

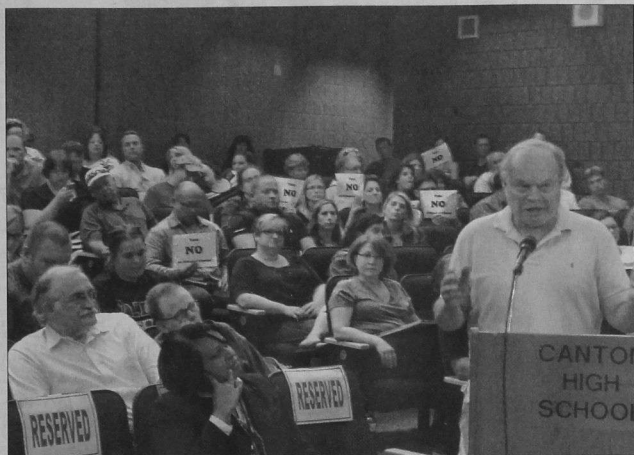
CANTON OBSERVER

A GANNETT COMPANY

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2014 • hometownlife.com



MAGICAL
New youth theater
presents 'Aladdin'
ENTERTAINMENT, B6



Robert Harris was one of dozens of people who spoke Tuesday to the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education on schools of choice.

Over protests, board OKs schools of choice

Controversial measure passed by trustees to help trim deficit, fill classrooms

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Over the vociferous objections of the majority of a packed DuBois Little Theater crowd – but with the vocal support of a smaller number – the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education turned the district Tuesday into a limited school-of-choice destination.

In a 5-1 vote (with board Treasurer Mark Horvath absent), board members opened the district's doors to 200 K-2 students in a move designed largely to fill a gap in funding, but also to combat dwindling elementary school enrollment.

The move is expected to raise some \$1.5 million in revenue for the district. "We know there are finite resources ... in fact, they are diminishing resources," said Dr. Michael Meissen, the

district's superintendent, who was confident the district could provide a quality education to all students, including the 200 out-of-district kids. "We believe all kids can learn and all kids can learn at a high level. It's on us as educators to make sure that happens."

The move came as the board adopted its \$148 million budget for the 2014-15 school year. Administrators said the schools-of-choice option was made necessary when the state's final education bill cut \$49 from Gov. Rick Snyder's original proposal, the figure Plymouth-Canton used to craft its budget.

That left the district, administrators said, having to fill an additional deficit of some \$820,000. When board members restored the media specialists and reading interventionists it had previously cut, that was an additional \$1.5 million deficit. To make up for it, the

board agreed to the schools-of-choice option (a \$1.5 million revenue spike) and additions to its plan to sell off assets such as district-owned property on Joy Road.

Back and forth

Trustee John Barrett said he's been all over the map on the decision, but decided to back it. Ultimately, the chance to keep the media specialists and interventionists was enough for him.

"This has been an agonizing decision ... I've vacillated on it," Barrett said.

"We've decided to put students and teachers first."

The majority of the crowd wasn't so sure, voicing a number of complaints, chief among them:

See CHOICE, Page A2

Canton delays passing new law allowing recovery

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton officials Tuesday abruptly shelved a proposal to allow the township to ratchet up efforts to recoup costs for emergency police and fire services, particularly from non-residents who don't pay Canton taxes.

"We need to do a little more work on it," Supervisor Phil LaJoy said.

The Canton Township Board of Trustees delayed giving final approval to the new ordinance and scrapped – for now – a vote to hire Ohio-based Cost Recovery Corp. to handle billing. CRC would keep 25 percent of revenues it collects.

The measure, if approved, would allow Canton to seek reimbursement for police and fire costs related to incidents such as traffic accidents or companies involved in a hazardous materials spill.

See RECOVERY, Page A2

Teen's sentence closes Verizon case

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Closing out one of most brazen robberies in recent memory in Canton, an Inks-ter teen has become the third and last felon sentenced to 15-27 years in prison after they shot their way into a Verizon store using a semi-automatic assault rifle.

Eric James-Lee Wilkins, 19, was sentenced Monday by Wayne County Circuit Judge Timothy Kenny after pleading guilty to charges that arose after he and two other teens blasted their way through a sliding glass door an employee had managed to lock in February 2013 at the Verizon store on Ford east of Sheldon.

Wilkins received the

See VERIZON, Page A2

Township clerk racks up yet another award

Bennett honored by statewide association

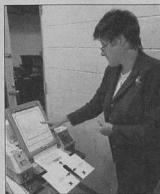
By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

After 19 years on the job, Canton Township Clerk Terry Bennett has earned new state accolades for her efforts to remain on the front line of her profession's educational developments.

Bennett has been awarded the designation of certified Michigan municipal clerk for investing in 120 hours of new educational efforts over a three-year period – a program the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks launched in January, MAMC Director Lisa Hathaway said.

"MAMC believes a focus on education is essential for municipal clerks to provide informed, quality leadership for their communities in the face of constant legislative change and increased demands on Michigan's public servants," Hathaway said. "Clerk Bennett is to be commended for the hard work, perseverance and

See CLERK, Page A2



Township Clerk Terry Bennett has earned yet another award, this one from the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks.

BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



PRICE: \$1

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
A GANNETT COMPANY© The Observer & Eccentric
Volume 40 • Number 2

Home Delivery: (866) 887-2737 | Return Address: 29725 Hudson Dr, Novi MI 48377

INDEX

Business	A10	Homes	B10	Services	B10
Crossword Puzzle	B11	Jobs	B10	Sports	B11
Entertainment	B6	Obituaries	B5	Wheels	B11
Food	B7	Opinion	A12		

seek **TRY** community
help *Care* **SPEAK**
support

Summer of
Sharing.org

what **GOOD** could you do with \$1000?

We're donating \$1000 a day for 60 days! Visit SummerOfSharing.org.



**COMMUNITY
FINANCIAL**
right here right for you

Federally insured by NCUA. ©2013 Community Financial.

CHOICE

Continued from Page A1

» The way the discussion came about. Residents were upset no public hearing on a subject was ever held.

» Bringing in out-of-district students, with families that have no connection to the district, will drive down property values.

» Many of the out-of-district students will bring with them special needs that will lessen those services given to in-district kids.

Kristen Perkins and her sister, Stacey Collins, started an online petition in an effort to convince the board not to adopt the measure. The petition, Perkins told board members, got some 900 signatures in five days.

"The way this has been brought about is a decision that left the community out," Perkins said. "There are plenty of other options (for balancing the budget). I think this is a bad decision for the district."

Plymouth Township resident Duane Zantop, who said he signed the online petition, said he was concerned about the district having to recruit students to swell its numbers a year and a half to build a new middle school.

"Last year, we passed a bond to build a new middle school and now we're going outside the district to fill it," Zantop said. "That bothers me. We need to close schools."

Some agreement

Canton resident Michael Siegrist said he



The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education meeting drew a huge crowd to the DuBois Little Theater at Canton High School Tuesday.

doesn't favor schools of choice because he doesn't like the idea of taking students from other districts that might also be struggling financially. But, he said, districts with which Plymouth-Canton compares itself are choosing the schools-of-choice path.

"I'm not in favor of schools of choice, because I think it pits district against district," Siegrist said. "But the districts around us are schools of choice and they're advertising it."

Mike Pare thinks the idea of adding 200 children to Plymouth-Canton classrooms will

lead to a lessening of the quality of education is overblown.

"In a district of 17,000 students, we can easily educate 200 5-, 6- and 7-year-olds," Pare said. "In fact, I can't think of anyone better to do it. Why anyone could be afraid of children so young is beyond me."

Trustee Mike Maloney, the only "no" vote on the issue with Horvath absent, read a letter Horvath, called away on business, asked to have read into the record. In the letter, Horvath told his colleagues, "I implore you not to accept this" and called for other solutions — such as re-

ducing administrative overhead and closing schools — rather than opening the borders.

Wrong or right

Maloney, who has been saying for a while he's against building the new middle school because enrollment is declining, opposed the move largely because residents haven't had enough input.

"I've been vocal about my opposition for a long time," Maloney said. "I don't believe the public has had an opportunity to make their feelings known."

Board Secretary Kim Croch recounted an

email exchange she had with a vocal critic of schools of choice, in which the critic said she hoped Crouch wouldn't look back on the decision 10 years from now and regret it.

"What I will really regret, if I voted against this, is not erring on the side of kids," Crouch said. "Children are happy because they don't have a file in their minds called 'all the things that could go wrong.' It's easy to think about all the things that could go wrong. (But) we have a great school system."

bkdrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkdrich

CLERK

Continued from Page A1

commitment expended to attain (the new state certification) and the dedication to providing quality service to the public and the municipality she serves."

Bennett said she merely tries to maintain a positive work ethic and stay abreast of state-level changes affecting her profession.

The latest honor came from Bennett in 2011 was named a master municipal clerk by the California-based International Institute of Municipal Clerks, becoming only one of 62 clerks in Michigan history to have earned the title at that time. The IIMC has been in place 66 years.

Bennett, after receiving her international honor, was called "outstanding" and "a tremendous asset to the community" by township Supervisor Phil Lay.

Bennett also was named Michigan Township Clerk of the Year in 2009 in a statewide competition.

Bennett became township clerk May 1, 1995, succeeding her husband Loren Bennett when he became a state senator. She was chosen during a special election and has since repeatedly won re-election to four-year terms.

Bennett's office oversees elections and is the township's record-keeper. It also handles voter registration and issues a wide array of licenses and permits.

Before she became an elected official, Bennett earned a degree in education from Eastern Michigan University and completed a large amount of higher credits in public administration.

She taught school for 22 years in the Oakland Intermediate School District and Pontiac Public Schools. She taught special education and worked with mentally disabled youngsters, helping them to learn careers in the food service industry.

Bennett also taught alternative education students who, because of behavioral problems, had been kicked out of regular classrooms.

dclm@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @CantonObserver

RECOVERY

Continued from Page A1

Growing trend

According to the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, or SEMCOG, a number of southeast Michigan communities have adopted cost-recovery ordinances to recoup costs arising from traffic accidents caused by non-residents.

SEMCOG also cited Wixom as a community that has adopted an ordinance to recover costs for incidents such as tanker spills, cleanup of foreclosed properties and situations involving hazardous materials

teams.

SEMCOG's website notes Wixom was able to recover all costs that arose when a sludge-hauling tanker spill forced a response by police and fire crews. Wixom received payment from the hauling firm and insurance claims.

Canton Township Trustee Tom Yack said he believes most of the cost-recovery fees would be received from insurance companies. He said Canton and other communities are trying to find ways to recoup financial losses.

"Unfortunately, everybody's clamoring for revenue from wherever they can get it," he said.

Opposition surfaces

The proposal already has stirred some opposition. Canton resident Thomas Hartnett, an attorney, wrote in a letter to the *Observer* he believes the proposed ordinance is unfair by singling out non-residents for recouping traffic accident investigation costs. Hartnett said the measure invites similar retaliatory ordinances from other communities, unfairly punishes non-Canton residents by levying fees and breeds "disrespect for the law."

Hartnett said he views the proposed ordinance as illegal.

Lajoie has said Canton police respond to

nearly 3,000 auto accidents each year, many of them the result of negligence by non-residents. He said the fire department responds to nearly 7,000 calls for fires and medical emergencies.

Lajoie said the bulk of the cost of emergency responses falls on local taxpayers. He said Canton by law is authorized to enact a cost-recovery ordinance.

Public Safety Director Todd Mutchler has said the proposed ordinance is an attempt to remain "fiscally responsible and be good stewards of taxpayer money and run an efficient operation."

The debate comes as Canton continues to face financial challenges

ushered in by years of declining property tax revenues.

Mutchler said the cost-recovery effort would mostly apply to non-residents who cause auto accidents in Canton and to companies, including those in Canton, who may cause high-cost incidents.

"This is for major or catastrophic events where a company may do something illegal (such as) dumping an illegal substance into the sewer," Mutchler said. "That's a violation of law. That's a cost we can recover."

dclm@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @CantonObserver

CORRECTIONS

» A story in the Sunday, June 22, *Observer* should have read the St. Joseph Mercy golf outing was held at Pleasant Run Golf Course in Canton.

» In Kurt Kuban's opinion column "Wayne County executive candidates attempt to break through voter anger" that appeared in last week's paper, it should have referred to Warren Evans as former Wayne County sheriff.

SENTENCE

Continued from Page A1

same sentence already imposed on two other 19-year-old defendants, Antonio Jerome Porter of Inkster and Dantez Lamar Boykin-Johnson of Westland.

'Stellar work'

Canton Township Trustee John Anthony, a former FBI special agent, said the outcome of the case reflects stellar

work by Canton police, who rushed to the scene and nabbed all three teens after they fled in broad daylight to a nearby residential neighborhood, where they surrendered after hiding in a storm cellar.

"It just says what I've said all along about the Canton Police Department being first rate and the best police department I've ever been associated with," Anthony said. "This was a serious crime and people could have been hurt or

even killed. This was a brazen robbery. Canton police responded in an appropriate manner and arrested the suspects. The last chapter has been closed and the defendants have received the appropriate sentences."

Wilkins, Porter and Boykin-Johnson all received 15-27 years in prison after they pleaded guilty to charges of armed robbery, discharging a firearm into a building, felony firearm and breaking and enter-

ing a building with intent to commit a crime. They shot their way inside the then-new Verizon store and robbed it as employees and customers feared for their lives.

Wilkins' sentencing Monday came after Boykin-Johnson was sentenced in May and Porter in March. The robbery occurred along Canton's busiest retail strip.

Strong message

Canton Public Safety Director Todd Mutchler has said the lengthy pris-

on sentences imposed by Kenny "sends a strong message that this type of crime will not be tolerated in our community."

Wilkins received credit for 48 days he already has spent behind bars since the robbery occurred. Porter and Boykin-Johnson also got credit for time they had served prior to sentencing.

All three teens had been jailed with bonds totaling more than \$1 million since February 2013.

SUPER SUMMER SALE!

WEBER PORTABLE
Q' GRILLS. Gas or electric

Great for: • camping
• picnics
• tailgating
• taking to grandma's

Available at Weber's best price

In-stock
PATIO SETS
40% OFF

Special one week only!
GLAZED
POTTERY
40% OFF

In-store flyer now in progress.

734-453-5500

www.plymouthnursery.net
Mon. - Thurs 9am-6pm
Fri 9am-7pm • Sat 9-6 • Sun 10-5
Offers Expire 7/2/14

MILLION BELLS
BASKETS
Reg. \$24.99
just \$19.99

PLYMOUTH
NURSERY
HOME & GARDEN SHOWPLACE

9900 Ann Arbor Rd W

7 Miles West of I-275 • 1 1/2 Miles South of M-14
Corner of Goddard Rd.



AAA TRAVEL AGENCY DELIVERS THE BEST EXPERIENCES

Book your next tour through AAA Travel Agency and get more for your money. More choices. More Fun. More value. More than you ever expected.

BOOK BY JUNE 30TH AND SAVE UP TO \$500**

Enjoy Sizzling Summer Savings With AAA Travel! Whether you dream of exploring the world or staying closer to home - or perhaps something in-between - AAA Travel has the perfect vacation package to fit your taste and budget.

Let our expert Travel Consultants help you create the extraordinary moments and lasting memories that will inspire you long after your return.

Contact AAA Travel Agency

Birmingham: 248-433-8200 Canton: 734-644-0146 Farmington: 248-553-0472
Livingspring Co: 810-226-7100 Lincoln: 734-642-7000 White Lake: 248-618-3440

Reservations made apply. See your AAA Travel Agent for details.
*Offer valid 6/26/2014 with Select Travel Partners
**Maximum



Westland - June 28



Best Deals in Town

with qualifying purchase.
Saturday 6/28 only

[illegible]

WE MAKE THE WORLD'S BEST MATTRESS™

icomfort series

ELEVATE & SAVE

UP TO **\$1000**

on a Serta Adjustable Mattress Set*

Serta

i series

Serta Motion Perfect II Adjustable set

Vantage Firm Plush

Twin, XL	\$2,449	\$200 Instant Savings
Full	\$2,574	\$200 Instant Savings
Queen	\$2,574	\$200 Instant Savings
King	\$2,499	\$400 Instant Savings

icomfort

Serta Motion Perfect II Adjustable Set

Insight EverFeel

Twin, XL	\$2,149	\$200 Instant Savings
Full	\$2,399	\$200 Instant Savings
Queen	\$2,574	\$200 Instant Savings
King	\$2,499	\$400 Instant Savings

icomfort

Savant EverFeel Cushion Firm/Plush

Twin, XL	\$2,649	\$200 Instant Savings
Full	\$2,899	\$200 Instant Savings
Queen	\$3,074	\$200 Instant Savings
King	\$2,799	\$400 Instant Savings

Save Up to \$1,000 on select iComfort and iSeries adjustable mattress sets purchased from June 25, 2014 - July 2, 2014. Offer is available only on qualified iComfort and iSeries mattresses purchased with Motion Cushion, Motion Perfect II or Motion Signature adjustable foundation. Savings amount will vary by mattress set size and adjustable foundation model selected. See store for details on product availability, pricing and other dates. This offer is not to be combined with any other offers and is not available with Perfect Sleeper mattress set purchases.

NEW! Serta VIP REWARDS

Earn \$100 per year up to \$1,000 off your next bed!

You'll earn \$100 per year up to \$1,000 when you purchase a qualifying iComfort® or iSeries® mattress. Plus, enjoy other program benefits including special offers! Visit us in store for more details!

Whirlpool Appliances Bundle and Save!

Whirlpool Suite Package \$2096

Range WFE510SOAS\$699

Microwave WMH31017AS\$259

Dishwasher WDT710PAYM\$599

Refrigerator WRS325FDAM\$1299

Total Before Discount \$2856

Save \$760!

Package Price \$2096

Whirlpool Suite Package \$2999

Range WFE710HOAS\$999

Microwave WMH53520CS\$399

Dishwasher WDT710PAYM\$599

Refrigerator WRX735SDBM\$2199

Total Before Discount \$4196

Save \$1170!

Package Price \$2999

Whirlpool Suite Package \$2999

Range WFE710HOAS\$999

Microwave WMH53520CS\$399

Dishwasher WDT710PAYM\$599

Refrigerator WRX735SDBM\$2199

Total Before Discount \$4196

Save \$1170!

Package Price \$2999

KitchenAid

What's Cooking in this Fall? Buy a KitchenAid Blender Beverage Bonanza July 19th

Blender Beverage Bonanza July 19th

POWER. PERFORMANCE. SAVINGS.

Maytag

Invitation to Savings

\$1000

Livonia's Small Business of the Year 2014

Bill & Rod's APPLIANCES & MATTRESSES

Honest and Dependable Since 1963

15870 Middlebelt Road North of Five Mile • Livonia

734.425.5040

SALES • SERVICE • PARTS

BillAndRodsAppliance.com

KitchenAid

FOR THE WAY IT'S MADE™

BRAND SOURCE

MAYTAG

Whirlpool

Novi Town Center

43559 CRESCENT BOULEVARD • NOVI, MI (248) 347.3830 • NOVITOWNCENTER.COM



Ryan Warner (from left), Cory Caincross and Kevin Knox of the Canton Firefighters Charitable Foundation give a boost to teammate Dave Holloway during the Canton Community Foundation golf outing.

Foundation celebrates 'wonderful' golf outing

The Canton Community Foundation "pulled out all the stops" and hosted the 23rd annual Jack Demmer Ford golf outing June 5 at Pheasant Run Golf Course in Canton.

Some 100 golfers shared the day, which featured a \$5,000 putting contest (sponsored by former Canton Township Trustee Dr. Syed Taj) and a hole-in-one contest sponsored by Jack Demmer Ford.

Golfers looking for a little extra help took advantage of the "Pro for Hire" hole. The Miracle League of Plymouth received a donation from the funds collected from this contest.

"We are so appreciative of all of our sponsors and golfers, specifically Jack Demmer Ford and Canton Waste Recycling, for supporting the outing this year," said Michelle Malamis, executive director of the Canton Community Foundation. "It was a wonderful day that truly did help CCF to further our mission in supporting



Golfers in the hole-in-one contest had a shot at a two-year lease, courtesy Jack Demmer Ford.

the community."

Major sponsors included CIG Corp., Community Financial Credit Union, Contract Welding, High Velocity, Lou LaRiche Chevrolet, Mannik & Smith Group, Paper Express, Republic Services, Signarama Thompson, LLP, and UHY, LLP.

The foundation raised close to \$35,000, a portion of which will be used for its grant-making program that will grow to help many organizations in the greater Canton

community.

"The participants, along with our amazing volunteers, had a great time," Malamis said. "We look forward to an even more successful 24th outing! We hope to see everyone again next year."

For more information on the Canton Community Foundation and to see more photos from the golf outing, go to www.cantonfoundation.org or call Malamis at 734-495-1200.

Canton woman competes in Miss Michigan USA contest

Prachi Patel, 20, a Canton resident and Salem High School graduate attending Wayne State University, will compete for the title of Miss Michigan USA 2015. The competition is set for Sept. 26-27 in Port Huron, with more than 100 young women competing.

Melissa Pitchford, executive director with the Miss Universe Organization, said in a



statement the organization is "overwhelmed" by the caliber of participants.

The Miss Michigan USA contest allows women an opportunity to advance their personal and professional goals. The contest, along with Miss Michigan Teen USA, will be

offering more than \$1 million in college scholarships to winners, finalists and semifinalists, the organization said in a press release.

The competition includes evening gown, fitness/winsuit and a final question. The winner represents Michigan in the next round, the Miss USA contest.

For more information, go to www.missmichigan.com.

Summer Sidewalk Sale

NOVITOWNCENTER.COM

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, SATURDAY, JUNE 28, SUNDAY, JUNE 29

Don't Miss Out

THREE GREAT DAYS OF SAVINGS AS NOVI TOWN CENTER STORES BRING THEIR BARGAINS OUT FRONT!

Discover great deals at stores like ULTA Beauty, DressBarn, maurices, Dots, rue21, Golfsmith, Total Hockey, Running Fit, Torrid, Plato's Closet, Christopher & Banks, and more!

maurices Torrid Golfsmith dots dressbarn ULTA

Look for Summer Sidewalk tables for great deals, big discounts and extra special savings!

Novi Town Center

43559 CRESCENT BOULEVARD • NOVI, MI (248) 347.3830 • NOVITOWNCENTER.COM

YMCA aims to break record for largest swim lesson

Nearly 38 people, ages 4-74, participated Friday at the Livonia Family YMCA in an attempt to set a new Guinness World Record for the World's Largest Swimming Lesson.

The Livonia Y was one of several aquatic centers, pools and water parks around the globe that hosted a simultaneous swim lesson at 11 a.m. Eastern EST. Last year, 32,450 people in 13 countries over five continents participated.

The final numbers aren't in yet, but more than 40,000 people had pre-registered for this year's swim lesson, the fifth annual, according to worldslargestswimminglesson.org.

Lori Boros, aquatic director at the Livonia Family YMCA, said the real goal was to raise awareness that "swimming classes save lives."

Drowning is the leading cause of unintended injury-related death for children ages 1-5 and the second leading cause for children ages 1-14, she said. Yet, recent studies show formal swimming classes reduce the risk of drowning by up to 88 percent in ages 1-4.

Boros said this was the first year the Livonia Family YMCA participated in the world record-setting attempt, but that it hopes to do it again next year and double its numbers. The event is free and open to the public.

"I got wonderful feedback," Boros said of the participants. After the swim lesson, they got to enjoy an open swim for one hour. "They loved it; they didn't want to get out of the pool."

Mike King, membership specialist at the Livonia Family YMCA, said the Y is the No. 1 provider of swim classes in the United States. The first organized group swim lesson taught by the Y took place in the Detroit River at the Fort Street YMCA, he said.

King said he had hoped 30 people would participate in the Livonia Y's swim lesson, so he was pleased with the turnout. However, like



All the participants and instructors at the Livonia Family YMCA pose for a group photo following the world record-setting event. PHOTOS BY BASSEL ATALA

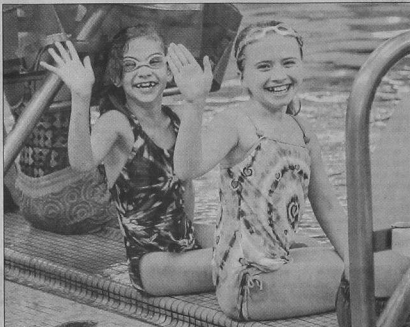


Ethan Curry of Plymouth jumps from the diving board; he attended the event with his older brother Brennen.

Boros, he said the goal was to educate people about the risks of drowning and how formal swim lessons can reduce those

risks. "It is dangerous and it's something that's easily fixable," he said.

— By Karen Smith



Ashley Zimmerman and Claire Urban of Livonia have been swimming together for two years.

Tips to keep your vacation free of worry

Just got back from vacation and I recommend it to everyone. Getting away from your daily grind and doing something totally different in a different environment gives you an opportunity to recharge and to put things into perspective.

However, vacation doesn't mean you can afford to let your guard down. Travelers are



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

easy prey for con artists. In particular, when you travel abroad, you must be even more on guard.

When away from home, certain things should be a matter of

course, such as stopping the newspaper and the mail. In addition, don't publicize the fact that you are on vacation.

There have been many instances where people have posted on Facebook or on Twitter that they will be out of town and break-ins have occurred. Your house or apartment can be broken in to at any time, but there is no reason to

increase the odds.

Travelers today rely on ATMs rather than cash or traveler's checks. However, not all ATMs are the same. There have been all sorts of scams where ATMs have been set up merely as a way of getting your financial information.

When traveling, it's always a good idea to have some cash in the

local currency. If you are going to rely on ATMs, be careful. I generally prefer ATMs at financial institutions such as banks.

In today's world, everywhere is wired for technology. If you're accessing financial records online, you have to be careful as to the Wi-Fi you use. Lowlifes have been positioning themselves in coffee

shops, restaurants and other places that offer free Wi-Fi and have been using that to tap into accounts.

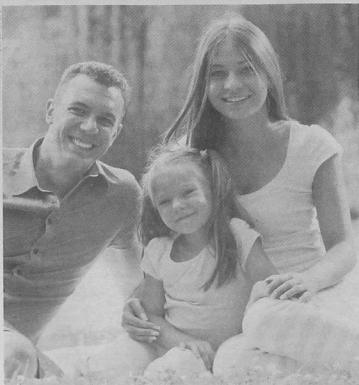
When you travel, there is no reason to take every charge card you own. The more charge cards you take, the more risk. Two charge cards are more than enough.

Before you go, make sure to have copies of your charge account numbers, expiration dates and security codes for the cards you are taking. Leave one copy at home and take the other. In addition, take the phone numbers of the card companies in case of a lost or stolen card. Keep this information separate from the credit cards.

In addition, when traveling overseas, it's a good idea to contact your charge card company and let them know that you are traveling abroad. This should help prevent any difficulty when you're using your charge card.

It's a good idea to have an extra copy of your driver's license and, if you travel outside the country, your passport. Having copies of these can be invaluable.

Taking a vacation is wonderful. However, it takes planning beyond the trip to make sure you protect yourself.



When you need a primary care doctor, you want a doctor who treats you and your family as individuals. Pat Freeman, DO and Radhika Chintalapally, MD offer compassionate, comprehensive care for the entire family. They provide preventive care exams and screenings, sick visits and treatment of chronic conditions. Make an appointment today and find the care you need, close to home.



RADHIKA CHINTALAPALLY, MD
Family Medicine



PAT FREEMAN, DO
Family Medicine



Believe in better

Care for the whole person
and the whole family.

37650 Professional Center Drive
Suite 1010A
Livonia, MI 48154
734-432-7070

SJJOHNPROVIDENCE.ORG 866-501-DOCS (3627)

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.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FALL FEST CRAFTERS

Date/Time: Craft show is during Plymouth Fall Festival, Sept. 5-7
Location: Downtown Plymouth
Details: It's not too late to send in an application for a booth in the Plymouth Fall Festival Craft Show. Organizers say spaces are limited and are filling up quickly. Applications are available on the Craft Show page at www.plymouthfallfestival.com.

Contact: For more information, contact Colleen Brown at craftshow@plymouthfallfestival.com.

IDENTITY THEFT

Date/Time: Friday, July 11, 10 a.m.
Location: Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth
Details: The Plymouth Council on Aging will host a presentation on identity theft with a speaker from the attorney general's office and Wayne County Commissioner Shannon Price. This presentation will provide valuable information on how to reduce the risk of falling victim to the fastest growing crime in America and what to do if you become a victim.
Contact: Call 734-453-1234, ext. 236, to RSVP.

SLEEP SOLUTIONS

Date/Time: Wednesday, July 2,

10:30 a.m.

Location: Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth
Details: Dr. Brian Brackney from the Wellness Professionals Foundation will speak on insomnia and effective solutions. The presentation will deal with the hormonal and neurological causes of this problem and the natural solutions that have helped millions of sufferers.
Contact: Call 734-453-1234, ext. 236, to RSVP.

BAREFOOT AUDITIONS

Date/Time: June 30 July 1, 7-9 p.m.
Location: Barefoot Productions Theatre, 240 N. Main, Plymouth
Details: Barefoot Productions hosts auditions for its summer production of the comedy *Southern Hospitality*, written by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten. There are roles for eight women (ages 20-65) and five men (ages 20-50). Performances will be Aug. 15-24. The production will be directed by Mike Cuba, who has had many years directing and acting experience for companies all over southeast Michigan. He most recently directed several productions for The Spotlight Players in Canton, as well as Barefoot Productions in Plymouth.

Contact: Visit Barefoot's website at www.justbarefoot.com or call Cuba at 734-812-0102.

HISTORY KIDS KAMP

Date/Time: Saturday, July 26, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Historical Museum

Details: The Plymouth Historical Museum hosts its third annual History Kids Kamp, where children can experience aspects of the Civil War by recreating what life was like during the war, including dressing in period clothing, getting their picture taken, as well as a chore consisting of old-fashioned tasks from the mid-1800s. There will also be a scavenger hunt, which will entertain and educate while they search for clues to solve a puzzle. Children will be able to chat with Civil War soldier re-enactors who can answer questions, demonstrate marching and much more. The boys will be given the opportunity to "enlist" in the army. Tickets purchased by July 18 are \$35 per child; after that, tickets are \$40; alternatively, the purchase of a new or renewed Daisy membership to the Plymouth Historical Museum (value \$50) will allow one child to attend for free. The target age for children is 6-12 years old; however, chil-

dren under 8 will need to be accompanied by an adult. Tickets are available at the Plymouth Historical Museum during open hours or can be purchased using PayPal on the museum's website. The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main.
Contact: Call 734-455-8940 for more information.

GHOSTS OF PLYMOUTH WALK

Date/Time: Sunday, June 29, 7 p.m.
Location: The walk circles Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth and lasts about 90 minutes. Participants should meet at the fountain in Kellogg

Park.

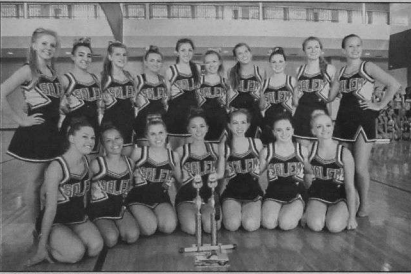
Details: Participants can meet and greet some of the characters from Plymouth's past during the Plymouth Historical Museum's "Ghosts of Plymouth" walk. Hear the tales of early Plymouth from the characters themselves, such as Phil Markham (inventor of the Markham Air Rifle), his mistress Blanche Shortman and his spurned wife Carrie, colorful physician Dr. Luther Peck and George Starkweather, the first white male born in Plymouth Township. Tickets are \$10 per person (\$5 for children under 10) in advance or \$15 (\$10 for children under 10) at the park and can be purchased at the museum's website using PayPal or at the Plymouth Historical

Museum, 155 S. Main Street.
Contact: Call 734-455-8940 for more information.

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 debortellini@comcast.net or 734-451-1525.



Nationals-bound

The Salem High School Rockettes varsity dance team qualified for the National Dance Team Championship at with its performance June 13 in a competition at Oakland University. The 2015 national championship will be held at Orlando, Fla., at the end of January. Team members include (top, from left) Maddie Martinsky, Paige Libres, Alyssa Marshall, Emily Bates, Kelcie Rocheleau, Cassie Berlin, Abby VanHauen, Hannah Parent, Maddie Harvath and Lauren Lachowski and (bottom, from left) Olivia Benintende, Mady Justice, Jillian Pertler, Rachel Duprey, Becky DeWater, Sarah O'Donnell and Erica Garczynski.



NOVITOWNCENTER.COM

FREE OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT

SATURDAY
JUNE 28

Location

Fountain area at
Crescent Blvd.
& Ingersoll Dr.

FREE POPCORN

FREE Popcorn plus beverages for sale!
For complete details, visit novitowncenter.com

Novi Town Center
Novi, Michigan
43329 CRESCENT BOULEVARD, NOVI, MI • (248) 547.3830 • NOVITOWNCENTER.COM

*Movie starts
at Dusk!*



Celebrate the Festa Del Gelato

in Canton Mon. June 30th - Sun. July 6th

Free Gelato ** When you dine with us for lunch or dinner!

*Enjoy Live Music on the
Veranda every evening.*

gelato!

Real Authentic Gelato
Made fresh daily!

Gelato is not just the Italian word for "Ice Cream"
*Antonio's Cucina Italiana is the first to bring authentic
Gelato to Michigan.* Our Carpigiani Gelato machine is
imported from Italy. All of our *Aromitalia* products are
imported to capture the flavour and tradition of Florence, Italy.

Our
Carpigiani Gelato Machine
is Imported from Italy.

CLOSED JULY 4TH

2220 N. Canton Center Road
on the Southeast Corner of Ford Road
Canton 734-981-9800

Antonio's

CUCINA ITALIANA

A Family Tradition Since 1964

WALKING TO WIN

Plymouth event growing as cancer fight continues

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

There were fewer teams, but maybe more walkers and, according to organizers, certainly a growing amount of support as walkers took to the Central Middle School track Saturday for the annual 24-hour American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Plymouth.

For an event that has struggled in recent years to gain traction, Saturday's support was a welcome sight.

"This year ... we have great support from the community, from businesses we haven't had in the past," said Abby Stonerook, ACS staff partner for the event.

"When our track is packed, it feels really good."

The event has re-established itself at Central Middle School after trying out a new

venue at West Middle School, at Ann Arbor Trail and Sheldon, a couple of years ago. It was thought at the time the West location would be more visible, but support waned.

This year, though, business support was up and the event actually exceeded its \$80,000 goal.

Stonerook said the better the event becomes, the more successful it can be.

"Ultimately, we want more people to feel great so everyone has a good experience," Stonerook said. "The more we grow, the more we let people know what the ACS is doing because of them and the bigger difference we can make."

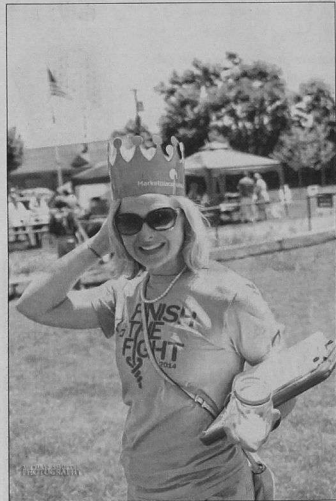
bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich



Saturday's Plymouth Relay for Life drew a strong crowd. CHRISTOPHER GUDECK



Campbell Nicholson, 4, from Plymouth enjoyed the bouncy slide. CHRISTOPHER GUDECK



American Cancer Society staff partner Abby Stonerook was happy to see the track crowded with walkers at Saturday's Relay for Life in Plymouth.



Ally Duda tries to dunk Valerie Leveille in the dunk tank. CHRISTOPHER GUDECK



The Good Humor ice cream truck was on hand on a day that temperatures were near 80.



Members of the Plymouth-Canton marching band entertain the walkers at the start of the Relay for Life. CHRISTOPHER GUDECK



More than 1,100 runners turned out for the inaugural Heroes on Hines Half Marathon and 5K Run last year. FILE PHOTO

Heroes of Hines wins NACo award

Wayne County's Department of Public Services' Parks Division has won two 2014 Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties.

The recently restored historic pedestrian bridges in Elizabeth Park won in the category of Arts and Historic Preservation. The Heroes on Hines Half Marathon and 5K Run won in the category of Parks and Recreation.

Wayne County Parks recently completed the renovation and re-construction of its three historic pedestrian bridges in Elizabeth Park and had a dedication ceremony in May. The project began in 2010. The bridge structures were completely renovated and replaced, along with the original iron railings which were restored to their original condition. The finished bridges are near perfect replicas of their original

design and construction. They exude an elegance circa 1920s and enhance visitors' experiences at Elizabeth Park.

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano directed Parks' leadership in February 2013 to find a way to maintain and upkeep the First Responders Memorial in perpetuity. The memorial, which was dedicated October, is a permanent tribute to first responders from Wayne County who lost their lives in the line of duty.

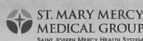
Parks' officials organized the Heroes on Hines Half Marathon and 5K race, now an annual event every fall. The proceeds go to maintain the memorial. Last year's inaugural race Oct. 5 drew more than 1,100 runners and raised, after expenses, \$21,000 for the First Responders Memorial. Many of the participants in the race were first responders who were organized into

team competitions. Others were family members, relatives and friends of many of the names on the memorial. It was a great community event.

"We are proud that these signature projects that Wayne County Parks put such effort and dedication into were distinguished by the National Association of Counties as Achievement Award winners," Ficano said. "The Department of Public Services continues its mission to provide excellent services to residents of Wayne County."

Registration for the upcoming second annual Heroes on Hines race Oct 4 is under way. Go to www.heroesonhines.com for more information.

NACo is a national organization representing the nation's 3,069 counties, parishes and boroughs. For more information, go to www.naco.org.



PrimaryCare

Looking for a Primary Care Physician?



Peter Dawes, MD



Helmi Gondhi, MD



Vijay Goburhan, MD



Steven Karageorgos, DO



Joclyn Rondan, MD



Barbara Alvi, DO



Neeshia Berry, MD

Now accepting new patients!

Internal Medicine • Family Medicine • Sports Medicine

St. Mary Mercy Medical Group provides comprehensive medical care, health maintenance and preventative services to help you and your family stay healthy:

- General medical exams and yearly physicals
- Sports physicals and sports medicine
- Women's wellness
- Adolescent/Pediatric health care
- Care for adults with complex medical conditions.

Our Locations

14600 Farmington Rd., Ste. 105 • Livonia, MI 48154
(734) 655-8200

14555 Levan Rd., Ste. 403 • Livonia, MI 48154
(734) 655-1618

Now open!
36650 Grand River Ave., Ste. 101
Farmington Hills, MI 48335
(734) 655-8220

To schedule an appointment, call a location near you.

stmarymercy.org

Jump into July!

Be sure to take advantage of all the great events we have planned for the month of July. Join in for fun, informative, and entertaining activities throughout the entire month!

Events At:

Independence Village of Plymouth
14707 Northville Road, Plymouth, MI 48170
734-453-2600

Sunday Brunch & Open House

Sunday Brunch

Sunday, July 20

Bring your family and friends and join us for a delicious chef-prepared brunch buffet. In addition to the delicious breakfast and lunch food, be sure not to miss the fantastic desserts our chef has prepared especially for this event.
Cost: \$17.00 adults, \$13.00 ages 6-12, ages 4 and under are free.

Summer Celebration Open House

Saturday, July 26

Join us for the July Open House and enjoy an old fashioned picnic with everything but the ants! It's a chance for us to get together as a community, tell a few stories, and share a laugh and a meal.

Please Call for Details

Events At:

Independence Village of White Lake
935 Union Lake Road, White Lake, MI 48386
248-360-7235

Ice Cream Social

Wednesday, July 9
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Two of our favorite things come together for this fun event—ice cream and being social. Create your own ice cream with a variety of flavors and toppings, then sit down with your friends and swap stories like you used to do at the local soda fountain.

Time to get Jazzy

Thursday, July 31 | 6:00 pm

What could be better than some cool jazz and an ice-cold martini? Independence Village of White Lake proudly presents an evening of jazz with vocalist Sheila Landos. Enjoy exquisite appetizers and be part of the scene.

Fourth of July Celebration

Wednesday, July 2 | 1:30 pm

Join your own Village Joy Singers as they help Independence Village celebrate Independence Day. Our thirty-voice choir will present a program of all your patriotic favorites. Light refreshments will be served.

Art in the Park

July 11 - 13

Friday, 11:00 am - 8:00 pm
Saturday, 10:00 am - 7:00 pm
Sunday, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Be sure to stop by our booth during Michigan's second largest art fair. Located in downtown Plymouth, it's a great weekend of art, food and fun you won't want to miss.

America the Beautiful Patriotic Presentation

Monday, July 30 | 1:30 pm

Celebrate America through song and story. "Suzanne and Jim" will inspire your patriotic pride with this star-spangled show.

PLEASE RSVP THREE DAYS BEFORE THE EVENT



IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

School offers individual learning environment

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

Montessori: Plymouth-Canton Montessori School, an independent nonprofit educational community founded in 1973, provides an individualized learning environment for children from preschool through kindergarten. Respect for children, a strong commitment to non-violence and a deep belief in the value of education are all principles upon which our school functions. In addition to providing a high-quality Montessori program, additional services are available to meet children's needs. Full- or part-time day care and a theme-based summer camp are offered.

Observer: Why did you choose Canton?

Montessori: Canton was the perfect fit for our growing programs.

Plymouth Montessori School first opened in the fall of 1973 and Hines Park Montessori School was created in 1975 to serve additional students from Plymouth Montessori. In 1991, the two schools merged to form Plymouth-Canton Montessori School. The building's location on Joy Road was built to accommodate the growth of our high-quality Montessori programs being offered.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Montessori: There are many schools that offer Montessori. The Montessori method is not a trade-marked educational process, which allows for many variations for parents to choose from, including private schools which are tuition-based and charter schools which are typically free. Our school offers an authentic Montessori program that includes Montessori-



Plymouth-Canton Montessori School officials said the school provides "an individualized learning environment for children from preschool through kindergarten."

ri-trained teachers, beautifully equipped classrooms, an abundance of Montessori materials, art, music, foreign language, field trips and so much more. Most importantly, though, each child is encouraged to progress at his or her own pace in the multi-age classrooms, which allows for independence and personal growth. Our students move into ele-

mentary school very well-prepared, confident and ready to learn. Many of our students attend Dearborn Heights Montessori Center, which is our sister school offering elementary and middle school programs.

Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Montessori: We feel that we have continued to offer a quality pro-

gram throughout the years and have not wavered from the Montessori philosophy and our mission statement. Our mission statement still holds true: Our mission is to provide a safe, nurturing environment, unifying academic challenge with quality opportunities for social, emotional and intellectual growth. This includes a multicultural emphasis that values individuality and attainment of each child's fullest potential. With the Montessori philosophy as our foundation, we guide development of responsibility and respect by cultivating independent thinking, self-awareness, cooperation and inner discipline.

Observer: How has the recession impacted your business?

Montessori: We have been very fortunate to be able to maintain strong enrollment

DETAILS

Name: Plymouth-Canton Montessori School
Address: 45245 Joy, Canton
Owners: Linda Myers and Cheryl Miller, co-administrators
Opened: 1973
Hours: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the school year and for summer camp
Specialty: Authentic Montessori preschool/childergarten program
Contact: 734-459-1550; www.pcmontessori.org

through difficult economic times. This is because we continue to offer a quality program. Our parents want our authentic Montessori programs for their children.

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

Montessori: Our goal is to maintain strong enrollment and to continue to have a positive presence in the community.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

Catering director

Cutting Edge Cuisine has announced the addition of Jennifer Ealovega as director of catering. The announcement was made by Executive Director Aaron Lowen.



In this position Ealovega, a Canton resident, will work closely with Lowen to coordinate and execute social and corporate events. She also will establish new client relationships and ac-

quire new venues and properties.

Prior to joining Cutting Edge Cuisine, she served as director of catering and membership director at The Village Club, Bloomfield Hills. Ealovega also has worked as director of catering at Plum Hollow Country Club in Southfield, as corporate sales manager at the Hotel Baronette in Novi and as senior event planner at Katherine's Catering & Special Events in Ann Arbor.

She received an associate degree in applied science, culinary arts, from Schoolcraft College.

Grub Crawl sponsors

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

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

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

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

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

To get a sponsorship application and for more information, call the chamber at 734-453-4040.

Golf outing

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts its annual golf outing/auction Monday, July 21, at the Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center.

Chamber officials are still looking for golf balls and prizes. With spots

PLYMOUTH-CANTON CHAMBER CHAT



Grand opening

Owners and staff at Aqua fine dining restaurant at the corner of Main and Starkweather held their grand opening June 14. Pictured are owner Victor Nikolilolaj and manager Brad Leach, joined by friends and Chamber Ambassadors.

being filled quickly, anyone interested in donating to this event or playing in the outing should contact the chamber as soon as possible. Each golfer receives a sleeve of balls when registering. Chamber officials will recognize all contributors of golf balls with a label on each sleeve contributed and recognition at the event.

Popular items with the golfers are any sort of sports tickets or memorabilia, liquor and wine or golf paraphernalia. Items can either be dropped off at the chamber or pick-up can be arranged. All donations must be in by July 11.

Hole sponsorships are \$150 and all other remaining sponsorships are \$300. All sponsors will have signage, be listed in

the program and on the website. There are sponsorships available for on-course games and other high-profile parts of the outing to give sponsors maximum exposure. Sponsorships must be confirmed by June 30.

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

For more details or to participate, contact the chamber at 734-453-1540 or email jacquie@plymouthmich.org.

Out on the Town

Check these Local Businesses offering Great Values and ready to serve you...enjoy!

Amanita RESTAURANT
ITALIAN AMERICAN CUISINE
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 4-10 pm, Fri.-Sat. 4-11 pm, Sun. Open at 12:30 pm

\$10 OFF
The purchase of any 2 regular priced entrees and 2 beverages
Valid Sun.-Thursdays. May not be combined w/other offers or used on holidays. Must present coupon. Exp. July 31, 2014
It's not too late to plan your party w/us!

10% OFF
ANY PARTY PAN ORDER.
May not be combined w/other offers. Must present coupon. Exp. July 31, 2014.

LET US COOK FOR YOUR GRADUATION, OR GET TOGETHER.
32777 W. Warren • Garden City
Just East of Venoy
amanitearrestaurant.com
734-421-1510

Westland DAIRY QUEEN
Delicious Ice Cream Cakes
Orange Julius • Blizzards
\$5 Buck lunch
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK - ALL YEAR
36520 Ford Rd. • in Kroger strip mall • 734-542-1020

Live, Professional Theatre Close to Home!
Tipping Point Theatre
Season PASSES go on Sale July 1st for our "All in the Family" 8th season. 6 shows for as little as \$144. Call the box office for details. www.tippingpointtheatre.com

TICKETS On Sale Now!
248-347-0003
Find us on Facebook
www.tippingpointtheatre.com
KID CLASSES

Final Weekend!
May 29 - June 29, 2014
The Red King's Dream
by David Greig
No American Pleasures
Do our dreams show us what we are missing in life?

361 E. Cady Street, Northville, Michigan 48167

GREAT LAKES DERMATOLOGY
MICHAEL R. COHEN, D.O.
Board Certified Dermatologist
Specializing in Diseases w the Skin, Hair & Nails

Invites you to visit and receive the care you deserve.

- Skin Cancer
- Eczema
- Moles
- Warts
- Psoriasis
- Hair Loss
- Acne
- Botox

Accepting New Patients • All Ages
Call for Appointment 248-324-2222 Evening appts. available
Lewis Medical Office Center, 39475 Lewis Drive, Suite 150, Novi, Michigan 48377
greatlakesderm@yahoo.com

PHYSICAL MEDICINE and REHABILITATION in Your Neighborhood
General | Spinal Cord Injury | Traumatic Brain Injury

Kertia Black, M.D.
Specializing in traumatic brain injuries and musculoskeletal injury and pain.

To schedule an appointment, please call 313-745-4600
For an independent medical exam, please call 313-745-1218

NEW PATIENTS WELCOME
Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan
Novi Center
42005 W. 12 Mile Road
Novi, MI 48377

University Physician Group
pmr-rim.med.wayne.edu | upgdocs.org | f t

Abandoned cremated remains given proper burial

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer

It may have been a long time coming, but 59 deceased individuals, including several military veterans, at last found a final resting place Friday at Northville's Rural Hill Cemetery.

Their cremated remains, which had been left abandoned over the years, were put into one casket and buried in a plot at the scenic cemetery off of Seven Mile, but not before a moving ceremony attended by more than 100 people, including the Honor Guard from American Legion Post 32 in Livonia.

The ceremony and burial was set up by David Griffin of L.J. Griffin Funeral Homes. Griffin recently purchased the Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home in Northville and inherited the cremated remains, which had been stored in a steel case at the funeral home. Many of the remains came from the Northrop Funeral Home in Redford and some dated back to the 1930s.

Once he learned of their sad fate, Griffin said he devised the idea for the burial. He approached Rural Hill, purchased a plot and everything else needed for the burial, including a headstone that will be placed at the grave in the coming months. He said

it will be a black headstone and include all the names and dates of the deceased.

"We knew we had to do something," Griffin said. "We did the right thing to honor these folks, who were essentially forgotten."

The Rev. Jack Baker of St. Perpetua Parish in Waterford (and formerly of St. Mary in Wayne) and the Rev. Bob Allen of Northville's First Presbyterian Church offered eulogies for the individuals, while the Honor Guard played *Taps* and provided a 21-gun salute for the seven military veterans, including Spanish-American War vet Norval Marlett, who died in 1955.

John Sassaman, who sold his funeral home to Griffin, said the remains had accumulated over the years.

"They were left by families who used the services in our funeral homes and after the service just left them with us," Sassaman said. "Many of the deceased had no children, which may explain why they were abandoned."

Most of the people who attended Friday's service were quite moved and many tears were shed, even though nobody there knew any of the people that were being honored.

"We wouldn't have missed this for the world. We always support our



Members of the American Legion Honor Guard prepare to drape an American flag over the casket, which contained the remains of several military veterans abandoned over the years. PHOTOS BY KURT KUBAN.

veterans. It was a beautiful ceremony and just took my breath away," said Linda Shirkey, a member of the American Legion Post 32 Auxiliary. "This was long overdue."

"It is time to let them lay in peace," he said.

kkuban@hometownlife.com
734-716-0783



Members of the Honor Guard from American Legion Post 32 in Livonia stand at attention during the ceremony.



PLYMOUTH CITY COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

LIONS PARK (HARDING & BURROUGHS)

(Rain/Weather Location: Plymouth City Hall City Commission Chambers 201 S. Main St.)

MONDAY, JULY 7, 2014

7:00 PM

(734) 453-1234

1. Public Hearing Notice- Zoning Ordinance Changes-

Garage Sale Ordinance- Second Reading

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In accordance with the Americans with disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator

201 S. Main Street

Plymouth, Michigan 48170

(734) 453-1234, Ext. 203

Published: Thursday, June 26, 2014

LO-0000200007 In-6

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF THE CLOSE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE AUGUST 5, 2014 STATE PRIMARY ELECTION

Notice is hereby given to Plymouth Township residents that July 7, 2014, is the last day to register to vote in order to be eligible to vote in the August 5, 2014 State Primary Election. Below is a listing of the offices and proposals that will be on the election ballot:

Partisan Section

Governor, United States Senator, Representative in Congress - 11th District, State Senator - 7th District, Representative in State Legislature - 20th District, County Executive, County Commissioner - 10th District, Delegate to County Convention

Proposal Section

State Proposal 14-1

Approval or disapproval of amendatory act to reduce state use tax and replace with a local community stabilization share to modernize the tax system to help small businesses grow and create jobs

Plymouth - Canton Community Schools Proposal

Operation Millage Renewal Proposal

This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its full foundation allowance per pupil under Proposal A. The remaining 2 mills are only available to be levied to restore millage lost as a result of a "Headlee" rollback and will only be levied to the extent necessary to restore that rollback.

Wayne RESA Proposal

Regional Enhancement Millage Proposal

Pursuant to state law, the revenue raised by the proposed enhancement millage will be collected by the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency and distributed to local public school districts within the boundaries of the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency based on pupil membership count.

The full text of the proposals may be obtained from Plymouth Township Clerk's Office or by visiting www.plymouthtwp.org.

Residents of Plymouth Township who are not already registered to vote may register at a Secretary of State Branch Office or State Designated Agency or by visiting the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Hagerty Rd., Plymouth, MI, 48170, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Mail-in registrations postmarked by July 7, 2014 will also be accepted.

Nancy Conzelman
Plymouth Township Clerk

Published: June 26, 2014, Observer Newspaper

LO-0000200009 In-6

NAMES OF THE DECEASED

Jerry Addison (7/14/1973-6/22/1981); Bruno Bach (7/8/1909-10/8/1988); Leah Bailey (4/25/1902-2/27/1976); Charles Barnard - Navy veteran (12/6/1941-9/8/1987); Robert Barnard (3/24/1926-9/25/1989); Eric Bartley (no record-cremated 8/10/2006); Clara Bentley (1/12/1896-4/1/1987); Mary Birch (11/21/1863-12/29/1955); William Breitenback (5/8/1874-9/25/1953); Robert Chynoweth - National Guard veteran (9/29/1929-7/7/2003); Marjorie Cole (3/26/1923-5/30/1984); Philip Cooper (1/20/1934-3/28/1989); Betty Crooks (2/11/1894-3/23/1979); Marie Deckhart (3/11/1918-5/5/2004); Sarah Dunn (3/4/1886-7/15/1973); Ruby Evans (8/26/1893-5/26/1959); Vesta Formax (3/3/1880-12/31/1957); Dorothea Frost (10/5/1913-11/20/1993); Keith Gendron (3/10/1942-6/13/1990); Irene Graves (9/10/1930-2/11/2005); Russell Harold (6/27/1905-1/7/1968); Ernest Hawke (4/18/1883-10/31/1961); Dorothy Hays (1/26/1925-3/22/1999); Bernard Hill (7/9/1883-8/22/1961); Janet Hochstein (4/2/1930-6/22/1968); Peter Holloway - WWII Navy Veteran (5/21/1918-11/30/1986); George Kerr (10/7/1924-7/20/2004); baby boy Kipperham (12/9/1967-12/19/1967); Vera Ann Lewis (2/26/1901-4/

1/1987); John Lippie (8/4/1895-7/28/1973); Marinus Lohde - military veteran (1/19/1900-10/28/1975); Norval Marlett - Spanish American War veteran (12/15/1876-10/13/1955); Helen Masse (8/20/1910-5/11/1985); Christina McDonald (9/11/1881-10/19/1974); Grace McKenna (not known-4/1/1960); William McKenna (7/3/1891-1/7/1952); Marguerite Miller (6/8/1922-10/8/1989); Arthur Norris (10/20/1897-9/5/1951); Luther Palmer (8/26/1881-1/6/1958); Margaret Partridge (12/16/1911-5/20/1985); Esther Regnaert (9/26/1919-5/18/2007); Nettie Rutledge (5/30/1873-5/7/1934); George Schoenback - WWII Army veteran (2/18/1917-7/22/1982); Olive Schoenback (8/10/1924-7/26/1978); Georgia Scholtz (7/12/1910-1/10/1994); Helen Scott (8/11/1927-1/20/1996); Stella Slater (5/16/1903-1/10/1967); Luise Sonntag (2/26/1912-12/12/1995); Frank Starin (8/9/1892-12/30/1958); Frank Steffen (not known-5/20/1961); Elmira Stewart (9/29/1921-7/31/1992); Gertrude Uhlig (10/10/1876-10/10/1963); Chloe VanArsdel (9/16/1892-9/28/1961); baby Faith Waddell (5/18/1956-10/21/1956); Ralph Webster (12/1/1864-12/8/1941); Thelma Wiese (5/10/1916-4/16/1983); Betty Wofford (9/26/1916-6/22/1990); and Suzette Doreen Bolella (unknown-3/26/2013).

ENTER TO WIN!

A Compuware Arena Summer Drive-in Prize Package.

One lucky person to win 4 tickets and a \$25 CJ's Brewing Company gift card each week. \$65 Value

14900 Beck Rd. Plymouth, MI
summerdrivein.com

Wish You Were Selfies

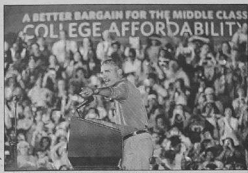
Take a photo of you with your O&E Media newspaper while at Compuware Arena Summer Drive-in. You may be featured on our Facebook page. Send to cjbardon@hometownlife.com.

Go to hometownlife.com and look for this and other summer promotions in the DON'T MISS module or visit facebook.com/OEHometown.

ENTER TO WIN!

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
hometownlife.com MEDIA
A GANNETT COMPANY

OUR VIEWS



President Barack Obama delivers remarks Aug. 22, 2013, at Henninger High School in Syracuse, N.Y., during the college affordability bus tour. CHUCK KENNEDY

Allow students access to colleges' data

When President Barack Obama proposed a pilot program to reimburse doctors and hospitals based on the quality of care they provide, rather than the quantity, many of his supporters lauded the effort.

But now that he is proposing something similar in higher education, some of his backers are crying foul.

In its efforts to control surging college costs, the Obama administration wants to rate colleges on metrics such as how much they cost to attend, how many of their students graduate, how long they take to graduate and how much money graduates earn once they're in the work force.

Initially this would only be for informational purposes, so students and their parents could make more informed decisions. The average cost of a four-year college has roughly tripled in the past two decades, to nearly \$24,000 for tuition, fees and room and board. At least as much data should be available for that purchase as for a new car.

Eventually, the plan is to link the ratings to grants and loans. More federal aid money would be available to students who attend highly rated schools.

The administration is onto something. Colleges are able to increase costs without consequence largely because easy access to federal aid assures them a steady supply of students, so debt keeps piling up, which is not just a problem for the students. Taxpayers are vulnerable as students default, for instance, and home building is stifled as debt-laden young people resist taking on mortgages.

In that context, it would be irresponsible for the government — as the primary driver of the problem — not to intervene and the Obama plan is mild intervention.

Not surprisingly, many university presidents and academics are protesting the idea. It would, they say, discourage colleges from offering liberal arts degrees, which are not associated with high starting salaries.

Furthermore, they argue, it would cause schools to admit more students who don't need much aid. Schools would look for ways to game the system, much as they do with the U.S. News & World Report rankings.

No doubt, these are reasons for concern. But there are 150 billion reasons to hold colleges more accountable, one for each federal tax dollar that universities reap annually in student financial aid.

With that much money sloshing around, colleges can hardly restrain themselves. They spend much of it on things that do not directly assist students. These include professors who spend too little time teaching, money-losing sports programs, ponderous administrative bureaucracies and opulent buildings.

To combat this, the administration wants to make pricing and value more transparent, so students can shop around using information that is not readily available today. If that medicine is not strong enough, it could move on to reduce aid at underperforming schools. But that's an issue for another day.

What's clear is that taxpayer money is being wasted and that colleges aren't going to fix the problem.

The question isn't whether Obama's plan should be tried. It is whether that will be enough.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kudos to PD, DPW

My husband and I were out on our daily walk the morning of Thursday, June 19, and saw the street/stop sign at Greenbriar and Haggerty had been knocked down. Getting home, I called the Plymouth Township Police Department and the nice dispatcher said she'd ask her boss about my request for a temporary stop sign at the intersection.

The next morning on our walk, true to their word, the stop sign was in place, with its Department of Public Works stencil on the back of the stop sign. This will keep our neighborhood safe until Wayne County can arrange a permanent fix. I appreciate this prompt service and concern about safety.

Julie Brown
Plymouth Township

Road concerns

Just a couple of concerns regarding our roads. First, how can anyone be in favor of paying higher fuel taxes to improve roads? We are already the fifth-highest state in the nation in fuel taxes. Let's see if we can get to No. 1. Lansing has for four years reduced or eliminated big business taxes only to take money from our community, schools and roads to cover these losses. Are people glib enough to say that's OK, we'll be happy to pay higher taxes?

Second is a question to Canton Township officials. By putting a mall at Lotz and Ford roads and leaving Lotz to take traffic off Ford Road to Cherry Hill, what are the plans for Cherry Hill? Cherry Hill is already overcrowded, dangerous to drive in and in need of repairs.

Don Keltm
Canton

Wake up, America

Has anyone really checked into Obama's background? Does anyone really know about this past and what he's up to? This has all been planned years in advance and he has been programmed by his people under him, that have been with him for years, including some of the members of his administration. Ask what grades he received in college.

Another plan of his is to take down the middle class, that's why he had to have these last four years, to complete his mission. He wants to destroy America. This is not the America that we grew up in and what he has done to all of those people and their medical insurance. The four more years was planned purposely to destroy the middle class.

Business and Democrats are responsible for what is happening to the United States of America, not the Re-

publicans, so take blame where it is due. Is the administration letting him get away with everything? Are they that afraid of him? They seem to agree with everything he is doing, especially Obamacare.

Is America that pathetic or ignorant that they would let one man (Obama) come in and take our country down, that we are no longer the great America we once were? I lived in that America, 1950s plus.

Why is this president (Obama) getting away with so much when no other president has been this reckless? Where is the Congress and the voters? When the time comes, I always vote for the best man (Republican or Democrat).

Joyce Arnold
Canton

Code-breaking

I have a couple of questions for school board member Mark Horvath about the meeting published in this paper June 19.

First, when the board agreed to open 200 seats to schools of choice, kindergarten to second grade, Horvath strongly disagreed and stated, "As soon as we do that, we're giving up local control." Now, what control are we giving up by filling empty desks with small children from outside our district? Or are these just some more code words that only the right wing can interpret?

Secondly, the whole board was lamenting about how the politicians in Lansing have been shafting our district. My question is why haven't Horvath and his right-hand man Mike Maloney been beating down the doors of Patrick Colbeck and Kurt Heise demanding that our district (and others) be treated fairly?

But I already know the answer. All four mentioned above would have to admit that the money (approximately \$6 billion through this year) has already gone to the corporate welfare and the cupboard is as bare as Mother Hubbard's.

I am afraid I have to expand on my first question. According to an article in Sunday's edition of this paper (June 22), a group has started a petition drive to stop the school board from allowing schools of choice. Wow, I really feel stupid. I did not know that code was so easy to crack.

Maybe I should start attending right-wing rallies and bone up on their euphemisms.

James Huddleston
Canton

Bad law

I read in Sunday's *Canton Observer* (June 23) that the Canton Township trustees are set to pass an ordinance requiring non-Canton residents to pay a fee if they

are at fault in an auto accident that occurs in Canton. The trustees and public safety director were passing themselves off as the back for coming up with this one.

This is a bad law, probably illegal, maybe unconstitutional. I oppose this proposed ordinance for the following reasons:

1. Obviously, it invites retaliation by neighboring communities. What is to prevent Plymouth, Plymouth Township or Northville from enacting similar ordinances? If that happens, Canton residents could find themselves paying additional fees if they cause an accident in one of those communities.

2. What conduct is Police Chief Mutchler enforcing? Being negligent in causing an auto accident? The officer can issue a ticket for that now. The motorist would then have the right to go to court to contest it if he or she felt aggrieved. No, the police are punishing the status of being a non-Canton resident and levying a fee.

The police are not enforcing the law, they are raising funds for Canton. This is illegal.

3. But most importantly, these actions by our public servants breed disrespect for the law. I am a lawyer in this town and I love the law. I believe that respect for the law lives in the hearts and minds of the American people. When it dies there, no court or no Legislature can revive it.

Communities provide services to their residents and some services such as traffic enforcement to non-residents as well. These services should be paid for from local revenues or from funds the community receives from the state or national government. To select a group of people (non-residents) for a specific penalty (extra fee) is a Bill of Attainder.

These legislative acts are specifically prohibited by the United States Constitution. The law must be better than the law. So should the people charged with upholding the law.

Thomas M. Hartnett
Canton

Driving me crazy

It was sobering to hear about the bicyclist's death in Livonia recently, but I'm surprised this doesn't happen more often when you consider how poorly the "wacky racers" drive. I recall several years ago, a young boy was killed while crossing Five Mile.

A few years ago, I also recall seeing a crumpled bicycle lying in the road where Ford Field empties onto Farmington. As a bicyclist myself, I can say that except by the grace of God, there go I, I've been hit on two occasions by cars.

See LETTERS, Page A13

OUR VIEWS

Proposal 1 helps improve jobs climate in Michigan

A proposal that helps Michigan businesses without hurting local governments and schools is a good deal for everyone, including homeowners.

That's why voters should support Proposal 1 during the Aug. 5 state primary.

Proposal 1 eliminates Michigan's personal property tax, an equipment tax paid only by businesses and collected by local governments. It also reconfigures the Michigan Use Tax, a separate state tax, to make up for municipalities' lost revenue.

Businesses have long complained that the tax, levied in perpetuity against the equipment they use, hurts their ability to expand.

State officials have argued the tax hurts their ability to bring new businesses — and jobs — to Michigan.

Among Great Lakes region states, only Indiana levies such a tax and even that tax lessens as equipment ages. Michigan's tax dates back to the 1890s and is a throw-back to a long-to-time when geography trumped all other factors and even big businesses were local, rather than international, in

scope. With all that in mind, Michigan legislators last year authorized a phase-out of the tax.

But they overlooked one important point — what the phase-out would mean for municipalities already struggling to balance their budgets.

In a rare move, legislators agreed to scrap the phase-out unless voters pass Proposal 1. But the obvious tax offset losses from the personal property tax elimination.

In real terms, slightly more than \$96 million would be generated in replacement local revenue for 2015-16. That share would jump to \$380 million by 2016-17 and rise for many years after that under the state's formula.

Individual municipal-

ities' shares would be determined by new agency, the Local Community Stabilization Authority.

The use tax is levied against a host of activities, from boat and off-road vehicle sales to telephone services. At present, it all goes to the state.

School districts, which already receive use tax money, would see their share increase, rather than under Proposal 1.

To cover the state's loss of revenue, large-scale manufacturers would pay a new Essential Services Assessment, while select tax breaks granted mostly during the Granholm administration would be allowed to expire without being replaced.

That action alone should find favor with local voters concerned with governmental "picking winners" among favored industries while ignoring others.

Proposal 1 would also keep the use tax at its current 6 percent, dispelling any notion that it is a tax increase lying in the weeds.

It's a somewhat complex formula and not everyone is convinced it

will work. State Sen. Gretchen Whitmer, the Senate's Democratic leader, is perhaps the proposal's saddest critic, but on just those grounds.

Yet, critics are in the minority. An overwhelming majority of state legislators from both parties supported putting Proposal 1 on the ballot.

The proposal itself has earned support from wide-ranging number of organizations, including the Michigan Municipal League, Michigan Chamber of Commerce, Fraternal Order of Police, the Michigan Association of School Boards and the Michigan Farm Bureau, among many others.

All these groups agree that Proposal 1, while perhaps not a cure-all, is a vital step toward making Michigan more competitive. It's another step toward changing Michigan from a job loser to a job leader.

But their endorsements aren't the most important.

Yours is. It's an endorsement we strongly urge you to give. We urge you to vote YES on Proposal 1 in this year's primary.

Don't mope, take action on school financing

I left fifth grade as normal as any other fifth-grader at Inez Elementary School in Albuquerque, N.M. I had my group of friends. I was doing well in school. I had been the master of ceremonies for our fifth-grade talent show. I had won the school 60-yard dash during field day. I was first chair trumpet. During lunch and recess, I did not have to worry about who I was going to hang out with.

I entered sixth grade with a brace on my leg, unable to do many of the things that I had done all of my life. I was suddenly "not normal." I not only looked different, but when I walked, I made a significant amount of noise with my brace creaking and groaning. While this created some significant turmoil in my life, the most amazing aspect of this whole experience was that I was suddenly alone.

I needed people to support me, to help me,



Steve Matthews
SUPER TALK

to be with me through what was a difficult time. At the beginning of sixth grade, I would come home and mope about. Finally, my mom had enough. She told me to quit complaining and to ask people to do things with me. I initially protested, feeling sorry for myself. But she would not let me off the hook. So I asked. I asked to join groups. I asked people to do things with me. And, much to my surprise, Les, Woody, Tom and Gary all became my very good friends. I thought of that experience this week as I watched the state Legislature work through its school funding process. We are lucky in Novi. We have historically been funded above the state minimum. That is

true because many years ago, the citizens in our community approved operating millages that supported the schools. But for the past several years, we have seen our funding decrease in Novi. And this is where my experience between fifth and sixth grade connects. I felt alone when the final school aid budget passed. I felt sorry for myself. I was tempted to begin to mope around. But my mom's words of counsel came back to me. I needed to quit complaining and ask people to do things with me. So I am. But our politicians will not act unless they hear from you. So please contact them and let them know that you are not satisfied with the school aid budget. My mom would be proud.

Steve Matthews is superintendent of Novi Community Schools.

ST. MARY MERCY LIVONIA
SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

Saturday, June 28
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
St. Mary Mercy Hospital
South Auditorium

4th Annual
Healthy Aging Conference

Join many other seniors, families and caregivers for a day that includes exhibitors and seminars by expert speakers on various topics including stroke prevention, resources for seniors and caregivers, and healthy eating. Lunch is included.

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 Weathas, 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
Boxed lunch provided

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

Pre-registration is preferred.
For more information or to register, call 734-655-1706, or visit stmarymercy.org/healthyagingconference.

Thanks to our sponsors:
Alzheimer's Association,
Alden Courts Area Agency on Aging - The Senior Alliance,
Brisson's Home Health Care, ComfortCare, Comfort Keepers, Friends Adult Day Care, Hearing Center of Excellence, Home Instead, Huron Valley Ambulance, Marycrest Manor, Mendelson Orthopedic, Mercy Home Health Care and Hospice, Michigan EyeCare Institute, Pill Pouch, Presbyterian, Villages of Michigan, Roy's Drugs, Sound Advice, St. Mary Mercy Medical Group

St. Mary Mercy Hospital
36475 Five Mile Road
Livonia, MI 48154
(Please use the Emergency Center entrance, South Parking Lot)

REMARKABLE MEDICINE
REMARKABLE CARE
stmarymercy.org

LETTERS

Continued from Page A12

not due to any recklessness on my part. I used to be careful; now I'm extremely cautious. I basically assume that everyone behind the wheel is a homicidal maniac. (That works for me.) It makes me wonder what kind of society we're living in when people are such in a hurry (usually over nothing) that they hit people and then, on top of that, flee the scene in order to save their own skin. It's not that Michiganders are any worse than drivers in any other part of the country, but

they are too reckless. It's also true that not everyone passing through Livonia is a resident, but many are. Not everyone has run over someone, but most are guilty of some common driving faux pas, of which I'll point out a few. When someone is in a pedestrian crosswalk while the white "walk" signal is on, it's illegal for a car to make a turn at the intersection, but you'll see this all the time. This isn't kindergarten, where the fastest person to cut in line goes first. Behaving like this is inconsiderate, dangerous and illegal. Another mistake drivers make is that when they reach a stop sign,

they'll often roll past it or, at best, pull too far up and block the sidewalk. Maybe Casper the ghost could pass right through the car and it wouldn't bother him! Finally, a quite common bug-a-boo I often see is how people roll backward down their driveways like crocodiles sliding into a canal, even when someone is passing by on the sidewalk or street. I guess they're such in a hurry that they can't wait an extra five seconds for a bicyclist to pass by, but won't filling out a police report delay them more? (Unless, of course, they flee!)

Leo Weber
Livonia

Huron Valley Humane Society of Huron Valley

SPONSORED BY:
THE SHOWROOM OF ELEGANCE

It's a **WOOF-TASTIC Benefit PARTY!**

SATURDAY, JUNE 28TH - 11 A.M. - 4 P.M.

SHOWROOM OF ELEGANCE - 6018 N. CANTON CENTER RD.

FOOD, FUN AND ENTERTAINMENT FOR A WORTHY CAUSE!

10% OF ALL JEWELRY SALES WILL BE DONATED TO THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF HURON VALLEY BY THE SHOWROOM OF ELEGANCE.

PET GROOMING - PET MASSAGE - PET PHOTOGRAPHY



JILL ANDRA YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHY

Hams broadcast at Field Day

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

The public is invited to visit Field Day, which is held annually by local amateur radio operators, who are also known as ham radio operators or "hams."

The volunteers will set up about 7 a.m. and go a full 24 hours Saturday and Sunday, June 28-29, at Garden City Park, located on Cherry Hill, east of Merriman.

Operators like Richard Zarczynski said that the day provides both education and fun.

The objective is to work as many stations as possible on amateur bands and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations.

"The Garden City Amateur Radio Club will again be demonstrating our value in public assistance with using various



Operator David Herron, whose call sign is N8DAH, makes some final adjustments to the 20-meter beam antenna before it's raised on the tower June 28-29 for Field Day in Garden City.

modes of emergency communications capabilities," Zarczynski said. "Ham radio operators, especially in the U.S. and Canada, will be participating in this annual event sponsored by the American Radio Relay

League known as ARRL, a national association for amateur operators."

He added that the state Senate has adopted SR 0049, which declares that the week of June 23-29 as "Amateur

All licensed amateur radio operators are welcome to join the GCARC club members in the park.

Radio Week in Michigan."

All licensed amateur radio operators are welcome to join GCARC club members in operating from multiple stations set up in the park.

"We will be making as many contacts as possible with other operators over many of the bands on the airwaves," Zarczynski said.

Other activities:

» The club's volunteer examiners team will conduct testing for technician, general and extra class license privileges to those amateur operators who want to upgrade their license classification. This is scheduled for noon Saturday, June 28.

» Boy Scout Troop 740, sponsored by the Garden City Presbyterian Church, will be camping on site and providing meals and support to the

hams.

» There will be a special Get-On-The-Air station set up for youths who want to make contact and broadcast with other hams on the HF and VHF bands.

Zarczynski invited families to stop by and have all of their questions answered by the ham radio operators.

The Garden City Amateur Radio Club meets at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month in the lower level of the Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, one block south of Ford. Potential new members and guests are welcome.

For more information, visit www.gcarc.net or www.arrl.org.

sbuck@hometownlife.com
313-222-2249
Twitter: @SueSBuck

Family raises money in memory of mother, wife

By Diane Gale Andreassi
Staff Writer

Live Like Andi is the mantra Andi O'Connell's family uses to raise money and awareness for the rare cancer that took her life seven years ago.

O'Connell was 40 when she died from adenoid cystic carcinoma. She left her husband Michael and three children, Tyler, Gabrielle, and Olivia, after a 21-year battle with the disease.

The South Lyon family launched the Live Like Andi Foundation shortly after her death. The foundation is hosting 5K and 10K races at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, June 28, at Catholic Central High School. The annual event last year drew about 500 people and has raised \$400,000 for the Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma Research Foundation, as well as



Gabrielle O'Connell and her family created the Live Like Andi Foundation shortly after her mom's death seven years ago, raising money for the Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma Research Foundation and other organizations. HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

other organizations.

Research funds

Shortly after O'Connell died, her family was sitting at the breakfast table and they decided they wanted to help other families with support and to raise money for studies that could develop a cure for the disease that is neither in-

herited nor associated with smoking, drinking, infection or ethnicity, said Gabrielle, 18, a recent graduate of South Lyon High School.

"It's just random," said Gabrielle, who plans to attend Michigan State University in the fall to study science "hopefully to do lab research on cancer."

Money raised by the Live Like Andi Foundation goes toward research leading to a cure for ACC, to support ACC patients and their families and to award scholarships to students who share Andi's positive outlook despite carrying heavy burdens.

Some of the \$400,000 raised has gone to the Karmanos Cancer Institute, which recently completed the second portion of a clinical trial on ACC, Gabrielle said.

"Karmanos is only one of many who receive our funds," she added.

Diagnosed with ACC

O'Connell was 19 when she was diagnosed with ACC and her life expectancy was five to seven years. She is remembered for her Herculean arsenal of hope that buoyed her family and friends, her hus-

band said.

ACCRC is the leading organization working to fund research leading to treatments and ultimately a cure for ACC. There is no known cure and not much research is being conducted. Afflicting thousands of Americans, ACC is diagnosed in about 600 new cases each year in the United States.

"She's definitely proud of me, my brother and my sister," Gabrielle said, referring to her mother. "And I think she would be very proud of our work so far" with raising money for research.

For more information, go to the www.livelikeandi.org website. Donations by mail may be sent to P.O. Box 521, South Lyon, MI 48178.

dandreassi@hometownlife.com
248-437-2011, ext. 262

bordine's Celebrates 75 Years!

75^B
bordine's
years young
1939 - 2014

Spend \$100...
You pay only
\$75!

\$25 Off!

One coupon per household
Excludes Gift Cards and Weber Products

Bring this coupon in to
get \$25 Off your purchase
of \$100 or more



Offer valid Thursday, June 26th through
Sunday, June 29th!

O&E

visit bordines.com
for store hours

bordine's

ROCHESTER HILLS 1835 S. Rochester Rd.
CLARKSTON 8600 Dixie Highway
BRIGHTON 6347 Grand River Ave.

bordine's farm

GRAND BLANC 9100 Torrey Rd.



JOE'S SMOKEHOUSE MEATS
Baby Back Ribs • Spare Ribs • Sausages
Great for family gatherings!
TRY THEM ALL
 Prices valid June 26-July 2, 2014 • While Supplies Last

Joe's Meat & Seafood

33066 W. Seven Mile
Livonia, MI
248-477-4323
Hours:
Mon.- Sat. 9am-8pm
Sun. 9am-6pm
4th of July:
Open 9am-6pm

MEAT

Fresh All Natural Chicken Wings \$1.99 lb Save \$1 lb

<div></div> <div>USDA Premium Choice Angus</div> <div>Porterhouse, T-Bone or NY Strip Steak</div> <div><div>\$9⁹⁹</div><div>lb \$3.00 lb.</div></div> <div>Top Sirloin</div> <div><div>\$7⁴⁹</div><div>lb \$3.00 lb.</div></div>	<div>Joe's Ready to Grill Kabobs</div> <div>Italian, Herb & Garlic, Mesquite, or Teriyaki</div> <div>Beef</div> <div><div>\$8⁹⁹</div><div>lb</div><div>Save \$1.00 lb.</div></div> <div>Chicken</div> <div><div>\$5⁹⁹</div><div>lb</div><div>Save \$1.00 lb.</div></div>	<div>All Natural Fresh Baby Back Ribs</div> <div><div>\$4⁴⁹</div><div>lb</div><div>Save 50¢ lb.</div></div> <div><div>Never Frozen!</div></div>	
<div></div> <div>USDA Premium Choice Angus</div> <div>Ground Beef from Round</div> <div><div>\$3⁹⁹</div><div>lb</div><div>Save 50¢ lb.</div></div>	<div>Premium Fresh All Natural Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast</div> <div><div>\$3⁴⁹</div><div>lb</div><div>Save 50¢ lb.</div></div>	<div>Joe's Ready to Grill Burgers</div> <div>Bacon Cheddar, Jalapeno Cheddar, Mushroom Swiss, or Bleu Cheese</div> <div><div>\$4⁹⁹</div><div>lb</div><div>Save \$1.00 lb.</div></div>	<div>All Natural Fresh Boneless Pork Chops</div> <div><div>\$3⁴⁹</div><div>lb</div><div>Save \$1.50 lb.</div></div>
<div>Joe's Handmade Sausage</div> <div>Sweet or Hot Italian</div> <div><div>\$3⁹⁹</div><div>lb</div><div>Save \$1.00 lb.</div></div>	<div>Nathan's All Beef Hot Dogs</div> <div><div>\$4⁹⁹</div><div>pkg</div><div>Save \$1.00 pkg</div></div>	<div>Jack's Special Grilled Stuffed Chicken Patties</div> <div><div>\$4⁹⁹</div><div>pkg</div><div>Save \$1.50 pkg</div></div>	<div>Housemade Chicken Sausage</div> <div>Fajita or Cordon Bleu</div> <div><div>\$3⁹⁹</div><div>lb</div><div>Save \$1.00 lb.</div></div>

BEER & WINE

Leinenkugel \$7.99 <small>6-pack</small> 	Sterling Select Wines \$8.99 <small>All btl. Varietals</small> 	North Peak Brewing Co. Diabolical IPA \$9.99 <small>6-pack</small> 	14 Hands Wines \$9.99 <small>All btl. Varietals</small> 	Bell's Two Hearted Ale & Oberon Ale \$8.99 <small>6-pack</small> 
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

SEAFOOD

Atlantic Cod Loins (pf) \$4.99 lb Save \$2 lb

Fresh Wild Caught Swordfish Steak \$18.99 <small>lb. Save \$4.00 lb.</small>	Fresh Wild Caught Blackfin Tuna Steak \$15.99 <small>lb. Save \$2.00 lb.</small>	Fresh Atlantic Salmon Fillets \$8.99 <small>lb. Save \$1.00 lb.</small>	West Coast Dover Sole \$9.99 <small>lb. Save \$2.00 lb.</small>
Ready to Grill Salmon Patties \$9.99 <small>lb. Save \$1.00 lb.</small>	Alaskan Red King Crab Legs \$15.99 <small>lb. Save \$3.00 lb.</small>	Ready to Grill Cedar Plank Salmon \$6.99 <small>ea. Save \$1.00 ea.</small>	All Natural Cooked Shrimp \$13.99 <small>lb. (31/40 ct.) Save \$3.00 lb.</small>
EZ Peel Grilling Shrimp \$12.99 <small>lb. (13/15 ct.) Save \$3.00 lb.</small>	Fresh Alaskan Copper River Sockeye Salmon \$15.99 <small>lb. Save \$6.00 lb.</small>	Fresh North American Lake Trout \$6.99 <small>lb. Save \$1.00 lb.</small>	Fresh Whitefish Fillets \$10.99 <small>lb. Save \$3.00 lb.</small>

French Vienna
\$2.99

Hamburger Buns
4/\$1.99

Challah Rolls
\$3.49 (12 pack)



art of bread
 33048 Seven Mile Rd.
 Livonia, MI
248-477-4311
 Tuesday-Sunday 8am-6pm,
 Closed Monday

Jams & Jellies
2/\$7
(Excludes organic, honeys & marmalades)

Gourmet Butters
 All \$2.99 varieties
2/\$5

Baguettes
2/\$3

JOE'S PRODUCE

JOE'S 4TH OF JULY SPECIALS

Join us every weekend now
through Labor Day for outside Grilling!
Saturday 11-3 and Sunday 12-4
We will be open July 4th 9 am-6 pm
Prices valid 06-26-14 to 07-02-14. While supplies last.

Gourmet Market

Monday - Saturday 9-5 • Sunday 9-5
Fourth of July 9-6

33152 W. SEVEN MILE RD • LIVONIA, MI 248.477.4333 (JOE'S PRODUCE)

ORGANIC PRODUCE SPECIALS

Mangos **2/\$3**

Green Onions **69¢ ea**

Lacinato Kale **\$1.99**
bunch

Bartlett Pears **\$1.99**
lb

248.477.4323 (JOE'S MEAT & SEAFOOD)

See the previous page for fantastic items from...

Joe's Meat & Seafood

Part of bread

PRODUCE

Washington Jumbo Bing Cherries \$2.99 lb	Georgia Bi-Color Sweet Corn 10/\$3	New Jersey Crisp & Sweet Blueberries 2/\$4	Texas Seedless Watermelon \$4.99 ea	California Haas Avocados 99¢ ea	Georgia Vidalia Sweet Onions 69¢ lb
-------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------

Fresh All Natural Chicken Wings \$1.99 lb **Save \$1.00 lb** **Joe's Meat & Seafood** **Atlantic Cod Loins (pf) \$4.99 lb** **Save \$2.00 lb**

Premium Choice Angus Porterhouse, NY Strips or T-Bone Steak \$9.99 lb Save \$3.00	Premium Fresh All Natural Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast \$3.49 lb Save 50¢ lb	All Natural Fresh Never Frozen Baby Back Ribs \$4.49 lb Save 50¢ lb	Fresh Atlantic Salmon Fillets \$8.99 lb Save \$1.00 lb	Fresh Never Frozen Wild Caught Swordfish Steaks \$18.99 lb Save \$4.00 lb
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

DELI

Boar's Head Maple Glazed Honey Ham \$7.49 lb Save \$3.00 lb	Boar's Head Vermont Cheddar White or Yellow \$6.99 lb Save \$4.00 lb	Dietz & Watson Southern Fried Chicken \$7.99 lb Save \$4.00 lb	Hoffman's Hard Salami \$5.99 lb Save \$2.00 lb	Old Tyme Swiss 4x4 \$5.99 lb Save \$2.00 lb
Boar's Head Maple Glazed Honey Turkey \$7.99 lb Save \$3.00 lb	Wisconsin Mammoth Cheddar \$5.99 lb Save \$2.00 lb	Dietz & Watson Provolone Cheese \$5.99 lb Save \$3.00 lb	Sokolow Polish Ham \$4.99 lb Save \$1.00 lb	Joe's Muenster Cheese \$4.99 lb Save \$2.00 lb
Boar's Head Classic Chicken \$7.49 lb Save \$2.50 lb	Dietz & Watson Bacon Lover's Turkey \$7.99 lb Save \$4.00 lb	Jarlsberg Swiss Cheese \$8.99 lb Save \$3.00 lb	Reggiano Parmigiano \$12.99 lb Save \$4.00 lb	Joe's Guacamole or Mexicali Dip \$5.99 lb Save \$1.00 lb

GROCERY

BAKERY

CAFE

Heinz Ketchup 20oz or French's Mustard 20oz **2/\$4**

Rufus Teague or Bone Suckin' BBQ Sauce & Dry Rubs **2/\$9**

Guernsey or Hudsonville Ice Cream **2/\$10**

Chuck & Daves Chips or Fresh Salsa **2/\$5**

Pick up your Pies at Joe's
Made fresh daily!

Strawberry, Key Lime, Chocolate Silk, and Coconut Cream

PATRIOTIC ANGEL FOOD CAKE \$3.99	FOURTH OF JULY FUNFETTI CAKE Large \$26.99 Small \$16.99
INDEPENDENCE DAY FRUIT TARTS \$4.99	RED, WHITE, AND BLUEBERRY BREAD Large \$7.99 Small \$3.99

Joe's Fresh Roasted Coffee
Flavor of the Week:
Red, White and Blueberry \$8.99 lb
Save \$1.00 lb

Our Bulk Department has the sweetest deals in town!

Cyclone Cotton Candy **2/\$6**

Patriotic Gummies **\$2.99** lb
All Varieties

Lays or Doritos Chips **Buy 1 Get 1 FREE**

Everyday GOURMET

Chef's Feature
Marinated Tuna Kabobs
With Coconut Rice Pilaf

Planning a Special Occasion?

We're the first people you should invite to your next party. Let Joe's take care of the details...whether it is a corporate meeting, backyard BBQ or intimate to extravagant weddings...We can make it happen!!!
Call 248-477-4333 Ext. 226

Beat the Heat & stop by the Cafe for a cool & refreshing
Iced Tea or Lemonade \$1.99 16 oz cup

BBQ Baby Back Ribs **\$12.99** lb
Save \$2.00 lb

Twice Baked Potato Salad **\$3.99** lb
Save \$1.00 lb

Molasses Baked Beans **\$2.99** lb
Save \$1.00 lb

Broccoli Crunch Salad or Summer Broccoli Salad **\$5.99** lb
Save up to \$3.00 lb

Part of bread

248-477-4311 Hours: Tues-Sun 8-4 Closed Mon.

FRENCH VIENNA \$2.99	HAMBURGER BUNS 4/\$1.99
CHALLAH ROLLS \$3.49 12-pack	BAGUETTES 2/\$3

WINE CELLAR

Mezza Corona Wines **\$6.99**
750ml All varieties Save \$2.00

Wente River Ranch Chardonnay **\$13.99**
Save \$6.00 btl

Oyster Bay Sauvignon Blanc **\$10.99**
Save \$5.00 btl

Bowers Harbor Pinot Grigio **\$11.99**
Save \$4.00 btl

Schofferhofer Grapefruit Hefeweizen **\$10.99**
6 packs

Founders Brewing Company **\$9.99**
6 packs

SECTION B (CP)
THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2014
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR
TSMITH@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
734-469-4128

Nedeljkovic is Whalers' top prospect

NHL team could pick Plymouth goalie in first or second round of entry draft

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Alex Nedeljkovic is a virtual lock to stand behind the podium this weekend at Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia, wearing the colors of whichever National Hockey League team drafts him.

Several of his teammates on the Plymouth Whalers also could enjoy that career-launching moment. The Plymouth Whalers' 18-year-old goaltender — whose spectacular performance throughout 2013-14 garnered him OHL Goaltender of the Year honors — is rated

fourth overall among North American goalies by the NHL Central Scouting Bureau and could hear his name called as soon as Friday's opening round.

If Nedeljkovic is still available when the NHL entry draft continues Saturday morning with Round 2, it won't be for long.

His new head coach with the Whalers, Don Eland, isn't traveling to Pennsylvania with the team's new general manager (Mark Craig) and assistant GM (Joe Stefan). But Eland will be watching intently to see what transpires. "Goalies are always tough

(to predict), you never know," said Eland, who is taking over Plymouth's head coaching duties from Farmington Hills' Mike Vellucci (who will be at the NHL draft with his new team, the Carolina Hurricanes). "If he's not the first goalie taken, then I don't know. "Usually one goes, then they all start to go. It just depends when that first one goes."

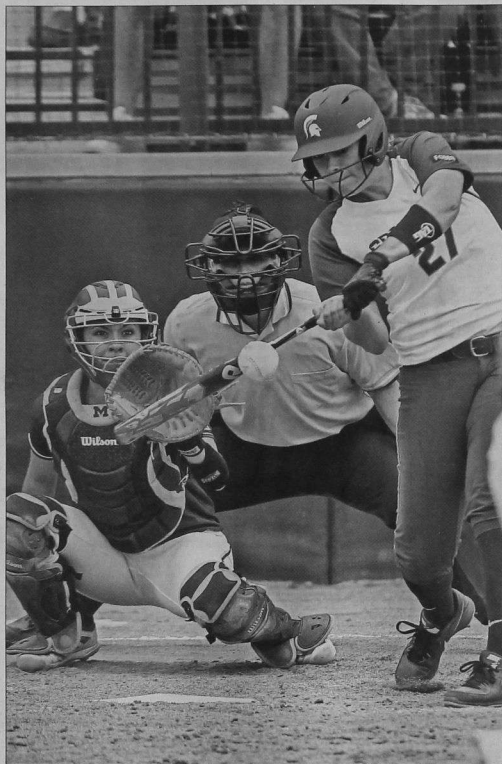
Total package

Elland said the Parma, Ohio, native nicknamed "Ned" possesses the talent, work ethic and mind-set to not only be a first- or second-round selection, but to someday become an excellent NHL goalie. "He has the total package,"

See WHALERS, Page B4



Plymouth Whalers goalie Alex Nedeljkovic is poised under pressure in this game from last year. He is expected to be drafted by an NHL team this weekend. RENA LAVERTY / PLYMOUTH WHALERS



Sarah Gutknecht makes contact with a pitch against Michigan in April at MSU's Secchia Stadium. REY DEL RIO

MSU discovers diamond gem in freshman softball player

Farmington's Sarah Gutknecht adapts quickly to college game, leads Spartans at the plate

By Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

When coach Jacquie Joseph recruited Sarah Gutknecht to play softball at Michigan State University, she did so with a long-term perspective.

She thought the former Farmington High School star would develop into a good college player one day and be able to help the Spartans.

That day arrived much sooner than either Joseph or Gutknecht thought it would and the result was an outstanding rookie season for Gutknecht.

She not only worked her way into the starting lineup at third base, but she ended up being MSU's best hitter this year, leading the team in every major offensive category.

"I recruited Sarah as an athlete I thought had a big upside down the road," Joseph said. "I did not expect her to be able to make as big a contribution as she did as early as she did."

"Sarah took the right approach from day one — I'm going to work hard and I'm going to give it my all — and when she had an opportunity,

she never let go. She never turned back."

"Even when she struggled, she kept working hard and persevered. It's a great story and she should be proud."

Being a freshman and having had an undistinguished fall season, Gutknecht didn't expect to play in the spring.

She was called on to pinch hit in the first game, then she got her first collegiate hit in the second as the designated hitter. She started the third game in right field.

"I was expecting the worst and just kept working to become better and I ended up earning a spot," Gutknecht said. "It was definitely better than I expected."

"I just played my game all year. Obviously, I was looking at stats, but it wasn't what I was focused on. I was focused on improving and trying to help the team."

"I was just playing how I play. As the year went on, I got more experience and began to figure out the college softball game, because it's so much different than what I was used to."

Equal to the task

See GUTKNECHT, Page B4

Stewart's basketball dreams finally realized

Despite hard knocks, ex-C'ville standout signs pro deal in Finland

By Brad Emmons
Staff Writer

Jamie Stewart had to take a long, hard look in the mirror.

The Livonia Clarenceville High grad appeared in only 21 games during his only two seasons at Montana State, squandering his chance to play basketball at the NCAA Division I level with the Bobcats because of academic and disciplinary issues.

Finding himself waylaid in Bozeman, Mont., and at a crossroads, the 6-foot-5 swingman, a former NCAA Division II All-American from Henry Ford Community College, decided he had to make

some changes in his life.

The good news is Stewart graduated last month from Montana State with a degree in sociology and signed a professional contract Monday to play for Forssan Koripojat, a First Division club team in Finland.

Although he never suited up this past season, Stewart continued to work on his game and stay in shape. He also got hooked up with an agent out of Rome, Italy, Giorgio Zambellis of Omnia Sports, who also represents former Michigan State standout Aloysius Amagonye and Marcus Hatten, once an all-Big East selection from St. John's.

Stewart, a high riser and explosive dunker, worked both the phones and the Internet while looking for any type of response.

Inks pro contract

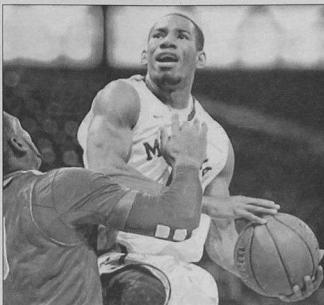
"This opportunity came surprisingly," Stewart said. "It's all off film and off tape. I've been talking to coach (Heinamaki) Juri for two months now. We built that relationship together. He expects good things from me, as well as I do. I had a few more other options, but we decided to go to Finland."

"It was a process for me, especially being out an entire year. Essentially, I've only played one season in about three years, so it was tough. I was never letting those guys sleep. I was always emailing them back and forth, late at night, five in the morning. I kept talking to them and they kept me sane a little bit. Even

See STEWART, Page B4



Stewart



Clarenceville grad Jamie Stewart played in only 21 games during his two-year career at Montana State. BOZEMAN DAILY CHRONICLE

Area golfers earn marks with low scores

FIRST TEAM

Donnie Trosper, Canton: Already one of the best golfers in the state, Trosper played his best when it counted most and still has one more season left to add to his impressive resume with the Chiefs.

He averaged 35.8 per nine holes and 74.9 per 18 and was medalist in all four dual matches he played in.

But there were many other achievements, including co-medalist at the Kensington Conference tourney (71) and M&M Invitational at Hudson Mills (68) and tying for first at the district tournament with a 71.

Trosper followed that up with a 71 at the regional, earning him second place and a spot in the Division I state finals at Forest Akers East in East Lansing, where he overcame the flu to tally a 76-68-146 scoreline.

"Donnie handles the pressure of competition very well," coach Tom Alles said. "It seems the tougher the competition the better he plays. He has played in a variety of competitive golf events for a long time and his experience has been a huge advantage for him."

John Tatti, Plymouth: The epitome of excellence and consistency throughout his four-year prep career with the Wildcats, senior co-captain Tatti averaged 38.1 per nine holes and 77 per 18.

"John had a great senior season," coach Dan Young said. "He was very consistent and we could always rely on him to (score) low for our team."

He played his best in the biggest tournaments. "Tatti spearheaded Plymouth to the Kensington Conference championship and made his fourth trip to the DI finals at Forest Akers East."

At the finals, he registered a 73-73-146 scoreline. He tallied a 76 at the DI regionals at Lake Forest Golf Club, good for ninth overall.

Chris Kozler, Plymouth: One of the key spokes in Plymouth's wheel of golfing excellence, the senior co-captain averaged 37.2 per nine holes and 77 per 18.

His 74 at DI regionals tied for fourth overall and proved instrumental in Plymouth finishing second with a 305 team score, which in turn qualified the Wildcats for the finals.

Kozler then tied for ninth overall at Forest Akers East with a 72-143 scoreline.

"Chris was a leader in our program on and off the golf course," Young said. "He was a golfer we could always count on."

"A top performer all year and finished his career in the top 10 at the state championship. Very good when the pressure was at its highest."

Eric Attard, Stevenson: The senior averaged 76.5 per 18 holes and 38.5 for nine en route to all-KLAA honors.

Attard, a two-year captain, was a top-five in the KLAA Association Tournament, third

in the Northville Invitational and fifth in the Orchard Lake Invitational.

"Eric had a great senior year, posting three top-fives in six 18-hole tournaments this year," coach Dave Higham said. "Eric is a great ball striker and when his short game is on, he will take it home. Some college will get a great player next year."

Austin Alexander, N. Farmington: Alexander makes his third straight appearance on the all-area team after a junior season in which he averaged 38.2 for nine holes and 76.9 in tournaments.

He shot season bests of 74 in the district at Huron Meadows and 75 in the Wallied Lake Invite at Edgewood.

The regional qualifier is a two-time, team MVP and all-OAA player. His 38.4 season average ranks fourth all time at North.

"He has been a coach's dream, and one day I think a college coach will want him, and he will make an outstanding contribution to that team as he has done here at North Farmington," coach Bruce Sutton said.

"He is an excellent student and his work ethic is second to none on and off the course."

"Many a time on our way home from a match or invitational, Austin will self-analyze his round and figure out how to improve on his performance at the next event."

Matt Gold, Farmington: Gold was one of four players on his team with a sub-80 tournament average, leading the Falcons with a 77.1. He averaged 39 strokes in nine-hole matches and was the medalist in three tournaments.

His best scores were 72 in the district at Huron Meadows and 75 in the Southern Wing at Locust Hills in Springfield, Ohio. He shot 76 twice.

Gold is the team MVP and a repeat member of the all-area team. He has been accepted into the Professional Golf Management program at Ferris State University. Gold

"Matt is a solid player who made great improvement every year," coach Dennis Zaleski said. "This year he improved his average almost 2.6 strokes. He didn't have anything really low and nothing really high. The strong point of his game is consistency."

"He was never a day on jayvee, he was on varsity from day one. You don't have many players who go four years on varsity. I was real fortunate to have him on the team."

SECOND TEAM

Evan Chipman, Plymouth: Part of Plymouth's impressive lineup of senior stalwarts, Chipman once again was a key factor as the Wildcats won the conference and made another bid for a state championship.

Chipman, who averaged 37.2 per nine holes and 77.63 per 18, tied for fifth place overall at the DI regional with a nifty 74, helping Plymouth qualify for the finals.

At Forest Akers East, he

chimed in with solid 74-77-151 showing.

"A big reason for our team success was Evan's consistency and play with a team," Young said. "He could have been most teams No. 1 golfer and played 3 for us."

"We were fortunate to have his scores all year long."

Nick Heffron, Farmington: Heffron earned a place on the all-area team again after a senior season in which he averaged 77.8 strokes in tournament play and 38.75 in dual matches.

His best score was a 70 in the district at Huron Meadows. He also had a 73 in the East Lansing tournament and a 75 in the Oakland County tournament. Heffron is at Pontiac CC.

A captain on Farmington's state championship hockey team, Heffron plans to play hockey at Grand Valley State University.

Heffron is another four-year varsity player and a repeat member of the all-area team. He was a team medalist in five tournaments.

"He helped the team in so many aspects," coach Zaleski said. "When he did go low, we did really well. When he didn't, it wasn't a real high score. He had shades of greatness there."

"Nick has a lot of confidence. Every time he goes out there, he thinks he can do it. He believes he can make things work for him."

Matt LeGault, Farmington: LeGault was a four-year varsity player for the Falcons, too. He averaged 37 in nine-hole matches and 78.1 in tournaments.

He shot 75 in the Southern Wing at Locust Hills in Ohio and 76 in the district at Huron Meadows in Springfield, Ohio.

LeGault has been accepted into the PGM Program at Ferris State University. He is a repeat member of the all-area team.

"Matt was a real steady player," coach Zaleski said. "He has a great work ethic. His claim this year was he had some really great nine-hole scores. He had a 34 and a 35, so he was solid."

"His putting and short game kept him in it when he wasn't hitting the ball real well. I was real happy with the way it turned out for him."

Kitwana Ashford, Farmington: Ashford averaged 79.3 strokes in tournaments and just under 38 in nine-hole matches. He plays in gunnery situations.

He was a team medalist in two duals and three tournaments.

His best score was 73 at the Southern Wing in Ohio. He also shot 75 in an OAA tournament at Pontiac CC and 76 twice.

"He was a great addition to our team," Zaleski said. "He's a great player. His score was always used. He put up some numbers."

"When he was playing well,

it was faithful and greens, very methodical play. He puts it in play and makes something out of nothing sometimes."

"He had those great streaks, and he was just fun to watch him play. At any time, it was amazing what he could do."

Jack Boczar, Plymouth: The freshman broke onto the Plymouth golf scene like a senior veteran, averaging 39.5 strokes per nine holes and 79.77 per 18.

"Jack had a solid year for us as a newcomer," Young said. "He earned a varsity spot right away and played very well for us all the big tournaments."

"He has a bright future and we look forward to seeing his game grow."

In his first state finals, Boczar shot a respectable 78-82-160.

Kyle Coscarelly, Harrison: A four-year varsity golfer, Coscarelly shot an average score of 80.5 for 18 holes and 42.5 for nine. He was the runner-up in both OAA Gold Division tournaments and was fifth in the Berkeley Invite.

"Kyle demonstrated all the positive traits of a golf coach," seeks, coach Ray Maleyko said. "Our team relied on Kyle every match and every tournament. He led by example and took responsibility not only for himself on the course but the rest of the team."

And the golfers admired Kyle and were inspired by the way he conducted himself at every practice, every match and every tournament. He will be sorely missed on the Harrison golf team.

Brady Cole, Salem: Cole admirably closed out his brilliant, multi-sport career at Salem with a 14th-place finish of 73rd at the regional.

He averaged 40.6 per nine holes and 80.8 per 18.

"Brady is a fierce competitor who always gives his best effort," coach Ryan Nimmerger said. "He scored well all year on the golf course, even while focusing on his upcoming college soccer season at Northwood University."

He was a three-sport athlete at Salem (golf, soccer, basketball) and had a wonderful athletic career, he left his mark on all three programs."

Connor Greenlee, Farmington: Greenlee averaged 81.1 in 18-hole events and 40.5 in duals. He shot 77 in three occasions in the Southern Wing, the 75 in the district at Plymouth and the OAA tournament at Mystic Creek.

"He has a solid game," Zaleski said. "He was the third-year varsity player. "He gave us good, solid scores. If we were in a five-hole score, we were in good shape with him, because he was shooting in the 70s."

"He's a good overall player and I know he's going to get better next year. You'll hear

ALL-OBSERVER

BOYS GOLF

FIRST TEAM

Donnie Trosper, Canton
John Tatti, Plymouth
Eric Attard, Stevenson
Austin Alexander, N. Farmington
Matt Gold, Farmington

SECOND TEAM

Evan Chipman, Plymouth
Nick Heffron, Farmington
Matt LeGault, Farmington
Kitwana Ashford, Farmington
Jack Boczar, Plymouth
Kyle Coscarelly, Harrison
Brady Cole, Salem
Connor Greenlee, Farmington
Austin Lindbauer, Canton

COACH OF THE YEAR

Donnie Trosper, Canton

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Chad McLeod, Hudson Mills
Chris Kozler, Plymouth
Greg Hill, Westfield
Tyler Gerhardt, Stevenson
Alex Cline, Plymouth
Ben Zaleski, John Glenn
James Harrison, Huron Valley Lutheran
Matt LeGault, Farmington
Cameron, Chris Dooler, Salem
Phil Davis, Lake Michigan
Nick Allen, Canton
Cole Salem, Nick Allen, Canton
Austin Lindbauer, Farmington
John Majors, Harrison
Landon Swartz, Garden City
Chad Berger, Jonin Swartz
Burt Smith, Hudson Mills
Thurston: Joe Beauchamp, Logan Chalkley

more from him.

"Every time he played, he gave me 110 percent. I was just fortunate to have a fifth golfer like we had in him."

Noah Lindbauer, Canton: Lindbauer displayed a mix of talent and courage savvy to register averages of 39.8 per nine holes and 81.4 per 18 for Canton.

The junior tallied 76 at the Kensington Conference tournament and 87 at the association tourney, earning all-conference honors. His boy's team caps highlights included scores of 83 at districts and 81 at regionals.

"Noah has improved a great deal since his freshman year," Alles said. "He has emerged as our steady number two golfer. He has a solid overall game and plays very intelligently. His course management skills are excellent."

COACH OF THE YEAR

Dennis Zaleski, Farmington: Zaleski, who retired at the end of this season after 14 years as a coach, was named his career as the Observer's Coach of the Year.

He led the Falcons to the OAA White Division championship, winning both tournaments and going undefeated in dual matches.

Farmington finished third in the Oakland County Division I tournament at Pontiac Country Club, and it was a regional qualifier with a place finish in the district at Huron Meadows.

The Falcons also were fourth in the Jackson Invite and the two-day Southern Wing in Springfield, Ohio.

They were seventh in the regional at Mystic Creek and eighth among 26 teams in the East Lansing tournament.

"I had great kids to work with," Zaleski said. "I think they worked a little harder this year (knowing the team's potential). I worked harder at getting them in some premier events."

"We were right there in the top five in almost every event. If we played 18 holes, they were good; if we played nine holes, they were good."

"They were easy to prepare because they were so self-motivated. That was the work ethic they had."

Stevenson hockey

The Livonia Stevenson summer boys hockey camp begins Monday, July 7.

For dates, times, application forms and other information, contact Stevenson head coach David Mitchell at dmitch@livionapublicschools.org.

Churchill hockey

The Livonia Churchill summer hockey game will be 10-11:20 a.m. Monday through Friday, July 11 and July 14-18, at Edgar Arena, 33841 Lyndon.

The cost is \$175 (cheques should be made payable to Churchill H.S.).

For more information, email Churchill coach Jason Reynolds at jayrey4815@gmail.com or call 734-788-0447.

Madonna volleyball

Madonna University will offer a series of summer volleyball camps for middle school and high school players including:

Setters - 8:30 a.m. to noon

Sunday through Wednesday, June 23 through July 2, hitters (session I) - 14:30 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday, June 29 through July 2, hitters (session II) - 8:30 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday, July 7-10, and defensive - 7:30 a.m. Monday through Thursday, July 14-17.

The cost for each camp is \$135.

For more information, call Matt Jerry Abraham at 734-432-5612 or email abraham@madonna.edu.

Canton football

A summer football camp run by the Canton High School program is slated for July 14-17 at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park varsity field.

The camp is for players entering grades 7-9 in fall 2014. Times are 5:30-7 p.m. Contact Richard Mui at 248-229-2738.

Visit www.cantonchiefsfootball.com to download a flyer.

Churchill hoops

The Churchill girls 2014 summer basketball camp (grades 5-9 in the fall) will be

3-6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, July 15-18, the high school. The cost is \$50.

For more information, email coach Matt McCowan at mcmccow54@gmail.com or call 248-761-9201.

Summer camps

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

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

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

for residents and \$160 for non-residents.

Baseball: The baseball camp is slated to run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 14-18 at Canton Sports Center, 46555 W. Michigan Ave. Ages 7-14.

For more info, visit cantonleisure.com, call Canton Sports Center at 734-483-5600 or visit either Canton Sports Center or Summit on the Park and inquire.

Churchill football

The Livonia Churchill Twilight football camp (grades 3-8) will be 7-9 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, July 23-24, at the high school.

The cost is \$35 if pre-registered by July 1 or \$50 after. You can register in person beginning at 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 23, at the football field pavilion.

Churchill will also offer two camps for grades 9-12 including basic offense and defense. Sessions, 5-8 p.m. Sunday, June 22-24, through Tuesday, June 22-24, through advanced offense and defense techniques, 5-8 p.m. Sunday through Tuesday, July 27-29.

The cost is \$100. You can register in person at 4 p.m.

Sunday, July 27, at the football field pavilion.

Campers will need cleats, running shoes and a signed liability agreement. All checks should be made payable to the Churchill High School: Allen Feig, 8900 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48150. No refunds two weeks prior to start of camp.

MU cross country

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

MU will also hold long runs 7:30-9 a.m. Saturday, July 12, July 19, July 26 and Aug. 2, at Cass Benton Park.

The cost is a \$2 donation each long run.

For more information, email Pat Daugherty at daugherty@madonna.edu. Daugherty can also be reached during the evenings at 734-658-0226 (cell) or 734-432-5634 (office).



Forward Matt Mistele is one of several Plymouth Whalers with a good shot to be selected during this weekend's NHL draft. RENA LAVERTY / PLYMOUTH WHALERS

WHALERS

Continued from Page B1

said Eiland, who expects Nedeljkovic will go to a big-league training camp in September and then return to Compuware Arena for another year of seasoning in the OHL.

Once he is drafted, Nedeljkovic will join a long list of Whalers goals selected in the NHL draft such as Matt Hackett, Justin Peters, Scott Wedgewood, Matt Mahalak and Garden City native Jaden Bacashihua. In 2013-14, Nedeljkovic posted a 2.88 goals-against average and .925 save percentage in 61 games, stopping more than 2,000 shots along the way.

The Whalers, meanwhile, also have five other players with good-to-excellent chances of being drafted.

Right wing Connor Chatham is the 46th-rated skater (forwards, defensemen) among North American prospects. He scored 13 goals and added 18 assists for 31 points last season.

Rated 56th is defenseman Alex Peters, while left wing Matt Mistele (18 goals, 19 assists) is rated 88th.

"Second- or third-round pick for Chats as well, so we're excited about that," Eiland said. "And I think Alex Peters will go right around there as well."

Defensemen Josh Wesley and Yannick Rathgeb are rated 111th and 129th, respectively, among skaters.

Honor roll

In recent seasons, Whalers drafted in the top rounds by NHL teams included forwards Ryan Hartman (2013, Chicago, 30th overall), Tom Wilson (2012, Washington, 16th overall),

NHL DRAFT PRIMER

What: National Hockey League Entry Draft.

When: 7 p.m. Friday, Round 1 (NBC Sports Network); 10 a.m. Saturday, Rounds 2-7 (NHL Network).

Where: Wells Fargo Center, Philadelphia.

Who: Several players from the Plymouth Whalers are rated by the NHL Central Scouting Bureau for the draft, including goaltender Alex Nedeljkovic, forwards Connor Chatham and Matt Mistele and defensemen Alex Peters, Josh Wesley and Yannick Rathgeb.

Info: Follow the draft and the progress of the Whalers at www.plymouthwhalers.com and look for continued coverage at www.hometownlifeline.com.

Mitchell Heard (2012, Colorado, 41st overall), J.T. Miller (2011, N.Y. Rangers, 15th overall), Stefan Noesen (2011, Ottawa, 21st overall), Rickard Rakell (2011, Anaheim, 30th overall) and Tyler Seguin (2010, Boston, second overall). The last Plymouth goalies to be drafted were Mahalak (2011, Carolina, 163rd overall), Wedgewood (2010, New Jersey, 84th overall) and Hackett (2009, Minnesota, 77th overall).

According to Eiland, that NHL teams regularly pick Whalers is a testament that the organization continues to do things the right way when it comes to developing talent.

"We're a development league, that's our job," said Eiland, one of Velucci's assistant coaches the past four seasons. "The better job we do with that, the more kids will want to come here and be a part of it, because they see what we're doing. It's a huge deal for us."

tmh@hometownlifeline.com

GUTKNECHT

Continued from Page B1

Gutknecht, who was a four-year starter at Farmington and a three-time selection to the all-Oberlin first team, added everything is faster at the college level.

The pitchers are better and more experienced and they aren't going to miss their spots, she said.

But that didn't stop Gutknecht from leading the Spartans with a .291 batting average. Her 40 hits, 10 doubles, six home runs, 25 RBIs and 493 slugging percentage also were team bests.

"The amount of work I put in in the off-season really benefited me and showed, I guess," Gutknecht said. "During the season, I was working more one-on-one with the coaches and coming in to hit. I wasn't going to back off."

"I still want to do better than what I did, but I'm very happy with how I did my freshman year, not expecting to play."

It appears Gutknecht made a rapid and smooth transition to the next level, but that wasn't apparent early. In the fall, she questioned her ability and whether or not she belonged on the team.

"There was a lot of growing to do, not just in my abilities," she said. "It's a huge mental game to begin with and it's so much more so in college."

"It wasn't easy, but I guess I did work really hard at it. I'm going to continue to work hard at it. I don't want to stay where I am; I want to keep getting better."

Opportunity knocks

Gutknecht was ready when the opportunity



Farmington's Sarah Gutknecht is ready to play defense at third base. MSU SPORTS

came to show what she could do in a game situation, according to Joseph.

"The great thing about opportunities is it allows for people to earn it and shine," she said. "At our level, there is no seniority. It's who shows up and plays day-in and day-out."

"Sarah Gutknecht earned everything she got with her incredible work ethic and how quickly she took to the adjustments that needed to be made."

In an early game against Oklahoma, Gutknecht helped rally the Spartans to a 6-5 lead with a lead-off homer and a two-run double in the same inning. Another highlight was her grand slam at Ohio State.

"It was one of the best feelings, because it was the first Big Ten weekend, the first Big Ten game," Gutknecht said. "I hate Ohio State. So it was even better."

Gutknecht's goals for next season are to hit

over .300 and limit her strikeouts. She knows she'll have to work hard to improve at the plate.

"People are going to have more scouts on me next year," she said. "It's going to be more difficult that way, but I'll have more experience."

"I know I gave away a lot of at-bats, so I want to make more of them and that goes along with experience as well."

Good on defense

After one game in right field, Gutknecht moved to the more familiar position of third base and established herself.

With the exception of a few games at first base, she was a fixture at the hot corner, the position she played as a high school senior after three years at shortstop.

She excelled in the field, too, with a .962 fielding percentage. She had just five errors with 52 assists and 76 putouts.

"I want to work more

on my defense," Gutknecht said. "I've always been focused on my hitting. I want to be able to get more range. I wasn't upset with how I played defensively."

"Everything is hit at you so much harder and you don't have as much time on the ball. You have to be able to not just react to the ball, but forecast what's coming. You have to do a lot more reading of the situation."

"I've been playing the sport long enough. It's not that big of a deal. It's just a matter of those fine details and figuring those out."

Sky is the limit

Gutknecht hasn't come close to realizing her potential, according to Joseph. She believes Gutknecht can be a .350 to .450 hitter and has the ability to hit 15-20 home runs in a season.

Sarah is smart enough to know (2014) doesn't guarantee her anything for next year," Joseph said. "You have to continually show up and produce, but I'm confident Sarah will do that."

"What's going to be difficult for her next year is she's not going to be an unknown. As she saw later in the year, she struggled because people knew she was a go-to person and pitched around her."

"She knows she's not going to sneak up on anybody. She's going to need to be even better to have the same kind of numbers."

"But I tell you what—the kid has the mind-set for it. She takes a good approach and is very coachable."

"She's eager to learn and then eager to work hard at it. That's a good combination for success."

Aggies rule 8U division



The Aggies won the championship game June 14 in the South Farmington 8-and-under softball division, edging the Crimson Tide, 17-16. Team members include (from left) Maddie DeVore, Briana Cavanaugh, Annie Rella, Hani Kennedy, Claire Oliver, Josie Fugere, Meaghan Dick, Abby Maroun, Kate Coscarelli and Allie Surella and coaches Matt Surella, David Tim, Phil Kennedy and Aaron Dick. Also on the team are Sara Flynn, Samantha Golobic, Alana Harell and coach Ryan Golobic. The Golobics recently moved to Nevada. The other 12 players attend Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School in Farmington.

STEWART

Continued from Page B1

though it was a tough year, they said every-thing was going to be all right. I met some good guys."

After averaging nearly 28 points his senior year and earning Class B all-state honors at Clarenceville, Stewart played two seasons and thrived at Henry Ford Community College under coach Abe Mashhour (now at Schoolcraft College). It also helped that Stewart's former high school coach at Clarenceville, Corey McKendry, was there as an assistant coach to provide a safety net for a player that could be immature and a prima donna.

In his second season at Henry Ford (2010-11), Stewart averaged 17.1 points, 8.1 rebounds and 4.0 assists per game, leading the Hawks to a No. 1 ranking in the country and earning All-America recognition for the second straight year.

Stewart considered several NCAA Division I

schools, but settled on Montana State, following former Henry Ford teammate Christian Moon.

Abbreviated stint

But in his first season in Bozeman (2011-12), Stewart never made it past December. He averaged 9.1 points in only 12 games before being sacked with academic issues. He averaged 23 minutes per outing and scored in double figures five times, including a season-high 21 against San Jose State.

"In the past, I had some great coaches that I built a relationship with over time, so it was hard to make an adjustment by coming here," Stewart said. "And I always thought it would be like that between the coach and the player. Things were kind of different here. It took me a while to get used to it."

And Stewart admitted to the Bozeman Daily Chronicle in January 2012: "I made some poor decisions. I made some poor choices over the year and I'm reaping the consequences right now. I wish my team success

in the future. They're my brothers and I wish them well. I look forward to spring practice."

Stewart even contemplated transferring from Montana State after his junior year.

"I knew it would be hard, because I was academically ineligible," Stewart said. "That would have been a problem in itself. It would have been a lot of hard work and I wouldn't have been able to get back to the Division I level. I fought through it. I had to take 18 credits the next semester and had to pass all those. And then I had to take another six in a short period of time just to get back on track to be eligible for the next season."

Back as senior

Stewart returned for the 2012-13 season, but this time lasted just nine games. He averaged 9.4 points, scoring in double figures four times (including a career-high 22 vs. San Jose State) before being dismissed from the team by coach Brad Huse for unspecified reasons.

Once again, he never

made it past December.

"We were just on two different pages as I saw it and things just didn't work out," Stewart said. "But honestly, I have respect for those guys. They were just doing what they thought was best for the team. Some of it was on the court and some of it was off the court. We had our differences and things like that. I made my mistakes and I've said from day one I take accountability for my actions."

"Do I think things could have been different? Yes. Do I think I could have handled the situation differently? No doubt. Like I said, they did what they thought was best for the team. And the team came first, so they felt that was the next step. I take accountability and I have respect for the decisions they made."

After being dismissed, Stewart thought about going back home to Detroit.

"It was definitely hard," he said. "It was tough for me and tough to be around (Bozeman) that year. I had to make

some changes and had to make an adjustment. I started back second semester, went back home in the summer, re-evaluated my situation."

But Stewart decided to stick it out and stay in school for yet another year, while blending in with the rest of the MSU student body as a non-basketball player.

Learning curve

"I learned from all these mistakes and, honestly, it made me a better person on and off the floor," he said. "Ideally, that's what is making me the person I am today. And so I have a totally different perspective on things. At the end of the day, I feel like good things happen to good people. This is why I feel like I'm getting this opportunity. It's a hard work and a higher power."

Through his agent Zambellis, along with another Ontario representative based in Greece, Stewart's dream to play professionally has been realized.

"I'm staying ready. I'm still conditioning. I'm

still working out," Stewart said. "I'll go back to Detroit a little bit in August, see family and friends before I take off. Ideally, I want to be there before training camp starts Sept. 1."

"When you look at my situation, you can really explain it. I've played only one season in three years. A lot of it is through hard work and God just keeping my faith. It's hard to explain, but this is all God's work and it's meant to be. I've been through a lot these last three years."

Going to an unfamiliar country, in the southern city of Forssa (population 17,000), Stewart said he can help the Finnish First Division team, which finished 11-17 and in fifth place last season.

But there's one caveat: He'll have to adjust to another new culture.

Stewart, however, will not look in the rear-view mirror.

"I'm ready and prepared to make that adjustment," he said. "Growing up in the Detroit ... I feel you can make it anywhere."

bmmons@hometownlifeline.com

JUNE CHURCH CLOSING

Time/Date: 10 a.m. Mass, Sunday, June 29
Location: St. Hilary Catholic Church, 23901 Elmira, Redford Township
Details: A reception and tour of the church buildings will follow the service. The church is closing after 60 years.

Contact: 313-533-1560, thilary@redford.org

SERMON SERIES

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday and 9:30 a.m. Sunday through summer
Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kincloch, Redford
Details: Sermon series on The Lord's Prayer

Contact: 334-968-3523 or 313-533-8655

JULY DVD SERIES

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Wednesday, beginning July 2
Location: Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: View a 36-part series, "Holy Land Revealed" on Biblical archeology by Jodi Magness, a professor in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Free

Contact: Nancy Kaplan at 248-737-1931 or email nancyleveland79@att.net

FILM

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 9 and 16

Location: St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Free movies are The NeverEnding Story, on July 9 and Gravitly on July 16. Refreshments provided and a brief discussion will follow the screening.

Contact: RSVP to 734-425-9590

MUSIC FESTIVAL

Time/Date: 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, July 26

Location: Hosanna Tabor Lutheran Church, 9600 Levee, Redford

Details: Free festival with Christian music performances by The Fire Within, The Repeat Offenders, Bekkah Greenman, Aaron Lucas and Co. Connor Roy, Heavenly Embers and more. Crafters and vendors will be on site 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Food concessions will be available

Contact: 313-937-2424, www.HosannaTabort.org

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 15 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, July 16

Location: Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, Livonia

Details: Bag sale, 1-5 p.m. Wednesday; scrap metal collection runs July 14-18

Contact: 734-427-2290

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to noon, July 7-11

Location: St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 35900 SE Mile, Livonia

Details: The "Workshop of Wonders" is open for potty-trained 3-year-olds through students entering sixth grade. Includes songs, crafts, snacks, science, recreation and interactive Bible stories. Cost is \$10 per child; \$30 for families of 4 or more

Contact: 734-422-6038

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 6-9 p.m. July 21-25

Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28600 Cherry Hill, Garden City

Contact: 734-427-3660; groupbvpro.com/bvbs/good-hope

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. July 28-31

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 3003 Hannan, Wayne

Contact: 734-728-1950

YOGA CLASSES

Time/Date: 10:30-11:30 a.m. July 18, 15 and 22

Location: St. John Neumann, 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: Lauren Burtell teaches a Tuesday yoga class. Walk in each class for \$10

Contact: Burtell at 313-671-7909

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Men's Bible study
Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m.

and study at 8 a.m.

Location: Kirby's Connelly Island, 21200 Haggerty, Norwell Township

Contact: John Shulenberger at 734-644-9491

Our Lady of Loretto
Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Dally, Redford Township

Details: Scripture study

Contact: 313-534-9000

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

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

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

Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200, or www.livoniamichael.org

Ward Presbyterian
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays

Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville Township

Details: Learner's Bible study is held

Contact: 248-734-5920

FAMILY MEAL

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

Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shawawee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal

Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

MOMS

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

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

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

Contact: Ethanie Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fieszar at 248-227-6617

734-658-2463

Dunsmuir Park Bible Chapel
Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays

Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

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

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

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday

Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

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

Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER

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

Location: 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together with as well as responding to prayer requests.

Contact: 248-476-8860

St. Edith Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back

Details: Music, singing, prayer

Contact: Grace at 734-464-1896, Shirley at 734-464-3656 or Geri at 734-464-8906

St. Michael Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday

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

Location: 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

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

Contact: 334-459-3333 for additional information

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

How to reach us:
 1-800-579-7555 • fax: 313-496-4968 • oobits@hometownlife.com

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



BUSSART, ROBERT "BOB" EUGENE

† Was called to heaven on July 22, 2014. Born in Logan Ohio on Feb. 23, 1927. Bob's career in the Finance business brought him to Michigan where he met and married his wife, Jeanine Marie Leroux. They were happily married for 47 years. They resided in Livonia and Garden City where they raised their daughters Cheryl and Cindy. He is preceded in death by his wife Jeanine, his parents Carl and Anna Bussart and his brother Carl Bussart of Columbus Ohio. Bob served in World War II. During his life, he enjoyed golfing, reading, fishing, gardening, and vacationing with his family at beach houses. He was an active member of the Warren Road Light & Life Free Methodist Church where he served The Lord Jesus faithfully and lead Bible studies often. Thank you to Mel Levdal and all from his church who have remained dedicated friends. Also, thank you to the teams at The American House in Westland and Angela Hospice in Livonia for your work and care. He is survived by two daughters, Cheryl A. Lindon and her husband Don, of Yorktown, Virginia and Cindy M. Jure and her husband Jim of Plymouth, Michigan. He was a loving grandpa of six grand children: Jeannine Whitehead and her husband Greg, Jason Banwart and his wife Dana, Christina Jure, Bethany Jure, Ryan and Andrew. In honor of Bob's devotion and caring of his wife Jeanine during her battle with Alzheimer's disease, please make donations to the local Alzheimer's Association. Viewing and prayer will be at L.J. Griffin Funeral home Thursday, June 26 2-7 p.m. in Westland. The Funeral Service is Friday at 12 p.m. at Light & Life Church on Warren Rd.



CULOTTA, CAROLYN "LYNN" RUNDLELL

A memorial service for Carolyn (Lynn) Rundlell Culotta is scheduled for June 30, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170.

Carolyn was born on June 10, 1927 in Detroit, Michigan. She was the daughter of William and Mary Culotta. She was married to Robert Culotta for 47 years. Carolyn was a devoted mother and grandmother. She was also a dedicated volunteer for the American House in Westland and Angela Hospice in Livonia. Carolyn was a loving and caring person who will be missed by all who knew her. She is survived by her husband, Robert, and her children, Robert and Mary. Burial will be in the Garden of the Cross, Plymouth, Michigan. For more information, please contact the funeral home at 734-427-2290.

Paying tribute to the life of your loved one.



KUCZAJDA, THOMAS F.

(12/21/29 - 6/21/14)

Of Rochester Hills, formerly of Allen Park and Detroit. Loving husband and personal chef to wife, Dolores (DeLicia), for over 61 years. Incredible father to Laura Kuczajda (Richard Hayes), Lynn Kuczajda (Robert Sten), Leslie Mihalak (Joseph J.), Lois Henessey (Joseph), and his favorite son, Thomas A. Loving Papa to Lauren and Lillian. Devoted brother to dear siblings Leona (Jerry Dufra, deceased), Ernest (wife Barbara), and Rita (George Roun, deceased). Devoted brother to dear departed Irene, Florence (Joseph Smutek) and Leonard (wife Rose). A favorite uncle and cousin to many. Retired as a Detroit Press pressman after 43 years of dedicated service, and with his children, owned downtown Rochester's historic Home Bakery. Self-taught, harmonica virtuoso, recording artist, and all-around entertainer, his endless wit and amazing cooking made him the perfect host to countless parties for family and friends over the years.

SERVICES: All are welcome to celebrate Tom's amazing life. Visitation at Potere-Modette Funeral Home, 319 Walnut Rd., Rochester: Thursday June 26, 2014, 5pm - 8pm (Rosary at 6pm) and Friday June 27, 2014, 4pm - 8pm (prayer services and sharing memories at 7pm). His life of devoted faith will be celebrated at St. Irenaeus Catholic Church, 771 Old Perch Rd., Rochester Hills, on Saturday, June 28, 2014 with an in state time of 9:30 am and a 10:00 am Mass, followed by interment at Van Housen Jones Cemetery, Rochester Hills. Memorial contributions may be made to the family which will fund for a future scholarship in Thomas' name.

Online guestbook: www.modettefuneralhomes.com



LENNIS, JOAN HEILMAN

Passed from this world on June 22, 2014 at the great age of 88. She was preceded in death by her husband of 46 years, Ralph Lennis, and infant grandson, Evan Lennis Gunther. Joan moved through life with elegance, grace and a great sense of humor. Unlike many as they age, she became a staunch proponent and deeply believed in the inherent worth of all human beings. Joan worked as a realtor for many years and was the first woman to be appointed to the Farmington Hills Assessing Board of Review, serving six terms. She loved her Farmington Hills home, friends and community. She was an avid bridge player, golfer, bowler, loved to garden and tenderly cared for her roses. She was gifted musically and cultivated that in her three daughters: Laurel Flaccavento, Barbara Glassman and Marilyn Lennis. She adored her two grandchildren: Caroline Lennis Gunther and Alexander Lennis Schlegel. They will miss their Gramma. And she admired her sons-in-law: Anthony Flaccavento and Stuart Glassman. A Celebration of her Life will be held in August in Farmington Hills and her ashes will be interred at Napoleon, Ohio, the town of her birth.



ROSS, DOUGLAS S.

A resident of Whitmore Lake and formerly of Sterling Heights, died peacefully on June 22, 2014 surrounded by his family. He was preceded in death by his beloved bride of nearly 53 years, Anne P. Ross and siblings Nancy, Daniel and Richard. He is survived by children, William (Jennifer), Anne (K. Daniel) McDonald, Margaret (Shawn) Agbay, Kalma Ross; grandchildren, Daniel and Andrew McDonald, Rachel and Rebecca Agbay, Nancy, Douglas James "DJ", Julie and Mary Ross; brother, William E. Ross and many extended family and dear friends. A Memorial Service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Brighton, to Michigan Pantheon Foundation or to Hospice of Michigan. For further information phone 810-229-2905 or visit www.LynchfuneralDirectors.com

Let others know...

When you have lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages", a directory located in every edition of your Observer or Eccentric newspaper.

Call: 800-579-7355
 Fax: 313-496-4968
 Email: oobits@hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric MEDIA

Your Invitation to Worship

<h3>CATHOLIC</h3> <p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tridentine Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-2000 First Friday Mass Schedule: Sunday Mass: 7:00 a.m. Saturday Mass: 7:00 a.m. Sunday Mass: 7:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Held Prior to Each Mass Member of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<h3>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</h3> <p>Rosedale Gardens PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9601 Redford at Chicago, Livonia, MI (Between Westland & Farmington Hills) (734) 422-0494 Friends in Faith Service 10:00 a.m. Traditional Service 10:30 a.m. Visit: www.rosedalegardens.org For information about any program...</p>	<h3>ASSEMBLIES OF GOD</h3> <p><i>A Church for Seasoned Saints</i> OPEN ARMS CHURCH Worship: Sunday 10:30 am Wednesday 7 pm Pastor Grady Jensen & Music Minister Ale Fazzini 33015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152 Between Farmington & Meridian Across from Lakeside 248.471.5282 Church As You Remember It!</p>	<h3>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</h3> <p>St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & School 17810 Farmington Road Livonia Chapter 100 Worship Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Tuesday 8:30 P.M. website: www.stpauls-livonia.org</p>	<h3>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</h3> <p>WARD 42000 Six Mile Road Livonia, MI 48150 Sunday Worship Service 8 a.m. • 9:30 a.m. • 11 a.m. 4 different music styles from classic to modern www.wardschurch.org livestream</p>
<h3>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</h3> <p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 42001 W. Auto Road • (734) 463-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZON FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 463-3196</p>	<h3>PRESBYTERIAN</h3> <p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Adult Sunday: 9:30 • 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</p>			

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

NEW YOUTH THEATER WORKS MAGIC WITH ALADDIN STORY

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Spotlight Players debuts its new youth theater July 10 with an eye toward making the experience fun, affordable and informative for its actors, while giving the audience a musical twist on a classic tale.

Spotlight Players, Jr., will stage the musical *Aladdin and his Wonderful, Magical Lamp*, 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, July 10-12 and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, July 12-13, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. Tickets are \$15 and available from spotlightplayers.org.

"We're excited to debut the show and incredibly proud of the cast. It takes a lot of commitment to put a show on," said Kristin Heitmeier, Aladdin director. "They've put so much heart and spirit into the show."

Cast members range in age from 5-17 and live throughout the Detroit metro area. Each paid \$35 to participate in the show. The fee includes a costume and enables the actors to perform in two other upcoming shows for free, if they are cast in them.

"We wanted to make this as accessible as possible," Heitmeier said, adding that some youth theaters charge extra for the costume. "The great thing is that the \$35 goes even further. Potentially this year you could be in three shows for \$35."

But low cost doesn't mean the production has skipped on scenery or special effects. Heitmeier said the show includes a dragon that reclaims his breath and a 25-foot-tall water vapor and color effect that signals the



Cameron Denby portrays an evil sorcerer in Spotlight Players, Jr.'s upcoming musical in Canton. PHOTO BY ASHLYN MCCAIN

arrival of each genie on stage.

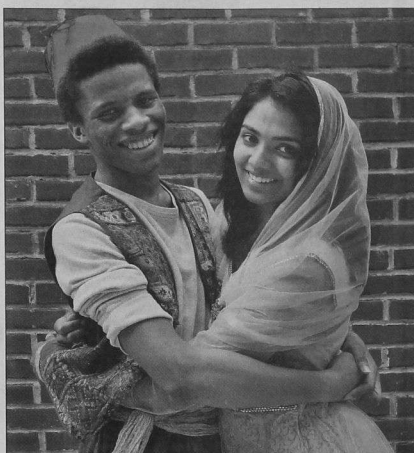
"We've got a flying carpet and other fun things that Aladdin needs to do to make it an exciting, high energy show," she said. "The finale of the show is wonderful — a treat for the audience and the cast."

Heitmeier also worked acting tips into the rehearsals. Cast members learned about characterization, blocking, articulation, projection and saving scenes when a scene partner falters.

"I wanted to help them understand why the director is telling you to do this, or that," she said.

Challenging character

Although Evan Phillips, 17, who plays Aladdin, has performed in about a dozen other youth theater shows, he welcomed both Heitmeier's direction and the review of acting techniques. He said Spotlight Players, Jr.'s philosophy



Evan Phillips portrays Aladdin and Kayal Muthuraman is Jasmine in the Spotlight Players, Jr. production, *Aladdin and his Wonderful, Magical Lamp*.

is "a lot different" from what he has experienced while performing in some other youth shows.

"One of the biggest things I like about this new company is the director. Kristin knows how to talk to kids, to encourage and motivate them," he said. "I've done plenty of shows with (others) when the director didn't give me a lot of direction. Aladdin is hands down the biggest role I've ever had. The challenge is to make him a confident, cocky guy, but still likeable and reliable. I've never thought this much about a character before. Kristin has been giving me a lot of direction that I hadn't thought of doing."

Phillips, who is studying 3-D animation at Washtenaw Community College, said he is having "tons of fun" rehears-

ing for the show.

One lucky raffle winner, age 5-18, will get a chance to join Phillips and his fellow actors during the final performance on July 13. The individual will get a backstage tour, a costume, learn some choreography, meet the cast and appear on stage in a "walk-on" role.

"It's a great way to get people more interested in theater; excited about the arts," Heitmeier said. "It could be someone who is seasoned or someone who had a conflict and couldn't audition for the show. It may be someone who never auditioned but has always secretly wanted to. It will be a fun thing to do."

For more information about Spotlight Players, Jr., visit spotlightplayers.org.

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ANIMALS

DETROIT ZOO

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

Location: 1696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

Details: Admission is \$14 for adults 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens 62 and older, and for children ages 2-14, children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking.

Wild Summer Nights: Concerts run 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, July 2-Aug. 27, in the Main Pointe Grove and are free with Zoo admission, which is reduced to \$6 after 6 p.m. on concert nights. Performers are Julianne Ankleby, country, July 2; The Sun Messengers, Motown, R&B, July 5; Mr. Seely and the Troublemakers, children's, July 16; The Verve Pipe, children's, July 23; Jill Jack, folk, July 30; Billy Brant and the Sugars, Americana, Aug. 6; The Ragbirds, folk rock, Aug. 13; Candy Band, children's, Aug. 20; and Joe Reilly and the Community Gardeners, children's, Aug. 27.

Contact: 248-541-5717

ARTS AND CRAFTS CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Tuesday through Friday, and 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday through July 19.

Location: The Cotich Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Clay and bronze sculptures by Bernadette Marcos, the 2002 Farmington Area Arts Commission Artist in Residence.

Contact: 248-473-1859

JANICE CHARACH GALLERY

Time/Date: Noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 17-Sept. 11

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

Details: "Daily Gratitude: Art, Sport and Cupcakes," features the work of Jessica Kovan. Also opening July 17 are exhibits by glass artists and Teresa Petersen, who creates art from thrift store and hardware shop finds.

Contact: 248-432-5448

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Gallery hours, 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through June 28

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

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

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

VISUAL ARTS ASSOCIATION OF LIVONIA

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, through June 30

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

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

Contact: 734-838-1204



Country music singer Julianne Ankleby kicks off the Detroit Zoo's summer concert series Wednesday July 2.

AUDITIONS

BARREFOOT PRODUCTIONS

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., June 30-July 1

Location: 240 N. Main, Plymouth

Details: The theater will stage *Southern Hospitality*, by Jessie Jones, Michael Hope and Jane Wooten, in August. Roles are available for eight women and five men. Mike Cuba of Livonia will direct.

Contact: Mike at 734-812-0102; www.justbarefoot.com

EMERGENT ARTS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. July 9-9

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

Details: Auditions for the drama *Adopt A Sailor* by Charles Everett, will be by cold reading from the script, which is on-line at http://www.broadway-publi.com/ADOPT_A_SAILOR.pdf.

Contact: 734-408-1592

COMEDY

EMERGENT ARTS

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Sunday

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

Details: Comedian Chilli Challa coaches new and experienced stand-up comics at weekly workshops. An open mic show follows the class.

Contact: info@emergentarts.com; www.chilli-challs.com

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday, June 26, and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 27-28

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Featured comedian is Frank Roche, a Detroit native who fuses rapid-fire antics with celebrity impressions. Tickets are \$12 Thursday and \$16 Friday-Saturday.

Contact: joeyscomeclub.net; 734-261-0555

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday, June 26, 9:30 p.m. Friday, June 27, and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Saturday, June 29

Location: Fourth and Troy Streets in downtown Royal Oak

Details: Mike Green is known for his clean, original comedy. Tickets are \$10-\$18.

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

DANCE

MUSIC HALL

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, June 28

Location: 350 Madison, Detroit

Details: Complexions Contemporary Ballet program includes choreography to the works of Rachmaninoff and a special tribute to Stevie Wonder's music. \$35.

Contact: 313-537-2143

FILM

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 27-28; 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, June 29

Location: 760 Pennington, Plymouth

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

Coming up: *Rio 2*, 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, July 5-6; *Million Dollar Arm*, 7 p.m. Thursday, July 10, 7 p.m. and 9:25 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 11-12, and 4:20 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, July 13

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

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. June 27 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. June 28

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

Details: *The Wizard of Oz*, \$5

Coming up: *Verdict*, \$5, 8 p.m. July 11 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. July 12

Contact: 313-537-2550

HISTORY

KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

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

Location: 434 State St., Ann Arbor

Details: The exhibit, "Ancient/Medieval: The Design of Everyday Things," examines how inhabitants of the ancient Mediterranean and Near East both resembled and differed from contemporary Americans by juxtaposing ancient and modern objects of similar use and/or appearance. Opening lecture by Donna Braden of The Henry Ford is 6 p.m. June 27. Admission is free.

Contact: 734-764-9304

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for ages 6-17

Coming up: Ghosts of Plymouth walk is set for 7 p.m. Sunday, June 29, starting at the fountain in Kelleys Park in downtown Plymouth. This museum fundraiser will consist of tales of early Plymouth residents told by characters. Advance tickets are \$10, \$5 for children, 9 and under, available at the museum or through its website, plymouthhistory.org. Tickets at the door are \$15 and \$2 for

Contact: 734-455-8940

MUSIC

BLUES@THE ELKS

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

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

Details: \$5 donation at the door.

Contact: 734-453-1780

JAZZ@THE ELKS

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

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

Details: \$10 donation at the door includes hors d'oeuvres

Contact: 734-453-1780 or email plymouth-elks1780@yahoo.com

ELVISFEST

Time/Date: 4 p.m. to midnight, Friday, July 11 and noon to midnight, Saturday, July 12

Location: Riverside Park, E. Cross Street, Ypsilanti

Details: Elvis tribute artists perform Elvis Presley songs. On Saturday only, bouncers, a magician, crafts, face painting and other activities will be available for kids, 12 and under. America's Most Wanted Car Club also will display classic cars.

Advance tickets are \$13 Friday, \$22.50 Saturday and \$30 for a two-day ticket online; \$15 Friday and \$25 Saturday at the gate.

Contact: mielvisfest.com

GREENFIELD VILLAGE

Time/Date: 6 p.m. gates open, 8:30 p.m. concert, July 2-5

Location: 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn

Details: The Detroit Symphony Orchestra performs *The Star Spangled Banner* and other patriotic favorites. A fireworks display closes the program. The 1st Michigan Colonial Fire and Drum Corps will parade the concert grounds at 6:45 p.m. followed by a prelude concert featuring the United States Army Field Band at 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$12.75-\$60.

Contact: 313-576-1310

MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 28

Location: Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth

Details: The orchestra plays a free concert, "An American Salute"

Contact: 313-571-2112; michiganphil.org

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Monday, June 30

Location: VistaTech Center, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia

Details: Saxophonist Kirk Whalum performs with the college's student jazz bands. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for students and seniors, \$5 for children under 12. Available at the door, the college bookstore.

Contact: 734-462-4609

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

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

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: The 77s, June 26; The Hackwells, June 27; *Wives with The Webbs*, June 28; Open mic, July 1 and 15; *Hiroya Tsukamoto*, July 19; Jack Williams, July 25. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted.

Contact: 734-464-6302

watermelon on the go

BREAKFAST PUSH POPS

Diced watermelon chunks
Yogurt of choice
Granola
Push pop molds, sold at most restaurant supply stores

Layer watermelon, yogurt and granola into molds and top with yogurt and watermelon chunks. Optional: Freeze push pop molds for breakfast on the go.

Long hailed as sweetly satisfying, watermelon may not be the first tasty fruit that comes to mind when you're thinking nutrition. But in fact, watermelon is not only a perfect on-the-go snack to satisfy your sweet tooth, it's also incredibly healthy.

Watermelon contains higher levels of lycopene, an antioxidant, than any other fresh fruit or vegetable. It's also an excellent source of vitamins A and C, as well as providing vitamin B6 and potassium.

Health benefits aside, the crisp, sugary flavor of watermelon makes it a favorite for kids and adults alike, especially during the warmer months. Its firm texture makes watermelon ideal for a variety of recipes, many of which are a natural fit with today's busy households.

Thinking beyond traditional chunks or balls, there are many ways to incorporate watermelon into your favorite grab-and-go foods, from smoothies and breakfast push-up-pops to sandwiches and wraps to juicy, frozen desserts.

To create your own watermelon snacks on the go, gather the kids and let your imaginations run wild. Or, get started with these recipes from the National Watermelon Promotion Board.

Add some sweetness to your morning and try Breakfast Push Pops for a hands-on treat kids will love. Watermelon Slice frozen treats are an easy, fun take on a traditional watermelon slice, and the built-in "handle" makes cleanup a breeze. Mix watermelon and strawberries into a shake or frozen treat, skewer it or frost cut-outs for a new take on watermelon "cookies."

For more recipes visit www.watermelon.org.

Courtesy of Family Features

WATERMELON SLICE

Watermelon slices, cut into triangular wedge shapes about 12 to 1-inch thick
Frozen treat sticks

Insert a frozen treat stick into each rind.
Optional: Freeze the slices for a frosty, refreshing treat.



WATERMELON KEBABS

Serves 6

18 1-inch cubes of seedless watermelon
6 cubes of smoked turkey breast
6 cubes of cheddar cheese
6 coffee stirrers or beverage straws

Cut watermelon, turkey and cheese in cubes and skewer on stirrers or straws.



FROSTED WATERMELON

1 watermelon seedless, sliced into 1/2- to 1-inch-thick slices

1 serving yogurt
1 serving granola or similar cereal

Using your favorite cookie cutter cut shapes out of a 1/2- to 1-inch-thick slice of seedless watermelon. Or, if you prefer, use classic cut watermelon wedges. Frost with vanilla or other flavor yogurt. Sprinkle with granola.

KID'S WATERMELON STRAWBERRY SHAKE AND FROZEN SMOOTHIE POPS

Serves 4

Strawberry Shake:
1 container (8 ounces) lemon nonfat yogurt
2 cups cubed, seedless watermelon
1 pint fresh strawberries, cleaned and hulled
1 banana medium, peeled and sliced
Frozen Smoothie Pops:
Frozen Strawberry Shake
Small paper cups
Frozen treat sticks

For Strawberry Shake, in blender or food processor, process yogurt, watermelon, strawberries and banana until smooth and frothy. Serve immediately.

For Frozen Smoothie Pops, pour prepared Watermelon Strawberry Shake into small paper cups. Freeze, inserting frozen treat sticks or plastic spoons when mixture is partially frozen. Or, pour Watermelon Strawberry Shake into ice cream machine. Set and enjoy.

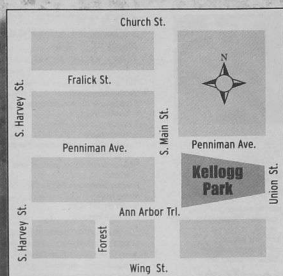


The Observer & Eccentric Media
in partnership with
Downtown Plymouth Merchants,
The Wilcox Foundation
and
Grand Traverse Pie Comapny
presents

"American Salute"



**Concert is FREE
in Kellogg Park,
downtown Plymouth!**



featuring
The Michigan Philharmonic
conducted by Nann Washburn
7:30 p.m. Saturday,
June 28, Kellogg Park,
downtown Plymouth

This fun, family-friendly concert showcases popular composers and will include the traditional classics, Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture.

Bring a blanket or lawn chair to beautiful downtown Plymouth and enjoy this not-to-be-missed concert in celebration of our nation's birthday.

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
hometownlife.com **MEDIA**
A GANNETT COMPANY





A housing shortage is possible in the U.S., some experts predict. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

HOME CONSTRUCTION MAY FALL SHORT OF NEEDS

New home construction activity is currently insufficient in most of the U.S., and some states could face persistent housing shortages and affordability issues unless housing starts increase to match up with local job creation, according to new analysis by the National Association of Realtors.

The labor market, which is a key to overall economic health, has recovered all of the eight million jobs lost since the recession. NAR measured whether new home construction has kept up with job creation to determine the impact of construction on housing supply. The findings reveal that new home construction is underperforming in 32 states and the District of Columbia. Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, says there's a strong relationship between new jobs and an increase in demand for housing. "Historically, there's one new home construction for every one-and-a-half new jobs," he said. "Our analysis found that a majority of states are constructing too few homes in relation to local job market conditions. This lack of construction has hamstrung supply and slowed home sales."

NAR analyzed jobs created in every state and the District of Columbia over a three-year period ending in the first quarter of 2014 relative to new single-family housing starts over the same period. Indicating lagging new home construction, 33 states (including the District of Columbia) have a ratio

"A persistent lag in new home construction will lead to faster home price growth, which will negatively impact housing affordability."

LAWRENCE YUN
NAR chief economist

greater than 1.5 – the long-term average.

The disparity was the greatest in Florida, Utah, California, Montana and Indiana, where job creation has been particularly strong. Yun cautions that these states could face persistent housing shortages and affordability issues unless housing starts increase to match local job gains.

"A persistent lag in new home construction will lead to faster home price growth, which will negatively impact housing affordability," said Yun.

In addition, Realtors' home price growth expectations in the first quarter of 2014 was generally strongest in states facing housing shortage conditions. Lack of inventory has pushed prices up and put pressure on affordability – especially for first-time homebuyers.

"Realtors have an intuitive sense of

how fast prices are likely to rise from on-the-field observations," said Yun. "Their price outlook largely shows gains to be the strongest in states with slow home construction in relation to job growth."

On the contrary, home price growth looks to be manageable in states with strong job gains and near commensurate increases in new home construction. Housing starts are seen as more than adequate to local job growth in Mississippi, Arkansas, Connecticut, Alabama and Vermont.

Inventory of homes sale and new construction drives supply. Although the number of existing-homes for sale increased in April, it remains historically low, averaging six months or less for 20 consecutive months.

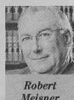
Looking ahead, Yun says homebuilders will have to produce amidst the current challenges facing the building market. Limited access to credit for smaller builders, rising construction costs, concerns about the re-emergence of entry-level consumers to the market in the face of student debt and a tight credit box, and the general decline in affordability and purchase power over the last year is causing hesitation among builders.

"It's critical to increase housing starts in these states facing shortage conditions or else prospective buyers may struggle with options and affordability if income growth cannot compensate for rising home prices," said Yun.

Rezoning might be open to challenge

Q: Our township proposed the rezoning of certain property for multi-family housing, but because of community pressure, the township reversed its position and adopted a zoning ordinance that limited construction to single-family units and prohibited multi-family housing absent a special permit.

A: Our organization is a non-profit community-based developer of affordable housing and we wonder if we have any grounds to challenge the township's zoning decision?



Robert Meisner

A: I think you have a very good claim that the township violated the Fair Housing Act by prohibiting the development of low-income housing. If the community pressure was motivated by racial animus or if the prohibition had a significantly adverse or disproportionate impact on persons of a particular type, the zoning ordinance would likely be found to be discriminatory under either the disparate treatment or disparate impact theories and a violation of the Fair Housing Act. Recent case law supports this position.

Q: I am a landlord and my lease agreement obligates the tenant to pay rent Jan. 1 in advance for the full year. The lease also provides that if terminated early, I am obligated to return any part of the rent already paid. I received the annual rent advance, but the tenant stopped payment, claiming that the check was sent in error. The tenant then notified me that she was terminating the tenancy and sent only a partial payment for the month that she rented the premises. Am I entitled to the balance of the rent for the entire year?

A: Of course, each case depends on the particular facts and the laws from state to state differ, but in a similar case out of New York, the Court of Appeals found that the tenant was liable because the lease required advance payment. The full Court of Appeals pointed out that under common law, rent paid in advance is not recoverable if the lease is terminated before the completion of the term unless the lease provides otherwise. The fact that the tenant never actually paid the rent does not defeat its obligation to pay on the due date.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95, plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. "Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com and Barnesandnoble.com. He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. It is available for \$9.95, plus \$2.20 for tax, shipping and handling. Call 248-444-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column should not be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 3-7, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON		
4147 Hawksbury Ct	\$239,000	
7773 N Canton Ctr Rd	\$140,000	
3944 Ravensfield Dr	\$180,000	
41187 Southwind Dr	\$77,000	
42114 Starlite Ct	\$178,000	
433 Torrington Dr W	\$360,000	

46885 Wareham	\$363,000	
2456 Woodmont Dr E	\$195,000	
4022 Wrenwood Ln	\$237,000	
GARDEN CITY		
31569 James St	\$95,000	

LIVONIA		
15557 Alpine Dr	\$253,000	
19327 Augusta Dr	\$370,000	
30215 Bentley St	\$147,000	
9150 Houghton St	\$140,000	
29866 Lori St	\$149,000	
29103 Lyndon St	\$126,000	
37492 N Laurel Park Dr	\$145,000	
32940 Northgate Ave	\$257,000	

28319 Oakley St	\$175,000	
32731 Oakley St	\$144,000	
39209 Orangelawn St	\$154,000	
NORTHVILLE		
50960 Belmont Park Ct	\$479,000	
18260 Blue Heron Pointe	\$438,000	

PLYMOUTH		
169 Adams St	\$245,000	
661 Adams St	\$284,000	
1149 Dewey St	\$297,000	
14934 Maplewood Ln	\$224,000	
9403 N Canton Center Rd	\$103,000	
12401 N Ridge Rd	\$775,000	
1495 Penniman Ave	\$365,000	

13572 Westbrook Rd	\$450,000	
REDFORD		
11330 Berwyn	\$75,000	
20557 Livingston	\$45,000	
14224 San Jose	\$40,000	
15091 Seneca	\$130,000	

WESTLAND		
32161 Genesee St	\$40,000	
29862 Lonnie Dr	\$89,000	
2445 Marie St	\$85,000	
1686 S Newburgh Rd	\$75,000	
701 Summerfield Dr	\$189,000	

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Feb. 10-14, 2014, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS		
2332 Churchill Dr	\$282,000	
BINGHAM FARMS		
23760 Overlook Cir	\$295,000	
BIRMINGHAM		
222 Bird Ave	\$584,000	
548 Cherry Ct	\$56,000	
2492 Dorchester Rd	\$230,000	
1863 E Lincoln St	\$210,000	
535 N Old Woodward Ave	\$205,000	
BLOOMFIELD HILLS		
2253 Pembroke Rd	\$535,000	
BLOOMFIELD HILLS		
450 Billingsgate Ct # C	\$120,000	
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP		
2662 Broadway Blvd	\$588,000	
4251 Derry Rd	\$218,000	
2980 E Bradford Dr	\$850,000	
425 Foxhills Dr N	\$86,000	
1795 Golf Ridge Dr	\$278,000	
6121 Golfview Dr	\$232,000	
5445 Lane Lake Rd	\$720,000	

860 Lone Pine Rd	\$1,150,000	
5616 Pebbleshire Rd	\$422,000	
5540 Pine Brooke Ct	\$650,000	
1190 Rolling Hills Dr	\$118,000	
859 Sunningdale Dr	\$1,075,000	
5275 Sunningdale Trl	\$250,000	
5275 Sunningdale Trl	\$365,000	
COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP		
642 Andrews St	\$124,000	
13271 Belfast St	\$65,000	
162 Cardinal St	\$170,000	
486 Charlevoix St	\$177,000	
4494 Darlene Dr	\$365,000	
3325 Dickert Ct	\$300,000	
3154 Edgewood Park Ct	\$280,000	
4650 Newcroft St	\$63,000	
FARMINGTON		
31831 Grand River Ave	\$25,000	
Unit 77	\$204,000	
32847 Ardwick Rd	\$229,000	
22126 Cape Cod Way	\$204,000	
34054 Edmonton St	\$119,000	
26583 Greythorne Trl	\$174,000	
34021 Kirby St	\$80,000	
28553 Nettoway Dr	\$275,000	
29633 Pine Ridge Cir	\$135,000	
33635 Quaker Valley Rd	\$191,000	

25402 Wyckshire Rd	\$218,000	
32625 Redfern Rd	\$390,000	
32975 Romney Rd	\$400,000	
LATHRUP VILLAGE		
28791 Son Quentin Dr	\$206,000	
MILFORD		
267 Millford Meadows Dr	\$141,000	
9153 Senic Dr	\$370,000	
1285 Yellowstone Valley	\$263,000	
NORTHVILLE		
1339 Yosemite Valley Dr	\$139,000	
NORTHVILLE		
8747 McDonald Dr	\$500,000	
22803 Poppleton Dr	\$140,000	
38540 Rhinwood Dr	\$180,000	
NOVI		
22387 Carlisle Ct	\$25,000	
27575 Colony Ct	\$390,000	
44271 Ellery Ln	\$140,000	
51161 Halffield St	\$312,000	
27972 Hopkins Dr	\$120,000	
27078 Ladbroke St	\$246,000	
40504 Ladene Ln	\$240,000	
31156 Lagoon Dr	\$368,000	
23596 N Rockledge	\$93,000	
21765 Siegal Dr	\$265,000	
47183 Sunnybrook Ln	\$150,000	
28502 Witherspoon Dr	\$140,000	

411 Cambridge Ave	\$167,000	
61857 Fairland Rd	\$143,000	
26690 Kentucky Ct	\$417,000	
21710 Natsaba Ln	\$232,000	
24476 Ravine Dr	\$2,000	
900 S Parkwood Dr	\$200,000	
58766 Swing Beam Ct	\$76,000	
SOUTHFIELD		
28710 Brooks Ln	\$150,000	
25444 Southwood Dr	\$75,000	
17311 Goldwin Dr	\$187,000	
27675 Harvard Rd	\$120,000	
17840 Melrose St	\$40,000	
17040 Melrose St	\$62,000	
19665 Raleigh Cir S	\$49,000	
17277 Redwood Ave	\$46,000	
28851 Regent Ct N	\$54,000	
25444 Southwood Dr	\$240,000	
29837 Spring Hill Dr	\$97,000	
27745 Sutherland St	\$142,000	
24200 Wildbrook Ct #	\$52,000	
207	\$246,000	
WHITE LAKE		
9144 Gladys Ave	\$80,000	
10143 Mill St	\$165,000	
577 Rumson Ct	\$383,000	

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Seminar each Tuesday, Thursday

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

RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96.

Email george@advalvalerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.


**CORNWELL
pool & patio**

65th Anniversary

Greenbriar
5pc dining set
\$1699.99
includes 4 Sunbrella®
60" Square Table

SAVE UP TO 25 TO 50% OFF

Haywood
4 Pc Group
\$1199.99
includes 2 spring chair
loveseat, & coffee table

SPIRIT
6-310
\$499
#45510001

weber
ALLIANCE

Aruba
4 Pc Group
\$1099.99
includes 2 chairs,
loveseat, & coffee table

The Biggest Markdowns Ever

25 to 50% off

poolife
EXCLUSIVE POOL CARE COLLECTION

Use POOLIFE® products for the
most brilliant clean ever seen.



18' Pool
Package
\$1199.99
includes filter, pump,
ladder, skimmer, & vac

CHLORINE FREE
BAQUACIL®

BAQUACIL® Pool Care Products,
Chlorine-Free. Stress-Free.

24' Pool
Package
\$1499.99
includes filter, pump,
ladder, skimmer, & vac

More Choices More Looks

The Leader in Outdoor Living

20% Off

All in stock cushions
& umbrellas

Excludes closeouts. Not valid with any
other offers. Coupon must be present
Expires July 20, 2014

\$100 Off

Any furniture purchase
\$1200 or more

Excludes closeouts. Not valid with any
other offers. Coupon must be present
Expires July 20, 2014

20% Off

All placemats
and dishware

Excludes closeouts. Not valid with any
other offers. Coupon must be present
Expires July 20, 2014



2 Locations

www.cornwellpoolandpatio.net

Ann Arbor

3500 Pontiac Trail, Ann Arbor MI 48105

734 662-3117

Plymouth

874 W Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth MI 48170

734 459-7410