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SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2015 • hometownlife.com



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COMMUNITY LIFE, B8

Trash pickup shifts to new company

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton has a new trash hauler, Rizzo Environmental Services, a sudden change that quietly took effect Wednesday and even took township officials by surprise.

Rizzo announced Wednesday its acquisition of Canton Waste Recycling, the same day it began picking up trash and recyclables, though Canton's 27,000 customers likely noticed no changes.

"Their trash pickup days are going to be exactly the same," said Joseph Munem, Rizzo's director of government

affairs and public relations. "Their rules of putting out trash are going to be exactly the same."

Any changes, such as potentially tweaking Canton's recycling program, would occur over time, Munem said.

Paul M. Denski, representing a third generation of family owned Canton Waste Recycling, said the company was started in 1926 and has been Canton's trash hauler since local service started in the mid-1970s. He and CWR's 47 employees are staying on, but his father, 61, and grandfather, 82, are phasing out their involvement.

"It's a big deal. It's a great thing," Denski said. "We made this decision as a family. They (Rizzo) are a family and we are a family. That's why we're so excited about this."

Canton becomes the 38th community served by Rizzo, billed as the largest waste hauler and recycling company in metro Detroit.

"One great family-run waste hauler is joining with another great family-run company today," Rizzo CEO Chuck Rizzo said Wednesday, in a prepared statement. "The Denski family has built a solid company with



Canton trash-hauling trucks will soon have a new look after Rizzo Environmental Services acquired Canton Waste Recycling.

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Marshmallow Drop ushers in Easter holiday in Wayne County



Eight-month-old Henry Cusson, in the arms of aunt Betty Calhoun, isn't too sure about the intentions of the giant rabbit who wants a high-five.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Easter Bunny visited the Nankin Mills area of Hines Park in Westland for the annual Marshmallow Drop. For a story and photos, turn to pages A6-7.

Democratic Club to host forum on proposal to fix roads

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Citing confusion over a May 5 ballot proposal to increase Michigan's sales tax to raise road-fixing money, the Canton Democratic Club has decided to host a public forum to educate voters.

Proponents say the ballot measure is desperately needed because it would generate about \$1.3 billion a year to repair Michigan's crumbling roads and bridges. Opponents, however, contend the state can find alternatives other than a tax increase.

Canton Democrats plan to host the forum at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, at the Canton Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center.

"It's a confusing issue and a confusing ballot question, so I want to get as much information to the community as possible and provide details about the ballot question," said Steven Sneiderman, Canton Democratic Club president and township board trustee.

"I sense that many people in the community are split on the proposal, if they have decided at all on the issue," he added. "I think it's important to discuss

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Plymouth Township board names Price next supervisor

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Shannon Price will be Plymouth Township's next township supervisor.

Price, a Republican Wayne County commissioner in his second term, was appointed by a 4-2 Board of Trustees vote about an hour into a special meeting Thursday. He was among eight candidates who were interviewed for the job during Tuesday's regular board meeting.

He will replace Supervisor Richard Reaume, whose last day on the job is Monday. Price moved to the township from Canton Township earlier this year.

The vote brought an angry reaction from many in the crowd at township hall, with scattered shouts of "fix!" heard in the board meeting room. One man passed out yellow placards on which the word "fix" was printed in large



MATT JACHMAN

Shannon Price speaks Tuesday to the Plymouth Township board. Price was appointed the next township supervisor Thursday by a 4-2 vote.

type and about 10 people briefly held them up.

Trustee Bob Doroshewitz, who had been one of the supervisor hopefuls, stalked out of the room after shouting "no" into his microphone during the roll-call vote. Trustee Chuck

Curmi also voted no.

"I like Shannon. I don't think it's his time," Doroshewitz said moments before the vote was taken.

'Driven a wedge'

"There are so many people in this community who are going to see it as an absolute fraud and they're not going to think it's legitimate, no matter what he does," he added.

Reaume, the supervisor for 10 years, had been the target of a recall campaign along with three other board members - all of whom voted for Price - and several people involved in the recall effort expressed dismay at the appointment. Some said another pick for supervisor would have meant a better chance for a divided community to heal.

"You have not fooled the people of this township," Bill

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Man accused in garage burglaries is facing trial

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Barring a plea deal, an Inkster man is facing trial on charges he was involved in a rash of garage burglaries in Canton.

Paul Allen Ziolkowski, a 42-year-old defendant charged as a habitual offender, could face penalties ranging up to 10 years in prison if he is convicted in Wayne County Circuit Court on three counts of breaking and entering.

Detective Sgt. Dan Traylor said the incidents occurred earlier this year in neighborhoods near Palmer and Lilley roads, where an intruder preyed on homes where residents left their garage doors open or unlocked.

Stolen items included snow blowers, power tools, generators, leaf blowers, tires, power washers and other items, prompting police Lt. Craig Wisler to issue a warning to

residents to keep their garage doors locked to protect their belongings.

Ziolkowski is facing trial following a preliminary examination in 35th District Court, where his bond had been set at \$100,000 cash.

However, court records indicate the bond has been reduced in circuit court to \$20,000/10 percent, meaning Ziolkowski could be freed if he manages to post \$2,000. Records indicated Thursday he was still jailed.

Wisler credited the arrest to quick action by a Canton woman who noticed suspicious activity in her neighborhood and called police. She told authorities she had seen a suspect looking inside garages near her home.

Wisler said the arrest was

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Ziolkowski



PRICE: \$1

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TRASH

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a great reputation."

Rizzo's announcement indicated the Denski family - mostly Paul M. Denski - is staying on in an active role by overseeing operations of the former CWR.

Supervisor Phil LaJoy and other township officials learned of the changes Wednesday, when they spoke with company officials.

"At this point in time, the customers shouldn't experience anything different as far as trash pickup," LaJoy said. "We have a contract. We expect that the contract would be followed."

Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said the contract is in effect until 2020. He said the agreement, worth \$3.5 million a year, has a clause allowing the trash-hauling services to shift to another company.

Rizzo, with Canton as its customer, now serves more than 410,000 households across metro Detroit. Munem said CWR's trucks eventually will be painted red to match Rizzo's existing fleet.

"The Canton Waste Recycling fleet is just a marvelous fleet," Munem said. "The Denski family took really good care of the fleet."

Rizzo, marking its 50th anniversary this year, is based in Sterling Heights, but will also operate out of the long-time CWR site near Van Born and Lilley roads.

"We have significantly expanded our base of operation in Wayne County," Chuck Rizzo said, adding that Rizzo has become the state's largest recycling company in the state after acquiring Romulus-based Nelson Paper Recycling in January.

Rizzo's ability to use longtime CWR facilities in Canton positions the company to better serve customers across western Wayne County, meaning "better prices and better service for both our residential and business customers," Rizzo said.

Munem said the company also will become involved in local schools to educate students about recycling.

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

GARAGE

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an example of an arrest that was made because of teamwork between police and a resident.

Deputy Police Chief Debra Newsome, during a public safety forum

Tuesday at Summit on the Park, strongly encouraged residents to report incidents that occur in their neighborhoods.

"If we don't know about it," she said, "we can't correct it."

Much like the garage thefts, Canton has had sporadic incidents of larcenies from autos because owners leave their car doors unlocked or leave valuables in view of potential criminals.

Police say some residents can become complacent because Canton has a comparatively low crime rate compared to many communities. However, police have urged residents to avoid becoming a victim by keeping their belongings out of view.

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Price: I'll listen to residents

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Shannon Price told the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees that his first priority if he were to be named supervisor would be to listen to residents.

On Thursday, following his appointment by a 4-2 board vote, Price said he knows he's got a lot of listening to do.

The selection of Price, who will take office this week following Supervisor Richard Reaume's last day on the job Monday, drew bitter reactions from many in the board meeting room at township hall.

Price was supported by three of the four board members who were under the threat of a recall. Some involved in the recall effort claimed the vote was orchestrated ahead of time and that other candidates had better qualifications and deeper roots in the community. Price, a Republican on

the Wayne County Board of Commissioners, moved with his family to the township earlier this year from Canton Township.



Price

After Thursday's meeting, Price said he recognized the divisions in the community, but he's confident he can overcome them. He asked for time to do that. "The hard work begins now," he said.

He said he plans to meet soon with township department heads and then with employees and that he will make every effort to get out in the community, as well.

'Let them be heard'

"You're going to have to go to every neighborhood association. You're going to have to meet with people," he said.

Price said he believes

a lot of the frustration shown by residents Thursday stemmed from their feeling that they are not being heard - and those involved in the recall campaign have said not being heard is at the root of it. Price said that, as supervisor, he will work to hear them and all residents.

He rejected the label of "carpetbagger," saying he's represented the township on the county commission for more than two years and knocked on many doors while campaigning for that job. Price was first elected in 2012 and won a second two-year term last November.

Clerk Nancy Conzelman, a Price supporter, said having him as supervisor will give the township a bigger voice in its dealings with the county, on which it is heavily dependent in some areas, such as road maintenance. Price has been able to win big projects for the township, Conzelman said,

such as the reconstruction of Beck Road up to Ann Arbor Trail, which is planned for this year.

'He's very smart'

"He's a very collaborative person. He builds bridges and he's very smart and I think that he'll be able to do a great job leading the township," Conzelman said Friday.

Price said he intends to resign immediately from the county commission and from Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette's office, where he works part time in constituent relations.

Price worked for the U.S. Postal Service as a mail carrier in Westland for three years in the 1990s, then moved into the information technology field before getting involved in politics. He has a bachelor's degree in computer science from Baker College.

He and wife Jacqueline have two children, Madeline, 11, and Braden, 8.

PRICE

Continued from Page A1

Carter said. "You've driven a wedge deeper and deeper."

"You're going to reap what you sow and I'm just appalled," Doreen Sharpe said.

"I'm disgusted with you as a board because you will not learn. You will not listen to us," said Sandy Groth, a leader of the recall movement.

Price had fans in the crowd as well.

"He's got a burning desire to make this township a better place to live," Robert Harris told the board before the votes were cast.

Harris also said the pro-recall, anti-Price voices were not representative of the whole township.

Treasurer support

Treasurer Ron Edwards, a Price supporter and a recall target, said the vote in favor of Price was not prearranged. Price, Edwards said, "can bring people together" despite the animosity displayed

Thursday after the appointment

"I honestly think he can mend the fences and move forward," Edwards said by phone late Thursday night. Price is one of two Republicans on the Wayne County Board of Commissioners and the fact he's been able to work with the commission's Democrats and get things done in that role bodes well, Edwards said.

"I think he's going to be able to do a job comparable to what Richard (Reaume) did," Edwards said.

Clerk Nancy Conzelman and Trustee Kay Arnold are the other targets of the recall petition drive. Both voted for Price, as did Trustee Mike Kelly.

In addition to Doroshewitz and Curmi, the other candidates for supervisor were retired Ford Motor Co. executive Ray Byers; Steven Birmingham, a project manager in the logistics field; banking executive Mark G. Cords; Ronald Bullotta, a retired manufacturer's representative and management executive; and state Rep. Kurt Heise, R-

Plymouth Township.

Top pick for three

Before the formal vote, Price had finished with the most points as board members made their top three choices, each board member giving three points to his or her top choice, two to the second choice and one to the third as they narrowed the field.

Edwards, Conzelman and Arnold all made Price their top choice, while Kelly made him his second choice, giving Price a total of 11 points. Neither Doroshewitz nor Curmi gave any points to themselves and both made Byers their top pick. (Curmi was Doroshewitz's third pick, while Doroshewitz was Curmi's second.)

Heise, who has said he intends to run for supervisor in 2016, left the meeting when it became clear he had not finished in the top three. Later, he emailed a statement on the decision.

"Tonight, four members of the township board put politics ahead of people. They appointed someone who moved here two months ago,

with no relevant education and very little experience," he wrote, in part. "There were clearly other candidates with superior public and private sector backgrounds."

Price stood in the back of the room as the meeting ended, accepting congratulations from well-wishers and talking to reporters. He said he recognized the divisions evidenced by some of the reactions to the vote and that he would work to overcome them.

He also said he was gratified by the appointment. Price will be in charge of the day-to-day operations of the township government and will lead board meetings. The post pays about \$111,000 a year.

Price will serve the remainder of Reaume's current term, which expires Nov. 20, 2016. He will have to run for office if he wants to keep the job and has said he intends to do so.

Reaume, who turned 65 in December, announced March 15 that he planned to resign and retire to Florida. He was in the middle of his third four-year term.

FORUM

Continued from Page A1

it before we go to the polls in May."

That said, the Canton Democratic Club has decided to refrain from taking a formal position on the ballot measure which, according to the latest polls, appears to be struggling in public support.

Sommer Foster, the club's vice president, said the forum's panelists will include Sneiderman; former state House 20th District candidate Nate Smith-Tyge, 21st District state Rep. Kristy Pagan; and Julie

Rowe, Michigan legislative director for the American Federation of Teachers.

Foster said other panelists still may be added.

"We have a number of people who just don't understand the proposal at all," she said. "We're going to try to give them unbiased information and let people make up their own minds. We're not taking a position at all."

Residents and legislators appear divided over the proposal, which would raise the state sales tax from 6 percent to 7 percent, among other measures. It would raise about \$1.3 billion a

year for roads and, according to some estimates, more than \$200 million for K-12 schools, \$116 million for transit and rail and \$111 million for local governments. It also is expected to help low- and moderate-income families by restoring the Earned Income Tax Credit, amounting to \$260 million.

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, is among those who say there are alternatives other than a tax increase to finding money to fix roads. He has said those options include ensuring tax money collected at the gas pump goes for roads, prioritizing spending of existing

funds and reducing wasteful spending.

Some proponents have acknowledged the plan isn't perfect, but they say it's the last-ditch effort for now to begin to fix Michigan roads. Some Canton voters have previously told the *Observer* they favor the ballot measure, while others flatly reject it - a split that appears similar to statewide polls.

Sneiderman said the proposal hasn't strictly divided voters among political party lines.

"It's not really a Democrat versus a Republican issue," he said. "It's more of a tax or no tax issue."

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Student teams put their STEM knowledge to the test at Wayne-Westland Robofest

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Shirts and ties. Hawaiian shirts and Panama hats. Students came dressed for hopeful success at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center's Robofest.

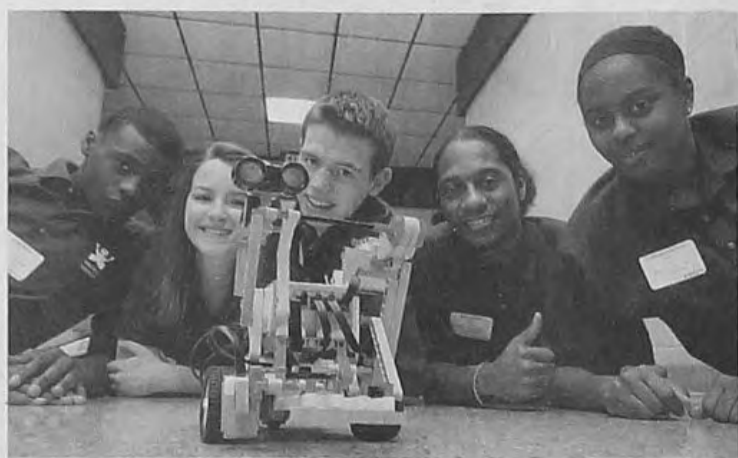
A part of Lawrence Technological University's Robofest 2015, the event pitted small student-created robots against each other for judging on their ability to complete specific tasks. The teams came from Wayne, Westland and Northville and more distant areas like Troy, Walled Lake, Adrian and Commerce.

"It's pretty intense. We're putting some real-world pressure on these students," said Zachary MacLean, electronics/robotics technology at the career technical center. "We did this a few years ago, but the interest is far greater today. I think it's the emphasis on STEM education; the kids finally get it."

Robofest include two segments: the RoboBowl game, in which the programmed autonomous robot had to bowl, shoot or kick a tennis ball to knock down four water bottles; and an exhibition, in which students were judged on their robotic creations. The teams were competing to advance to the state competition with hopes of making it to the world competition in May at LTU.

Placing first in RoboBowl was the Troy High IMC & Robotics team, with John Glenn High School's Robotic Rockets second. Also moving on to the state contest were Wayne Memorial High School's Robotic Zebra, the William D. Ford's Robotic Techs, Northville's NCA Lights and the Washington Tyshka/Propson Homeschool's Fearsome Five.

Exhibition teams advancing included 7 of 9 Robotech from William D. Ford, Perpetual Motion Squad, two Lenewee ISD Alternative Energy and Robotics teams and Adrian Toast Hat. First place went to N/A, LISD Alternative Energy



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
The William Ford Career Technical Center team included Lavail Nolan, Brooke Jennings, Conner Weber, Wes Erby and Lashaun Marbury.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Lashaun Marbury, Wes Erby and Lavail Nolan reprogram their robot to perform a new task assigned by the Robofest organizers.

and Robotics, with Beta, another LISD Alternative Energy and Robotics team, placing second.

'Unknown problem'

Teams displayed their robots along the walls of the center's commons area for exhibition judging. Two tables were the center of attention for two rounds of RoboBowl, in which the small robots competed against each other to complete a task.

Students were told the task and given a half-hour to program their robots. They couldn't use their cellphones or

communicate with coaches. Once the half-hour was up, the robots were impounded until the competition.

"We give them an unknown problem and they have to solve it and program their robots," MacLean said. "Everything is based on math. We may give them D or C and they have to figure out the problem. If they do the math correctly, the whole thing works."

Stephanie Bigelow, coach of the Robotic Zebra team, was impressed with how their ro-

bot did in the first round. Students Tyler Chad and Jared Ketcherside programmed the robot to make several turns to line up and roll a tennis ball at the bottles. While the ball wasn't strong enough to knock over the bottles, it did move several.

"Their program was good, but they knew going in that they need another motor," Bigelow said. "If the arm had a little more spring, it would be better."

Terry Ratliff and Raymond Uresti of the LISD Technical Center in Adrian chose the tropical theme for the exhibition competition. They wore Hawaiian print shirts and Panama hats and also strummed a guitar and a ukulele.

"We're hoping to get the wow factor and the judge's attention," Ratliff said. "We're very uptight and nervous, but we want to be different, laid-back. We're the only team like this. The most we can get for a grade is 10 percent for appearance."

Making it work

Across the room, the 7 of 9 team attracted attention with a life-size robot that moves back and forth and moves its shoulders and arms. The eyes even light up.

"We had so many problems with the program last year, so we couldn't make it autonomous," Kealani Sypher said. "We had to rush to build it and got the wires crossed. We did a lot more work on it this year."

Sypher said the problems were "manufacturer defects" and that students had to make their own parts. The work this year fixed the arms. Helping were Miguel Calvarro and Dannette Miller.

Impressed with how well her teams did, Bigelow gives all the credit to the students.

"I did nothing. This is student driven, they've done all of the work," she said. "They get full credit."

Education foundation dinner, auction coming up

Wine-tasting, a strolling dinner and silent and live auctions will be on the menu for the annual benefit for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' Educational Excellence Foundation.

The wine-tasting and dinner and auctions are 7-11 p.m. Friday, April 17, at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center. A silent auction is also online now at www.pccseef.com.

The EEF is a nonprofit that raises money for classroom enhancements and other support for district schools. The benefit, now in its fifth year, has raised more than \$125,000 toward those goals.

The Fox Hills event is the EEF's biggest fundraiser of the year. Usually attended by more than 600 people, the event offers valet parking, 15 tables of wines, three tables of craft beers and food from 15 providers.

The auction features hundreds of goods, services, restaurant meals and package deals. The online auction closes at 10 p.m. Monday.

Tickets to the live event are \$50 a person and available at Busch's Fresh Food Market in Plymouth Township, the Showroom of Elegance in Canton Township, through the foundation website and at the EEF office in the school district's administration building, 454 S. Harvey, in Plymouth.

For more information, email EEF executive director Carole Kody at Carole.Kody@pccsk12.com or call the EEF office at 734-416-2718.

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'Real joy and hope': Pastors share Easter message

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Holy Week and Easter are busy for Christian clergy, but they're happy to take a few minutes to talk about the message of Jesus' Resurrection and its relevance today.

"The key message of Holy Week is Christ died for the sins of the world and was raised so that we may have eternal life," said the Rev. Paul Schaefer, who's served more than 20 years as pastor at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Plymouth.

"Yes, I still believe it's relevant. We all will face our death and the judgment before the Lord," said Schaefer, a Plymouth resident whose congregation is almost 160 years old.

In his Easter sermons, Schaefer recounts the gospel story of the Resurrection "and then apply it to what it means for them. They're very receptive to that. Oh yes, they very much appreciate it."

Easter Sunday services at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran will see pews packed, but the pastor said, "All are welcome and we love to share with anyone the good news of Jesus crucified and risen."

Schaefer agreed Holy Week and Easter are busy for pastors yet still rewarding: "You get to remind people of the real joy and hope they can have through faith in Christ. Very encouraging

to see the joy Easter brings to people. I can comfort them through God's word."

'Longs for us to know him'

The Rev. John Grenfell III is going into his ninth year as senior pastor at Plymouth First United Methodist Church, which has been in the community about 175 years. "That the author of life and creator of our universe" whose birth we celebrate at Christmas "is also the one who gave us reason to celebrate Easter. He longs for us to know him and have a personal relationship with him," Grenfell said.

"Death does not have the final word," he added. "Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ does." That gift of eternal life "is a gift that is intended to be experienced forever."

Wednesday morning, Plymouth resident Grenfell was working on his Easter sermon, "Why Are You Looking for the Living Among the Dead?" He joked a bit about busy times Holy Week and Easter at his church.

"It would be nice on Wednesday if that were done," he said of his sermon being underway. "We've got a lot going on."

Grenfell described the "cheap counterfeits" of life that have people search in vain for truth. He said Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary, lived on the planet 33 years



JULIE BROWN

Worshippers and passers-by see this cross during Holy Week at the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth.

and was crucified.

"We ought to pay close attention to what he says. He told us he would rise from the dead and he did." Plymouth First United Methodist worshippers share that they experience "the presence of the Risen Lord in our midst."

Grenfell welcomes

newcomers to church "every Sunday and every day in between. We're a very busy church."

He explained the English translation in the New Testament of Jesus as originating from Joshua, with a meaning of "God to the rescue, the Lord is salvation."

They worship each

Sunday at 10:10 a.m. to allow "womb to tomb" Sunday school beforehand.

Also welcoming worshippers Easter Sunday is the Rev. Ron Richards, pastor of St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton. "I think it's probably more relevant today than it was 2,000 years ago," Richards, a Canton resident, said of the Easter message. "We exist on this Earth to be with him in heaven."

At St. John Neumann parish, "We share it all the time throughout the year," Richards said of the Easter message, helping people develop a relationship with Christ to do his work. "We should express his love with the rest of the world, loving people for who they are, not who we want them to be," said Richards, who is also a canon lawyer serving the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Easter Masses at St. John Neumann draw more worshippers: "You really want to tailor that message to them as well and make them feel welcome," said Richards, who's been at the Canton church almost five years.

Jesus' teachings are challenging, he said, focusing on being better than we are. "It doesn't mean we can't be better," he said, adding of his parish members, "I think they're very receptive and open" to the Easter message.

"It's a beautiful time of year," Richards said. "Things only feel hard if

you're doing them because you have to. It's an opportunity to reach out to people. It's the best time of year the church has."

'Greatest story'

Rocky Barra, lead pastor at Connection Church in Canton, is also grateful to share Easter's message. "We get to tell the greatest story in the history of mankind to the largest crowd we'll have all year. It's incredibly rewarding! This is the most important date on the Christian calendar," Barra wrote in an email.

"The message is absolutely as relevant as it was 2,000 years ago. It's not possible to intellectually refute the resurrection of Jesus. It's the most documented fact in all of antiquity," Barra wrote. "It is 'The Greatest Event in the History of the World.' It's not just relevant, there's an excitement in telling the story."

Worshippers at Connection Church, where Barra's been the lead pastor for 26 years, appreciate the Easter message. "Our congregation is very receptive to the message - both our regular attenders and our guests. We endeavor to share it in a little different way every year, with creativity and with excellence," Barra wrote, adding this Sunday's presentation is "The Colors of Grace."

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Canton Historical Society is seeking help with a fundraiser

Looking for a way to help out the Canton community, but can't make a huge time commitment?

The Canton Historical Society has announced a way to help.

The CHS is accepting donations for a tent sale set for Saturday, June 20, during the Canton Liberty Fest. The items should be antique, craft-related or vintage-in-

spired. Donations the historical society currently has include jewelry, books, handmade fabric tree decorations, vintage hats and an antique table.

All donations will be sold at the tent sale as a fundraiser for the Canton Historical Museum. All profits will be used for future Canton Historical Museum exhibits,

investment in archival storage boxes/paper and further efforts of community outreach events. If interested in donating, contact Jordan Taylor at jordanta@um-

ich.edu or call 397-0088. The deadline for donations is June 10.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Who runs faster, kids or moms? It looks like a dead heat as the youngest marshmallow hunters head out.

Marshmallow Drop ushers in Easter holiday in Wayne County



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

If marshmallows dropped from a helicopter drop just a little too fast and hard, Cain Ortiz is ready. He is from Flat Rock.

Hunting season was canceled for marshmallow droppers who ventured out Friday morning to Elizabeth Park in Trenton, but the sun was shining and the weather pleasant by the time the Easter Bunny's helicopter took to the air at 11 a.m. for a visit to the Nankin Mills area of Hines Park in Westland.

The cancellation of the Downriver event due to dense fog may have been a first in the 31-year history of the Wayne County Parks Marshmallow Drop, where thousands of youngsters scramble to retrieve marshmallows dropped from a helicopter and turn them in for prizes.

Youngsters who made it to Elizabeth Park didn't leave disappointed. While there was no shower of marshmallows, there were prizes for each child.

At Nankin Mills, 20,000 marshmallows were dropped during three trips over the Nankin Mills picnic area, where youngsters were

divided into three age groups – 4 years and younger, 5-7 years old and 8-12 years old. While only one marshmallow was needed to claim a prize, kids scrambled to get as many as they could. One lucky child in each age group walked away with an extra special prize after finding a colored marshmallow.

The annual Marshmallow Drop is co-sponsored by Trenton Parks and Recreation, ITC Holdings, Taylor Ford, Flagstar Bank, Zeal Credit Union, KSP Insurance, UAW Region 1A, N Zone Sports, Jack Demmer Ford, Wayne County Community College, Fox 2 News, Observer & Eccentric Media and Friends of Wayne County Parks.

For more photos, see our photo gallery at hometownlife.com.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The helicopter drops the load of marshmallows, which hit the ground and join the goose poop nestled in the grass.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The rush for marshmallows begins and ends in a few short minutes.

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APPLICANT: CURTIS - PLYMOUTH, LLC; MARK MENECK

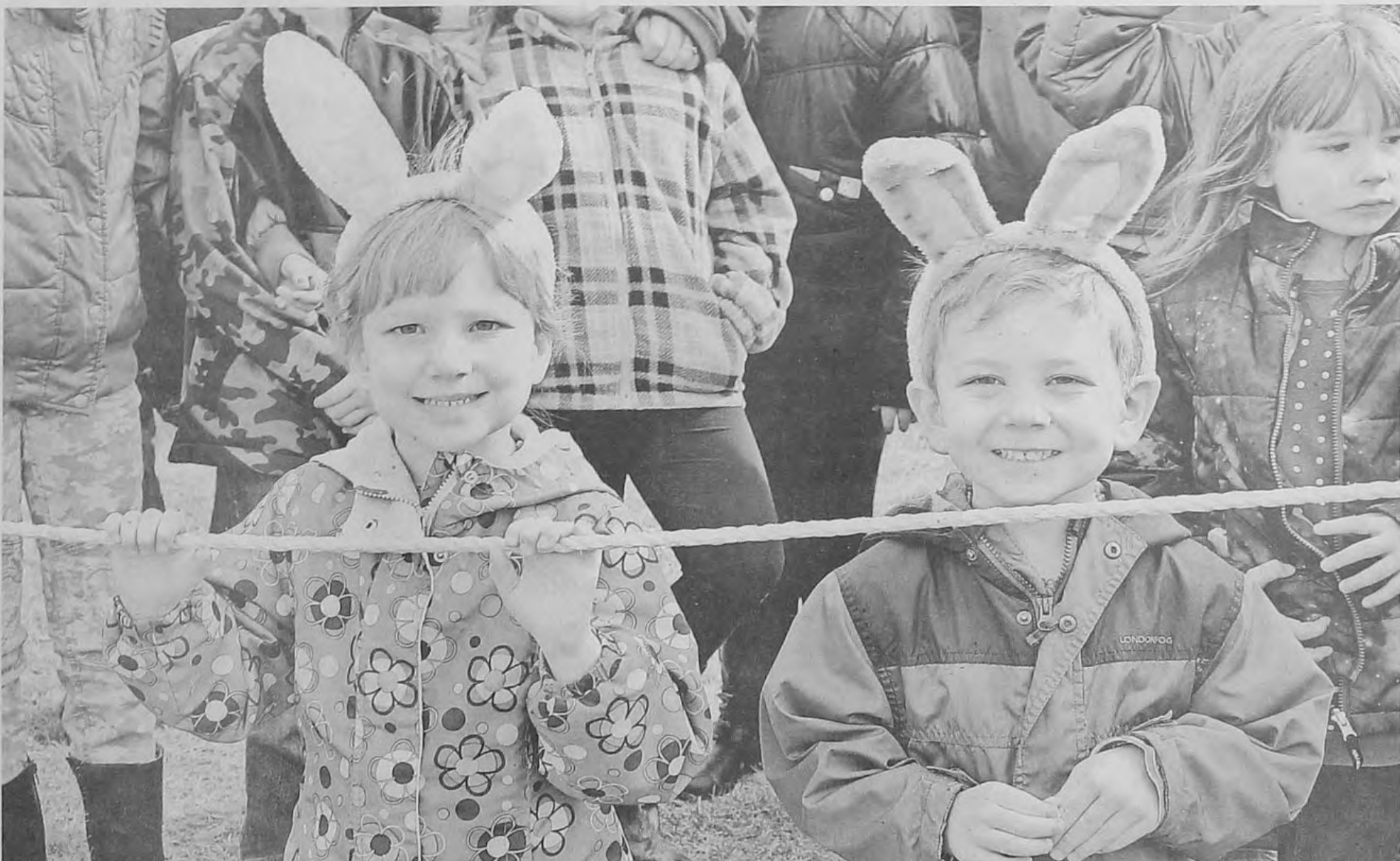
2. **PUBLIC HEARING FOR ZONING ORDINANCE REVISION OF:**

1. SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING UNIT STANDARDS IN THE R-1, SINGLE-FAMILY DISTRICT (Sec. 78-43)
2. RT-1, TWO-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (Sec. 78-53)
3. SCHEDULE OF REGULATIONS AND FOOTNOTES (Sec. 78-190 AND 191)
4. PLANT MATERIALS AND LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS (Sec. 78-203)

All interested persons are invited to attend.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH WILL PROVIDE NECESSARY REASONABLE AUXILIARY AIDS AND SERVICES, SUCH AS SIGNERS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED AND AUDIOTAPES OF PRINTED MATERIALS BEING CONSIDERED AT THE MEETING/HEARING, TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES. REQUESTS FOR AUXILIARY AIDS OR SERVICES MAY BE MADE BY WRITING OR CALLING THE FOLLOWING:

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(734)453-1234, EXT. 206



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bunny patrol: A second set of 3-year-old twins, Miriam and Nabil Timmerman of Canton Township, came to the event with parents Brian and Pam Timmerman.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Two-year-old Rocco Boone Koch Gregory finds a marshmallow on the ground. If mom Amanda Koch Gregory is fast enough, she'll stop him from shoving it in his mouth. Rocco and Amanda are from Dearborn Heights.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bunny patrol: Three-year-old identical twins Taiya and Taliya Nelson came for the fun with grandmother Sandra Colquiti and uncle D'ante Harden-Johnson. They are from Inkster.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bunny patrol: Eighteen-month-old Avery Miller samples a marshmallow. Avery and mom and dad Megan and Nathan Miller are from Livonia.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Older kids don't need their moms to hold their hands – they just outrun them.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Julia Lutz, a volunteer from Stevenson High School in Livonia, works to hold back the 3- and 4-year-olds.

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LEG PAIN
 Doctors see patients with the following features:

- over age 65
- overweight
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- noting pain in the calves
- told by someone that the pain means there are blood clots in the legs
- told by others that the pain is from a bursa in the knee
- wants advice on what is or is not safe to do

The doctor will begin by establishing how much this pain diminishes the patient's ability to exercise and interferes with his or her way of life. Then the doctor will question and examine the patient with the intent of establishing a diagnosis. The possible causes for the pain include the patient's concern of phlebitis, a ruptured Baker's cyst, osteoarthritis, sciatica and strained calf muscles.

Learning from the patient the pattern of the pain, examining the legs for swelling, moving the legs and the lower extremity muscles to elicit pain, and possibly taking x-rays of the knees or ankles, provides the diagnosis.

In this instance, the patient is experiencing muscle strain.

Then the doctor can answer the question of what the person can or cannot do. The physician will start the discussion by noting that the adage, "No pain no gain," is wrong. If the patient engages in an exercise or activity that causes the calves to hurt, the patient should stop that activity. "No pain, no gain" is only appropriate for normal muscles one is trying to strengthen.

Then the doctor informs the patient that resolution of the pain may take months. Healing requires rest but daily life necessitates movement.

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Library reveals new chapter in Canton Book Project



FILE PHOTO

Canton's library is giving away nearly 100 books to spur reading.

Book lovers from the Canton area will gather at the Canton Public Library to celebrate their love of reading and to receive free copies of their favorite books to distribute in the community, in a move intended to spur interest in reading.

Nearly 100 books will be distributed by people ages 14-70 who, in turn, will give them away to others. They were chosen as part of the inaugural Canton Book Project.

State Librarian Randy Riley and Canton library trustees are expected to attend the distribution and reception at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 16, at the Canton Public Library,

1200 S. Canton Center. The public is invited.

The event coincides with National Library Week.

Eight people have been selected to share their love of reading with the Canton community by giving away copies of a favorite book. The book titles and recipients are:

» *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson, selected by Amanda Davies and Plymouth High School American Literature students.

» *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander, chosen by Beth Shaum.

» *Easter Ann Peters: Operation Cool* by Jody Lamb, selected by Sarah

Perry.

» *H.I.V.E.: The Higher Institute of Villainous Education* by Mark Walden, selected by Ryen O'Meara.

» *Natchez Burning* by Greg Iles, chosen by Joan Noricks.

» *The Orphan Train* by Christine Kline, chosen by Connie Slazinski.

» *Slathbog's Gold* by M. L. Foreman, selected by Zarin Loosli.

» *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson, selected by Montgomery Jones.

The Canton Book Project is intended to create a community of readers by distributing well-loved books to others in the community.

It's a chance for book lovers to share their love of reading by giving out their favorite books to a recipient who, for whatever reason, doesn't read for pleasure or own books.

Library officials say they hope the books will inspire more reading and help to create an engaged, informed community.

The Canton Public Library, an award-winning member of the Library Network and Metro Net, was identified by citizens on a survey as the best-loved facility in Canton. It averages 4,000 patron visits daily and circulates over 1.6 million items annually.

State senator touts Proposal 1 as 'product of compromise'

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

State Sen. Hoon-Yung Hoppood, D-Taylor, acknowledges that Proposal 1, set for a May 5 vote, isn't perfect.

"It's a product of compromise," Hoppood told Westland Rotary members and guests April 2. "It wasn't my first choice." If not approved by voters, he said, "then I don't think we're going to fix the roads well and certainly not soon."

Hoppood noted it took a "really visual crisis" to put the roads issue in the forefront. "Raising taxes is always a little more difficult," he said, also agreeing enforcement of truck weight limits is an issue.

If approved, Proposal 1 would increase sales/use tax to 7 percent, as authorized by constitutional amendment. It would also:

» Eliminate sales/use taxes on gasoline/diesel fuel for vehicles on public roads.

» Increase portion of

use tax dedicated to the School Aid Fund.

"Every year we delay is a year lost," he said of road repairs.

Challenged by a Rotarian on legislators passing the roads issue to voters, Hoppood said, "I think it's a promise. I'm not into threatening people."

'Can work together'

Hoppood, 40, a Taylor resident, said of Republican dominance in Lansing, "Some of the big philosophical things have been a challenge." The support of Gov. Rick Snyder and Republican legislators for career-technical education is common ground for Hoppood, who cited Wayne-Westland's William D. Ford Career Technical Center.

"It's a real example of where we can work together," he said. "I don't want that to prevent me from moving good public policy forward."

Energy use is also an issue for Michiganders, he said. "To figure out how to meet the needs of

the state of Michigan can be a challenge."

Coal is brought here from Appalachia. "Coal isn't necessarily the cleanest way to produce electricity," he said.

Federal rules on emissions also mean some smaller, older coal-based power plants will close. Hoppood noted natural gas is volatile in price, adding he hopes Snyder pushes for stronger energy policies.

'Tip my hat'

Hoppood also touched on education and school funding. "I tip my hat to you for doing things in the community and trying to make a difference," he said, referencing Rotary literacy efforts as well as Snyder's third-grade reading initiative.

Wayne-Westland as a district has been challenged under Proposal A, he said. He reiterated the need for skilled workers. "We can get skills to our young people and they can go out and be more readily employable."

Hoppood, a married father of two, was born in Korea and moved here when adopted as a toddler. He's a 1996 graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor's degree in political science, and is pursuing a master's degree in public policy through Northern Michigan University.

His district, newly drawn in 2014, now includes Westland, Van Buren Township, Belleville, Brownstown Township, Flat Rock, Huron Township, Rockwood, Romulus, Sumpter Township and Taylor.

He served three terms in the Michigan House of Representatives before moving to the Senate, where he's a lame duck.

Of Rotary Clubs, the legislator said, "I think that they're a great piece of the community. I really enjoy visiting them."

His dad was active in politics, and Hoppood got his start as a legislative aide in Lansing for his state representative, later running for and winning that seat.



JULIE BROWN

Of Rotary clubs, including Westland, state Sen. Hoon-Yung Hoppood, D-Taylor, said, "I think that they're a great piece of the community. I really enjoy visiting them."

"Spending time in Westland is very important," he said of his new, large community to represent.

He's been to Cooper Upper Elementary and Schweitzer Elementary for visits.

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Focus on investment return, not just tax liability

Q: Dear Rick: How can I avoid a relatively large tax bill and still take advantage of my taxable mutual fund investment? Until 2012, I did our taxes and I usually received refunds between \$500 and \$1,000. Most of the tax account was CDs, which resulted in low interest payments. In 2013, the taxable account was moved to various Fidelity mutual funds covering stocks and bonds. Since then, I have paid taxes to the IRS: \$1,550 in 2012, \$1,140 in 2013 and \$1,925 in 2014, based on dividends, short-term and long-term capital gains. If I move the investments into a low-expense index fund, it may re-



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

duce the tax liabilities since the index funds are relatively stable. Does this make financial sense?

A: Your focus is on the wrong spot — what you paid in taxes. Focus on what ends up in your pocket.

Even though you paid more in taxes, your investments made substantially more than they did in the CD. Even after paying the higher taxes, you have more money — exactly how it should be.

At many of my seminars, I always ask for a

show of hands for anyone with a main financial goal to lower their taxes. Inevitably, a fair number of people will raise their hand.

I always choose one of these people and ask them why they don't want to win the lottery. Of course, they always respond that they do want to win the lottery. But then I point out that if one of their major financial goals is to lower their taxes and they win the lottery, it would increase them substantially.

I recognize that everyone would want to win the lottery even though it may cost them in taxes. The reason is that when it comes to the lottery, people will focus on what

ends up in their pocket. Unfortunately, they don't do that with their investments, which is a mistake.

Index funds may not reduce your tax liability. After all, index funds make capital gain distributions. They also have dividends and, in the case of bond funds, interest.

One alternative to consider is tax-managed funds, where portfolio managers run them and implement certain strategies to offset gains and losses. Vanguard has a number of tax-managed funds to consider. The beauty of these funds is they are tax sufficient and make good economic sense. Another great thing about Vanguard

Funds is that they are low-cost and commission-free.

Tax considerations are important, but they're not the most important thing. After all, particularly when it comes to investments, we're talking about capital gain taxes and for most people that's 20 percent or below. Therefore, when people are focusing on taxes, they're focusing on the 20 percent, not the 80 percent.

Our tax laws are complex and, unfortunately, getting more so. Over the last 10 years, we've had more than one tax law change a day. Therefore, for the great majority of people, what you think you know about taxes is generally wrong.

In addition, the majority of investments — such as annuities — are sold with the idea that they have great tax breaks and that is wrong. In fact, in many situations like annuities, they don't lower your taxes, they actually raise them. More importantly, they don't put more money in your pocket.

When it comes to investments, be smart with taxes, but don't let the tax tail wag the dog. Focus on what ends up in your pocket after taxes.

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



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Detroit Metro Airport Ambassadors earn service awards

Sixty-three Airport Ambassadors at Detroit Metropolitan Airport were honored with the President's Volunteer Service Award at a banquet luncheon held at DTW's Westin Hotel.

With more than 500 hours served, Sam Gemus of Riverview, Diana Surowiec of Redford, William Bialkowski of Dearborn and Sharon Kelly of Trenton received the prestigious gold pin, along with Shu-ta Suzuki of Novi from

the youth category. The President of the United States issues the award every year to volunteers to thank and honor Americans for their volunteer service.

"There is no question that the helpful and friendly service provided by our volunteer Airport Ambassadors increases overall customer satisfaction at Detroit Metropolitan Airport," Airport Authority CEO Tom Naughton said. "To have five of our volunteers

earning a gold pin from the President is outstanding."

In 2014, DTW Airport Ambassadors answered nearly 340,000 questions at six locations throughout the airport in both terminals. Ambassadors can be identified by their blue vests assisting travelers or helping connect lost and stranded passengers with their families.

Winners were presented with a bronze, silver or gold pin correspond-

ing with the level of service reached in 2014, along with a certificate and letter from President Barack Obama at an awards luncheon held at the Westin Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

"A change is brought about because ordinary people do extraordinary things," President Obama said.

Silver Volunteer 2014 Presidential Service Awardees went to Joe Scafero of Livonia, 490.25 hours; Daniel

Packer of Livonia, 400.50 hours; Carla Chupac of Livonia, 345.00 hours; Traci Sincok of Plymouth, 332.25 hours; Donald Green of Plymouth, 286.50 hours; Roy Brown of Redford, 272.00 hours, and Ruth Bumbar of Redford, 255.25 hours.

At the Bronze Level were Cheryl Regnier of Canton, 227.50 hours; Mary Pannemann of Canton, 225.25 hours; Flora Murray of Livonia, 217.50 hours, and Lonnie Haines of Canton, 145.75.

The President's Volunteer Service Awards were established in 2003, and are officially issued by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

To learn more about the Detroit Metropolitan Airport Ambassador program, visit www.metroairport.com/volunteer. To learn more about how to qualify for the President's Volunteer Service Award, visit www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov or call 866-545-5307.

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SECTION B (CP)
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SPORTS

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

SOFTBALL PREVIEW - PART 2

PRIMED TO PROWL

Wildcats look to make waves with talent, tenacity, bounce-back attitude

By Tim Smith
 Staff Writer

Lauren Delapaz is only one game into her tenure as head coach of Plymouth's varsity softball team. But if Wednesday's opening win is any indicator she could be about to preside over a special season. With a mix of outstanding veterans and freshmen who play as though they were juniors or seniors, the Wildcats already are off and running thanks to a 7-3 victory over South Lyon East.

"We're very blessed to have the ninth-grade class that we do, we know they're all going to be very big contributors," Delapaz said. "But we're really impressed with the junior and senior leadership we've had thus far this season."

"I really believe it's their attitude and their mentality that has helped (younger players) overcome nerves and be prepared for today's game."

Winning the game with a three-run homer was one of those promising freshmen, shortstop Whitney Holden. Another ninth-grader, outfielder/pitcher Jenny Bressler contributed a double and scored a run.

Plymouth had let a 3-0 lead get away, but showed resilience by tallying four runs in the top of the seventh.

Winning blueprint

Delapaz said that could become a blueprint for the Wildcats as they look to improve upon a 19-10 record in 2014 (13-2 in the KLAAs South Division under former head coach Bev McManus).

See PROWL, Page B2



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO
 Plymouth senior pitcher Mikayela Marciniak delivers a pitch doing a 2014 game. She continues to be one of the Wildcats' prime-time performers.

BASEBALL PREVIEW

Eagles turning the page

PCA ready to move forward after losing grads Jipping, Lauch

By Tim Smith
 Staff Writer

The Daniel Jipping era is over at Plymouth Christian Academy and the Eagles also will miss Johnny Lauch.

But the loss of the two 2014 graduates shouldn't sting too much for the 2015 squad, thanks to depth around the diamond and several important returnees.

"Even though we lost two great players from last year's team," stressed PCA varsity baseball coach Joe Bottorff, "we have depth at every position this year and all the guys know that everyone has to contribute this year for us to be successful."

Jipping and Lauch were the Eagles' top offensive performers and pitchers last spring,

See EAGLES, Page B4



FILE PHOTO
 One of Plymouth Christian Academy's returnees is senior Michael Slater, one of the team's key pitchers and hitters.

SOFTBALL PREVIEW - PART 2

Rocks ready to bust loose

Balanced attack, influx of talent could spearhead winning season

By Tim Smith
 Staff Writer

This could be the year for the Salem Rocks. Veteran Salem head softball coach Bonnie Southerland thinks it very well might be, as the 2015 squad features an intriguing mix of veterans and newcomers — namely a handful of promising freshmen.

"We are at least two deep in every position and swinging

the bat better than ever," Southerland said. "I knew we were getting some great freshmen in to complement the past two classes, but I had no idea it would be this good."

"I am so very excited to have so many great student-athletes in one place. ... It's our time, our turn and we are ready and prepared to meet the challenges ahead."

Salem will need to fill Gabbi Zott's shoes in the circle, however. Zott, a 2014 graduate, made the Division 1 all-region team and then pitched in the MHSSCA All-Star Game.

Armed and ready

Perhaps it will be sophomore pitcher Emily Stewart to take the reins from Zott.

"Emily has increased her speed and looks pretty comfortable out there," said Southerland, adding that Stewart also will play first base when not pitching.

Another sophomore pitcher who Salem will be counting on is Morgan Zach.

"She pitched almost every JV (junior varsity) game last season and will be in the pitching rotation," Southerland

See ROCKS, Page B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Slapping a tag on a base runner last season is Salem shortstop Maranda Armstead, entering her fourth varsity season.

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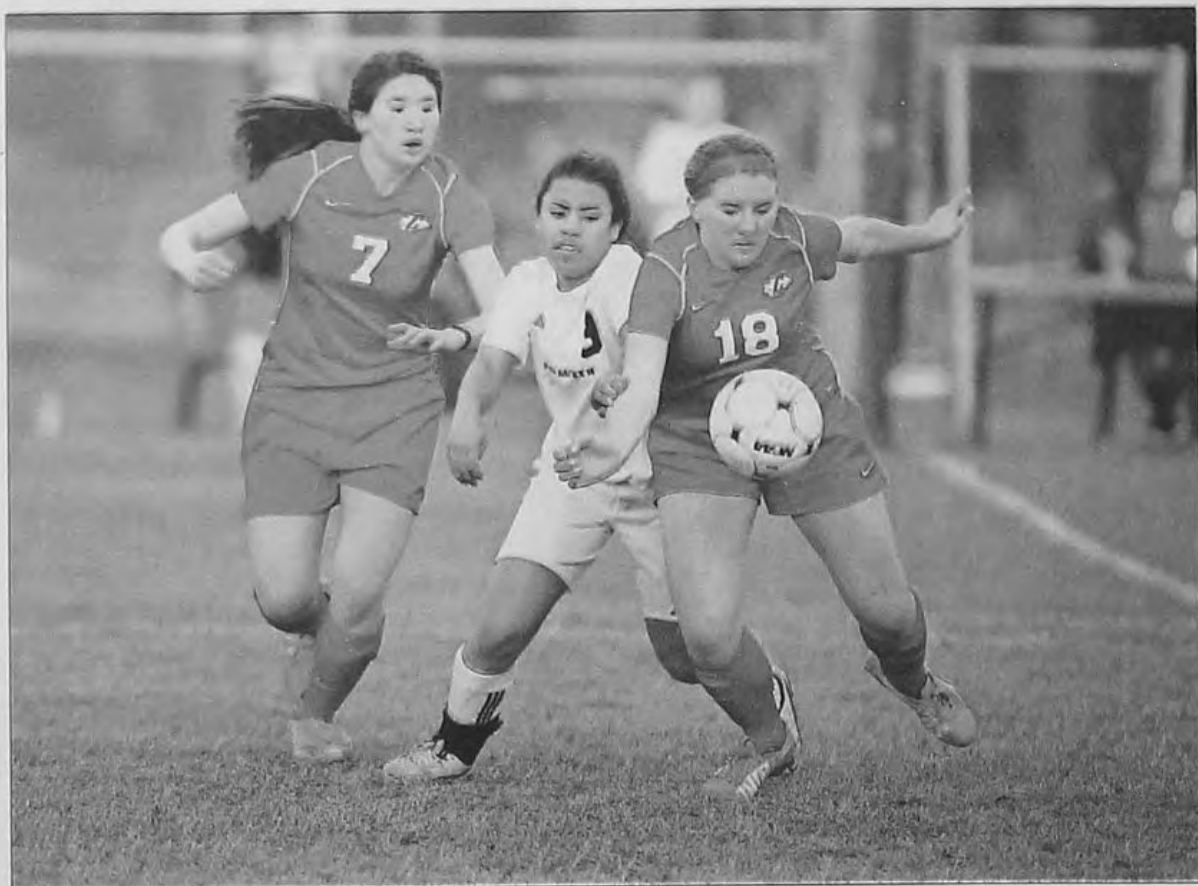
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Early season showdown



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Vying for a 50/50 ball during Wednesday night's varsity girls soccer matchup are (from left) Canton's Samantha McGrath, Plymouth's Hope Sheffield and Canton's Taylor Topolski. The Wildcats won 1-0 on a goal by Kelsey Melnick in the first of several Park showdowns this season. Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich said both teams "played hard and with a lot of emotion." The coach said Megan McCurry and Erin Winters played strong defensively for the Wildcats with Olivia Janke solid on the attack. Earning the shutout was Julia Laflair.

ROCKS

Continued from Page B1

noted. "Morgan is also available in the outfield. She is one of the hardest workers on the team."

Augmenting Stewart and Zach on the pitching staff will be freshmen Morgan Overaitis, Maddy Rosiewicz and Jenna Taylor.

All could have a lot to say about whether the Rocks make a run for the KLAA Central Division championship (Salem finished second in 2014 with a 8-7 mark but hit the 20-win plateau thanks to tournament success).

"Morgan pitches and plays infield," Southerland said. "Great game smarts and work ethic. Quick, covers a lot of ground and hits them deep. Morgan can beat you on offense or defense."

Rosiewicz also plays second base and "is one of the biggest surprises so far. She continues to develop as a threat on the mound and at second."

As for Taylor, she probably will be dividing pitching assignments between the varsity and JV to get her reps in. But she also has potential to add a lot to the offense. "Jenna has a strong bat and good power."

Catching on

They will get to throw to junior standout catcher Kara Hutchison, who likely will handle the majority of starts behind the plate "and works great with all the pitchers," Southerland said.

"This year Kara will have her work cut out for her as we are in a



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ripping a line drive during a 2014 contest is Salem's Kara Hutchison. The junior catcher will be instrumental to the 2015 team's fortunes.

good place with five players that can throw strikes," Southerland said. "That's a really good place to be."

Also on hand for innings at catcher as well as infield spots is senior newcomer Lara Pieckacz, a travel softball standout who will play collegiately at Albion.

"Lara also has quickness and should help us on the bases," Southerland noted.

Sophomore Mel Anderson is another player who can catch, although she might see time at third base. "Mel has a great bat, great range."

Salem's sparkling frosh class also includes third baseman Makayleigh Silverman and utility player Caroline Miller.

"Makayleigh has great range and accuracy from third, throws a rocket," the coach said.

Miller, meanwhile, is "very versatile" and able to play wherever the Rocks need her.

Valuable vets

The Rocks aren't just loaded with ninth-graders, either.

Senior shortstop Maranda Armstead is a fourth-year starter and one of the team's top players and leaders.

"Maranda carries a heavy bat and game presence," Southerland said.

Also returning is junior centerfielder Jamie Squires, a D1 all-region selection in 2014.

"Jamie covers the outfield better than anyone we've had in the past few years," Southerland said. "Jamie is quick, aggressive and a great base runner."

Expected to start in right field will be returning sophomore Katie Hiltz who "once

again will dazzle us with her ability to get to those balls that seem impossible to catch."

Junior Abbie Riedel is back and in the mix for the job at second base.

"Abbie really works hard and continues to improve on her infield skills daily," the coach stressed.

Other returnees include junior outfielder Katlyn Stevenson, and sophomore utility player Kristin Mihalic.

"Katlyn's heads-up base running last season was a key role," Southerland said. "... I anticipate Kristin in the lineup daily. She's such a talented player and her quickness is a huge asset."

Tough sledding

Although Southerland is pumped about this year's squad, she knows the KLAA Central won't be a cakewalk.

"We've got a pretty tough division this year, much tougher than usual," she stressed. "As always it will come down to the team that can throw strikes. This has been our biggest challenge the past few years."

"I feel confident that we've gotten over that hurdle and will be stronger this season in every aspect of our game."

After opening the season against Wayne Memorial and Ann Arbor Pioneer, the Rocks will go on spring break.

Next on the schedule is an April 15 home twinbill against division rival Northville.

SALEM 16, WAYNE 1: The Rocks opened the season Wednesday with a mercy-rule rout of the Zebras. Salem had 15 hits in the three-inning contest, led by Jamie Squires (4-for-4, two homers, four RBI).

Also with two hits each were Morgan Overaitis (including her first varsity homer and two RBI), Maddie Rosiewicz (two doubles, three RBI) and Makayleigh Silverman.

Earning the pitching win was Morgan Zach, who allowed one hit and struck out three.

GIRLS TENNIS

Rocks open with win, loss

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

It was a good news-bad news opening week for Salem's varsity girls tennis team.

The Rocks opened the regular season Tuesday with a 8-1 victory over South Lyon East, but things weren't quite as smooth Wednesday as Novi won 7-2.

Salem's singles lineup cruised against the Cougars, led by junior Chelsea Yu's 6-0, 6-0 win over Megan Shaffer at 1 singles.

At 2 singles, sophomore Bianca Ghita came up big (6-1, 6-0) with junior Madison Kulik (6-0, 6-1) and senior Kyllie Enright (6-0, 6-0) prevailing in the 3 and 4 matchups, respectively.

Only a Salem forfeit at 4 doubles kept the Rocks from sweeping to the win.

In the afternoon's closest matchup, Salem's 1 doubles tandem of junior Ashley Henderson and Grace Martin won by a 7-6 (7-4), 6-2 score.

Earning a 6-3, 6-2 win at 2 doubles for the Rocks were junior Alyssa Bucciarelli and senior Alayna Schwartz. Similar success at 3 doubles was registered by freshmen Emilee The and Raegan Henderson (6-1, 6-2).

Wrapping up the win at 5 doubles were juniors



COURTESY SALEM ATHLETICS

Bianca Ghita of Salem returns a volley during Wednesday's varsity girls' tennis match.

Trina Pal and Sarah Martin, victorious by a 6-3, 6-4 tally.

Salem (1-1 overall) encountered a different fate Wednesday against Novi, with the lone wins turned in by Yu (7-5, 6-4 at 1 singles) and Enright (6-4, 6-0 at 4 singles).

PLYMOUTH TAKES PAIR: The start of the regular season for Plymouth's varsity girls tennis team was a big success as the Wildcats won 9-0 over Canton and 8-1 over Livonia Franklin.

Victorious both Tuesday against the Chiefs and Wednesday against the Patriots were Plymouth juniors Amber Tseng (2 singles), Swetha Duraiswamy (3 singles) and freshman Kara Hug (4 singles).

At 1 singles, senior Sarah Gamble bested Canton senior Jasmine Najm-Henry 7-5, 6-1. But she dropped a 6-2, 6-0 result to Franklin junior Kendall Payne on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, it was a clean sweep for Plymouth's doubles lineup on both days. The 1 doubles tandem of seniors Teahn Horton and Emma Mullenax won against Canton and Franklin.

Doing the same for the Wildcats were junior Alyssa Lopez and senior Lauren Conley at 2 doubles, junior Justine Ko and senior Alana Earls at 3 doubles, freshman Arwa Harawala and sophomore Kriya Shah at 4 doubles and junior Amy Luo and sophomore Ria Mashesh at 5 doubles.

PROWL

Continued from Page B1

"It shows that we're just a hard-working, determined team and the coaches couldn't be any happier," said Delapaz, whose first-year coaching staff includes Pam Cameron, Dan Bressler, Amanda Bernard, Allison Raylean and Mychael Evans.

Plymouth, of course, features a handful of stellar seniors who will be instrumental in the team's on-field fortunes.

That group begins with lefthanded starting pitcher Mikayela Marciniak and third baseman Brittney Miller, who have committed to play Division I college softball at Oakland University (where another former Plymouth coach, Val Canfield, is an assistant).

Marciniak started and won the opener against the Lions and enjoyed a 3-for-3 day at the plate while Miller brings a power arm and power bat to the middle of the lineup.

Other seniors include utility players Caylin Waters, Alex Rakovitis and catcher-first baseman Rachael Ring.

"We have five seniors on this team and they're all outstanding leaders both on and off the field," said Delapaz, a onetime head softball coach at Livonia Stevenson who was a Canton assistant coach in 2014.

Prized patrol

Another key player is junior center-fielder Rachel Zerona, who catches everything in sight while also being an offensive catalyst from the leadoff spot.

"She (Zerona) is going to lead a great outfield with Bressler and (freshman) Jes Tucci," Delapaz noted.

She said Bressler will start in right field when she is not pitching and Tucci is set for left field.

Backing them up will be "great role players" in Waters, Rakovitis, junior Sarah Bondy and junior Ashley Piepsney.

Bressler is expected to form a dynamic 1-2 pitching punch with Marciniak, throwing from the right and left side, respectively. "Hopefully it will be the perfect duo," the coach said.

Plymouth's infield defense should help both pitchers out quite a bit. Miller is a standout at the hot corner, while handling the keystone combination will be shortstop Holden and sophomore second baseman Gina Barber.

Starting at first base will be sophomore Mikayla Rose, backed up by Ring when she is not catching.

Meanwhile, junior Cali Jones (who had two hits in the opener) will provide a spark for the offense out of the designated hitter spot. She also can play corner spots when needed.

According to Delapaz, there is no doubt that Holden can hold down the starting shortstop job despite being just a freshman.

"We want her to become her own player here throughout the season," Delapaz said. "In the first game she's proven herself as a competitor. She's definitely stepping into a position and being a leader."

"It's not a position she's played much of in the past, but she's been up to the occasion every day. She's a very mature young lady."

Crushing a few homers the way she did Wednesday won't hurt, either.

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JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Getting set at third base during a 2014 contest is Plymouth's Brittney Miller. She brings excellent defense and a power bat to the Wildcats' lineup.

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SMALL STEPS



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Bad habits are hard to break. But by making small changes one at a time, you can overcome your hurdles for a healthier lifestyle.

Celebrity fitness trainer offers tips for reaching goals and staying motivated

Staying healthy doesn't have to mean overhauling your lifestyle. Sometimes small changes can have big impacts. Take it from celebrity fitness trainer Latreal "La" Mitchell: "Everyone can reach their health and fitness goals. It's all about setting attainable goals and staying motivated to see results."

To look, feel and live better, Mitchell is offering tips for small lifestyle changes you can make that can inspire you to make more in the future.

Get moving

If exercise is not a part of your life now, don't worry. "In a short time, you can be doing quality exercises," Mitchell said. "The key is to start small."

Try short sets of pushups, planks, squats and lunges and work your way up. Ten minutes can make a real difference. Remember, little things like taking the stairs instead of the elevator will keep you feeling great all day.

Just be sure to make exercise non-negotiable. Life is busy and it's easy to find any number of reasons to skip a workout. Make yourself a fitness schedule and stick to it – and then don't let anyone or anything stop you from staying on track.

Eat right

The small goal of adding more fiber to your diet can lead you to better nutrition choices. Aim to get 25 to 38 grams of fiber every day. In addition to upping your fruit and vegetable intake and swapping out processed white bread and pasta for the whole wheat variety, fiber supplements can help you meet your fiber goals. But choose wisely, as some options have additional benefits beyond supporting digestive health.

For example, Meta offers products made with psyllium fiber which has multi-health benefits. Try adding Metamucil powder to a morning smoothie. Also try new MetaBiotic probiotic supplement.

For many people, snacking can be a downfall, especially during a busy workday. Try substituting your usual temptations with healthier options. For example, almonds and light popcorn are a good substitute for chips and are more satisfying. If you have a sweet tooth, ditch the afternoon pastry that's high in calories, but won't actually help you feel full. Instead, look for a delicious, easy-to-pack snack like a Meta Health Bar that helps satisfy hunger as a healthful snack.

Lastly, stay hydrated. Skip sugary sodas and sports drinks and opt for water throughout the day. If you need a boost of flavor, add a lemon wedge, cucumber slice or some fresh herbs. Water helps you feel full and process fiber, while helping to keep you hydrated.

More tips can be found at www.metawellness.com.

—StatePoint



Paula Swain

How to bring up difficult topics with aging parents

People are living longer today, so many of my clients are finding that their aging parents are in need of assistance. Caring for your aging parent is something you hope will never happen, but it is something you need to think about just in case it does.

I, as well as other local professionals, have been hosting an "Aging Parents" workshop for the last couple of years helping to educate and answer questions on taking care of an aging parent. I thought would share some of what I have learned in this column.

» Bringing up difficult topics. You may find some resistance. First step is to open up a dialogue with your parent. Make sure to choose the right time and place. Ideally you want privacy. Express your concerns and then simply listen to them (no interrupting). Acknowledge their feelings and share your perspective. Hopefully, you will find a common ground. If not, reach out to someone whose opinion they value – doctor, clergy, adviser, other family members or friend. Ask them to talk with your parent.

» If you can, open up the lines of communication. Find out their needs and wishes. Ask them about long-term care (what would they like to happen if this issues arises), funeral arrangement, finances, investments, medical care decision and insurance. Also, who are their advisers? Ask if you can meet them. Ask where all the documents are kept.

The following legal documents are needed: will, trust (or both) and financial power of attorney (arranges for someone to han-

See PARENTS, Page B6

Stay on track with your wellness goals

With dreams of bettering their lives, people of all ages pledge to create resolutions with the start of every year. Many people discover, however, that it's easy to make a resolution but difficult to stick to it.

With these helpful tips from Sunsweet and Dawn Jackson Blatner, registered dietitian, certified specialist in sports dietetics and licensed dietitian nutritionist, it's easy to get back on a healthy living track:

1. Get back on track

Falling off the wagon can be discouraging, but don't let your mind get in the way of your might. Track your daily meals and snacks to help you stay focused on what and how much you are eating. Writing in a food journal is a great way to look back over your week to see what you did well and could do better next week.

2. Pack your lunch

Being in control of what



Staying on track takes will power and determination, but by squeezing a few easy hacks into your day you'll be on your way to reaching your wellness goals.

you eat throughout the day is powerful in staying on track with your resolutions. Why hit the greasy food truck outside when you can whip up a fresh salad at home? Sunsweet's

Quinoa, Grape and Prune Salad is an easy, protein-packed lunch that will power you through the day.

See GOALS, Page B6

Revisiting those new year resolutions

So now that it's spring, how are we doing on those new year resolutions? Yeah, remember those? Every year we make those promises to ourselves and, every year, many of us break them – usually in the first month.

The good news is we survived another Michigan winter. The bad news is we are seeing the effects from hibernating all season long – not only physically, but mentally. Winter can take its toll on our minds, even more so than our bodies. Spring is the time to rev up and recharge. Dust off those running shoes and get to work.

When talking about our health and wellness, make small changes and set attainable goals to encourage a permanent lifestyle change rather than trying to make a complete overhaul overnight. That will



Barbara Deyo

set you up for failure.

It's a good idea to re-assess every so often. I find the change of seasons is a good time to evaluate what's working, what's not and fine-tune our goals.

Here are a few things to keep in mind as you set your workout goals for the future:

1. **Show up:** The hardest part is putting on your workout clothes and getting in the car. No matter how badly you don't feel like doing it, once you get there, you will be glad you did. Now that the weather has

See DEYO, Page B6

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Plan the perfect Alfresco gathering

Tips for delicious pairings and decorations for your next outdoor event

The days of chilly air and dull skies have been replaced with the sights and sounds of warmer weather. This change in the season is cause for celebration, so pull out all the stops for an outdoor gathering guests will long remember.

From festive decor to the bright colors of seasonally inspired cuisine, use these tips for setting up your alfresco spread:

Make a memorable entrance. Invite guests into your gathering with warm and cheerful decor, starting with your door. Hang a moss-adorned wreath with a few vibrant sprigs of pink roses or yellow tulips, which you can keep up long after the event.

Deck the table. Make sure your centerpiece provides a bright and welcoming ambiance. A low key gathering calls for the downhome elegance of daisies and grasses shooting from mini terra cotta pots or aluminum canisters. More formal events will shine with fresh cut lilies, roses and tulips placed in short cube or rectangle glass vases.

Start with small bites. Serve a few appetizers for your crowd to enjoy as they wait for other guests to arrive. You can't go wrong with deviled eggs garnished with fresh herbs or cheese and crackers. Aim for three cheeses - one hard (Parmesan), one soft (Brie) and one blue.

Serve pairings that please. Spring foods pair perfectly with a fruit-forward wine like pinot grigio. Choose one of high-quality from the northern region of Italy such as Barone Fini Valdadige Pinot Grigio (\$12). This crisp and clean wine goes well with seafood, chicken or white-sauce pasta entrees.

Embrace spring flavors. Bring the garden to your table with fresh fruits and vegetables. Plump, red strawberries look and taste wonderful atop a bed of fresh spinach



GETTY IMAGES/STOCKPHOTO

Pull out all the stops for an outdoor gathering guests will long remember.

CHICKEN BREASTS WITH TOMATOES AND OLIVES

Yield: 4 servings

- 4 (6-ounce) skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon freshly ground pepper
- 1 cup multicolored cherry or grape tomatoes, halved
- 3 tablespoons oil and vinegar dressing, divided
- 20 olives, halved
- ½ cup (2 ounces) crumbled feta cheese

Prepare grill to medium-high heat. Sprinkle chicken evenly with 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper. Place chicken on grill rack coated with cooking spray, and grill 6 minutes on each side or until chicken is done. Combine tomatoes, dressing and olives in skillet over medium heat; cook 2 minutes, stirring occasionally. Cut each chicken breast half into 3/4-inch slices. Top each chicken breast half with 1/4 cup tomato mixture. Sprinkle each serving with 2 tablespoons cheese and torn basil leaves, if desired.

with a drizzle of balsamic vinegar. Fresh asparagus stems give quiche and egg casseroles texture, while also making a great sauteed side dish. Also try this Chicken with Tomatoes and Olives recipe that's easy to make and sure to please.

From simple floral arrange-

ments to the colorful foods you serve, creating a lovely alfresco gathering is easier than you think. For more ideas to make your event memorable, visit facebook.com/BaroneFiniWines.

- Family Features

PARENTS

Continued from Page B5

Also discuss patient advocate - health care power of attorney - arrangements for someone to handle medical issues. I have this document drawn up for my children on their 18th birthday. When your child turns 18, they are considered an adult and you will not be able to make health care decisions for them anymore. This is a very important document that everyone should have.

There are many forms of dementia. Alzheimer's is a form of dementia. There are some medical problems that can mimic the symptoms of dementia - urinary tract infection, dehydration, over-medication and depression. Some tips for keeping your mind sharp - walk, eat healthy, do crossword or mind puzzles, read and change your routine. Try brushing your teeth with the opposite hand - it's not that easy.

Understanding the definition of being admitted to the hospital or being admitted under "observation" when you are on Medicare. When a patient who meets Medicare's three-day formal admission requirement moves to a skilled nursing facility, the program covers 100 percent of the first 20 days. Patients leaving the hospital for a nursing facility after an "observation" stay pay the full cost out of pocket.

Taking care of an aging parent can be overwhelming. Make sure to take care of yourself. Ask for help. Join a caregiver support group.

Don't try to do this alone. There are many organizations and programs willing to help. Check out some of these websites.

» www.aaalc.org - Senior Alliance - senior resources

» www.alz.org/gmc - Alzheimer Association

» www.caregiver.com - Great articles on all aspects of aging parents

» www.caring.com - Search for housing options in your area

» www.caremanager.org - Looking for local or out of state care manager

» Eldercare Locator - 800-677-1116, referral service sponsored by the federal government that can direct you to resources in your area

Preserving your relationship with your parents is extremely important. Understand that they may be unwilling to talk to you. They may resent you for interfering. You may have to try different approaches to get them to open up with you. Don't be afraid to ask for help.

Paula Swain CFP®, is a financial consultant at Swain Financial, LLC, 1225 S. Main Street, Plymouth. Contact her 734-738-6300. Securities offered through LPL Financial, Member FINRA/SIPC. The opinions here are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations. Consult with an adviser about your specific situation.

GOALS

Continued from Page B5

3. Choose right at snack time

The 3 p.m. slump is almost unavoidable. You're three hours past

lunch and it's too soon for dinner. Instead of reaching for an unsatisfying bag of pretzels or chips, bring Sunsweet Ones Individually Wrapped Prunes or nuts from home to curb the afternoon hunger. Ones are low in sugar than other

dried fruit and have a low glycemic index of only 29. Prunes are digested and absorbed slowly by the body, which helps to sustain energy over a longer period of time compared to foods with a higher glycemic index.

4. Get moving

Everyone has a lot on their plate and with a busy schedule comes loads of stress and anxiety, but much of that can be alleviated with exercise. If you think about it, 30-40 minutes of exercise a day is only 2 percent of your day. Small changes,

like walks around the block or using an app to count steps is a great way to track your movement throughout the day.

5. Make it fun

Instead of making drastic resolutions early in the year, and inevitably falling off the wagon

a month or two later, embrace a healthy living lifestyle. The key to lasting, lifelong health is to make changes you enjoy. Make eating well and exercising fun and it won't be hard to stick with.

- Family Features

DEYO

Continued from Page B5

warmed up, it certainly makes it easier to get motivated.

2. Make an appointment: Hire a trainer, get a work out buddy or commit to a class schedule. It makes it easier to show up if someone is holding you accountable. Once you have arrived, you will have a more successful workout if someone is there with you to help guide you or cheer you on.

3. Warm up: A proper warmup increases blood flow to your muscles, reducing stiffness and risk of injury and will improve your overall performance. It also gives your mind time to prepare for the task at hand.

4. Break a sweat: You might as well make your time worth it. No sense in showing up and phoning it in. Sweating stimulates

the lymphatic system (allowing the body to dispel toxins), controls mood swings, helps prevent colds and other illnesses, clears up your skin and, of course, burns calories!

5. Breathe: When you breathe deeply, it keeps you calm and focused, maintains your heart rate, oxygenates the blood and helps to release endorphins. Proper breathing is just as important as completing your reps.

6. Hydrate: Drink water before, during and after your workout. In fact, drink water all day. Something as simple as drinking enough water throughout the day will increase your metabolism, curb your appetite, aid in digestion and help you perform at peak efficiency. A good rule of thumb is to drink a half-ounce to one ounce of water per pound of your body weight daily.

7. Cool down: You need to gradually reduce

your heart rate once you are done and allow the oxygenated blood to circulate and deliver much-needed nutrients to your body to help grow and repair your newly worked-out muscles. A post workout stretch also helps to eliminate lactic acid in the muscles.

Whatever your goals are, remember to be kind to yourself and make the commitment to yourself first. Remember step one - show up. The rest will fall into place.

Barbara Deyo, owner of Deyo Studio for face and body, is an internationally acclaimed makeup artist, having groomed the faces of Paul McCartney, Bob Seger, Kerry Washington, Shaun Robinson, Erin Cummings and many more. Barbara has been named Best of the Best by BRIDES Magazine, Allure, Hour, Real Detroit and WDIV-TV. Deyo Studio is located at 576 N. Old Woodward Ave, 2nd floor in downtown Birmingham. Contact her at 248-203-1222 or go to www.deyostudio.com.

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How to Determine What You Will Need to Retire and Stay Retired

3:00 p.m. - 3:55 p.m.
Rick Bloom of Bloom Asset Management, Inc.



The Senior Gems: Alzheimer's and Dementia Care

4:30 p.m. - 5:25 p.m.
Colleen McDonald, Director of Community Relations, Senior Helpers.

Demonstrations and Workshops

- **Health, Wealth and a Confident Retirement**
1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.
- **Understanding Memory Loss**
1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
St. Mary Mercy Livonia
- **Emergency Preparedness**
2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Sponsored by Schoolcraft College CEPD
- **Improving Communication With Aging Parents**
2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Sponsored by Home Instead Senior Care
- **Social and Emotional Benefits of Art**
4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sponsored by Schoolcraft College CEPD
- **Healthy Smile for a Lifetime with Dental Implants**
4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
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- **Tai Chi**
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Livonia woman proudly wears state pageant crown

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Forget everything you think you know about beauty pageants, from stereotypical stage moms to girls with too much makeup.

Sierra Bognear, 24, a Livonia resident and the new Miss Michigan United States, will set you straight.

"People say to me, 'Oh, you do pageants' and then I get that certain look from them. People really don't know what it's like to compete in a pageant. The girls are not what people think they are. For the most part the girls I've met have had beautiful spirits ... beautiful inside and out. Two young girls I met in the Miss United States pageant hardly had any makeup on. I wish people could see that side of it.

"I would encourage any girl to get into pageants, to go for it."

That's just how Bognear, the middle child of 13 siblings, took to the pageant stage three years ago. She had always thought about entering a competition, but as a teenager was shy and couldn't imagine modeling a bathing suit for judges. But when a friend, who planned to compete, encouraged Bognear to give it a try, she took a second look at the pageant experience.

"I was getting older and gaining more confidence," said Bognear, a Farmington Harrison High School graduate who studied theater in both California and Georgia before transferring to Madonna University where she is finishing a degree in criminal justice. She



Sierra Bognear of Livonia, crowned Miss Michigan United States, will compete for a national title in July.

hopes to graduate next year. "She (her friend) said it was a good opportunity to get out the issues I'm passionate about, to use it as a platform to raise awareness."

Nonprofit organization

Those issues include at-risk girls, helping to empower and build self-esteem in young women and encouraging them to pursue higher education.



Sierra Bognear, Miss Michigan United States, is studying criminal justice at Madonna University. She also models and hopes to act on film and television.

Bognear created a nonprofit organization, Girls With A Purpose, last year to address those topics and "maybe make changes in the community and the world."

"I've always been passionate about working with young girls. Lately I've been learning more about human trafficking," Bognear said. "It's important to raise awareness."

She reached out to a group of 12- to 14-year-olds in a latch-key program and hopes to partner with Alternatives for Girls, a Detroit organization that helps homeless and high-risk girls and young women avoid violence, teen pregnancy and exploitation.

Earlier this week, Bognear read to youngsters at an early learning center, although her first official appearance as Miss Michigan United States will be April 8 at a Detroit Pistons game.

Bognear competed in the Miss Michigan USA pageant

system, which includes the Miss Universe competition, for two years before switching to the Miss Michigan United States pageant program, which has teamed with the Miss World competition.

During a preliminary run for the Miss Michigan USA, she was a first runner-up and won the Miss Pure Michigan title. She went on to compete in the pageant, but didn't place in the finals.

Family, faith

Bognear said her family has supported her interest in pageants, both financially and emotionally. Faith plays a big role in her attitude toward competition.

"My parents raised us up always going to church on Sunday and Bible study on Tuesday," said Bognear, who has been involved in praise dance ministry. "It guides me and it's something I always carry with me."

Bognear prays before competition, tries to do her best and knows "it's in God's hands now." Modeling in front of pageant judges isn't about showing off in a bathing suit, but "it's about your presence and confidence and what you bring to the table," Bognear said. "I'm so much more comfortable. I'm happy with what God has molded and shaped. I don't have to try and be what people think a pageant girl should be."

For more about the Miss Michigan United States pageants, visit missmichiganUS.com.

Work is nonstop with new baby, but mom loves every minute

My folks ran into my best friend this past weekend at a local bar/restaurant. When my mom mentioned it to me later she told me she had thought about taking a picture and sending it to me, but then decided that might hurt my feelings and make me feel jealous about not being out on the town. You know what, though? I'm not jealous. I have never been happier in my life, and never would I trade these moments with my daughter for anything else, even a night out.

It's just after 4 a.m. right now. I am exhausted, to say the least, and have been up now for just about an hour. Baby girl has started teething and really is having a hard time. She woke up only twice last night, but unlucky for me the timing of her wake-ups caused me to have yet another night with little sleep. But when I wake up at 3 a.m. or 4 a.m., I am happy. I have never felt so loved in my life before, and have never been so needed. My baby wakes up and cries for me — her mama — to feed her, or hold her, or change her.

The day will be long, no doubt. I will commute to my new career and spend the day working hard so that my daughter can have nice things in her life. I think about her constantly while I am there. After work, I drive back across town and pick her up. Then comes the fun part; we have limited time to get playing, trying real food, bath, books and bottles done. Of course I also have the household things to keep up with, and certainly if it's nice out we want to go for a walk. Sometimes, it's 9 p.m. and my baby has fallen asleep, and I lay exhausted next to her and think to myself "Did I have dinner today?" It's a constant go-go-go, but I wouldn't give any of it up.

Exhaustion then, now

When I think back to other times in my life, I remember being busy and feeling like I never had time to get things done. I think I didn't get enough sleep at times, and I can clearly recall moments when I felt I was suffering from extreme exhaustion. But I had no idea what exhaustion was. I didn't know there was such a love that one would want to wake up with a screaming baby in the middle of the night, three or four times in eight hours. I didn't know exhaustion meant sleeping a few hours at a time, for months at a time, and still managing to be the play date, be the food provider, and the bath giver, and the launderer and the housekeeper, all while still being the mom and also working full time to be the financial provider too.

Mom. It's an awesome word. A mom is a whole lot of things — a friend, a shoulder to cry on, a person to feed you and bathe you and clothe you and comfort you. A mom is a person who will always listen to you and understand you and let you pour your heart out. A mom will hold your hand no matter how old you are, and will rub your back and tell you everything will be OK when you are feeling your worst. I have always admired my mother, and now there is a little girl who will call me Mom, and hopefully, one day, she will admire me too.

Sarah Davies of Livonia writes about the ups and downs of motherhood from a new, single mom's perspective. Contact her at sarahmari Davies@gmail.com.

Brides Against Breast Cancer brings gowns to Canton

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Brides who buy a gown April 18 at Fellows Creek Golf Club will benefit a cancer-related nonprofit organization at the same time.

Brides Against Breast Cancer travels the country selling donated wedding gowns and will bring 400-600 dresses to Fellows Creek. Lori Hagey, show manager, said it visited southeastern Michigan last year but that Canton is a new stop on the tour.

"Our organization is fairly new. We've been around four years," she said. "We started out with 30 shows and we're up to 150. It has grown rapidly. We run two-six shows every weekend. We have trucks all across the country."

Hagey said each tour stop combines a bridal trunk sale with wedding vendors for a "one-stop" show. Brides can try on dresses, buy a favorite and take it home that day. Sizes range from 4-20 and prices go from \$75-\$1,800. The average price is \$600. New dresses, some with original price tags from \$6,000-\$10,000, are donated by retailers and designers. The sale also includes gently used gowns donated by former brides.

"We have everything from David's Bridal to Kleinfeld in New York," Hagey said. "No gown in our inventory is over \$1,800."

The show will run 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for VIP attendees and 2-5 p.m. for general admission. The VIP session, limited to approximately 100 participants, costs \$20 and will include beverages, "lite bites," and giveaways. General admission is \$5.

Hagey said 78 percent of show sales support fund cancer-related programs and services.

"We have our headquarters in Sarasota, Florida. The money goes to fund not only programs in Sarasota, but to the Health Support Network." The Network's website offers information on exercise, stress reduction, nutrition and cancer.

Fellows Creek Golf Club is located at 2936 S. Lotz. Register at bridesabc.org or call 877-721-4673.



A bride considers a gown at the Brides Against Breast Cancer trunk sale.



Wedding gowns await shoppers at a Brides Against Breast Cancer sale.

Vignettes designed to spark end-of-life medical plans

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Michelle Moccia and her colleagues in the ER want to know how you plan to die.

They hope your family members know your wishes, too.

"In talking about how you want your end of the life to be, it's tough," said Moccia, a nurse practitioner and program manager in the Senior ER at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Livonia. "No one wants to die, but as you get older you need to talk about that. At any age, you need to articulate your wishes in case something unexpected happens."

"We want to encourage everybody, no matter how old you are, you need to inform people what kind of medical treatment you want or don't want. If you don't articulate your wishes and something unanticipated occurs, you burden your family because now they've got to figure out what you want. It's tough on families and we deal with it in the emergency room all the time."

Moccia has dealt with families who don't know their loved one's end-of-life medical plan. Some family members may not want any extraordinary mea-



SUBMITTED

St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia converts tennis ball cans into storage receptacles for important health papers, including a living will or advance health directive.

sures taken to keep their loved one alive; others may want resuscitation, a ventilator, whatever it takes to extend life. Without a plan, ER staff "must err on the side of doing everything."

Moccia wants to make it easier for families to talk about advance health care decision-making by showing them a series of one-act vignettes, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, in the South Auditorium at the hospital, 36475 Five Mile, at Levan, in Livonia. Nurses, social workers and members of the public

will act out the scenes that convey the importance end-of-life planning. The program is presented by St. Mary's Senior ER, the Great Lakes Chapter of Gerontological Advanced Practice, Palliative Care, Spiritual Care and STARForUM.

The event recognizes National Health Care Decisions Day, April 16, a national initiative to encourage patients to express their wishes on end-of-life health care.

Scenes spark talk

"This came about because of what we were constantly seeing in the emergency center," Moccia said. "We decided to do one-act vignettes because they are instrumental in getting people to talk. You're watching a show. It's a non-threatening environment. We're really trying to cue people on the importance of having that talk and having documents readily available."

Moccia said individuals who have prepared an end-of-life medical plan, called an advance directive, living will or five wishes, need to tell family members about their intentions and make sure the information is accessible to EMS.

"When EMS walks through your door, you may not be able to speak and articulate what you want. We tell people to keep a medication list handy, an advance directive handy. Put it in the kitchen. Most of us take our medication in the kitchen, so EMS always goes into the kitchen."

For the past two years, St. Mary Mercy has made document storage and visibility easy with its "Plan in a Can" program. Moccia, an avid tennis fan, suggested using an empty, plastic tennis ball container for keeping important health documents. The idea was a "big hit." The hospital created a new label for the containers, which it gives out at various events.

Moccia also encourages individuals with medical illnesses and allergies to check the medical alert box on the back of their driver's licenses. It cues EMS workers to check for medical alert information in the patient's purse or wallet, she said.

To register for the program on advanced medical planning, visit stmartymercy.org and click on classes and events, or call 734-655-8950.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Arthritic hips

Homer Linard III, an orthopedic surgeon, will give a free educational seminar on hip pain, total hip replacement and new treatment options, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, at the Botsford Hospital Zieger Administration & Education Building Colen Auditorium, 28050 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills. To register, call 877-477-3621, option #1.

Breathers Club

Oakwood Healthcare will sponsor a free meeting for anyone touched by COPD, 6-7:30 p.m. April 7 in the Oakwood Cardiac Rehab Center, 22060 Beech, Dearborn. Group members share ideas and learn coping techniques from health professionals. For more information, contact Darlene Lingenfelter, 313-562-4132.

Dementia

» Tailor your communication style to build trust and develop rapport with individuals who have dementia, 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, in the Clinical Services Building at Botsford Commons Senior Community, 21440 Archwood Circle, Farmington Hills. An Alzheimer's support group meeting follows in the Botsford Commons chapel. To register, call Diane Zide at 248-426-6902.

» Oakwood Healthcare will sponsor a free program about managing symptoms, treatment and physical therapy of dementia from 6-8 p.m. April 15 at Oakwood Hospital - Wayne, 33155 Annapolis St., Wayne. Two Oakwood physicians will lead the free program. Valet parking will be available at no charge at the West Entrance and a complimentary light dinner will be

served. Early registration is recommended. Call 800-543-9355 or visit Oakwood.org.

Health discussion

Talk with Lila Lazarus, health reporter, Rob Casalou, St. Joseph Mercy Health System president and CEO, hospital officials and local leaders about issues that are important to you at an "open-ended" lunch discussion, noon April 7 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Five Mile and Levan, in Livonia. Other "Join Me" Lunch & Learn sessions will be held April 20 at St. Joseph Mercy Livingston, 620 Byron, Howell; April 24 at St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor, 5301 McAuley, Ypsilanti; and April 27 at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland, 4465 Woodward, Pontiac.

Hearing loss

The Hearing Loss Association of America will focus on the topic, "What is aural reha-

bilitation and how will it help with my hearing loss?" 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. For more information, contact Tony at 734-664-3297, aferrack@comcast.net.

Insurance enrollment

Oakwood Healthcare sponsors this free health insurance enrollment open house, noon to 5 p.m. April 11 in the Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne. Eligible consumers who paid the fee for not having health coverage last year have until April 30 to enroll in coverage for this year. Visit oakwood.org/health-insurance-enrollment for more information.

Medical Bills

Botsford Hospital's free seminar, "Understand Your Medical Bills: Know the Terminology to Read Your State-

ments," runs 9-11 a.m. April 18 in classroom A/B in the Zieger Building at the hospital, 28050 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills. Get answers to common questions about hospital bills, receive take-home guides and meet one-on-one with a member of Botsford's billing team to review your medical bills. For more information, call Alonda Malvo-Beard at 248-888-6448.

Walk with a Doc

Annette Carron, D.O., will lead a walk and will talk about Delirium: Conquering Confusion, noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, April 16, at the nature center in Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills. Register at 877-477-3621, option 1.

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A NEW CAREERBUILDER SURVEY REVEALS THE SECRET LIVES OF CEOs.

Television and movies have introduced us to some unforgettable bosses who have become a big part of pop culture history. From cold, power-hungry Miranda Priestly... To lovable but often clueless Michael Scott.

You may feel like you know more about these fictional bosses than you do about your own company's leaders, and a new survey from CareerBuilder reveals you're not alone in being unacquainted with C-level executives. More than half (55 percent) of workers surveyed have never had a conversation with the CEO, while a whopping 26 percent say they don't even know what their CEO looks like.

The survey takes a closer look at the personalities and preferences of those who occupy the corner office, hopefully helping to remove some of the mystery surrounding them.

Dressing to impress?

They say to dress for the job you want, not the job you have, but if you already have the top job, you might as well be comfortable. According to the survey, only 1 in 5 executives (20 percent) consider a business suit typical office attire. Most executives (57 percent) outfit themselves in business casual clothing, while 18 percent usually wear jeans or shorts to work.

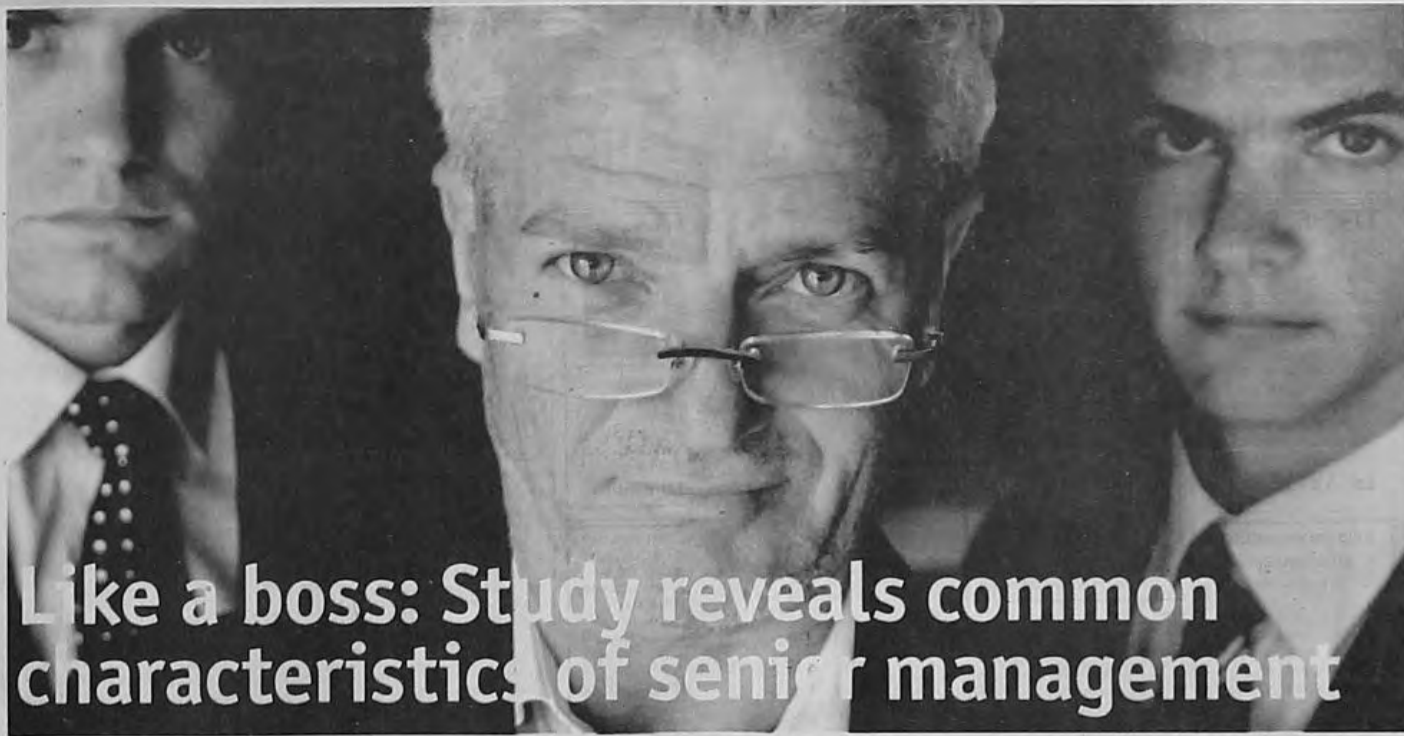
Commonplace commutes

When it comes to commuting, most top dogs prefer cars – but not the chauffeured kind. Seventy-nine percent take themselves to work in an automobile, with 1 in 4 driving an SUV, 1 in 5 opting for a mid-sized sedan and 1 in 10 cruising around in a luxury sedan.

Eighteen percent use more environmentally friendly modes of transport, with 9 percent taking public transportation, 4 percent driving hybrids, 4 percent walking and 1 percent riding their bikes.

Sober hour

You may think happy hours are the best time to see your senior leaders loosen



Like a boss: Study reveals common characteristics of senior management

up, but don't always expect them to let loose with an adult beverage. More than half of senior management (62 percent) abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages at company happy hours. Instead, they choose soda (23 percent), water (19 percent), coffee (13 percent) or nothing at all (7 percent). Thirteen percent of executives kick back with a beer, and the same number (13 percent) sip wine, while 8 percent opt for mixed drinks.

Working up a storm, and a sweat.

If you feel like you're always working overtime, at least your executives likely are too. When asked how many hours they work in a typical week, 40 was the minimum for most head honchos. Fifty-eight percent say they work 40 to 49 hours a week, and 32 percent work 50 hours or more. Then there are those lucky few (9 percent) who work less than 40 hours a week.

Due to their packed schedule, nearly 1 in 5 (18 percent) say they "rarely" or "never" work out. Yet the vast majority of superiors (82 percent) are able to squeeze in at least one work out a week, with 39 percent getting their sweat on four or more days a week. So if your senior leaders can find time for a quick exercise, so can you.

Talking with – or back to – the boss

If given the chance to have a conversation with your CEO, what would you ask him or her? Surveyed workers gave the following answers—some of which could be considered brutally honest...or just brutal.

- "Good job."
- "Give me a raise."
- "Offer employees more opportunity for advancement."
- "Come around more often and meet your employees."
- "I love my job."
- "Empower employees and involve them in developing products and services."
- "Fire my manager."
- "Get a clue how to run our company."
- "Keep your promises."
- "Tell the truth no matter what."
- "Trust the people below you."
- "Tell us when we do something good instead of always focusing on the bad."
- "Give back to your employees. Without them, you would have no money."
- "The inmates are running the asylum."
- "Work on your communication and management skills."

What would you ask your CEO if given the opportunity? Tweet us at @CareerBuilder and let us know!

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Email resumes to: jobs@adtransport.com
Or apply online at www.adtransport.com

A.D. TRANSPORT EXPRESS

Help Wanted - General

CHILD CARE PROVIDERS NEEDED

For infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. 248-471-1022.

Diesel Mechanic:
Great Pay / Benefits. APPLY: durbamschoolservices.com
24661 Lahser Road, Southfield, MI 48033
248-352-8755

DIRECT CARE: * New wage \$3.50/hr. trained; must be 18 & have a valid MI driver's license; CLS/MORC trained preferred. Full time and part time; many shifts; support adults living in their own homes; make a difference! 734-728-4201

DIRECT CARE:
Staffing Agency seeks caring staff to assist and support individuals to live in their homes as independently as possible by assisting with recreation, daily living needs, transportation and other duties/services. Positions available in Canton/ Westland Area. Contact: 734-722-4580 Ext #19 or apply on-line www.ahacomserv.com/

PLUMBER Journeyman Service & comm. Benefits, truck, pd vac., tol & retirement. patrick_plumbing@yahoo.com

Help Wanted - General

Direct Care Workers

Needed for traumatic brain injury group home. Previous experience with traumatic brain injury, group home operations, and catheter care a plus. Must possess a valid driver's license, vehicle insurance, and reliable transportation. Various shifts are available for both full and part-time.

Please email resume to powens@digitasinc.com or via fax to (248) 919-4026
Applicants may also apply in person, Digitas, Inc., 24505 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336.

DRIVER (TRUCK)
Asphalt company taking immediate applications for Tri axle dump & semi truck driver CDL Class A required with a min 2 yrs exp. Top pay with benefits. FT & PT. Applications being accepted

S&J ASPHALT PAVING
39571 Michigan Ave. Canton MI 48106
sales@sjasphalt.com

Help Wanted - General

CDL TRACTOR/TRAILER DRIVER SMEDESON STEEL

For Steel and Building Supply deliveries in the tri-county area. We do DOT randoms. 3 yrs exp preferable. Competitive salary and benefits at 90 days.

Please send resume or work summary to: jobs@smedeson.com

Drivers

ASHLEY TRUCK DRIVERS-OTR/CLASS A CDL

Ashley Distribution Services in Romulus, MI seeks:

- LTL TRUCK DRIVERS (Multiple stop loads to retail stores) Earning potential avg. \$87,000 year - Ability to Enter Canada
- Home Weekly
- Paid Vacation
- Full Benefit Package
- Paid Holidays

Class A CDL & at least 1 year current OTR exp. Clean MVR/PSP reports. Call 1-800-837-2241 or www.ashleydistribution.com to apply under jobs.

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

PLUMBERS & HELPERS

For new construction! Experienced. Call, leave message 248-859-0880
Fax resume: 248-887-6683
Email: pipecon@aol.com

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. \$14-\$18/hr. Mon.-Thurs., & Sat.

Call/email to join our team today!
248-477-4880
wolfe@eradicoservices.com

LABORER & MAINTENANCE

Swimming pool co. offering outdoor physical work. Pool exp mandatory. Top dollar paid. (248) 477-7727

Lawn Sprinkler

Exp Service Tech or Service Tech Trainee \$14-\$18/hr. plus overtime & benefits
248-338-1480

MANAGER AFTERNOON SHIFT

For Bel-Mark Lanes Apply in person 3530 Jackson Rd Ann Arbor MI

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Rewarding positions serving persons with special needs in their homes or in group homes. Must be 18. Paid training. Hiring in: Brighton, Milford, Novi, Walled Lake, Westland, Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti, Northville areas.

QUEST INC
Email resume: glengarry@questinc.org
Ypsilanti/Ann Arbor 734-239-9015
New Hudson 248-437-7536
South Lyon 248-573-5023
Novi: 248-946-4425

Help Wanted - General

Quality Inspectors

Downriver, inspect/rework auto parts. Driver's lic., reliable car, working phone/voicemail, attention to detail, neat appearance required. Call 313-382-6934 For appt Mon-Fri 9am-4pm

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- Be Your Own Boss
- Work Your Schedule
- You Determine Your Income
- Bonus Programs
- Health/Life/Disability/Retirement
- Full Time Support Staff

PAT RYAN, REALTOR
(734) 591-9200
PatRyan@RealEstateOne.com

Help Wanted - Office Clerical

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Farmington Hills based real estate development company seeks an Administrative Assistant. Must be self-motivated, dependable and have good organizational and communication skills. Should also be proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel.

Email resume to: jdemetriou@grandsakwa.com

SECRETARY, PT

25 hrs for outpatient clinic in Southfield (Mon-Thurs: 9am-2pm; Sat: 12-4pm). Behavioral health or medical exp. desired. Strong customer relations, computer skills.

RESUME: jgfred@opcmail.net
or fax to: (734) 522-0280

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(800) 567-5857 TDD
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LO-2482342-01

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THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

| | NMLS# | | 30 Yr. | Pts. | 15 Yr. | Pts. |
|-------------------------------|--------|----------------|--------|------|--------|------|
| 1st Choice Mortgage Lending | 138560 | (734) 459-0782 | 3.625 | 0 | 2.75 | 0 |
| Accurate Mortgage Solutions | 164511 | (800) 593-1912 | 3.625 | 0 | 2.75 | 0 |
| AFI Financial | 2431 | (810) 588-4424 | 3.625 | 0 | 2.875 | 0 |
| Ameriplus Mortgage Corp. | 127931 | (248) 740-2323 | 3.625 | 0 | 2.875 | 0 |
| Dearborn Federal Savings Bank | 399721 | (313) 565-3100 | 3.5 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Fifth Third Bank | 403245 | (800) 792-8830 | 3.75 | 0 | 3.125 | 0 |
| Group One Mortgage | 107716 | (248) 282-1602 | 3.875 | 0 | 3.25 | 0 |
| Zeal Credit Union | 408356 | (734) 466-6113 | 3.75 | 0.25 | 3.125 | 0 |

Above Information available as of 3/27/15 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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BUY & SELL

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- Absolutely Free
- Free Firewood. You cut. 248-437-4258 call after 4pm.
- Estates Sales
- Farmington Hills - Large Estate Sale - Large item. Bone China. Furniture. Tools. No Clothes or Toys. Fri. 4/10 & Sat. 4/11 9-3pm 28850 Lorikay dr.
- UNEARTHED TREASURES ESTATE SALES
•Complete Home Liquidations
•Residential •Commercial
•Clean Out Services
734-386-0262
unearthedtreasuresstatesales@gmail.com
- Garage/Moving Sales
- FARMINGTON Thurs. April 9th-11th 9am-5pm. 21107 Meadowlark-2 blocks North of 8 Mile & E. of Farmington
- Garage Sale Cruisin' Is Coming!
It's starting to warm up, which means everyone will be looking for GARAGE SALES!!
Now is the time to Get your ad into MICHIGAN.COM Observer & Eccentric and "they will come"
Ask about our special garage sale ad rates!
Contact us at: 1-800-5797355
- GARDEN CITY Fri. 4/10 & Sat. 4/11 9am-4pm. 3 different households in one garage sale. Electronics, clothes, toys, furniture & household goods. Everything must go! 6616 Sunset Dr.
- PLYMOUTH - Estate Sale Fri. & Sat. April 10 & 11th 9-4 pm. 252 E Ann Arbor Trail - furn, Cape Dory sailboat, household items, tools, art work. NO EARLY BIRDS. CASH ONLY
- Westland Thurs. 4/9-Sat. 4/11 9am-4:30pm 60 Year Estate! Furniture, dishes, vintage items and lots more! 35865 Oakwood Lane
- Household Goods
Dehumidifier, 25 pint. in box BRAND NEW. Also \$60 for both! 734 462 5996
- LOCK
SOFA \$70 Chest of drawers \$70. Dresser w/mirror \$70. Tempurpedic twin bed. Lowery organ Cheap! 734-453-7140
- Appliances
REFRIGERATORS \$150 & up! Range, washer/dryer \$100 & up! 90 day warranty/delivery! Call: (734) 858-8846

Bargain Buys
If you're selling an item for \$100 or less RUN YOUR AD UNDER BARGAIN BUY CLASS 7200 AT A SPECIAL RATE Michigan.com Observer & Eccentric Call 800-579-7355! *Some restrictions may apply

Lawn Garden & Snow Equip
2005 John Deere 6405, \$14,000, cab air & heat, 4X4, factory loader, contact me at shahadew@gmail.com or call (810) 644-6705

Musical Instruments
Certified Taylor GUITAR Repairman. 10yrs Exp. We sell and repair all types! Call us today! BO WILLIAMS GUITAR DAN 517-376-1580

Wanted to Buy
WANTED: New, Used, Old Fishing Tackle & Related Items. Successful Deer Hunter Patches. Call Bill: (734) 890-1047

PETS

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Dogs
ENHANCE YOUR AD WITH A PHOTO
You can add photos to your classified ads to show what you are selling, in addition to ad copy. Ads will appear whenever you want them to run, under the classification you choose. The cost for the photo will be \$10, plus the cost of the ad copy based on the number of lines used. Email or mail your 3x5 or 4x6 photos. Call for addresses. Photos will not be returned. Prepayment required/no refunds. To place your ad & get more info call: MICHIGAN.COM Observer & Eccentric 800-579-7355 Mon, thru Fri, 8:30-5pm Some restrictions may apply.

Looking to Buy A New Car?
Need to sell the old one first?
Place an ad with Observer & Eccentric Media, and let the Classifieds Sell It For You!
800-579-7355

RENTALS

apartments.com HomeFinder.com

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FARMINGTON AREA Adult community 55+, quiet country setting, heat/water incl. \$590/mo. (734) 564-8402
- FARMINGTON HILLS MAPLE RIDGE APTS.**
Spacious 1 & 2 bdms, 2 baths, c/a, \$570-\$660, w/ special. 50% off 1st 3 mos. with approved credit. 248.473.5180
- GARDEN CITY:** Lg 1 & 2 bdms, appl., heat/water Free. \$560/\$600 + security deposit. 734-313-4965, 734-464-3847
- Parkview Tower 1801 Robert**
Detroit, MI 48207
A Community Designed for Adults 62 & Better. Rent Based on Income 1 and 2 Bdrm apartments. Now leasing!
Hurry, Availability Limited! Open Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm. 313-259-6862 ttd 1-800-587-5857 Immediate Occupancy EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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Plymouth - The Meadows- two short blocks from downtown Plymouth. 2 lg br. 2 full ba. 1630sq ft. fpl, heated parking, all appliances including washing & dryer. \$1700/mo. 734-718-9483
- Homes For Rent**
LIVONIA SCHOOLS-3 bd, 2 car garage, c/a, fully renovated, 2 year lease. No smoking/pets. \$1050/mo. 248-569-4751
- Rooms For Rent**
REDFORD AREA: Larger room in clean, peaceful home. Furnished. \$120/wk. Call: (313) 281-8129

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PERSONALS

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Card of Thanks.
May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now & forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus pray for us. Saint Jude worker of miracles pray for us. Say this prayer nine times a day, by the ninth day your prayer will be answered. Publication must be promised. JA

Novena to St. Jude - Apostle and martyr, great and virtuous rich in miracles, kinsman of Christ, intercessor of all who invoke your aid in time of need. I pray to you to use your great God given power to aid me in my urgent petition, in return I promise to make your name known. Pray for us who ask your aid St. Jude. Say three Hail Marys, three Our Fathers, and three Glorias. This novena has never been known to fail. Say novena for 9 days, then promise to publish as soon as favor is granted. (Thank you St. Jude) W

PRAYER: Pray 9 Hail Marys for 9 days. On the 9th day make 3 wishes & publish this prayer. Your wishes will be granted. -M

Need to Rent That House or Apartment?
Place an ad with Observer & Eccentric Media, and have it rented in no time!
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It's starting to warm up, which means everyone will be looking for GARAGE SALES!!
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SOFA \$70 Chest of drawers \$70. Dresser w/mirror \$70. Tempurpedic twin bed. Lowery organ Cheap! 734-453-7140
- Appliances**
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