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COMMUNITY LIFE, B5  
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LEARNING THE ROPES

## Top cop heads to FBI academy

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Todd Mutchler isn't searching for a wizard as he follows the yellow brick road. And he certainly isn't expecting to encounter a lion, tin man or scarecrow befriended by a lost girl.

Rather, Mutchler faces a grueling, 6.1-mile trek through a hilly, wooded trail where he has to climb walls, dash through creeks, scale steep rocks using ropes, jump through simulated windows and crawl under barbed wire in muddy water.

It's a trail that took its name from *The Wizard of Oz* after U.S. Marines built it and marked it with yellow bricks.

Mutchler, Canton's public safety director, is among an elite group of 220 law-enforcement leaders from around the world chosen for the next FBI National Academy, which offers rigorous educational and physical challenges designed to form a global network and strengthen crime-fighting efforts in local communities and beyond.

Mutchler, 50, departs July 12 for the 10-week session in Quan-

tico, Va., where he becomes only the third Canton police official to attend an academy created in 1935. He follows former Public Safety Director John Santomauro and then-Capt. Alex Wilson.

### Great honor

Mutchler counts the FBI National Academy as the second-highest honor of his 27-year career in Canton, ranking behind his selection as public safety director in 2012.

"This has been a goal of mine from the time I got involved in police work," he said.

Mutchler, a married father of three, concedes he has mixed emotions leaving his family and his job for the summer, though the FBI allows him to stay in touch. His work duties will be performed by Deputy Police Chief Scott Hilden and Fire Chief Joshua Meier.

Mutchler already has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and a master's degree in interdisciplinary technology from Eastern Michigan University. Yet the academy gives him a chance to further his educa-

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Todd Mutchler prepares in his office for the FBI National Academy. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Michelle Cichon, center, with daughters Colette and Alexa, Golden Retriever Polo and Polo's five puppies. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Canton family plays host to Leader Dog pups

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

When they were younger, Alexa and Colette Cichon always wanted a dog.

They certainly got what they wanted – and more.

Later this week, their Canton family will watch five more dogs, the latest litter of their Golden Retriever, Polo, walk out the door on their way to lives of service with Leader Dogs for the Blind (www.leaderdog.org), the Rochester Hills-based group that provides free guide dogs to blind or visually impaired people.

That makes three dozen puppies the Cichons have bred with Polo, the Leader

Dog breeder they've fostered for the last five years or so.

"It's a wonderful program," Michelle Cichon, mom to Alexa and Colette, said of Leader Dogs. "Everything the do is free, they put so much time and energy into it. (Leader Dogs) gives these people the freedom to go out in the world and provides that independence for them."

The Cichon family got into the Leader Dog business after dad Scott Cichon talked to a Leader Dog volunteer in the Canton McDonald's years ago.

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## Housing boom ushers in new homes

Canton's west side to see 550 new 'rooftops'

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

An emerging housing boom on Canton's west side could become the stimulus needed to lure certain businesses, such as a grocery store, that have long eluded the Cherry Hill Village area, officials say.

"The commercial (growth) will come when there is a sufficient number of new rooftops," Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said. "With additional rooftops, we should hope to see that grocery store potentially come in and maybe a bank and other commercial retail along Cherry Hill Road."

Three developers involved in separate projects are planning a total of nearly 550 homes on Canton's west side, where some unrelated new construction already has started amid strong demand for housing and a low inventory of homes on the market, officials say.

Some residents in neighborhoods such as Central Park, southeast of Cherry Hill and Denton, have indicated concerns about portions of the housing spurt, though officials say builders in some instances have scaled back the number of homes they plan to construct to address the issue of high-density development.

Among the latest developments:

» Robertson Brothers Homes has proposed 34 detached condominiums – essentially single-family homes – on 15.5 acres southeast of Cherry Hill and Denton, near the Central Park subdivision.

Dubbed the Garden Villas at Cherry Hill, the site will have less homes than an earlier plan to build 60 condominiums. The homes will be marketed to young professionals and older home owners who no longer have children at home.

On Tuesday, the Canton Township Board of Trustees

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## County road plan has money for Canton

By Beth Jachman  
Staff Writer

Canton Township is eligible for up to \$3 million for residential road projects under a Wayne County plan to spend \$14 million fixing roads in the county's nine townships over two years.

The Township Roads Initiative, a grant program for repairing, resurfacing or rebuilding roads in residential areas, drew a positive response from township supervisors when it was announced Wednesday in Redford Township by Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano.

"This is, we believe, a needed initiative," said Ficano. Townships don't receive Act 51 gas-tax revenues to help pay for road projects the way cities do.

Under the program, the county will supply 80 percent of the funding for residential road projects, while the townships will provide a 20-percent match. The funding will be available in the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 fiscal years.

"Certainly it's good. Anytime the county wants to give us money for roads, it's a good thing," said Canton Township

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Redford Township Supervisor Tracey Schultz Kobylarz, Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy, Northville Township Supervisor Robert Nix and state Rep. Phil Cavanagh of Redford gathered at the Redford Marquee to hear about a plan to offer more road funding to townships.



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Volume 40 • Number 5

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# PLAN

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Supervisor Phil LaJoy, who was there for the announcement.

Canton will have to decide how to use the money and which residential areas have the greatest needs, he said, adding officials will seek to be transparent and fair in how the road dollars are used.

"We've got a whole lot of neighborhoods with a whole lot of needs," LaJoy said.

Plymouth Township is in line for some \$1.5 million over the two years.

"We are extremely excited about the joint

program with Wayne County for road repairs," said Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume, who did not attend the announcement, in a press release.

Of the \$7 million to be made available each year of the program, amounts allotted to each of the county's nine townships will be based on population. For example:

- » Canton Township would be eligible for \$1.5 million a year.
- » Redford Township's amount would be \$1 million.
- » Northville, Plymouth, Brownstown and Van Buren townships would be eligible for \$750,000 each per year

» Huron, Grosse Ile and Sumpter townships would be eligible to receive \$500,000 each during each year of the program.

The townships will bid out the projects, which first must be approved for eligibility by the county. Townships have until Nov. 30 to submit proposals to the county for fiscal year 2014-2015 projects.

The money can be used to repair, resurface or reconstruct existing roads in residential areas that are under the county's jurisdiction and are not eligible for federal road funding.

This initiative is modeled after a fund program to improve

local parks that has been in effect for the past five years, Ficano said.

"While we may not know all the details of this plan, I think it's interesting, and I'm excited to see how this will benefit our residents," Redford Township Supervisor Tracy Kobylarz said.

"We see it as helpful," Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said. "We will be looking at ways to maximize use of the money."

Robert Nix, Northville Township supervisor, called it an opportunity for townships to have input on how the money should be used.

Ficano said the county normally has to pick

and choose which projects to fund in the townships.

With no further funding, the county receives \$1,500 per road per mile from the state which doesn't go far in helping with maintenance, Ficano said.

During the winter months, the county launched a "pothole blitz" in which the county cooperated with local communities to fill 235,000 pot holes, which was 70 percent more than previous year, Ficano said.

"This is something innovative, proactive," Ficano said.

Residential roads don't get the attention that the main arteries receive, Ficano said.

While waiting for a longer-term solution from the Legislature, Wayne County is "not just going to sit around. Just like the pothole blitz, we're going to make some resources available," Ficano said.

Kobylarz said she told the transportation secretary in Washington years ago about the need for road funding in residential areas.

"It's all fine and good to put the money on the main thoroughfares, but if people can't get off their street, we have a problem," Kobylarz said.

"This is a situation where I think we may be able to solve some of that," Kobylarz said.

bjachman@hometownlife.com

# PUPS

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The kids had been wanting a dog, so Scott and Michelle agreed to take in Ginger, the first Leader Dog pup the family fostered.

But the pups only stay in the family for a year, during which time the host family trains the pups, teaches them to socialize and gets them ready for their future. At the end of that year, Ginger had grown on the girls.

"It was really hard to give Ginger up," Alexa said. "Being attached to her for the whole year - it was difficult. We loved her."

Polo, meanwhile, had

been fostered by a family in Chicago. When that family couldn't keep her, Polo was brought to Canton and into the Cichon family. Polo has birthed five litters totaling 36 puppies, the latest five of which are headed to Rochester Hills later this week.

As the routine - and the emotion - became more familiar, the "giving them up" part has gotten easier. Part of that has to do with the responsibility - feeding five puppies, taking them outside, helping them learn.

"They're a lot of work, so it's not that hard any more to let them go," Alexa said, though she said it with a smile.

Though it's hard work, it's work for Leader Dogs



These are fun times for the puppies, but they'll be working dogs for Leader Dogs for the Blind when they grow up. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

for the Blind officials appreciate. The group depends heavily on host families as a means for properly training their dogs.

With host homes, Leader Dogs for the

Blind would have to house them in their Rochester Hills facility, a daunting prospect that would dramatically impact the operation.

"Without having a place where those pup-

pies can grow, we'd have to have a much larger facility," said Sam Ziegenmeyer, Leader Dog's breeding program director. "It wouldn't have that individual touch."

Michelle Cichon said the family has always "been a volunteering" family, and she thought getting involved with Leader Dogs for the Blind would be a good experience for the kids.

And the daughters, who everyone agreed are responsible for the care of the puppies, accepted the challenge.

"I think it's a bit of a challenge, but it's worth it," Colette said. "Being an animal lover ... it's a good experience."

Polo has reached the age and stage where this is probably her last litter.

Michelle said the experience taught the family there really are volunteer opportunities for everybody.

"You just have to find your niche," Michelle said. "It's been fun."

Alexa, who earlier this year organized a Feed My Starving Children event that helped feed hungry children around the world, said the Leader Dogs effort taught her "volunteer work can be fun," and left her feeling good about helping others.

"It can still be hard letting go, but it's worth it," Alexa said. "It allows other people to live a life they wouldn't be able to have otherwise."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com Twitter: @bkadrich

# ACADEMY

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tion with courses ranging from forensic science to understanding terrorism to leadership development. He said crimes

such as money-laundering, identity theft and international drug trade know no boundaries.

**Global focus**

"It's a world economy now," Mutchler said, "and that's true in crime as well."

John Anthony, a Canton Township trustee and a former FBI special agent who helped facilitate Mutchler's selection, said the academy will help Mutchler further develop a public safety department already lauded by outside experts.

"It's a prestigious thing for him and for the department," Anthony said. "He will now have contacts around the world. This is a great relationship between the

FBI and local law-enforcement. It's just a great marriage."

Canton officials have long placed a strong emphasis on education to maintain what many consider top-tier crime-fighting efforts. As a bonus, Mutchler's stint in the FBI academy is paid by the federal government.

Mutchler has had strong support from Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy for

his latest endeavor.

"I believe the Canton Public Safety Department is a cut above any other department in the state of Michigan. We're always on track to be better tomorrow from where we are today," LaJoy said. "I think this is a great opportunity for Todd. Certainly what he learns, we will learn when he comes back on the job. We're excited for him to be able to do this."

Mutchler has to share

a college dorm-type room and wear khaki pants and FBI academy shirts. By the time he attends his Sept. 19 graduation from the FBI National Academy's 257th session, he expects to learn ways to reduce crime in Canton, already cited for a comparatively low crime rate.

"We think we can do even better," he said.

dclcm@hometownlife.com Twitter: @CantonObserver

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# BOOM

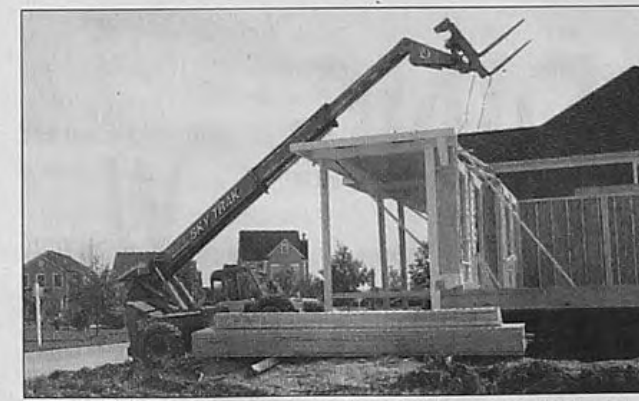
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is expected to vote on a minor planned development proposal to accommodate the new homes. The Canton Planning Commission already approved the measure in a 6-1 vote.

» Livonia Builders has proposed a two-phase development with 239 homes dubbed River Hill Ridge, in an area east of Ridge and north of Proctor. It is an extension of Cherry Hill Village.

Also Tuesday, the Canton Township Board of Trustees is expected to vote on a preliminary approval for the project, after the planning commission supported it 7-0.

Faas said 65 homes are expected on the eastern portion of the site, with construction poten-



Nearly 550 new homes are expected to be built in Canton as a local housing boom heats up.

tially starting this year. The much-bigger western portion, which would come later as demand warrants it, includes 174 homes.

Plans by Robertson Brothers and Livonia Builders come as another builder, Toll Brothers, already has received special land use approval to build 274 single-family homes south of Ford

Road between Ridge and Napier.

"We think this is the nicest piece of Canton left to develop," Mike Noles, the company's vice president of land development, has told the Observer.

Faas has called the Toll Brothers plan the single largest new development proposed in Canton in more than a dec-

ade. It is called Rosewood Place and construction is expected to start next spring.

Faas said the housing boom points to demand that is outpacing the number of existing homes on the market, an analysis local real estate officials also have cited.

"The existing home inventory is at a record low in Canton," Faas said. "That's going to push the supply of new homes. If people can't buy an existing home, they'll buy new. Instead of paying \$300,000, they might pay \$325,000 (or more)."

Local officials have long said the demand reflects a desire by home buyers to choose Canton for its quality schools, municipal services and comparatively low crime rate.

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# Finally a Solution for Peripheral Neuropathy Get Rid of the Pain in Your Legs and Feet

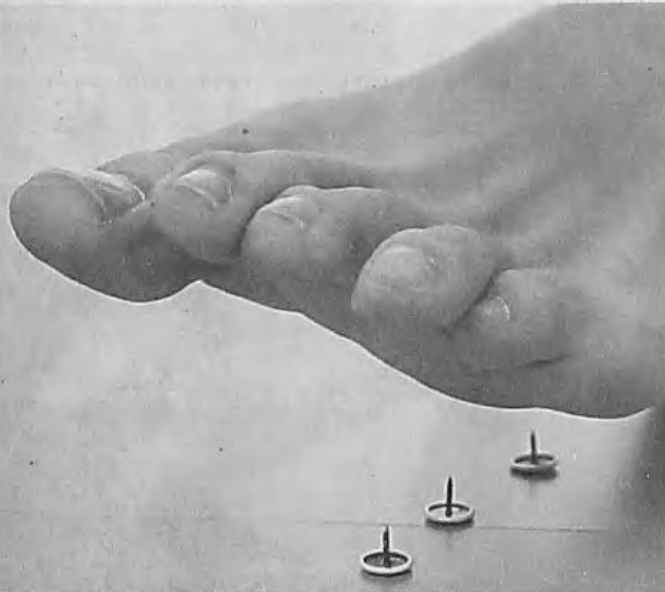
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— Dr. Sol L. Cogan, DC

## Symptoms of Peripheral Neuropathy:

- Tingling or numbness
- Feels like something is in your shoe but there's not
- Abnormal sensations
- Feels like you have socks on, even though you are barefoot
- It is becoming harder and harder to walk
- Losing your balance more often
- Stumble into things
- Unbearable foot pain
- Feels like pins and needles
- Restless legs
- No longer can feel hot or cold sensations
- Spontaneous pinching, sharpness, or electric shocks



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Many who suffer from peripheral neuropathy don't realize what they have or that it can be treated. Often the condition can be misdiagnosed or even ignored until it is unbearable. This can affect every aspect of your

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— Dr. Sol L. Cogan, DC

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— Jerry W.

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— Pam O.



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# Elks Lodge hosts blues, jazz

Blues and jazz fans looking for a place to enjoy their favorite music need look no farther than the Elks lodge in Plymouth.

Plymouth-Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325 in Plymouth MI presents Blues @ The Elks on the second Tuesday of the month and Jazz @ The Elks on the last Tuesday of the month.

The Lodge is located at 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth; events run from 7-10 p.m.

In addition to the monthly entertainment, the lodge will be the site of the summer Plymouth Blues Festival, set for Sunday, Aug. 17, from 12:30-8 p.m.

Headliners for the festival include Carl Henry, The BOA Constrictors and the Greg Nagy Band.

But fans don't have to wait that long to get their jazz and blues groove on.

Blues @ The Elks hosts Doug Deming & The Jewel Tones on Tuesday, July 8. This group, which tours nationally, brings earthy traditional and original roots music to its audiences.

Doug Deming plays his Fender guitar, Dennis Gruenling plays harmonica, Andrew Gohman is on bass, and Danny Banks is on drums.

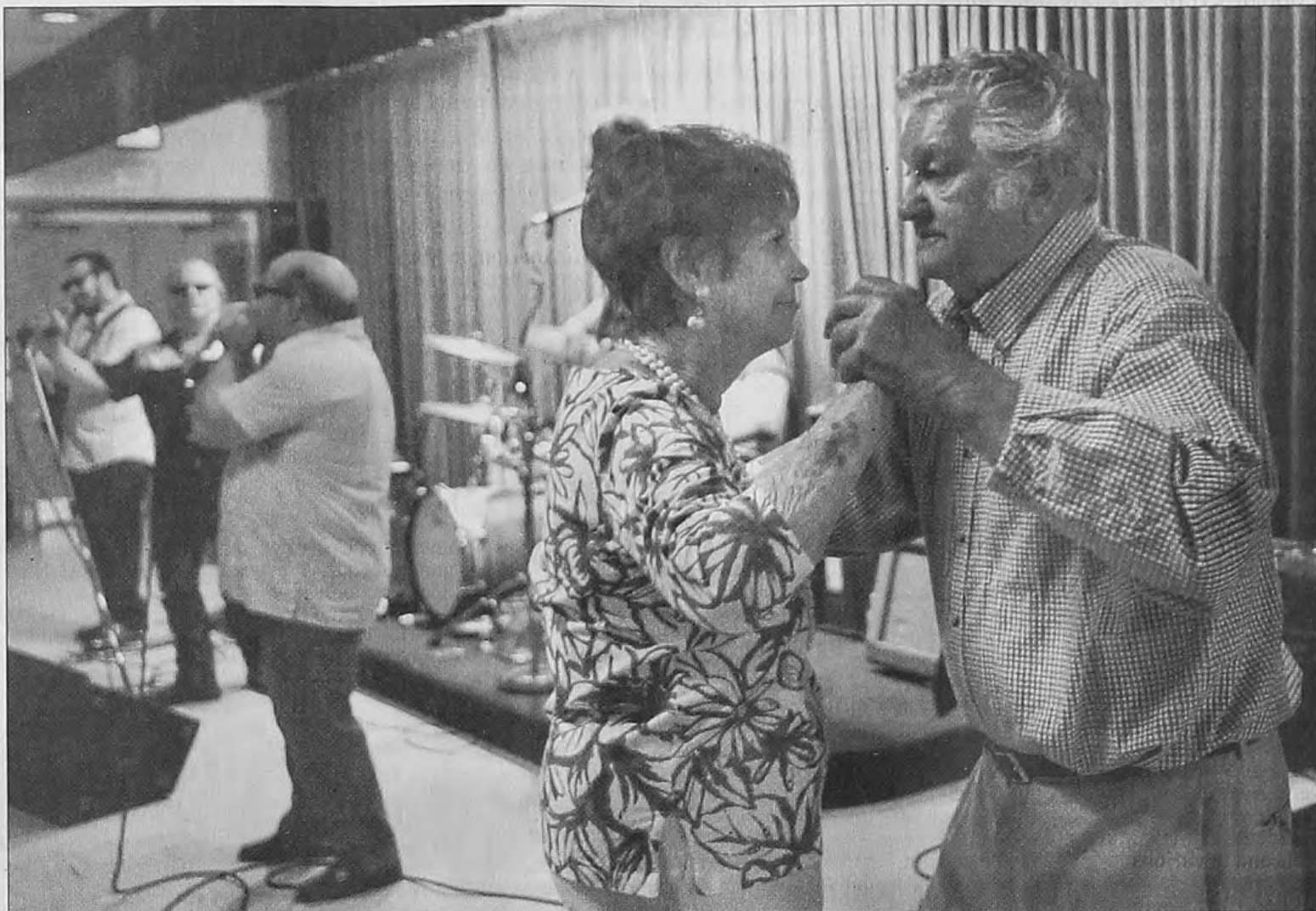
Donation is \$5 at the door. Then, on July 29, Jazz @ The Elks hosts the Terry Lower Trio with Edye Evans Hyde.

"If you have seen them before you know you will want to come back," said Sally Pinchock, who handles promotion for Jazz and Blues @ the Elks. "If you haven't heard them, come for a very entertaining evening."

The group features Edye Evans Hyde on vocals, Terry Lower on keyboard, Ray Tini on bass and Jim Ryan on drums.

The \$10 donation includes hors d'oeuvres.

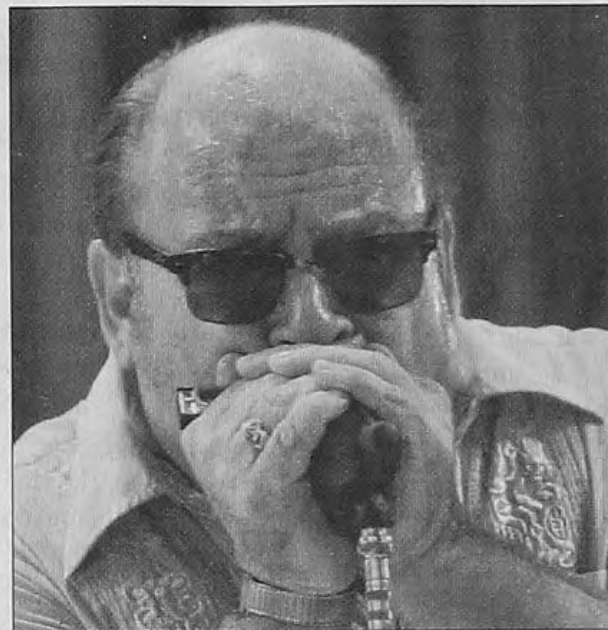
For more information, call 734-453-1780 or visit [www.plymouth-elks1780.com](http://www.plymouth-elks1780.com).



Barbara and Ralph Heyer, dancing on a Tuesday night. They are from Northville. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Jazz and Blues @ the Elks is a concert series open to the public. This summer's schedule includes The Alligators, jazz trio Dobbins, Krahnke & Weed, Lady Sunshine and the X band, and others.



Wailin' Dale on harmonica.

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# Countdown is on to Mud Day 2014

Popular event scheduled for July 8 at Nankin Mills area

Wayne County Parks will be making mud, lots of mud this week in preparation for the 26th annual Mud Day in Hines Park.

A popular summer event for youngsters and adults alike, Mud Day will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, July 8, in the Nankin Mills area of the park.

Parks workers will be creating a 75-foot by 150-foot mud pit where fans can splash in it, sit in it and cake

on their bodies. There will be games where youngsters will be separated into age categories to test their skills at "Mud Limbo" and wheelbarrow races before the 2014 King and Queen of Mud are crowned.

Parks officials recommend that children wear old clothes and shoes and bring a clean change of clothing. There are no showers on-site; however, a cleanup area is available with hoses to aid in rinsing

off the mud, courtesy of the Western Wayne County Hazmat team which uses the event for training purposes.

It's also recommended that parents bring a supply of towels. Plastic bags will be provided for dirty clothes.

The Hines Park Nankin Mills Area is located on Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. For more information on Mud Day or any other Wayne County Parks event, call 734-261-1990 or visit the parks website at parks.waynecounty.com.



It's mayhem in the mud as kids run into the mud pit at the 25th annual Mud Day celebration at the Nankin Mills picnic area of Hines Park. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## ON CAMPUS

### Eastern Michigan

Eastern Michigan University's chemistry department honored its outstanding students April 11 at its 53rd annual Alumni and Awards Banquet.

The department awarded \$12,791 in scholarships for students demonstrating academic excellence during the event. Awards and scholarships were presented to students in all course levels and in various areas of research within the chemistry department.

Canton students who were honored included:

» **Amanda Dewyer:** Peet-Mayor Endowed Chemistry Award, University Honors Graduate, Honors Thesis Award, Honors Undergraduate Fellowship  
 » **Phil Elugbemi:** John Sullivan Endowed Scholarship, Undergraduate Research Stimulus Award  
 » **Sherif Hassanien:** Elwood J. C. Kureth Scholarship, Honors Senior Thesis Award, Honors Undergraduate Fellowship  
 » **Chelsea Swanson:** Honors Undergraduate Fellowship

### Northern Michigan

**Kathryn Meade** of Plymouth is the recipient of the Gerlinde and Marvin Lewis Scholarship at Northern Michigan University for the 2014-15 academic year.

To be eligible for the scholarship students must be participants in the Student Leader Fellowship Program or the Superior Edge Program and have a minimum ACT composite score of 25 to be considered for the award. The recipient must be of sophomore standing or higher, with a minimum GPA of 3.25 and be in environmental studies.

The Gerlinde and Marvin Lewis Scholarship was established in 2010 by L. Garnet Lewis and Vicky Cobb to support students participating in environmental studies.

### Grand Valley State

Nearly 2,900 students earned degrees from Grand Valley State University in April 2014.

Students who graduated at the conclusion of the winter 2014 semester in April include:

» Canton - **Sherri E. Anderson, Ryan L. Barrie, Britany M. Brasseur, Kylie L. Hakala, Julia G.**

**Hisey, Max Julien, Melanie E. Kulczycki, Katherine J. LaFever, Katrina R. Maynes, Jordyn A. Moore, Justin D. Morley, Josh M. Pascarella, Samantha E. Schaeffler, Molly A. Slavens and Jessica N. Soblesky.**

» Plymouth - **Jessica L. Bracey, Anne R. Gioccondini, Katherine J. Hagen, Anthony B. Mullins and Nicholas D. Schreiber.**

### Southern Methodist

**Reid Conlon**, a resident of Canton and a first-year student at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, is listed on the honor roll with distinction. To be listed on the SMU honor roll with distinction, students must be in the top 10 percent of their school of record. SMU's spring 2014 enrollment included 10,614 students.

### Marist College

**Rebecca Middleton** of Canton, a member of the Class of 2017, has been named to the Marist College Dean's List for the spring 2014 semester.

Marist is an independent comprehensive liberal arts college with an enrollment of 4,700 full-time undergraduate students.

### Davenport University

Davenport University has announced that several local students have been named to the Dean's List for the winter 2014 semester. To make the

Dean's List, a student must maintain a minimum 3.5 grade point average while enrolled in at least nine credits of regular coursework.

Canton students making the list include **Danielle Jarvis, Brianna**

**Cheesman, Cheryl Stewart, Timothy Keeler, Shaun Nicoloff, Tracie Bell, Tara Boliard and Yahlana Campbell. Margaret Shimsky-Patterson** of Plymouth also made the list.



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|--|---|---|---|

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

LIBRARY MUSIC SERIES

**Time/Location:** Each Wednesday, 7-8:30 p.m., Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main  
**Dates:**  
 » July 9, Hollywood's Golden Age – The film score hits its stride as it accompanies some of tinsel town's classic films.  
 » July 30, The Film Score Grows Up – After World War II, films and film music become darker and more realistic.  
 » Aug. 20, The Classical Film Score, Lost and Found – Big changes in films and scores in the '50s but it all comes back again in the '70s.  
**Details:** The Plymouth District Library will host music professor Karl Schmidt for a four-part series this summer. Schmidt will present music and video excerpts from films such as *The Jazz Singer* (1927), *Gone With the Wind* (1939), *The Best Years of Our Lives* (1946) and *High Noon* (1952), as well as a study of political and social changes that influenced all forms of art, including films. This music series is made possible through the Michigan Opera Theatre's Department of Community Programs and the Friends of the Plymouth District Library.  
**Contact:** Call 734-453-0750.



Comfy cushions

With Barefoot Productions on the verge of opening its summer comedy, Woody Allen's "Play it Again, Sam" (July 18-20), things are hopping preparing the theater for more comfortable viewing. Barefoot Productions has purchased new seats for their intimate setting. "Over the past nine years we have never had a complaint about our shows, only our seats, so we have done something about it," said Craig A. Hane, artistic director and founder of the theater company. Seats are available for a donation in which patrons' names will be attached to the seats engraved on brass plates. For more information about adopting a seat and more about Barefoot Productions, contact Hane at 734-276-9075 or visit the website at [www.justgobarefoot.com](http://www.justgobarefoot.com).

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.plymouth-fallfestival.com](http://www.plymouth-fallfestival.com).  
**Contact:** For more information, contact Colleen Brown, [craftshow@plymouth-fallfestival.com](mailto:craftshow@plymouth-fallfestival.com).

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 race consisting of old-fashioned tasks from the mid-1800s. There will also be a scavenger hunt, which will entertain and educate while kids 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, children 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.  
**HOOPS CAR WASH**  
**Date/Time:** Sunday, July 13, noon to 3 p.m.  
**Location:** Dick Scott Dodge, Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth  
**Details:** The Salem High School girls basketball team hosts a car wash fund-

raiser. Proceeds will help offset the cost of uniforms and equipment throughout the season.  
**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.  
**BLOOD DRIVES**  
**Dates/Times/Locations:**  
 » Monday, July 7, 1-6:45 p.m., Church Of Christ, 9301 Sheldon, Canton  
 » Sunday, July 20, 8:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 44800 Warren, Canton  
 » Monday, July 21, 1-6:45 p.m., St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth  
 » Saturday, July 26, 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., Living Word Church, 46500 N. Territorial, Plymouth  
 » Monday, July 28, 1:30-7:15 p.m., Geneva Presbyterian Church, 5835 Sheldon, Canton  
 » Tuesday, July 29, noon to 5:45 p.m., Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Drive, Canton  
 » Tuesday, July 29, noon to 5:45 p.m., Super Bowl Lanes, 45100 Ford Road, Canton  
 » Wednesday, July 30, noon to 5:45 p.m., Canton Municipal Office  
**Details:** The American Red Cross sponsors the above blood drives in the local community. Appointments can be made, and walk-ins are welcome.  
**Contact:** Call 800-REDCROSS to make an appointment  
**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 [debcortellini@comcast.net](mailto:debcortellini@comcast.net) or 734-451-1525.  
**BNI MEETING**  
**Date/Time:** Each Thursday, 7-8:30 a.m.  
**Location:** Red Olive Restaurant, 1051 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth  
**Details:** The BNI Northville-The \$1 million Referral Chapter meets every Thursday morning.  
**Contact:** For more information, visit [www.NorthvilleBNI.com](http://www.NorthvilleBNI.com)

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 Payments can be made at City Hall during regular business hours, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's office. After hours, payments can be placed in the DROP BOX located in the Church Street lobby of City Hall or use the DROP BOX located next to the book return behind the Library. For additional payment options, please check the City website @ [ci.plymouth.mi.us](http://ci.plymouth.mi.us).  
 Teresa Cischke, MiCPT/CPFA  
 City Treasurer  
 Publish: July 3 and July 6

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**DESIGNER:** Wright & Hunter, Inc.  
 818 W. 11 Mile Road  
 Royal Oak, Michigan 48067  
 Phone: 248 594-5850  
 Fax: 248 594-5851  
**BID DUE DATE:** Until **1:00 PM EDT on July 24, 2014** the Owner will receive sealed Bids for the work as set forth in the Bid specifications and proposal forms ("RFB documents") at:  
 Sealed Bid Enclosed for Digital Video System  
 Northville Public Schools  
 Attn: Michael Zopf  
 Business Office - Third Floor  
 501 W. Main Street  
 Northville, MI 48167-1576  
 Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time. Bids received after the above date and time will **not** be accepted. Bids that do not include a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship between the Owner and the bidder as defined in Michigan Public Act No. 232 of 2004 will not be accepted.  
 RFB documents will be available on or after **July 7, 2014** and can be obtained by registering at the following website: <http://www.vlbp.com/launch/wright/hunter/home.php>.  
 Bidding details may be obtained electronically at: <http://www.vlbp.com/launch/wright/hunter/home.php>.  
 A bidders' pre-bid conference meeting is scheduled for **July 11, 2014 at 11:00 AM EDT** at:  
 Hillside Middle School  
 All visitors must sign-in at the Main Office  
 775 North Center  
 Northville, Michigan 48167  
**All bidders are strongly encouraged to attend.**  
 Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check, money order or bid bond made payable to Northville Public Schools in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the base bid as a Bid guarantee.  
 Withdrawal of any bid is prohibited for a period of ninety (90) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.  
 The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part, to reject a bid not accompanied by the required bid guarantee, or by other data required by the RFB documents and Michigan law or to reject a bid which is in any way non compliant with the bid requirements. Submitted bids may be adjusted by unit prices included by the bidder to ensure all bids submitted are compared on the same basis with respect to required materials.  
 The Owner reserves the right to accept alternates in any order or combination and to determine the low bidder on the basis of the sum of the base bid and any or all alternates accepted.  
 Publish Date: July 6, 2014

# Celebrating a true public servant

Nearly 200 show up for Chief Allen retirement party

By Kurt Kuban  
Staff Writer

More than 170 people turned out last week to celebrate a Northville institution during a retirement party for retiring Fire Chief James Allen.

Those in attendance included Congressman Kerry Bentivolio, Northville Mayor Chis Johnson and Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer, just to name a few. Many area fire chiefs also showed up to honor Allen, who spent

50 years with the department. He was the first full-time chief in Northville's history, and oversaw big changes including the department's expansion to provide fire services for the city of Plymouth.

"It was a fantastic event," said event organizer and longtime firefighter Jason Jordan, who worked with Allen for more than 20 years. "The chief got a lot of accolades and there were many presentations during the night. Everyone chipped in to get him a stay at a North Carolina bed and breakfast. He really deserves it."

Allen's last day on the job was Monday. When it

was time to knock off for the day, the firefighters surprised him by giving him a ride home in one of the fire trucks.

Allen has deep roots in the Northville community. He grew up here, his father, Mike Allen (Allen Terrace was named for him), was mayor, and his family used to own Inch Memorials, located on S. Main Street. It's fair to say he's made many friends over the years.

So it's not surprising so many showed up at his retirement party. Among those in attendance were Gary Callender, a 28-year veteran of the Northville Police Department.

"He's the best kind of guy you'll ever want to know or work with," Callender said of Allen.

Allen thanked everyone and said he was ready for the next phase of his life - which will include a relaxing trip to North Carolina.

Longtime city of Northville firefighter Steve Ott took over as chief on Tuesday.

Ott has been with the Northville Fire Department since 1986. He lives in Northville with his wife Mary Starring, owner of Starring the Gallery in downtown Northville.

kkuban@hometownlife.com  
734-716-0783



Retiring Northville Fire Chief Jim Allen (right) greets 28-year Northville police officer Gary Callender during Allen's retirement party on June 26 at the Italian American Banquet Center in Livonia. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Local professor earns prestigious fellowship to study physics

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

A Wayne State University professor and Livonia resident is preparing to go work on a unique project this fall in Illinois.

Alexey Petrov, a physics professor at the university in Detroit, has been selected to work at the Fermilab in Illinois to study particle physics theory, dark matter and heavy quarks.

The best way to describe his work, he said, is that he studies scientific theories and particles to determine what the universe is truly made up of.

"You're trying to understand how the universe works," he said.

He admits most people's exposure to his line of work may come from watching the television show "The Big Bang Theory," a sitcom revolving around the lives of young scientists working in areas such as physics.

He was offered a 2014 Intensity Frontier Fellowship and Universities Research Association Visiting Scholar Award to study for the fall semester at the Fermilab, located in Batavia, Ill.

He said he's the first college professor from Michigan to have the opportunity to study at the lab, considered the premiere high energy physics lab in the country.

"They always try to bring more talent to look at their data," he said.

"It's quite competitive, but (applying) doesn't mean you're going to get it."

Petrov said many researchers apply for this kind of opportunity from all over the world, including from Ivy League schools and even Europe.

The lab provides technological tools Petrov would not be able to use elsewhere, one of the big reasons he's excited to research there.

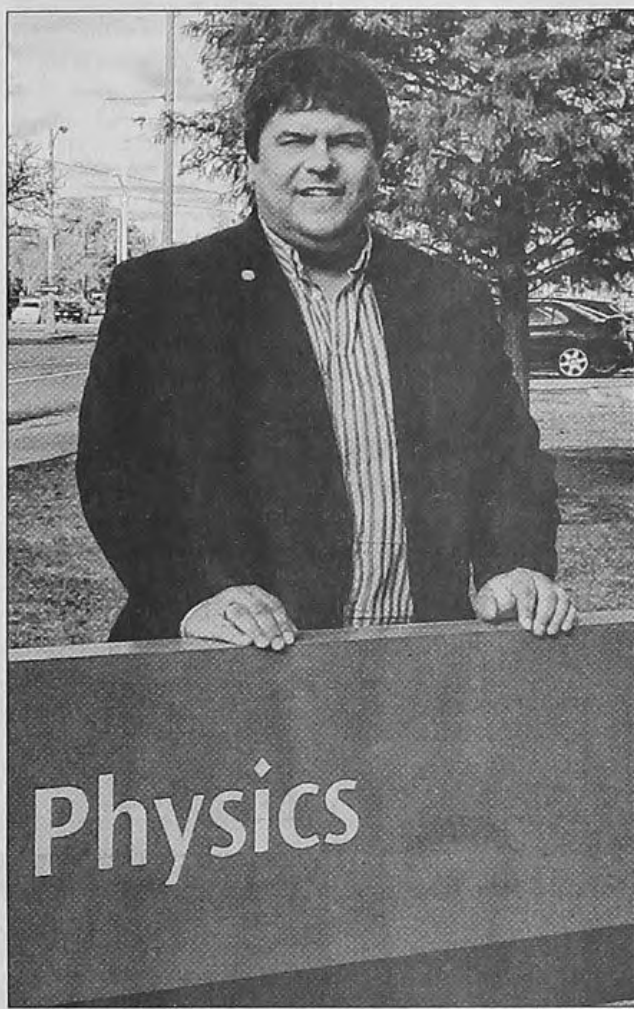
### Attracted to Livonia

He plans on spending the semester at the lab, coming back periodically to the university and his family, who has lived in Livonia since moving from the East Coast.

He was brought to Livonia from Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., where he was doing post-doctorate research. He was offered a position at WSU after a connection at Cornell told him about it, and he applied. As his wife was pregnant with their first child, they began looking for a good place to raise their family. Livonia was chosen, Petrov said, because of the great schools the community offered. He even makes it into the classrooms to help do science experiments.

"One of my colleagues lived in Livonia and said to check it out," he said. "My son plays for one of the local travel soccer teams, my daughter does ballet, it's amazing. It's one of the ideal places to live and we enjoy it."

He has one student



Alexey Petrov, a Livonia resident and Wayne State University physics professor, will travel to a premiere physics lab in Illinois after being awarded a fellowship. He is the first professor from any school in Michigan to travel to the lab, one he calls the premiere high energy physics lab in the country.

currently working on their doctorate under him, and plans to bring them to see the facility in Illinois.

One thing he hopes to begin learning more is the integration of computers into his work, something he believes will play a major role in his field as time progresses.

"I plan to work on the

data and new theories at Fermilab, read "One of the directions is computational physics," he said. "I believe computers will play a big role in physics from now on so I want to position myself better for future research."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com | 734-678-6728  
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

# Canton man honored for diversity work

Steve Spreitzer of Canton was among those honored recently as the Hindu American Foundation marked its 11th annual D.C. Advocacy Days to discuss the plight of religious minorities in Bangladesh.



Spreitzer

Spreitzer, director of programs at the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, received the HAF's Mahatma Gandhi Award for the Advancement of Religious Pluralism.

At the event, Hindu American delegates from around the country met with nearly 80 congressional offices, asking them to support a bipartisan congressional letter, spearheaded by Reps. Tulsi Gabbard, D-Hawaii, and Aaron Schock, R-Ill., that urges U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry to make human

rights and the protection of minorities in Bangladesh a priority in U.S.-Bangladesh relations.

"The breadth of HAF's policy initiatives demonstrates the growing prominence of a Hindu American voice in all realms of U.S. policy," said Harsh Voruganti, HAF's associate director for Public Policy. "From Capitol Hill, to strategic meetings with foreign embassies, the U.S. Department of State, and influential think tanks, HAF is playing a leading role in addressing a number of critical domestic and foreign policy issues facing our country."

The day's meetings culminated in an evening gala reception attended by more than 200 people, including members of Congress, congressional staffers, interfaith and religious freedom advocates, and leaders of the Hindu American community.

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**NAILS**  
I am talking about fingernails. They are as much a part of the hands as the joints and the palms and provide physicians much valuable information.  
For example, the nails may show transverse ridges, that is lines in the nails that go right to left, called Beau's lines. These ridges appear after severe illness or following chemotherapy; physicians seeing these lines know before asking a question that the patient has experienced recent physical stress.  
A person with psoriatic arthritis is well aware of his or her nails. Nail pits are a feature of psoriasis; the dermatologist will invariably inspect the nails to assess if current treatment is successful.  
Possibly the most famous nail feature is clubbing, so called because the nail changes its form, becoming higher and larger at its base, somewhat in the fashion of a club. There is a hereditary form of clubbing, but it is rare. Physicians most often associate clubbing with serious lung or heart conditions, particularly lung cancer.  
The finger nail plays an important role in Berger's Disease, Raynaud's Phenomenon and Scleroderma. In Berger's disease, the digital arteries of the hand are extremely sensitive to tobacco, even a single cigarette puff can cause digital artery spasm sufficient to start gangrene at the nail line. In Raynaud's, digital spasm causes the area in and around the nail bed to turn white; in Scleroderma, the nail bed area is susceptible to small ulcers that often become infected.  
Other ways that nails reflect disease is with spoon nails in iron deficiency and blue lines seen in arsenic poisoning.  
It is with good reason that physicians prefer the unadorned hand. Too much is hidden from medical inspection with nail polish or the addition of false or manicured nails.

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# Hams communicate around the world during annual field day

24-hour exercise is an emergency preparedness drill

By Sue Buck  
Staff Writer

Contacts were made to around the world at a Field Day outpost set up in Garden City Park last weekend.

The 47-member Garden City Amateur Radio Club organized various stations in the park.

"The club displayed its emergency preparedness communications capabilities to the public," said club member Richard Zarczynski. "There were 21 club members participating, some of whom had worked their station during the entire time."

The 24-hour exercise is meant as a lengthy communications practice drill in the event of an emergency or catastrophic event that affects normal communication channels. The goal is to make as many contacts as possible. Contacts were logged and verified, using a logging software developed just for Field Day.

"They were made in all states except Nevada, Alaska and Wyoming," Zarczynski said. "Foreign countries contacted included provinces in Canada, Austria, France, Czech Republic, Puerto Rico and South Cook Island in the Pacific Ocean."

Eleven messages were sent to the National Traffic System which passed on messages rapidly to their final destination.

There were 736 contacts on various bands. "The Morse Code station alone made 130 additional contacts," Zarczynski.

## Five stations

The five manned stations used continuous generator power during the 24-hour period. Contacts were made on the 2-, 10-, 15-, 20-, 40-, 80- and 160-meter phone radio bands. There was one CW (continuous wave) Morse code station.

"Due to our site coverage area, we were considered a 5A (alpha) classification," Zarc-



Boy Scout Troop 740 member Alex Arning learns to solder from David Herron as they make a Morse Code oscillator that's used as a way to communicate.

zynski said.

Conditions that exist in the different atmosphere layers affected the signals.

"Signals were more active overnight rather than during the day," he added.

Other activities included a testing period, which eight area amateur radio operators attended in hopes of upgrading their license privileges classification.

Young people also got to witness the exercises firsthand, and Boy Scout Troop 740 supported the club by keeping everyone well fed.

"The Scouts made their own Morse code



Ben Rosinski of Garden City listens as people from around the United States join in the amateur radio field day exercise. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN

keyer kit," he said. "They also made contacts with other stations alongside a control operator and assisted in logging when contacts were made."

## Stopping by

For Andy Mallams, a Garden City resident, this was the first year in 25 years that he couldn't participate. But he did stop by.

"During Field Day, every state in the union is on the airwaves and all of the Canadian provinces as well, including the new ones," Mallams said. "It's also a mild competition to make as

many contacts as possible in a 24-hour period but foremost, it's an exercise and an opportunity to make sure the portable equipment is operating at peak efficiency."

There was a table display with various literature explaining aspects of the ham radio hobby.

"We had 28 signed visitors and others strolling by who came out to gain new insight into what amateur radio is all about," Zarczynski said.

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

# Madonna University welcomes new dean of the school of business

Cleamon Moorer Jr., former associate professor of management at Dominican University in River Forest, Ill., has been appointed dean of Madonna University's School of Business, effective June 16.



Moorer

Moorer, 37, taught at Dominican from 2009 to 2013, while working on initiatives for the Center for Peace through Global Commerce, and helping the school achieve AACSB accreditation.

During the 2013-14 academic year, he returned to his alma mater, Kettering University in Flint, to teach courses in strategic management, managing organizations and international business.

Prior to his work at Dominican, Moorer spent five years as an adjunct and then an assistant professor at Saint Xavier University in Chicago, and a year as director of the Small Business Institute at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Ill.

"Dr. Moorer brings a commitment to quality and academic entrepreneurship to his role as dean of the School of Business. He has a vision for addressing the needs of the southeastern Michigan business

community through innovative academic programs, research and consultation services that will support economic development," said Ernest Nolan, provost and vice president of academic administration.

The new dean is enthusiastic about his new role. "Madonna is on the move, which is one of the reasons I was attracted to the school," Moorer said. "I am impressed by its international programs and its student-centered focus."

In 2004, Moorer earned a Doctorate of Business Administration from Argosy University in Schaumburg, Ill. He serves on the Board of Directors for GEI Global Energy Corp., a fuel cell electric power generation company, and is a member of the Christian Business Faculty Association, and a consultant with the Organizational Development Institute.

In addition to publishing several peer-reviewed journal articles, Moorer authored the best-selling memoir, *From Failure to Promise: An Uncommon Path to Professoriate*. His goal in writing about his trials and tribulations was to help students and educators to reach their full potential.

Moorer resides in Rochester Hills with his wife and four sons.

# Movie making fun starts July 7 at Madonna

Everyone is welcome to join in on the fun of movie-making at Madonna University, during the eighth annual Project Accessible Hollywood - PAH-fest. There will be free video contests from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 7-11, and anyone can participate. No experience is necessary. Madonna students and staff provide tips, coaching and equipment for all of the contests. Representatives for the festival will be in the university's Franciscan Center Studios, 36600 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia.

This year's contests include:

**Cell Phone Art** - involves making a one-minute video about the topic of the day using cell phone videography.  
**Digi-Portraits** - create a two-minute video portrait of yourself or someone else. Complete your video in Madon-

na's digital editing suites.

**Tone Poems** - are created using a flip camera to record images that visually express your original music.

Winners of these contests will be awarded cash prizes during the award ceremony Sunday, July 13, and their videos will be posted online.

Created by Hollywood's Christopher Coppola, PAH-fest provides a venue for everyday people to tell their stories through video. Throughout the week, teams of ordinary people from all walks of life, will be shooting and editing their six-minute MobiFlicks movies that will premiere at the award ceremony on Sunday evening.

To register, visit [www.madonna.edu](http://www.madonna.edu) and click on PAH-fest under Events.

## PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER ELECTION

At the general election on November 4, 2014 four Plymouth District Library Board members will be elected for a four year term. Candidates must file an Affidavit of Identity and a nonpartisan nominating petition by 4 p.m. Thursday, July 17, 2014 at the Wayne County Clerk. A \$100.00 nonrefundable fee may be filed in lieu of a petition. Information about the Plymouth District Library can be found at [www.plymouthlibrary.org](http://www.plymouthlibrary.org).

Publish: 7/06/14

LO-000220643 2x3

## PUBLIC NOTICE Regular Meeting

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its regular meeting July 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Friends Room on the main level of the Library at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:

Sandra Young, Administrative Assistant  
Plymouth District Library  
223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI  
734-453-0750 x 217

Publish: July 6, 2014

LO-000220168 2x3

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE

To all residents and other interested parties: Agendas and Minutes for the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees Meetings are available for review online at [www.plymouthtwp.org](http://www.plymouthtwp.org) under Agendas/Minutes and in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI.

Regular Meeting dates in 2014: July 22, August 19, September 9 & 23, October 7 & 21, November 18 and December 9.

Special meetings, if any, will occur on Tuesdays, unless otherwise posted. The public is invited and encouraged to attend the Board of Trustees Meetings.

Nancy Conzelman  
Township Clerk

Publish: July 6, 2014

LO-000220168 2x3

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PLANNING COMMISSION

PROPOSED ACTION: Request SPECIAL LAND USE Approval

DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, July 23, 2014

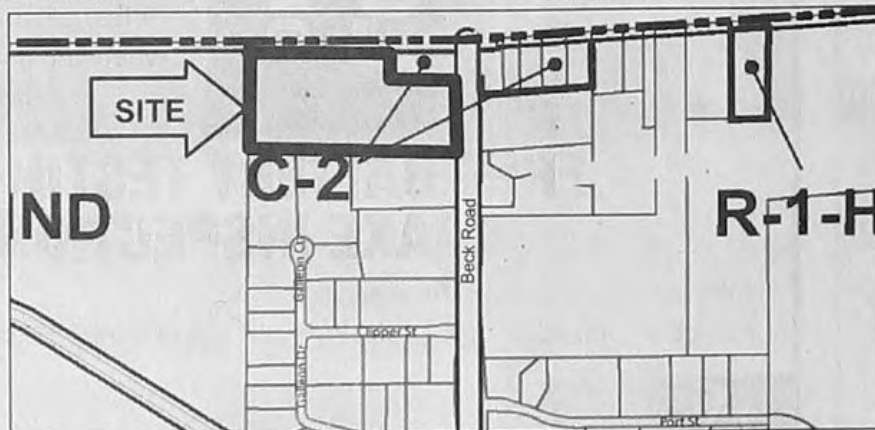
TIME OF HEARING: 7:00 PM

PLACE OF HEARING: Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of Plymouth Charter Township has received an application from Home Depot requesting SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL for the outdoor storage of materials in the Industrial District (IND), on Tax ID No. R-78-005-99-0002-706, pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Section 19.2. The property is located south of Five Mile Road, east of Ridge Road and west of Beck Road.

Application: 2144-0614

Applicant: Home Depot



LEGAL DESCRIPTION: for parcel descriptions, see tax records based on Tax ID no.(s): R-78-005-99-0002-706.

The application may be examined at the Plymouth Township Division of Public Services, Community Development Department, during regular business hours from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Written comments will be received prior to the meeting and may be mailed to 9955 N Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170 or call 734-354-3270 extension 5. The meeting will be held in the meeting room at the Township Hall which is located at 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township meetings to individuals with disabilities at the meetings/hearings upon one week notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Supervisor's Office, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone: 734-354-3201. TTD users: 800-849-3777 (Michigan Relay Service)

KENDRA BARBERENA, SECRETARY  
PLANNING COMMISSION

PUBLISH: July 6, 2014

LO-000220200 4x6



# Donations pour in for soccer referee's family

More than \$87,000 pledged from around globe

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer



John Bieniewicz

Jim Acho cannot believe the level of support he and the family of John Bieniewicz have received in the wake of the soccer referee's untimely death last week.

Acho, a friend of Bieniewicz since their days at Redford Catholic Central High School in the 1980s, has helped establish a website to collect funds to help his family during this time of need.

"It's been unbelievable," said Acho, a Livonia attorney who has served as the family spokesman this past week. "The outpouring of support is amazing, and it's been humbling."

Acho and his brother set up a fund shortly after Bieniewicz, who was 44 and lived in Westland with his family, was assaulted by a soccer player he was ejecting from a match last weekend at Mies Park in Livonia. Knowing he did not have a good chance of survival, Acho knew Bieniewicz's wife and two children would need financial help to cover burial costs, as well as future living expenses.

Since the site launched last week, more than \$87,000 had been pledged from around the globe, as of early

Thursday afternoon. Donations continue to come in at all times of day, and have come from places such as Italy, England, China and Indonesia, Acho said. Donations have also come in from many professional sports officiating groups from leagues such as the NFL, NBA and MLB, as well as the United States Soccer Federation.

"It really bolsters your faith in humanity," he said. "People are generally good and care."

He said the support has most likely been amplified by the world's attention on soccer with the World Cup tournament currently taking place in Brazil and their desire to help out an official's family.

It has garnered attention for those looking for soccer-related news, making headlines across the globe in soccer-hungry cities, he said.

"This story was the top story on the London Daily Mail two days ago," Acho said.

Several fundraisers are in the works, he said, including at local Livonia eateries such as East Side Mario's. More details are expected after Bieniewicz's funeral, which was not scheduled as of press time.

Folks looking to help donate can do so at any Huntington Bank branch in Michigan by mentioning his name when giving donations, as well as drop off donations at the Livonia Police Department. Folks can donate to his family through the site Acho's family has established, johnbieniewiczmemorial.com.

## Death ruled a homicide

Mary Mazur, spokeswoman for the Wayne County Department of Health and Human Services, said the county received Bieniewicz's body Thursday morning for an autopsy after his organs were collected for donation.

The death was officially caused by blunt force trauma to the neck. It was ruled a homicide by the county medical examiner.

"This type of injury commonly occurs due to the impact of a firm object which can include being struck by a

fist," she said.

Tim Makinen is spokesman for Gift of Life, a statewide organization based in Ann Arbor that coordinates some organ donation.

Makinen said there are more than 3,300 people on a wait list for organ transplants in Michigan, mostly for kidneys. Speaking about the practice in general, he said organ donation can be the "silver lining" to any tragic loss of a loved one, knowing many others may continue living with their loved ones' organs.

"It's just an awesome gift," he said. "(Families are) looking beyond their own tragedy and saying, 'How can I help others?'"

Bieniewicz worked with pediatric dialysis patients at Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor and had officiated soccer at various levels, including professional and collegiate matches.

The man who allegedly assaulted Bieniewicz during the match, 36-year-old Dearborn resident Baseel Abdul-Amir Saad, was charged Monday with assault to do great bodily harm less than murder, a 10-year felony. Since Bieniewicz's death, the charges could change, though Wayne County Prosecutor's Office spokeswoman Maria Miller said there was no update as of early Thursday afternoon.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com | 734-678-6728  
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

# Timeshares generally not greatest investment tool

**Q: Dear Rick: We've been to your seminars and we read your column, however, we've never heard you discuss timeshares. My wife and I just returned from a vacation where we looked at a timeshare. After sitting down with a representative of the company and going through the numbers I believe whether we use the timeshare for our vacation or rent it out, it would be a good investment. My wife disagrees. I hope you can persuade her to go my way. The timeshare we're thinking of purchasing is in Hawaii.**

**A:** I hate to burst your bubble but I agree with your wife. Timeshares are not good investments. A timeshare may be good for future vacations but it's not an investment where you can hope to make money.

An investment is something that's going to generate income on a regular basis or appreciate in value when sold. Unfortunately, timeshares don't fit those criteria.

It is very difficult to sell timeshares. Even though the Internet has made it easier, there are still a lot more sellers than buyers. Historically, when you look at what timeshares have sold for on the secondary market, they're generally selling for less than half of what people originally paid. Timeshares are not good investments for the long run.

In most timeshares you can sell your allotted time. So, if you have a week in Hawaii you could sell that week. However, selling a particular week is not necessarily the easiest thing to do.

In addition, when you look at the prices you're receiving they are not that favorable once you factor in the commis-



Rick Bloom  
MONEY MATTERS

sions. Look at some of the resale sites. It's not unusual to pay upwards of 30 percent in commissions.

If someone was thinking about buying a timeshare I would tell

them to focus on quality of life not on investment potential. In addition, as opposed to buying directly from the developer, I would look at purchasing one on the secondary market. In many situations you can buy a timeshare for one-third of the price on the secondary market.

Whether you buy a new timeshare or one on the secondary market, it

is important to understand your rights and responsibilities. Remember, not all timeshares are the same. Do your homework so you're not buying into a property that's not maintained and managed properly.

In addition, it is important to know what you are going to pay on a yearly basis. Not only do you purchase the timesh-

are upfront (typically, somewhere in the \$20,000 range), you have an obligation to pay a yearly maintenance fee.

I have known many people who have purchased timeshares, some think they made the right decision, others have regretted it. However, one thing I have yet to see is anyone who's made money by selling their timeshare.

Look at it as investment in your future vacations, not as an investment for your retirement.

Good luck:

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

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Mon 7/7 - Fri 7/11 at 10:00 AM

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE (PG)

RIFFTRAX LIVE: SHARKNADO TH. 7/10 8:00 PM

**EARTH TO ECHO (PG)** 11:30, 1:50, 4:15, 6:30, 9:00

FRU/SAT LS 12:00

**TAMMY (R)** 12:15, 2:40, 4:50, 7:05, 9:45 FRU/SAT LS 12:00

**DELIVER US FROM EVIL (R)** 11:15, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50

FRU/SAT LS 11:25

**TRANSFORMERS: AGE OF EXTINCTION (PG-13)**

D-BOX LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE 11:00, 6:05 FRU/SAT LS 11:10

**3D TRANSFORMERS: AGE OF EXTINCTION (PG-13)**

\$2.50 PREMIUM PER 3D TICKET

D-BOX LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE 2:25, 9:30

**JERSEY BOYS (R)** 9:10

**22 JUMP STREET (R)** 11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:15 FRU/SAT LS 11:45

**HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2 (PG)** 11:40, 2:00, 4:25, 6:45, 9:05

**MALEFICENT (PG)** 12:00, 2:15, 4:35, 6:55

# Potters Guild set for Art in the Park

The Village Potters Guild is preparing, for the 19th year in a row, to participate in the annual Art in the Park festival, set for July 11-13 in downtown Plymouth.

In 1995, members of the soon-to-be-formed guild displayed their works inside one small tent right inside of the park under the trees where they showcased the work of a few individuals. The following year, the Guild formally established the cooperative Village Potters Guild with 13 members. The guild has grown to 34 members and many participate in the Art in the Park Festival.

Guild booths will be found on the corner of Forest and Ann Arbor Trail, where they will display a range of ceramic works. Both functional and decorative pottery will be available, including tableware, garden art, jewelry, and vessels of all shapes and sizes. Their booths have been located on this corner for over 15 years and have grown from one tent to six tents of ceramic



Village Potters Guild booths will be found on the corner of Forest and Ann Arbor Trail during the 2014 Art in the Park.

art works.

The Guild provides an artistic outlet for potters and ceramic artists from a wide range of communities in the area. In addition to membership, the guild offers classes from fall through spring and

additional studio time for advanced students in the summer.

For information, contact the Guild (340 N. Main in Plymouth or 734-207-8807) or visit the website at [www.villagepottersguild.org](http://www.villagepottersguild.org).

# State spending \$2.4 million to help fix local roads

Local residents wishing the state would do more to fix roads are getting their wish, at least a little.

State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, said Wednesday the state has allocated more than \$2.4 million to help fix local roads in western Wayne County.

Heise, a member of the House Transportation Committee, called the list of projects to be undertaken a "good first step."

- Among them:
- » \$300,000 for I-275, from M-153 to Five Mile, to help with concrete repairs;
  - » \$900,000 for Silver Springs Drive, from Seven Mile to Eight Mile, to reconstruct and repave;
  - » \$700,000 for Lilley Road, from Ann Arbor Road to Plymouth Road, to do new overlay; and
  - » \$575,000 for Plymouth Road, from Mill Street to Haggerty, to do new overlay.
- "While, this list of projects is a good first step to making

our local roads better and safer for the hard-working people of Michigan, more work is needed," Heise said. "We must find a long-term solution."

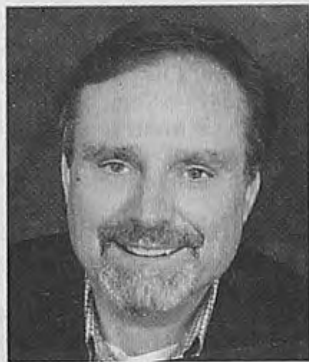
Although the state Legislature and governor have allocated almost \$870 million to improve roads and bridges since fiscal year 2012, the state spent zero general fund dollars on roads during fiscal years 2003-11 creating widespread deterioration of Michigan roads.

Heise said the projects will "serve thousands of area residents."

"These projects will ... make the quality of life in our communities better, our roads more efficient, and the transportation of our children on the way to school safer," Heise said. "We deserve to have better roads in this state, and it is incumbent upon elected officials in Lansing to find a way to accomplish that without putting it on the people by way of higher taxes."

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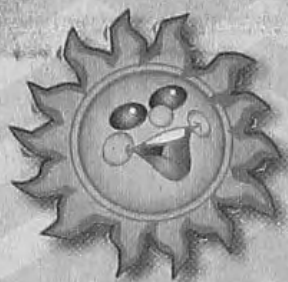
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## Boka comes of age as high-level player

Plymouth defenseman a stalwart for U.S. National Hockey Team

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

Nicholas Boka is taking a much deserved summer break, but the game of hockey is always on the back of his mind.

The Plymouth native, who turns 17 in September, is coming off his first season with USA Hockey's National Development Team Program where he drew high praise as a defenseman for the Ann Arbor-based Under-17 squad.

The 6-foot-1, 196-pound

Boka appeared in 52 games scoring six goals and adding 13 assists with a minus-2 rating after coming out of Compuware's Midget Major program the previous season.

When not playing internationally, the Under-17 team played an ambitious schedule which included games against USHL, a league that features many of the country's top junior players looking for a chance to play in the collegiate ranks and ultimately professionally.

"It was a big adjustment,"

said Boka, who has committed to play at the University of Michigan. "Before you're playing against guys you're own age and you're one of the best players, then come in and you're surrounded by all your teammates who are the best in the country and playing against guys who are older. So you have to work harder than you ever had just to get the win every night and I think that was the biggest adjustment playing against the older

See BOKA, Page B2



Nick Boka played stellar on defense in international play for the U.S. National Under-17 team based in Ann Arbor.

## SILL IN THE GAME STILL

Hall of Fame bowler Aleta Sill shares her expertise in the sport by coaching others

By Dan O'Meara  
Staff Writer

While her competitive career has faded to legendary status, Aleta Sill continues to make bowling a big part of her life and to impact the sport in a different way.

Once one of the best female bowlers in the world, the Farmington Hills resident's passion is coaching others and teaching them to bowl.

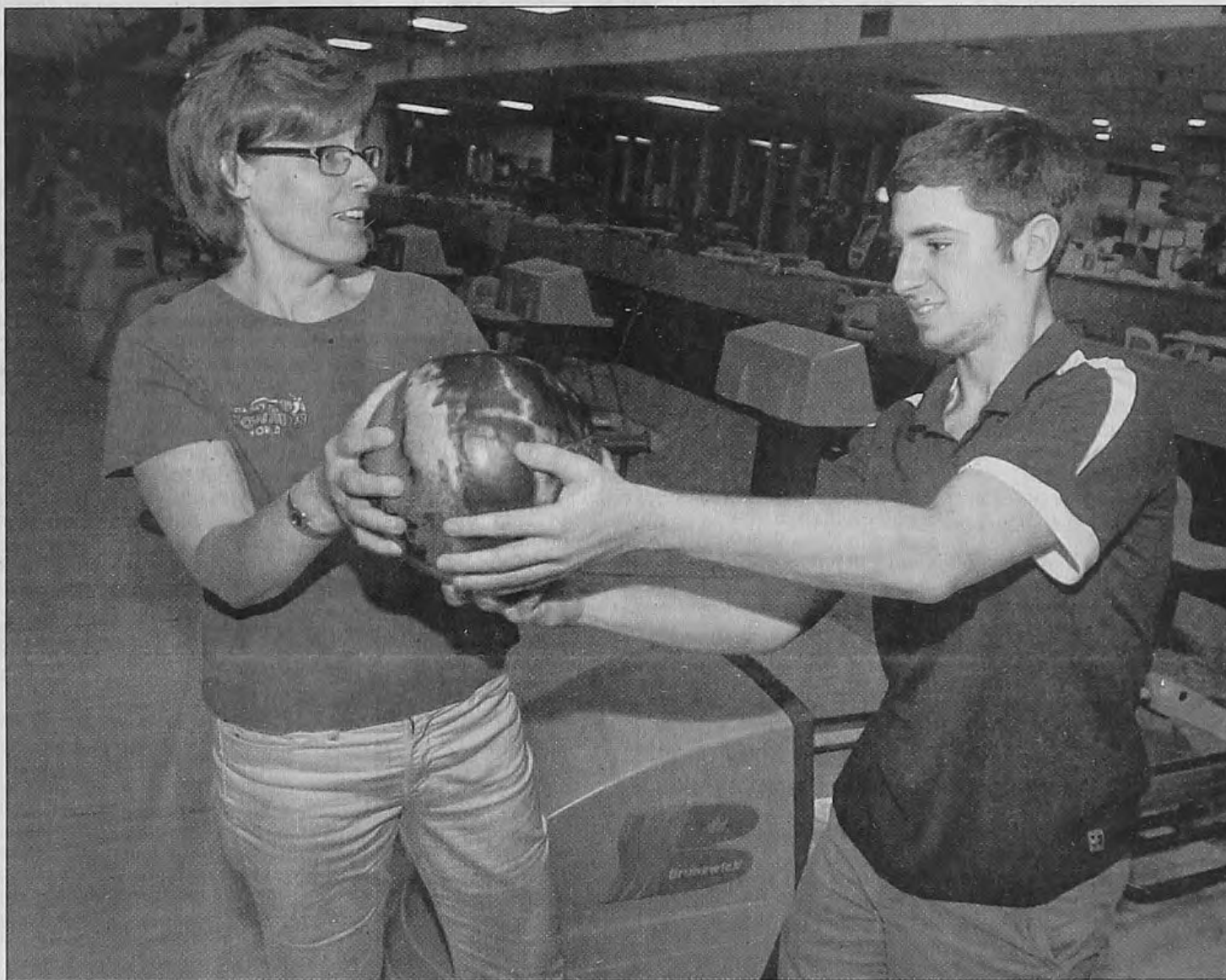
Sill started doing that when she was still competing 26 years ago, and she had made that her career since retiring from the women's professional tour in 2001.

She and business partner Michelle Mullen, also a former pro bowler, have operated Aleta Sill's Pro Shop at Country Lanes in Farmington and taught lessons there for the last 11 years.

A lot of practice and a lot of help made Sill a 31-time tour winner. She bowled 31 perfect games and is now a member of seven bowling halls of fame.

"That's why we're so passionate here about coaching," she said. "If I didn't have the coaching that I had, I know I would not have been as successful as I was."

"I had coaches from the time I was 12 all the way through my career. In



See SILL, Page B4 Hal of Fame bowler turned coach Aleta Sill works with student Aaron Radner of Farmington Hills. JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

### YOUTH SOCCER

## WWSL offers first-class pitch proving ground

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

What do United States soccer stars Clint Dempsey and Tim Howard have in common with players in the Wayne-Westland Soccer League?

Dempsey and Howard — like the WWSL's close to 500 players — learned the sport on a much smaller stage than the one the 2014 World Cup is unfolding on this month.

Whether or not a current Arsenal player makes it to the soccer stratosphere like the before-mentioned American stars isn't important, current WWSL president Keith Tilley said.

What's vital is that youngsters in Wayne, Westland and surrounding communities are given an opportunity to learn what the sport is all about.

"Our main objective is to give kids an opportunity to play



Members of a Wayne-Westland Soccer League select team celebrate following a recent victory.

and learn the sport of soccer and be able to afford it," said Tilley, who has three kids of his own in the WWSL. "We want to get kids off their iPods, off the

couch, away from the TV and outside doing something active."

The WWSL has evolved in a positive direction since Tilley

first got involved close to a decade ago. Once mainly an organization that offered recre-

See SOCCER, Page B4

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# Garden City's Ross second in GAM event

Mike Hayes of White Lake won the Golf Association of Michigan's third Net Match Play championship Wednesday over Dustin Ross of Garden City at Lakelands

Golf and Country Club, 2-up. "I just kept getting better every round I played, and I didn't make hardly any mistakes," Hayes said. "And that's

not something that happens all that often. "I can't believe I won it to be honest. Every guy I played was great. They were good golfers, true sportsmen and great

people. I really surprised myself by doing this." Hayes, 47, made it to the final with a 4 and 2 win over David Fagan of Warren. Ross, 35 and a U.S. Army National

Guard pilot who works for an airline, slipped past Tyler Lewis of Grand Blanc in the other semifinal, 1-up. "I hit it great on the front nine, but I was also

able to use more 3-woods there," Ross said. "On the back nine, I had to hit a driver in a few places. I just started hitting it in the trees and Mike wasn't making mistakes."

## BOKA

Continued from Page B1

guys."

### Age difference

As a 16-year-old, Boka was lining up against players that were up to four years his elder. "They go up to about 20 years old and they're all mean and nasty," Boka said.

But despite the age disparity, Boka more than held his own as the Under-17 squad went 31-23-1 overall and finished 15-0 against foreign opponents.

"He was a very highly sought after player when we brought him in, so coming into the program he already established himself as a pretty darn good player within the age group," said Don Granato, who coached Boka on the Under-17 team and will move up this season as the head coach for Under-18 NDTP squad. "That said, he's improved tremendously. That is because of his intensity, his work ethic and really he's an intelligent enough kid to figure out how to make himself better, which I think is really a big key." Boka also proved he was as good as advertised.

"Physically, his conditioning and off-ice habits have really paid off over the course of the year," Granato said. "Everything has improved, but I'd say adding power and speed, and just his knowledge at his position as a defenseman. His knowledge of the game has improved immensely

over the season."

### Making plans

Granato said Boka will get an increased role with the Under-18 team, which trains out of the Ann Arbor Ice Cube.

"We work with a leadership group, and he was among that this year," Granato said. "That's collective. His peers feel that way and so does the coaching staff."

Boka led the Under-17 in penalty minutes (144), but Granato said that statistic is misleading.

"He's really an aggressive player," the U-17 coach said. "He could probably cut down on that a little bit, but on the same side he's got to play an assertive and aggressive game. Penalties are a consequence of that, but on the coaching side there's a lot more good than bad, I can tell you that."

"I love his intensity. He's passionate."

Granato calls Boka a "low maintenance guy."

"He's quiet," the coach said. "His teammates respect him. He's definitely a team player. He asks very good questions. He approaches you when he needs something. He's direct, but he's not overbearing. We don't need to hold his hand. We don't need extra attention. He's very professional. For a young kid, that's probably why he's accomplished so much at his age. He carries himself very well."

### International game

Boka helped Team USA win the World Under-17 Challenge this season in Nova Scotia. The Under-17 squad also

captured tournaments in Slovakia, Sweden and Quebec.

"Internationally we did great," Boka said. "Our first trip overseas we were trying to figure it out and what it was really like to represent your country. We took a lot of pride in that and it kind of showed overseas."

Boka said he took a more cerebral approach to the game as the season wore on.

"I think I was able to improve my mental aspects of the game as far as not letting things get to me as easily and having a better attitude on the ice, and being a real leader towards the end of the season," he said. "I think I really focused on taking on a role."

"The coaching is obviously the best. As a defenseman I think I grew so much over the season. Looking at video and hearing everything every day at the rink as far as what I can do better, and things I can improve upon. I think that helped a lot towards the end of the season. I started to catch on as far as what these guys (coaches) are saying. I think the biggest thing was not mentally letting the game control me and starting to control the game on my own, and trying to be a factor every night."

### Away from home

Boka also had to make an adjustment going to a different school (Ann Arbor Pioneer) and living with a host family.

"Don't know if I'll do it this year," said Boka, who is contemplating staying home in Ply-



Plymouth's Nick Boka, a defenseman with the U.S. National Under-17 team, played 52 games last season.

mouth this upcoming season. "It wasn't that bad. I liked going to school with all my teammates, it was a lot of fun. We get a lot of help with our schoolwork, especially when we go on international trips. I think the adjustment was pretty easy."

When Boka is away from the rink, he tries to make quality time with his family, which includes his parents, Don (a teacher who played football at Ferris State) and Lora (a school principal), along with his younger brother Luke, a forward who will play this season for Victory

Honda, a Midget Minor AAA team.

"I spend as much time as I can with my brother. We play Xbox, train with him, shoot pucks with him."

A highly sought-after recruit, Boka gave an early yes to Michigan State, but after agonizing over his decision, he did a 180-degree turn and gave a verbal commitment to the Maize and Blue.

"The decommitment was actually tough," Boka said. "(MSU) Coach (Tom) Anastos was one of my first coaches. I knew him pretty well, but I think the commit to

Michigan was pretty much the easiest because I loved going to Michigan games growing up. I just felt like I was at home."

### Next season

Boka reports back to the U-18 team on Aug. 25 where he'll lace up his skates again for another lengthy season.

"They need the summer off," Granato said. "We had over 130 practices this year and we were in the weight room 110 times. We don't want them on the ice and participating over the summer."

Boka, however, just started back with conditioning work at Barwis Methods, a training facility in Plymouth owned and operated by Mike Barwis, Michigan's former football strength and conditioning coach (under Rich Rodriguez).

"I do that every morning and it's tough," Boka said. "It's probably the best training I've ever had. I'm excited to get the season started."

This year's Under-18 team will play a balanced schedule against, not only international and USHL squads, but against NCAA Division I teams as well.

But there's only a single goal Boka has on his mind entering the 2014-15 season.

"Expectations are to win the World Under-18 championship, and nothing less pretty much," he said.

It's only the start of summer, but hockey is remains on top of his brain.

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### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH LEGAL NOTICE

Public Test of the M-100 Optic Scan Voting System  
For the State Primary Election  
Tuesday, August 5, 2014

A public accuracy test of the M-100 Optic Scan Voting System will take place at 12:00 noon on July 21, 2014, at the Charter Township of Plymouth Clerk's Office, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170, for the August 5, 2014 State Primary Election. The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer program used to tabulate the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of law. For further information contact the Clerk's Office at (734) 354-3224.

Nancy Conzelman  
Township Clerk

Publish: July 6, 2014

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### PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP SENDS OUT WATER QUALITY REPORT

The Plymouth Township Water and Sewer Department has sent out its annual drinking water quality report to consumers.

Among other things, the report discloses the amount of various materials in the water, including microbial and inorganic contaminants, and pesticides and herbicides.

The annual report has been required by law since the U.S. Congress passed the 1996 Safe Drinking Act Amendments.

Most of the Detroit metro area, including Plymouth Township, gets its drinking water from the Detroit River. The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department operates the water treatment facilities and pumping stations that supply water to the township, which operates the pipeline infrastructure and acts as the retailer to area businesses and residents.

Residents or business owners who have not received the report or have further questions can contact the Plymouth Township Water and Sewer Department at (734) 354-3270.

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# Bowling fundraiser to benefit animal shelters

By Dan O'Meara  
Staff Writer

If you like bowling and helping animals, the ninth annual Bowl-4-Animal Rescue is right up your alley.

The event, slated for Saturday, Aug. 9, at Country Lanes in Farmington, will benefit the Dearborn Animal Shelter and the Michigan Animal Adoption Network.

"It was suggested we might want to align with some charity and do some work in the community," Michelle Mullen, a former pro bowler who teaches at Country Lanes, said.

"At that point, it was a no-brainer for me to think about animals. I couldn't do the amount of work we do if it wasn't something I was passionate about. That's definitely animals in need.

"We have a whole

network of volunteers who are working on this year-round. We go full-steam in the summer because it's when we're slower."

Mullen and business partner Aleta Sill, also a former pro bowler and teaching pro, co-run the Aleta Sill Pro Shop at Country Lanes.

In the first year, the event raised \$6,500; that number grew to \$40,000 last year and put the eight-year total at \$150,000. Mullen and Sill hope to raise another \$50,000 this year.

"It's a lofty goal, but we're working hard," Mullen said. "It doesn't matter whether you're a bowler or not. There's a way for everybody to participate."

"We've been blessed that the lanes have been full in years past. With the pledge drive and people who bring in the money, we want to grow out it that way."

The online pledge drive is under way, and the highest fundraisers can win special prizes that have been donated.

They include a Detroit Tigers sky box with 26 tickets and a chef's tasting for six people at the Coach Insignia atop the Ren Cen and the Novi Chop House.

"That just totally elevated anything we gave out," Mullen said. "To the high fundraisers last year, we gave a bowling ball and a lesson. Now it's a Tiger suite."

"Our clientele bring in amazing items, so we're getting known for the auction items and the quality of them."

In addition to the bowling fees raised on the night of the event, there will be an auction, offering various sports memorabilia.

"I bleed his event and I don't even take a dime

for granted," Mullen said, adding they're at \$8,000 right now.

"If somebody comes in and hands us 10 bucks, it's like, 'Yes!' (fist pump), because that's how we get there. It's all the little bits. Big or small, they all come together for us."

All proceeds will go to the two organizations that care for animals.

"They do great work, but there's just so many," Mullen said. "They're full; most agencies are. We have a lot of work to do as a community and people to eradicate this. In our humble world, we try to make a difference."

Information is available online at bowl4animalrescue.org, on Facebook by the same name or by calling 248-615-9060. All forms can be downloaded. The event is on Twitter at bowl4animalresc.

# Park trio in Hall of Fame game



Players in the recent Hall of Fame game include P-CEP participants (from left) Alexis O'Flynn (Canton), Dave Bower (Canton coach), Kiersten Vala (Salem), Dave Medley (Salem coach), and Rose Krasofsky (Salem).

Three 2014 graduates from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park took part in the Michigan Women's Lacrosse Hall of Fame Game, held June 14 at Detroit Country Day.

On the squad were Salem's Kiersten Vala, Rose Krasofsky and Canton's Alexis O'Flynn competed in the senior

showcase.

In order to participate, players must have been nominated by the Michigan Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association.

Other players from the Park also received nominations and invitations to play: Salem's Lauren Britton, Bridget Kerwin and Canton's Melissa Neal.

## SPORTS CAMPS

### 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, at the high school. The cost is \$50.

For more information, email coach Matt McCowan at mmccowan54@gmail.com or call 248-761-9201.

### Plymouth Y programs

The Plymouth Family YMCA is offering a variety of youth instructional programs. The focus will be on fun, exercise and social interaction through sports instruction.

The programs include preschool soccer, preschool and youth basketball and volleyball. Ages

vary by program but offer something for children age 3-14.

The programs are open to YMCA and community members. For more information, contact the YMCA at 734-453-2904 or visit ymcadetroit.org/plymouth.

### 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 5-7:30 p.m. Contact Richard Mui at 248-229-2738.

Visit www.cantonchiefsfootball.com to download a flier.

## SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

ational soccer teams, the WWSL currently fields several select- and premier-level squads for both boys and girls.

Along with the advanced opportunities, the organization forged a more-recognizable identity when it decided to name all of its upper-level teams "Arsenal."

"It's kind of neat now, because when we go to tournaments anywhere around the Detroit area and people see 'Arsenal' on our uniforms, they know where we're from," Tilley said. "We've created a friendly, positive atmosphere for our teams' players and families."

While the vast majority of the WWSL's players reside in Wayne and Westland, living in one of the two communities is not a requirement, Tilley said.

"The fact that we offer a good product means we have kids from all over wanting to play for us," he said. "There is one player on the U8 girls select team I coach who lives in Brownstown Township."

Compared to several neighboring youth-soccer programs, the WWSL is reasonably priced, Tilley said. A select-level player can expect to pay around

\$450 for a combined spring/fall season.

"We don't pay our coaches like a lot of the organizations do, so we're able to keep our fees down," Tilley said. "Even though our coaches work for free, they know the sport well and are great at teaching it to the youngsters."

Tilley added that he would eventually like to see the WWSL host an annual tournament - whether it be 3-v-3 or 11-v-11 - not just for fundraising purposes, but to further expose the club's offerings to a wider base of players.

### Registration info

The WWSL is currently accepting player registrations for the upcoming fall season. To learn more about the club and to register, visit www.wwslsoccer.com.

### Summer academy

The WWSL will be offering an introductory summer soccer academy for kids ages 3-8, July 7-11 at the Wayne Rec Center, which is located at the corner of Howell and Annapolis roads. For the \$50 registration fee, each player will receive a T-shirt and a soccer ball, along with instruction on the sport.

For more information, visit the above-mentioned website.

ewright@hometownlife.com



Kids as young as 4 years old can participate in the Wayne-Westland Soccer League.

## SILL

Continued from Page B1

Indy-car racing, you have the pit crew and the driver. I feel like I was the driver, but my pit crew was great.

"They got me finely tuned and that's why I succeeded. That's with any sport. You'll never play at the highest level if you don't have eyes behind you."

### Gauging success

Seeing young bowlers she has taught put into practice what they've learned and do well is the reward for Sill.

That has replaced the competitive fire and is the equivalent of her winning a tournament when she was competing.

"It's the best feeling in the world," Sill said. "When someone I've worked with says they won something or shot a big score, there's nothing like that feeling. It's way better even than my bowling."

"High school bowling is getting bigger every year in Michigan. We've had a (state) champion just about every year, and that's like icing on the cake."

Sill estimates she and Mullen have taught nearly 27,000 bowlers over the last quarter century.

Young bowlers across the metro area are a large part of their clientele, but they're not limited to a geographic region.

"We travel and do clinics," Sill said. "We'll go anywhere anybody wants us. Our name is getting out there more and more, and we'll go to their centers. We travel all over the state."

### The keys to success

Patience and the willingness to be coached are essential to becoming a good bowler, according to Sill.

"There are times - and it's not just kids; it's adults - when you tell them something and it's uncomfortable, it's 'Well, I can't do that; that doesn't feel right.'"

"If you think you're going to take a lesson and all of a sudden go out and shoot 250, a lot of times that doesn't happen, because we have to change muscle memory. It takes time to make a change."

"You might not even bowl well for the first couple weeks. But when you get it, that's when we're going to get to another level."

Results are not Sill's immediate concern with a new student. She adds they often equate throwing a strike with making a good shot.

"They might miss the head pin to the right and throw it in the gutter, and I'll say it's a good



Aleta Sill is a Hall of Fame bowler who owns the shop and teaches bowling at Country Lanes in Farmington. JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

*"I could beat anybody who had a better physical game, because they didn't have the mental game I did."*

ALETA SILL  
Hall of Fame bowler

shot because I'm not worried about the end result right now," Sill said. "I'm changing a technique."

"It's not so much score-oriented when we're making changes. We're not worried about score. That's what I have to dispel sometimes to make a change."

### Get a (proper) grip

As part of her work in the pro shop, Sill also applies her years of experience to custom fit a bowling ball to a client's hand and delivery.

"It's an art in itself and essential to the sport," she said. "Our work is to make people understand it's not just three holes in the ball."

"And I've stayed up; I don't rest on my laurels. I'm always willing to learn something. The bowling balls have changed a ton since I was on tour."

"It's just a matter of the hands you touch and understanding it, all the flexibilities. Once I get a ball on their hands, they see the difference."

"When a grip impairs your swing and we fix it, you can see how much better the swing gets by using less grip pressure."

### No distractions

Surprisingly, Sill's best attribute as a bowler was not her physical game - the actual delivery of the ball - but her mental game, her ability to stay focused.

"I didn't have the best physical game, in my opinion," she said. "But this is what was good (tapping the side of her head)."

"I could beat anybody who had a better physical game, because they didn't have the mental game I did. I could block things out; nothing could disturb me."

"People would always tell me I looked

smoothed and everything. When I watched tape, I saw flaws."

"But I could repeat shots. If you can repeat, that's the name of the game. It's just repetitive motion, and I could do that."

Sill also is a left-handed bowler, which often put her in the middle of an ongoing controversy in bowling.

"The left side of the lane has much less traffic, so the lefties always got a bad rap," she said.

"Right-handers were always complaining about the lefties, because we had it good on our side of the lane."

"If we didn't bowl well, it was because we couldn't adjust. If we did, it was because the lanes were walked up or set up for us."

"My motto was: 'I'm laughing and taking my money all the way to the bank. Complain all you want.' That just didn't bother me."

### Early start on tour

Sill joined the ladies pro tour when she graduated from high school in 1980, and she won her first tournament the next year.

She struggled in 1982 and wondered if she should stay the course. She did and became the first woman bowler to earn \$1 million.

"One of the other bowler's mom gave me this quote, and I said it all the time for years and years: 'I am a strong person. I accomplish all my goals with ease. God will take care of the rest for me,'" Sill said.

"That year I won my first Queens title, which was a big paycheck in 1983 at 25,000 dollars. I was runner-up for Bowler of the Year. From then on, my career was pretty good."

"The last year was the worst year I ever bowled, and it just soured me from bowl-

## MSU EXTENSION CLASS

# Aspiring home food makers get encouragement, reality check

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

I've never met a zucchini bread recipe I haven't tweaked, borrowed, combined and eventually baked.

For the past year and a half, I've made dozens of loaves, striving to perfect a gluten-free, nut-and-squash-filled treat, with an eye toward selling them at local farmers markets.

When Michigan State University Extension offered a class at Holy Trinity Evangelical Church in Livonia recently about Michigan's Cottage Food Law, I joined about a dozen other aspiring cottage food makers to find out just what it takes to turn a homemade baked good, canned food or mix into a profit. The 2010 law allows the production of certain foods in home kitchens that may be sold in markets or roadside food stands.

"It gives a person an opportunity to try out their entrepreneurial wings so to speak," said Christine Venema, MSU Extension educator in food safety. "The law was designed to help those beginning entrepreneurs who want to think about a food business before they have to go through the process of having a fully industrialized licensed kitchen that has been inspected by the local environmental health department.

"The law was ratified in 2010, but the concept was conceived in 2007 when the economy took a plunge. People were looking for ways to make money. You can make up to \$20,000 per household annually. That's nice supplemental income for someone on Social Security. But that \$20,000 represents the gross — before you take out for supplies, labor and booth space."

The law also limits what kinds of foods the at-home producer can make and where he or she can sell it. Internet and retail store sales are forbidden. Foods that require temperature control — either hot or refrigeration — such as milk products, meats, meringue or custard pies, hummus, and fish, must be produced in a licensed kitchen. Raw sprouts, canned fruits or vegetables, salsa, vegetable and fruit butters, garlic in oil mixtures, beverages, pet food, sauces and condiments also are not allowed.

The list of acceptable products includes breads, vinegars, cakes, muffins, cooked fruit pies, jams and jellies, cookies, popcorn, cotton candy, chocolate-covered treats, roasted coffee beans, dried soup mixes, dip mixes, baking mixes and herbs.

Although some class members found their signature foods, including canned pickles and homemade cole slaw, on the "do not make" list, Carrie Aprik, was encouraged to discover that dried herbs are a viable cottage food product. The Royal Oak woman, her sisters and their mother, Marjorie Banner of Northville, are considering dried herb sales.

"My mom has a huge garden and we had so much last year that we thought about selling and we were looking into options on how to do that," said Aprik, who grew up in Northville. "She's a great gardener and always has great products, she just plants too many. We were thinking initially of jars of dried herbs and maybe herb salts just to get started and we'll see if there is any interest from there.

"We were hoping to do it this summer. Everything is planted."

## Safety tips

Although the Michigan Department of Agriculture doesn't inspect at-home kitchens, Venema said adhering to safety standards is not only good practice, but essential for avoiding the spread of food-related illnesses. She advises cottage food makers to clean, sanitize and then allow to air dry any surface they or the food they make might touch during production. That includes the kitchen floor, cupboards, knobs, cutting boards, utensils and containers. She

## MSU EXTENSION CLASSES

Ready to make and sell homemade foods under the Michigan Cottage Food Law?

First get inspired by taking a food preservation class through MSU Extension:

» Learn how to make freezer and canned jams and jellies 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, July 19, at Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Participants will make strawberry jam.

» Find out how to successfully and safely use a pressure canner for low-acid foods and a water bath canner for acid foods in a pressure canning class, 1-3 p.m. Saturday, July 19, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Participants will can carrots.

» Head to Detroit Eastern Market for a class on canning dilled products, 11 a.m. July 8, in Shed 2 at the market, 2934 Russell, Detroit.

Christine Venema, MSU Extension educator, said a class in salsa-making is in the works and likely will be held in August at Holy Trinity Church. Check the Wayne County MSU Extension website at [msue.anr.msu.edu/county/info/wayne](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/info/wayne) for details later this month. Or register for the carrot, strawberry jam and dilled products classes on the website.

recommends having several color-coded cutting boards on hand, accurate thermometers and food scales. Frequent hand-washing is a must.

"On the day of production you make sure you've showered, washed your hair," Venema said. "Wear an apron, a hat, take off jewelry. I can't stress enough that on the day of production production lock your pets up. If you have kids running around with dirty sticky fingers, send them outside."

Venema advises home cooks to check local zoning ordinances to make sure their city or township allows a home food product and to research and obtain liability insurance.

Tina Lloyd, Canton Farmers Market market master, said all of her vendors are required to carry liability insurance. Lloyd also checks labels on products, to make sure they are in sync with the law and she rejects items that have been made by a third party and re-packaged by the vendor.

"I have high standards," she said. "All of my vendors have to have labels on their products and people should know where their food comes from. Customers need to talk to (vendors) about where they make their stuff."

Lloyd said the Cottage Food Law offers "a cool opportunity" for at-home food makers to sell their products.

"It's neat and they are excited. I must get contacted by about 40 bakers a year," she said.

## Making mixes

Kristi Zebrowski of Westland is among Lloyd's three cottage food vendors. Zebrowski sells her gluten-free baking mixes at both the Canton Farmers Market and at a Canton-based support group for individuals with gluten intolerance. She also has sold her products at Northville Farmers Market.

"I started with a couple of recipes, pancake and bread, and now I'm up to eight," she said.

Although she may take the leap from home kitchen to an industrialized environment in the future, her cottage food production is "working out" just fine.

"I'd be ready if I got to the point that I was leaving the market completely sold out every time," she said.

Her tips for budding cottage food makers:

» Look at your cost and labor time.

» Check out your competition. See how similar products fare in a farmers market setting.

» Research the Cottage Food Law and check out [www.michigan.gov/cottagefood](http://www.michigan.gov/cottagefood).



Christine Venema, MSU Extension educator, gives pointers on safe canning.



Coco-Nutty Granola Bar Mix is among the products Kristi Zebrowski of Westland makes at home for sale at local farmer markets.



Timers, thermometers, measuring equipment, containers and label-making supplies are shown as cottage food makers ready their product from kitchen to market.

# Animal aid groups give scholarships, hot weather tips

## Scholarships

The Michigan Pet Fund Alliance is offering financial help for individuals who can't afford to attend its 2014 Michigan Getting to the Goal Conference, planned for Sept. 4-5 at the Somerset Inn in Troy.

Registration fee is \$95 and will include four presentations from national speakers, six "break-out" sessions, and breakfast and lunch on Friday, Sept. 5. Applications for financial help must be emailed to [conference@michiganpetfund.org](mailto:conference@michiganpetfund.org) by Aug. 6 or mailed to Michigan Pet Fund Alliance, 2210 Lancaster, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302. Visit [michiganpetfund.org](http://michiganpetfund.org) for scholarship and conference information.

National speakers will include Mike Fry, executive director of Animal Ark Shelter, in Hastings, Minn.; Kate Hurley, D.V.M., director of the Koret Shelter Medicine Program at UC Davis and Julie Levy, D.V.M., director of Mad-

die's Shelter Medicine Program at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine; Julie Lewin from the National Institute for Animal Advocacy; Keren Overall, Ph.D., editor of *Journal of Veterinary Behavior*; Ronald Schultz, Ph.D., from the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; Kim Wolf, founder of Beyond Breed; and Nathan Wionograd, founder of the No Kill Advocacy Center.

The Michigan Pet Fund Alliance is dedicated to ending the killing of healthy and treatable homeless dogs and cats in Michigan.

### Keep pets safe from heat

With temperatures expected to remain in the 80s this week, it's the perfect time to consider ways to keep your pets safe from the heat.

The Michigan Humane Society offers these tips:

- » Bring animals inside during hot or humid weather. Pets



## PET PROJECTS

should not be left outside in very warm, humid conditions for extended periods, even in the shade.

» Ensure that pets have access to plenty of fresh, cool water at all times, indoors and out. Hydration is critical to help your pet regulate his body temperature.

» Avoid chaining or tethering a dog outside. He may get twisted and become unable to

reach shade or water, or his water dish may get knocked over.

» In homes without air conditioning, use fans to keep air circulating or keep your pet in a cooler area of the house, such as the basement, during the hottest part of the day.

» Avoid vigorously exercising pets during the heat of the day. Instead, take walks in the early morning or evening hours. Avoid hot concrete or asphalt surfaces as they may cause damage or discomfort to the animal's paw pads.

» Keep in mind that old, young and short-nosed animals such as bulldogs, pugs and Himalayan or Persian cats are especially susceptible to heat-stroke.

» If you open windows in your home, be sure the screens are secure to prevent cats or other pets from falling out.

MHS also recommends leaving dogs at home, rather than letting them ride along on shopping trips or for errands

in hot weather. Even on a relatively mild 85-degree day, parked in the shade with the windows cracked, the temperature inside a car could reach 102 degrees Fahrenheit in just 10 minutes.

"Pet owners bringing their dogs along on errands may have the best intentions and not think twice about dashing into a store for just a couple minutes," said Debby MacDonald, MHS chief cruelty investigator, in a news release. "But not only can that cause immediate discomfort and stress for the fur-coated passenger, when it takes longer than expected due to a hard-to-find item, a line, or running into a neighbor, it could put the pet at serious risk of heat-stroke."

If you see an animal in immediate distress in a parked car or left in a yard without water, food or shelter, contact local animal control or police.

## REUNIONS

Send school reunion information to Sharon Dargay at [sdargay@hometownlife.com](mailto:sdargay@hometownlife.com).

### BLOOMFIELD HILLS ANDOVER CLASS OF 1974

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

### DEARBORN EDEL FORD HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1964

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

### DEARBORN FORDSON HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES OF 1952

62nd reunion set for both January and June classes, Saturday, Sept. 13, at Park Place in Dearborn. Contact Al Orloff at [orloffal@aol.com](mailto:orloffal@aol.com) or 734-432-9308; or Marvin Smyth at [mmsmyth@juno.com](mailto:mmsmyth@juno.com) or 313-562-4378 for more information.

### CLASS OF 1984

A 30-year reunion is planned for Saturday, Aug. 2, at Roma Hall Banquet Center in Garden City. Cost is \$45 per person for buffet dinner, open bar, and dancing. Contact Michele (Tonna) Belczak at [michelebel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:michelebel@sbcglobal.net), visit the class Facebook page, Fordson Class of 1984 or [www.payitsquare.com/collect-page/33028](http://www.payitsquare.com/collect-page/33028).

### DETROIT CODY HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1964

50-year reunion runs 6 p.m. to midnight Friday, Sept. 19, at the Sheraton Detroit

Novi Hotel, 21111 Haggerty, Novi. For more information, contact Mike and Barb Kerby, 734-525-0546, [kerby66bam@msn.com](mailto:kerby66bam@msn.com).

### DETROIT MACKENZIE HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES OF 1950S, '60S

Fourth annual picnic set for noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 31, at Nankin Mills Pavilion in Hines Park, corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive, Westland. Bring your own picnic or buy Michigan-made hot dogs, chips, pop, water and ice cream on site. T-shirts, sweat shirts, and music CDs also will be sold. Seating available under the shelter, or bring your own chairs and pop-ups. Questions? Call Janet Cable at 734-377-4009 or email [mackenzie50s-60s@hotmail.com](mailto:mackenzie50s-60s@hotmail.com). Or check out [www.classcreator.com/Detroit-MI-Mackenzie-1960](http://www.classcreator.com/Detroit-MI-Mackenzie-1960)

### FARMINGTON HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1974

40th reunion planned for Friday-Saturday, Aug. 29-30, with a Friday night social and tour of the high school, wine/beer tasting and dinner and dancing on Saturday. For more information, email David Hayes at [davidhayz@yahoo.com](mailto:davidhayz@yahoo.com).

### FRASER HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1964

50-year reunion from 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Aug. 9, at the Sterling Inn, 34911 Van Dyke, Sterling Heights. Contact Rich Whipple, 734-751-2992, [rekjwhipple@yahoo.com](mailto:rekjwhipple@yahoo.com).

### INKSTER CHERRY HILL HIGH SCHOOL ALL CLASSES

Open to faculty, staff and alumni, noon to midnight Saturday, July 26, at Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, Westland. Pre-registration is \$10 per person through July 15 and \$15 after July 15 and at the door. No charge for faculty and staff. To register visit [CHHSALUMNI.NET](http://CHHSALUMNI.NET). Contact Debbie Endress Gannon at [debbie.gannon@teamdetroit.com](mailto:debbie.gannon@teamdetroit.com).

### CLASS OF 1964

50-year reunion, 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Friday July 25, at American Legion Hall, 23850 Military, Dearborn Heights. Contact Christine Walker Cruickshank at 248-313-0544.

### PLYMOUTH CANTON AND SALEM CLASS OF 1984

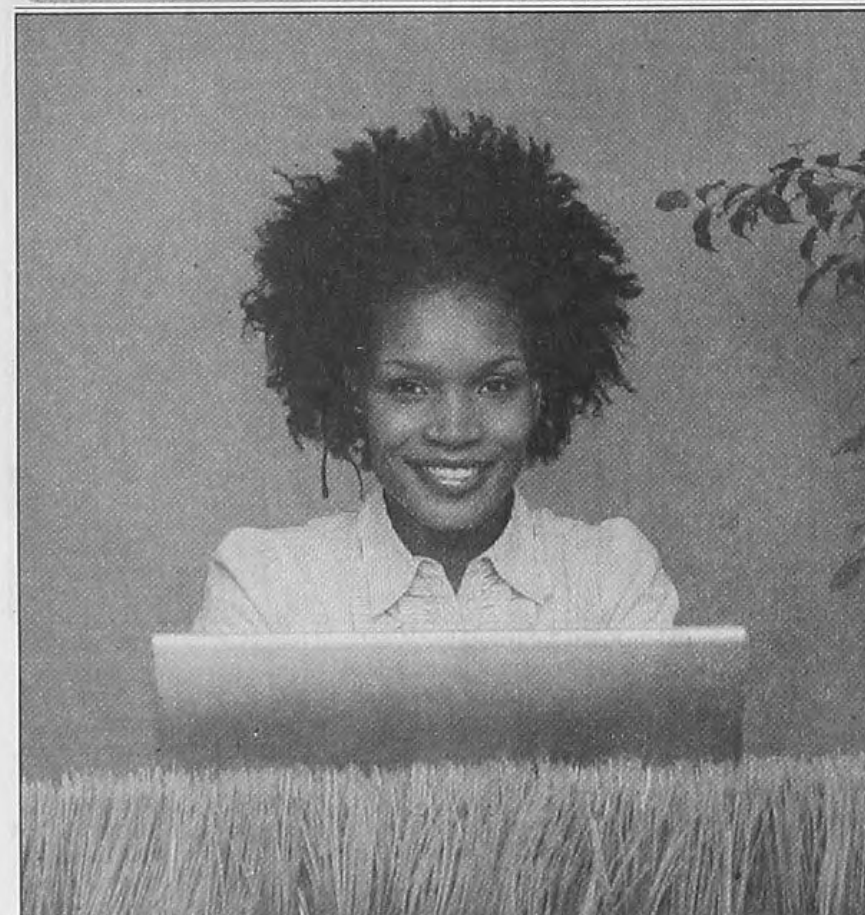
30-year class reunion is set for Saturday, Sept. 13. For details visit [Plymouth-CantonSalem1984.com](http://Plymouth-CantonSalem1984.com).

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Email resume to: [rschuman@mngmc.net](mailto:rschuman@mngmc.net)

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Large Southfield Apartment Community seeks full time Maintenance Technician. Must have a valid unrestricted driver's license, reliable transportation & have your own tools. Clean criminal background. Necessary skills include: Carpentry, HVAC, some Plumbing & Electrical. Send resume to: [mgr.coachhouse@mailll.com](mailto:mgr.coachhouse@mailll.com) or fax: 248-557-0906 PLEASE NO CALLS.

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Exp'd. for Michigan Healthcare Professionals, Farmington Hills Must be responsible for a wide range of administrative & clerical support related tasks working independently with little or no supervision. The responsibilities of the Executive Administrative Assistant include managing the administrative tasks, projects, & calendar of the Chief Administrative Officer & Corporate Compliance Officer. Respond w/cover letter, resume [dhuren@mhpdoctor.com](mailto:dhuren@mhpdoctor.com)

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## Seniors meet stroke robot at aging conference

Seniors and their caregivers listened to clinical experts on a variety of health topics, browsed exhibits and participated in free health screenings at the fourth annual Healthy Aging Conference, held June 28 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

"I've attended the Healthy Aging Conference in the past," said Patricia Krolikowski of Plymouth, in a news release. "Every year, there's something different that I find interesting and helpful. I learned about the health screenings and immunizations I should be having as an aging adult, and the free exercise classes offered at the hospital."

Krolikowski was one of more than 100 seniors who participated in the free event. After learning how to reduce the risk of a stroke and recognize warning signs in the first of four seminar presentations, attendees were introduced to the stroke robot.

Through the Michigan Stroke Network's Remote Presence Robotics, St. Mary Mercy Livonia and a select group of Michi-

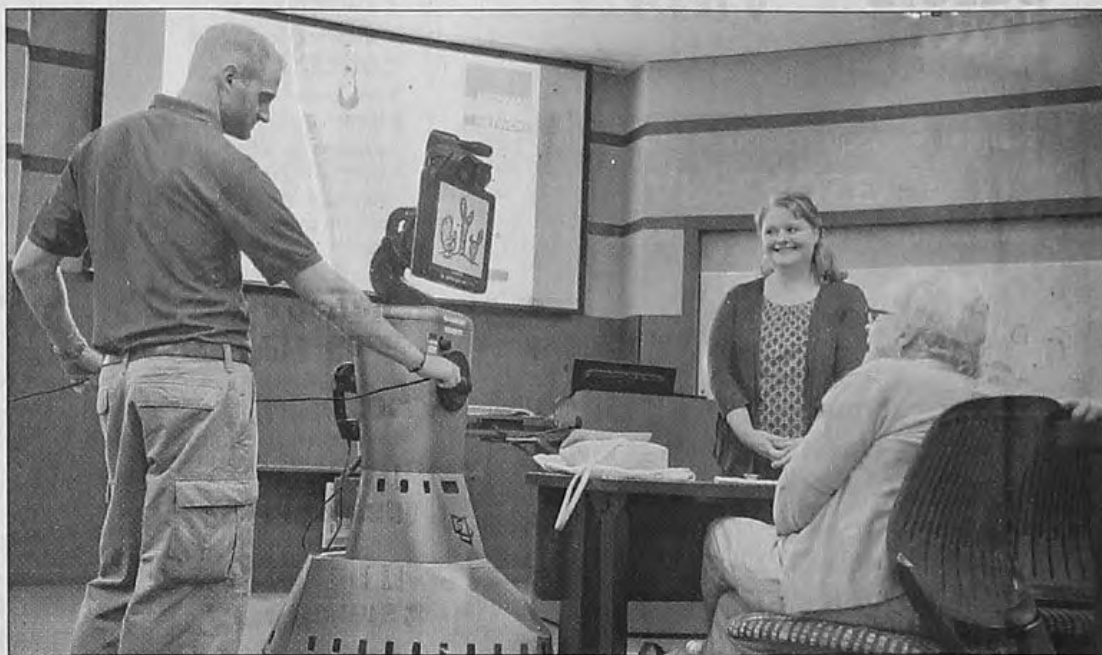
gan hospitals are able to offer advanced stroke care.

"The robot was amazing," said Margo Gerber of Northville, a volunteer who took part in the robot demonstration. "I could not believe the stroke specialist from St. Joseph Mercy Oakland was evaluating me through the robot. It was just wonderful to see how advanced and comprehensive care can be."

St. Joseph Mercy Oakland and St. Mary Mercy Livonia are members of Saint Joseph Mercy Health System and partners with the Michigan Stroke Network.

Other seminar presentations advised seniors on how to maintain independence, access community resources and eat healthy. Clinicians were available for specific health screenings, including memory, balance, mental health, podiatry and weight.

For more information about the senior services offered at St. Mary Mercy Livonia, visit [stmarmymercy.org/seniorservices](http://stmarmymercy.org/seniorservices).



Margo Gerber (right) of Northville participates in a demonstration of the Michigan Stroke Network's Remote Presence Robotics, which allows St. Mary Mercy Hospital and a select group of Michigan hospitals to offer advanced stroke care. The robot was part of the "All About Stroke" presentation by Gail Schramek, nurse practitioner (center), at the Healthy Aging Conference Saturday, June 28, at St. Mary Mercy Livonia. The robot allows a remote physician to speak, see and interact with patients. Jim Aldrich, physician services, holds a microphone for the robot.

## Stick with your meal plan to stay healthy

Making healthy food choices is the key to staying healthy, feeling better and managing and preventing diabetes. Diabetes is the leading cause of kidney failure, and by controlling it, most cases of kidney failure can be prevented or delayed. The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan offers these tips on eating healthy while still enjoying the many foods summer has to offer:

» At a summer buffet, scan the table. Fill your plate with vegetables and whole grains. You can include meat dishes, but the portion should be limited to the size and thickness of a deck of cards. If you choose to eat meat, stick with lean meats such as poultry or fish instead of high fat meats, like barbecued ribs. Choose grilled chicken (remove the skin)

instead of something fried.

» Look for high-fiber foods, such as dried beans and peas, lentils, and dark green vegetables such as broccoli, cabbage, spinach, and kale. Dishes with green beans, black beans, and black-eyed peas are always good choices, as are whole grain foods such as brown rice, couscous, and whole wheat bread and pasta.

» Watch out for fatty foods. Limit dishes with a lot of mayonnaise, sour cream, and butter. Choose veggies that are light on dressing and cheese by using your own dressing made with a little olive oil and vinegar. If you make a sandwich, use whole wheat bread with mustard or salsa instead of mayonnaise.

» Try to drink water, unsweetened tea, or diet soda with your meal. If you drink

alcoholic beverages, limit yourself to no more than one drink (for women) or two drinks (for men) a day.

» Have fruit for dessert. This is a great opportunity to get in some of your daily fruit intake. Everyone — including people with diabetes — needs three to four servings of fruit a day. An occasional small slice of pie or cookie is OK if you can work it into your meal plan.

Summer is a time to enjoy family, friends, and life. It's also a great time to refocus on feeling better, eating healthy foods, and controlling or preventing diabetes. For more information on diabetes, or kidney disease and kidney failure, contact the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan at 800-482-1455 or visit [www.nkfm.org](http://www.nkfm.org).

## MEDICAL DATEBOOK

### Upcoming

#### Cooking workshops

» The Plant Based Nutrition Support Group offers a cooking demonstration, dinner and keynote talk, 6-9 p.m. Monday, July 7, at the Great Lakes Culinary Center, 24101 W. Nine Mile, Southfield. Cost is \$33. Register at [www.plantbasednutritionsupportgroup.org](http://www.plantbasednutritionsupportgroup.org). Keynote speaker is Jill Edwards, a certified clinical exercise specialist through the American College for Sports Medicine.

» Chef Rebecca Wauldron of Busch's Fresh Food Market, will demonstrate grilled dishes and a Botsford Hospital dietitian will give tips on keeping the recipes healthy and nutritious, 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 9, at Busch's, 37083 Six Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$15 and includes a \$5-off-\$50 coupon, giveaways, recipes, samples, and more. Seat-

ing is limited. Registration is required. Call 734-779-6100 or visit the guest service counter at the store.

» Learn ways to make desserts that won't derail your health goals in a workshop with a dietitian from Botsford Hospital, 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, July 16, at Busch's Market, 33300 W. 14 Mile, West Bloomfield. Cost is \$5 and includes a \$5 Busch's coupon, recipes, and samples. Registration is required. Call 248-539-4581 or visit the guest service counter at the store.

#### Breast cancer support

Meets from 6:30-8 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan), Livonia. Call 734-655-1100 or visit [www.stmarymercy.org](http://www.stmarymercy.org).

## DIABETES QUESTIONS? WE HAVE ANSWERS!

Summer offers you the opportunity to enjoy the warm outdoors, vacations, picnics and even learn new life skills. Garden City Hospital's Diabetes Summer School invites you to a FREE event focused on promoting healthy living and having fun.

**TUESDAY, JULY 15, 2014; 6 - 8 PM**

GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL

Medical Office Building, Lower Level Classrooms  
6245 Inkster Road | Garden City, MI 48135

This is the perfect event for family members, friends and individuals with diabetes, prediabetes, or who are at risk for diabetes complications. Some of the small-group topics to be covered include *Planning a Picnic Lunch*, *Diabetes Jeopardy Trivia*, and *Becoming a Fat Detective*. Guests can also expect door prizes, refreshments, and a diabetes book sale.

To RSVP, call 734.458.4330.  
Space is limited.



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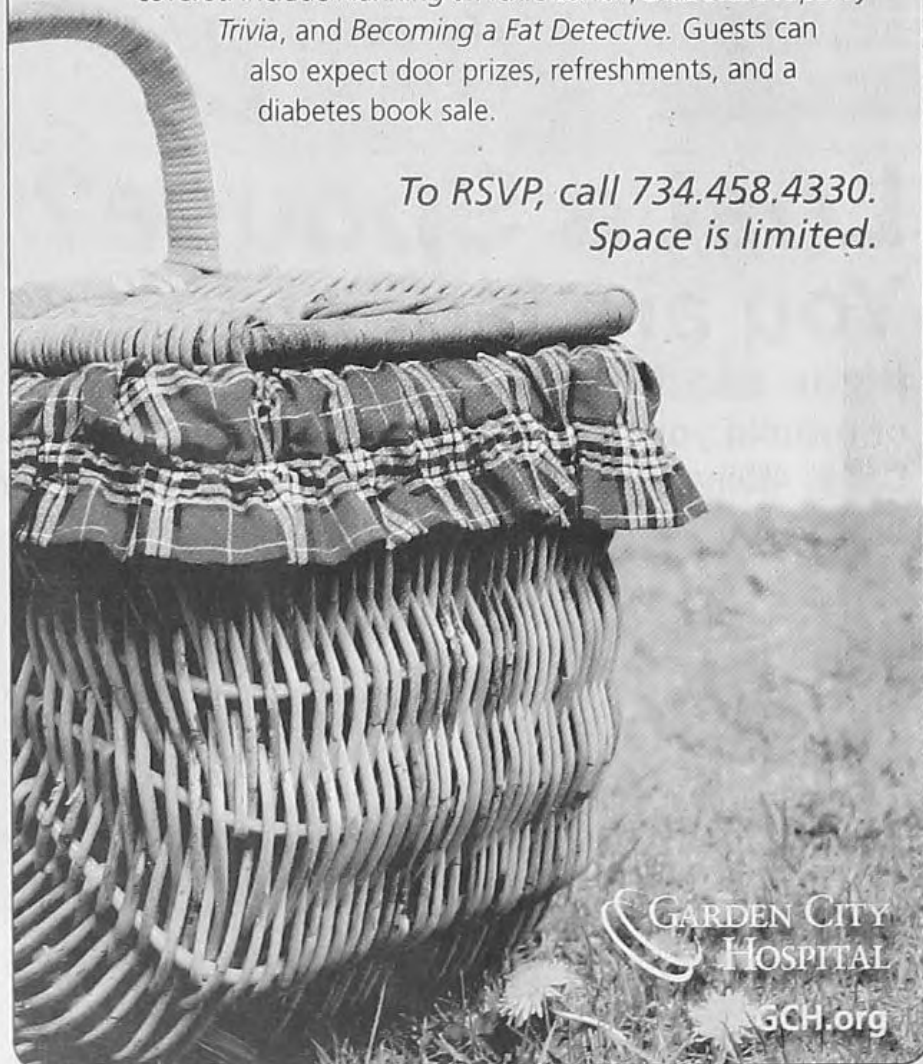
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## Understanding that your soft skills are a very important skill set

Watch out, hard skills and technical know-how: You've got competition. According to a new CareerBuilder survey, the vast majority (77 percent) of employers consider soft skills just as important as hard skills when it comes to evaluating candidates for a job, and 16 percent even say they're more important.

By Mary Lorenz  
CareerBuilder writer

### What are soft skills?

As my colleague pointed out recently, soft skills typically describe "communication, leadership, critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, team skills, relationship management and a long list of other so-called intangible traits." Though they are hard to measure quantitatively, soft skills remain a sought after trait and recognized business differentiator among employers.

Perhaps the heavy focus on soft skills has to do with the fact that employers have been struggling to find candidates

with the hard skills they need (particularly when it comes to technology skills and big data expertise). Many employers have even reported that they've started focusing on cultural fit and potential over skills, figuring they can train them on-the-job with the necessary hard skills.

According to the survey of more than 2,000 hiring managers nationwide, the top ten most popular soft skills companies say they look for when hiring include:



around potential behavior, candidates are more likely to say what they think you want to hear.

By asking for real-life examples, you'll get more insight into candidates' soft skills, such as how well they work under pressure, how they communicate and their work ethic. Some more examples of behavioral interview questions include:

— Describe a time when you had a problem with a supervisor and what you did to resolve it.

— Give me an example of how you handled a very tense situation at work.

— Tell me about a time when you had difficulty getting others to work together on a critical problem and how you handled it.

— Tell me about the best leader you have worked with, why you felt this way, and what you learned from that person.

— Describe a problem you faced that was almost overwhelming and how you got through it.

Keep in mind, of course, that these questions are not full-proof there is no "magic bullet" when it comes to hiring, says Newell however, behavioral interview questions are your best bet for finding employees with the soft skills your organization values most.

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

1. Strong work ethic
2. Dependability
3. Positive attitude
4. Self-motivation
5. Team-oriented attitude
6. Organization; ability to manage multiple priorities
7. Ability to work well under pressure
8. Effective communication skills
9. Flexibility
10. Confidence

### Evaluating soft skills:

The one type of interview question you must ask Whether through pre-employment testing or during the interview process, using behavioral interview questions is one of the most effective ways to evaluate a candidate's soft skills. Behavioral interview questions are those that center around real-life experiences the candidate has had, as opposed to hypotheticals. For example, instead of asking, "What would you do if..." ask "Tell me about a time when..." or "Give me an example of..."

There are two main reasons behavioral interview questions work:

One, past behavior is a better predictor of future success on the job than potential behavior, according to workforce management expert Nancy Newell, because it helps predict future success on the job by looking into past behavior; two, when they hear questions shaped



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**CRIME DATA ANALYST**

Canton Township is now accepting applications for Crime Data Analyst. Application Deadline: Friday, July 11, 2014. Job description with complete qualifications and hiring process is available on the Canton Township website: <http://canton.townshipmi.gov/jobs/113297.html> (EOE)

**MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN**

Large Southfield Apartment Community seeks full time Maintenance Technician. Must have a valid unrestricted driver's license, reliable transportation & have your own tools. Clean criminal background. Necessary skills include: Carpentry, HVAC, some Plumbing & Electrical. Send resume to: [mgr.coachhouse@gmail.com](mailto:mgr.coachhouse@gmail.com) or fax: 248-557-0906 (734) 722-4580 x9 PLEASE NO CALLS.

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Interested candidates should email resumes to [hr@gasbarre.com](mailto:hr@gasbarre.com) or mail them to: Gasbarre Products, Inc., Attn: Human Resources, 590 Division Street, DuBois, PA 15801

For more information, please visit [gasbarrefurnacegroup.com](http://gasbarrefurnacegroup.com). The Gasbarre Furnace Group is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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**Help Wanted - Medical**

**Medical Assistant, FT**

W. Bloomfield Internal medical office. Benefits. Resume: [dman@millenniummedicalgroup.org](mailto:dman@millenniummedicalgroup.org) Or fax: 248-855-1323

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50 Level
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1 Mr. Sandburg
2 Matty or Felipe
3 Junk or snail -
4 Loot
5 Synagogue leader
6 Heavy hydrogen discoverer
Answer to Previous Puzzle
7 Youngest Cratchit
8 Under - (secret)
9 John, in Aberdeen
10 Old interjection
11 At our wits' -
17 Jump over
19 Blond shade
22 Narrow shoe
23 Han's love
24 Long time
25 Fast jets of yore
26 Tito's real name
27 - "Petty of "Free Willy"
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32 - voyage!
33 Druids and shamans
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