroline George, Jr., Alexis Lombardo, Soph., Willow Hickson, Sr.); 5. Salem (Alyssa Cho, Jr., Natalie Stevenson, Lauren Arquette, Jr., Kayla Hughes, Soph.); 2. Plymouth (Sophia Stephan, Soph., Maria Dellalila, Sr., Allison Becherer, Soph., Jody Woody, Sr.)

COACH OF YEAR

Dave Gerlach, Salem

He also ran a leg on the 800 relay and is on the school record in the 400 relay (set in 2012).

"In a season plagued with cold weather and often running into the wind, Bryah was able to persevere and run some nice races down the stretch," Bjorklund said. "This year she really committed to training hard and improving her start. After having an injury that sidelined her for a good portion of last season, she was much more careful about taking care of herself in the cold conditions we often had to race in. I could not have been more proud of her race at the regional and we're looking for big things from her next year."

Aria Moore, 200, Farmington: Moore led the Falcons to a first-place finish in the OAA White Division meet by winning the 100-, 200- and 400-meter races.

She broke 26 seconds again this year in the 200 and finished third in the D-1 regional at North Farmington.

"Aria had high expectations for her senior season but, unfortunately, had to deal with setbacks during the 2014 campaign," coach Kim Sturm said. "However, the biggest highlight of the season was the character Aria displayed in overcoming her setbacks."

"As great a meet as Aria had in the OAA White, the way in which she performed at the Oakland County championships and MHSAA finals was truly wonderful."

"Aria is unquestionably the best 200-meter runner in the Observerland area in 2014."

Isabel Rodriguez, 400, Salem: Only a freshman, Rodriguez made a major impact.

With three more seasons to go, she's the limit.

"That wasn't even her personal best in the 400. She tallied a 58.06 during the season, not to mention a 27.17 mark in the 200 dash for her personal best in the event."

At regions, her time of 59.72 was good for first place and she qualified for the state finals with championships in the 400- and 1,600-meter relays.

Other highlights included winning the 400 dash and 1,600 relay at the Kensington Conference Championships.

"A great combination of strength, speed and competitiveness makes Isabel a tremendous track athlete who could do almost any event," coach Dave Gerlach said. "The amount of things she has accomplished as a freshman for this team is simply amazing."

"Isabel is extremely coachable and loves competition."

Kayla Kavulich, 800, Salem: One would be hard-pressed to find an athlete at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park leaving the kind of legacy that Kavulich is.

The epitome of drive, determination and hard work, Kavulich deservedly won Salem's Most Valuable Athlete Award as did all-star Isabel Rodriguez.

Her stellar, four-year career was capped off with her all-state performance in the 800 run, finishing fourth with a personal best time of 2:13.58 (breaking her own school and Park records).

Kavulich also won the regional championship in the 1,600 run (5:07.78) and shared first-place honors in the 1,600- and 3,200-meter relays, automatically qualifying for finals in those events.

Those efforts keyed Salem's team championship at regionals.

"A string of accomplishments led up to finals. At the conference meet, she was part of the first-place 1,600-meter relay team."

She also collected personal bests in the 200 (26.73), 400 (58.98) and 1,600 (4:59.83).

"The prototypical elite track athlete that had another phenomenal season," Gerlach said. "Kayla's determination to be successful is a driving force like no other."

"She has guided this team to division and regional championships and taken the bar higher for success. Kayla's tremendous foot speed could put her in almost any event."

Kavulich will run women's cross country and track at Michigan State University.

Maddy Trevisan, 800, Farmington: Trevisan had been a soccer player, but she decided to run track after an outstanding cross country season.

She is the OAA White Division champion in the 800 meters and, with Rogers, also

helped the Falcons win the 3,200 relay.

Trevisan was all-county (seventh) in the 3,200 and just missed in the 1,600 (10th). After Salem's Kayla Kavulich and Rogers, she had the next-best time in the latter event at 5:14.94.

She qualified for state in the 3,200, finishing fourth and running 11:59.58 to be an additional qualifier.

Maddy had the most impressive sophomore campaign of any distance runner in FHS history," Sturm said. "Running top-five PHS performances in the 800, 1,600 and 3,200, she has proven to be an immense talent."

"Maddy's experiences this year in big meets and her hard-working, competitive attitude set her up to be a force to be reckoned with in the years to come."

Jenny Rogers, 3,200, Farmington: Rogers had an outstanding four-year career, capping it with an appearance in the 3,200-meter event at the D-1 state meet.

Rogers is the OAA White Division champion in the 3,200 and was sixth at the Oakland County meet. She was third in the regional and an additional qualifier for the state meet.

Rogers ran an area-best time of 11:55.74 and is one of the area's top 1,600 runners, too. She also competed Saturday in the Midwest Meet of Champions in Grandville, Mich.

"Over the last four years, Jenny has transformed herself into the epitome of what a coach would want in a distance runner," Sturm said. "Her work ethic is unparalleled, as is her drive to succeed."

"Jenny has earned every award or accolade she has ever received. We are looking forward to seeing her next step as a student-athlete at Michigan State."

Farmington, 400 relay (Emma Roberts, Ariella Echols, Casey Hes, Aria Moore): The Falcons earned all-state honors with a seventh-place finish and area-best time of 49.18 in the Division I state meet.

They also broke the school record they set last year when they won the Oakland County championship in 49.65.

Four athletes will return next year as Roberts and Moore are Juniors, Echols and Hes freshmen.

"This group made its debut in late April at the Ashley/Brentwood Invitational and gradually improved throughout the season," Sturm said.

"A few weeks into the season, the coaches thought this would be a pretty good group in the sprint relays. However, we thought their best event would be the 4 by 200."

"When we had a hiccup in the 4 by 200 at the regional meet and failed to advance, they thought their energies on the 4 by 100."

"These girls had fun, worked incredibly well together and made practices a real pleasure during the championship part of the season."

Plymouth, 800 relay (Jewel Davis, Anna Lukens, Katie Salanga, Ryan Draper): This quartet qualified for the D-1 state finals with a second-place finish of 1:47.04 at regionals, following that with a 15th-place showing at Rockford (1:43.83). That time set new school and Park records.

See ALL-AREA, Page B4

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LACROSSE

Continued from Page B1

women's hockey and lacrosse while studying sports management and marketing.

Natalie Nowicki, soph., Plymouth: The second-year varsity performer led the Wildcats in scoring and made first team KLA&A all-conference for her efforts.

"Natalie led our team in scoring, ground balls and draw controls," Wieloach said. "She built on her freshman campaign and began to take on more of a leadership role on our team."

"Her work ethic and willingness to try new techniques showed her teammates that everyone can work to become better."

Alexis O'Flynn, sr., Canton: In her second season with the varsity, O'Flynn was an offensive catalyst.

She registered 29 goals and seven assists for 36 points, garnering all-KLA&A first-team and MWLCA all-state honorable mention honors.

"Alexis is a strong player with a very hard shot," Boyer said. "She was voted by her teammates and coaches as best attacker."

O'Flynn will attend Western Michigan University, where she will study political science.

Kiersten Vala, sr., Salem: Another key reason for the Rocks' success was Vala, who collected 22 goals and 22 ground balls while causing 11 turnovers.

The co-captain collected numerous honors, including first-team all-KLA&A, MWLCA all-state honorable mention, KLA&A scholar-athlete and MWLCA all-academic first team.

"Kiersten has been a solid player always pushing herself to be the best she can be," Medley said. "She per-

formed rolling the crease and setting up plays from behind the goal."

Next year, Vala will attend Ohio State University, where she will study animal science, zoology and pre-veterinary medicine.

Midfield

Jenna Carter, sr., Salem: Despite a knee injury that cost her 12 games, Carter was her team's go-to for the conference champions with 56 ground balls and 38 goals.

Carter was named team MVP and received the highest all-state award among Park players with her selection to the MWLCA second team.

Other honors for the co-captain included selection as an all-KLA&A scholar-athlete and being named to the all-KLA&A first team.

"She continues to hold the school records set in previous seasons of most caused turnovers and assist plays," Medley said.

Next year, Carter will go to Adrian College and play women's lacrosse. She hopes to eventually play women's hockey there, a sport she played in high school with the PCS Penguins.

Jordan Church, jr., Canton: Church showed her offensive skills with a shooting accuracy of 87 percent, tops on the team.

She also was second in draw possessions (15) despite missing time due to injury.

In just eight games, Church collected 13 goals and five assists.

Connie Cox, sr., Canton: Cox led the Chiefs in draw possessions (23), while also chipping in 17 goals and 24 ground balls.

"She is a solid two-way player with excellent stick skills," Boyer said.

Her plans are to at-

tend Henry Ford Community College in the fall and study physical therapy.

Bridget Kerwin, sr., Salem: Whenever the Rocks needed to get some dirty work done, often times it was Kerwin coming through.

She set a team record this season with 362 draws. She also chipped in 185 possessions, 33 ground balls and 25 goals, along with a draw control of 51 percent.

The co-captain collected numerous honors, including first-team all-KLA&A, MWLCA all-state honorable mention and KLA&A scholar-athlete.

"After spending most of her freshman year injured, Bridget stepped in and took over the vacant center position," Medley said.

"Since then she has led the Rocks at midfield for the past three years."

Kerwin will attend Michigan State University and pursue a career in health care.

Annikka Nuler, sr., Canton: The co-captain wrapped up her three-year varsity career in style, leading the team in numerous categories, including goals (34) and points (40).

Nuler also set school records in several other areas, including ground balls, 59; takeaways, 26; draws taken, 339; draws controlled, 59; and interceptions, seven.

Plenty of honors came Nuler's way, including MWLCA all-state honorable mention, first-team all-KLA&A, MWLCA academic all-star and KLA&A scholar-athlete.

"Annikka was voted by her teammates and coaches as best midfielder," Boyer said.

She will play women's lacrosse at Adrian College.

Defense

Lauren Britton, sr., Salem: Her fourth se-

son was as sturdy as ever.

The co-captain collected numerous honors, including first-team all-KLA&A, MWLCA all-state honorable mention and KLA&A scholar-athlete.

"As always responsible for settling the defense during transition," Medley said.

"Lauren also scored five goals on the season and was a key player in disrupting the offensive flow of our opponents."

Britton will study elementary education at Eastern Michigan University.

Shannon Burke, sr., Salem: The Rocks' lone returning senior defender, Burke collected 40 ground balls.

The third-year varsity player earned honors as a KLA&A scholar-athlete and was named to the MWLCA all-academic first team.

"Shannon was a dependable playmaker on clearing the ball from the defensive end transitioning to offense," Medley said.

Burke will attend Michigan State University, where she will pursue a degree in marketing.

Sarah Curtis, jr., Plymouth: The second season on varsity was a solid one for Curtis, who led the team in

draw possessions.

"Sarah was asked to move from middle to defender this year and she has flourished," Wieloach said.

"Even though this move was not what she wanted, she embraced the move for the betterment of the team."

"Since the move, she has found that she enjoys playing defense and has done a great job."

Chalyn Ewing, sr., Plymouth: Western Michigan-bound Ewing's third varsity season was outstanding as she led in ground balls and helped with strong leadership skills.

"Chalyn has been a solid defender on varsity for three years," Wieloach said.

"This year she has stepped up and taken a leadership role on the team by helping the younger players develop."

"She has been a hard worker and always is trying better and to stand our style of defense."

Goaltender

Melissa Neal, sr., Canton: The co-captain was instrumental in her team's winning season.

In her fourth season as starting goalie, Neal established a new school record in save percentage (50.3)

thanks to stopping 170 shots.

The team MVP Neal also was named to the all-KLA&A first team and was an honorable mention pick by the MWLCA.

President of the Canton High School Student Congress, she also was an academic standout, earning MWLCA academic all-state and KLA&A scholar-athlete honors.

Neal will attend the University of Michigan this fall.

Megan Wieloach, sr., Plymouth: Besides a spot on the all-conference first team, Wieloach's fourth varsity season was highlighted by setting a school record for saves (15 against Salem).

Wieloach, who will attend Kent State University, consistently kept her team in games.

"Megan was the cornerstone of our team," coach Wieloach said.

"She has been the best and is willing to work to get there. She would push the team when they needed it or be there to listen."

"She had a number of 10-plus-save games and would come up with big saves in critical times in games to give us an opportunity to win."

smith@hometownlife.com

ALL-AREA

Continued from Page B3

But Davis, Lukens, Salanga, and Draper were outstanding all season, helping Plymouth win its first KLA&A South Division title in school history.

The relay also was an all-conference winner. "The success of this relay team spoke to the depth and talent that we have on our track team this year in the springs," coach Ricky Styes said.

"Each of these girls worked hard and challenged each other to become more complete sprinters."

At their times began to show this at the end of the season," Styes said.

Styes said Davis might be the team's best all-around runner with success in sprint and mid-distance events. "She has the potential to do some very special things on the track and I believe her success this season will propel her to great things in the future."

The coach praised Lukens for "earning her way into the record books at Plymouth" with her strong work ethic all-year long. "She came into this season stronger than she has ever before and that transferred into faster times and more confidence."

Salanga followed up on all-state season in gymnastics when her success in track. "She has been a great sprinter for us throughout her career and we are super excited that her senior year ended in the way that it did," Styes said.

Freshman Draper's speed proved essential to the relay's success, Styes said. "She has some of the quickest feet that I have seen in my years coaching. She is a great sprinter with a talent for running that not many have."

Hopefully her success on the track this year is simply her opening act. Salem, 1,600 relay (Kayla Kavulich, Isabel Rodriguez, Shekha Johnson, Kaya Knake): Versatility and desire to be the best spearheaded Kavulich, Rodriguez,

BEST TIMES

See the final top 10 girls track times, page B2

junior Johnson and sophomore Knake to the regional championship (4:06.19) and a spot in the state finals.

At Rockford, the Salem quartet finished 11th with a new school record of 4:01.49.

"Just a great foursome that had the determination it takes to work together and make this unit successful," Styes said. "To accomplish a new school record," Gerlach said.

The contributions made by Kavulich and Rodriguez were augmented by those turned in by first-year varsity runner Knake and Johnson.

"Kaya became an integral part of the school record by 400-meter relay in her first year on Salem track," Gerlach said. "She has a great combination of speed and strength and really came into her own the last month of the season."

Johnson was described by Gerlach as Salem's best sprinter, particularly in the 100 and 200. But she also helped make the 1,600-meter accomplishments possible.

"Shekha made a great transition to the 400-meter dash to help the 4 by 400-meter relay to a conference and regional title."

Churchill, 3,200 relay (Megan Gendjar, Caroline George, Alexis Lombardo, Jen Lombardo, Jen Hickson): This quartet qualified for the Division I state finals by capturing second at the regional (10:01.45).

Before winding up 18th overall with an area-best 9:54.59 (after being seeded 24th), "A great group of kids," Daugherty said. "We had to replace all four off the all-area team from last year and this group did a great job. We had two freshmen come in and surprise us. Megan (Gendjar) ran our fastest splits leading off (2:25). She had a great freshman

season and will be one of the best 800 runners in the area next year. Caroline (George), our other freshman, really had a great year on the team."

She was consistently in the 2:28s and ran a high quality race, Hickson said.

Lombardo, a sophomore who ran consistent sub-2:30 splits, also returned next season, while Hickson, the anchor, was a senior.

"Each girl brought something special to the relay and team," Daugherty said. "We are very proud of them and their season. They were able to win all our dual meets, place second at the conference meet and second at the regional."

COACH OF YEAR: Dena Gerlach, Salem: Success continues to follow Gerlach and the Salem varsity girls track and field team he leads.

Gerlach, who ran cross country and track at Litheran Westland and Eastern Michigan University, guided Salem to a regional championship.

The team, composed of more than 80 athletes, also garnered first place at the Livonia Franklin Patriot Relay, took local honors as P&C city champions and placed second at the Oxford Invitational.

There also were 12 different state qualifiers, five regional champions, two all-state honorees, Gerlach said.

One individual conference championship and three new school records.

But Gerlach, a Canton resident (with wife Kimberly, daughter Emilee and stepdaughter Adriane) and physical education teacher at Salem, takes the greatest delight in mentoring young student athletes as they maximize their potential.

"I view my job as head coach in a way that is so much more than winning and losing," Gerlach said. "I am a teacher who wants to educate these kids about athletics and the finer points of track and field."

"As a teacher and coach, I want to use our time after school as an extension of the school day to teach the life lessons that can't always be taught in the classroom. I have been true to my word as someone who mentors athletes and a terrific, dedicated staff that have put Salem girls track back to where it should be."

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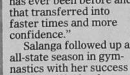
Draper



Lombardo, Jen



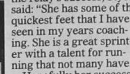
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George



Lombardo



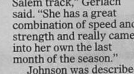
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Knake



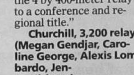
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Gendjar



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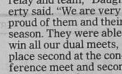
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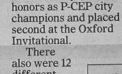
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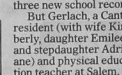
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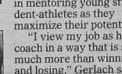
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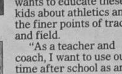
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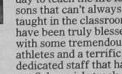
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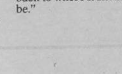
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It takes a village: Church collecting books to fill African school library

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

clothing and tools for sustainable projects to remote tribal villages in Africa.

Over the past month, Lackie has regularly emailed walk updates to Bonvallet's fellow congregants and friends. Church members have responded to her prayer requests, including a recent plea for spiritual help when her weary legs barely carried her up a steep incline.

And last week members began collecting books for a school library in one of the African villages that Helping Hands Touching Hearts has assisted.

"She was at the DaDane School on one of her visits to Africa and saw the library

shelves empty. She knew something had to be done," Lackie said. "Sidney called me and told me about it and wondered if we could help with something like that. We've just been at the activity for a week but books have started to come in."

Books for keen students

The church is accepting all kinds of books for the project, but especially needs textbooks for math, biology, and physical science, computer books, Bibles, novels, and informational books about commerce, geography, English language and other subjects. Students in secondary school, ages 15-18,

See BOOKS, Page B6



Kenwood Church in Livonia aims to fill empty bookshelves at this library at DaDane school in South Africa.

Kenwood Church of Christ in Livonia is walking in spirit with Sidney Bonvallet as she traverses mountainous terrain along the 500-mile El Camino trail in Spain.

The Rev. Todd Lackie and church elders blessed the Farmington Hills woman and church member, along with her walking partner, Izabela Jaworska, before the start of their 40-day pilgrimage on May 14. By walking El Camino, also called the "Way of St. James," Bonvallet hopes to raise money for her nonprofit, Helping Hands Touching Hearts, which gives food,

Farmington Hills woman nearing goal on 500-mile pilgrimage

With only nine days and 177 miles left, Sidney Bonvallet is on track to achieve her goal of walking the 500-mile El Camino trail in Spain.

The Farmington Hills woman left Michigan May 14 with her travel partner, Izabela Jaworska, for a pilgrimage along the route, also called the "Way of St. James." The first two and last two days of the journey include travel by air plane and train. But the rest on her 40-day trip are on foot.

Bonvallet hopes the walk will help her raise money for her nonprofit, Helping Hands Touching Hearts, which gives food, clothing and tools for sustainable projects to remote tribal villages in Africa.

Here are some of the highlights of her pilgrimage during the past month:

Meeting other pilgrims

We got such a pleasant surprise when we were leaving



Sidney Bonvallet shows one of the smallest bathtubs she has ever encountered. It was in a small hotel on the El Camino trail.

Santa Domingo this morning.

Dan Johansen, an extraordinary cello player wanted to do something different with nature and his cello, so he decided

to walk the El Camino with his cello on his back. Then he stops every few towns and plays in the local cathedral. He has a 10-man crew of profes-

sional friends and friends of friends following to help document his experience. Dan teaches cello and chamber music at the Juilliard School of Music in New York. He wanted to interview us. But his sound equipment wouldn't work. We wanted to catch his concert in the San Juan Ortega Cathedral. It is a small, little town with one Albergue, one bar and the one Cathedral.

In the rain

Today was a really tough day. We walked 16.3 miles in the rain all the time slipping around in the mud. The woods were dark and scary. Made my hair stand on end. What I have learned for sure ... One does not conquer the El Camino ... She always wins.

Close quarters

We were in Azofra, and there was only one Albergue (hostel) in town. We got there

late because of my slow walking with my bum knee and the main building was "complete" as they like to say. The little gal walked us around to the "overflow" building. I'm already getting anxious. She took us down a long hall and opened the door to an 8-by-12-foot room. There were four beds and a 1-by-1-foot window and a solid door. My heart began to race. Did I tell you I am ever so slightly claustrophobic?

There were going to be 4 people in this old monk's cell ... normal Albergue offers a bed with one sheet and a pillow with a community bath.

Beautiful landscape

We walk along with our walking staffs picking our way, while the wind whips the rain into our poncho and the crunch of rocks meters out our rhythm. The skies are overcast

See 500-MILE, Page B6

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BOOKS

Continued from Page B5

will use the donated books.
Alick Kumalo, Da-Dane School headmaster, wrote to Lackie that the book drive is "a dream come true" and will help "very keen students."
"Without a proper education, their chances for a better life are very dim indeed," Kumalo said.
A collection bin for

books is stationed under the canopy of the main church entrance, 2020 Merriman.

Helping at home

Lackie timed the book drive to end July 27, the day after the church's third Free Stuff Giveaway. The giveaway, a giant yard sale without price tags, will run 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 26, at the church.
Lackie said more than 300 individuals attended the second Giveaway two years ago to take home

gently used clothing, shoes, toys, furniture, collectibles, household items, and appliances.
"We ask people to take what they'll use — we don't want re-sellers," Lackie said. "There's no screening process. Everyone is welcome. We want to spread the wealth as much as possible."
The church is collecting "virtually anything that is not broken or deemed inappropriate." A box is stationed under the canopy at the

main church entrance.
Lackie said the church also gladly will take "end of yard sale" items.
"We're telling people if they are done with their sale and they want to get rid of the stuff left, we'll make sure it's used. They're excited to keep the stuff in the community where it's going to help their neighbors."
For more information about the book drive or the Free Stuff Giveaway, call the church at 248-478-8222.



A young man shows some of the books that Helping Hands Touching Hearts and its friends donated to his school. Many other shelves remain empty.



Sidney Bonvallet (left) and Izabela Jaworska show off their pilgrimage passports, which are stamped at locations along the trail.



Sidney Bonvallet encounters metal sculptures of other pilgrims atop a hill in Spain.



Izabela Jaworska tends to a blister.

500-MILE

Continued from Page B5

and it is cold, but not unbearable. We are on the Mesita, which many people choose not to walk because of its severity. We will be on the Mesita for 11 days. Actually, it is quite beautiful to this Texas girl. The endless wheat fields sway in the wind and offer a splash of green punctuated with a swath of rich, red poppies. It looks like a brilliant van Gogh painting of swirling rivers of lively color.

Inspired

Izabela and I stayed in Castrojeriz so we could be ready for the climb which we were strong. Izabela did it like the champ that she is. I, however, barely made it, but every part of me was

tired and hurting. As a result, the first thing this morning my energy was depleted... And we still had 16 miles to go! As the day wore on, my feet began to hurt until finally the pain was almost unbearable. We stopped in the last village before Fromista to eat. We had heard about this little (literally) old Japanese couple walking the Camino. (Stories spread along the trail almost as fast as wifi.) She is 79 and he is 85. Well, in they walked to ask directions of the bar owner. That really inspired me to do what I had to do to keep walking. I love God's sense of timing.

Tasty reward

This was a LONG day. Izabela and I walked for 12 hours to get in the 20 miles to San Nicolas. We are now over half way to Santiago! We are at 254



Sidney Bonvallet and her walking partner, Izabela Jaworska, celebrate having walked 250 miles at the Portals near Sahagun, in Spain.

miles. Hooray!! The agony is the grinding miles, sore feet, legs and hips. I think even the hairs in my ears hurt. There was no food for 12 miles. Now THAT opened Pandora's box of my fears. There, low and behold, when we came upon a picnic area, there was an ice cream truck! I thought it was a mirage. But it was real... Izabela and I indulged.
For more updates, visit www.facebook.com/WalkForHopeOfChildren



This rocky road, a part of the El Camino, stretches on for 15 miles.

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THE ROLE OF REST
Our own experience tells of the importance of rest for injured limbs. No one has escaped the pain of a bruised knee or a strained arm, each of us has learned that the first response is to rest the limb to substitute a careful walk for a looping stride or to reach with the other arm to avoid further strain on the injured one.
When inflammation brings pain to a hand, knee or shoulder, the body responds in a similar fashion, doing what it can to rest the inflamed extremity. Patients with rheumatoid arthritis have stiff hands in the morning because they had not flexed and closed enough at night to allow them to remain limber in the morning.
There are limits to rest. Injured and inflamed joints require rest, but at times that rest creates damage too. The obvious answer is that one must take rest only insofar as it helps, beyond that point rest adds to the hurt. But who is to say how much rest is good, and then order activity to begin.
There are only a few instances when a physician can speak with certainty when telling a patient who hurts that what the person needs is not more rest but increased exercise. One such condition is Fibromyalgia. Evidence in the medical literature is clear: the pain of Fibromyalgia calls for exercise and activity. Another example is after a knee or hip operation where again, the therapy in response to pain is to undertake physical therapy.
Otherwise, decisions of when rest has done its job and activity needs take over come from the individual's judgment not the physician's order.

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Search for flattering, affordable maternity clothes for mom-to-be

At only about 10 weeks pregnant, I noticed my body doing some pretty strange things. Well, strange may not be the appropriate word, but different than anything I had experienced before pretty much sums it up. My whole life, I had been a petite person — never weighed more than about 115 pounds, and never wore larger than a size 5 in pants, and even those size 5s were a bit baggy. But very quickly, my pants were getting tight. I recall one morning, getting dressed for work, and I couldn't button three pairs of pants. I tried the suck-in and lay back in the bed, wiggling and squeezing tricks. I tried to button first and



Sarah Davies
THEN THERE WERE TWO

zip second. I tried to raise the waist and button above the belly button. But nothing seemed to work. I settled on a dress and thought I better start looking for some bigger clothes.

Oversized, ugly
It was time for some maternity shopping. I went to a few shops to check out what kind of maternity clothes were available, but left empty handed and disappointed when the only things on the maternity racks were the ugliest things I had

ever seen — clothes I would be caught dead in. The oversized men's shirts and "boyfriend jeans" that "I saw were not going to help me keep up with my style that I was accustomed to. I was not excited about the waistbands I saw on these pants, and was even more disappointed that nothing at all was flattering.

I understand that I was not the top-of-the-pickings when it comes to single women, but I was STILL a single lady and enjoyed looking somewhat decent. And all the maternity clothes I could find were ones meant specifically for women who already had a ring on their fingers; for ladies who already

had found the love of their life, who was committed and married and excited to co-parent. And, well, for me, this was not the case. I was single, hormonal, and not the least bit interested in the ugly attire that was now the only thing available for a body like mine. So I settled for a handful of yoga pants, and two oversized tank tops from the "larger teens" section.

Comfort, no style
Who is the mad man behind the maternity clothes? I mean, who designs this stuff? I will admit that the ridiculous-looking waistband is incredibly comfortable, but it wouldn't hurt anyone if some of these

clothes were more fashionable. I have been grateful to find a few dresses that are to my liking, but the pants are a total joke. It is just a sign that you aren't supposed to be "flattering and attractive" when you have a baby in the belly?

To add to the disappointment, the maternity clothes are incredibly overpriced. Don't these designers know we pregnant ladies are about to increase our spending drastically with baby-related items? I don't need a \$100 bathing suit! I want to swim this summer, probably more so than any other summer, since I feel like it is 100 degrees on even the 70 degree days, but I never have spent that much on

a bathing suit and I sure don't think I am going to start with one! I will only wear for one season. That's like buying a designer purse knowing you plan to throw it away after one use.

Maternity clothes. They should call them MAN-ternity clothes... you know, clothes you will wear for what seems like an eternity. No sense in trying to beat around the bush with false advertising.

Sarah Davies is a Livonia resident in her 30s, who grew up in Farmington Hills. She writes about her personal experiences, the ups and downs of becoming a single mother. Contact her at sarahmardavies@gmail.com.

Send school reunion information to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com

BLOOMFIELD HILLS ANDOVER CLASS OF 1974

All classes from the 1970s may attend this 40th reunion for the class of 1974. Several events will be held July 18-20. For more information and to register, visit www.andover70s.reunionmanager.com

DEARBORN EDEL FORD HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1964

50-year reunion is planned 5:11 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, at Andiamo, 21400 Michigan Ave., Dearborn. Ticket purchase deadline is Aug. 25. Email Judy (Bery) Buck at jrbuck@edfglobal.net for more details.

DEARBORN FORDSON HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES OF 1952

62nd reunion set for both January and June classes, Saturday, Sept. 13, at Park Place in Dearborn. Contact Carl Elort at elort@aol.com or 734-432-9308; or Marvin Smyth at mmsmyth@juno.com or 313-562-4378 for more information.

CLASS OF 1914

A 30-year reunion is planned for Saturday, Aug. 2, at Rohna Hall Banquet Center in Garden City. Cost is \$45 per person for buffet dinner, open bar, and dancing. Contact Michele (Tobal) Belzack at michelbelz@global.net, visit the class Facebook page, Fordson Class of 1914 or www.paysitepage.com/collect-page/33028.

DETROIT CODY HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1964

Check out www.classcreator.com/Detroit-MI-Mackenzie-1960

50-year reunion runs 6 p.m. to midnight Friday, Sept. 19, at the Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel, 2111 Haggerty Blvd., Novi. For more information, contact Mike and Barb Kerby, 734-525-0546, kerby66bam@msn.com.

DETROIT MACKENZIE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1950S, 60S

Fourth annual picnic set for noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, August 31, at Nankin Mills Pavilion in Hines Park, corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive, Westland. Bring your own picnic, or buy Michigan-made hot dogs, chips, pop, water and ice cream on site. T-shirts, sweatshirts, and music CDs will also be sold. Seating available under the shelter, or bring your own chairs and pop-ups. Question? Call email Mackenzie at 734-377-4009 or kerby66bam@hotmail.com. Or check out www.classcreator.com/Detroit-MI-Mackenzie-1960

REUNIONS

FARMINGTON HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1974

40th reunion planned for Friday-Saturday, Aug. 29-30, with a Friday night social and tour of the high school, winebar tasting and dinner and dancing on Saturday. For more information, email David Hayes at davidhay2@yahoo.com.

FRASER HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1964

50-year reunion from 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Aug. 9, at the Sterling Inn, 3491 Van Dyke, Sterling Heights. Contact Rick Whipple, 734-751-2992, rkwhipple@yahoo.com for more information.

INKSCRY CHERRY HILL HIGH SCHOOL ALL CLASSES

Open to faculty, staff and alumni, noon to midnight Saturday, July 26, at Helenic Cultural Center, 36375, between Wayne and Newburgh, Westland. Pre-registration is \$10 per person through June 3 and \$15 after June 3 and at the door. No charge for faculty and staff. To register visit CHSALUMNI.NET. Contact Debbie Endress Gannon at debbie.gannon@teamedetroit.com.

CLASS OF 1964

50-year reunion, 8:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. Friday July 25, at the American Legion Hall, 23850 Military, Dearborn Heights. Christine Walker Cruickshank at 248-313-0544.

LIVONIA BENTLEY CLASS OF 1974

40th class reunion set for 6 p.m.

Saturday, June 28, at One Under Bar and Grill in Livonia. \$40 per person. Visit www.bentley74.com to buy tickets.

LIVONIA STEVENSON CLASS OF 1974

40-year reunion, planned by Linda Armstrong, Kim Geiger and Jack Karbowski, 7 p.m. to midnight Thursday, 29, Con's Restaurant, 2790 Severin Mile, Livonia. Includes dinner, photo booth, disc jockey, pizza. Reservations and payment with Karbowski, 313-530-9634; karblits@yahoo.com.

PLYMOUTH SALEM CLASS OF 1974

6:11 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, at the Elks Lodge, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Visit mcclendon2014@gmail.com or visit on Facebook.

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URSULA, "ELSIE"

Age 93, December 10, 2013 in Venice, Florida. Beloved wife of the late Marjorie. Survived by daughter, Patricia Mitchell (Don), Darlene Boyer (Jim), sons James (Janice), Terry (Betty), Ronald (Gloria), nephew Frank Borg (Margaret), eight grandchildren and ten (soon to be twelve) great-grandchildren. Memorial Service, Saturday, June 21st, 10am, Holy Sepulcher Cemetery West Chapel, 25800 W. 10 Mile Rd., Southfield, MI

BUHRER LYNN ANNE

Of Beverly Hills; age 60, died June 6, 2014, after a brief battle with cancer. Loving daughter of the late Ernest and Myrtle Buhrer. She leaves to cherish her memory: loving cousins Judith Byers, Janet (Russ), Celia, Bill (Veronica) Spencer; her work family at Armatix Technologies; among her many loving friends met through college, cards, bowling, casino hopping, gardening and dog sitting. A private memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to an animal advocate organization of choice.

CHAREST, CLARENCE RALPH

Died peacefully on June 2, 2014, at the age of 86, in Canton, Michigan, 22, 1925, in Detroit. He is preceded in death by parents Clarence and Anna (McKinnis) Charest. He is survived by sister Yvonne Longfield and her daughters Joan (Pete), Jean (Pete), son Clarence Charest Jr., John Charest, Guy Charest (Terry), and James Charest; and grandchildren Raemy, Casey, Jared, Carey, Guy C., Alexandra, and serving 1943-46 and receiving a Purple Heart. Under the benefits of the GI Bill, he attended Western Michigan University, graduated from University of Detroit Law School in 1951, and married Delphine, moving to Livonia in 1954. A 32 degree Mason, Kinnet Lodge, he founded the Livonia Bar Association in 1961. Called the Dean of Livonia Lawyers, he remained a member of the American, Michigan, and Livonia Bar Associations. He was deeply involved with the City of Livonia, representing several of the city's unions for many years and serving on various commissions, with many people seeking his wisdom and counsel. An avid fly fisher and outdoorsman, he enjoyed relaxing on the Au Sable River. He was also an accredited magician and a bar owner in later years. (Fibber McGee's, Clancy's). Clarence was highly respected in his leadership and generous counsel to friends and associates. His strength and confidence calmed many crises, and his generosity and kindness were legendary. Memorial services will be held on June 20, 2014, at Parkview Memorial Cemetery, beginning at 2:00 p.m. Instead of flowers, donations in his honor can be made to the Wounded Warriors Project.

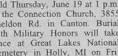
MUSE, MADELINE

Passed away on May 31, 2014 at the age of 85, surrounded by her loving family. Growing up in Detroit, she graduated from Detroit Western High School in 1946, where she excelled at the violin. Marrying in 1949, she moved to Belleville where she was active in the community for many years. After raising her children she returned to the workforce, enjoying a successful career as an accountant in the U of M Financial Aid Dept. In retirement she loved traveling, genealogy and Tiger baseball, but her biggest joy were her grandchildren. Madeline was the loving mother of Nancy Baldwin and Rick (Nancy) Muse. Cherished grandmother of Chelsea Baldwin, Kyle, Brent and Brad Muse. Dear sister of Mary Lou Grover. Private family services are planned for a later date. For those who wish to make a donation in Madeline's memory, the family suggests the Plymouth Rotary Foundation, Box 664, Plymouth, MI 48170. www.harrysfuneralhome.com



GOSLINE, AUSTIN ERNEST "BUD"

Age 89, June 6, 2014 of Westland. Beloved husband of Eleanor. Dear father of Michael (Debbie), Virginia Klinkman, Katharya (Craig Porter) Trudeau, Jeanine (Tony) Morrison, Lora McCullum, Cindy Rushton (Jean Marks), and the late Conan Gosline, daughter-in-law Pamela Bauer, and the late son-in-law David McCullum. Loving brother of Josephine Duljevic and Linda Gosline. Also survived by many grandchildren and great-grandchildren and 25 foster children. Memorial services will be held Thursday, June 19 at 1 p.m. at the Connection Church, 3855 Sheldon Rd., in Canton. Burial with Military Honors will take place at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, MI on Friday, June 20 at 2:30 p.m. Please sign on the line guestbook at www.grharris.com



VERMOULEN FUNERAL HOME



HARRIS FUNERAL HOME

RIDLEY, JANET KAY

Age 72, formerly of Bloomfield Hills, died May 29, 2014 in Mantland, Florida. She was born July 1, 1941 in Davenport, Iowa and was the loving daughter of the late Stan and Steve Roberts. Janet grew up in Birmingham, Michigan and graduated from Birmingham HS. She was a loving and devoted wife and mother. Janet is survived by her two daughters: Jill Hepworth, wife of Dora, FL and Cindy Ridley of Hartland, MI. She was the best grandmother ever to Kale Kirk of Hartland, MI and the late Garnett Hall. She is also survived by her brother Terry Roberts of Bloomfield Hills, MI; her brother Kim Roberts of Brooklyn, MI; her niece Mandy Tremblay of Trenton, MI; her nephew Tom Ridley of Oxford, MI; her niece Kate Rothrock of Fenton, MI; her nephew Paul Ridley of Waterford, MI. A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, July 12th at 11:00 a.m. at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 W. Maple Road, Birmingham, MI 48009, 248-644-0100. Guests are invited to a luncheon at the church immediately following. Because Janet was a two time breast cancer survivor, donations to the American Cancer Society <http://www.AmericanCancer.org> would be appreciated far more than flowers.

STEIN, MARJORIE "MIDGE"

Beloved wife of the late Milford Stein. Cherished mother of Carly Van Dox, Alison Myers and Jacqueline Van Dox. Proud grandmother of Sarah Mae Stevens, and Jesse and Sally Myers. Loving sister of the late A. Arnold and late Marilyn Agre. Devoted daughter of the late Charles N. and the late Sara Agre. Dear sister-in-law of the late Shirley Mae (the late Jack) Agre. Also survived by other loving relatives and friends. GRAVESIDE SERVICES 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY MORNING AT CLOVER HILL PARK CEMETERY ARRANGEMENTS BY THE IRA KAUFMAN CHAPEL 248-569-0020 www.irkaufman.com

TIMM, DAVID P.

Age 89, June 11, 2014. Beloved companion of Susan. Loving father of Phil, Melissa (Kirk) Stovall and the late Jeremy. Dear brother of Norm (Loretta) Timm and the late Terry (Pat) Timm and Nancy (Hal) Dorsey. Also survived by several nieces, nephews. David was a 1973 graduate of Lutheran High West. He worked at the Detroit Free Press and Ward Church and coached elementary and middle school sports for many years. Visitation at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Friday 11-8pm. Interment at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14775 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Saturday at 10 AM followed by Funeral Service at 11 AM. Memorial may be directed the American Cancer Society. Please share a memory at www.rgharris.com

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Virginia Puroll



Marcia O'Connor (Dennis) & Family

Brian Puroll (Julie) & Family

R. Michael Balloid (stepson)

CLAYTON, EDITH E.

Age 77, of Howell, formerly of Westland, passed away Wednesday, June 11, 2014. She was born December 17, 1936 in Kaiser, Arkansas, the daughter of Paul W. and Mary Edith (Jones) Griffin. Beloved wife of Earl M. Clayton whom she married July 20, 1957 in Arkansas. Dear mother of Allen of Taylor and Kimberly (Thomas) Spivak of Howell. Loving grandmother of Abby, Kelsey, Amy and Erin; great-grandmother of two. Also survived by her brothers, Alvin Griffin and Charles W. Griffin. She was preceded in death by her siblings, Mildred Loomis, Fred Griffin and infant brother, Gerald. Edith formerly owned and operated Clayton Security Services; she thoroughly enjoyed visiting her grandchildren and vacationing in Florida. Funeral services will be held Monday, June 23, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. (visitation from 11 a.m. until service at 1 p.m.) at MacDonald's Funeral Home, 1517-546-2500. Burial in Knollwood Memorial Park in Canton. Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association. Please sign the family's online guestbook at www.macdonalds-funeralhome.com

Freeman-Wroblewski

Mike Wroblewski and Audrey Marie Freeman
Audrey Marie Freeman and Mike Wroblewski announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Jim and Laura Freeman of Canton, earned a B.A. degree in business communications from Calvin College, Grand Rapids. She is the director of marketing at Van Wyk Risk Solutions.

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Send material for the Garden & Nature Calendar to Sharon Dargatzis at sdargatzis@hometownlife.com.
Heritage Park
= Summer Solstice Celebration runs 12 p.m. Saturday, June 21. Take a hayride, create a summer art project, and participate in outdoor games and activities. = Making Strawberry Freezer Jam demonstrations are at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Fee is \$5 per person or \$15 per family. Drop-in or pre-register at recgfflow.com. = Family Campfire, 7:30 p.m. July 11, in free, Marshmallows, = Moons and beverages will be \$5 each and beverages will be \$5 each.

THE CARE PLAN ATTORNEY

For over 25 years, Livonia Attorney, Dave Brunell has been teaching clients how to get organized and rebuild their lives after losing a spouse. Dave's unique holistic care plan system will help you regain peace of mind. We offer free in-home consultations. Receive a Free review of your current estate plan or a new plan consultation with a copy of this ad. Get started, today! Call 734-466-9277 or email us to request your free "Get organized and rebuild your estate plan" e-checklist. dave@careplanattorney.com

MILESTONES

ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS

George and Grace Ersamer of Livonia will mark 60 years of marriage on June 19. The couple met at Cleary College, dated for two years and married in 1954 at St. John's Catholic Church in Albion. They lived in Grand Rapids and Ypsilanti before moving to Livonia, which they've called home for 46 years. George retired from Ford Motor Co. after 39 years.

They have three children, Barbara Mill of Jacksonville, Fla., Timothy (Teresa) Ersamer of Lakeview and Susan Ersamer of Wixom. They also have six grandchildren and one deceased grandchild. The couple attends St. Edith Catholic Church, where they will have their marriage blessed on June 21. Their celebration also includes dinner at Andiamo Restaurant with family.



Grace and George Ersamer of Livonia



George and Grace Ersamer on their wedding day in 1954

ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS

Arthur and Shirley Winkel of Canton will mark their 60th wedding anniversary June 26. The couple married in 1954 at First Methodist Church in Dearborn. "We first started going together when he walked by my parents' home on Mayfair, Dearborn Township, with his graduation pictures," Shirley wrote to the Observer. "I stopped him and asked what he had. He showed me the pictures and he never (continued) on. We were together from then on."

Both are Fordson High School graduates. Arthur graduated in 1952 and Shirley in 1954. Arthur retired in 1997 after 25 years with the Canton Fire Department where he served as captain and fire marshal. The Winkles have attended First Methodist Church in Canton for more than 30 years. Their children are Tye (Genny) Bryan (Jill) and Laurie (Craig) Conn. Grandchildren are Gretchen, Andrea, Kevin, Tyler, Ryan and Britt.



Arthur and Shirley Winkel of Canton



Arthur and Shirley Winkel on their wedding day in 1954

ENGAGEMENT

Mike Wroblewski and Audrey Marie Freeman

Audrey Marie Freeman and Mike Wroblewski announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Jim and Laura Freeman of Canton, earned a B.A. degree in business communications from Calvin College, Grand Rapids. She is the director of marketing at Van Wyk Risk Solutions.



Mike Wroblewski and Audrey Marie Freeman

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Send material for the Garden & Nature Calendar to Sharon Dargatzis at sdargatzis@hometownlife.com.

Nature plants

Chad Huggson from Hidden Savanna will talk about native plants and have some for sale at the next meeting of the South-Central Butterfly Association, 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 18, at Harkins Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ave Arco Trail, Westland. Parking on Hines Drive or Ann Arbor Trail. \$3 for non-members. Questions, call 734-223-5510, email semba@semba-butterfly.com, or visit www.sembabutterfly.org.

Heritage Park

Summer Solstice Celebration runs 12 p.m. Saturday, June 21. Take a hayride, create a summer art project, and participate in outdoor games and activities. = Making Strawberry Freezer Jam demonstrations are at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Fee is \$5 per person or \$15 per family. Drop-in or pre-register at recgfflow.com. = Family Campfire, 7:30 p.m. July 11, in free, Marshmallows, = Moons and beverages will be \$5 each and beverages will be \$5 each.

The Care Plan Attorney

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May you find comfort in family and friends

Study seeks to reduce serious injury from falls

University of Michigan Health System is one of 10 trial sites in the country and only institution in Michigan to participate in a major study about preventing fall injuries among the elderly.

The National Institutes of Health and the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute this month awarded \$7.6 million for the project's first year. Funding is expected to total some \$30 million over the five-year project. U-M's principal investigator is Neil Alexander, M.D., M.S., professor in the Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine at the U-M Medical School and director of the Mobility Research Center at the Geriatrics Center. He is also the director of Geriatric Research, Education, and Clinical Center at the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System.

The U-M site's co-principal investigator is Jocelyn Wiggins, B.M., B.Ch. clinical associate professor of Internal Medicine at the U-M Medical School and associate division chief of Geriatric and Palliative Medicine.

"We are pleased to take part in this first-of-its-kind, large-scale collaborative study that addresses a critical public health problem on a national level," said Alexander, who runs a weekly Mobility Enhancement Clinic.

"Falls are the leading cause of both nonfatal and fatal injuries among our older adult community. This initiative will allow us to provide health care systems with a detailed

look at how to successfully adopt fall reduction strategies and tailor them to individuals who are at highest risk."

Marita Titler, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, associate dean of clinical scholarship and practice development at the U-M School of Nursing, co-leads the patient/stakeholder engagement component of the study nationwide, which includes a National Patient and Stakeholder Council and local councils at each of the 10 clinical sites. The councils include older patients, caregivers, and others who will give ongoing feedback on the design and implementation of the study.

Previous studies have analyzed risk factors for falls and fall injuries, along with interventions to prevent them, but the best evidence about how to reduce falls has not been applied broadly. Attempts to change physician behavior about falls have not been effective. Patients and other stakeholders generally have not been partners in the research process.

The research team plans to enroll 6,000 adults age 75 and older, with one or more modifiable risk factors for falls. Enrollment will take place over the first 18 months of the study and participants will be followed for up to three years.

The primary trial outcome is reduction in serious fall injuries, including non-spinal fractures, joint dislocation, head injuries, lacerations, internal injuries, and hypothermia.

Breast cancer awareness



American Laser Skincare employees staff a water station during the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure on June 7 in Chene Park in Detroit. A team from the Farmington Hills-based business also participated in the event, which raises awareness of breast cancer, as well as funds for research, health education, screening and treatment. For more about American Laser Skincare, visit AmericanLaser.com.

Find resources, advice at healthy aging conference

Hear from clinical experts and learn from exhibitors on a variety of health topics at St. Mary Mercy Hospital's fourth annual Healthy Aging Conference, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 28, at the hospital, located on Five Mile at Levan in Livonia.

The conference includes a boxed lunch with pre-registration, as well as prizes and giveaways, health screenings and a cooking demonstration. All activities are free.

The seminar schedule includes:
» 9-9:45 a.m., Gail Schramek, N.P., talks about stroke warning

signs and reducing risk of stroke.

» 10-10:45 a.m., Gerald Turlo, M.D., and Jessica Wearthas, L.M.S.W., talk about how an assessment and prevention can maintain health and independence.

» 11-11:45 a.m., Julie Burt, AADP, CHC, and The Senior Alliance Staff, talk about exercise programs for seniors and supportive services available in the community.

» Noon to 1 p.m., Mary Condon, R.D., demonstrates food preparation and talks about nutrition for seniors.

Exhibitors will be on site from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. with information about joint health, stroke, heart health, exercise programs for seniors, eye and ear care, home health care, senior living, podiatry and physical rehabilitation, community resources and more.

Health screenings will include mental health and memory tests, balance, podiatry, and weight.

Pre-register by calling 734-655-1706 or visit stmarymercy.org/healthyagingconference.

What's Really Up with Caffeine?

The Scoop on America's Favorite Stimulant

Ask A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Troy Smith
Family Practice

Found in coffee, tea, migraine treatments and a variety of energy and soft drinks, caffeine is one of the most widely used stimulants on the market. But how much do you really know about that "Cup of Joe" you have every morning? Chances are you have some real misperceptions about caffeine. Primary Care physician and GCH Health Expert, Dr. Troy Smith, wakes us up with the truth about caffeine.

Q: How does caffeine work?

A: Caffeine enters the bloodstream upon consumption and makes the trip to all parts of the inner universe that is the human body. The effects include a faster heart rate, an increase in urine, facilitation of the digestive process, relaxation of the body's smooth muscles, and stimulation of the brain cells.

Q: Is caffeine addictive?

A: There has been some debate about whether caffeine is truly addictive. Regular use of caffeine does cause mild physical dependence, but caffeine won't threaten your physical, social, or economic health the way addictive drugs do. Stopping caffeine use abruptly may have some mild side effects, like headaches or irritability for a day or two, but nothing debilitating.

Q: Are there any benefits to caffeine consumption?

A: Yes. Caffeine can temporarily improve mental alertness and provide a physical jolt of energy. Caffeine is also an ingredient in most pain relief medications and is especially effective in treating headaches, including migraines. Caffeine is used in some treatments of sleep apnea in newborns because of its ability to stimulate breathing. Caffeine is also one of the most commonly used stimulants among athletes. In addition, it has also been used to stimulate breathing in people who have overdosed on opiate-based drugs.

Q: Is caffeine safe for children?

A: Soft drinks are the American beverage of choice for adults and most children as well. Research indicates most kids consume more caffeine than recommended, but moderate amounts have not been proven to produce any long-term health problems. Because of the concern about the immediate effects of caffeine, which are more pronounced in children, the American Academy of Pediatrics and physicians strongly discourage caffeine consumption for all children. And, since continued use of caffeine produces a tolerance to its effects, children who consume daily doses may find themselves needing more as they grow older to stave off withdrawal.

Q: Can you overdose on caffeine?

A: A caffeine overdose is known as caffeinism, and the amount required to produce this effect varies depending on the individual. Minor symptoms of caffeinism include restlessness, headache, insomnia, irritability, and lightheadedness. Other, more severe symptoms requiring immediate medical treatment, are difficulty breathing, hallucinations, chest pain, irregular or fast heartbeat and convulsions.

To learn more about caffeine from Dr. Smith, read the Summer issue of Garden City Hospital's "Healthy Generations" magazine, available online at GCH.org or in our lobby.

If you're having issues with caffeine, migraines or another health problem, make an appointment with Dr. Smith by calling his office at 734.464.9200.

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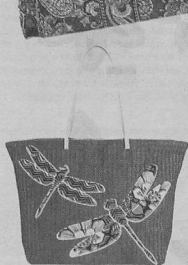
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By Mary Lorenz
CareerBuilder writer

If there's one thing hiring managers and HR professionals need to know about today's candidates, it's that they take to rejection the same way Taylor Swift does: They don't go down quietly.

Though they may not write chart-topping pop songs about the employers who scorned them, they do take to social media to publicly vent their frustrations, putting a dent in those companies' employer brands and even their bottom lines. Studies have shown that workers are less likely to purchase products or services from companies that don't bother to respond to their job applications, and many will talk about a bad experience they had with a potential employer with friends and family.

What candidates really think when they don't hear back

Not convinced? A few years ago, we heard from quite a few job seekers trying to figure out why hiring managers didn't respond to candidates and they had some choice words about those companies. Below are just a handful of comments we received from jilted job seekers: "It does make the company look totally pathetic and sad that they couldn't get back to me with the status of the job I interviewed for. I will warn any of my past co-workers...to stay away from this company, they are very unprofessional."

"I have very strong feelings about several businesses that have interviewed me and never been back in touch (after saying they would) that I take every opportunity to make their lack of consideration known whenever their business comes up in conversation."

"It's really easy to set up [rejection email] templates...and it takes less time to use one as a reply for an email than it does



to actually review the application. If you've got time to read applications, you've got time to send form replies, and if you don't have time to read applications, you shouldn't be advertising jobs."

"No one of any talent and quality wants to work for a company that cannot [get] back to the people you interview! If you are a company with high turnover, it's probably your fault, and it won't change unless you do."

"Yes, being told 'No, we don't want you' sucks...but what hurts more is just never knowing. Okay, you don't want to hire me, I get, but at least have the decency to tell me."

"Indeed it is cold and unprofessional not to email back a brief 'rejection' letter after an interview. A fair someone took the time to get nicely dressed

and groomed, spent money on gas, a new haircut, and took up valuable job searching time for an interview, it makes sense just to get back to them."

"Follow up on a company's part is a PR opportunity. If you're going to treat me this way as an applicant, [it makes me wonder] 'how will you treat me as an employee?'"

DO follow up with every candidate

Ideally, you should respond to every single applicant who applies (and yes, you do have time -- see below), but at the very least, you should follow up with the candidates you bring in to interview -- even when it's bad news. After all, the candidate took just as much time out of his/her day as you did to come in for the interview.

Do's and don'ts for rejecting candidates

DON'T think ignorance is bliss

Most candidates agree it's better to hear they got rejected than hearing nothing at all. Sending rejection emails or letters may feel harsh, but it's far crueler to ignore them completely.

DON'T think "I don't have time" is an excuse

As one job seeker noted above, it takes just a few minutes to create an email template in Outlook, which you can then use over and over again to quickly and easily follow up with applicants. (Not sure how to break the news? Check out a sample rejection letter template.) Just remember to personalize it before sending it off.

DON'T give false hope

Don't promise to keep a candidate's résumé on file if you have no intention of doing so. A simple "We wish you success in your job search" is a fine way to end a letter.

DO be honest and concise

State a clear reason for the rejection (e.g. "We have selected another candidate whose credentials were better suited for the position"), but don't feel the need to go into great detail.

DON'T be nasty

Even if the interview was a disaster, unkindness is never called for (and it could come back to haunt you).

DON'T let the good ones get away

If the person was a strong candidate, chances are he or she might be the right fit for a future position. Invite him or her to join your Talent Network if you have one or let them know you're keeping his or her information on file.

Mary Lorenz is a copywriter for CareerBuilder, specializing in B2B marketing and corporate recruitment best practices and social media. In addition to creating copy for corporate advertising and marketing campaigns, she researches and writes about employee attraction, engagement and retention.

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