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Canton inching closer to its 'biggest park'

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Patriot Park, a 15-year dream to create a sprawling, 134-acre recreation spot on Canton's west side, could begin to emerge this summer, becoming the largest township-maintained park.

In what officials tout as the latest community jewel, Patriot Park will be built northwest of Ford and Ridge roads, offering amenities such as hiking trails and athletic fields for soccer, lacrosse and football, among other activities, Canton Maintenance Manager Brad Sharp

said.

It will be larger than any of Canton's nine existing township parks, including the 105-acre Heritage Park, Sharp said, giving visitors ample space for passive recreation and active sports.

"This will be our biggest park," he said.

As local officials ratchet up plans for Patriot Park, Canton residents are being asked to weigh in on what amenities they believe would help make it one of the area's premier recreation sites.

Pulte Homes, building new homes west of the park site,



FILE PHOTO

Canton's new Patriot Park will be larger than any other township park, including Independence Park, shown here.

already plans to install a 12-foot-wide walking trail through the park — a path that also accommodates a water main the company needs to build.

"Some of the work could begin very soon," Sharp said. "The path and gravel parking lot could happen this summer." Another phase, one with no

timetable, is expected to involve picnic shelters, restrooms and other amenities.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

George Belvitch, president of the Plymouth-Canton chapter of PFLAG, presents checks to Eva Davis (left), director of the Canton Library, and Carol Souchock, director of the Plymouth District Library, for LGBT materials.

District, PARC reach deal on Central sale

By Brad Kadrach
Correspondent

About a month after the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education passed a resolution ending its policy of negotiating only with Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex representatives for the sale of Central Middle School, the board Tuesday sold the property.

To representatives of the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex.

Board members voted unanimously to accept the PARC's offer to purchase the school and the surrounding property, including the football field and the land that houses the Miracle League of Plymouth special-needs baseball fields.

PARC is buying the property for some \$3.3 million. The district had the property appraised at some \$4 million.

"We now have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to transform this 100-year-old historic facility into an arts, education and athletic complex that will serve the Plymouth community for decades to come," said PARC representative Don Soenen, who has been the face of the project. "Plymouth is a wonderful community with a great quality of life. We can now enhance that quality of life."

More than a year ago, the Plymouth-Canton board passed a resolution saying it would negotiate exclusively with PARC for one year. That year passed without an agreement and, in late December, the board ended the exclusive arrangement.

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Pro-LGBT group funds library books, awaits court ruling

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

With same-sex marriage gaining momentum and a Supreme Court ruling expected by late June, a retired

Plymouth-Canton educator who helped start a pro-LGBT group appears encouraged.

"I am optimistic," said George Belvitch, president of Plymouth-Canton's PFLAG chapter, a group of

parents and friends supporting LGBT issues. "I think the cows came out of the barn a while ago. It would be very difficult for the Supreme Court to say 'no' at this point."

Belvitch's remarks came Monday morning as he hand-delivered two \$100 donations allowing the Canton Public Library and the Plymouth

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Canton reaches compromise on smoke lounge hours

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Canton hookah lounge owner's warning that a midnight closing rule would kill her business convinced township officials Tuesday night to reach a compromise.

Chai Hookah Lounge owner Suzanne Makki said a decision

by the township board to push back the closing to 1 a.m. will make a huge difference in her late-night revenues.

"Midnight would mean I'd literally have to shut my doors," Makki said.

Canton officials adopted smoke lounge rules Tuesday following earlier complaints about noise and litter outside

Chai Hookah Lounge, formerly Off the Hookah, on Cherry Hill Road west of Canton Center.

Responding to complaints, Makki said the lounge no longer has a DJ or karaoke. She also said she has an employee who monitors activity by patrons inside and outside the business, located in a small shopping center.

Canton officials warned Makki that, should legitimate complaints continue, they will revisit the smoke lounge rules and adopt a midnight closing time.

As Tuesday's discussion began, Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin indicated support for a midnight closing time, saying she has heard com-

plaints from neighbors and other business owners about noise and litter.

"It's got to stop someplace," McLaughlin said, "and I guess I don't think that midnight is unreasonable."

However, she and others agreed to compromise after

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LIBRARY

Continued from Page A1

District Library to expand their LGBT-themed collections. Library directors from the two facilities accepted the gift at the Canton library.

Belvitch, a retired Plymouth-Canton teacher, principal and elementary director, said he understands the need for reading materials for parents, their children and others personally confronting lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender, or LGBT, issues. He learned nearly a decade ago that his son Michael, now 32 and living in Chicago with a partner, is gay.

Belvitch founded the local PFLAG group last May with Laurie Mayers, chapter secretary, and Kate Borninski, now a Plymouth-Canton school board member.

The group formed one month before the Canton Township Board of Trustees became the 35th community in Michigan to adopt an anti-discrimination ordinance intended to help protect LGBT rights in housing, the workplace and public accommodations.

Eva Davis, Canton Public Library director, said PFLAG's donation will help the library provide additional resources to help parents and others learn more about LGBT issues.

"It helps us support the community," she said.

Carol Souchock, Plymouth District Library director, also welcomed the donation for materials.

"We appreciate the opportunity to expand," she said.

Library employees will determine which materials are appropriate to buy.

Belvitch said the donations are the first for the fledgling PFLAG chapter, one of hundreds across the nation. It welcomes new members to its meetings at 3 p.m. the first Sunday of each month at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon Road, in Plymouth.



PHOTOGRAPHER
George Belvitch became involved in supporting the LGBT community after learning his son is gay.

Belvitch said the local PFLAG group has 15-20 members. It hopes to make a difference by educating critics of LGBT rights. Legal battles have raged across many states, with same-sex marriage opponents saying marriage should be between a man and a woman while others say LGBT equality is a civil rights issue.

In all, 36 states now have same-sex marriage. Michigan's status is facing the Supreme Court but, in the meantime, Gov. Rick Snyder has said he will not appeal U.S. District Judge Mark Goldsmith's ruling in January that Michigan must recognize 300 same-sex marriages performed nearly a year ago.

Belvitch has said libraries can be a good source of information for patrons seeking to better understand a child or relative within the LGBT community. He said research has shown that children whose parents accept them are less likely to face problems with self-esteem, alcoholism, drug abuse, HIV and suicide.

For more information on the Plymouth-Canton chapter of PFLAG, send an email to Belvitch at belvitch-george@hotmail.com or call 734-358-8280.

dclcm@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @CantonObserver
734-972-0919



BRAD KADRICH
The crowd at Tuesday's Plymouth-Canton Board of Education meeting erupted in applause when the board approved the sale of Central Middle School to the PARC group.

SALE

Continued from Page A1

But the sides kept negotiating and, with sole financing coming from Plymouth's Mark and Patty Malcolm and their corporation, Malcolm Central LLC, the deal finally got done.

Malcolm, who with his wife is active in preserving Plymouth's history, called the deal a "critically important milestone" for the district and the community.

"We intend to do everything we can to preserve and re-purpose Central Middle School and include it in a charitable arrangement with PARC ... for the enduring benefit of the Plymouth community," Malcolm said.

PARC, envisioned as a venue for athletics, concerts, classes and other cultural and community events, is planned for a refurbished and re-purposed Central Middle School, which is closing after the current school



BRAD KADRICH
Mark Malcolm and his wife Patty provided the funding for the purchase.

year. Space at PARC would be used by groups that now use Central facilities - youth football, soccer and other sports programs, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools community education, the Miracle League of Plymouth - as well as other groups that have shown interest, such as the

Michigan Philharmonic. Board members hailed the deal as an "everyone wins" agreement. "In a world where we very seldom get win-win situations, I think this is a great opportunity for the district to get fair market value and for the community to have a property where it can do the things it wants to do,"

Trustee Mark Horvath said.

In the short term - two or three years - PARC and its tenants would be able to sustain the facility, but in the long term, organizers are looking toward a joint Plymouth-Plymouth Township public taxing authority that would raise money to remodel and rebuild the complex and run it as a recreation and arts center for both communities.

Soenen, a township resident, said PARC would approach the township board again and that city and township voters should decide. Voters would have a say on any tax proposal put forth by a joint PARC authority.

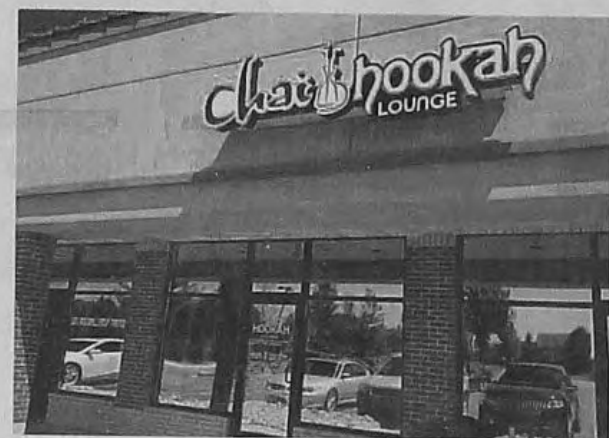
Soenen said the project's time line is at least 12 months behind what was originally proposed. The group, he said, will seek more community input, develop a business plan and an economic impact study and move to the design phase. Construction could start in 2017, he said, and be completed in 2018 or 2019.

SMOKE

Continued from Page A1

listening to Makki, who said 75 percent of her revenue occurs after 10 p.m., much of it after midnight. Even with a 1 a.m. closing, Chai Hookah Lounge will lose an hour each Friday and Saturday, when it typically stayed open until 2 a.m.

The lounge caters to an over-18 crowd that meets to socialize and smoke flavored tobacco through tubes from tall, water-filled vases, or hookahs. Scores have opened across metro Detroit, offering a place along with cigar bars where businesses can obtain a state exemption to no-smoking rules. "We don't serve alco-



FILE PHOTO
Chai Hookah Lounge and Canton officials have reached a compromise on hours of operation.

hol," Makki told the township board. "We don't allow any illegal sales on the premises or anywhere near."

Makki described herself as a mother of four trying to succeed with a

family business. She said her new business hours will be from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. starting Feb. 19, when the new rules take effect as follows:

» Smoke lounges and similar tobacco busi-

nesses may operate between 8 a.m. and 1 a.m. Canton only has one other establishment, Cigar Hut near Ford and Lilley roads, but its hours already fall within the new guidelines.

» A limit of five smoke lounges has been imposed in Canton, meaning only three more businesses would be allowed.

» Smoke lounges will have to pay \$200 for a local business license and face an inspection to ensure they comply with fire codes and other safety issues.

» An owner or manager must be on the premises during business hours. They also have to prove they own or lease the property.

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PARK

Continued from Page A1

Canton Leisure Services Director Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz said Patriot Park will dramatically enhance Canton's recreation offerings, which already helped make the department the winner of the National Gold Medal for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management.

"It certainly adds a large park to the more northwestern portion of the township," Bilbrey-Honsowetz said. "That's a great enhancement in

that area." Patriot Park's early plans called for a dog park.

"We already have one now (off Denton Road)," Bilbrey-Honsowetz said, "so we don't need a second one."

In a move to involve residents in Patriot Park's vision, local officials are seeking advice as they update the park's master plan.

To comment or learn more, attend an open house 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway. Residents may stop by the Summit's Arts II Room and offer feed-

back on the Patriot Park master plan draft, also available for review at www.cantonfun.org.

Officials are asking residents to register for the open house by calling 734-394-5360 or by sending an email to leisure@canton-mi.org.

Hard copies of the plan are available for review during business hours at the Summit's front desk and at Canton Leisure Services administrative offices, 1150 S. Canton Center, at township hall.

Residents also may take an online survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Patriot

ParkUpdate2015, available through March 9.

For more information, go to www.cantonfun.org or call 734-394-5310.

Sharp called community input "of critical importance" to Canton's successful planning of Patriot Park.

Canton Township obtained the undeveloped land through a Michigan Natural Resources Trust grant for the purpose of creating a large community park for passive and active recreation opportunities.

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PURCHASE OF HOCKEY EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS FOR THE 2015 / 2016 BUDGET YEAR.

PURCHASE OF SOCCER EQUIPMENT / UNIFORMS FOR THE 2015 / 2016 BUDGET YEAR.

Specifications and bid documents are available at the city hall during normal business hours. You may also download a copy of the documentation from the City's web site at: http://www.ci.plymouth.mi.us.

The City of Plymouth reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk
City of Plymouth

Talent, fun: These carvers have a way with wood

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

The Senior Woodcarvers have been around in Plymouth more than 15 years, having started under the tutelage of the late George Hanosh.

"He was our instructor for four or five years before he died" in 2003, said Ron Nikolits of Plymouth Township. The group meets from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, on a walk-in basis.

On a recent Monday, Bob Fogoros of Canton was working on a crucifix carving of Mary, mother of Jesus. Fogoros has been carving 12 years and is a semi-retired part-time contract engineer at Daimler.

"I've always been interested in woodworking," Fogoros said, setting aside his tools for a moment. "I built a home. I wanted to get more into the woodworking end of it. It takes me a long time," he said of the work, due to his employment "and traveling and kids and grandkids. I just enjoy the personalities. I tend to get pretty focused on what I'm doing."

Fogoros has given away work, including to hospitals.

"This is a relief carving I'm doing, the last stages of it," said Jerry Valentine of Livonia, a retired engineer at Pilot Industries in Dexter. "It's a mill scene."

Valentine began to carve in 2001 and is now president of the Livonia Woodcarvers Club. Livonia hosts woodcarving 6-9 p.m. each Tuesday and 9 a.m. to noon each Thursday at the Civic Park Senior Center.

"It's satisfaction," Valentine said. "It gives me something to do. I take my work to woodcarving shows and sell quite a bit of it. I also



Dan Moen of Canton works on an owl.

paint, I'm a painter."

He's also in the Visual Arts Association of Livonia and the Three Cities Art Club, as well as playing the recorder at the Pittsfield Senior Center.

"Oh, yeah," said Valentine, who retired in 1999. "They're all good people. A lot of us are from the same profession, too."

Encouragement, friendship

Each Monday at the Plymouth Cultural Center, participants pay \$1.50 for the coffee and use of the city facility. Nikolits noted a corps of original members, emphasizing newcomers are also welcome.

"We don't have a formal class, but we try to help them get started. We pretty much leave it up to the individual to guide

himself or herself," said Nikolits, a Ford Motor Co. retired engineer. "Everybody is more than willing to help out."

Most are retirees, although some work part time and come on a day off, he said. Nikolits, who retired in 1997, has carved since 1995, when his brother-in-law and sister started in Livonia. Ron's son wanted to learn.

"He quit going, but I stayed with my brother-in-law and sister. We had some really good carvers," Nikolits said.

Bill Rojewski of Northville Township retired in 2002 as an engineer with Daykin Electric and began to carve at his wife's encouragement. "That's how I started doing this stuff," he said. "I get

enjoyment out of it. We do a variety of things. We do carving in the round, relief carving."

He was working on a humorous carving, "trying to figure out what all these things are and get them at different levels." He likes to add details.

"Then you start getting a lot of satisfaction out of it," Rojewski said. "We have a good group. We critique each other's work."

Lots of opportunities

Keith Moyer of Canton participates in the Plymouth group, as well as the Canton one (Summit on the Park, 9 a.m. to noon each Tuesday) and the Thursday Livonia group.

Moyer, a retired chemist, likes the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bob Fogoros of Canton carved these figures.

"friendship, camaraderie. And we solve the world's problems once in a while when we start talking politics."

Plymouth Township resident Chris Theos is a newcomer of a few months who joined "to give me something to do. To work with my hands a little bit. It keeps me busy."

Nikolits described the carvers as "close-knit. A lot of communication between the various people. It's kind of a nice network of communication and cooperation among the groups."

Some travel a bit to take lessons, he said, learning how to finish work or how to paint it. The carvers get most tools from catalogs or shows, with Nikolits estimating the initial tool cost at \$50 to \$60 plus wood. "It's a relatively inexpensive hobby when you compare it to other things," he said.

Robert Mills of Plymouth was doing a figurehead for a ship and also made the ship's bow. "Probably off and on most of my life as a hobby," Mills said of wood-

carving. He's a retired machine shop supervisor.

"It's a nice thing to come out and associate with people," he added.

Carol and Bill Dodt of Westland were the sole husband and wife team at the Cultural Center on a recent Monday morning. "He's been carving for a long, long time," said Carol, a homemaker. Bill had been a toolmaker.

She got involved "because of him" and noted a couple of other women also join in. "Doing the relief carving and stuff. And the socializing with people," she said of what she likes.

"I enjoy doing it," Bill Dodt said. "I started when I was still working. It worked out really well for that. We each do our own."

Carol was working on an "ol' barn road" scene, Bill both a relief work to hang on a wall and a fan bird.

"They used to do this back in the lumber camps years ago," he added. He gives his work away and finds people like the gifts.

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CANTON POLICE

Police are asking for help identifying this suspect in a gas station break-in.

Canton police seek gas station intruder

Canton police have released a surveillance photo of a suspect being sought after a gas station was broken into early Wednesday morning.

Police are asking for the public's help identifying the male suspect, accused of breaking out a window to gain

access to a gas station at Joy and Sheldon roads.

The incident happened about 2 a.m. Wednesday.

Anyone who recognizes the suspect is asked to call the police department at 734-394-5400.

Man fakes robbery to hide gambling losses

Canton police say a 65-year-old Plymouth man admitted he lied when he initially claimed he was robbed at gunpoint behind the Golden Gate shopping center on Lilley Road, south of Joy.

The man, who claimed he was robbed of about \$165, confessed he spent much of the money on scratch-off lottery tickets and needed an excuse to tell his live-in girlfriend, a police report said.

Police got a call shortly after 9 p.m. Feb. 4 that the man had been robbed at gunpoint by two white males while doing his job taking garbage from Golden Gate businesses to a Dumpster behind the shopping center.

He initially told police two males driving a pickup truck approached him wearing masks, pulled a handgun and demanded his money — all lies, he eventually told police.

The man's story began to unravel after a police investigation led authorities to a security camera that captured events behind the shopping center, showing no such robbery occurred.

Police also spoke with the man's live-in girlfriend, who said the man has had a gambling problem for years and

they have had multiple arguments over it. She said he is especially addicted to scratch-off lottery tickets.

Police issued the man a citation for filing a false police report.

Reckless driving

Police patrolling Canton's west side nabbed a 20-year-old Westland man who was driving 65 mph in a 25 mph zone on Cherry Hill Road near Ridge, in the Cherry Hill Village neighborhood.

The incident happened just before 10 p.m. Saturday.

Police noticed the driver passing traffic by using the left-turn lane while driving at more than twice the legal speed limit in the village, the police report said.

Police indicated the vehicle, a 2008 Volkswagen, had the strong scent of air fresheners, as if the driver might be attempting to mask other odors, police said, but a search of the car revealed nothing.

The man was taken into custody for reckless driving and not having a valid driver's license. The car was impounded by Westland Car Care.

Handguns taken

Police took two handguns into their custody for safe-

keeping after the owner, a 34-year-old Inkster man, was involved in a car accident about 10:15 p.m. Saturday at Michigan Avenue and Canton Center, a police report said.

The man had a valid concealed pistol license, but he had to leave the scene of the accident to seek treatment for injuries at a medical facility. He had been carrying one of the handguns in his waistband and one inside his vehicle.

He willingly turned the handguns and multiple rounds of ammunition over to police for safe-keeping.

Domestic dispute

A 30-year-old Canton woman contacted police after her ex-boyfriend came to her residence in the 46000 block of Maidstone, even though she had a personal protection order and a court injunction against him, a police report said.

The woman told police the suspect had refused to leave, though he left the scene once he learned she was calling police for help.

The woman told police the ex-boyfriend wanted to talk about their pending court case, though she didn't want to discuss it outside the courtroom.

—By Darrell Clem

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Snow blower swiped

A snow-blower was reported stolen Feb. 4 from the garage of a house on Maplewood Lane, in the area of Five Mile and Haggerty.

The theft came days after a heavy snowstorm dumped more than 16 inches of snow on the Detroit area.

The complainant told police the machine had been taken between noon Feb. 3 and just before 8 p.m. the next day, a Plymouth Township Police Department report said.

There were no signs of

forced entry, police said.

Vandalism

Two windows, including one priced at \$5,000, were vandalized at St. John Episcopal Church on Sheldon Road last month.

A police report said the windows, one large and one small, appeared to have been damaged by BBs or something similar. The complainant told police the vandalism occurred between Jan. 16 and Jan. 18; it was not reported until Feb. 3.

—By Matt Jachman

Livonia man jailed for delivering drugs to inmate

By Lisa Roose-Church
Michigan.com

A Livonia man who delivered drugs that were set up by a Livingston County Jail inmate was sentenced Feb. 5.

Ryan Bonner was sentenced in accordance with a plea bargain to two years of probation, with the first 11 months spent in jail for delivery of a controlled substance, according to Livingston County Circuit Court records.

"I apologize for wasting the court's time," the 29-year-old Bonner said.

Police allege Bonner was one of two people who delivered illegal narcotics in drug deals set up by Weston Gabriel King, a Hartland Township father who was earlier sentenced to one year in the county jail for aiding the delivery of less than 50 grams of controlled substances.

Authorities said King instructed a woman identified as Keeley Marie Sanders-Masch



Bonner

of Hartland Township via telephone calls exactly how much methadone and other prescription medications to sell and for how much while he was incarcerated in the jail for a felonious assault and domestic violence case.

The sales to an undercover narcotics officer took place in August and September and totaled 500 methadone pills, 60 Norco pills and 60 hydrocodone pills for a total of \$2,340.

Sanders-Masch was sentenced in December to six months in the county jail for her part in conspiracy.

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GREYSON NICHOLL
Greyson Nicholl with his rendering of ancient Greece and the surrounding area.

School museum shows student expertise

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Students turned New Morning School into a museum Sunday, putting on display their knowledge of history, zoology, natural science, mythology, popular culture and more.

The private Plymouth Township school's annual museum day is the culmination of several weeks of research and hands-on project-making; each student picks his or her own topic, then asks six questions about that topic and gets busy finding the answers.

What results are exhibits, essays, visitor surveys and, for the elementary and middle school students, formal presentations on a wide range of subjects.

Third-grader Greyson Nicholl's museum piece was on Greek mythology. "He has so enjoyed learning about this topic," said Greyson's mother, Kate Olson.

"I thought it was really interesting. I really liked reading the myths," said Greyson, of Romulus.

He especially liked the

mythical monsters, he said, and his favorite myth was the story of Medusa, whose gaze could turn people to stone, and Perseus, who beheaded her.

Fourth-grader Chris Timlin of Northville Township studied the nervous system. He said the topic was a natural progression from his museum study last year of the brain.

Learning more

"I didn't really see much about the nervous system, so I said, 'Why not?'" Chris said.

He said he wanted to know how the nervous system controls body movement. "I just wanted to learn more," he said.

At the elementary level, displays also included one on penguins, another on leopards, one on diamonds and one on the eyes.

Elementary teacher Cynthia Weber said museum day gives students a sense of empowerment as they work toward completing their projects, overcoming a series of small hurdles. "They go away with, 'I



GREYSON NICHOLL
Greyson Nicholl, a third-grader, tells visitors about Greek mythology during New Morning School's museum day Sunday.



CHRIS TIMLIN
Chris Timlin, a fourth-grader, gets a fist bump from a visitor for his project on the human nervous system.



NEW MORNING FIRST-GRADER
Cameron Downs gives his presentation on the eyes.



MATT JACHMAN
A display on penguins included this model of an emperor penguin.

can do this," Weber said. "Our kids worked very hard. They did a great job," said Christine Jansen, who co-teaches the elementary grades with Weber.

At the middle school level, the exhibits included one on horses, another on geckos, another comparing the militaries of ancient times and another on wind resistance and car design. There were also displays on Antarctica, soccer and hedgehogs.

Chloe Pulick, a seventh-grader from Plymouth Township, said her love of Coca-Cola led her to research it for the museum.

OK, Coke

"I never realized how old it was," Chloe said (Coke was introduced in 1886). "I really like Coke, so I wanted to find out more about it."

Among her discoveries: A depiction of Santa Claus in a 1931 Coke advertising campaign cemented his public image as a jolly fat man and "Coca-Cola" is the

world's second-most widely understood term, after "OK."

Chloe's display included a blind taste test of Coke and Pepsi, a computer slide show on Coke she made with a program called Prezi and a computer survey visitors got to complete using a touch-screen tablet. All middle school students incorporated computers

into their museum displays.

Elementary teacher Jansen said the museum project is a learning experience for teachers, as well as students.

"The fun thing for us is we get to learn so much with them," she said.

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GREYSON NICHOLL
Greyson Nicholl's display on Greek mythology included his first name spelled out in Greek characters.

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Plymouth seniors Seth Hubbard (seated, left) and Andrew Jossey (seated, right) take part in National Signing Day ceremonies. They will play college baseball at Concordia and Saginaw Valley State, respectively. Standing (from left) are Wildcats baseball coach Jason Crain and school athletic director Kyle Meteyer.

Signing day smiles

Congratulations to prep athletes who signed on the dotted line

Most children play some type of sport when they are little. Many start out with dreams of becoming the next Calvin Johnson, Abby Wambach or Henrik Zetterberg. So they practice for hours on end, play in developmental leagues, middle school, high school and club sports. They also hit the books because talent alone is no good if you don't have the grades these days.

For a small percentage of students, the combination of talent, grit,

determination, coaching and commitment pays off with an offer to play "at the next level." Some 40 area student-athletes signed letters of intent last week. And congratulations to the parents, too. Driving to and from practice, paying for all those lessons, travel teams and equipment is a big sacrifice that should not be forgotten.

Take a look at some of the student-athletes and the people behind the scenes who helped make it happen. Way to go!



PLYMOUTH ATHLETICS

Plymouth senior golfer Sydney Murphy (center) signs to go to Ferris State. She is flanked by mom Ruth and older sister Kelsey.



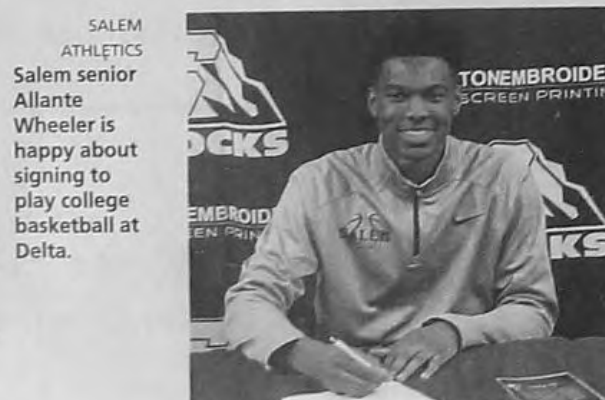
PLYMOUTH ATHLETICS

Olivia Beyer takes part in a signing ceremony Feb. 4. She will play Division I volleyball at Louisiana State University. Seated next to her is her dad, Jonathan Beyer. Standing is Plymouth High School athletic director Kyle Meteyer.

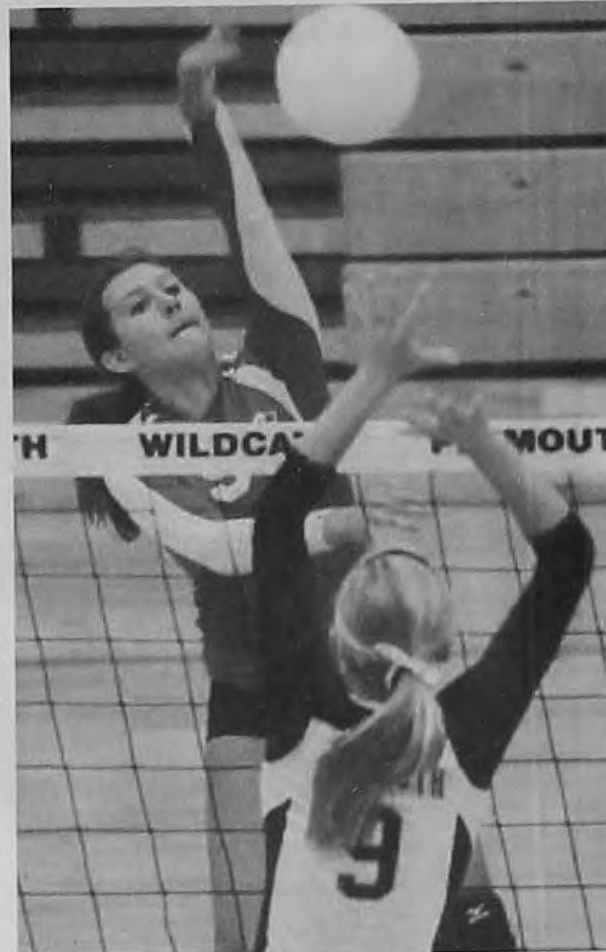


TIM SMITH

An injury forced Josh Criscenti to give up basketball for bowling. He has thrived enough in his new sport with the Canton Chiefs that he earned a college scholarship with Siena Heights.



SALEM ATHLETICS
Salem senior Allante Wheeler is happy about signing to play college basketball at Delta.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Courtney Kurkie (left) signed to play college volleyball at Michigan Tech.



The Michigan Chinese Choir will perform.



One of the many entertainment offerings will be a performance of the Peking Opera.



A traditional Chinese fashion show will be part of the event.

Village Theater to host Chinese New Year celebration

Celebrating a tradition that is thousands of years old, the Canton Commission for Culture Arts and Heritage Multi-cultural Committee will host the 2015 Chinese New Year Celebration at

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 7.

Joining the festivities providing main stage entertainment are a Peking Opera performance by Fang Shubo, the Can-

ton Philharmonic Choir, the March Wind Choir and the Michigan Chinese Choir. Audience members will also enjoy beautiful duets by Yang-tee Melody Group and the Spring Group and the energetic sounds of the Desert Island Band. This special celebration will also include a Chinese fashion show, tai chi and a traditional Chinese instrumental performance by the Shangarila

band. The art of traditional Chinese folk and classical dances will be shared by Ann-Hua Chinese School, New Century Chinese group, Hua-Chin Northville Dance Group and Chinese Dance Star featuring a tai dance by U-M student Thomas Davis. Event-goers can also enjoy a punch and cookie reception starting at 6 p.m. In addition, a varie-

ty of cultural displays will be available for all to enjoy in The Village Theater lobby. Tickets to this special Chinese New Year celebration are just \$2 per person at the door. Lunar New Year celebrations this year will say goodbye to the Year of the Horse and usher in another animal in the 12-year cycle of the Chinese zodiac - the Year of the Goat. The Chinese New Year, also called

Spring Festival, has more than 4,000 years of history. Being one of the traditional Chinese festivals, it is the grandest and the most important festival for Chinese people. The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton. For more information, go to www.CantonVillageTheater.org or call 734/394-5300.



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Consumer Electronics Show unveils new gadgets to use

The movie *Back to the Future* promised us hover boards and self-lacing high top sneakers by the year 2015. Well, it's officially the future and there are no signs of those gadgets for the common consumer.

Fortunately, this year's Consumer Electronics Show featured some other unfathomable and sometimes unnecessary technologies that may help us through the sadness of a hover board-free commute.

Oral-B® BlueTooth Toothbrush: Everything has Bluetooth connectivity now and your grooming products are no different. Oral-B® now has an electric toothbrush that connects with an app on your smart phone which measures your brushing habits. Sounds cool, but if you have great oral hygiene, you probably don't need this. If you have terrible oral hygiene, you've already proven you are too lazy to use this.

Dell XPS 13: This amazing laptop looks normal at first - until you realize the screen is 5.2 millimeters thick and the battery lasts for 15 hours, the longest of any 13-inch monitor on the market. It is compact, light and starts at \$999. For about \$1,500, you can make it a touchscreen. Soon, every device is going to have a touchscreen option and soon after that touchscreens



Jon Gunnells
TECH SAVVY

will become standard. So expect upgrades for touchscreens to decrease in the future.

Super TVs: 4K TVs were the rage last year. Nobody can afford them now, but they are still yesterday's news thanks to new curved TVs and TVs with quantum dots. Don't know what quantum dots are? Don't feel bad - it took me multiple Wikipedia entries to understand.

What you really need to know about 4K TVs - and even newer models - is your cable provider, Netflix and others aren't streaming in 4K. The only way you can get the full effect of a 4K TV is buying a 4K Blu-Ray player and Blu-Ray discs. Or you could always buy a 4K camera and start your own TV show.

Seems like a lot of work and a waste until content providers stream content that can keep up with your home theater system.

Smart Phone Photo Printers: Polaroids for millennials have arrived in the form of Prynt, a device that attaches to a smart phone and prints your digital photos instantly. The product is in development on Kickstarter and is expected to cost \$99.

Selfie Stick: The most polarizing technology to come from CES was the selfie stick. A selfie stick is a long, retractable handle that attaches to your smart phone. Users can hold it in front of them and take a picture. A picture can be taken with just a push of a remote that is connected to the handle. The remotes are Bluetooth-enabled and trigger your smart phone camera.

This device has taken a lot of heat from people complaining about selfies on social media, but these have practical uses and are great for solo travelers, couples or for anytime you don't have someone to take a photo.

Bely: Mark this one down in the "what the heck?" category. Bely is a digital belt that contracts and expands based on your daily activities. Did you just sit down for a marathon eating session? Bely will expand. Thanks, Bely. It also tracks your waistline and monitors your activity - which is what I thought we had pedometers and activity trackers for. Needless to say, traditional belt notches have been telling people if they have eaten too much for centuries.

Jon Gunnells is a social media manager for a Detroit-based advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com.

IRS free file is really free for those that qualify

One of my favorite words in the English dictionary is "free." "On sale" is a close second, but "free" is better. However, whenever I get a free offer, I am always leery. After all, when something is free, there is generally a catch.

There is something that is free and does not have a catch - the IRS free tax file program. It allows a taxpayer to complete and file a tax return for free. There are no catches or gimmicks.

The IRS free file program is sponsored by a consortium of 14 private tax preparation companies, including H&R Block, Turbo Tax and TaxSlayer.

The program has been around since 2003 and more than 40 million people have used it. Basically, it allows you to select tax preparation software from a list of tax preparing companies. In addition, many of the companies will also allow you to complete and file your Michigan return at no charge.

The free file program is available to those who



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

have adjusted gross income of \$60,000 or less. If you meet that criterion, you can take advantage of this service and have your tax return completed and e-filed for free.

I know many people are thinking that since this is connected with the IRS that somehow the returns will be prepared for the benefit of the IRS, as opposed to the taxpayer. That is not the case. The IRS does not manage or control this program. Don't worry that somehow you can lose out on deductions. This is the same software that is sold in the stores.

You may hear all sorts of advertisements or see things on the Internet claiming free tax preparation. While some may be legitimate offers, the majority are not. The only way to take advantage of this program is to link directly through the IRS website

(www.irs.gov/freefile). If you go to one of the tax preparation companies' website directly, you cannot take advantage of this program.

Approximately 70 percent of Americans can take advantage of this program and prepare and file their tax returns for free. Therefore, before you pay someone to have your tax return done, go to the IRS website and check out this program.

After all, if it can save you a few hundred dollars, why not? I always say, the money looks better in your pocket than it does anyone else's.

As a side note, if you have your tax information, why not file your return as soon as possible? The sooner you file, the faster you will get your refund.

Good luck.

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

BBB's list of 10 most pervasive scams for 2014

The Better Business Bureau hears from thousands of consumers and business owners every year about a variety of scams and frauds. Many are new twists on existing scams, but scammers get more sophisticated every year in how they spoof trusted names and how they fool consumers.

While BBB doesn't have specific numbers about how many people were defrauded or for how much, here are the scams we think were most pervasive this past year:

10. Sweepstakes scam: You've won a contest or the lottery, but you must pay fees or taxes in advance so they can release your prize.

9. Click bait scam: Social media posts show pictures of Malaysian Airlines, celebrity images and fake news to get you to unintentionally click and download malware.

8. Robocall scam: This scam claims to be able to lower your credit card interest rates and takes credit card information then charges fees to your card.

7. Government grant scam: You get a call saying you've been awarded a government grant for thousands of dollars, but you need to pay fees by wire transfer or prepaid debit card.

6. Emergency scam: You get a call or email from your grandchild or other relative who was injured, robbed or arrested while traveling overseas and needs money ASAP.

5. Medical alert scam: A caller states a

concerned family member ordered you a medical alert device, but need your credit card information to complete the order.

4. Copycat website scam: You get a message about a sale. You click through and order, but you either get a cheap counterfeit or nothing at all.

3. Are you calling yourself? scam: Scammers can make a call look like it's coming from anywhere. The latest trick puts your number in the caller ID.

2. Tech support scam: Call claiming to be from Microsoft about a problem on your computer they can fix, but they install malware on your computer instead.

1. Arrest scam: Call from someone claiming to be a police officer or government agent (often the IRS) stating they are coming to arrest you for overdue taxes

Why scams work

There is a science to scams and it may surprise you to know that scammers use many of the same techniques as legitimate sales professionals. The difference, of course, is that their "product" is illegal and could cost you a fortune. Here are the major techniques they use to draw you in:

» Establishing a connection - The scammer builds rapport and a relationship with you. This is usually used face-to-face, as in home improvement scams and many investment scams, but also online romance scams.

» Source credibility -

The scammer uses techniques to make themselves look legitimate, such as fake websites or hacked emails that come from a friend's account. Most email phishing scams spoof real companies and many scammers pretend to be someone they are not in order to add credibility.

» Playing on emotions - Scammers rely on emotion to get you to make a quick decision before you have time to think about it. An emergency situation or a limited time offer is usually their methodology. They count on emotional rather than rational decision-making.

What you can do

» Don't be pressured into making fast decisions.

» Take time to research the organization. Check them out on bbb.org, search online, etc.

» Never provide your personal information (address, date-of-birth, banking information, ID numbers) to people you do not know.

» Don't click on links from unsolicited email or text messages.

» If you are unsure about a call or email that claims to be from your bank, utility company, etc., call the business from the number on your bill or the back of your credit card.

For more information on these and other scams, go to BBB Scam Stopper (bbb.org/scam). Sign up for the weekly Scam Alerts to learn about new scams. You can report scams there, too.

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Participants sought for statewide Community Conversation on jobs

The League of Women Voters, Northwest Wayne County, in concert with Citizens for Peace of Livonia, is hosting a Community Conversation for the Center for Michigan, a non-partisan group in Lansing, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18, at the Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. These conversations are conducted statewide. Attendees have the opportunity to weigh in on issues presented during the conversation. The results are compiled into a report by the Center for Michigan and the report is given to state legislators.

The topic is Challenges to Upward Mobility in the job market. Twenty-five to 50 participants are being sought for the conversation to speak to their experiences starting out in Michigan's work force, seeking and maintaining a job and succeeding in Michigan's job market. Due to the limited seating, it is essential that participants RSVP to Angela Ryan at cruiserryan@ameritech.net or 734 591-0995 or Colleen Mills at cmills0079@yahoo.com or 734-425-0079 no later than Feb. 15.

Detroit man accused in theft from church sentenced to probation

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

The man who entered a Livonia church last fall and took a credit card from an employee at the building has been sentenced to probation.

Dennis Cloud, 57, of Detroit was sentenced Monday to three years probation by Circuit Judge Dana Hathaway, according to online court records. Cloud pleaded guilty to identity theft in exchange for two other charges, larceny in a building and stealing/retaining a financial transaction device without consent, being dropped.

In addition to the three years probation, Cloud must also pay nearly \$700 in fines and costs. Any violation of the probation period could result in prison



Cloud

time for Cloud, who was an absconder of parole from the Department of Corrections when he was arrested in the fall. He was released in 2013 on parole after serving a prison sentence on home invasion charges stemming from Oakland County. He is locked up in the Wayne County Jail, a place he has been since being arraigned on the charges in the fall.

Sentencing was originally scheduled for last week, but was pushed back to Monday after being delayed.

Cloud was found by Livonia police shortly after entering a church on Six

Mile in November. Police say Cloud entered the church with another individual before being confronted by an employee at the church. They then left the church, but not before police say Cloud got a hold of a credit card.

That card was later used at the Meijer at Schoolcraft and Middlebelt to purchase several items.

The incident was the second reported theft from a church in Livonia in 2014. Another individual from Livingston County took a plea deal last summer after being caught on hidden camera taking money from a Catholic church on Newburgh. That individual was sentenced to jail time.

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Robbery suspect arrested in Ohio

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A man wanted in connection with the armed robbery of a Westland security guard has been arrested in Ohio.

The U.S. Marshals Service arrested Jestin Landry on Feb. 2 after a tip was received when he was featured in the *Toledo Blade's* Most Wanted feature.

Westland Police contacted the Marshals Service after obtaining a warrant for Landry, charging him with armed robbery and felony firearm. Landry had fled to Ohio, where he lives, police said.

Landry was also facing unrelated felony charges in Ohio. Westland Police report that Landry will be



Landry

extradited to Michigan to face the local charges.

Westland Police reported that a tip from the public helped locate a vehicle that was allegedly used by the suspects in the Dec. 21 armed robbery of a security guard who was sitting in a vehicle at Woodland Villa Apartments.

The security guard told police that a male and two females had stolen his wallet, credit cards and cellphone at gunpoint while he sat in his vehicle.

The apartment complex is north of Warren Road and west off Central City Park-

way.

Police released surveillance photos of two suspects reportedly using a credit card stolen from the security guard. The credit card was reported to have been used at the Speedway gas station at Cherry Hill and Newburgh a short time after the robbery was reported.

Arrested after a search warrant was executed, Rebecca Olsen, 27, of Westland is charged with armed robbery and illegal use of a financial transaction device. A not guilty plea was entered at her arraignment in Westland 18th District Court.

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

'DOWNTON ABBEY' TEA

Date/Time: Sunday, March 2, 2-4 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main
Details: The Plymouth Historical Museum hosts a "Downton Abbey Tea." The highlight of the afternoon, aside from the scrumptious tea delicacies, will be the fashion show of styles based on the popular *Downton Abbey* TV series. The fashion show will be presented by reenacting members of the Plymouth Living History Troupe of the Plymouth Historical Museum. Tickets are \$25 for members of the Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum and \$30 for non-members, before March 20; after that date add \$5 to the price.
Contact: For more information, call 734-455-8940.

PAGAN HOURS

Dates/Times: Fourth Monday of the month, 7 p.m.; fourth Saturday of the month, 10 a.m.
Locations: Monday, Panera Bread, 41950 Ford Road, Canton; Saturday, Leo's Coney Island, 9624 Belleville Road, Belleville
Details: State Rep. Kristy Pagan, D-Canton, announces the schedule for her monthly coffee hours. Pagan invites residents to join her to discuss their thoughts and ideas about how she can best represent and address the needs of her constituents. Pagan encourages interested residents to sign up for her e-newsletter, which will provide updates of her work at the Capitol and in the community.
Contact: To sign up, interested individuals should go to pagan.house Dems.com. Residents can also contact Pagan in her Lansing office at 517-373-2575.

DROP-IN KNITTING

Date/Time: Third Tuesday of each month, 1-2 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Township Friendship Station, 42375 Schoolcraft, Plymouth
Details: The Plymouth Community Council on Aging offers drop-in knitting and crocheting classes. If you need help finishing a project or starting a new project, then this is the place to come. Beginners are welcome. Each class has a donation of \$2. Instructor is Dori Mefford.
Contact: For more information, call 734-453-1234, ext. 236.

CRAFTERS WANTED

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 17
Location: West Middle School, 44401 Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth
Details: Delta Kappa Gamma, an international society of women in education, will host its 31st annual craft show to help provide scholarships for Plymouth-Canton students. There are still openings for crafters who are interested in joining the event. Join DKG along with the AAUW used book sale and reserve a booth.
Contact: For more information, contact Debbie Cortellini at debcortellini@comcast.net or call 734-451-1525.

COACHES NEEDED

Date/Time: Saturdays in spring and fall

Location: Bilkie Family Field, downtown Plymouth

Details: The Miracle League of Plymouth, the league providing opportunities for special-needs players to enjoy the game of baseball, needs volunteer coaches for its spring and fall seasons.

Contact: Anyone interested in donating their time or who has questions can contact Shari Bilkie via email at shari@miracleleagueplymouth.org

CLOTHING BANK

Date/Time: Every fourth Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Canton Christian Fellowship clothing bank, 8775 Ronda Drive, Canton
Details: Canton Christian Fellowship sponsors a clothing bank every fourth Saturday. No documentation is needed. Drop-off is available from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each Wednesday. Canton Christian Fellowship is located on at Joy Road, west of Haggerty.

Contact: For more information, email info@cantoncf.org or call 734-404-2480.

STONEFLIES SEARCH

Date/Time: Saturday, Feb. 14, 9 a.m.
Location: U-M Dearborn
Details: Friends of the Rouge is looking for volunteers Saturday, Feb. 14, who want to help look for stoneflies in the Rouge River. Valentine's Day was chosen this year as it falls during the time organizers say stoneflies hatch from the river and go looking for love. Searchers meet at 9 a.m. at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. No searching is done in Dearborn; volunteers carpool out in 10-12 teams to Rouge streams located around metropolitan Detroit.

Contact: Volunteers must pre-register by Jan. 30 on the FOTR website www.therouge.org or by calling 313-792-9621.

PFLAG MEETING

Date/Time: First Sunday of each month, 3-5 p.m.
Location: St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: Plymouth-Canton PFLAG meets for discussion, education and sharing. Founded in 1972 with the simple act of a mother publicly supporting her gay son, PFLAG is the nation's largest family and ally organization. Made up of families, friends and straight allies united with people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT), PFLAG is committed to advancing equality and societal acceptance of LGBT people through its threefold mission of support, education and advocacy.

Contact: Email laurie.mayers@gmail.com

LIBRARY BAG SALES

Dates: Feb. 20-23; March 27-30
Location: Canton Public Library, 1200 N. Canton Center Road, Canton
Details: The Canton Public Library hosts several Bag Sales to benefit Secondhand Prose, the Friends of the Canton Public Library bookstore. Visitors can shop during the monthly sale and fill a big with books for just \$5.

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Out of this world UFO stories told by Salem resident

By Diane Gale Andreassi
Staff Writer

Harry Willnus knows all too well that eyebrows will rise when he talks about unidentified flying objects, but that doesn't stop the retired social studies teacher from continuing his 60-year quest to see the issue become accepted by the mainstream population.

"UFO sightings are reported every day around the world and in every country around the world," said the Salem resident and former president of the Mutual UFO Network, the world's largest investigative body looking into the UFO phenomena.

Willnus, like other UFO enthusiasts, asks, "Are we alone in the universe?"

That question will be the focus of his appearance on the Science Channel's show *Close Encounters*. Now in its second season, Willnus will appear on an upcoming episode scheduled to air at 10 p.m. March 10. Willnus will share his vast knowledge about the highly publicized March 1966 reported UFO sighting in Dexter. He'll be on the show again, at 10 p.m. March 31, talking about a reported sighting in Exeter, N. H.



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Harry Willnus sits near a wooden carving of an extraterrestrial being he displays in his Salem Township home.

In the March 20, 1966, Dexter case, a group of people, including police officers, reported seeing an object turn from a blue green to a brilliant red to yellow. It rose 500 feet and returned to the ground, one man said.

Trying to investigate further, the officers said they went out to the far edge of the wooded area and also saw a brilliant light appear and then disappear. The officers said when they returned to their patrol vehicle, a group of people had gathered and reported seeing

something similar. These witnesses said the object departed in a western direction at a high rate of speed.

Area reports

A UFO investigator, Willnus sat in the living room of his home and retold other stories of what he believes are extraterrestrial visits. Like a sighting by WJRAM (760) reporter Marc Avery on Feb. 10, 1978. Avery was on his way to the airport on Interstate 275 when he and his wife saw two lights hovering

over their car "for 30, 40, 50 seconds." He called the radio station and spoke on air, describing the aircraft with Warren Pierce. Willnus has the report recorded on his smart phone.

The sighting was never debunked, Willnus said. In fact, two men, who were walking in the Merriman Road and Michigan Avenue area later reported they saw a similar aircraft about five minutes before Avery's report.

The U.S. Air Force investigated UFO sightings from 1947-69, in *Project Blue Book*, which consisted of 12,618 accounts spanning nearly 130,000 pages, Willnus said. The project was discontinued, however, after a committee formed at the request of President Gerald Ford concluded UFOs weren't a threat to national security.

Sightings on the rise

Sightings have doubled in the last couple of years, Willnus said.

"This major increase shows there's something going on," he said. "It's driving the interest in the number one question: 'Are we alone?' Are there other intelligences out there?"

"After studying UFOs, it becomes obvious we are not alone," he added.

"I base that on the fact that there are 200 sightings every day around the world. There's pictures, photos and movies. It's not a hoax when these crafts can disappear before our eyes. Or fly at over 1,000 miles an hour and make a right angle turn or stop on a dime."

Willnus also refers to a case involving former Novi resident Nancy Tremaine, who had described being abducted by a UFO off Orchard Drive near Meadowbrook Road in the 1960s. Former Novi Police Chief Lee BeGole, who spoke to the *Novi News* last year at age 93, didn't see the UFO, but he was on duty at the police station the night the incident occurred.

BeGole said an off-duty officer told dispatch he saw a strange object overhead and police dispatch took multiple calls from people who said they also saw a strange object in the sky.

If you ask your 10 best friends if they ever had a UFO experience, Willnus said, 10 percent would say, "yes."

"But people get laughed at once they say that," he added. "And then they say, 'I'm not going to share that again.'"

He does note, however, that 90 percent of

reported UFOs can be explained by something other than an extraterrestrial visit. The UFO might actually be a blimp, a flock of birds flying at night or even the planet Venus, because it's the closest to Earth and moves quickly.

"The other 10 percent, we're not sure what they are," Willnus said. "I think a good many of those are that we are being visited by intelligent life off the planet Earth. Look at the evidence. The evidence is, overwhelmingly, there is a UFO phenomenon that we don't understand at this time."

'I want to break this story'

"I'm getting up there and I want this story to break before I pass," he added. "Some people in the U.S. government are aware we are being visited. This is a cosmic Watergate where there is a cover-up keeping this from people. The best thing that could happen is if governments, including the United States, would come out and say, 'The UFO phenomenon is real and don't panic, because they don't appear to be here to harm us.'"

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Twitter: @HeraldReporter

'Learn or Die' looks at smart robots and their effect on employment

Technology is replacing real jobs and will continue to do so at a record pace over the next couple of decades. We're accustomed to seeing this kind of thing in certain industries such as manufacturing, health care and banking. But now, Professor Edward D. Hess says, technology will be coming for white-collar jobs, too.



Hess

next round of technology, which includes artificial intelligence. AI is the game changer," said

"Technology will be replacing more jobs at an ever-increasing pace, particularly with this

Hess, a professor at the University of Virginia's Darden Graduate School of Business and author of the new book *Learn or Die: Using Science to Build a Leading-Edge Learning Organization*. "It is the biggest discovery since fire! It effectively threatens to wipe out a whole new group of jobs, including white-collar positions."

Hess' assertions are backed up by a recent University of Oxford study by researchers Carl Benedikt Frey and Michael Osborne. They found that over the next 10 to 20 years, 66 percent of U.S. employees have a medium to high risk of being displaced by smart robots and machines powered by artificial intelligence.

So what can you do to keep your job?

"When the AI tech tsunami hits, the only jobs that will be safe are the ones that require a human element. The things that humans will be able to do better than robots are creative, in-

novative and complex critical thinking and engaging emotionally with other humans," Hess said. "You must take up your skills in these areas in order to make yourself more irreplaceable."

Overcome cognitive blindness. Humans are lazy, sub-optimal thinkers. We seek to confirm what we already believe, and we tend not to be open-minded or rational. We take what we already know, replicate it, improve it, and repeat. It is easier than thinking critically or innovatively, but it makes us cognitively blind.

Get good at not know-

ing. We have to change our mindset about what being smart really is. In the technology-enabled world, how much you know will be irrelevant, because smart machines and the Internet will always know more than you. What will be more important is knowing what you don't know and knowing how to use best learning processes—in other words, the smartest people will be focused on continuously learning.

Learn or Die: Using Science to Build a Leading-Edge Learning Organization costs \$29.95 and is available at amazon.com.

The Oscars™

Win an Observer & Eccentric Movie Package

Go to hometownlife.com and select **The Oscar Contest** icon in the **featured content** section of the website.

Correctly Identify the Top 7 Oscar Categories

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- Best Animated Feature Film
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- Best Actress in a Supporting Role
- Best Director

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- Music (original score)
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GRAND PRIZE

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- \$30 Netflix Gift Card
- \$15 Buddy's Pizza Gift Certificate

All entries must be received by **Saturday, February 21, 2015 11:59 p.m.**

Choose correctly and you could WIN!

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC

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One entry per person/per household

Livonia Public Schools

Opens the Prestigious International Baccalaureate Diploma Program to Out-of-District Students in Wayne County

Fifteen seats are open to students entering 9th grade in fall 2015
Eight seats are open to students entering 10th grade in fall 2015
Eight seats are open to students entering 11th grade in fall 2015

Limited Registration Window: March 2 – March 31, 2015

Livonia Public Schools is opening its International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP) to Limited Schools of Choice students from Wayne County for the 2015-16 school year. This program is a two-year college preparatory plan of study that takes place during a student's junior and senior year of high school. Students entering the IB Program are encouraged to attend Franklin High School starting in the ninth grade. IBDP students are required to take IB exams in order to earn the highly acclaimed and internationally recognized IB diploma.

Registration will be open from March 2 - 31, 2015 at Franklin High School, 31000 Joy Road, Livonia, Michigan 48150 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. All candidates MUST meet the IBDP selection criteria.

For complete information on the IBDP program and application process, visit the Franklin High School website at <http://www.livoniapublicschools.org/Franklin.cfm> or contact Ms. Sunshine Weber at sweber4@livoniapublicschools.org.

Hey Kids,

The Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights

feature will be taking a break for the season.

Scoop will continue to make special appearances in the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper and on:

[facebook.com/ScoopTheNewshound](https://www.facebook.com/ScoopTheNewshound).

Look for more of Scoop and fun activities this year.

Buddy's Pizza Gift Certificates are redeemable at the Detroit, Livonia, Gross Pointe, Novi, Dearborn, Warren, Bloomfield, Shelby Township, Farmington Hills, Auburn Hills, and Royal Oak locations. www.buddyspizza.com



The end is here for RadioShack; stores across state to close

Michigan.com

RadioShack, the consumer-electronics chain that filed for bankruptcy protection last week, is to close more than 1,700 stores nationwide, including more than 50 in Michigan.

The nearly century-old retailer, which traces its origins to a leather shoe parts shop in Texas and a mail-order operation in Boston, is expected to offer liquidation sales at the stores slated for closure.

"These steps are the culmination of a thorough process intended to drive maximum value for our stakeholders," Joe Magnacca, RadioShack's CEO, said in prepared remarks.

The Ft. Worth, Texas, company has about 4,000 stores in the U.S., but sales have been declining for years as it struggled against competitors such as Best Buy and customers went online to shop for their electronic parts and devices.

The retailer, considered by some as a pioneer in the electronics revolution and last year spent millions to advertise during the Super

Bowl, expanded rapidly, and even sold, at one point, a home computer, the TRS-80.

But in the past two decades, the company failed to find focus and its financial footing.

About half of the stores set to close in Michigan are in metro Detroit, including ones in Ann Arbor, Auburn Hills, Clinton Township, Commerce, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Detroit, Farmington, Ferndale, Livonia, Oak Park, Rochester, Rochester Hills, Southfield, Sterling Heights, Troy, Utica and Wayne.

A list of the expected store closings nationwide, as well as more details about the bankruptcy filing and company restructuring, are on RadioShack's website, www.radioshack.com.

As for the remaining stores, RadioShack said it signed a purchase agreement with General Wireless, an affiliate of Standard General, to sell between 1,500 and 2,400 of the stores.

General Wireless is expected to work with Sprint set up "store within a store" concepts.

Be on the lookout for threats to trees

By Kathleen Lavey
Michigan.com

Most of Michigan's 19.3 million acres of forest are in pretty good shape, with the biggest threats coming from invasive insects, fungal infections or a combination of both, according to the DNR's annual forest health report.

"We do have this list of quite a number of pests that are trying to threaten certain species," said Ron Murray, forest health unit manager for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. "We keep an eye on them and try to get ahead of them and stop them before they do too much damage."

Murray said it's important to learn to recognize invading insects, as well as signs of insect or fungal infestation such as holes in trees, sawdust, or leaves turning brown at the wrong time of year.

If you see signs, report what you've found to the DNR, the MSU Cooperative Extension Service or the state Agriculture Department.

"Lots of times, if you take a digital photograph and send it in, we can tell from the photo," Murray said. "Sometimes we can tell from a sample and sometimes we need to actually come out and look at the tree."

Here are five key threats listed in the report: as well as things you can do to help make sure that they don't



MARY JO WHITE | MICHIGAN.COM

The Michigan DNR notes health threats to the state's forests in a new report.

The good news: it's not in Michigan — yet.

Oak wilt

Oak wilt is caused by a fungus that travels from tree to tree through underground root connections or is spread above ground by sap beetles. Murray said it has been found in several areas around the state.

Beech bark disease

Discovered in Michigan in 2000, beech bark disease is prevalent in the central and eastern Upper Peninsula and in some northern counties in the Lower Peninsula. It begins with a white scale insect that attaches to bark and feeds on sap. This allows either of two types of fungus to invade the tree. The trunk of an infected tree can snap, even if branches and leaves appear healthy.

Emerald ash borer

The ash borer, a bright-green insect from Asia, has left 75 percent or more of ash trees standing dead in eight southern Michigan coun-

ties. It has spread across the state with the exception of the western Upper Peninsula. An estimated 50 million Michigan trees, mostly in the southern Lower Peninsula, have been killed by the insect burrowing under their bark; nearly 150 million living ash trees remain.

Hemlock woolly adelgid

This aphid-like insect is less than one-16th of an inch long and attaches itself to tree bark to suck sap. As it matures, it produces a covering of wool-like wax filaments to protect itself and its eggs. Infected trees can die within a few years. Infestations have been found and eradicated in Harbor Springs, Sterling Heights, Clinton Township and several coastal communities in southwest Michigan. No new infestations were reported in 2014. Hemlock forests aren't as widespread as some other types, but hemlocks are important for wildlife where they do grow, Murray said.

CITY OF PLYMOUTH 2015 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Plymouth Board of Review will be conducting the 2015 March Board of Review and will convene in the City Commission Conference Room, 201 S Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The regular Board of Review schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday, March 3, 2015 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING 12:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 4, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, March 5, 2015 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Monday, March 16, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. Hearings are by appointments only. COMPLETED 2015 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY, and must be submitted to the Front Office located on the First Floor of City Hall prior to your appointment. The "Deadline" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Monday, March 16, 2015.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. Written petitions must be received by Monday, March 16, 2015 by 4:00 p.m. Postmarks are not accepted.

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted and published in the local newspaper.

All Board of Review Meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's Office at (734) 453-1234, ext 253.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk

Published: February 12, 15, 19, 2015.

LO-00022808 3x3

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF HEARING ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE OF HEARING given that the Plymouth Township Board of Review will meet on the following dates and times: Hearings are by appointment only, please call 354-3269, between 8 am and 4:30 pm to arrange for an appointment.

MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW:

Tuesday, March 3, 2015	9 am - Noon	Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 9, 2015	2 pm - 5 pm	Hearings by Appointment
	6 pm - 9 pm	Hearings by Appointment
Wednesday, March 11, 2015	9 am - Noon	Hearings by Appointment
	2 pm - 5 pm	Hearings by Appointment
Thursday, March 12, 2015	9 am - Noon	Hearings by Appointment
Saturday, March 14, 2015	9 am - 11 am	First Come - First Served

Other Hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. All persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board of Review. A personal appearance is not required. Written protests to the Board of Review must be received by mail or delivered in person to the Assessing Office by the close of business on Friday, March 27, 2015 at 4:30 pm. The Board of Review will be held in the Board Meeting Room of Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Please come prepared as a ten (10) minute time limit before the Board of Review will be strictly adhered to.

Published: February 12, 15 and 19, 2015

LO-00022816 3x3.5

PLYMOUTH CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PLYMOUTH, MI 48170 SECTION 00 11 13 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for the Plymouth Canton Community Schools' Construction Bid Package 5C, consisting of:

- Partial Asphalt Pavement Replacement Projects
- Roof Replacements Projects
- Media Center Upgrade Projects
- Partial Exterior Door Replacement Projects
- Electrical Work for the Canton High School Science Lab Remodel & Salem High School Dance Studio Remodel Projects

will be received at the office of Mr. Patrick Briggs, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Operations, Plymouth Canton Community Schools, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170 until 1:30 P.M., local time on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at which time they will be opened, read publicly and tabulated.

Bids received after this time and date will be returned unopened.

Faxed or e-mailed proposals will not be accepted.

This Project will consist of separate sealed bids for the following Bid Divisions of work:

102: Asphalt / Site Concrete	103: Selective Demolition
109: Roofing / Sheetmetal	114: Aluminum Entrances / Glass & Glazing
117: Acoustical Treatment	118: Carpeting
120: Painting	142: HVAC
143: Electrical	

Bidding documents prepared by TMP Architecture, Inc. will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335; the Dodge Plan Room, Construction Association of Michigan (CAM), Reed Construction Data, and Builders Exchange, Lansing.

Bid Documents will be available beginning at 12:00 P.M. on Monday, February 9, 2015 via the following:

- Bidders may obtain one (1) set of 1/2 size bidding documents beginning at 12:00 P.M. on Monday, February 9, 2015, by contacting the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., at (248) 427-8400.
- Bidders may download bid documents from Gradebeam.com by contacting the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., at (248) 427-8400 to obtain log in information for access to the project documents.

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope. The bid division(s) being bid is/are to be identified on the outside of the envelope.

There will be a pre-bid meeting held on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 1:30 P.M. at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, located at 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the project, schedule and to answer any questions that bidders may have. All Bidders are encouraged to attend.

All bids should include 2 copies (1 original, 1 copy) of the Proposal Pricing Form (Section 00 41 26), Proposal Execution Form (Section 00 42 00), and the Iran Economics Sanctions Act Affidavit. The Proposal Execution Form provides a space for the bidder to disclose any familial relationship as required by Section 1267 of the Revised School Code, as amended, MCL 380.1267, and this form must be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted. The Iran Economic Sanctions Act Affidavit form may be found in section 00 42 10 of the Bidding Requirements & General Conditions Manual.

All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security, in either the form of a bid bond or certified bank check, in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to Plymouth Canton Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the proposal is accepted, the school district is secured from loss or damage by reason of the withdrawal of the bid or failure of the bidder to enter a contract for performance. Further, the bidder will execute the contract and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract.

If awarded a contract, the successful bidder may be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond. Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding.

END OF SECTION
00 11 13 - 1

Published: February 8, 12, 2015

LO-00022807 3x3.5



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2015

Notice is hereby given to Plymouth Township residents that a Special Election will be held in the Charter Township of Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan, on Tuesday, February 24, 2015. The Special Election is being held for the purpose of voting on two public safety millage proposals as follows:

PROPOSAL 1

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PROPOSITION FOR RENEWAL OF POLICE AND FIRE PUBLIC SAFETY MILLAGE

This is a renewal of police and fire millage being levied presently. Shall the previously voted 0.5631 mill increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution on general ad valorem taxes within the Charter Township of Plymouth be renewed at 0.5631 mills (\$0.5631 per \$1,000 of taxable value) for the period of 2016 through 2035, inclusive and the funds thereby derived to be used for police and fire services for the Charter Township of Plymouth, thereby raising in the first year \$955,934.

PROPOSAL 2

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PROPOSITION FOR RENEWAL OF POLICE AND FIRE PUBLIC SAFETY MILLAGE

This is a renewal of police and fire millage being levied presently. Shall the previously voted 2.00 mill increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution on general ad valorem taxes within the Charter Township of Plymouth which has been reduced by the required Headlee Amendment rollback to 1.6348 mills (\$1.6348 per \$1000 of taxable value) be renewed for the period of 2016 through 2035, inclusive and the funds thereby derived to be used for police and fire services for the Charter Township of Plymouth, thereby raising in the first year \$2,775,281.

POLLING LOCATIONS ARE:

Precinct 1	St. Kenneth's Catholic Church	14951 N Haggerty Rd
Precinct 2	Friendship Station	42375 Schoolcraft Rd
Precinct 3	Township Hall	9955 N Haggerty Rd
Precinct 4	Fiegel Elementary School	39750 Joy Rd
Precinct 5	Isbister Elementary School	9300 Canton Center Rd
Precinct 6	West Middle School	44401 W Ann Arbor Trl
Precinct 7	Church of the Nazarene	45801 Ann Arbor Rd W
Precinct 8	Praise Baptist Church	45000 N Territorial Rd
Precinct 9	Living Word Church	46500 N Territorial Rd
Precinct 10	NorthRidge Church	49555 N Territorial Rd
Precinct 11	Risen Christ Lutheran Church	46250 Ann Arbor Rd W
Precinct 12	Pioneer Middle School	46081 Ann Arbor Rd W

Applications for absentee ballots may be obtained from the Clerk's Office, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI during regular business hours, which are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. M-F.

On Saturday, February 21, 2015 the Clerk's Office will be open 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., to issue absentee ballots to qualified voters in person.

On Monday, February 23, 2015 qualified voters may be issued an absentee ballot in person, and shall vote them in the Clerk's Offices until 4:00 p.m.

WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER'S STATEMENT: I, Raymond J. Wojtowicz, Treasurer of Wayne County, Michigan, do hereby certify that, as of January 12, 2015 the total of all voted increases in excess of the tax rate limitation established by Section 6, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Michigan, as amended, and the years such increases are effective on property in the County of Wayne are as follows:

Taxing Authorities	Date of Election	Voted Increases	Years Effective
County of Wayne	11/03/2009	1 mill	2019
Wayne County Jail	08/07/2012	1 mill	2021
Wayne County Parks	11/02/2010	0.25 mills	2015
Plymouth- Canton Community Schools:	08/05/2014	18 mills	2024 (non-homestead)

Nancy Conzelman
Township Clerk

Published: February 12, 2015

LO-00022807 3x3.5

OUR VIEW

Bullying won't stop until you get involved

"It takes one to know one" is an old expression, usually derogatory and meaning that the subject to which it is directed is exhibiting the same behavior that person is criticizing. But in the case of Jordan Roberts, a former Bloomfield Hills resident, that expression would be one of empathy.

Roberts' production company has created a film about bullying, *White Rabbit*, which will have a special showing Feb. 12 at the Imagine Theater in Royal Oak. The showing is a fundraiser for anti-bullying, a subject that Roberts is well familiar with from her days in St. Louis in sixth grade.

"I went from having a lot of friends in school to moving to a new area and having no friends and being afraid of going to school," she said.



Roberts

That's a particularly relevant comment. In a report released last week, WalletHub said a nationwide survey of students found that Michigan

ranked 17th in the percentage of students who have missed school due to fear of being bullied.

The report was released Feb. 9 to coincide with Stop Bullying Day.

That WalletHub figure, if it is to be believed, is shocking in a state which has taken steps to deal with bullying and it is one that ought to motivate parents and school personnel to redouble those efforts.

The state Legislature re-

cently added cyber bullying to the state's 2011 anti-bullying measure called Matt's School Law. According to WalletHub, Michigan ranked 38th in the percentage of students who were bullied on school property and 39th in the percentage bullied online.

While we all think we know what bullying is, consider this information from a government website: Bullying involves "unwanted aggressive behavior," whether perceived or real. It involves an "imbalance of power" that can include everything from threats to rumors, physical or verbal attacks or even exclusion from a group.

According to the Risk Behavior Surveillance System of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 20 per-

cent of students experienced bullying tactics in 2013.

So what are we going to do about it?

The state law requires training and that school personnel be able to deal with the problem. It requires that incidents be investigated promptly and that educational programs be offered.

One such program that Attorney General Bill Schuette has taken statewide is "OK to Say," a way of telling students that it is a good thing to report threatening behavior. Those programs also explain to students the dangers of sexting and other cyber bullying behaviors - including the fact that they could go to jail for reposting revealing photos of other students.

Ultimately, it will be up to

parents to take an active role in teaching their children the consequences of bullying and how to deal with it. Online suggestions for doing so include talking about making friends, setting rules for behavior, monitoring Internet use of their children and discussing age-appropriate Internet use.

Parents want to know that the schools they send their children to are safe. Our children are vulnerable at any age. Bullying destroys the nurturing environment needed for learning.

Roberts says that her film leaves the viewer feeling hopeful and that there is something that can be done about bullying.

Make that true by getting involved in your local school.

STAFF COLUMN

Black history lessons should be taught at home, too

Tears streamed down my daughter Olivia's cheeks as she watched a video unfold on YouTube. She ran from our home office and burst into the kitchen trembling.

"Why would he do that to her? Why does he hate her so much?"

"Turn it off, Daddy, I can't go back in there."

Olivia, 7, was watching YouTube with the best of intentions. Her class was learning about Black History Month and she was excited to see if there were any videos about the Drinking Gourd.

Olivia doesn't often come home from school enthralled with the notion of homework, but she was this time.

She talked rapid fire about what she had learned earlier that day, making a case for extra computer time.

"People sang a special song to follow the gourd north," Olivia said. "They'd go at night with Miss Tubman and follow the stars."



Larry Ruehlen

That seemed to be the sum total of Olivia's knowledge on the subject of slavery before she sat down in my office chair. A quick search revealed a bunch of related content and younger brother Mark, 5, squeezed alongside Olivia to see whatever it was that had earned extra screen time.

I made the mistake of drifting back to work and the screams came 10 minutes later.

The children were watching something on Harriett Tubman and her role in the Underground Railroad. Olivia bolted in horror at the depiction of a slave getting whipped. The slave screamed in agony as her back ripped open with each lash, begging for mercy that didn't come.

That scene launched a long and difficult conversation that

I hadn't even considered having with our children. I like to think I'm doing my part to raise enlightened children and all kinds of topics have been open for discussion. Cancer, religion, death, work ethic, stealing, money and love have all been dinner-table conversations.

Just last week, Mark asked if it was OK for a boy to marry a girl or a girl to marry a boy. I looked at my wife Robin for a nod of approval before answering. It is OK, I said, and even legal in some states, but most of the time men marry women.

The explanation must have sufficed, because the conversation quickly turned to something less controversial: Mark's love of cheeseburgers.

The discussion of slavery was different. In fact, it was almost urgent.

Olivia's best friend is black. They hit it off the first day of kindergarten and never looked back. We recently moved nearly 60 miles away, but the girls

still exchange messages and even went out for lunch over Christmas break.

Olivia and Mark needed to make sense of something that makes no sense in the eyes of a child.

How could a person own someone else?

Why would they want to?

Was it legal?

How long did it last?

Why didn't someone stop it?

Did our family own slaves?

My wife and I answered every question they asked and it went on for a full 30 minutes.

Our answers were basic and to the point.

People owned slaves because they were greedy. They made slaves work for free so they could get rich.

It was legal, but our country went to war over slavery and President Abraham Lincoln and the north won. Eventually, all the slaves were free.

Mark asked if a little boy could be taken from his parents and I said yes, slaves

could be sold as their owners

saw fit.

More tears fell.

What about the gourd, Olivia asked. Why didn't they run away?

White people had guns, we said, and runaway slaves were chased down and even killed for trying to get to freedom.

Olivia and Mark seemed hurt by the whole thing - not the history lesson, but the fact that slavery had happened at all.

Up to now, we hadn't confronted the issue of race in our household. We have simply told our children to be friends with whomever they liked and repeated that skin color doesn't matter.

The truth is all, children need to know about this ugly chapter of American history and parents shouldn't depend only upon schools to tell it.

Larry Ruehlen is managing editor of digital content & audience development at O&E Media. He welcomes feedback at lruehlen@hometownlife.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Big business government

Gov. Snyder recently said: "It is about recognizing that you are a human, you are a person and should be treated that way." He didn't think so four years ago? Just figured that out? When Republicans "streamline" government programs it will always mean cuts for the poor and middle class - unless they are stream-

lining for the benefit of the wealthy or corporations.

Get rid of dedicated career state food service workers in our prisons and "streamline" the system by hiring a for-profit company that serves maggot infested food and hires employees that have sex with prisoners.

Watch for more slick presentations and a lot of backhanded changes that do no one, except the comfortable,

much good! Government of big business, by big business, and for big business. The Republican Golden Rule - He who has the gold gets to make the rules!

Steve Lawrence
Northville Township

Revamp Electoral College

I am so glad that Angela Ryan pointed out to me the inequities in the current sys-

tem of electing a president using the Electoral College. It sounds like the winner in each state takes all the electoral votes.

So according to her, everyone in Michigan who voted for Romney in the last election lost their vote and it was given to Obama by the Electoral College. And she thinks that this is a fair way to run an election.

The only fair way to run an

election is to simply count the popular vote nationwide. The candidate with the majority of votes, nationwide, is the winner. This method would reflect the will of the majority. No one would lose their vote.

We need to do away with the outdated and unfair Electoral College system. I have thought this for years.

Carol Maynard
Northville

GUEST COLUMN

Stats don't support need for more cops in Plymouth

On Feb. 24, the citizens of Plymouth will be asked to vote on a new public safety millage tax of up to 1.5 mills. The owner of a home with a taxable value of \$150,000 and retail value of \$300,000 would pay approximately \$225 more annually in city taxes for five years. If the city assess the full 1.5 mills, it would raise \$637,023 in the first year.

The city has summarized its need to "Secure funding to hire additional police for downtown bar/restaurant patrol, thus freeing up current officers for increased neighborhood patrols" in its presentation at <http://www.ci.plymouth.mi.us/DocumentCenter/View/3437>. However, I feel that the data presented does not support this need, nor do I believe the majority of citizens agree this is a high priority for the city. I will attempt to use the city's own data to prove my point.

The city's main rationale for a tax increase is a large in-



Jack Wilson

GUEST COLUMNIST

crease in "calls for service" by police. However, the city did not analyze or sort the data. A simple review of the data shows an extremely strong linear relationship between the number of calls for service and the increased number of liquor licenses allowed in the city since 2006.

Additional data presented by the city includes charts showing the number of officers, population, square miles of jurisdiction, etc. Simple sorting again reveals Plymouth with 15 officers is already the third highest out of more than 20 jurisdictions at 6.8 officers per square mile. Northville, the usual comparison for Plymouth, was conspicuously left out of this data due its smaller size, but still trails Plymouth

with 5.9 officers per square mile.

Some might argue that officers per mile is not a meaningful comparison; alternatively, I would suggest that crimes per 1,000 residents would be a good indicator of how safe a community is and whether more police are needed. Adding the 2013 FBI crime data to the data used in the city's presentation shows a total crime rate of 11.2 crimes per 1,000 residents. This is the lowest of any of the comparable municipalities used by the city. In fact, the police chief was quoted in an article in the Dec. 13, 2014, *Plymouth Observer* as saying: "The city is indeed a safe place to live and visit."

So crime data shows Plymouth is the safest community used in the comparison, that it has a more than average the number of officers per square mile and that calls for service increased in lock step with the number of liquor licenses the city has allowed. One might deduce that those who are causing the increased calls for service, the bars, should pay for any needed additional officers. In my opinion, the city has to find a legal way to do this. While most residents enjoy having these establishments, the bar owners are the ones with the most to gain by owning the liquor licenses and so they should be the ones

paying for any incremental policing costs (which we can assume occur primarily on weekends).

If police and fire departments are allowed to levy charges for "false alarms," one would think they would be allowed to come up with some way to charge for "multiple calls for service." Just implementing such a system may cause the bar owners to police themselves, thus totally eliminating the extra police need.

While the city's presentation focuses on adding two police officers at a total cost of \$152,000 per year, the millage could raise up to \$709,000 in year five. This leads one to wonder what the balance of this funding would be used for. The language of the proposal says "... to provide funds to staff, equip, maintain or operate the public safety department and for any other fire, police or public safety purposes authorized by law, including the hiring of additional police officers."

What is bothersome is that hiring seems to be an afterthought. With the city already having \$7 million in unfunded retiree health care, \$4 million in unfunded pensions, \$4 million in costs being disputed with the township, along with a pending \$2 million Saxton parking lot purchase, what is not made clear in the language

will be the biggest actual use of the millage.

I have attended several city commission meetings to provide my opposition to the "safety" tax and the parking lot. There have been others who have voiced similar concerns. In fact, at one meeting, I addressed the commission with my back to the audience and asked "who here is in attendance to support the safety millage or the parking lot purchase?" I am told not a single person raised their hand. Yet the audience was packed with quiet zone supporters who would love to have the city's financial support for a project the citizens actually desire.

In summary, based on the city's presentation and comments, the FBI's data and my analysis of the data, Plymouth police are doing a great job without the need for additional officers. If there is a need for additional police, it is apparently due to increased bar traffic. I believe it is reasonable to assume this should be a cost of doing business for the bar owners. As a result, I urge the citizens of Plymouth to vote no in person or via absentee ballot on the proposed millage ... and the city commission to refocus on the goals of their constituents (such as the PARC or quiet zones).

Jack Wilson is a resident of Plymouth.

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Defense sparks Rocks in division showdown

Salem shuts down Novi to go up game in KLAA Central

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Salem varsity boys basketball coach Bob Brodie kept replenishing his troops Tuesday night and, eventually, the opponent could not keep up.

The Rocks were able to flip the switch when they needed to against visiting Novi in a battle between two teams that began the night tied for the KLAA

Central Division lead.

When the 32 minutes of action were over, Salem had prevailed 65-52 to get one step closer to a second consecutive division crown.

"Those were two good basketball teams out there tonight," said Brodie, whose team improved to 12-3 overall and 8-1 in the KLAA Central. "But I think it's our depth (that made the difference). We rotate a lot of players, we're fresher."

Once again, the Rocks played virtually everybody on the roster and every button Brodie pushed worked well. Leading Salem with 15

points was senior forward Jakob Lenders, who also grabbed eight rebounds.

Also in double figures were senior guard Jake Stropes and senior guard Jon Swift, with 10 points each. Junior center Kenny Topolovec tallied eight points and 10 rebounds and senior forward Allante Wheeler helped out with six boards.

Brodie said his team's strength in numbers and defensive pressure continue to wear down opponents.

"At the end, their tongues might have been hanging a little bit," Brodie said. "We did

See ROCKS, Page B2



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Novi's Jaylen Dixon (right) tries to rip a rebound out of the hands of Salem senior Jake Stropes during Tuesday's KLAA Central showdown.



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO
Plymouth's group of seniors has upped the resolve after losing top post player Leah Kliczinski (No. 33) to a serious knee injury. From left are Courtney LaVallee, Kendall Rose, Kliczinski, Paige Slominski, Nadia Lengel and Patti Begoske.

SEIZING THE KLAA SOUTH

Chiefs in driver's seat after bottling up Churchill

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Livonia Churchill's large and loud "Black Hole" student cheering section was poised to serve as the sixth man during Tuesday's pivotal KLAA South Division encounter between the Chargers and visiting Canton.

But the Chiefs' black-hole defense—which was particularly relentless and active inside the paint—did its best to silence the crowd and the Chargers' arsenal of long-range marksmen with four quarters of lock-down defense in Canton's 50-38 triumph.

The victory improved Canton's record to 12-3 overall and 7-2 in the South, while Churchill, which managed just eight total points in the second and third quarters combined, slipped to 10-5 and 6-3, respectively.

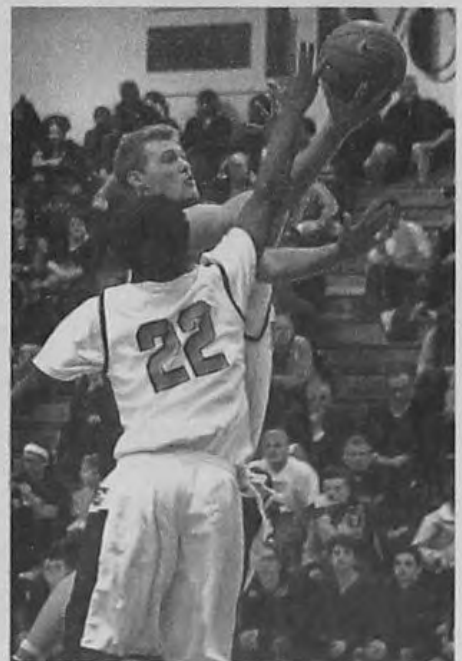
A Friday night win over winless Livonia Franklin will give the Chiefs their fourth division crown in the past six seasons.

The Chiefs upended Wayne Memorial on Monday in a make-up contest, but if they were fatigued Tuesday, it didn't show.

After the first quarter finished with the teams deadlocked at 13-13, the Chiefs outscored Churchill 17-3 in the second before seizing a 40-21 advantage heading into the fourth quarter.

A string of late triples brought Churchill to within 45-38 with 2:23 left, but a succession of bountiful trips to the free-throw line sealed the win for the black-clad visitors.

See CHIEFS, Page B2



ED WRIGHT
Going up for a bucket Tuesday night is Canton's Greg Williams.

TOGETHER THEY WIN

Major injury doesn't dampen Plymouth girls cagers' resolve to stay 'united'

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Their motto is "Team Unity" and it's much more than a catch phrase for the Plymouth Wildcats.

Led by a hard-working and talented group of seniors, the Plymouth varsity girls basketball team continues to walk the walk—even after losing co-captain Leah Kliczinski last month to a torn ACL.

All the team has done since is steamroll opponents, including incredibly lopsided wins of 79-12 Monday over Livonia Franklin and 79-15 Tuesday over Wayne Memorial.

With those wins—the 11th and 12th in a row—Plymouth wrapped up its first-ever KLAA South Division championship, despite a noble attempt by Canton to make it a race. The Wildcats are 13-2 overall and 9-0 in the KLAA South.

"Now that I'm out with my ACL tear, everyone is stepping up to fill my shoes," said Kliczinski, a key post presence for head coach Nick Brandon both during 2013-14 and the first half of this season. "And I



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO
Plymouth senior point guard and co-captain Paige Slominski predicted that if hard times hit the Wildcats, strong team chemistry would pull them through.

couldn't be more proud of my teammates.

"Although this will continue to be a hurdle, we've proven several times that we can clear it and we will continue to."

Still united

Kliczinski credited her senior teammates—point guard and co-captain Paige Slominski, wing and co-captain Kendall Rose, point guard Courtney LaVallee and post players Patti Begoske and Nadia Lengel—for "playing their part and contributing to each of our wins and that is how we are successful. Unity is key."

According to Slominski, losing Kliczinski was "the biggest adversity that's hit this team this season. Losing her was really hard and we miss her very much. But we've responded very well. ... Players have stepped up as a team and we have stayed really united."

Concurring was Rose, noting that while the players miss having Kliczinski out on the floor with them, "it

See PLYMOUTH, Page B4

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EARLY REGISTRATION ONGOING

Snowball 2015 on tap

Annual winter softball tourney set for Feb. 28 at Canton Sports Center

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Yes, it's game on! It might be a snow-covered and slippery one, but Canton Sports Center softball teams have the chance to get out into the wintry elements for the annual Snowball 2015, a co-ed softball, Chicago-style tournament.

Games will be played, come snow or biting wind, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, on Field Nos. 9 and 12 (at the Michigan Avenue complex behind Kickers).

The tournament features a 16-inch neon softball that fielders can pick up after batters slam down into the snowy ground or up into the flurries.

Snowball 2015 will take place in conjunction with the Think Spring! rec softball league registration (9 a.m. to 3

p.m.). Immediately following the snowball tourney will be the WRIF/Leinenkugel Celebrity Softball Game.

"The co-ed Snowball tourney has run off and on over the past 12 years, depending on the weather," Canton Sports Center's Ann-Marie Carravallah said. "Keeping players active in the off-season is a fun way to stay in touch with your team, enjoy Michigan weather and get ready for the spring season."

"We haven't really done a spring promo day in conjunction with the Snowball tourney before, so it's hard to say about impacting registration. But we're hoping players get excited about this year's winter event."

The deadline for softball teams to register for Snowball 2015 is 4:30 p.m. Wednesday,

Feb. 25. Registration may be done by phone (734.483.5600) or via email to educa@canton-mi.org.

Winning teams will get cash, hooded sweatshirts, a trophy and a chance to play in the WRIF celebrity game.

Checks (\$130 entry fee per team, non-refundable) also may be mailed to Canton Sports Center, 46555 W. Michigan Ave., Canton, MI 48188.

Canton Sports Center is located on the south side of Michigan Avenue, west of Canton Center/Belleville road.

Meanwhile, the first 20 teams signing up early (by Feb. 25) for the spring league will receive either \$50 off the Session 1 registration fee or a \$25 Kickers All-Star Grill gift certificate.

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COURTESY CANTON SPORTS CENTER

Snow doesn't stop these Canton Sports Center softball players. On Feb. 28, the annual snowball softball tourney is set to take place.

ROCKS

Continued from Page B1

a good job on the glass tonight; we held them to four offensive rebounds."

The Rocks led most of the night, but Novi did enjoy a 12-2 surge in the second quarter to take the 25-22 edge referred to by Sinawi.

Treys by senior guard Nick Hankerson (20 points) and senior forward Brad Dotinga spearheaded that push by the Wildcats. Yet right after Dotinga buried his 3-ball, the Rocks kicked it up another gear over the final 2:30 of the half to go up 31-25 at intermission.

Wheeler's offensive rebound and put-back tied the game at 25-25 and junior guard Freddie McGee canned a jumper from the top of the key to put the Rocks up a deuce.

Lenders misfired on a triple try, but he got his own rebound and scored on a finger roll. Closing out the half with a baseline drive and basket was Swift.

"We went to the zone, we knew they were uncomfortable with it," Stropes said. "So we thought we'd go with it. We did a good job boxing out, even though in zone it's hard to get to your man."



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem senior Jakob Lenders (right) tries to put up a shot against Novi defender Max Yanke during Tuesday's game.

CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

"Coach told us before the game that if we win all three games this week, we're division champs and that really resonated with everybody on the team," said Canton junior forward Logan Ryan, who led all scorers with 19 points. "We were really fired up before the game and we fed off each other's energy during the game."

Ryan jump-started his team's hot-shooting first-quarter - Canton made 6-of-10 field-goal attempts - with six points. Senior guard Greg Williams, who finished with 16 points, also got rolling quickly with seven first-quarter points.

"Logan sometimes has a tendency to let the game come to him, so when he starts out fast like he did tonight, he's more active the rest of the game," Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy said. "He was active the entire game tonight,

driving and finishing around the rim."

Reddy delivered big-time props for his team's stingy defensive effort to senior forward Jalen Cochran, who made scoring difficult for whomever he was matched up against.

"Jalen's 6-foot-4, but he can guard guards," Reddy said. "He did a nice job on (Churchill's Joan) Andoni - not for the entire game, but for stretches. He's so flexible with his ability to guard anybody we need him to that it makes our team defense that much better."

The Chiefs limited Churchill's explosive junior wing combination of Andoni and Jon Hovermale to 16 points combined. Andoni was held to just one triple before heating up with eight fourth-quarter points.

Dayton Davis added nine points on three treys, while post player Jarrett Pletcher added six for the Chargers.

"Offensively, we were standing around too much and when we don't get a lot of movement,

we're a very average team," Churchill head coach Jimmy Solak said. "I'm more concerned with our defense. Our ball pressure was fine, but we didn't play good team defense tonight, which will hurt you when you reach this point in the season."

Following a dismal scoring stretch during the two middle quarters, the Andoni-led Chargers stormed back with a 7-0 run to start the fourth quarter to get back in the game and get the "Black Hole" stirring.

A short jumper by Hovermale cut the Chargers' deficit to 45-38, but Ryan calmly answered at the other end with a soft rainbow jumper to extend the lead to nine. Churchill would get no closer.

"We really put a greater emphasize in practice on defending in the paint after our losses to Plymouth and John Glenn last week," Reddy said. "And the guys bought into it tonight."

ewright@hometownlife.com

PREP GYMNASTICS

Chiefs 'slip' into second at Canton Invitational

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Canton's defending state champion gymnastics squad literally fell into second place at Saturday's Canton Invitational.

The Chiefs collected 143.225 points to finish behind invite champion Rockford/Sparta (145.1). In third with 141.350 points was Howell.

According to Canton head coach John Cunningham, there were two costly falls on uneven parallel bars and three more on balance beam that hurt the Chiefs' chances to top the 19-team field.

"Holding Hailey Hodgson out of two events due to illness was painful, too," Cunningham said. "There were bright spots, of course, with Allison Kunz tying the school record on floor, winning our only first with a 9.775."

Kunz had nines on all events. She also took second on vault (9.55), third on bars (9.075), fourth on beam (9.35) and third in the all-around (37.75).

Also stellar was Jana Hilditch. She registered a personal best in the all-around, taking seventh in Division 1 with 36.25.

Hilditch also placed on bars (fifth, 8.95), beam (seventh, 9.1) and vault (eighth, 9.05).

Other Canton performers of note included Stephanie Cox and Hodgson - who despite her illness scored 9.375 on floor to place second.

Cox, meanwhile, tallied 9.15 on vault (seventh place) and 9.075 on floor.

"Not enough bright spots to get a win," Cunningham said. "But against the top 10 teams in the state, certainly admirable."

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JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Canton's Jana Hilditch tallied 9.1 on balance beam Saturday.



COURTESY CANTON ATHLETICS

Allison Kunz of the Chiefs is the picture of confidence at the Canton Invitational.

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

Ocelots clinch playoff berth

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Ja'Christian Biles went off Saturday for Schoolcraft College's men's basketball team, pouring in 29 points in the Ocelots' 79-61 victory over Henry Ford Community College.

The home victory clinched the Ocelots (21-3, 10-3) a spot in the NJCAA District 10 tournament. Also chiming in with 13 points was Javan Thomas, Schoolcraft benefited from a balanced attack - three players tallied eight points, including Westland John Glenn product Dre Black.

Leading the way in the rebounding department was Anthony Wartley-Fritz, who pulled down 10 boards (five offensive) along with chipping in eight points.

Henry Ford (12-10, 5-6) was led by Ashton Curd (20 points).

Schoolcraft held a slim 32-30 halftime edge, hampered by some so-so shooting (12-of-37, 32.4 percent) before the break.

But the shots began to fall more regularly in the third quarter, and the Ocelots hit 18-of-36 (50 percent) from the

floor in the second half.

Schoolcraft was slated Wednesday to visit Oakland Community College and will host Henry Ford Community College at 3 p.m. Saturday. The women's game will tip it off at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Men bowlers first

Schoolcraft bowlers had plenty of success at Friday's Great Lakes Classic at Hi-Skore Lanes.

The men's team topped the six-team field with 4,168 pins, led by Kaylup Richards (812 four-game series).

Ricky Rutenbar and Leon Hutchcraft tallied scores of 798 and 793, respectively. Finishing with 776 for the day was Josh Coffee.

On the women's side, the Lady Ocelots finished second with 3,161 pins, 100 pins behind Muskegon.

Angela Rodriguez had a 765 series, while Ella Kearney registered 727 for the day.

In the individual competition, Kearney threw a 224 game for the top score of the tourney.

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FRIDAY NIGHT BASKETBALL RECAP

Winning night for Salem teams

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Having survived a serious scare thrown at them Friday night by Livonia Stevenson, the Salem Rocks now await their biggest test of the season.

Salem earned a hard-fought 73-70 win over the host Spartans in a KLAA Central Division varsity boys basketball match-up to keep pace with Novi at the top of the standings.

Veteran Salem head coach Bob Brodie knew his team dodged a bullet by rallying late in the fourth quarter against Stevenson (49, 2-6).

"It was a close game," Brodie said. "We led most of the way, but we were down three

in the fourth with a minute left.

"(Jakob) Lenders hit a key three for us to put us up and (Jon) Swift and (Allante) Wheeler took charge. They made some free throws and key baskets for us."

The Rocks were helped by a balanced attack, led by Kenny Topolovec's 17 points, 11 rebounds and two blocks.

"He had a sterling game for us," Brodie said.

Chipping in 16 points was Jake Stropes, with Swift and Wheeler contributing 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Scoring 21 points for the Spartans was Jacob Dollar.

The teams were deadlocked at 21-21 after the first quarter and the Rocks nudged ahead 41-37 at the break. Stevenson

closed the gap to 58-55 entering the fourth quarter.

SALEM GIRLS KEEP WINNING: On Friday night at Salem, the Rocks varsity girls basketball team solidified its hold on the KLAA Central Division lead with a 53-22 romp over Livonia Stevenson.

Salem upped its record to 10-4 overall and 8-0 in the division and enjoys a three-game lead over South Lyon East.

On Feb. 4, in a makeup game necessitated by a snow day the day before, Salem defeated East 38-27.

Shara Long scored 20 points and hauled down nine rebounds for Salem.

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Salem lineman Singh sings Hillsdale's praises

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Judging from his relaxed demeanor and easy banter on National Signing Day, Salem senior defensive tackle Uday Singh will have no trouble adjusting to life at Hillsdale College.

The 5-11, 290-pound Singh smiled widely with family members, football teammates and others as he took part in a signing day ceremony at Salem.

"We've always been like a family; they're almost like my brothers," Singh said following the ceremony. "So to have their support today means a lot to me. I know they're all proud of me and I know they'll be going on to do great things in life as well."

He wore a Hillsdale Chargers cap, which happened to be royal blue — just like Salem's



Salem senior lineman Uday Singh (second from right) signed last week to play football at Hillsdale College. On hand for the big day were (far right) Rocks head football coach Kurt Britnell and (from left) assistant coaches Pat Ignagni and Ted Barker.

school colors.

"It was the dream to play college football," Singh said. "But when I started in sixth grade, I never thought I would have made it here."

Helping Singh celebrate were Salem varsity head foot-

ball coach Kurt Britnell and assistant coaches Pat Ignagni and Ted Barker. Singh tipped his cap to all of his coaches from his years with the Plymouth-Canton Steelers right up through his senior season. "He's worked hard; it's a



great opportunity," Britnell said. "Anytime you get a chance to have an athlete that's played for you to play at the next level, I'm very proud of him. He's worked hard to get this and he deserves this."

"Every year he's gotten better. With hard work, you've seen a gradual incline in his ability over the four years since he's been in our program."

Singh, whose parents are Sarbjit and Sumandeep Singh, stressed that academics was his top priority, however.

He carries a 3.27 grade-point average and registered a 32 on the ACT. At Hillsdale, a

MORE TO COME

There will be additional coverage Sunday, Feb. 15, of National Signing Day. Also check www.hometownlife.com for more.

Division II college in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, he will pursue a degree in marketing management with a minor in computer science.

"Other schools that have recruited me were mostly Ivy League schools," Singh said. "So academics was already something I was really looking for."

"And I feel (the Chargers) gave me the best opportunity to compete for a ring on the football field and get the best degree possible off the football field."

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Krumm happy to tee off at Northern

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

There's no doubt that Canton senior Alyce Krumm wanted to keep golfing for a college.

Yet the college search took an interesting twist for the Chiefs' captain, who enjoyed averages of 88 strokes per 18 holes and 44 per nine during the 2014 high school season.

Krumm's parents (Bethann and Ernie Krumm) found out that Northern Michigan University was forming a women's golf team and emailed Alyce all about it.

"Actually, this is Northern's first women's golf team," Krumm said. "I have family that lives up north and they emailed me and said, 'Hey, they're adding a women's golf team.'"

"So I contacted the coach (Kyle Wittenbach) and went up in October and played. He offered me a spot on the team, so it was just a great turn of events."

Krumm took part Feb. 4 in National Signing Day festivities along with 14 other Canton classmates.

"I'm friends with almost all the athletes that are moving on," Krumm said. "It's just great to kind of share that experience with them, although we're all in different sports."

"It's just awesome to all be together and be in that experience, moving on to collegiate athletics together."

In addition to Division II golf, Krumm will pursue a degree in communications. She holds a 3.5 grade-point average.

Krumm added that she is "really excited" to be going to Northern to continue playing golf.

"It's just a great opportunity to play with some new teammates, get some more advanced coaching and just try to get better as a golfer," Krumm said.

She isn't worried too much about adjusting to a new team and school, let alone playing a different level of golf than she is accustomed to.

"I do think it's different," Krumm said. "Not only because you're pushed back on your distance, but also because the competition level is just so different."

"I think there's still the team chemistry and the team bonding that goes on on the course and off the course, so I'm hoping to make some new friends up there on the team."

Olivet inks Homco

Also signing Feb. 4 was Canton senior volleyball player Chloe Homco, who will go to Olivet Nazarene.

Homco, whose parents are Steve and Carol Homco, holds a 3.92 grade-point average and intends to go into physical therapy or nursing.

"I'm so excited and honored to have the opportunity to play at the college of my dreams," Homco said. "Throughout my years of playing volleyball, I constantly struggled with the idea of playing at the next level."

"Along the way, my parents pushed me to do my best and I had a club coach, Irick Gardner, who taught me to push no matter what. They are the reason I am where I am today."

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Krumm



Plymouth High School athletic director Kyle Meteyer proudly stands behind seniors Brittney Miller (left) and Mikayela Marciniak on National Signing Day. Both Miller and Marciniak will play softball at Oakland University.

PLYMOUTH PIPELINE

Wildcats sign to play softball at Oakland University

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Plymouth High School and Oakland University are firming up quite a softball pipeline.

Former Wildcats head coach Val Canfield is an assistant coach for the Division I Grizzlies and already has helped recruit Plymouth alum Lindsay Lutton. Two more Plymouth softball players made it official Feb. 4 that they will join Canfield and OU beginning in 2016.

Left-handed pitcher Mikayela Marciniak and slugging third baseman Brittney Miller were part of National Signing Day festivities, emphasizing that Canfield's presence at Oakland was an important factor in why they decided to continue their softball careers there.

"Definitely she did," Marciniak said about Canfield impacting her choice. "She

was very influential on my decision to go there."

Chiming in was Miller, noting that she "really wanted" Canfield to be her college coach.

"(Canfield) motivates me a lot," Miller said. "My freshman year, when I first made varsity, she was my role model. When I was looking down and didn't want to play softball, you have that one person that motivates you to do better. She was that person."

Marciniak and Miller were both recruited by the Grizzlies because they are very good players, too, of course.

Although injuries curtailed Marciniak's 2014 season, she has been a top contributor from the circle throughout her four-year high school career. Miller smashed eight homers last season.

"It's a really beautiful campus, it's wide and vast," said Marciniak, whose parents are Brian and Diana Marciniak. "I'll be an outfielder and pitch sometimes."

Miller, whose parents are Bob and Rhonda Miller, ech-

oed her teammate, noting that she "really loved the campus; they had what I wanted to go into there."

Both are excellent students, too. Marciniak carries a 3.75 grade-point average and plans on studying for a degree in occupational safety and health. Miller (3.1 GPA) will pursue a degree in psychology.

Both seniors stressed that signing with Oakland means they will get to keep playing the sport they have loved since they were young girls.

"It's just a relief knowing that all your hard work is finally paying off," Marciniak said. "And now you know you have to go and continue four more years in like what you love to play."

"It's a relief to finally do it and now get ready to work harder at the college level."

According to Miller, "you get to do what you love for the next four years."

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Canton senior Chloe Homco (second from left) signed to play volleyball at Olivet Nazarene. Joining her on National Signing Day are parents Steve and Carol and younger brother Joshua.

Chiefs' girls soccer trio looking ahead

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

On the pitch, Kelsey Cheaney, Chloe Donlin and Cristen Pedersen have enjoyed plenty of success as part of the Canton Chiefs varsity girls soccer team.

So it was fitting that the teammates were able to celebrate some off-the-field success together when they shared National Signing Day festivities Feb. 4.

"It's great to go through this with them," Cheaney said, "especially since so many people around me are signing. It's great to just share the experience with them. It's an exciting time."

Cheaney will play in the NAIA at Siena Heights University, while Donlin is slated to go to Northwood University (Division II) and Pedersen to Aquinas College (NAIA).

Pedersen said she "couldn't have been more blessed to do it with my friends, to sign today."

"I'm very excited," Donlin said. "I know a couple of the girls going there and I look forward to continuing my soccer career over the next four years, continuing to get better."



Three Canton varsity girls soccer players signed to play at the collegiate level. From left on National Signing Day are Cristen Pedersen (Aquinas), Chiefs head coach Jeannine Reddy, Chloe Donlin (Northwood) and Kelsey Cheaney (Siena Heights).

Cheaney, who holds a 3.6 grade-point average and plans on studying pre-law at Siena Heights, noted that she can't wait for the next chapter of her soccer career.

"I get to continue playing college soccer, which is going to be a great experience," said Cheaney, whose parents are Larry and Renee Cheaney.

According to Donlin, playing an elite level of club soccer with the Michigan Hawks helped her to develop as a player, augmented by a four-year varsity career at Canton (the girls soccer season be-

gins in the spring).

"Definitely a combination (club and prep), being on varsity four years made me grow up really fast," Donlin said, thanking Hawks coach Gene Pulice, Canton coach Jeannine Reddy and her parents Jim and Nikki Donlin.

Donlin holds a 3.5 GPA and will pursue a degree in health care management.

Pederson, daughter of Gary and Carmen Pederson, carries a 3.2 GPA. She intends to go into pre-law at Aquinas.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

High Velocity camps

The High Velocity Sports Complex will host several Mid-winter Break Camps Feb. 16-20 while Plymouth-Canton Schools are off. The camps include All-Sports Camp, Miki's Pro Soccer Camp, Triple Threat Basketball Camp and Bricks 4 Kidz Minecraft Camp.

Those interested in participating are urged to pre-register by calling 734-487-7678 or going to www.hvsports.com.

Following is a brief glimpse at each offering:

» All-Sports Camp is offered to 5- to 13-year-olds and kids are run through sports stations by HVS coaches every 30-40 minutes. Camp runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., but before care is offered starting at 7:30 a.m. and after care until 6 p.m. The cost is \$5 per hour and parents can drop off and pick up around their schedule. During before and after care, kids can watch a movie, play board or card games or play with hand-held electronics brought from home in a proper case and clearly

labeled. All-Sports Camp can also be used before and after the following specialty camps:

» Miki's Pro Soccer Camp—ages 5-17, 9 a.m. to noon, \$135/week or \$30/day

Kids learn and improve skill development while working on speed and agility, ball control, shooting and passing.

» Triple Threat Training Basketball Camp—ages 5-14, 9 a.m. to noon, \$135/week or \$30/day

Troy Coleman and his Triple Threat Training staff train kids on the fundamentals of basketball including shooting, one-on-one and team drills, offensive and defensive drills.

» Bricks 4 Kidz Minecraft Lego Camp—ages 6-11, 1-4 p.m., \$135/week (no daily option)

Experience the world of Minecraft with LEGO Bricks. Kids will start by crafting their shelters and some of the mobs, critters and tools using LEGO bricks. Campers will face new challenges each day building models and crafting key elements from the popular Minecraft game.

COLLEGE BASEBALL PREVIEW

MU baseball outlook: Pitching, catching the key

Crusaders should have depth on the mound

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Pitching and catching will be the great unknowns for Madonna University baseball coach Greg Haeger as he sizes up his 2015 squad, which opens its season Friday with a double-header against Shawnee (Ohio) State in Dayton, Tenn.

"Last year, we got hit with two storms," said Haeger, who is entering his 19th season with a 568-376-5 overall record. "We graduated all the pitchers from the previous season, which was a huge loss. It was 85 percent of our innings. And then on top of that, we had injuries. We took a right and a left last year."

The Crusaders hope to pack more of a punch this year coming off a 29-25 season, including a 13-14 record in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

In October, the WHAC coaches picked MU fourth in the pre-season poll, with defending champion Davenport University as the favorite.

"We like the pitching staff and we might be better than fourth," Haeger said. "We're optimistic we can be a much better team than fourth place."

All-WHAC pitcher Travis Schuba, who went 7-2 in 20 ap-



Grzelakowski Piechota

pearances with a 1.86 earned-run average, graduated.

But junior right-handers Evan Piechota (Livonia Stevenson) and Adam Prasad (Mississauga, Ontario) emerged after Mike Kanitra (Stevenson), now a red-shirt freshman, Alec Padilla (Romeo), a now a sophomore, and Dane Staples (graduated) all missed parts of the 2014 season with injuries.

Piechota finished 5-3 with a 2.55 ERA in 70 1/3 innings, while Prasad was 4-3 with a 2.62 ERA in a team-high 72 innings. Both made honorable mention all-WHAC.

"A couple of guys stepped up for us," Haeger said. "Schuba just did a tremendous job in every role possible for us. Prasad and Piechota, as sophomores, pitched well for us. We really had to revamp it, though. We really have 10 new arms."

Other mound returnees include left-hander Alex DeYonker (Livonia Franklin), a sophomore, and right-hander Dylan

Cooper (Sterling Heights Stevenson), the team's lone senior, plus lefty Zack Schmidtke, who is converting from the outfield.

Other starting pitching candidates include A.J. Susick (Auburn Hills Avondale), a sophomore red-shirt who is coming off Tommy John surgery; lefty Mitch Sykes (Livonia/Detroit Catholic Central), a red-shirt freshman; and true freshman Taylor Turner (Northville).

Also in the mound mix are true freshmen Todd Jones (Monroe St. Mary), Jack Zimmerman (Tecumseh, Ontario), Cliff Landess (Carleton Airport) and Patrick Wierimma (Redford Union).

Bobby St. Pierre (Windsor, Ontario), a transfer from Crowder (Mo.) College, will get a crack at the closer's job, while junior Christian Holder (Dearborn Divine Child) will be a situational left-hander.

"In revamping our pitching staff, we now have tremendous depth," Haeger said. "I don't know if we have a true number one, but we have eight or nine who are on the same level. We're hoping one of those guys will emerge in it, maybe a couple of young kids develop into a lead role. We probably have 10 kids we trust to put out there. I think our 10th will be better than anyone else's 10th in the conference, by far. Seven guys are looking for that top four role, so we're

happy with it."

Another big question mark is who will replace all-WHAC honoree Donny Holland behind the plate.

Haeger said red-shirt freshman Matt Deneau (Amherstburg, Ontario) has the inside track for now over true freshmen Mitch Hudvagner (Cottam, Ontario) and Kohl Roberts (Napoleon).

"We've always been fortunate to have great catching here, but we don't have a catcher with an inning of college experience," Haeger said. "We have big, strong kids here, kids who have caught most of their lives, but it's the next level for these guys. They have ability, now let's see how they play."

The right side of the infield remains a strength with junior Shane Dokey (Brighton), a versatile two-time all-WHAC pick, returning at second base after hitting .291 and stealing a team-high 31 bases.

John Lauro, a 6-3, 245-pound first baseman who batted .333 with 26 RBI, also returns.

Sophomore Ryan Lambrecht (Lake Orion), who led the Crusaders in hitting with a .364 mark, has added 15 pounds to his 6-3 frame and will start at shortstop, replacing the graduated Victor Barron.

Third base, meanwhile, is up in the air as freshman Cole Rize (Dexter) will be battling for the

job along with Levi Larmour, a transfer from Mesa (Ariz.) CC via Oakville, Ontario.

Junior Chase Dobbie (Mississauga, Ontario) and Jacob Rogers (Sterling Heights Stevenson) will also vie for infield time.

Red-shirt sophomore Taylor Grzelakowski (Fraser) will start out in right field after hitting .287 with a team-high 36 RBI.

Zack Byron (Dexter), a junior transfer from Macomb CC will most like start in center.

The left field job is up for grabs with Ben Matigian (Livonia Churchill), red-shirt junior, returning after hitting .279. Mike Tibbits (Plymouth/Detroit CC), who started his career at Holy Cross, will also get a look there as well.

"Matigian played a lot of games for us last year as a sophomore and handled it pretty well in his first season in the field," Haeger said. "Tibbits sat out 2014 season. He can play left and center."

Other outfield candidates include freshman Logan Brennan (South Lyon East) and sophomore Ryan Freemantle (Georgetown, Ontario).

"Position-wise we have experience, we have speed and some kids with some power," Haeger said. "We have a good mix. Catching will be the one thing. A lot will depend how these boys will catch."

PLYMOUTH

Continued from Page B1

has really brought us together. Everyone has stuck together to help Leah through it, while stepping up to fill new roles without her on the court."

Although Kliczinski, injured in the Jan. 16 win over Canton, is watching the Wildcats from the sidelines, she is leading the cheers whenever any of the following occurs:

- » Rose drains a clutch tray;
- » Slominski or LaVallee thread the needle on inside dishes;
- » Begoski or Lengel wreak havoc with defensive pressure.

The senior group is augmented by six juniors: wings Cassidy Lewis, Bailey Brown and Jordyn Chouinard, point guards Hannah Badger and Maren Wisniewski and post Elise Wehmer.

When such a major injury hits a team, sometimes the wheels fall off.

That wasn't about to happen with the Wildcats. The girls have a strong connection to each other and to succeeding together.

"A huge part of our success is how hard we work every day, but also our team chemistry," LaVallee said. "You can see it on and off the court. We have huge amounts of trust in each other, which also contributes to our success. We're

working as hard as we can every day to become champions."

Begoske stressed that the players have "no drama" and plenty of trust in each other: "We put a lot of confidence in the other 11 players on our team."

"All of us have one common goal and that is to succeed, that's what makes us so special," Lengel said. "All of our wins aren't just because of one or two people. All 12 of us have contributed to our wins, whether it's the people on the court or the people on the bench."

She called it

Almost prophetic during an interview before the season

started was Slominski.

"I think as a team we can accomplish many things," Slominski said then. "I think we're going to be faced with adversity and I think we'll get through it because our team this year is really united and strong together."

Slominski also talked about how the team wasn't going to stop without getting a banner to be put up inside the Plymouth High School gymnasium. Thanks to the division title, that's another check mark for the group.

Next on the list are conference and KLAA titles, not to mention marching through the state tourney.

"Yeah, our main goal is to get on the banner," Rose said

before the season. "Of course, we would like to get a state championship. But for right now, hopefully, just at least a division."

Begoske, however, is looking a few weeks into the future. The Wildcats will square off against KLAA Central Division champion Salem at 7 p.m. Monday, March 2, at Novi in a Class A district opener.

"We are ready to become district champs and we have worked really hard for it," she said.

That's undoubtedly what each and every other Plymouth Wildcat is thinking as March draws nearer.

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NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Plymouth Township home blends past, present well

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

A home built in the 1940s in Plymouth Township is a pleasing mix of the old and new.

"It has the new amenities," said Realtor Chris Patrick of Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel of Plymouth, speaking of the 46450 Shamrock Lane home in Plymouth Township. It was built in 1940 "and then they renovated it later."

The home is on an acre and near both Plymouth Township Park and the Hilltop Golf Course. It's listed at \$489,000. Cove ceilings and archways speak to the home's older origins.

Realtor Patrick, the listing agent, noted the four bedrooms and three full baths. The home's in the Plymouth-Canton school district, and its sellers are relocating.

They've added paver walkways. The roof, from 2013, has a lifetime warranty.

The home's 3,100 square feet and has two furnaces from 2012 and 2014. Its kitchen was updated in the past, and boasts a large island which seats six or more, as well as skylights and a convection oven with gas stove top.

Patrick noted the cove ceilings, fireplace and hardwood floors in the living room, din-



DAN DEAN
Hardwood floors and archways give the 1940s era home character.

ing room and two bedrooms as pluses. "It's a short bike ride to downtown Plymouth," she said. "You don't find many with acreage and close to town."

The living room has a gas fireplace and opens on the dining room. There is a dual entrance to separate decks.

Both the first- and second-level baths were recently updated, Patrick noted. The master suite has a study area and a walk-in closet, with its glamour bath boasting a jetted tub.

Patrick is available at 734-546-9978.

In addition to the treed lot, there's an outdoor basketball court, and the deck has a newer ceramic tiled fire pit. The home has a finished lower level, first floor laundry and three and a half car garage.

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DAN DEAN
46450 Shamrock Lane in Plymouth Township is within walking distance of downtown and sits on 1.13 acres.

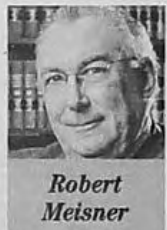


DAN DEAN
The kitchen features an island with seating for six.

Forceful removal of squatters may be ill-advised

Q: I understand there a new law regarding squatters in Michigan. Can you give me any insight?

A: Effective Sept. 24, 2014, the new legislation 1) permits the use of force to remove squatters; 2) makes squatting a misdemeanor for the first offense and a felony thereafter; and 3) makes the felony punishable by fine of up to \$10,000. One should be cautioned, however, that forcibly removing a squatter may result in personal danger to the person removing the squatter and perhaps potential liability if excessive force is used.



Robert Meisner

Q: Can you sue someone who is not on the premises on a regular basis for nuisance?

A: Based upon a recent Michigan case, a landowner who was not in possession and does not participate in the activity which could be a nuisance is not liable for a nuisance. While the owner may have some responsibility, it does not rise to the level of a nuisance in terms of what transpired, which in that case was that the plaintiff's decedent was killed when her car hit a horse that was standing in the road and was kept on a farm by his brother and sister-in-law, and the horse had escaped from its stall more than 30 times over the course of seven years.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. Visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Mortgage seminar

"A Mortgage Experience You Can Brag About" seminar will be held 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, at the Livonia Library, 32777 Five Mile, sponsored by Keller Williams Realtors. Pertinent information on getting back into the market after a bankruptcy, short sale or foreclosure. New programs available for first-time homebuyers. Call Sheila Roma at 248-760-6785 or Debbi McLaughlin at 248-561-0077 by Feb. 19 to reserve a spot.

Short sales

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

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

Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Seminar each Tuesday, Thursday

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

RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

Free foreclosure tours

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

Email Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 15-19, 2014, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
32046 Auburn Dr	\$265,000
15562 Birwood Ave	\$70,000
16950 Kirkshire Ave	\$240,000
31036 Pickwick Ln	\$322,000
BIRMINGHAM	
1393 Cedar Dr	\$490,000
2196 Derby Rd	\$225,000
1942 E Lincoln St	\$235,000
1798 Graefield Rd	\$131,000
1971 Graefield Rd	\$117,000
1768 Graefield Rd Unit 30	\$126,000
508 Graten St	\$342,000
1165 Hillside Dr	\$270,000
1324 Humphrey Ave	\$232,000
519 Lewis St	\$325,000
808 Madison St	\$885,000
1828 Mansfield Rd	\$235,000
1119 Pilgrim Ave	\$600,000
600 Shepardsbush St	\$1,305,000
600 W Brown St # 210	\$275,000
764 W Lincoln St	\$350,000
2140 Yorkshire Rd	\$212,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
5450 Lahser Rd	\$335,000
1860 Cedar Hill Dr	\$450,000
279 Millington Ct	\$225,000
4064 W Orchard Hill Dr	\$285,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
4187 Antique Ln	\$418,000
2700 Aspen Ln	\$225,000
3255 Berkshire Dr	\$255,000
4694 Burnley Dr	\$317,000
5710 Crabtree Rd	\$275,000
4920 Dryden Ln	\$380,000
6153 Eastmoor Rd	\$299,000
1332 Forestlign Ct	\$232,000
839 Helston Rd	\$297,000
1365 Indian Mound W	\$830,000
2100 Kemp Rd	\$321,000
5137 Kings Gate Way	\$410,000
7150 Lindenmere Dr	\$446,000

6815 Mark Ct	\$582,000
2664 McClintock Rd	\$260,000
1870 Pine Ridge Ln	\$419,000
1096 Rock Spring Rd	\$360,000
3776 Shellmarr Ln	\$525,000
3381 Squirrel Rd	\$280,000
3718 Thornbrier Way	\$365,000
3672 W Bradford Dr	\$361,000
4049 W Maple Rd # A104	\$102,000
4043 W Maple Rd # D202	\$90,000
615 Windsor Run	\$472,000
4850 Wye Oak Rd	\$334,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
1929 Aisulp Ave	\$223,000
6135 Ashland St	\$148,000
3112 Belle Terre	\$239,000
5097 Birkdale Dr	\$328,000
300 Charlevoix St	\$100,000
9533 Chaumont Dr	\$252,000
3541 E Commerce Rd	\$174,000
8050 Flagstaff St	\$360,000
1901 Glen Iris Dr	\$200,000
8542 Golf Lane Dr	\$290,000
2145 Golfcrest Dr	\$309,000
5948 Majestic Oaks Dr	\$470,000
3201 Mandrake St	\$82,000
2846 Pinto Dr	\$172,000
FARMINGTON	
23631 Bicking Ct	\$126,000
32010 Grand River Ave	\$42,000
31592 Marblehead Rd	\$168,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
22181 Arbor Ln	\$231,000
28264 Bayberry Rd	\$191,000
22280 Cass St	\$279,000
21706 Colgate St	\$105,000
27654 E Echo Vly Unit 233	\$66,000
29346 Earth Ln	\$580,000
22945 Fox Crk	\$246,000
24928 Glen Orchard Dr	\$374,000
37645 Glengrove Dr	\$384,000
21675 Hamilton Ave	\$43,000
22251 Harsdale Dr	\$400,000
22117 Haynes Ave	\$75,000
28732 Kirkside Ln	\$220,000
29564 Mayfair Dr	\$268,000
30791 Misty Pines Dr	\$149,000
23105 Montclair St	\$135,000

34182 Old Timber Ct	\$263,000
26250 Orchard Lake Rd	\$210,000
21244 Parker St	\$155,000
24467 Penrose Dr	\$180,000
31030 Ridgeway Dr	\$230,000
29038 Summerwood Rd	\$215,000
29222 Valley Bend Ct	\$366,000
29001 W 11 Mile Rd	\$180,000
32013 W 12 Mile Rd Unit 209	\$62,000
28422 W Eight Mile Rd	\$26,000
32586 Woodvale	\$537,000
FRANKLIN	
30980 Franklin Rd	\$220,000
32875 Wing Lake Rd	\$229,000
HIGHLAND	
155 N Saint John Rd	\$90,000
3200 Ramada Dr	\$440,000
3455 Ramada Dr	\$216,000
LATHRUP VILLAGE	
18769 Alhambra Ave	\$172,000
MILFORD	
1690 Cooley Lake Rd	\$335,000
743 E Liberty St	\$202,000
3039 Old Plank Rd	\$289,000
1635 Orban	\$148,000
805 Panorama Dr	\$170,000
2872 Rowe Rd	\$279,000
170 Water St	\$330,000
NORTHVILLE	
48882 Castello Ct	\$254,000
21221 E Glen Haven Cir	\$143,000
21247 Eastfarm Ln	\$260,000
38744 Harvard Ct	\$410,000
42126 Pellston Dr	\$127,000
52217 Pierce Dr	\$100,000
NOVI	
27651 Belgrave Pl	\$266,000
41611 Blair Dr	\$136,000
25483 Buckminster Dr	\$280,000
41913 Canterbury Dr	\$182,000
28059 Carlton Way Dr	\$195,000
22323 Chelsea Ln	\$175,000
41533 Cypress Way	\$182,000
43152 Emerson Way	\$289,000
23447 Greening Dr	\$300,000
51149 Hallfield St	\$297,000
28105 Hewes Ln	\$231,000
41774 Independence Dr	\$154,000

25782 Island Lake Dr	\$575,000
25710 Laramie Dr	\$500,000
51183 Luke Ln	\$290,000
24760 Olde Orchard St	\$108,000
42487 Park Ridge Rd	\$230,000
41796 Primrose Dr	\$172,000
41940 Quince Dr	\$173,000
27484 Sloan St	\$294,000
1127 South Lake Dr Unit 118	\$95,000
23785 Stonehenge Blvd	\$120,000
26018 Whipple	\$55,000
SOUTH LYON	
130 Lyon Blvd	\$140,000
52058 Red Cedar	\$374,000
22899 Saint George Cir	\$410,000
1054 Shetland Dr	\$260,000
500 Willow Dr	\$270,000
388 Winchester St	\$176,000
58560 Winnowing Cir S	\$73,000
SOUTHFIELD	
15842 Addison St	\$128,000
28410 Brooks Ln	\$111,000
29382 Candlewood Ln	\$65,000
17692 E Goldwin St	\$179,000
28415 Evergreen Rd	\$98,000
29657 Fairfax St	\$56,000
17359 Gateway Cir	\$68,000
18455 Kesh St	\$85,000
28384 Lady K Ct	\$287,000
24639 Maryland St	\$97,000
17389 Melrose St	\$117,000
25426 Saint James	\$120,000
28675 Streamwood Ln	\$225,000
28029 Tavistock Trl	\$195,000
28765 Tavistock Trl	\$183,000
WHITE LAKE	
11384 Brigham Ln	\$150,000
921 Dacea Ct	\$325,000
786 Golden Shrs	\$355,000
9247 Hickorywood Dr	\$147,000
603 Kent Ln	\$390,000
44 Myrick St	\$51,000
9499 Portage Trl	\$105,000
9476 Thames Blvd	\$219,000
8754 Townsend Dr	\$242,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 6-10, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
1603 Aberdeen St	\$203,000
43053 Avon Rd	\$242,000
4180 Berkeley Ave	\$128,000
2248 Berwick Dr	\$185,000
2406 Brookfield St	\$179,000
2677 Brookfield St	\$175,000
6787 Brookshire Dr	\$204,000
50595 Coolidge St	\$327,000
41475 Copper Creek Dr	\$185,000
43775 Cranford Ave	\$209,000
1754 Dunston Rd	\$254,000
6453 Durham Dr	\$209,000
47125 Fairlawn Ct	\$249,000
7048 Foxcreek Dr	\$258,000
43948 Fredericksburg St	\$169,000
2393 Lexington Cir N	\$313,000
2255 Lexington Cir S	\$310,000
43927 Marnette St	\$170,000
45714 Morningstar Dr	\$306,000
45499 Muirfield Dr	\$340,000
6699 Old Haggerty Rd	\$175,000
1921 Pinecroft Dr	\$134,000
7451 Pointe Dr	\$205,000
41777 Princess Dr	\$290,000
42299 Saratoga Cir	\$163,000
44465 Savery Dr	\$70,000
51195 Slevy Hollow Ln	\$221,000
4155 Strathmore Ln	\$215,000
4290 Timberline Dr	\$271,000
44279 Vassar St	\$217,000
47934 Wadebridge Ct	\$430,000

1826 Willard Dr	\$180,000
40734 Worthington Rd	\$185,000
GARDEN CITY	
2205 Belton St	\$54,000
27713 Bock St	\$120,000
6669 Cardwell St	\$95,000
431 Gilman St	\$110,000
30405 Hennepin St	\$90,000
6700 Mansfield St	\$89,000
221 Ross St	\$96,000
858 Venoy Rd	\$45,000
LIVONIA	
14418 Arden St	\$154,000
14994 Bainbridge St	\$45,000
9750 Bassett St	\$160,000
12031 Cardwell St	\$95,000
14737 Country Club Dr	\$170,000
11456 Deering St	\$100,000
15375 Edington St	\$222,000
11774 Farmington Rd	\$123,000
9083 Fremont St	\$135,000
11014 Garden St	\$119,000
31114 Grennada St	\$134,000
31717 Hees St	\$125,000
14100 Henry Ruff St	\$180,000
16232 Houghton Dr	\$292,000
30880 Industrial Rd	\$280,000
8942 Knolson Ave	\$215,000
38769 Lancaster St	\$255,000
29522 Lori Ct	\$139,000
15707 Loveland St	\$212,000
29902 Lyndon St	\$159,000
14803 Melvin St	\$178,000
39118 Minton Ave	\$157,000
30800 Munger Dr	\$351,000
28455 N Clements Cir	\$98,000
28482 N Clements Cir	\$95,000
9013 Oporto St	\$105,000
35172 Orangelawn St	\$150,000

14568 Richfield St	\$151,000
38115 Richland St	\$147,000
38499 Richland St	\$130,000
14526 Riverside St	\$273,000
32520 Schoolcraft Rd	\$205,000
35974 Scone St	\$161,000
38568 Summers St	\$175,000
NORTHVILLE	
42373 Anchor Ct	\$173,000
47562 Arbor Trl	\$399,000
17023 Birchwood Dr	\$343,000
44665 Broadmoor Cir N	\$390,000
19537 Dartmouth Pl	\$114,000
19706 Dearborn Ct	\$135,000
632 East St	\$180,000
375 Orchard Dr	\$250,000
47104 Red Oak Dr	\$495,000
50105 Venice Ct	\$430,000
39582 Village Run Dr	\$275,000
PLYMOUTH	
576 Ann St	\$223,000
11871 Appletree Dr	\$315,000
1105 Carol Ave	\$241,000
49573 Donovan Blvd	\$168,000
42241 Mill Race Cir	\$139,000
1782 Nantucket Rd	\$250,000
40695 Newport Dr	\$110,000
49750 Plymouth Way	\$168,000
49822 Plymouth Way	\$157,000
11749 Priscilla Ln	\$223,000
45182 Turtlehead Dr	\$271,000
REDFORD	
9646 Brady	\$107,000
25101 Cathedral	\$75,000
25917 Dover	\$90,000
14053 Fenton	\$95,000
18839 Fox	\$34,000
18233 Garfield	\$43,000
15584 Lexington	\$27,000

15408 Lola Dr	\$14,000
16584 Lola Dr	\$40,000
8822 Marion	\$73,000
15725 Ryland	\$82,000
18434 Sum	

THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR						
	NMLS#		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	138560	(734) 459-0782	3.5	0	2.75	0
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	164511	(800) 593-1912	3.5	0	2.75	0
AFI Financial	2431	(810) 588-4424	3.5	0	2.75	0
Ameripius Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	3.625	0	2.75	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	3.5	0	3	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	3.625	0	3	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	3.75	0	2.875	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	3.5	0.5	2.75	0.5
Group One Mortgage	107716	(248) 282-1602	3.625	0	3.25	0
Zeal Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	3.75	0.25	3.125	0

Above Information available as of 2/6/15 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com.

All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032

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SUN HOMES

\$398 MOVES YOU IN!

Free rent until April 1st 2015

BRAND NEW HOMES IN CANTON

3 bedroom / 2 bath with all appliances including washer/dryer

Homes starting at \$899

Call us today!

(888) 272-3099

Academy/Westpoint

41021 Old Michigan Ave. • Canton

*Offer valid on select homes only. Expires 2/28/2015 EHO

www.academywestpoint.com

698* MOVES YOU IN!

FREE RENT UNTIL March 1st 2015!

364 bedroom/2 bath Homes

1,456 to 2,100 sq ft for as low as \$999 up to \$1399/mo!

South Lyon Schools

Large Clubhouse, Swimming pool, Large playground, Homes equipped with shed, all appliances, C/A plus full size W/D

Apply online today at www.4northville.com

Or call Sun Homes at (888) 448-3061

Offer expires 02/28/2015 EHO

*some restrictions apply

LO-2414487-01

Help Wanted - General

INSIDE SALES

Weed Man Lawn Care is looking for outgoing, competitive Inside Sales Reps with excellent communication skills to join our team. Full & Part time avail. \$12-\$18/hr. Mon.-Thurs. & Sat.

Call/email to join our team today!

248-477-4880

wolfe@radicoservices.com

MAYBURY FARM STORE PART-TIME HELP

Must be friendly, organized and reliable. 248-374-0200

MECHANIC/PM

Waste removal firm looking for truck mechanic/pm. Full benefits.

Accepting Applications Mon-Fri. 8-5.

TLC Waste 28035 Beverly Rd. Romulus, MI 48174

ATTN: COMPUTER WORK. Work from anywhere 24/7. Up to \$1,500 Part Time to \$7,500/mo. Full Time. Training provided. www.WorkServices3.com (MICH)

FOR SALE- MISCELLANEOUS

SAWMILLS from only \$4397.00- MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill- Cut

Move in for as low as \$699*

Rentals starting at \$799 for 3 bed, 2 bath homes.

All appliances including washer & dryer.

4377 Old Plank Road Milford

248-313-6245

www.childslake.com

*WAC. 15 mo lease. Community owned homes. Offer expires 2-28-15.

Move in for as low as \$699*

Rentals starting at \$799 for 3 bed, 2 bath homes.

All appliances including washer & dryer.

4377 Old Plank Road Milford

248-778-4009

www.childslake.com

*WAC. 15 mo lease. Community owned homes. Offer expires 2-28-15.

JOBS

careerbuilder.com

Help Wanted - General

BOOKKEEPER

Northville/ Novi Accounting Firm seeking part/full time bookkeeper. Quick Books & Excel experience required. Compensation commensurate. Flexible hours.

Email resume to: oesume@hometownlife.com

Reference Box 6007

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Immediate full time position open for an intake coordinator for busy Northville veterans practice law firm. The right individual will have a strong work ethic, excellent communication skills, knowledge of internet and e-mail. Pay is very competitive. Benefits provided.

Please send resume to: psugars@fb-firm.com

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Part time hours with full time benefits. Ideal hours for working mothers. Email or fax your resume and contact information to drforrest31515@sbcbglobal.net

248-349-8088

DIRECT CARE - *New wage*

\$8.50/hr. trained, must be 18 & have a valid MI driver's license; CLS/MOHC trained preferred. Full time and part time; many shifts; support adults living in their own homes; make a difference!

734-728-4201

Driver: CDL-A

For local Cartage Company. Min 2 yrs experience. Motivated, must adapt to fast changing environment, fast pace working environment. Will drive straight trucks and tractor trailers.

Please email resumes to jmg@shipwithaction.com

DRIVERS

Waste removal firm looking for CDL A or B Drivers. Full Benefits.

Accepting Applications Mon-Fri. 8-5

TLC Waste 28035 Beverly Rd. Romulus, MI 48174

Embroidery Production

Machine operator to join growing company. Experience / background preferred. Strong communication skills with focus on quality & productivity. Assist other production departments. Part-time or full-time, excellent benefits.

Email resume and wage history to: cgr@competinglogistics.com

*Ext • Plaster/Drywall Repair • Staining, 25 yrs exp. Free est. 248-349-7499, 734-464-8147

FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST

For Livonia Chiropractic office. Mon, Tues & Thurs. 8-6. Every other Sat. 8-10. Fun, relaxed office.

Email resume jegschiro@yahoo.com or Fax: 734-261-2433

Sunset Produce is HIRING

North America's leading grower/marketer of gourmet greenhouse vegetables located in Livonia, MI.

Hiring for the following positions:

Line Workers/ General Labor Admin/Data Entry Production Supervisors Shipping & Receiving Produce Commodity Managers Hi-Lo/Rider Jack Operators

www.sunsetgrows.com 734.943.0200

SUPPLY CHAIN TEAM

Outstanding Plymouth, MI High Performance Engine MFG seeks driven individual to join our Supply Chain Team. Seeking an energetic individual who is passionate about high performance engines that can lend their knowledge to planning & parts procurement. The Successful candidate must be an strong self-starter with strong automotive experience, and good organizational and computer skills will. Daily tasks incl procurement planning, building vendor relationships, materials sourcing and order follow up.

Please fax resume to: (734) 456-3691

Or HR@ilmor.com

ILMOR

Help Wanted - Dental

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Needed with Surgical experience at a high quality specialty practice in Southfield. Excellent salary & excellent working conditions. CALLS ONLY

No resumes accepted Full or part time

Call 248-357-3100

Food - Beverage

COOKS

EXPERIENCED Immediate Openings at Beautiful Assisted Living Facility in Westland. Benefits available.

Please fax resume to: (248) 350-9083

DINING ROOM SERVERS

Exp'd. Immediate Openings at Beautiful Assisted Living Facility in Westland. Benefits available.

Please fax resume to: (248) 350-9083

Help Wanted - Domestic

Housekeeping & Grocery Shopping.

10 hrs/wk. Some errands for disabled lady. Wayne/Westland area. Call: 734-729-8116

HOMES

apartments.com HomeFinder.com

Apartment For Rent

Farmington Plaza

Spacious 2 bedroom, central air, pool, Heat included with rent. 50% off 2 months rent with approved credit.

Call 248.478.8722

Condos & Townhouses

Plymouth MAYFLOWER COOP

2 bed apt Coop \$505 2 bed apt rent \$710

Call 734-386-0239

Homes For Rent

WESTLAND: 3 BR brick ranch, 1.5 bath, C/A, carpet, bsmt., no pets, Fridge included. Ford Rd area. \$895. 734-591-9163

Garage & Mini Storage

Looking to rent a garage for car storage. Preferably within 10-15 miles of Plymouth. Please Call 734-306-5996

RENTALS

apartments.com HomeFinder.com

Apartment For Rent

DETROIT: 7 Mile & Telegraph area. 1 bdrm Cozy Upper. \$375/mo. + Sec. Dep. & Ref. Super clean. (313) 657-8125

FARMINGTON HILLS ANNIE APTS.

FREE HEAT! 1 bdrms from \$525. 9 Mile/Middlebelt 248-478-7489

FARMINGTON HILLS MAPLE RIDGE APTS.

Spacious 1 & 2 bdrms. 2 baths. C/A. \$570-\$660. w/ special. 50% off 1st 3 mos. with approved credit. 248.473.5180

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Apartment For Rent

Farmington Plaza

Spacious 2 bedroom, central air, pool, Heat included with rent. 50% off 2 months rent with approved credit.

Call 248.478.8722

Condos & Townhouses

Homes For Rent

Garage & Mini Storage

RENTALS

apartments.com HomeFinder.com

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Spacious 1 & 2 bdrms. 2 baths. C/A. \$570-\$660. w/ special. 50% off 1st 3 mos. with approved credit. 248.473.5180

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

SEEKING: Multi-Media Sales Representative michigan.com

The Observer & Eccentric, part of michigan.com, a Gannett Company, is seeking a Multi-Media Sales Representative for our Milford/Highland/White Lake territory who will be responsible for developing relationships and consulting with clients while providing an opportunity to contribute to the long-term success of a high growth and progressive company. Our ideal candidate will be an innovative, result driven, high energy, creative sales representative with the ability to think strategically and to assist clients by developing strategic, multi-media advertising campaigns.

Must be able to manage multiple priorities, requests, programs and be dedicated to exceptional customer service. Develop new business and grow market share by using a variety of customer centric sales programs and audience solutions. Make solid marketing presentations that sell the value, provide customer centric audience solutions and close the sale.

If you are seeking a position that will allow you to be a strategic seller working with a multi-platform, market leading team in a culture that thrives on creating and executing big ideas that provide solutions to benefit the prosperity of customers, then we encourage you to apply today to join our team!

Requirements:

- Bachelor's Degree in marketing, advertising or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- 3+ years of related experience is required.
- A strong understanding of digital media platforms to include search engine marketing, social media, online display, mobile & other digital solutions.
- Documented record of success in a goal-oriented, highly accountable environment.
- Ability to conduct a needs assessment, identify marketing and advertising solutions for clients, develop proposals and experience in delivering sales presentations.
- Technical proficiency in Microsoft Office especially PowerPoint and Excel.
- Experience with CRM technology, Salesforce.com preferred

This opportunity offers competitive compensation and benefits package including 401(k), health, dental, three weeks paid vacation, and more. If you meet the above criteria, we encourage you to apply for this position at: <http://bit.ly/1vmiEhu>. EOE

ADOPTION

ADOPTION: Happily married professional couple will share their love with newborn and provide warm, supportive, secure home. Expenses Paid. Please call Mike and Monica 347-675-8917. (MICH)

HELP WANTED- TRUCK DRIVER

DRIVER TRAINEES NEEDED! Become a driver for Stevens Transport! NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! New drivers earn \$800+ per week! PAID CDL TRAINING! Stevens covers all costs! 1-888-528-8864 drive4stevens.com (MICH)

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

ATTN: COMPUTER WORK. Work from anywhere 24/7. Up to \$1,500 Part Time to \$7,500/mo. Full Time. Training provided. www.WorkServices3.com (MICH)

FOR SALE- MISCELLANEOUS

SAWMILLS from only \$4397.00- MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill- Cut

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FOR SALE- MISCELLANEOUS

SAWMILLS from only \$4397.00- MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill- Cut

Observer & Eccentric MEDIA

CONTACT US AT: 800-579-7355 www.hometownlife.com eads@hometownlife.com

DEADLINES: Fri. at 4 pm for Sunday Tues. at 3 pm for Thursday

NEWSPAPER POLICY

All advertising published in this Newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department: Observer & Eccentric Media 615 W. Lafayette Blvd., Detroit, MI 48226 866-887-2737. We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper & only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ads the first time it appears & reporting any errors immediately. The Newspaper will not issue credit for errors in ads after the FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, only the first insertion will be credited. Publishing Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc, 724983 3-31-72) Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter & spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage & support an affirmative advertising & marketing program in which there are no barriers. DISCLAIMER: All classified ads are subject to the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from our Advertising Dept. All ads are subject to approval before publication. Observer & Eccentric Media reserves the right to edit, refuse, reject, classify or cancel any ad at any time. Errors must be reported in the first day of publication. Observer & Eccentric Media shall not be liable for any loss or expense that results from an error in or omission of an advertisement. No refunds for early cancellation of order.

PERSONALS

hometownlife.com

PERSONALS

Please help save a life. Canton father of two in dire need of an O+ Kidney. Call or text 734-502-4513. We need your help!

BUY & SELL

hometownlife.com

ESTATES SALES

ESTATE ANTIQUE Auction

Feb 13th, 6 pm
Feb 15th, Noon
11580 Ozga Rd, Romulus MI
Feb 13: Antique Furniture, advertising items, clocks, jewelry, cash registers, Western items, & toys.
Feb 15: Military collection, Muskets, Knives & badges.
See photos and list at DougDaltonAuctioneer.com or call Sue (248)877-1395

Wanted to Buy

Cash for Books! History, art, biography, textbooks, religion, hobbies, etc. We come to you! Visit ParadiseBoundBooks.com or call Sue (248)877-1395

Trucks for Sale

GMC SIERRA 2010

Crew Cab, short box. 4x4, SLE, ABS, traction control. \$23,000

BOB JEANNOTTE

BUICK, GMC

734-453-2500

4 Wheel Drive

SIERRA 1500 2011

Ext. Cab, 4WD, SL, 58k. 1 owner \$20,995

BOB JEANNOTTE

BUICK, GMC

734-453-2500

CASH IN with O&E Media's CLASSIFIEDS

800-579-SELL

PETS

hometownlife.com

Dogs

BOXER - AKC Pup

fawn & white, shots, balls, deys. \$600. Taking deposit for spring litter 989-325-0629

CHIQUAHUA PUPS PERFECT FOR VALENTINES!

3 fem, 1 ma. \$300 Cash. 248-478-8342

WHEELS

cars.com

Autos Wanted

FINAL JOURNEY

We buy running and junk cars, etc. We pay \$50-\$5000 cash on spot. Get more cash than dealer trade in or donation. 313-320-1829

Trucks for Sale

GMC SIERRA 2010

Crew Cab, short box. 4x4, SLE, ABS, traction control. \$23,000

BOB JEANNOTTE

BUICK, GMC

734-453-2500

4 Wheel Drive

SIERRA 1500 2011

Ext. Cab, 4WD, SL, 58k. 1 owner \$20,995

BOB JEANNOTTE

BUICK, GMC

734-453-2500

CASH IN with O&E Media's CLASSIFIEDS

800-579-SELL

Sports Utility

BUICK ENCLAVE 2012

FWD, leather, rear view camera, heated seats, Bluetooth. \$25,995

BOB JEANNOTTE

BUICK, GMC

734-453-2500

BUICK ENCLAVE PREMIUM 2012

FWD, leather, heated seats, Nav. System. \$28,000

BOB JEANNOTTE

BUICK, GMC

734-453-2500

CHEVY EQUINOX 2011

FWD, 4 dr, 2 LT, heated thr. seats, ABS, power sunroof, too much to list! \$15,995

BOB JEANNOTTE

BUICK, GMC

734-453-2500

FORD ESCAPE 2012

4wd, 4 dr., XLT, sunroof, roof rack. \$13,995

BOB JEANNOTTE

BUICK, GMC

734-453-2500

GMC ACADIA 2010

FWD SLT1, Lther, Bose stereo system, loaded! \$17,995

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734-453-2500

GMC ENVOY 2008

4wd, 4 dr., SLT, leather, heated seats, power sunroof. \$9995

BOB JEANNOTTE

BUICK, GMC

734-453-2500

GMC TERRAIN 2011

FWD, 4 dr., SLE-1, 42K, 1 owner, extra clean! \$17,995

BOB JEANNOTTE

BUICK, GMC

734-453-2500

GMC YUKON 2011

4WD, 4 Dr., 1500 SLT, Leather, Pwr. Sunroof, 3rd Row Seat. \$30,000

BOB JEANNOTTE

BUICK, GMC

734-453-2500

JEEP LIBERTY 2012

4x4, 4WD, 4dr Spt. 1 owner, 40,000 miles \$17,000

BOB JEANNOTTE

BUICK, GMC

734-453-2500

SPORTS & IMPORTED

CHEVY AVALANCHE 2011

4WD, LTZ, leather, back-up camera, remote ignition

Save the date: Livonia prayer breakfast set for May 7

The Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast will feature the Rev. John Arthur Nunes May 7 at St. Mary's Cultural Center in Livonia.

Nunes is the Emil and Elfride Jochum Chair at Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Ind., a professorship supporting the study of Christian values in public and professional life. From 2007-13, Nunes was the president and CEO of Lutheran World Relief where he led staff in 17 countries working to end poverty, injustice, and human suffering.

Nunes, who earned



Nunes

at Chicago, also taught at Concordia University Chicago and served as a church pastor in Detroit and Dallas, Texas.

The Concordia Choir of Concordia University, Ann Arbor, also will perform at the event.

The Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast is a version of the National

Prayer Breakfast held annually in Washington, D.C. Its focus has been on bringing inspirational speakers to communicate positive, faith-filled principles that will inspire people to think globally and act locally. The theme is "Re-Imagining Yourself as a Peacemaker."

The breakfast starts at 7 a.m. Cost is \$16 per person and includes full breakfast; \$10 for students. Ticket deadline is April 17.

Contact Sally Butler, 248-476-9427 or butlerconsulting@consultant.com



Concordia University Choir will sing at the 41st annual Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast.

RELIGION CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

ASH WEDNESDAY

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Feb. 18

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

Details: Worship service

Contact: 734-728-1950

ASH WEDNESDAY

Time/Date: 6 p.m. supper; 7 p.m. worship service, Feb. 18

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: A free soup and sandwich supper precedes the service

Contact: 313-532-8655 or 734-968-3523

AUCTION

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15

Location: Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, Westland

Details: Concordia Lutheran School's annual auction, Disney Dreams, will include appetizer, dinner, dessert, and beverages.

Tickets are \$30 per table or \$270 per table of 10. Buy them at either campus, 20805 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills, 248-474-2488; or 9600 Leverne, Redford, 313-937-2233. Buy in advance by Feb. 9

Contact: Raeann Kusch at 734-432-7777

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 15

Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: Pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, milk, juice; \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, 2-10

Contact: 734-425-4421

CLOTHING COLLECTION

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday, through Feb. 22

Location: Crossroads Church, at the Sacred Heart Conference Center, 29125 Six Mile, Livonia

Details: The church's Winter Survival Gear Drive is accepting men's used work boots, men's new and gently-used white socks, women's new and gently-used turtleneck shirts for homeless men and women. Cash donations will be used to buy additional winter survival gear.

Send donations to the church at P.O. Box 51083, Livonia, MI 48151-1083. Additional drop-off times can be arranged.

Contact: 248-890-5718; info@crossroadsnow.org

CONCERT

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15

Location: Prayer Temple Missionary Baptist Church, 27350

Chicago Road, Redford

Details: Diversity Concert is a fundraiser for Redford Interfaith Relief, an organization that feeds and clothes more than 300 local families monthly. Performers include Lighthouse Music Ministry, Prayer Temple Music Ministry, Our Lady of Loretto Parish Choir and Bell Choir, St. Robert's Music Ministry, El Bethel Music Ministry, Lift Your Hands Ministries, Mercy Road Music Ministry, South Redford Step Team. Free, but donations will be accepted

Contact: 313-937-5195

GRIEFSHARE

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22-June 7

Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: This nondenominational program features Bible-based teaching that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. Includes videos that feature grief experts and real-life stories of grieving individuals; support group discussion; and work-based personal study and reflection. Registration fee is \$15, which includes materials

Contact: Rev. Roger Wright at 313-682-7491; griefshare.org

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25-March 25

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: Grieving with Great Hope workshop is for anyone who is mourning the loss of a loved one. Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization co-founded by John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy, presents the five-week series

Contact: goodmourningministry.net or St. Michael's at 734-261-1455

LENENT SERVICES

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18-March 25

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: Theme is "I Tell You The Truth." Free treats after the service

Contact: 734-968-3523, 313-532-8655

LENENT SERVICES

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18-March 25

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

Contact: 734-728-3315

MARRIAGE RETREAT

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14

Location: Crossroads Church at the Sacred Heart Conference Center, 29125 Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Cost is \$25 per couple by Feb. 8 or \$30 per couple at the door; \$12.50 per person in advance or \$15 at the door. Lunch provided. Mail a check, payable to Crossroads Church, to P.O. Box 51083 Livonia, MI 48187-1083. Write "marriage retreat" in the memo field

Contact: info@crossroadsnow.org

NIGHT OF WORSHIP

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13

Location: In His Presence Ministries, 26500 Grand River Ave., Redford

Details: iPraise, A night of worship, praise and music

Contact: 313-533-1956; detroitinhispresence.org

SOLANUS CASEY CENTER

Time/Date: 8:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25

Location: Meet at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: Carpool to the Center in Detroit. Cost is \$10 and includes tour and lunch. Deadline to register and pay (cash or check) is Feb. 16 at the parish office

Contact: Janet Gilbo at jgilbo@wowway.com or Sharlene Borke at sharborke@gmail.com

MARCH

CHURCH MISSION

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. March 22-25

Location: St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, located at West Chicago Road and Inkster Road, Redford

Details: Sponsored by the clustered parishes of St. Robert Bellarmine and St. John Bosco, topics include "Jesus, How Do We Come To Know You?" March 22; "Come, Follow Me," March 23; "Reconcile and Forgive," March 24; "Become A People of Purpose," March 25. Reconciliation will be offered March 24

Contact: 313-937-1500

COMIC BOOK, CARDS

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 7

Location: Redford Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 10000 Beech Daly, Redford

Details: More than 34 tables of comic books action figures, books and more. Admission is \$2; free for age 10 and under. Admission fee will be donated to the Methodist Children's Home in Livonia

Contact: 313-937-3170

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • www.mideathnotices.com

Deadlines: Friday, 4:00 p.m. for Sunday papers • Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. for Thursday papers • Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

View Online
www.hometownlife.com

BROSSOIT, THERESA
Age 71, of Shelby Twp., formerly of Brighton, passed away February 8, 2015. Full obit at casterlinefuneralhome.com



GARRIGUS, W. RUPELL "RUTH"

Age 93, of Canton, Michigan went home to be with the Lord, February 8, 2015 at her home, surrounded by her family. Born March 12, 1921 in Arkansas, daughter of the late Marshall and Anna (McClure) Mungle. Ruth lived in Hickman, Kentucky, until 1955 when she and her husband Jim moved to Dearborn. She was also a former member of the Dearborn Seniors at Hubbard Towers. She was a member of Grace Baptist Church, Belleville. She retired from K-Mart after many loyal years. She worked in the payroll division and as a clerk for Kresge's as well. In her free time she enjoyed sewing and crocheting and she loved surviving, but not green beans! Survived by daughter Lawanda Sue "Sue" Nabb of Lucedale, Mississippi, two sons Gerald Garrigus of Lansing, and Larry J. Garrigus of Canton, six grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren, also brother-in-law Artell (Catherine) Garrigus of GA, and their entire family. Preceded in death by her husband James, also six siblings: Leslie, Hershel, Edward, Betty, Gideon and Lyman "L.D." Visitation 5:30-8 pm Wednesday at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. Visitation 10-11 am Thursday, February 12, 2015 with an 11 am funeral at Grace Baptist Church, Belleville. Interment in Cadillac Memorial Gardens, Westland. Contributions to Grace Baptist Church appreciated. davidcbrownfh.com.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



KRUEGER, MICHAEL WAYNE

61, of South Lyon passed away suddenly on February 6, in Goodyear, Arizona with his parents and sisters by his side. Mike, the second oldest of eight children is survived by his devoted parents, Gerald (Jerry) and 'Mrytle' Margaret Krueger of Waddell, AZ, his loving daughter Lauren Krueger; son, Kevin Krueger (Tayna); and daughter, Michelle Arntz; his beloved brothers, Jerry 'Chip' (Valerie) Krueger and Darryl Krueger; sisters, Vickie Tanner, Terry (Randy) Cooper, Sherry Ray, Tracey (Dale) Gordon, and Jill (Leif) Myers; his grandchildren, Kevin Krueger, Chad Krueger, Anthony Arntz, Olivia Arntz, Ava Arntz, and Ethan Arntz; and 22 nieces and nephews. Mike loved to golf and his little dog, Bitsy. A loving son, brother, and father that will be greatly missed. A service will be held Wednesday, February 11 at Surprise Funeral Care in Surprise, AZ.

MEYERS, JAMES H.

February 6, 2015 Age 91 of Canton. Beloved husband of the late Mary. Survived by his children, Jane Stickney, Carol Meyer, Susan Gardner, Mike Meyers (wife Kym) and Jim Meyers (wife Connie) and brother Howard Meyers. Grandfather of 14, great grandfather of four. Visitation Thursday at Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland, Thursday 1-8pm. Funeral Mass Friday 10:30am at St. Mary Catholic Church, 34530 W. Michigan Ave., Wayne. In repose at 10am prior to Mass. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhfh.com

PARKER, SANDRA L.

February 6, 2015 Age 67 of Westland. Beloved daughter of Evelyn and the late Charles Parker. Sister to David (Louise), and Candace Parker. Aunt to Rev. Derek Parker, Matthew (Theresa) Parker, and Charlie (Molly) Helms. Great Aunt to Carson Matthew Parker. Funeral services were from the Uht Funeral Home, Westland, Tuesday February 10 at 1p.m. Sandy was interred at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West Cemetery. Family requests memorials to First Friends Church of Richmond Indiana 2010 Chester Blvd., Richmond, Indiana 47374. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhfh.com

PETERMAN, ALLEN

Age 87, called home to be with the Lord February 5, 2015. Beloved husband of the late Georgina Stewart Peterman and Margaret Rea Peterman. Loving father of Bill (Debbie), Lee (the late Timna), Wanda (Ted) Lindsay, Mark (Nancy) and Doug. Dear grandfather of nine and great-grandfather of four. Allen worked at Ford Motor Co. for over 30 years and at Madonna University for 18 years. Visitation will be held at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Friday 3-8 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. until Funeral Service at 11 a.m. Memorials may be directed to the Truth and Tidings Gospel Trust or the Michael J. Fox Parkinson's Foundation. Please share a memory at www.rgrharris.com



SIMONDS DOLORES A.

February 8, 2015, age 92. Beloved wife of the late Howard. Dear mother of Carol (Bob) Burnison, Dennis Simonds, Diana (John) Skrobe and the late Jackie Jensen. Also leaves seven grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and son-in-law Jim. Preceded in death by a sister and three brothers. Visitation Thursday 2 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth where funeral services will be conducted on Friday at 11 a.m. Contributions are suggested to the Huron Valley Humane Society.

Share your memories at www.schrader-howell.com



YOUNG JUNE LEONE

A remarkably beautiful person in every respect, passed away in the loving arms of her devoted family at the age of 84 on February 6th, 2015. June was born on January 28th, 1931 to Helen and Robert Kelsey of Walled Lake, Michigan. In 1951 she married Donald Paul Young, her cherished husband of 64 years. June was the loving and dedicated mother of four sons "THE BOYS", Greg, Todd, Donny and Roger and raised them in her Bloomfield Hills home. June was the very proud grandmother of Rachel Young, Brent Young, Ryan Young, Courtney Young, Dylan Young, Evan Young and Kelsey Young. June's wit, strength, kindness and deep love were endlessly shared with her family and friends. Her presence was an immeasurable gift that will live every day in the hearts of those who experienced her constant source of pleasure in life.

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Local couple plays in British-style brass band

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Wendell and Mary Mullison found their perfect musical match three years ago.

The Farmington couple was invited to play with the Five Lakes Silver Band, based in Royal Oak.

"I have a degree in music and have been a musician all my life. I taught high school band and took an early retirement," Mary said. "I needed someplace to play. A friend played in (Five Lakes). I thought, now this will be great. I started first and Wendell came to the next concert.

"We found something we can both do together that has a high level of musicianship."

The Mullisons performed with the band when it won a national championship in 2013 and are included in its most recent two recordings.

They'll perform with the group at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, at the Salvation Army, 3015 N. Main, Royal Oak. Admission is \$15; \$12 for seniors; free for students, 18 and under.

The band will play pieces devoted to passion and drama, including Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, Philip Harper's *Hebridean Lullaby*, Eric Ball's *Resurgam*, Peter Graham's *Cartoon Music* and the love song, *My Love is Like a Red, Red Rose*.

"It's a conglomeration of different styles," Mary said. "This is a good overview concert to go to — from marches to symphonic transcription."

Switching instruments

Members play either brass or percussion instruments in Five Lakes Silver Band. The group is a British-style brass band, which meant both Wendell and Mary had to take up new instruments when they joined.

"I am a trumpet player," Mary said. "I play cornet in Five Lakes Silver Band. Wendell would normally play French horn." He plays tenor horn in the Five Lakes Silver Band.



Five Lakes Silver Band performs in competition. Wendell Mullison is second from the left in the row directly in front of the conductor.

"It was different for me," Wendell said. "The tenor horns sit in the front row and that tends not to be the case in symphonic bands. It can be intimidating looking up at the conductor."

The couple describes the band's sound as deep, full and rich. The British band is set up for a specific number of horns and percussion. Members must find substitute players if they are unable to attend a concert. The band also competes nationally against other British-style bands.

"Competition is part of the fabric of the history of British bands," Wendell noted. "Every downtown or company that had a band, the (musicians) who resided there or worked there would pit themselves against

the band in the next town over."

Five Lakes Silver Band, with by-invitation-only membership, offered the couple a musical challenge. "It was what I needed. I worked hard on that music. It was invigorating," Mary said.

Musical family

The couple, parents of three daughters who also play brass instruments, met through the Novi Community Band. Mary was the conductor and Wendell played in the brass section. They've also played together in the University of Michigan alumni concert band and are two-fifths of a brass quintet, Baseline Brass, that plays occasionally at church services.



Mary Mullison of Farmington performs a solo with the Five Lakes Silver Band.

"It's nice to share an activity together," Mary said. "Some people have hobbies. I

guess (music) is our hobby." For more, visit fivelakesilverband.com.

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ANIMALS DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily
Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

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

Wild Winter Weekend: Ice cream and hot cocoa will be available for purchase at a discount. Event includes animal arts and crafts, face painting, animal enrichment activities, talks by the zoo's expert keepers and a winter safari scavenger hunt, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 7-8, at the Ford Education Center. Free with zoo admission
Contact: 248-541-5717

ARTS AND CRAFTS DIRTY SHOW

Time/Date: 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 12-14, and Friday-Saturday, Feb. 20-21
Location: Russell Industrial Center, 1600 Clay Ave. Detroit

Local barbershop chorus to deliver singing valentines

The Harmonytown Chorus is taking orders for singing valentines for delivery Friday-Saturday, Feb. 13-14.

For \$40, four Chorus members wearing tuxedos will sing two sentimental songs and present a rose and greeting card with a personalized message to the recipient.

Delivery areas include Detroit's western suburbs, such as Novi, Northville, Dearborn, Farmington, Plymouth, Garden City, Westland, Livonia, Wayne and more.

The group accepts checks and credit cards and delivers to homes, businesses, clubs, hospitals and other locations.

Allow for a four-hour delivery window. To order, call 734-743-1764.

Details: Exhibit of erotic art, with an appearance by John Waters at 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12. Tickets are \$30 general admission, \$45 seated, \$75 VIP
Contact: dirtyshow.org

GALLERY@VT

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday and during public events, through Feb. 28

Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: Art work and essays on Martin Luther King, Jr., by students in the P-CEP Arts Academy

Contact: 734-394-5300; cantonvillage.theater.org

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, through Feb. 27

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: Ninth annual Member Exhibition features more than 70 works of art in all media.

Contact: 248-344-0497

COMEDY EMERGENT ARTS

Time/Date: 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13

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

Details: The Laugh Riot Dolls present "Laugh at Love: an Anti-Valentine's Day Show, an all-female cabaret-style comedy show with stand-up comedy. The show also will feature the barbershop boogie-woogie sounds of The Little Dollies. All seats \$10

Contact: 734-985-0875; www.emergentarts.com

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12; 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 13-14

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Dave Landau; tickets are \$12 for show only or \$25 for show and a dinner on Thursday; \$16 for show or \$29 for show and dinner, Friday-Sunday

Open mic: Each comedian gets five minutes of stage time. Open mic begins at 8 p.m. every Tuesday. Call the box office Tuesday through Thursday, to get on the performer list

Contact: 734-261-0555; catchthefunny.com

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Feb. 12-13, and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14

Location: Fourth and Troy streets in downtown Royal Oak

Details: Keith Alberstadt; tickets \$10 Thursday, \$18 Friday-Saturday

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



SUBMITTED

Dennis Tini and his quartet will perform Feb. 24 at the Jazz@The Elks series in Plymouth.

DANCE WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Feb. 14, 2 p.m. Feb. 15

Location: Allesee Dance Theatre, third floor, room 3317, Old Main, 4841 Cass at Warren Avenue, Detroit

Details: See a performance of African dance and drumming by To Sangana, browse an African bazaar at 5 p.m. Saturday and noon Sunday, sample classes in African dance and drumming. Tickets are \$12 general admission; \$8 for students and seniors. Buy them at wsushows.com or at the Hillberry Box Office, 4743 Cass, Detroit. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door for \$15
Contact: 313-577-2972

FILM MAPLE THEATRE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21

Location: The Maple Theater, 4135 Maple, just west of Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills

Details: Hosted by the Armenian Genocide Centennial Committee of Metro Detroit, the event includes screening of *Orphans of the Genocide*, an appearance by Bared Maronian, film director, discussion and a brief introduction of the film, *Women of 1915*. Free

Contact: 248-750-1030

MICHIGAN THEATER

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24

Location: 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor

Details: *Bridging the Gap*, *The Joseph Dulin Story* is a documentary about the late education advocate and founding principal of National African American Parent Involvement Day. Admission is \$10; advance tickets available online
Contact: ticketwatch.com

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. Friday-

Saturday, Feb. 13-14; 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15; 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 19

Location: 760 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: *Big Eyes*; admission \$3

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

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Feb. 13 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 14

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

Details: *Somewhere In Time*; \$5

Contact: 313-898-1481

HISTORY KELSEY MUSEUM

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through May 3

Location: 434 State St., Ann Arbor

Details: "Death Dogs: The Jackal Gods of Ancient Egypt," will explore the mysterious ancient Egyptian jackal-headed gods associated with death and the afterlife. The exhibition will feature approximately 40 artifacts, some never before displayed and many coming from University of Michigan excavations in Egypt, along with archival photographs and explanatory graphics.
Contact: 734-764-9304

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: "Creative Hands: Busy Hands" is the new exhibit, which runs through June 14. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for ages 6-17

Contact: 734-455-8940

MUSIC BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: Sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m.; show runs 7-9:30 p.m., third Saturday of the month through May

Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: Troublesome Creek is the featured perform Feb. 21. \$5 at the door.

Contact: BFSpresident@aol.com

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13

Location: 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills

Details: Pierre Fracalanza, organ virtuoso, vocalist; donations will be collected

GREATER DETROIT JAZZ SOCIETY

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Feb. 21

Location: Shield's of Southfield, 25101 Telegraph, Southfield

Details: Ray Heitger's Cakewalkin' Jazz

Band of Toledo; \$10

Contact: GreaterDetroitJazzSociety.com

JAZZ@THE ELKS

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

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

Details: The Dennis Tini Quartet with April Tini performs Feb. 24. \$10 donation at the door includes hors d'oeuvres
Contact: 734-453-1780 or email plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

JAZZ CAFE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26

Location: Jazz Cafe at Music Hall Center for Performing Arts, 350 Madison, Detroit

Details: The Witches with Ken's Loud Band; \$5 a the door

Contact: 313-887-8501

MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

Time/Date: 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14

Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: "From Motown to Mamma Mia: The Sensational '60s & '70s," features singers Katy Calzone, Lauren Norris and Taylor Walls. Tickets are \$30; \$25 for ages 62 and up; and \$10 for students with ID
Contact: 734-451-2112; michigan-phil.org

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

Time/Date: Noon Wednesday, Feb. 18

Location: VisiTech Center, on the main campus, located on Haggerty between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: Gene Parker Quartet performs a free one-hour concert

Contact: 734-462-4403; schoolcraft.edu/music

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

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

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Open stage, Feb. 17; Raisin Pickers, Feb. 20; Taller Than They Appear and Seacht, Feb. 21; Jill Jack with Tia McGraff, Feb. 27; Drive South, Feb. 28. Most tickets \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted.

Contact: 734-464-6302 for additional information

WSDP RADIO

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 21

Location: Salem High School cafeteria, 46181 Joy, Canton

Details: Seventh annual 88.1 Record Show will feature thousands of vinyl records, CDs, imports, T-shirts and collectibles. Admission is \$3. Early admission 9-10 a.m. is \$5

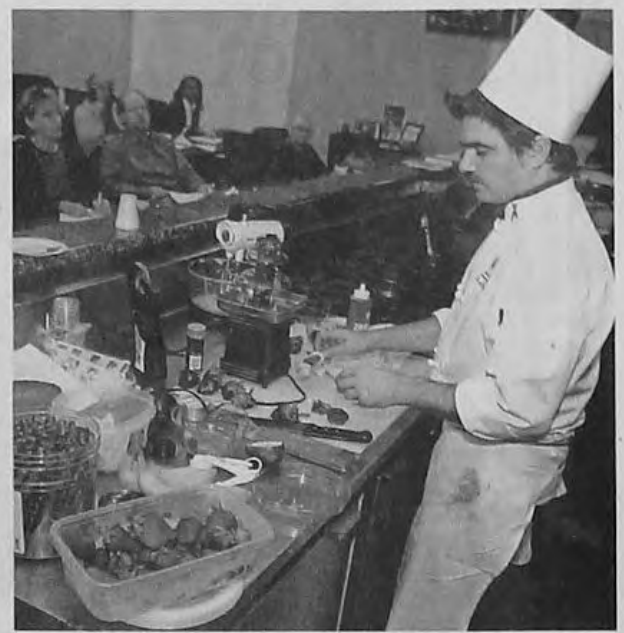
Contact: Bill Keith at 734-416-7732



Ted Ferman of Canton tastes strawberries dipped in chocolate during chef George Rapisit's dark chocolate class at Schoolcraft College.



Mary Bond of Livonia dips a pretzel into chocolate.

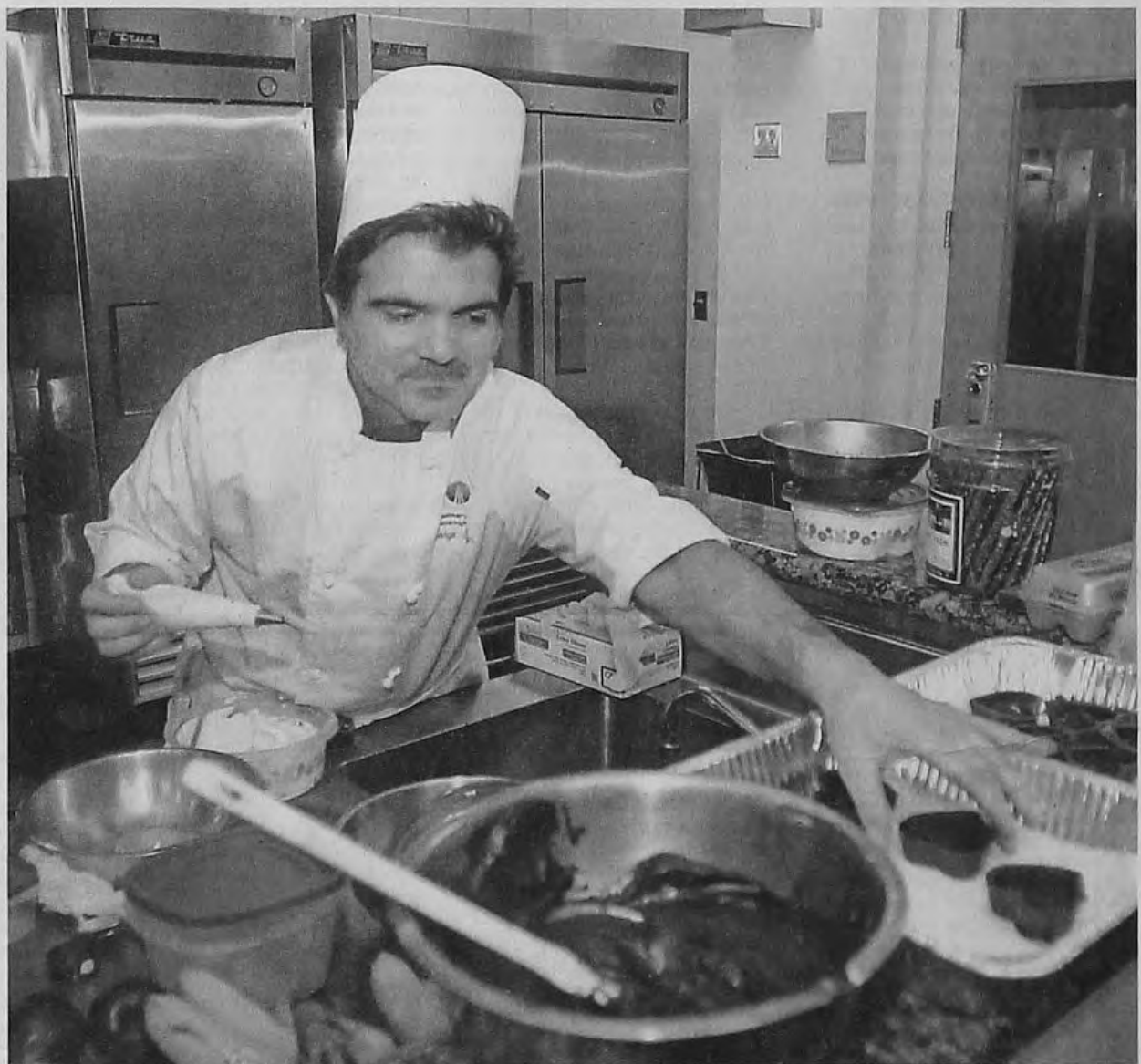


Chef George Rapisit demonstrates the use of a chocolate fountain.

Say 'Happy Valentine's Day' with dark chocolate chili, desserts



Sheryl Woo (left), assistant to chef George Rapisit, assists with the chocolate fountain, as students Monty Wulff of Walled Lake, Christine Tzilos of Livonia, and Ted Furman of Canton prepare to dip in.



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chef George Rapisit reaches for a dark chocolate shell to fill with chocolate mousse.

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

home the recipe.

Tasty mousse

If you plan to give your sweetie chocolate for Valentine's Day, skip the boxed version and make a healthful homemade chili instead.

"It's chocolate chili, but it has a hint of chipotle in it. Chocolate is not only for dessert. You can have it as a main meal, too," said Livonia chef George Rapisit, describing his signature chili recipe. "It does require a lot of ingredients, but it's worth it. It's all from scratch.

"When I mention I'm making chocolate chili, people say, chocolate chili? What do you mean chocolate chili? They think it's like this," he said, showing off a thick pot of melted chocolate to students at Schoolcraft College.

Or they envision sweet milk chocolate, not the cocoa power and unsweetened chocolate bits he stirs into the chili pot.

"They are surprised. A lot of them say 'oh, I like milk chocolate,' because they want something sweeter."

Rapisit, who trained in the culinary arts at Schoolcraft College and earned a degree in dietetics from Madonna University, recently cooked up chocolate chili samples for students in his popular continuing education class at Schoolcraft, "The Lighter Side of Dark Chocolate." The one-night class, held just in time for Valentine's Day, also gave students step-by-step instructions in making Dark Chocolate Mousse Cups, a fruit appetizer topped with chocolate bits, and molded chocolates. They learned to use a chocolate fountain and went home with a recipes and lots of nutritional advice.

Maria Tucker, a Detroit Country Day School student and a Bloomfield Hills resident, said she took the class because of her interest in baking. She got a chance to sample Rapisit's Black Forest Heart Cake and take

"I'm not a chocoholic. My wife is," said Ted Ferman of Canton, who watched Rapisit's demonstrations from a front row seat in class. "I've taken five different cooking classes up here. And I do a lot of the cooking at home because my wife works long hours. Last year, my wife gave me a gift certificate for my 25th wedding anniversary to come up here and take some classes. So, I've taken several classes and had a lot of fun."

Although his own chicken marsala recipe gets rave reviews from his wife, Ferman said he might also try one of Rapisit's chocolate dishes.

"That chocolate mousse is pretty darn good," he said.

Dark chocolate also contains flavonoids, a kind of antioxidant that can prevent unstable molecules called "free radicals" from damaging cells in the body.

"The same nutrients that are in fruits and vegetables and green tea are the same kind of nutrients that are in dark chocolate," Rapisit told the class. "Many short-term studies have suggested that consumption of products containing cocoa may provide cardiovascular benefits. And we know that heart disease is one of the biggest killers in America," he said. "One of the better things is actually eating a couple ounces of dark chocolate every day."

Learn more about chocolate in Rapisit's book, *The Lighter Side of Dark Chocolate*, published in 2007. His other books include *The Healthy Pregnancy Cookbook*, *Ask the Nutritionists*, *Gourmet's Guide to Elegant Foodservice*, and *Recipemakeover Diet*.

Catch his weekly cooking show, *Eat Right By George*, at 7 p.m. Tuesday on the Brighthouse network — Channel 12 in Livonia and Redford.

Rapisit plans to teach a Greek holiday foods class in the fall at School-

BLACK FOREST HEART CAKE

Cake:
2 cups sugar
1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
1 1/4 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
3/4 cup cocoa powder
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 cup milk
1/2 cup olive oil
2 large eggs
1 cup boiling water
Topping:
Whipped cream

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Spray a heart-shaped cake pan with cooking spray. In a heavy-duty mixing bowl, mix together all the dry ingredients. Once thoroughly mixed, add all the wet ingredients except the boiling water. Once all mixed together, slowly add the boiling water. Place in oven and bake for 30 minutes. Check at 25 minutes by inserting a toothpick in the center. Place whip cream in a pastry bag and, when heart cake is completely cooled, pipe a generous amount of frosting on top. Garnish with chocolate shavings and strawberries.

DARK CHOCOLATE MOUSSE

5 1/2 ounces bittersweet chocolate, coarsely chopped
14 ounces cold light whip cream
3 large egg whites
1-ounce sugar
Shaved bittersweet chocolate for garnish
Fresh strawberries for garnish

Place chocolate in a double boiler at a low simmer. Stir chocolate until melted. Turn off the heat and let stand. With a mixer, whip egg to soft peaks. Gradually add the sugar and continue whipping until firm. Remove the chocolate from the bain marie (the bottom of the double boiler) and using a whisk, fold in the egg whites all at once. When the whites are almost completely incorporated, fold in light whip cream. Cover the mousse and refrigerate for approximately one hour or until set. Serve in goblets topped with strawberries and shaved chocolate.

CHOCOLATE CHILI

2 cups diced onion
1 cup chopped red bell pepper
1 teaspoon minced garlic
1 1/2 pound ground turkey breast
3 tablespoons brown sugar
2 tablespoons chili powder
1 tablespoon unsweetened cocoa
1 teaspoon ground cumin
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
1/4 sea salt
2 (15 ounces) cans pinto beans rinsed and drained
2 (14.5 ounces) cans diced tomatoes, drained
1 (14 ounces) can fat-free, less sodium chicken broth
2 chipotle chilled, canned in adobo sauce, minced
2 ounces unsweetened chocolate, chopped
1/2 cup light sour cream
Chopped green onion (optional)

Heat medium-sized pot over heat. Coat pan with cooking spray. Add onion, bell pepper, garlic, ground turkey and saute until tender and turkey is browned. Add sugar and next nine ingredients (through chipotle) to pan, stirring to blend; bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer 15 minutes or until slightly thickened, stirring occasionally. Add unsweetened dark chocolate, stirring to melt. Ladle 1 1/4 cups of chili in each of 8 bowls. Top each serving with 1 tablespoon sour cream. Garnish with chopped green onions.

craft College. He also teaches healthful cooking seminars and "lunch and learn" sessions throughout southeastern Michigan and provides nutri-

tion counseling to patients at the Ford-Tel Medical Center in Dearborn Heights. Visit his *Eat Right By George* page on Face-

book. For more about other culinary continuing education classes at Schoolcraft College, visit schoolcraft.edu/continuing-ed/cepd.

Chocolate Chili, Dark Chocolate Mousse and Black Forest Heart Cake recipes courtesy of chef George Rapisit.