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CANTON OBSERVER

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SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2015 • hometownlife.com

Canton Aquatic Center headed for repairs

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

In human terms, 20 years isn't old, but it is for swimming pools and associated equipment. That's why Canton Leisure Services staff members are diving into plans for a series of needed repairs to the Summit's Aquatic Center later this fall.

"We're developing a proposed timetable," Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz, Canton Leisure Services director, said at Tuesday's township board

study session. "We are looking at strategizing to lessen the impact on customers."

Originally, repairs were going to be made over two years — 2015 and 2016 — but after meeting with two consultants, Greg Hohenberger, Leisure Services operations manager, has recommended combining needed projects into one full sweep.

Based on evaluations conducted by the consultants, Hohenberger said, combining the projects will save money, allow less time for the aquatic

center to be closed and help with customers' perception, allowing them to see some significant improvements.

"Some of the projects have a safety component," Hohenberger told trustees.

Repair plans include the aquatic center's filtration system and work on the water slide, as well as the locker room. In addition to a track resurfacing at the gym, as well as work on the gym curtain, the projects originally were



CANTON LEISURE SERVICES

See REPAIRS, Page A2 Repairs are planned for the Canton Aquatic Center this year.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It's almost time for Mom Prom. Lisa Campos-DeWitt (from left), Monica Capolla, Betsy Crapps, Rebecca Johnson and Anne Truax can hardly wait.

All dressed up for a good cause

Pull out your old gowns, it's time for Mom Prom

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

Every woman eventually faces a conundrum in her life — what to do with the old prom gowns and, of course,

what about those bridesmaid dresses?

If you are Betsy Crapps, you build a girls night out around the old gowns and turn the event into what has become a national charity

effort known as Mom Prom.

"My mom had been cleaning out the family home. One year, she came over with my old prom dresses," said the former Canton resident and director of religious education at St. Thomas a'Beckett Catholic Church.

"Right away I knew where

I would wear them — an Oscar party," said Crapps of South Lyon.

She and her friends dressed in their gowns of a former era, dined and danced. "We had complete strangers asking if they could take pic-

See PROM, Page A5

Efforts underway to boost golf play

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

A somewhat daunting breeze is blowing. That's not the latest weather report, but the state of the golf industry — across the country.

"The golf industry is chilly, to say the least," said Greg Bores, Pheasant Run Golf Club general manager.

Consider that within 30 miles of Canton's premier 18-hole golf course and the older Fellows Creek on the east side of the township, there are 122 other courses catering to some 450,000 golfers in metro Detroit.

That means tough competition, not only for Pheasant Run, but Fellows Creek, as well.

Golf is a big business in Michigan, to the tune of a \$4.2 billion economic impact. Bores intends to keep Pheasant Run primary in the minds of golfers this season. Yet he admits there isn't a lot of growth in the sport, plus communities throughout Michigan overbuilt golf courses, expecting a hefty return on investment.

In 2013, the Pheasant Run operation was reorganized, which created some efficiencies and has since created some positive cash flows, with last year at \$28,000. Keeping the operations — and revenues

See GOLF, Page A2

Robotics squad aims for world championships

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The Lightning Robotics team from the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park high schools went into statewide competition this weekend with several awards and high hopes of reaching the world championship later this month.

The team, made up of students, teachers and mentors from Plymouth, Canton and Salem high schools, was in Grand Rapids from Thursday through Saturday for the

Michigan FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition Of Science and Technology) contest at DeltaPlex Arena.

After three district competitions leading up to the state meet, Lightning Robotics was ranked 26th out of 347 teams in Michigan.

"The team has been teaching students and spreading the message of FIRST for 16 years now and is very proud of their achievement," said Rose Todd, one of the mentors.

This year's robotics challenge is called Recycling Rush

and has teams forming alliances to oppose each other by guiding their robots to win points by stacking storage totes and garbage can-shaped recycling containers and putting pool noodles — or "litter" — into the containers. The drivers can also have their robots throw "litter" onto their opponents' side of the playing field and earn points if the opponents' robots leave the pool-noodle litter "unprocessed" before time runs out.

See ROBOTICS, Page A5



MIKE SAUNDERS

The Lightning Robotics chairman's presentation team at the April 4 district competition, during which it won the chairman's award. The team is made up of (from left) awards mentor Carolyn Jagadics, team president Leah Beach, Jules Moore, awards lead Rhys Gabriel and awards mentor Ashley Saunders.



PRICE: \$1

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
MEDIA
A GANNETT COMPANY

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Volume 40 • Number 85

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

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Acts of Culture

Canton celebrates fifth year with host of activities

Canton will spotlight arts and culture during the fifth annual Canton Acts of Culture Week, running Friday, April 24, through Sunday, May 3, throughout the community.

The week is presented by the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage and sponsored by Canton Community Foundation.

Some of the many goals of Canton's Acts of Culture Week include: showcasing community cultural resources and partnerships; celebrating diverse culture offerings; raising awareness of arts accessibility; instilling an appreciation of local arts organizations; and promoting the arts and heritage in and around the Canton community.

In celebration of the arts, a variety of events will be held, some of which include:

» The Michigan Philharmonic's performance of "Middle Eastern Fusion Fest" at 2 p.m., Sunday May 3, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for seniors and youths. Middle Eastern music will be featured: Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade*; *The Young Prince and The Young Princess*; Oztoprak's *Zuzdil Samai* and *Arabian Waltz* by Rabih Abou-Khalil. Special guest Michael Ibrahim, music director of the National Arab Orchestra, will be in attendance. Tickets may be purchased online at www.michiganphil.org or by contacting the

Michigan Philharmonic at 734-451-2112.

» The fifth annual Ladies Dillenbeck Art Exhibition Reception, 2-4 p.m. Sunday, April 26, at D&M Art Studio, 8691 N. Lilley Road. Hosted by Sharon Lee Dillenbeck, owner/operator of D&M Art Studio, this exhibition will feature recent original works of art, including Dillenbeck's work and those of her daughters Erin and Kristin and her sister Donna Knight. Additional works will also be on display from Marilyn Meredith, Vivian Hewitt, Elizabeth Gullikson, Deana Salhaney, Kyla Suchy, Teresa Davis and Kay Masini. For more information, go to www.dmartstudio.com.

» Canton Concert Band's Spring Concert, "Flight of Fancy," will debut at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 2, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Tickets are \$12. The concert will feature pieces ranging from Rossano Galante's *Beyond the*



MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

The Michigan Philharmonic will perform during the Canton Acts of Culture Week.

Horizon and his majestic *Mt. Everest* to Samuel Hazo's exciting composition *Rush*. Tickets may be purchased online at www.cantonvillage-theater.org.

Community members are also encouraged to support the following weekend events:

» Canton Club 55-plus presents a "Cinco de Mayo Celebration," 6-10 p.m. Saturday, May 9, in the Summit on the Park's Walnut Room, 46000 Summit Parkway. This

event features a "south of the border" buffet, cash bar and amazing entertainment. Biggy Coffee will sponsor a five-member Tejano band, Grupo Fantasia. Tickets are \$39 per person, \$72 per couple, \$280 for table of eight. Register online at www.cantonfun.org, in person at the Club 55-plus front desk or by calling 734-394-5485.

» "Acts of Fashion - Fashion Show" at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 9, at the

Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$12 per person and are available at www.actsoffashion.com or by calling 734-612-2041. Children 6 and younger are free. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Children's Center and the Michigan Veteran's Foundation.

A complete calendar of Canton Acts of Culture Week events is available at www.cantonfun.org. For more information, call 734-394-5360.

CANTON OBSERVER

Published Sunday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Media

Community Office:

29725 Hudson Drive • Novi, MI 48377 • 866-887-2737
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
hometownlife.com

Sports: Tim Smith

734-469-4128
Email: tsmith@hometownlife.com

Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.00 (Sun. & Thurs.)
\$8.00 EZ pay per month
\$49.00 six months
\$98.00 per year
\$77.00 six months mail delivery
\$154.00 per year mail delivery

Home Delivery:

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GOLF

Continued from Page A1

from the Grill Clubhouse — in house helps with the financial bottom line, Bores said.

In fact, the golf world is seeing a number of private golf clubs losing money and some closing.

"That will help disperse more golfers to other courses," Bores said.

For 2015, Bores said he is not expecting a lot of growth in the game, but expects an estimated 37,567 rounds of golf at Pheasant Run with projected revenues of \$1.495 million and expenses expected at \$1.424 million.

"There's just not a lot



PHEASANT RUN

Efforts are underway to boost play and the golfing experience at Pheasant Run and Fellows Creek golf courses.

of growth for the game," Bores said.

Over at Fellows Creek, the new contract management company, Billy Casper — led for Canton by Nick Bednar, regional director of operations — changes have been made to maintain its competitiveness. "We are doing a bunch of small things, adding up to big things," Bednar said.

Among those things are course maintenance and improvement projects, such as cleaning up turf, especially near bunkers, as well as landscaping. The No. 9 south green was also relocated further away from Lotz Road and plans are underway to improve the irrigation system.

In 2015, Bednar and Jeff LeBlanc, Fellows Creek general manager,

plan to focus on and increase league use, as well as increase outing sales and renewals. The clubhouse also was improved with an eye on increasing wedding and other event use. Bednar said efforts are underway to find the correct price point to increase play and revenues.

"We knew there would be challenges," Leisure Services Director Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz said, referring to Fellows Creek.

Meanwhile, to keep Pheasant Run competitive, some capital improvements are recommended for the next few years. Among those improvements are replacing the aging golf carts, as well as work on turf management in 2016. In 2017, cart path improvements are proposed. A

clubhouse expansion is proposed beyond that.

Being environmentally sound is also foremost at Pheasant Run, which has changed the products used on the course. "It lessens the affect on waterways and is cost-saving," Bores said.

Meanwhile, Bores and the staff is working other ways to increase Pheasant Run's competitiveness, including continued public exposure, as well as a discount program through Costco, Golf Now, an online tee service working with and bolstering the course's loyal customer database with specials, offers and events.

"We are selling the experience (of Pheasant Run)," Bores said.

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REPAIRS

Continued from Page A1

expected to cost a total of \$495,000.

For example, replacing the pool slide would typically cost \$80,000. But some \$57,000 can be saved by refurbishing it with a re-coating and reinforcements, Hohenberger said.

Consultants also looked at refurbishing instead of replacing the aquatic center's large filter systems. "We are still looking at it. There is the repair option, but I

am now less confident," Hohenberger said.

He told trustees that combining the projects and getting them done this year is likely a better move because, as with any recreation services, there's plenty of competition. That would include aquatics at Lifetime Fitness, Planet Fitness and other gyms with pools, as well as Goldfish Swim School and Aqua-Tots.

The plan is to prioritize projects that range from repairs on the leisure pool to resurfacing the river and plunge pool to replacing doors and hardware.

There's still time to do that, Bilbrey-Honsowetz said.

The plan is to provide board trustees with a recommended contractor for the work. If the board approves the recommendation, work could begin in September. The shutdown would coincide with the annual Summit shutdown for maintenance, she said.

"We have three proposals (from contractors) we are evaluating right now," Bilbrey-Honsowetz said.

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Laurel Ruza is pleased with progress on sexual assault awareness at the University of Michigan, but would like to see more done. She's a senior at U-M and 2011 West Bloomfield High School graduate.

U-M student, advocates: Sexual assault prevalent on campuses across country

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Laurel Ruza, a senior at the University of Michigan, thinks her Ann Arbor campus takes sexual assault seriously, based on her advocacy work with U-M administrators. "I think the university is really trying to take steps to improve campus safety," said Ruza, a 2011 West Bloomfield High School graduate who'll complete her bachelor's degree in public policy this spring.

"I think more can be done," Ruza said. "They're definitely willing to listen to student voices on this issue."

Sexual assault on college campuses is the focus of this year's Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Representatives from the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, *The Hunting Ground* film, the "It's On Us" campaign, the University of Michigan Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Center and the Michigan Coalition To End Domestic and Sexual Violence held a conference call April 9 on the issue.

Call participants included *The Hunting Ground* director Kirby Dick, "It's On Us" U-M student organizer Ruza, NSVRC prevention campaign specialist Laura Palumbo, University of

Michigan SAPAC director Holly Rider-Milkovich and MCEDSV senior program manager Lisa Winchell-Caldwell.

Ruza's internships include work with the U.S. Justice Department in Washington, D.C., as well as being an advocacy intern with Jewish Women International, also in D.C.

"The solution begins with us," Ruza said in her remarks. She and others at U-M organized a three-day series of roundtables, recognizing sexual violence impacts those of all ethnic groups, races and genders.

"I wanted to make sure we had as many voices in the room as possible," Ruza said. "We wanted to focus on what we as students can do to facilitate this cultural shift." Many U-M students have told her they'd like more related programming.

Ruza cited collaboration with student groups and with administrators. "Everybody has a role to play in the prevention of sexual assaults," she said, including active intervention.

Palumbo said, "We believe everyone has a role to play in ending sexual assault. Our hope is that educational efforts will reach far beyond April."

Campus sexual violence has drawn attention and this year's SAAM

campaign is expected to be the most far-reaching since it was officially first observed in April 2001. During the conference call, speakers discussed the need for investigation and adjudication of campus crimes, with measures to stop sexual predators.

"We want our students to be giving verbal, sober, enthusiastic consent (to sex)," Rider-Milkovich said. "That's something we are striving for as a future goal. We are not there yet. What we need to do is to continue to work toward that."

The film's Dick also called on college/university presidents to step forward and speak up on sexual assault concerns.

The Hunting Ground, an exposé of sexual assault on U.S. campuses, and "It's On Us," a campaign launched by the White House and Generation Progress in September as an effort to engage all in ending campus sexual assault, have joined forces during this year's SAAM campaign to bring increased attention to the issue. *The Hunting Ground* was to be shown April 9 at U-M.

"I think it is important to have difficult conversations to get to the heart of this issue," Rider-Milkovich said. "We're really excited to have the film come to campus."

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MIKE CHROUCH

High school students from around the state gathered April 1 at the Radisson Hotel in Lansing to be recognized by the Comcast Foundation for their academic achievement, community service and leadership.

Comcast honorees include Plymouth-Canton students

Rebecca Falzon, a student at Salem High School, and Zoha Qureshi, a student at Canton High School, were among the 118 Michigan students honored last week by the Comcast Foundation's Leaders and Achievers scholarship program.

The program recognizes high school students for their community service, academic performance and leadership. Each of the students honored won a \$1,000 scholarship to be used for post-secondary education.

At an awards presen-

tation April 1 in Lansing, television news anchor Lauren Evans delivered keynote remarks. One student, Aliyah Armour of the Northwestern Commencement Academy High School in Flint, received special recognition and an additional scholarship of \$6,000.

The philosophy behind the Leaders and Achievers program is to give young people opportunities to prepare for the future and to engage them in their communities. Comcast has awarded more than \$22.8 million to nearly 23,000 Leaders and Achievers

scholarship winners nationwide.

"These young adults are not only committed to their own academic success, but also to ensuring their communities prosper," Tim Collins, senior vice president of Comcast in Michigan, said in a press release. "It's inspiring to see the commitment and drive of these bright students, who very much deserve this recognition."

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EDUCATION

Marshmallow Peeps as art: 'Why not?'

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Local kids got tasty Marshmallow Peeps in their Easter baskets this year, but there was more Peeps fun to come later in the week.

"Most of the stuff here is not edible," said Joseph Michalak, 12, in reference to a Thursday, April 9, Peeps art session at the Plymouth District Library. "I thought it would be more edible."

Michalak, a sixth-grader at Our Lady of Good Counsel School, was among some 30 kids ages 5-12 who met that afternoon at the library. An evening session for Peeps art focused on kids 9-12.

"We're asking them to do a scene from literature using Peeps," Carol Champagne, department head for youth services, said of the session for ages 9-12.

The Friends of the Library programs were designed for school spring break, Champagne noted, as she set up the Peeps, paper plates and crafts supplies. "I think a lot of people left," she said of vacationers, noting many patrons took out audio books for car trips.

Champagne saw a Peeps national contest reference in *The Washington Post*. "Or just have fun with it," she said. "It's always amazing to me what some of them come up with."

The Peeps were all yellow and were bought by Champagne on sale after Easter. She also got crafts materials at The Scrap Box in Ann Arbor.

She'd wanted to do Peeps art for a school break earlier, but needed to remind herself in advance to get it in the library newsletter. "So last year I wrote in on my calendar, 'Remember you want to do Peeps,'" Champagne said.

"It's a nice rainy day and not much else to do," she added of the Thursday afternoon in which kids were to spend time "exploring their inner artist."

Noah Danis, 10, is an Allen



JULIE BROWN
Peeps designs show the creativity of local children.



JULIE BROWN
Noah Danis, 10, an Allen Elementary third-grader, with his mom Rhonda of Plymouth Township at the Peeps art session.



JULIE BROWN
Our Lady of Good Counsel sixth-grader Joseph Michalak, 12, shows his Peeps creation at the Plymouth District Library.



JULIE BROWN
Nina Pacheco, 12, an East Middle School seventh-grader, came to the Peeps program with brother Martin Pacheco, a fourth-grader at Miller Elementary.

Elementary third-grader who came to the library with mom Rhonda Danis of Plymouth Township.

"We love it," mom Danis said of the Peeps art fun. "This is our way of getting out of the house. We come to the library constantly."

She encouraged her son in his creative project and added he's a big help to her and to his grandma. "He's a wonderful boy," she said. "He's so kind and gentle, caring."

As Champagne walked around the room, she said, "So many interesting creations."

At a table nearby were Giordiana Nischik, Lucy Kaiser and Erin English, all 8-year-old second-graders at Farrand Elementary School.

Mom Terra Nischik of Plymouth Township brought four children, three of hers and a friend. She was seated with Toni Spano-English of Plymouth, mom to Erin.

"They get to see all their friends from school," Spano-English said of the Peeps art fun. "I think with the glue and scissors, it helps them to know



JULIE BROWN
Working on Peeps art creations are (from left) Giordiana Nischik, Lucy Kaiser and Erin English, all 8-year-old Farrand Elementary second-graders.

it's not a snack." Added Terra Nischik, "I think it's very fun. It's great for the kids to come in and get some hands-on art."

As kids finished their projects, Champagne announced that with a parent's OK they could eat one, and only one, Peeps.

"Thanks for coming," she said with a smile as children filed out with their creations.

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PROM

Continued from Page A1

tures of us," she added. That was 10 years ago. Crapps and her friends are continuing the tradition with the annual Mom Prom 8-11 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at St. Thomas a'Beckett. The event is no longer spanking new, but the charities Crapps and about 100 women pick are. Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. For tickets, email to themomprom@yahoo.com.

To see all of the other planned Mom Proms around the country this year, go to www.momprom.org.

This year, money from the Plymouth-Canton Mom Prom will be given to MaxYourBrain.org, which raises money for Mott's Children's Hospital. It is a charity established by local residents Max Merget and his parents, Nina and Rob.

Max was first diagnosed with brain cancer when he was 3. He is now cancer-free, but continues to want to help others who are battling brain cancer. The foundation was created two years ago, when Max was a Salem High School senior.

"We are thrilled that the Mom Prom chose Max's fund to raise money for this year. Max works hard to get information out about supporting cancer research so other young people can hopefully avoid going through the years of surgeries and treatments that he has gone through," Nina Merget said.

And no doubt Mom Prom will raise money for MaxYourBrain. For all of the Mom Proms across the country — that started with the Canton event — hundreds of thousands of dollars have been raised for good causes. In 2013 alone, Mom Proms raised \$200,000 for charity, Crapps said. "It has gone national. We were even mocked on *Saturday Night Live* (by Seth Meyers)," she added.

So while raising money for a good cause, the moms — and you don't have to be a mom or even wear a prom dress to



KIRSTE MOLINE

All dolled up in their proms or bridesmaid dresses, the Mom Prom attendees dance their hearts away.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Big fun is ahead at the Mom Prom. Betsy Crapps (from left), Lisa Campos-DeWitt, Monica Capilla, Anne Truax and Rebecca Johnson model Mom Prom dresses.

attend — share laughter, talk, dancing, food and music.

Monica Capilla of Canton, who is on the prom committee, plans to wear her original prom gown. "It is just a fun night," she said. "Betsy is awesome. It is for charity."

Anne Truax, assistant religious education director at St. Thomas a'Beckett, plans to wear her mother-of-the-bride gown

and probably a big hair-do. Lisa Campos-DeWitt expects to wear a borrowed dress. Her sister, Rebecca Johnson — both are Canton residents — last went to her 1993 prom.

"I have them (dresses) in a big box. And that's where they will stay," Johnson said. "What I thought was good back then ..."

Admittedly, Campos-DeWitt doesn't like

dressing up. But it's for a good cause: "It's once a year with no kids, no husbands." And as Truax said, "it's better than just cutting a check. You can go in and just dance."

But speaking of husbands and kids, they are left at home. The girls, after all, just want to have fun. But there are a couple of men in attendance. This year, Prince Harry and actor Jim Parsons of the *Big Bang*



KIRSTE MOLINE

How it started: Betsy Crapps (center) with her friends Jen Edmunds (left) and Cheryl Rendell got together for an Oscar party and decided to start a charity dance.

Theory TV show will be on hand. Oh, but they aren't real. They are life-sized cardboard cutouts, but, nonetheless, handsome.

"There's just some nights when we want to be with our girlfriends," Crapps said.

The Mom Prom will boast a silent auction, music by Diana Korte of Silver Sounds and some fun contests. A prom queen will be chosen and the ladies can compete in the Tackiest Dress Contest and the Aqua Net Contest for the biggest

1980s hairdo. There will also likely be a dollar dance.

Typically, the Mom Prom draws some 150 women. Tickets are still available, but you have to be at least 21 years old to attend. "You really don't have to be a mom," Crapps said.

And spoken like a woman who has painfully partied in dressy, high heels, Crapps added, "We usually wear tennis shoes or flip flops."

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ROBOTICS

Continued from Page A1

"Quite the combination for a robot to manipulate," Todd said.

District meets

Lightning Robotics competed April 4 in a district match in Temperance, during which it won a FIRST Chairman's Award. That automatically qualified it for the state meet in Grand Rapids, though it had already qualified based

on points accumulated this season.

The team also won two other awards, the Entrepreneurship Award and the Quality Award.

Earlier district competitions this season were in Howell and Traverse City.

Lightning Robotics does more than compete, however. It also stages regular robot exhibitions in schools throughout the area to promote a STEM (for science, technology, engineering and mathematics) curriculum, a major focus for the Ply-

mouth-Canton Community Schools.

FIRST, based in Manchester, N.H., is a not-for-profit that works to inspire young people to become leaders in science and technology.

Its world championship this year is April 22-25 in St. Louis, Mo., and is expected to draw competitors from as far as Israel, Brazil, Chile and Australia.

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734-678-8432
Twitter: @mattjachman



MIKE SAUNDERS

Flash, a robot of the 2015 P-CEP Lightning Robotics team. The team of students from the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools high schools went into competition in Grand Rapids this weekend ranked 26th in the state, out of 347 teams, and with a shot at reaching national competition later this month.

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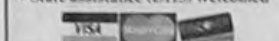
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Presbyterian Village CEO to speak at Madonna

The McManus Distinguished Business Lecture at 7 p.m. Tuesday in Madonna University's Kresge Hall will feature Roger Myers, president and CEO of Presbyterian Villages of Michigan.

His lecture, "Entrepreneurial Ventures for the Senior Market," is hosted by Madonna University's School of Business and Madonna's Aging Studies Department, both of which celebrate 40 years of academic excellence this year. He will share his expertise in marketing to, and developing creative programs and services for, senior citizens. The lecture is free and open to the public.



Myers

since 1992. His work has contributed to public policy initiatives that have improved quality of life for Michigan seniors.

Under Myers' entrepreneurial leadership, PVM, a nonprofit founded in 1945, has grown

from five locations to 25, eight of which are in Detroit. Currently, he is working with other Detroit leaders to prevent the displacement of seniors as new development occurs. The company serves more than 4,300 seniors of all faiths across Michigan.

Thome Rivertown Neighborhood, the newest venture for PVM, has been recognized as a national model of collaboration. The first of its kind in the country, Thome Rivertown provides a comprehensive array of accommodations, services, programs and care, at one location, for low-income seniors.

For more information, call 734-432-5589.



Irene Butter is a survivor of two Nazi concentration camps.

Canton Public Library will screen Holocaust documentary April 15

Canton Public Library will commemorate Holocaust Remembrance Day with a free screening Wednesday, April 15, of the documentary *Never a Bystander*, shot partially at Discovery Middle School.

Ann Arbor filmmaker Evelyn Neuhaus and Irene Butter, the film's subject, will be available for a Q&A following the screening.

Born in Berlin, Butter

is a survivor of two Nazi concentration camps. She immigrated to the United States in 1945, at just 14 years old, and has spent the last 30 years visiting schools and libraries in Michigan, Israel and Germany with her story.

"The world owes you when you see yourself as a victim," she says in the film. "The pain never goes away. But when you're a survivor, you

can enrich your life. You can embrace everything the world has to offer."

She certainly has. In addition to her role as motivational speaker, Butter is professor emerita at the University of Michigan's School of Public Health and a co-founder of both the Raoul Wallenberg lecture series and Zeitouna, a local Arab and Jewish women's dialogue group.

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Davenport University launches master of accountancy program

Grand Rapids-based Davenport University, which has a campus in Livonia, will launch a new master of accountancy degree program in its 2015 fall semester.

This program is one of only a handful across the country to offer graduate-level concentrations in fraud investigation, managerial accounting

and internal auditing. Students entering the program may choose from multiple tracks that culminate in preparation courses for the certified public accountant, certified management accountant, certified fraud examiner or certified internal auditor exams or that focus more broadly on a general accountancy

or finance emphasis. If a student already possesses one of these certifications, he or she can earn credit and have a shorter time to completion.

Applications are currently being accepted for classes beginning fall 2015. For more information, call 800-686-1600 or go to davenport.edu.

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Special Olympians share hugs in power lifting competition

By Dianne Griswold
Correspondent

How many times have you watched a sporting event and the teams hug one another? Now how many times have you watched a sporting event and the teams hug everyone, including the opposing teams?

That's what happened March 21 at Northville High School as Special Olympics Power Lifting brought together five teams from Kalamazoo, Downriver, Jackson, Canada and Plymouth.

The Plymouth-Canton Civitans became involved, sponsoring a team from its area. The international service group aids others needing assistance. Members come from all walks of life and do as much or as little as they like with their volunteer service. That Saturday, 10 volunteers were able to watch their team compete. They were especially pleased with the performance of Ben Bendmarz, who is going on to national power lifting competition.

Northville High School has hosted this event for the past 10



Six teams, including one from Plymouth, competed March 21 in the Special Olympics power lifting competition at Northville High School.

SUSAN HAMRICK

years and used football players as spotters. Thirty-seven athletes competed. They undergo three rounds and the best of the three wins. The competition involves

squats, bench presses and dead lifts. The winners will go to state competition.

The event also employs five judges; the head judge is Jerry Ko-

plin, who also does competitive power lifting. This year included a female lifter, Stephany Bellaire from Kalamazoo.

Coach Colin Kelly has

been a power lifter for 20 years, but he got involved with Special Olympic power lifting just two years ago.

"I got asked through a friend, whose son has

Down syndrome," Kelly said. "It's so rewarding, so humbling. The kids have such love. I enjoy every minute of it."

And now you know why all the hugs occur.

Agent Orange will be topic of Vietnam vets town hall meeting

Plymouth-Canton Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528 will sponsor an Agent Orange Town Hall to discuss the effects of dioxins used during the Vietnam War and since.

The town hall, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 9, will be at Northville High School, 45700 Six Mile.

According to a 64-page study by the Aspen Institute, which replaced the Ford Foundation, the effects of Agent Orange and other dioxins are carried in the DNA of the affected person for up to seven generations.

The purpose of the town hall is to share this information with the general public and medical profession.

Dr. Trude Bennett of the University of North Carolina, Gillings School of Global Public Health (specializing in childhood diseases), Mokie Porter of the Veterans Health Council, Nancy Switzer of the the Vietnam Veterans of America in Washington D.C., Bob Cummings of the Agent Orange Riders and Lori Weber, an affected daughter of a Vietnam veteran, will speak.

Attendees will learn about resources to help families and how to contact legislators about dioxin-related ailments. Through this type of education, people will be informed of resources available to assist their family and how to contact their legislators about dioxin-related ailments that are affecting their well-being.

RSVPs are appreciated at www.VVA528.org or call 734-421-1805, press 2. Donations to help host the town hall are being accepted at <http://www.gofundme.com/i6ob88>.

Evans highlights county's challenges at four updates

Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans will host a series of Community Updates to highlight the fiscal challenges faced by the county and provide an update on solutions to move the county forward.

In addition to the traditional State of the County, these Community Updates provide the platform for Evans to directly engage with the community by allowing a question-and-answer period. Department directors will also be present to answer ques-

tions and provide resources.

To make attendance convenient for constituents, the four updates will be hosted by the Wayne County Community College District campuses in Detroit, Taylor and Belleville.

The four meetings, each 6-7:30 p.m., will be Tuesday, April 14, in the Cooper Conference Room on the WCCCD Eastern Campus at 5901 Conner St., Detroit; Thursday, April 16, in the Ray Mix Room East 126 on the Downriver Campus, 21000 North-

line, Taylor; Tuesday, April 21, in the atrium of the Denise Wellons-Glover Welcome Center on the WCCCD Northwest Campus, 8200 W. Outer Dr., Detroit; and Thursday, April 23, in the Ted C. Scott Multipurpose Room on the WCCCD Western Campus at 9555 Haggerty Road, Belleville.

Constituents are welcome to attend any Community Update event, regardless of where they reside. To RSVP, email rsvpsoc@waynecounty.com.

Pagan, guests talk equal pay for women

State Rep. Kristy Pagan, D-Canton, will hold a forum 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, on Equal Pay Day to discuss women's past, present and future economic opportunity in Arts 2 Room at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, in Canton.



Pagan

year.

Equal Pay Day is the date when women's earnings catch up to men's from the previous

Special guests for the forum will include Nyeeyah Waldron of the University of Michigan Center for the Education of Women and Jennifer Bennett, a teacher and founder of Plymouth High School's Gender Equality Group.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH LEGAL NOTICE

Public Test of the M-100 Optic Scan Voting System For the State Special Election Tuesday, May 5, 2015

A public accuracy test of the M-100 Optic Scan Voting System will take place at 4:00 p.m. on April 20, 2015, at the Charter Township of Plymouth Clerk's Office, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170, for the May 5, 2015 State Special Election. The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer program used to tabulate the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of law. For further information contact the Clerk's Office at (734) 354-3224.

Nancy Conzelman
Township Clerk

Publish: April 12, 2015

LD-000229652 3X2.5



The Senior Alliance
will host three Public Hearing Sessions for input regarding the FY 2016 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for services to persons age 60 and older in Southern and Western Wayne County.

Monday, May 11, 2015
2:30 p.m.
The Senior Alliance
3850 Second St., Ste. 100
Wayne, MI 48184

Tuesday, May 26, 2015
10:00 a.m.
Lincoln Park Senior Center
3240 Ferris Street
Lincoln Park, MI 48146

Wednesday, May 27, 2015
1:00 p.m.
Northville Senior Center
303 W. Main Street
Northville, MI 48167

On April 27, 2015, the AIP draft will be available online at www.aaalc.org. Written comments will be accepted until June 1, 2015. Please send written comments to:

The Senior Alliance
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Publish: April 12, 16, 2015

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League of Women Voters discusses Proposal 1

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Sitting in the Livonia Civic Center Library auditorium, Peggy Gray and Julie Lewis compared notes following a forum on the May 5 roads proposal.

Held Monday night by the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County, the forum detailed how the proposal would change the way taxes are assessed in the state. The forum, Gray said, helped her understand the issue better.

"I was only going by what people were saying," said Gray, a Livonia resident.

The women were two of several dozen who attended the event to gain a better perspective on the statewide ballot proposal. While complicated, the proposal will essentially: remove sales tax from fuel and replace the current excise tax based on the price of gas; and increase the sales tax from 6 percent to 7 percent, an increase that



Eva Packard explains the background and the proposal.

would replenish and supplement funding for schools and local governments taken away by removing the sales tax from fuel. Vehicle registration fees would also not see any depreciation as they currently do today. Registration fees on trucks would also increase and a surtax would be applied to electric and hybrid vehicles.

The proposal is reportedly expected to increase funding for roads to more than \$1.2 billion

beginning in fiscal year 2017-18.

Eva Packard, voter service director for the state League of Women Voters, gave the presentation, detailing how the proposal came into existence, what it would do to the price of fuel and arguments given by those for and against the proposal. While the League of Women Voters does not endorse candidates, it can endorse proposals and issues. However, the League has



Residents learn about the roads proposal.

taken no position on the May 5 ballot proposal.

Packard went over the effect on the price of gas at two retail prices, \$2.40 a gallon and \$3.83 a gallon. With the way the proposal is worded and tie-barred to other laws, the price of gas would increase to \$2.50 and \$3.85, respectively, if federal taxes and other fees are included in the retail price.

"The estimate is that this change would bring in about \$1.3 billion for fiscal year 2017-18," she said.

The proposal would also provide funding for some mass transit and a restoration of the Earned Income Tax Credit back to 20 percent. It is currently at 6 percent after being reduced in 2011.

Another aspect that would change is how vehicle registration fees are handled. Currently, a new car's fee decreases 10 percent each year for three years before it stops dropping.

"When you buy a new car, it is based on the list price of that new car," she said. "If you have a

car that's 10 years old, you've been paying the same fee for the last seven years."

But under the new proposal, that three-year depreciation would not take effect starting next year and the registration fees would remain the same throughout the duration of owning the vehicle.

"If you buy a car after that date, the initial registration fee will be what it is today," she said. "But the next year, it will not go down."

Lewis, a Livonia resident, said she came into the event not knowing how she would vote. She said having all the information provided makes her choice easier than what it was before.

"I think I am sure now," she said. "You have to get all the facts first." Polls for the vote are open across Michigan from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. May 5.

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Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

Canton student earns \$2,500 scholarship

A Plymouth Christian School student is among 800 outstanding black American high school seniors who have won Achievement Scholarship awards through the National Achievement Scholarship Program.

These awards, totaling more than \$2 million, are financed by grants from 30 corporate organizations and professional associations, as well as by National Merit Schol-

arship Corp. Haikel Y. Haile of Canton will receive a \$2,500 scholarship.

Achievement Scholarship Program is a privately financed academic competition established in 1964 specifically to honor scholastically talented black American youth and to provide scholarships to a substantial number of the most outstanding participants in each annual

competition. By the conclusion of the 2015 program, which marks the 51st annual competition, more than 34,200 participants will have received scholarships for undergraduate study worth about \$108 million.

The program is conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corp., a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance.

Annual SJ5K run raises money for local residents

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's National Honor Society will host its fifth annual SJ5K run at 8 a.m. Sunday, May 3, on the P-CEP campus. This event was created in 2011 in honor of then 16-year-old P-CEP student Jesse Lindlbauer, who suffered a traumatic brain injury.

The SJ5K run was created with the goal of bringing community support to and raising important money for the Lindlbauer family.

After a successful event in 2011, the National Honor Society decided to make the SJ5K an annual event to honor local families in need. This year, the race will support five families from the community.

The goal continues to be to bring the community together to provide hope, support and necessary funds to the five recipients: the Watson family, the Jolivard-Parker family, the Sheehan family, the Whitlock family and the Douglass family.

Daisy Watson, 8 months old, was born with APERT syndrome. APERT syndrome is a rare disorder that affects only one in 120,000. This disorder causes the sutures of the skull to prematurely fuse together at birth. In addition, her hands and feet are fused together. By the time she is an adult, Daisy will have gone through many skull, hand and feet surgeries. Within her first year of life, she will have undergone

at least five surgeries: two cranial surgeries and three to separate her fingers and toes.

Daniel Jolivard was born in Haiti with a rare immune system disorder called HLH. He moved to the United States to receive treatment at University of Michigan Mott's Children's Hospital. Upon diagnosis, Daniel discharged on hospice care and was given 48 hours to live. Daniel surpassed all expectations and is now 3 years old. He received a bone marrow transplant in February.

Zach Sheehan is a freshman at Plymouth High School. He was diagnosed with Duchenne muscular dystrophy. This is a form of MD that causes muscles to degenerate very quickly, taking his ability to walk and move. Zach is wheelchair-bound and still eager to participate in all aspects of life. He needs wheelchair ramps and lifts to make it easier for him to get around.

Macaylah Whitlock was born deaf, with Down syndrome and with leukemia. During her eight years of life, she has battled her cancer and is now in remission. She is currently under medical care. She has four surgeries planned in the immediate future with ear, nose and throat specialists.

In July 2014, Katie Douglass, a mother of two, was diagnosed with a tumor on her vertebrae. After a successful surgery to remove

the tumor and her spine being reinforced with titanium rods, she lost a lot of motion and strength in her hands. After four months of chemotherapy, doctors found a tumor on her liver and a spot on her lung. The spot on her lung went away. As for the tumor on Katie's liver, doctors decided to remove 55 percent of her liver. She is now on the road to recovery and undergoing radiation for the tumor around her spine.

The race will start at the Canton varsity football field. Registration will continue until race day; registrations received prior to April 14 will include a race shirt. Registration forms can be found on the SJ5K Facebook page, on the P-CEP website or at the Canton, Plymouth and Salem main offices.

Event fees are \$25 for adults (over 18 years of age) and \$20 for all others.

Volunteers are needed. For questions about the race or to volunteer, contact the coordinator for this year's event, Amy Dalton, at amydzaldalton@gmail.com. For questions about becoming a sponsor, contact sj5kweb@gmail.com. All donations and sponsorships can be made out to "EEF" and can be mailed to: Pam Davis, 46370 Spinning Wheel, Canton, MI 48187.

To register, go to www.sj5k.org or the SJ5K eventbrite page at http://www.eventbrite.com/e/sj5k-2015-may-3-at-p-cep-tickets-16078307651.

Bridal Showcase offering brides-to-be everything they need in one venue

By Melanie M. Zwegers
Correspondent

Northville's Bridal Showcase is back for its second year 1-4 p.m. April 19 at the New School Church in Mill Race Historical Village.

Brides, bridesmaids, mothers-of-brides and even prom-goers can come partake in a unique, once-a-year

event that brings together local businesses offering a variety of wedding needs and services. Stroll the vendor-lined aisles of the Village's New School Church, itself an idyllic choice for a wedding in any season, to browse an eclectic display of new and previously owned wedding gowns and prom dresses at discount prices. Visitors can also sample bakery and catering food services, peruse invitation designs and papers, pick out floral arrangements and bouquets and even try on jewelry pieces to match their perfect big-day

gown. Donna Laby, major organizer and volunteer behind the Showcase, looks forward to the event as an opportunity to give local businesses press, as well as support Mill Race Historical Village and its parent organization, the Northville Historical Society, of which she is a contributing member and docent.

The \$5 entry fee per person goes directly to helping the Village and supporting the many behind-the-scenes volunteers who help put on this outstanding event.

Prop 1 focus of Northville town hall

Proposal 1 will be the focus of a town hall meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, April 13, in Northville. Speakers will include state Rep. Kristy

Pagan of Canton, Scott Craig, Northville school board vice president, and Chuck Nichols, attorney.

The public is invited to the forum at Hillside Middle School, 775 N. Center Street, Northville. Speakers will present the pros and cons of the issue. Voters will have a chance to ask questions.

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MUSCLE INJURY
How does it happen? Injuries occur working in a garden, a slip and fall on the sidewalk, a tumble down the stairs. The injuries that come to mind are bruises or broken bones, but muscles experience injury too. In most instances a muscle injury means a tendon that is frayed, ripped or ruptured, but the muscle itself, called the muscle belly, can tear.
In some instances a muscle tear can make itself known by a sudden searing pain. In that case what has occurred is that the tear caused a muscle artery to bleed. The result is a sudden swelling of the muscle belly; it is the unexpected expansion of muscle that causes the intense pain. A doctor can determine that bleeding into the muscle has occurred because signs of bleeding, called ecchymoses appear in the skin surrounding the muscle.
More often the torn muscle does not show such evidence of injury. The tear usually starts with an ache or intermittent pain that worsens over days as the tear develops its boundaries and depth. What brings a person to seek medical care is that the pain stays.
By examining the painful arm or leg, a doctor can determine that no broken bone is present, and further examination can evaluate that no injury to the nerve has occurred.
When the doctor is assured that the problem is a muscle tear he needs to inform the patient that healing can take a long time, by that statement the doctor means months; six to eight months is not an unusual healing period. The delay occurs because a person uses muscles every day. Healing proceeds slowly though. Heat and massage help. However, patience is the most important aspect of therapy.

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PUBLIC NOTICE Regular Meeting
The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its regular meeting April 21st at 7:30 p.m. at the Friends Room on the main level of the Library at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.
The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:
Sandra Young, Administrative Assistant
Plymouth District Library
223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI
734-453-0750 x 217
Publish: April 12, 2015

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

HONK! AUDITIONS

Time/Date: Registration will be at 6:45 p.m., with auditions beginning at 7 p.m., April 14 and 16

Location: The Village Theater, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton

Details: Spotlight Players will host auditions for *HONK!* It is based on Hans Christian Andersen's *The Ugly Duckling* by Anthony Drewe and George Stiles in 1993

Auditions: Free. If cast in the show, membership is \$35. Auditions will consist of singing selected songs from the production, cold readings from the script and a short choreographed dance that will be taught at auditions. It is suggested those who plan to audition wear comfortable clothes and shoes.

Contact: Audition forms can be downloaded from Spotlight Players' website at www.spotlightplayersmi.org and completed with a non-returnable photograph stapled to it. Character descriptions, a rehearsal schedule and other important information can also be found on the *HONK!* show page on the website.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 15

Location: Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center, Canton

Details: The Canton Public Library will commemorate Holocaust Remembrance Day with a free screening of the documentary *Never a Bystander*, shot partially at Discovery Middle School. Ann Arbor filmmaker Evelyn Neuhaus and Irene Butter, the subject, will be available afterward for a Q&A.

Contact: Canton Public Library at 734-397-0999

JOINT REPLACEMENT SEMINARS

Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 22; Wednesday, May 27; Thursday, June 25

Location: Classroom 10 at St. Mary Mercy Livonia, 36154 Five Mile

Details: The Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary Mercy Livonia offers free monthly educational seminars. Expert staff will answer questions, discuss joint pain, joint replacement procedures and available implant options.

Contact: To register, 734-655-2345.

BACK PAIN CLASS

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon, April 16



Spotlight Players holds auditions for its latest production, *HONK!*

Location: Oakwood Hospital, 5450 Fort Street, Trenton

Details: Oakwood Healthcare sponsors a free class, Back Pain 101, featuring experts who will explain the causes of back pain and the treatments available

Contact: Register by visiting Oakwood.org under the Classes & Events tab or 800-543-9355

FOLK CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Saturday, April 18

Location: JWH Center for the Arts, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: BaseLine Folk Society hosts its monthly musical gathering. Host is John Delle-Monache, singer/songwriter, former radio news anchor at WJR-AM (760) and WWJ-AM (950), will introduce the evening of performers and play a couple of contemporary tunes.

Cost: \$5 per person, including performers.

Contact: BFSpresident@aol.com. If interested in performing, sign up 6:15-6:45 p.m.

MONTESSORI OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Sunday, April 19

Location: Plymouth-Canton Montessori School, 45245 Joy Road, Canton

Details: Teachers and staff will provide classroom tours and enrollment information about the school's 10-week summer camp program and 2015-16 school year. Children welcome. Light refreshments

Contact: www.pcmontessori.org, email pcmontessori@sbglobal.net or call 734-459-1550

WELLNESS SEMINAR

Time/Date: 10 a.m. noon Saturday, April 25

Location: St. Mary Mercy Livonia

NEWS OF UPCOMING EVENTS

The Community Calendar runs in the Plymouth and Canton Observer as space permits. Nonprofit groups and community organizations are welcome to submit news of upcoming events. Please include a daytime telephone number and contact person. Email information to jmaliszews@hometownlife.com.

Location: Center for Integrative Medicine, in Wellness Center, off hospital's south lobby on Five Mile

Details: Speaker Julie Burt, AADP, CHC of the Arthritis Foundation will provide an introduction to tai chi and its many health benefits

Cost: Free

Contact: Registration required, 734-655-1320

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: Various dates in April and May

Location: Various

Details: Widowed Friends, a peer support group offers the following activities to widowed men and women in all areas: » 9 a.m. April 23 and May 4: Widowed Men Only. Meet for breakfast on the second and fourth Thursday each month at Steve's Family Restaurant, 15800 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. Learn about other widowed activities. Call Dick at 313-534-0399.

» 9 a.m. Monday, April 20: Ladies only. Breakfast held on the first and third Monday of each month at Connors Restaurant, Haggerty and Five Mile, Northville. To save your seat, call Carol O. at 313-562-3080.

» 2:30 p.m. May 17: Mass/Fellowship/Luncheon at St. Kenneth Church, 14951 N. Haggerty, Plymouth. Light luncheon. Helpers needed to assist with the liturgy or the lunch. Contact Pat at 734-895-6246 or Liz at 734-452-9149.

» 5:30-9 p.m. May 20: Dinner/Support/Games at G. Subu's, 20300 Farmington Road (one block south of Eight Mile). Family-style meal is \$20, includes tax and tip. Must RSVP by May 14 to Carol at 313-562-3080 or Mary Ann at 313-565-5749.



Manny Melendez, 4, practices buttoning in the practical life area of the classroom at Plymouth-Canton Montessori School.

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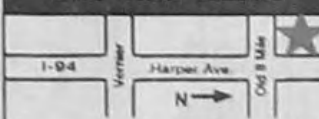
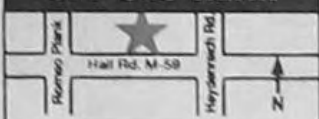
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SPORTS

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SENIOR SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL



Eyeing a pitch is Trenton's Denny Latart, during a recent senior softball game at High Velocity Sports Dome. Players have been participating in games and practices there since January. **BOB MOSHER**

TAKING IT INSIDE

High Velocity dome perfect spot for 65-plus softball players to gear up for season

By **Tim Smith**
 Staff Writer



"This keeps us young, it's all about fun, it's about playing ball and being out there."

BOB MOSHER, Canton resident

When weather is bad, these softball veterans know a place where it's all good. Thanks to the recently opened High Velocity Sports Dome in Canton, senior citizens are flocking inside to sharpen up their pitching, hitting and fielding skills. Soon enough, the 60- and 70-something players in the Western Wayne County Suburban Over 65 Softball League will return outdoors to get their weekly dose of hits, high fives and hilarity. But until the area's wet, muddy softball diamonds are ready for slow-pitch action, Canton's Bob Mosher and company will

gladly enjoy going to the multi-purpose facility on Michigan Avenue. "This keeps us young," said the 75-year-old Mosher, who is a player as well as league chairman. "It's all about fun, it's about playing ball and being out there." Twice a week at least until May, players in 65-and-over and 70-and-over leagues are gathering at High Velocity — which

officially opened in January — to hammer away at mushballs and run on turf around a makeshift diamond. "We always use a softer softball, it's called a safety ball," Mosher explained. "It doesn't sound like a real softball." It doesn't travel as far, either.



Rob Masson of Milford steps into the batter's box at High Velocity during a recent softball game. **BOB MOSHER**

See **SOFTBALL**, Page B4



FILE PHOTO
 Salem's Adam Marcero is one of the Rocks' top returnees this season.

BOYS GOLF PREVIEW - PART 2

Hard-working Rocks look to rise in standings

Plenty of positive signs for up-and-coming Salem boys golfers

By **Tim Smith**
 Staff Writer

Now that the weather finally is turning, Salem varsity boys golf coach Ryan Nimmerguth is hoping for things to change for the better with his squad. Last year's team went 1-4 in the KLAA Central Division and only has two seniors as it looks to improve and move up the division and Kensington Conference standings, according

to Nimmerguth. Eight seniors graduated in 2014 and there are six returnees. A definite plus is lone returning senior Jakob Lenders, an excellent and versatile athlete. "I expect him to be the leader on and off the course of this year's team," said Nimmerguth, about Lenders. "Jakob is coming off a great basketball season for Salem and I can see his golf game rounding into shape with each practice so far this season. "His scores have gotten lower and lower after each practice so far." The kind of work ethic that Lenders is known to demonstrate is something Nimmer-

guth is seeing rub off on the younger golfers, too. "So far this year's team has shown great chemistry with all the new faces and has produced consistently well given the weather and course conditions we have played in," Nimmerguth said. "Competing in practice is different than competing in a match and I am very interested to see how these guys respond to the challenge." Augmenting Lenders will be juniors Hayden Winch, Adam Marcero, Woodie Mashni and sophomores Shawn Weldon and Matt Schaumburger. "Another key contributor this year will be junior Hayden Winch," Nimmerguth said.

"His primary sport is hockey but he does a great job on the golf course as well and has started the season off well shooting good scores in practice." Marcero and Weldon "have shown great improvements from last year and have started the season shooting consistently low scores. It is great to see their improvement and they will be depended on in the varsity lineup." Nimmerguth noted that Mashni and Schaumburger (another hockey player) bring experience and should chip in with some low scores. The only other senior on the

See **GOLF**, Page B4

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COMPETITIVE DANCE

STEPPING IT UP!

Top honors for Canton-based Planetdance team

Canton's Planetdance team took top honors at two recent local competitions.

Planetdance's competitive dance team — comprised of dancers ages 6-18, from Canton, Plymouth, Westland and Garden City — took top honors in the following awards: Top Mini Solo, Top Mini Duet, Top Mini Group, Top Junior Group, Top Teen Group and Top Senior Group.

The dancers took several overall honors and at the K.AR Dance Competition, the senior compa-



Members of the Canton-based Planetdance competition team are all smiles after winning a recent event. From left are: Lindsey Koshowsky, 12; Molly Johnson, 14; Morgan Besant, 14; Vazhane Sawyers, 16; Brooke Arcuragi, 16; Kendall Stasser, 18; Marisa Stafford, 17; and owner Jen Tompkins.

ny took the highest score of the weekend and were invited to August's Industry Dance Awards in Las

Vegas, Nev. Meanwhile, the team will travel to Biloxi, Miss., in July to compete

in the National Finals. Members of the team are as follows: Lindsey Koshowsky, 12; Molly Johnson, 14; Morgan Besant, 14; Vazhane Sawyers, 16; Brooke Arcuragi, 16; Kendall Stasser, 18; and Marisa Stafford, 17.

The Planetdance studio, owned by Jen Tompkins, opened more than a decade ago. It is located at 44314 Cherry Hill.

PREP BASEBALL

Wildcats pitch in, sweep Shamrocks

Pitching was the name of the game Wednesday as Plymouth swept a non-league baseball doubleheader from host Novi Detroit Catholic Central.

Patrick Downing threw a complete game 4-hitter and struck out seven over seven innings as the Wildcats captured the opener, 6-2.

Pete Carravallah went 3-for-3 at the plate to pace a 13-hit Plymouth attack, while Andrew Hejka, Kevin Anthony and Cam Stella each went 2-for-4.

Catholic Central used four pitchers, while allowing just one walk, as starter Luke Hargis suffered the loss.

Justin Green and Nick Marcon each collected two hits for CC.

In Game Two, Kyle Wolter limited the Shamrocks to just two hits and struck out six as the Wildcats edged CC in five innings, 1-0. Luke Hirshman col-



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Catholic Central's Luke Hargis (left) and Sean Garica (right) turned a double play in the third inning against Plymouth. Retired at second base on the play was Cameron Stella of the Wildcats.

lected the only RBI of the game for the Wildcats, who improved to 4-3 overall.

The Shamrocks (1-5) used three pitchers with Jack Hintz taking the loss.

SALEM 2, MOTT 1: Salem defeated Waterford Mott on Wednesday on a walk-off hit by Alex Nicholson.

Pitching a two-hitter for the victory was Erich Payne.

SALEM 4, SKYLINE 2: The Rocks parlayed strong pitching by Matt Brooks into this non-conference victory over Ann Arbor Skyline.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

GIRLS SOCCER
Tuesday, April 14
PCA at Roper (Ultimate Soccer), 3:30 p.m.

Wayne at Canton, 5:30 p.m.
Birm. Marian at F.H. Mercy, 5:30 p.m.
South Lyon at Salem, 7 p.m.
Plymouth at Churchill (DH), 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 16
John Glenn at Canton, 7 p.m.
Salem at S.L. East, 7 p.m.
Plymouth at Wayne, 7 p.m.

Friday, April 17
Garden City at F.H. Mercy, 5:30 p.m.
W.L. Northern at Canton, 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 18
Salem at Ladywood, 1 p.m.

BOYS BASEBALL
Monday, April 13
Salem at W. Bloomfield, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, April 15
John Glenn at Canton (DH), 4 p.m.
Northville at Salem (DH), 4 p.m.
Plymouth at Churchill (DH), 4 p.m.

Friday, April 17
Plymouth at Salem, 4 p.m.
Canton at Novi, 4 p.m.

Saturday, April 18
Plymouth at Milan (DH), 11 a.m.

GIRLS SOFTBALL
Tuesday, April 14
John Glenn at Canton, 4 p.m.

F.H. Mercy at Warren Regina, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, April 15
John Glenn at Canton (DH), 4 p.m.
Northville at Salem (DH), 4 p.m.
Plymouth at Churchill (DH), 4 p.m.

Thursday, April 16
F.H. Mercy at Birm. Marian, 4 p.m.

Friday, April 17
Canton at Novi, 4 p.m.
Plymouth at Salem, 4 p.m.

Saturday, April 18
Mercy Invite at Founders Park, 8 a.m.
Ann Arbor Pioneer Tournament, TBA.

COED TRACK & FIELD
Tuesday, April 14
Canton at Franklin, 4 p.m.

John Glenn at Plymouth, 4 p.m.
Northville at Salem, 4 p.m.

Friday, April 17
P-CEP City Meet, 3:30 p.m.

BOYS LACROSSE
Monday, April 13
Canton at Novi, 7 p.m.

Northville at Plymouth (JV Field), 8 p.m.
Salem at Tecumseh, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, April 15
Canton at Gabriel Richard, 4 p.m.
Salem at Plymouth (JV Field), 8 p.m.

Thursday, April 16
Belleville at Canton, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 17
Pioneer at Plymouth (JV Field), 7 p.m.

GIRLS LACROSSE
Monday, April 13
Plymouth at Northville, 7 p.m.

Salem at Canton, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 15
Canton at Dexter, 7 p.m.

Salem at Plymouth (Turf), 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 17
Plymouth at Farmington, 7 p.m.

Canton at Saline, 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 18
South Lyon at F.H. Mercy, 3 p.m.

GIRLS TENNIS
Monday, April 13
Warren Regina at F.H. Mercy, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, April 14
Canton at Franklin, 4 p.m.

South Lyon at Salem, 4 p.m.

Plymouth at Wayne, 4 p.m.

F.H. Mercy at Dbn. Divine Child, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, April 15
Canton at Salem, 4 p.m.

Thursday, April 16
Churchill at Canton, 4 p.m.

Stevenson at Salem, 4 p.m.

Plymouth at John Glenn, 4 p.m.

F.H. Mercy at Birm. Marian, 4 p.m.

Saturday, April 18
Howell Highlander Invite, TBA.

BOYS GOLF
Thursday, April 16
Farmington Invite at FHGC, 8:30 a.m.

NOTE: Schedules subject to change due to postponements and makeups.

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GIRLS SOCCER PREVIEW



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Plymouth Christian Academy's returning player Jessica Paulson is shown during a 2014 game.

Nucleus set to lead PCA

Coaches look forward to what 2015 season brings

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

It's full speed ahead for Plymouth Christian Academy's varsity girls soccer team as the Eagles look to make a splash in the MIAC.

Head coach Nathan Yates and assistant coach and former PCA player Annette Somercik are both enthusiastically an-

icipating what could be a big season.

"The team has a challenging season ahead," Yates noted. "But (it) wants to compete for the MIAC title and make a run in the (Division 4) state tournament."

A solid nucleus will lead the Eagles, including senior captain and forward Sarah Durham (12 goals in 2014), senior midfielder Lauren Schlietz, senior defender Anna Nichols and senior goalkeeper Abby Wyman (a newcomer to the

team). Yates listed sophomores Jessica Paulson (midfield) and Ally Crecelius (defense/midfield) as players who could make a difference for PCA.

"Both players bring considerable club soccer experience to the team," Yates said.

PCA's next action is slated for Tuesday at Bloomfield Hills Roeser, followed by a home game 4:30 p.m. April 20 against Summit Academy.

Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

FOOTBALL CAMPS

Canton summer football camps on tap

Football players will want to start making plans to attend one of two camps taking place this summer at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park football stadium and being offered by the Canton Chiefs Football Boosters.

» The Canton Chiefs Football Skills Camp (for youngsters entering grades 7-9 in 2015-16) will have two Monday-Thursday sessions, June 8-11 and July 20-23, with sessions 5-7:30 p.m. each day. Those who

pre-register early (until May 19) can sign up for both camps for just \$50; fees go up to \$60 for both camps as of May 20.

» Also slated for this summer is the Canton Chiefs Wing T/3-4 Camp (for youngsters entering grades 10-12). The dates are 2-5 p.m. Monday, June 15, and 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, June 16, through Thursday, June 18, at the P-CEP varsity stadium. Camp fees are \$25 for those who pre-register and \$30 for registrations after May 19.

Both camps focuses on the fundamentals, whether for becoming a lineman, running back or quarterback. Each participant will learn the Chiefs football philosophy for offense and participate in practice sessions. All campers will receive a Chiefs football T-shirt and shorts.

Contact Richard Mui at 248-229-2738 for information about the Skills Camp or Tim Baechler (734-455-7691) about the Wing T Camp.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

'Juice Box' Hockey

Arctic Edge Arena on Michigan Avenue in Canton is hosting free hockey and juice boxes to kids ages 4-8 on these Saturdays: April 18 and 25 and May 9 and 16. Included will be free equipment, ice time, jerseys, instruction, juice boxes and, most importantly, hockey fun.

The arena is on the south side of Michigan Avenue between Canton Center/Belleville and Beck roads.

YMCA programs

The Plymouth Family YMCA continues to provide worthwhile recreational opportunities for young boys and girls.

Following is a look at a couple of spring offerings now accepting registrations.

» **Girls volleyball:** Girls ages 8-12 can learn the basics of volleyball and develop new skills. Practices will be held one night during the week,

with games each Friday. Spring session begins the week of April 13 and registration is open now. The Y rate is \$96, while non-members can sign up for \$120.

» **Co-ed soccer:** Leagues are forming for boys and girls ages 3-11. YMCA soccer is a great opportunity for children to learn the fundamental skills of soccer in a safe and fun environment. Practices will be held one night during the week, with games each Saturday. Spring session begins the week of April 20 and registration is open now. The Y rate is \$75 or \$100 for community participants.

For more information on these and other programs, contact the YMCA at 734-453-2904 or go to www.ymcadetroit.org/plymouth.

Girasoles 5K run

Novi Detroit Catholic Central High will stage its Soles for Girasoles 5-kilometer charity run-walk beginning at 9

a.m. Saturday, May 9, at Nankin Mills in Westland.

The event will be a fundraiser to benefit a mission trip for the Girasoles Home for abused and abandoned boys in Peru. Registration and packet pick-up begins at 8 a.m. The kids 12-and-under 1-mile race starts at 8:30 a.m.

The registration fees for the 5K are \$25 in advance or \$30 walk-in. Fees for the kids 12-and-under 1-mile are \$10 in advance or \$15 walk-in.

To register, go to www.A2racemanagement.com. For more information, go to www.scriptureonperu.org.

Reporting results

Local high school coaches are encouraged to report results of their team's contests to *Observer* sports editor Tim Smith at 734-718-5306 or tsmith@hometownlife.com.

Deadlines are 10 p.m. Tuesday and Friday for the Thursday and Sunday editions, respectively.

GOLF

Continued from Page B1

roster is one of Lenders' basketball teammates, Jake Stropes. He is new to the squad.

Junior Travis Stott, sophomores Matt Danis, Luke Trulock and freshmen Lorenzo Bucciarelli, Bryce Henderson and Justin Polce round out the group of newcomers.

"These guys will have to learn on the fly," Nimmerguth stressed. "And once they get more comfortable with competing on the golf course I expect them to give this team the depth we need."

The Rocks, who open the schedule April 16 at the Farmington Invitational at Farmington Hills Golf Club, face plenty of strong challengers in the division and conference, the coach said.

"Competition will be tough

this season with Northville, Novi, Canton, and Plymouth being the early front runners," Nimmerguth said. "But our goals are the same every season — improve upon last year's record and contend for the division (and) conference championships and qualify for the state finals."

Plymouth outlook

Youth will be served as far as the 2015 Plymouth varsity boys golf team is concerned.

Head coach Dan Young's lineup is stacked with young yet experienced returnees in sophomores Jack Boczar, Justin Kapke, Matt Decker and Joe Fontana.

The Wildcats also have steady upperclassmen who are back for another season. Those include seniors Connor Zydeck, Andrew Lloyd



Boczar

and juniors Kyle Kozler, James Baldwin and Steven Hill.

Promising newcomers include juniors Vaishak Mendon, Jacob Silvester, Reilly Sullivan, Jeremy Arsenault, sophomore Justin O'Shaughnessy and freshmen Carter Makelim and Richard Ding.

"This is a great group of guys," Young said. "They are working hard on their games in preparation for the upcoming season."

Plymouth's first divisional matchup is April 23 against Livonia Churchill at Whispering Willows Golf Course. Before that, the Wildcats take part at the Kensington Conference tournament April 20 at Walnut Creek Country Club in South Lyon.

Last spring, the squad won the KLAA South Division (5-0) and Kensington Conference championships.

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Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page B1

"But some of these guys can knock it darn near to the end there, on the fly," he continued, glancing out toward a game in progress. "It's bigger than a football field. And we can fit two teams in here as long as they're not too big."

"I'd say we can get 18, almost 40 (players) in comfortably."

In the zone

And it's not taking too long for Mosher and company to find a new-and-enclosed comfort zone.

"This is magnificent, this is my first time coming out here," said Ben Purkett, 75, of Redford Township. "I didn't realize it was here. It's the perfect setting, especially during the winter."

"And especially for guys of our age, you know?"

Although the indoor environment takes some getting used to, Purkett and other players don't mind being warm and dry for their spring reps.

"We measure the diamond just the way it would be set up (outside)," Purkett explained, "and we put guys out there in positions just the way they'd be in a regular ballgame, and it's practice, practice, practice."

"The ball is simply soft so you won't get hurt, but other than that everything's the same."

For 67-year-old Bill Ollar of Canton, a newcomer to the league, the High Velocity venue is nicer and brighter than other indoor domes he's played at.

"Some of the other domes are a little bit darker, harder to see the ball," Ollar noted. "So this is lighter, it's warmer than some of the other ones, so it makes it a lot nicer for coming out and doing this kind of thing in bad weather."

Ollar added that players do need to get used to the glare of the lights in the ceiling.

"Yes, there's quite a few lights so the ball does get lost in the lights a little bit now and then," he said. "And people do hit it up into the ceiling, but the ball just bounces down."

"It's a little bit different, the ground is a little bit softer, so the balls bounce a little bit different, and it's a little bit different when you run."

Friendly confines

Ollar, who said it's a nice bonus to only have to travel a couple miles to High Velocity, echoed other players about how worthwhile it is to have senior adult leagues around in the first place.

"I just love playing ball," Ollar said. "And one really good thing about this league over other leagues, is that (leagues with younger players) are much more competitive and sometimes there gets to be a little friction on the team."

"Out here, everybody's just out here to have a good time, get exercise and have fun. So everybody's so much more friendly."

Going to health clubs didn't cut it for Ollar, either, so senior softball turned out to be a perfect alternative.

"It's an excellent way to get exercise," Ollar said. "To me, I've thought about once I retired to go to health clubs or something like that."

"But I love doing this and this doesn't even seem like exercise. But it is. My body's feeling so much better since I



BOB MOSHER

Getting ready to connect under the High Velocity Sports Dome is Gary Berriman of Canton.

SIGN 'EM UP

WHAT: There always is room for more players in their 60s and 70s to join the Western Wayne County Suburban Over 65 Softball League.

WHERE: The slow-pitch league is governed by the Amateur Softball Association and includes teams based out of Canton, Livonia, Redford, Westland, Dearborn and Taylor.

SPONSOR: League chairman Bob Mosher said a sponsor is being sought to help players — some who are on fixed incomes — pay for umpire's fees and other expenses.

INFO: Call 734-502-7477, send email to bwphoto@comcast.net, go to www.softballover65.weebly.com.

started this practice."

Northville's Les Osenkowski, 67, said senior softball is starting to really take off and having new facilities such as High Velocity will only be a plus.

"I started this senior stuff about six years ago and it was very sparse," Osenkowski said. "But because of word of mouth and the activities that take place we've drawn a lot of people into it."

Osenkowski then added that those who do populate the various teams have "been blessed with the health to still be able to play. That's a key factor."

Perspective

Yet if you ask Purkett, it might be a chicken-or-egg scenario. Perhaps it's softball itself that does the trick.

"I heard about this senior league they had going on," Purkett said. "I ran into guys just out playing for the health of it, to stay healthy and have fun. And to get out from behind the old checker board."

"You don't have to worry about why you're so stiff at the end of the day because you're sitting down all day. I decided 'Hey, I'm going to go out there and getting involved.'"

Purkett said the guys who get off the couch still have competitive juices, of course. The key is they keep perspective on things.

"Get involved, stop worrying about whether you're as good as you used to be," he said with a knowing grin. "None of us are. You're not going to get any better."

"Just enjoy it and stay healthy."

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BOB MOSHER

Bob Gerwatowski of Livonia flips a so-called mushball toward batter Rick Howey. The ball is softer to maximize player safety during the indoor games.



Jean Ann Mies is a big fan of Hello Kitty and the color pink.



Anne Munn checks on a meatloaf baking in the oven at her Livonia home. She and her roommate of 22 years, Jean Ann Mies, share the cooking and other household chores, with support from Community Opportunity Center.

COC marks 50 years of helping developmentally disabled persons

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Meet Anne Munn and Jean Ann Mies.

Munn, 49, is an avid bowler whose trophies line family room shelves in her neat Livonia ranch-style house. Step into her bedroom and you'll notice cherished family photos that decorate lilac-colored walls. Take a whiff as you pass the kitchen — that's her meatloaf cooking in the oven — and head to the craft center, where she'll show you her handmade greeting cards.

Mies, 54, is a Hello Kitty fan who also loves the color pink. You'll see the two concepts merge in her bedroom, where the iconic kitten graces everything from a wall clock, to CD player, to a table lamp. Notice the fleece blankets neatly stacked on her bed and she'll tell you about the hand-tied blankets she made for every member of her family. Then check out the tablet she uses to play puzzles, games, videos, Power Rangers and even learn math.

The longtime friends have lived together for 22 years, first in an apartment, and for the last two years in Munn's childhood home. They live on their own with support from their families and from the Community Opportunity Center, a Livonia-based nonprofit organization that helps developmentally disabled persons live as independently as possible. COC provides housing — COC-owned, leased or rented — for its clients. It also offers support staff in its homes and to clients like Munn and Mies



It's time for Debbie Smart to leave for the day. Anne Munn gives her a big hug. Smart, a Plymouth resident, helps Munn with tasks such as menu planning and grocery shopping.

who live in family-owned houses or condos. Debbie Smart of Plymouth, for example, works with the two women twice weekly to assist with daily living tasks, such as meal planning, grocery shopping, and paying utility bills.

The roommates are among 87 clients served by COC, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Denise King, COC executive director, credits families, board members and the community for the organization's longevity.

"We have so many dynamic people who care," King said. "We've seen generations of

people getting involved. It makes such a difference in a corporation like ours when you have everyone that pulls together for the benefit of their loved ones. They all work together."

Family-driven

Families and advocates formed COC in 1965 with a mission to establish a sheltered workshop for persons with developmental disabilities. The workshop opened a year later, employing 13 workers and staff, and was merged with the Detroit League for the Handicapped in 1967.



Denise King, executive director of Community Opportunity Center, shares a moment with Anne Munn.

COC remained inactive for three years, and then reinstated its charter in 1970. A new board took the organization in a new direction in 1972.

"The families involved said, why not look at some housing alternatives. The consensus was that housing was a greater need (than work programs)," King said.

In the early 1970s, the State of Michigan began to look at housing alternatives to institutions. The trend was to move individuals into group homes in community settings. With approval from the Michigan State Housing Authority, COC built its first 16-person group home in Plymouth. A group home in Livonia, and smaller residence in Redford followed, but were met with neighborhood resistance.

"I remember when I started

at Livonia House (as manager), there was a major uproar and that was in 1980. There were threats of burning the home down. When I was there once a brick was thrown through the window. It was a rough time. People were marching at City Hall. It took a while before people realized our homes weren't a menace to the community, that our residents weren't people to be fearful of."

Senior homes

Today the trend is toward smaller homes. COC's few 16-person homes have downsized and the organization's focus is on offering a variety of smaller housing options. It also has tailored homes to meet the needs of its aging pop-

See HELPING, Page B6

'Westies' in kilts will parade with rescue dogs at 30th annual show

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

"Westies" will put on the dog for the West Highland White Terrier Club of Southeastern Michigan rescue parade, which will take place at the club's 30th annual specialty breed show this month in Whitmore Lake.

Many of the club members' dogs will wear formal tux, diamonds or pearls in keeping with the anniversary theme. Club dogs that parade to support their recently-rescued brethren, will show off their kilts.

"We invite all the the prior year's rescues to attend the parade," said Carole Beaudry of Plymouth, a club member. "We introduce them and tell their stories. It's a real tear-jerker. We had two little dogs that were litter mates born in 2010 that were surrendered because their family didn't have enough time to spend with them. Fortunately, we were able to adopt them out together.



Watson, a "Westie" from Plymouth, wears his kilt. His owner, Carole Beaudry, is a member of the West Highland White Terrier Club of Southeastern Michigan, which runs a parade and show on April 25.

"Then we had six puppy mill dogs came in. They were living in rabbit hutches out in the cold all winter. Almost all of them have been adopted out."

The parade runs 20-30 minutes, depending on how many rescue dogs attend. It also includes Scottish pipers, a parade marshal and kilt-wearing Westies.

"We call them wee marshals," Beaudry said, adding that Westie Rescue Michigan sells doggy kilts as a fundraiser. They run \$40-\$50. "They

are adorable wearing them. They go around the body and have a pleated skirt. I have to say, the parade attracts a lot of people."

Beaudry, who also is involved with Westie rescue, isn't sure whether her dog, Watson, will participate this year. In previous years he and his adopted brother, Wesley, who died last year, walked as wee marshals.

Spunky personality



The parade includes honored rescue dogs, Scottish pipers, a parade marshal and "wee marshals" dressed in their doggy kilts.

Beaudry and her husband took in their first Westie in 1984 and have loved the breed ever since.

"They've got such good personalities. They love lots of attention. They are wonderful dogs to have around. And they are very bright," she said.

"If you come out and see them at the show, you'll get to see what they are like. People can talk to owners and see the dogs. And there's always an information table with literature."

The show draws dogs from several states to participate in conformation judging. It also will include the parade, an auction, and fundraising items. Lunch will be available for \$7 for adults and \$4 for children under 10. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. and show hours are 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at the Ann Arbor Dog Training Club, 1575 E. N. Territorial Road. Admission and parking are free.

For more information, visit westieclubmi.com.



PET PROJECTS

HELPING

Continued from Page B5

ulation. "We thought it was time to have a house with no stairs. We started our first home (for seniors) through a grant through the mental health system. It's all one floor in Livonia. Because we've been around for so long, people have aged with us. Our oldest gal is going to be 87."

COC maintains a waiting list for housing and staff assistance. King said some families place their adult developmentally disabled children on the list when they aren't immediately ready to see them move into a group or independent living environment.

"Often we hear from the parents when they are starting to age. The last person who moved into Livonia house, it was a struggle for mom and dad. It was hard to see their son move on, but in the end they are happy and he's happy."

Many moves

Mies and Munn both lived in COC group housing after moving out of their parents' homes and before moving into apartments together and eventually into Munn's childhood home, which became available after her mother moved into a senior residence.

"There certainly was potential in both of the ladies to live more independently," King said. "Anne and Jean Ann feel safe living together here."

Munn knows the neighbors, having grown up in the house. Family members frequently visit and the women work regularly with COC staff.

King said the community has pitched in to help COC residents who don't have family nearby. Three families from



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Anne Munn is an accomplished bowler. Her awards and trophies are on display in the family room.



Jean Ann Mies hold a snapshot of herself, as a baby, with her older brothers, Tom and Jerry Mies.

Resurrection Catholic Church in Canton reached out to become friends with several residents. Community groups assist with sprucing up properties and have come together for a wellness program COC recently started.

"All kinds of people have reached out to say, how can we help? How can we make the lives of the people you're supporting better?"

As for Mies and Munn, they've found their perfect home.

"We had a housewarming and everybody came and we had a good time," Munn said.

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY CENTER 50TH ANNIVERSARY

When: 6 p.m. Saturday, April 18
Where: Laurel Manor Banquet & Conference Center, 39000 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia
Who: Community Opportunity Center is a nonprofit organization that provides housing and support for individuals with developmental disabilities
Details: Randy Lewis, author of *No Greatness Without Goodness*, is the guest speaker at the event, which also will include a dinner of filet mignon and chicken delignore and music for dancing by The Relic Band. Lewis, a senior vice president at Walgreens, introduced an inclusive model in the company's distribution centers that resulted in 10 percent of its work force being staffed by persons with disabilities.
Tickets: \$40; reserve by calling 734-422-1020

"I like it because we have that big back yard that we never had before," Mies added.
For more about COC, visit cocliving.com.

New warranty laws needed to lengthen appliance lifespan

Several years ago, I wrote about the different and strange screws that manufacturers were using in production of their appliances. It's as if they didn't want you to take it apart because you didn't have a screw driver to fit the screw and that became a big problem for the do-it-yourselfer.

Nowadays, your new appliance may look like it's welded together and almost impossible to take it apart unless you get some expert to show you how it comes apart. I believe the idea was a built into the design to create more work for the appliance repair technicians, especially those directly employed by the manufacturer. Not only does this make it hard on repair technicians who see a new appliance for the first time, it also takes away that feeling we all get from repairing something out of our spectrum. People can gain a big sense of pride in fixing an appliance, saving a lot of money and keeping it out of America's landfills. Keep in mind that the more we fix, the fewer new products have to be built. I don't have to explain that this doesn't bode well with the appliance manufacturers



Joe Gagnon
APPLIANCE DOCTOR

because their goal is always to sell more and more. With this mindset, the most important aspect of quality has been diminished and appliance life spans have been so reduced that some products are throw-away pieces of junk.

I can tell you personally that I receive information from homeowners who tell me how much dissatisfaction they have with their new products. You only have to go to appliance reviews to see what I mean and yet the producers of these products just don't seem to care one little bit about our opinions. What ever happened to the word quality and the sense of pride we all had in this country's production?

I must say that we are not alone in this global economy as other countries are going through the same thing, but they are doing something about it. They have mandates to produce more durable products and I think this country can follow suit. I have been reading about the new law in France which is on the side of do-it-yourselfers. The law outlaws planned obsolescence and manufacturers will have to label products with information about how long parts will be available. Products will have a two-year warranty or free replacement for failed products. Germany and Norway already have similar laws and in the U.K. there is the Sale of Goods Act which mandates retailers spe-

cifically to refund, repair or replace goods with an inherent fault for up to six years after purchase. These kinds of laws can give a consumer a real sense of confidence when shopping and buying a major appliance. All of this can result in a better-made product and cause those people responsible to put quality back where it belongs. It's obvious that standards like this would increase the life span of products and those not up to snuff would be left blowing in the wind.

Right now in this country we have the biggest hot-button subject of clothes washers not doing the job because of energy standards mandated by our energy department. These guidelines tie the hands of washer manufacturers into knots which can't be undone. Homeowners are so dissatisfied with performance they purchase clothes washers and get rid of them within two years. The new hot water heater regulations that take effect on April 15 will add several hundreds of dollars to the cost and yet only save you \$12-\$14 per year. It all doesn't make sense to me and yes, I believe we should move forward in developing some new laws in this county and do it now. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m. Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can email your problems and questions on appliances to apldr@twmi.rr.com.

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Concordia Choir, local pianist perform at prayer event in Livonia May 7

Tickets are still available for the 41st annual Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast. The event, featuring John Arthur Nunes, Ph.D., and the Concordia Choir, starts at 7 a.m. Thursday, May 7, at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman, Livonia. Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$10 for K-12 students. Make checks payable to Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast and mail to Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast Inc., Attention Sally Butler, 18858 Mayfield, Livonia, MI 48152. In addition to music by local pianist Sharon Smith, Brian Altevogt from Concordia University in Ann Arbor will



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

direct The Concordia Choir in performing Aaron Copland's *At the River*, arranged for chorus by R. Wilding-White; *Precious Lord*,

arranged by Scott Hyslop; *Lead, Kindly Light*, by Dan Forrest; *All That They Had They Gave*, by Andrea Ramsey and *The Lord is My Light* by Hank

Beebe. Nunes, a professor at Valparaiso University, will speak on the theme "Re-Imagining Yourself as a Peacemaker." He is the former president and CEO of Lutheran World Relief, where he led staff in 17 countries, working with communities that were working their way out of poverty. He's also author of *Voices from the City: Issues and Images of Urban Preaching* and, with his wife Monique Nunes, *Little Things Make Big Differences: A Story about Malaria*. For more information, email butlerconsulting@consultant.com, call 248-476-9427, or visit livoniaprayerbreakfast.org.

REUNIONS

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

DETROIT COOLEY CLASS OF 1965

Looking for classmates from January and June for 50th reunion on Oct. 3, 2015, at Livonia Marriott Hotel. For information, email reunioncooley65@aol.com or call 734-397-3308.

NOVI HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1995

Seeking classmates for a 20-year reunion Saturday, Aug. 22, at the Embassy Suites in Livonia. For more information, email melissacohn8@gmail.com or visit facebook.com/groups/Noviclassof95/.

OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1975

Save the date, Saturday, July 25, at Embassy Suites Livonia, 19525 Victor Parkway, Livonia. Classmates may send their contact information to oakpark1975reunion@gmail.com, and to join the Reunion Facebook Page at https://www.facebook.com/events/810805715636204/.

WAYNE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1965

50th reunion celebration is May 16, at Fellows Creek Golf Club, 2936 Lotz, Canton. Cost is \$30; \$40 after April 30. Contact ilene.raymofowler@yahoo.com or 734-728-4312 for registration.

MILESTONES

ANNIVERSARY

60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

What started out as a high school crush led to 60 years of "happily forever after" for Wesley and Sandy (Sisk) Knight, 45-year Livonia residents. They were married April 9, 1955, at Eber Memorial Baptist Church in Detroit.

Wesley was serving in the U.S. Army and stationed in Germany at the time the two were married while he was home on leave. Sandy joined him in Europe shortly after their wedding, and before returning to the United States the couple gave birth to Karen and Heidi in Heidelberg, Germany.

After returning from service, the couple settled in Dearborn. Wesley went to work for Ford Motor Co., where he spent the rest of his career in data processing and telecommunications. The couple soon gave birth to Tammy, and then Randy, completing the family.



Wesley and Sandy Knight of Livonia are celebrating their 60th anniversary. They were married April 9, 1955.

Through Ford Motor Co., the Knights and their children returned to Europe. They lived in Belgium and England before moving back to the United States — this time with the addition of a schnauzer named Liebchen — and settling in Livonia in 1970.

Sandy took a job with A.J. Foland's where she worked her way into a managerial position with in the company's jewelry department.

The Knights' love for family, golf and schnau-

zers perseveres. Their current schnauzer, a female, is named Schatzi. The couple also enjoys spending winter months in Surprise, Ariz., making their passion for golf and travel a year-round reality.

The Knights spent many years attending Grand River Baptist Church in Livonia before it closed and now call NorthRidge Church home. Their family has grown to include 10 grandkids and 10 great-grandkids.

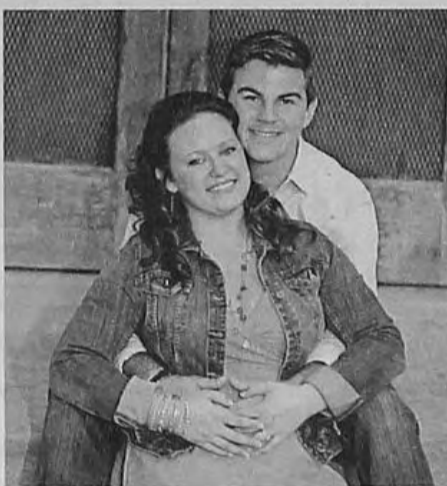
ENGAGEMENT

YARMUTH-GRIFFITHS

Sarah Yarmuth and Steven Griffiths announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of David and Nancy Yarmuth of Weldon Spring, Mo., formerly of Farmington, is a 2008 graduate of Farmington High School and a 2012 graduate of the University of Michigan. She is employed by Arthrex California Technology as a quality engineer.

Her fiancé, son of Gordon and Karen Griffiths of Silver Lake, Ohio, is a 2008 graduate of Cuyahoga Falls High School and a 2012 graduate of the University of Michigan. He is employed by the University of California Santa Barbara as a graduate student researcher.

A June 2015 wedding is planned in Plymouth.



Sarah Yarmuth and Steve Griffiths

ENGAGEMENT

GILMORE-CLARKE

Amanda Laura Gilmore and Lewis Clarke announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Raini and Mark Gilmore of Livonia, is a 2007 Churchill High School graduate. She also graduated from Central Michigan University and is employed as assistant general manager of Residence Inn Marriott.

Her fiancé, son of Tracey and Graham



Lewis Clarke and Amanda Gilmore

Clarke of Tiverton, Devon, United Kingdom, attended Tiverton High

School, Richard Huish College and Bourne-mouth University. He is a multimedia journalist at the *Mid Devon Gazette*.

An October 2015 wedding is planned at Greenmead in Livonia, with Ryan Frederick Gilmore, Amanda's brother, officiating. A reception will be held at the Alexander Blue House at Greenmead.

The couple will make their home in Tiverton, Devon, United Kingdom.

GARDEN & NATURE

Barson's Greenhouse

Learn about the "how and why" of opening your pond for the season at 1 p.m., followed by a seminar in prepping vegetable gardens at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 19, at Barson's, 6414 Merriman, Westland; 734-421-5959. Free

Butterflies

Jed Bromfield will present "Witness Metamorphosis: Raising Caterpillars" 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, at the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association, at Nankin Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Parking on Hines Drive or Ann Arbor Trail. \$3 for non-

members. 734-223-5510, or visit www.sembutterfly.org.

Northville-NovI

Marna Nemon on "Let Them Eat Your Garden," pollinator gardens at Gardeners of Northville and Novi, 6:30 p.m. April 13, at Novi High School, 24062 Taft Road. Non-members pay \$5. gardenersnorthvill-novi.org.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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CLARKE, CATHERINE (KATE THE GREAT)

Passed peacefully on April 1, 2015. Happily married to John B. Clarke for 60 years. Kate was the life of the party! The original fashionista in her fishnet stockings and "go-go" boots of the '60s to crazy, cool hats throughout her fun-filled life. She had a huge, kind heart and was a wonderful mother to her three children, Jennifer, Ken, and Jim. Grandmother to seven whom she loved dearly. A fabulous cook and always entertaining. We will miss her and hold her in our hearts forever. Forever thus, as she would say. Memorial Open House April 19 from 3 to 5 p.m. at her daughter's home in Wolverine Lake Village, Michigan.



MARIHUGH, DOLORES

Beloved wife of the late Paul R. (4/18/04). Dearest mother of Darlene D. DeBerry, Larry P. (Debra), Michael "Turk" (Zona) & Pat (Barb) Marihugh. Loving Grandmother of Michelle Bruner, Mike DeBerry Jr., David, Scott, Brett & Meghan Marihugh, Sheradyn Holden, John, Jeff & Jamie Marihugh. Also great grandmother of five. Leaves siblings, David & Doug Shepley and Cheryl DeVore. Service Monday, 11:00 a.m. at The Fisher Funeral Home, 24501 Five Mile (Btw Beech Daly & Telegraph) Redford Twp. (313) 535-3030. Memorials suggested to the Alzheimer's Assoc. Visitation today 2 p.m. - 8 p.m.



PITTMAN-HADLEY, MARGARET LEE BANCROFT

Age 95, passed away peacefully on Friday, March 27, 2015, at Clare Bridge of Grand Blanc assisted living facility in Holly, Michigan. Born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on January 2, 1920, she grew up in Toledo, Ohio, and graduated from the University of Michigan in 1942 with a Bachelor of Science in Zoology. Following graduation, she married Raymond Alvin Pittman of Toledo, a graduate of the University of Michigan College of Engineering. They settled in Ann Arbor, where she worked as a laboratory technician at University of Michigan Hospital until her children were born. She was married to Mr. Pittman for over 53 years, and together they reared three children. The couple spent most of their married lives in Ann Arbor, where she taught Sunday School at the First Methodist Church and participated in public school and community activities. After the children were older, she worked as an accountant at the former Marti Walker's dress shop on State Street in Ann Arbor. The couple also lived in Boston, Massachusetts, where Mr. Pittman attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Port Elizabeth, South Africa, where she was an active member of the Canadian-American Womens Club and loved to run her Rhodesian Ridgeback hound along the beach at Sardinia Bay; London, England, where she renewed her interest in horseback riding and discovered British antiques; and Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, where she supported the Meadow Brook Music Festival and the Red Cross. For several years, the couple participated in a longitudinal gerontology study at the University of Michigan, providing insight into the aging process. After Mr. Pittman passed away, she married Richard Marshall Hadley in 1997. Theirs was the first wedding for the Henry Ford Village Senior Living Community in Dearborn, Michigan, where she became a square dance enthusiast and a regular member of the welcoming committee. The couple traveled extensively, and visited Italy, England, Alaska, and California. After Mr. Hadley passed away in 2004, she remained at Henry Ford Village, continuing her work with the welcoming committee and leading exercise classes until she moved to Holly, Michigan in 2012. She adored dogs and always had at least one by her side. Having studied classical music, she played the piano for most of her life. She is survived by her three children, son Raymond Pittman (Linda) of Allen Park, Michigan; son Richard Pittman (Diane) of Dallas, Texas; and daughter Margaret Pittman (Mark Carter) of Germantown, Maryland. She also is survived by stepdaughter Donna Christopherson (John) of Plainfield, Illinois; stepdaughter Lynne Fowlkes (Edward) of Northville, Michigan; stepson Philip Hadley (Suzanne) of West Bloomfield, Michigan; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; three step-great-grandchildren; one sister, Mary Ann Bancroft Drahm, of Reno, Nevada; and six nieces and nephews. A private memorial service will be scheduled at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Humane Society of Huron Valley, 3100 Cherry Hill Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105, (734) 662-5585, or www.hshv.org.



DeLONG, MARJORIE NELL

March 21, 2015, Age 87. Dear mother of Michael DeLong (Betty), Kenric Jones DeLong, Donald Alan DeLong (Maria), and Dee Anne Hudak (James). Grandmother of Ashley, James Michael, Maggie Leigh, Tyler Ray, Kyran Dean, John Carlos, Matthew James, Adam Daniel, and Lauren Danielle. Memorial Service Saturday, April 18, 2015 at 10 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, 1669 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham. A.J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at [DesmondFuneralHome.com](http://www.DesmondFuneralHome.com)

ORR, MARILYN

A longtime resident of Farmington Hills, passed away peacefully on April 7, 2015 at the age of 87. Born on July 23, 1927 in Fostoria, Ohio, Marilyn earned her Bachelor degree in journalism from Ohio State University. She is survived by her husband of 30 years, Charles Orr; her dear son, Peter (Monica) Beane; grandchildren, Gretchen and Nathan and extended family and friends. She was preceded in death by her husband, Duane C. Beane in 1974 and brother, Howard Huntley. Services will be held in the summer. For further information phone Lynch & Sons at 248-684-6645 or visit: LynchFuneralDirectors.com



TEMPLE, GARY LEE

March 24, 2015, age 69. Retired science and math teacher from Pioneer Middle School after 33 years of service. Survived by brother Robert (Patricia); nephews Brian Temple, Mark Temple, Eric McLaurin and niece Kristen Chase. Preceded in death by sister Janice. Memorial Gathering will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2015 from 9:30 am until time of the Memorial Service at 10:30 am at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. Contributions are suggested to the U of M Comprehensive Cancer Center, www.mcancer.org or First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, <http://fpcp.net>. To read full obituary go to www.schrader-howell.com



GREEN, DAVID LEE

Age 58 Loving husband of Karen for 37 years. Devoted father of Melissa (Randy), Tonya (Scott) and Heather (Tim). Grandfather of 11. Soon to be a great-grandfather. Also survived by his mother Mary Lou; two sisters, four brothers, many nieces and nephews and is now joining his father Allen O. Green and many others. Visitation Sunday, April 12th 1-4 p.m. with the Memorial Service at 4 p.m. at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 N. Inkster Rd., Garden City (between Ford Rd & Cherry Hill). www.santeiufuneralhome.com

Santeiu Funeral Home



KINNE, TERRI LYNNE (WALKER)

Age 52, April 5, 2015. Survived by husband Ron Kinne; children Samuel and Delaney; parents Ben and Rosemary Walker of Freeland. Memorial gathering Monday, April 13, 1-3 p.m. at Newburg UMC, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia, MI.

Senior care company offers prep list for bad weather

Older adults are among the most vulnerable victims when weather disasters strike. With the severe weather season in full swing, Home Instead Senior Care suggests the seniors and their families be prepared for natural disasters.

The caregiving company offers a safety preparation checklist to help prepare seniors:

» Tune in. Contact the local emergency management office to learn about the most likely natural disasters that may strike. Stay abreast of what's going on through radio, television, Internet.

» Take stock. Decide what your senior can or can't do in the event of a natural disaster. Make a list of what would be needed if a disaster occurred. For example, if your loved one is wheelchair-bound, determine an evacuation strategy ahead of time.

» To go or to stay? When deciding to evacuate, older adults should go sooner rather than later. By waiting too long, they may be unable to leave if they require assistance.

» Make a plan. Schedule a family meeting to develop a plan of action. Include in your plan key people, such as neigh-

bors, friends, relatives and professional caregivers who could help.

» More than one way out. Seniors should develop at least two escape routes — one to evacuate their home and one to evacuate their community. The local emergency management office can offer community escape routes.

» Meet up. Designate a place to meet relatives or key support network people outside the house, as well as a second location outside the neighborhood, such as a school or church. Practice the plan twice a year.

» Get up and "Go Kit." Have an easy-to-carry backpack including three days nonperishable food and water with an additional four days of food and water readily accessible at home. Have at least one gallon of bottled water per person per day. Refresh and replace your supplies at least twice a year. And don't forget the blanket and paper products such as toilet paper.

» Pack extras and copies. Have at least a one-month supply of medication on hand at all times. Make ready other important documents in a waterproof protector including

copies of prescriptions, car title registration and driver's license, insurance documents and bank account numbers, and spare checkbook. Also take extra eyeglasses and hearing-aid batteries. Label every piece of important equipment or personal item in case they are lost.

» Your contact list. Compile a contact list and include people on a senior's support network as well as doctors and other important health care professionals.

New women's cancer support group meets Thursdays in Livonia

St. Mary Mercy Hospital's new Love & Learn Women's Circle will focus on head-to-toe skin care, 6-7:30 p.m. April 23, in the Wellness Center at the hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia.

The monthly support group for women with cancer started in March and meets the fourth Thursday of the month. The group is open to women who currently have cancer, or those who have completed treatment.

"Attending a support group can be very helpful for individuals with cancer and their families," said Michelle Eggenberger, L.M.S.W., a social worker at the hospital. "Support groups allow individuals to gather with others who have similar experiences. Together, these individuals can share stories, advice and help each other understand the disease."

The upcoming gathering will include representatives from St. Mary Mercy's Helen Palmer Image Recovery Center. They will discuss how cancer treatment affects the



skin. Skin care products will be available to sample and women will learn how to keep their skin looking fresh throughout the cancer journey and beyond.

"Cancer is a life-altering disease," Eggenberger said. "Our cancer program is focused on treating the whole person — body, mind and spirit. In addition to traditional medical treatment such as oncology and radiation, we have services to help patients with image recovery, navigation, nutrition, social work and spirituality."

For more information, call 734-655-2973.

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.

Cancer screening

Warren Brandes, D.O., ear, nose and throat surgeon, and his team of ENT residents, will perform free screenings for cancers of the head and neck, 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 18, at Botsford Cancer Center, 27900 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills. Registration required. Call 248-471-8120. Appointments available.

Celiac support

The Tri-County Celiac Support Group will present Gluten-Free Food Fair, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at The First Presbyterian Church, 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington. Participants can shop for gluten-free foods, try free samples and possibly win door prizes or raffles. Admission is \$5 for nonmembers; free for members. Visit www.tccsg.net.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

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.

High blood pressure

Learn how medications, beverages, health conditions, stress and cuff errors can affect blood pressure readings, 6-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, at Stevenson High School, 33500 Six Mile, Livonia. The class

also will offer nutritional, lifestyle, and emotional strategies the may help lower blood pressure. Cost is \$28. Required workbook fee is \$10, due in class. Register with Livonia Family YMCA at 734-261-2161 by April 14.

Joint replacement

The Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary Mercy Hospital Livonia will offer a free presentation on joint pain, joint replacement procedures and implant options, 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, in classroom 10 at St. Mary Mercy, 36154 Five Mile, Livonia. To register, call 734-655-2345.

Medical Bills

Botsford Hospital's free seminar, "Understand Your Medical Bills: Know the Terminology To Read Your Statements," 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.



Westside

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Dr. Paul Makela, gynecologist, provides insight and education about a host of female conditions. Grab a friend, your sister or mom and learn about the latest therapies and procedures available that may help eliminate or reduce your symptoms or pain, and improve your quality of life.

Upcoming Topics in 2015:

- Apr. 29: Pelvic Prolapse
- May 27: Bladder Dysfunction and Overactive Bladder
- Jun. 24: Pelvic Prolapse

Location

Cantoro Italian Market II
15550 Haggerty Rd., Plymouth

5:45 p.m. - Check-in
6 p.m. - Presentation

REGISTER NOW!

The presentations are free, but registration is required. Please call 734-655-1980.
Light refreshments will be served.

Dr. Makela is a member of St. Mary Mercy Medical Group, a group of primary care and specialty physicians who provide comprehensive medical care, health maintenance and preventative services to help you and your family stay healthy.



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Do's and don'ts for successfully negotiating your salary

DO GET THE MOST YOU CAN, AND DON'T FORGET TO DO YOUR RESEARCH. HERE'S HOW.

You wrote a killer resume. The interview process went off without a hitch. You can feel it: A job offer is coming your way. This is great news, but before you start planning your new commute, there are some final steps to getting the job that you're going to want to focus on—and they all involve salary.

Negotiating your salary offer can be stressful, and you may be worried about turning off the employer by an unknowingly unreasonable salary requirement. Here's what you need to do—and don't need to—when negotiating your salary.

DO research beforehand

You may have a number in your head that you'd like to make, but basing your ideal paycheck on hard facts, such as industry standards, company billings and the availability of quality candidates for that role will get you further in negotiation talks. Cheryl E. Palmer, certified career coach and owner of Call to Career, says, "Employers generally have a range in mind for what they intend to pay a new hire. Job seekers need to do their salary research [...] so that they go into the negotiation process knowing what the market will bear."

Begin your research process by accessing resources like the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook or CareerBuilder Salary Calculator. You'll learn about salary trends, certifications that can get you higher earning power and how competitive positions are in the current market.

DON'T be the first to bring up salary talks

"Whoever mentions salary first loses," Palmer says. "Generally speaking, once one side—either the job seeker or the employer—mentions a dollar figure, the other side is in a stronger position to negotiate. So if the employer asks you what you are looking for, it's best to say, 'Could you tell me what the salary range is for this position?' If you immediately volunteer a dollar amount, the salary discussion will be based on that amount. The converse is also true. If the company representative states a dollar amount first, the salary negotiation process will start from there. Thus, it is your best interest to avoid mentioning a dollar amount first if at all possible."

DO offer a salary range

If you're pressed for a salary requirement, you still have options for negotiating your salary without losing the upper hand. "Don't lock yourself in to a specific dollar amount," Palmer says. Instead, she recommends giving a range that you're open to. "That still leaves you room for negotiation. There is not a lot of wiggle room with a specific dollar amount."

DON'T accept the first offer

If you've managed to persuade the company to offer the first salary figure, remember that it's just that: the first offer. "Usually the first offer is not the company's best offer," Palmer says. "It is generally expected that you will try to negotiate even though the competition for jobs is stiff. You may not be able to negotiate the same salary that you could before the economic downturn, but it is still worth it to negotiate. You don't want to feel taken advantage of after you start your new job."

DO make a strong case

Not all negotiation talks will go smoothly, but that's no reason to be deterred from getting money that's on the table—in any form. "If you are lowballed, negotiate based on how well your qualifications match the requirements of the position," Palmer says. "An employer will not be impressed if you try to negotiate based on what



you made previously. The current job market is filled with qualified candidates. However, you are in a strong position to negotiate a higher salary if you are pretty much a perfect match for the position. The best thing to do is to reiterate what the position requires and restate the fact that you have exactly what they are looking for. Then you can say, 'My salary research shows that the going rate for someone with my qualifications and experience is between \$X and \$Y.' This makes your request for a higher salary objective instead of subjective."

DON'T forget to investigate other benefits or perks

If you're not able to get what you want from a monetary perspective, you may still have a few tricks left up your sleeve for negotiating a better employment package. Palmer says, "Health insurance and paid leave are worth money too, and they shouldn't be taken lightly. These can be negotiable. For example, if you already have health insurance through your spouse, you could try to negotiate a higher salary level since the employer will not be paying your premiums. You could also try to negotiate more paid leave, especially if you plan to use that extra vacation time to do consulting work to boost your income."

Though salary talks can be nerve-wracking, it's a crucial final step to securing the job and ensuring that you're fairly compensated for your work. And that's a final step you definitely want to take.

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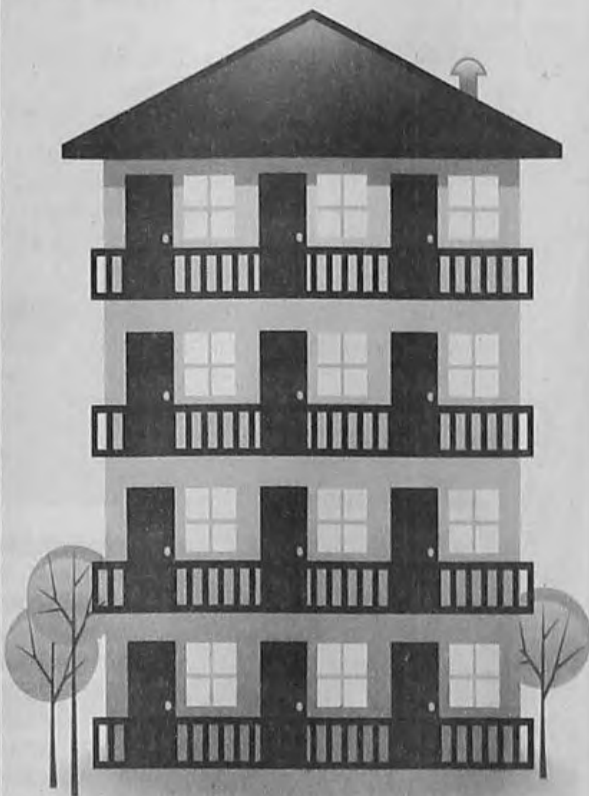
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APARTMENT & REAL ESTATE GUIDE

Find the perfect place to call home in the Observer & Eccentric Media classified advertising section. We have apartment and real estate listings every week in the following communities:

- Berkley • Birmingham • Canton
Clawson • Farmington • Garden City
Huntington Woods • Livonia • Milford
Northville • Novi • Pleasant Ridge
Plymouth • Redford • Royal Oak
Southfield • South Lyon • Westland



To place a listing in the Observer & Eccentric Media's Apartment & Real Estate Guide call:
1-800-579-SELL

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
hometownlife.com

WESTLAND WESTGATE TOWER APARTMENTS

ATTENTION SENIORS: LOW RENT

CALL US TODAY!
734-729-2900

34567 Elmwood in Westland

Not 62 yet? Ask us about our temporary age waiver!
Income Limits Apply. Equal Housing Opportunity.



TO PLACE YOUR AD IN THIS DIRECTORY CALL US TODAY AT:
800-579-7355

THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

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

Above information available as of 4/3/15 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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It's Garage Sale Season!

Place YOUR garage sale ad with
Observer & Eccentric!

Call NOW... **1.800.579.7355**

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
hometownlife.com

Our Digital GARAGE SALE KIT includes:

- Printable Signs
- Printable Price Stickers
- Two pages of ideas and advice for having a great garage sale
- Coupon for a FREE 4-square Buddy's Pizza
- Buddy's Pizza food discount card
- Interactive "Map It" feature online at hometownlife.com with a print and online ad purchase.

\$3.00 OFF Any 8 Square Pizza

Not valid with any other coupon or discount. One coupon per person, per pizza, per table. No cash value. Offer Expires: 12-31-15

- Restaurant/Bar/Carryout**
Detroit - 313.892.9001
Warren - 586.574.9200
Farmington Hills - 248.855.4600
Livonia - 734.261.3550
Dearborn - 313.562.5900
Auburn Hills - 248.276.9040
Shelby Twp. - 568.566.1233
Novi - 248.675.0881
- Carryout Cafe**
Pointe Plaza - 313.884.7400
- Carryout ONLY**
Royal Oak - 248.549.8000
Bloomfield Hills - 248.645.0300



www.buddypizza.com

SUNRISE BUILDING GROUP

734-425-0000

- Garages • Siding
- Additions • Dormers
- Cement work

All Home Improvements!

734-425-0000
Call today for a Free Estimate!



REA & SON CEMENT CO.
28726 Plymouth Rd
Livonia, MI 48150

Driveways, garage floors, porches, awnings, railings, brick work.

We also build garages!
734-425-7966
Call today for a Free Estimate!

JOBS

Help Wanted - Medical

RN OPERATING ROOM CIRCULATOR
PREOP/PACU RN
CERTIFIED SCRUB TECH

Contingent Positions are needed for our team oriented surgery center located in Livonia. Ideal candidate should be energetic & able to work in a fast paced environment. 2-3 years minimum experience required.

Please email resume to: Surgeycenter17@gmail.com

Food - Beverage

COOKS & WAITSTAFF
Full & Part Time. Day & night shifts. Apply in person: The Box Bar & Grill, 777 W Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth MI

SHORT ORDER COOK
Full/part time. Koney Island Inn. Apply in Person - Daily 10:00-10:30a.m. or 6:00-7:00p.m., 7 Mile and Middlebelt in Livonia, in front of Walmart. Apply within or call (313) 259-6721.

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

O&E Media Classifieds Just a quick call away. 800-579-7355

Food - Beverage

WAITSTAFF DISHWASHERS KITCHEN HELP
Full & Part time positions. Apply within:
Italian American Club
39200 5 Mile Rd
Livonia MI 48154
Call 734-953-9724

Help Wanted - Domestic

HOME HEALTH CARE
Part-Time care for young mildly disabled adult. Community activity, light house keeping 10-28 hrs. \$11.25/hr. Students welcome. 734-344-2738 spring57@comcast.net

Front Desk Receptionist w/Cert Medical Asst esp Assistant Manager Exercise Physiologist
Needed at Cardiology Office 1-2 yrs exp preferred. Full-time, competitive salary exc benefit pkg & 401k plan. Please send resume to Jobs@hearstins.com

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Food - Beverage

DISCOVER The Road to Success
in the Observer & Eccentric classifieds
To advertise, call: 800-579-7355

Food - Beverage

RESTAURANT/Bar/Carryout
Detroit - 313.892.9001
Warren - 586.574.9200
Farmington Hills - 248.855.4600
Livonia - 734.261.3550
Dearborn - 313.562.5900
Auburn Hills - 248.276.9040
Shelby Twp. - 568.566.1233
Novi - 248.675.0881

HOMES

RENTALS

Need to Rent That House or Apartment?

Place an ad with Observer & Eccentric Media newspapers, and have it rented in no time!
800-579-7355

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Homes

LIVONIA - Hard to find. Solid brick ranch on cul-de-sac in Stevenson schools. Immediate occupancy. Basement, newer windows, furnace and roof. Owner motivated. New Price \$189,900. Call 231-675-8423

REDFORD
Brick Ranch
3 Bdrm, Living rm w/dining ell, hardwood flrs, bsmt w/fireplace, CA, 2 car GA \$78,000
Century 21 Castelli 734-525-7900

ROMULUS
Hot New Listing
3 bdrm ranch, hardwood flrs, kitchen w/dishwasher, CA, privacy fenced yard, 2 car GA \$25,000
Century 21 Castelli 734-525-7900

WESTLAND
Unique Home
3 bdrm, 2 BA home, 2 Kitchens w/appliances, fireplace, CA \$94,000
Century 21 Castelli 734-525-7900

GARDEN CITY
Corner Lot Home
3 Bdrm, Living rm, Family rm, Formal Dining rm, CA, nice fenced yard, 2 car GA \$50,000
Century 21 Castelli 734-525-7900

Open Houses

LIVONIA
35079 Morlock Avenue
Open Sunday April 12 12:30-4pm.
4 br colonial, 4 bath, c/a, newly renovated throughout, fully fin bsmt, Anderson windows. All custom window treatments. 2 decks. \$397,500. 248-515-9479

Cemetery Lots
Oakland Hills Memorial Garden, Novi. 3 lots in Good Shepherd. \$1500 each or \$4000 for all. 513-509-1788

Apartment For Rent

LIVONIA 1Bdrm, no pets, Immed. occup. \$400 mo+sec. dep. + util. 734-425-0000

Parkview Tower
1601 Robert Brady Drive
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
313-259-6962
ttd 1-800-567-5857
Immediate Occupancy
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

PLYMOUTH: Downtown, quiet, 1 bdrm, CA, storage, carport, laundry facilities, walk-in closet. \$635. 231-645-7222

TROY - Historic Bldg with modern up level 1 bdrm \$500 & studio \$400. small private & nice. Call Jill 248.808.4295

FARMINGTON AREA
Adult community 55+, quiet country setting, heat/water incl. \$690/mo. (734) 564-8402

FARMINGTON HILLS
MAPLE RIDGE APTS.
Spacious 1 & 2 bdrms. 2 baths, c/a, \$570-\$660. w/ special. 50% off 1st 3 mos. with approved credit. 248.473.5180

GARDEN CITY: Lg 2 bdrms. appl. heat/water Free. \$560/\$600 + security deposit. 734-464-3847, 734-513-4965

Apartment For Rent

FARMINGTON AREA
Adult community 55+, quiet country setting, heat/water incl. \$690/mo. (734) 564-8402

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GARDEN CITY: Lg 2 bdrms. appl. heat/water Free. \$560/\$600 + security deposit. 734-464-3847, 734-513-4965

Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter & spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity, throughout the nation. We encourage advertising & marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtain housing because of race, color, religion or national origin.

03-2015

CONDOS & TOWNHOUSES

Bloomfield Twp - Open House 1223 Cedarholm, April 12th, 1pm-2:30pm, 3 br, 2 full, 2 half baths, DR & Dinetta, up, kitchen. Across from Forest Lake Golf Club. Immed. Occ. at close. \$350,000. Dianna Maxwell, Realtor Associate JoAnn Wine & Assoc. Inc. 586-801-6068

Duplexes

LIVONIA: 2 bdrm, must see, carpet, all appls, a/c, fenced yard,gar. Next to park. No pets. Sec. Dep. 734-231-5597

Cash in with Classifieds 800-579-SELL

Helping YOU reach your GOAL



Whether you want to get fit or get organized—save money doing it with an O&E Media classified ad!

Our classifieds **WORKOUT!**

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
hometownlife.com
A GANNETT COMPANY

800-579-7355

Challenging fun for ALL ages



Sunday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 UPS units
 - 4 Jingle or limerick
 - 8 Volcano fissure
 - 12 Sitcom planet
 - 13 Listener's need
 - 14 1977 whale movie
 - 15 Buyer's guide (2 wds.)
 - 17 Hammer or screwdriver
 - 18 Small guitars
 - 19 Helms or Owens
 - 20 Affectionate touch
 - 23 Prickly seed case
 - 24 Foreign visitors?
 - 25 By the ocean
 - 29 Major leaguer
 - 30 Spy mission
 - 32 Monsieur's affirmative
 - 33 Tones down
 - 35 Arduous journey
 - 36 Primeval
 - 37 Move about excitedly
 - 39 With dry humor
 - 42 Hit bottom
 - 43 Ramble
 - 44 Identical
 - 48 Not up yet
 - 49 Buffalo's lake
 - 50 Tear
 - 51 100 centavos
 - 52 Vacuum attachment
 - 53 Mont. neighbor
- DOWN**
- 1 Hack off
 - 2 It's freezing!
 - 3 Slalom gear
 - 4 Looks when one shouldn't
 - 5 Author Joyce Carol —
 - 6 Distinct periods

Answer to Previous Puzzle

L	I	N	K	A	R	E	S	L	A	D
U	T	A	H	L	O	I	N	E	M	U
G	E	T	A	D	Y	N	A	M	I	T
S	M	O	K	I	E	S	F	E	A	S
W	H	I	S	K	I	N	N	A	U	G
A	I	D	U	G	H	U	R	N		
R	E	S	T	I	N	G	S	A	L	S
G	L	E	N	S	C	O	C	K	P	I
M	U	T	T	E	R	E	D	L	E	O
A	K	A	R	I	L	E	E	S	T	A
N	E	T	T	O	L	L	S	T	A	R

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- 7 Chow mein additive
- 8 Citizens
- 9 Psyche's suitor
- 10 Sgts.
- 11 Chaucer offering
- 16 Pool hall items
- 19 San — Capistrano
- 20 Holds gently
- 21 1960s hairdo
- 22 Building part
- 23 Opposite of cheer
- 25 Inoculation meas.
- 26 Actionable wrong
- 27 "The Mammoth Hunters" author
- 28 Care about
- 30 Bank on
- 31 Furthest point
- 34 El Greco's city
- 35 Reproving clucks
- 37 Actress Ina —
- 38 Famished
- 39 Bubble —
- 40 Loose garment
- 41 Jacques- — Cousteau
- 42 Immunity shots
- 44 Replace a button
- 45 "Exodus" hero
- 46 Central, in combinations
- 47 Envir. monitor

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15			16					17		
			18					19		
20	21	22				23				
24					25			26	27	28
29			30	31				32		
33			34					35		
			36			37	38			
39	40	41				42				
43					44			45	46	47
48					49			50		
51					52			53		

Want more puzzles?
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

								4	9
	5					8			
			2	7		8			1
		6							
8					5	7			
				9	7		3	2	
		4		3				9	
5									
	9		6		1		7		

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

EMPLOYEE WORD SEARCH

R E K R O W R J R V I H U Y O F T J T H
F I I D M L R G T C G E D O C H N K N W P
G J Y D P D I E L T O N A H E B E J R E
S S T O I H O E T U N F I M S M Y E Y N
R D U C V S A E R I W E E R Y E F D O S
V Y F P A V M A W A R E M O A S I I H I
S S C N E R F I D S R E L E N H T T E O
G S B N O R T V S G E P M A L A S N U N
S F E S A I V N A S M C R E R T O B P D
L N K G S D T I O E A T I E N I I H O H
A S O C A E N A S C O L P T T T H T O J
C G R I E W N U N O G O C A C T E L N E
D O E U T H U I D I R W B A I A I R M E
E R N N O C C S S E M O H M R D R I M E
C S A D C H U Y P U R I R L A E T P J P
I I G O U Y W D A P B E R Y A R E F V J
T I T V B C F E E P P T P C E B U R W U
O W K T W N T G V D P D B V S K O F W J
N E K B E N E F I T S A O K S I Y R P J
K P Y W U N O I T A N G I S E R D K B N

WORDS

- AGENCY
- AGREEMENT
- BENEFITS
- BOARD
- BUSINESS
- CAREER
- CODE
- CONDUCT
- CONTRACT
- DEDUCTIONS
- DISCRIMINATION
- DISMISSAL
- DUTIES
- EMPLOYMENT
- ENTITLEMENT
- HOLIDAY
- HOURS
- JOB SHARING
- LABOR
- LEAVE
- NOTICE
- OPERATION
- OVERTIME
- PAYCHECK
- PENSION
- PERMIT
- PRACTICES
- PROBATION
- REDUNDANCY
- RESIGNATION
- RETIREMENT
- SUPERVISOR
- TERM
- TRANSFER
- WAGES
- WORKER

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

3	9	2	6	5	1	4	7	8
5	6	7	4	8	9	1	2	3
1	8	4	7	3	2	5	9	6
4	1	5	8	9	7	6	3	2
8	2	9	3	6	5	7	1	4
7	3	6	1	2	4	9	8	5
9	4	3	2	7	9	8	5	1
2	5	1	9	4	8	3	6	7
6	7	8	5	1	3	2	4	9

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

