

CANTON OBSERVER

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RUNNERS LOOK TO PR AT NEW OBSERVERLAND RELAYS FORMAT
SPORTS, SECTION B



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Work has begun to transform Lotz Road into a concrete road.

The wait is over for Lotz Road work

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Construction crews have ramped up work on a \$5 million project to transform a pothole-riddled, dirt-and-gravel stretch of Lotz Road into a three-lane, concrete road be-

tween Ford and Cherry Hill. Officials say the long-awaited project will usher in a vastly improved north-south route that should pull some motorists off Ford and Haggerty roads, easing traffic congestion near the I-275 interchange on Canton's east side.

It marks Canton's biggest road project this construction season, though Wayne County also plans to widen and improve the Geddes-Denton intersection on the township's west side. Lotz improvements are expected to have a tangible

impact on Haggerty Road, the closest north-south artery, by reducing traffic bottlenecks, especially during rush hour. "We believe it will change the traffic patterns and certainly affect Haggerty," said

See LOTZ, Page A2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Lotz Road's infrastructure is being improved.

Purse project for abused women exceeds goal tenfold

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Staci Reynolds had hoped to collect 50 gift-filled purses for women in domestic violence shelters when she and daughter Rebecca took on a project for Mother's Day.

Their final tally was more than tenfold their goal — 566 purses tucked in gift bags and filled with items, including toiletries, socks, scarves, books and T-shirts.

"I'm ecstatic. I am astounded," Reynolds said. "I am just shocked at the response."

Her effort, part of a larger network dubbed the Mother's Day Purse Project, was publicized on Facebook, in the Canton Observer and by employees of Canton Township, where she works as systems administrator for the Canton Public Safety Department.

Reynolds said the outpouring of support points to a com-



Rebecca and Staci Reynolds.

munity that cares. "I attribute it to a very generous community and the employees at Canton," she said.

The effort, which ended Monday, means that 566 women in Michigan domestic violence shelters will get gift-filled purses handed to them by their children for Mother's Day.

Reynolds and daughter Rebecca, 16, initiated their project after learning of the larger Purse Projects for Carol, named after a woman, Carol

Adtkins, who died in 2013 after she helped start a domestic violence shelter in Manistee.

Mother and daughter asked for gently used, gift-filled purses placed in gift bags with tissue paper.

Jill Popovich, a domestic violence advocate at the Canton Police Department, has said the project can send a powerful message that others care about women who have sought refuge — and safety — in shelters.

"Victims of domestic violence aren't used to getting things without strings attached," Popovich said.

Reynolds said Purse Projects for Carol has drop-off locations across Michigan on an ongoing basis. For more information, look for the Facebook page for Purse Projects for Carol.

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Canton bank robbery suspect pleads guilty

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Canton man who robbed a local bank while disguised by a mask and a hoodie has pleaded guilty to a reduced charge, court records show.

Damon Ross Davis Jr., 26, is facing sentencing May 3 after he pleaded guilty to a charge of unarmed robbery in Wayne County Circuit Court.

His plea, accepted April 13 by Judge Thomas Cameron, came as authorities agreed to dismiss two more serious charges of bank robbery and armed robbery for an incident that occurred the morning of Jan. 14 inside the Citizens Bank branch on Ford Road, near Haggerty.

Davis could face penalties ranging up to 15 years in prison during his sentencing. His plea averted a jury trial and a potential sentence of life in prison if he had been convicted of the more serious charges.



Davis

Cameron has asked for a presentencing report from probation officials before Davis is sentenced.

Canton police have said Davis wore a mask when he went inside the bank and handed a teller a note demanding money and a car. Police say he fled empty-handed.

Davis was arrested in late January following an investigation that led police to a Canton residence where he was staying, Detective Sgt. Dan Traylor has said. He was taken into custody without incident.

His arrest capped a joint investigation by Canton police, the Michigan State Police and the Western Wayne Community Response Team, made up of multiple law enforcement

See BANK, Page A2



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INDEX

Community Life.....	B6	Homes.....	C4	Services.....	C3
Crossword Puzzle.....	C2	Jobs.....	C1	Sports.....	B1
Education.....	A4	Obituaries.....	B5	Wheels.....	C3

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BANK

Continued from Page A1

agencies working to solve cases.

Canton Special Services Lt. Craig Wilsher called the investigation and arrest the result of "very good police work."

Prior to the bank incident, Davis had no criminal history involving felony charges. Police had released a surveillance photo of a masked, hooded suspect after the bank incident occurred.

According to court records, Davis remains jailed with a \$100,000 bond as he awaits his sentencing.

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LOTZ

Continued from Page A1

Bill Serchak, Canton engineering services manager.

Officials and residents for years have awaited improvements to Lotz, the last major road on Canton's east side that hadn't been paved.

Wayne County spokesman Ryan Bridges said the project should be completed by November, prompting intermittent detours this construction season for motorists who use the dirt road. Other times, he said, one lane of traffic will be maintained.

Residents who live in the area will, of course, have access to their homes.

"Local traffic is being accommodated for the people who live there," Serchak said.

He described Lotz as "a very old road, dating

back to the 1830s" and said efforts to finally pave it have been a long-time priority finally coming to fruition.

The project, being done by Toebe Construction Co. of Wixom, involves constructing a three-lane, concrete road that includes a middle turn lane. Water mains and sidewalks also are part of the project.

Work crews are nearing the end of water-system work, Serchak said.

Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy has said the Lotz Road paving "is going to be huge for the community."

The project was made possible by \$5 million from the Michigan Department of Transportation. LaJoy has said the project is expected to improve property values

along Lotz Road.

Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas has said the project could be a catalyst for new development along Lotz.

The project comes after MDOT already has improved Ford Road in the I-275 and Haggerty area by adding a continuous third lane from Lotz to Lilley, lengthening turn lanes and improving ramps.

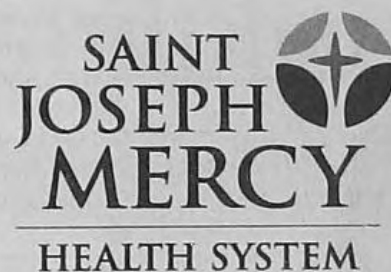
MDOT has indicated the long-term solution to the area's traffic congestion could involve transforming Ford Road into a boulevard, but funding remains a hurdle and state officials have given no projected timetable.

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Materials are stacked along the road as the project proceeds.



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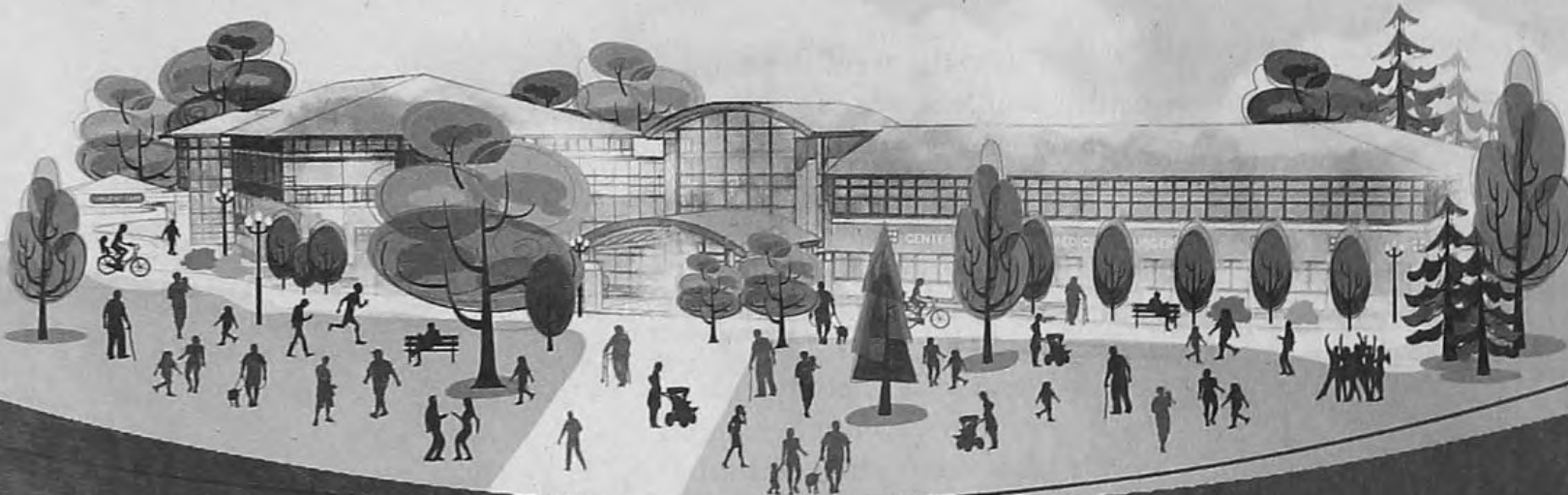
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Kids Against Hunger focus of May 7 project, as community gathers to sample food

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Isabelle Schultz is a great cook, something her son Nick knows well.

"She came from a family of 10 Italians," he said of his mother, who recently marked her 60th wedding anniversary with husband Carl. "She knows how to do it."

The senior Schultzes of Plymouth Township were a key part of Wednesday evening at the Plymouth Arts & Recreation Complex, 650 Church St. The Greater Plymouth Service Project, to benefit the Kids Against Hunger Coalition, is approaching there Saturday, May 7.

That day, some 1,200 volunteers will gather at PARC to package meals for the hungry. On Wednesday, Isabelle Schultz prepared meals for about 30 people from the package, which serves about six people each.

"It really isn't that hard," she said, after transporting her home-cooked food to PARC for dinner. "It's really a pretty quick meal."

For the 30 guests, Schultz added onions, red and yellow peppers and garlic. She sauteed the vegetables and used a little Worcestershire sauce, along with celery, "just whatever I had around."

"Especially in this, the olive oil helps," she said. "But there's a lot in there to begin with."

She agreed a basic dinner — with a protein, starch and vegetables — is already in the package and just needs boiling and serving.



JULIE BROWN

Isabelle Schultz, the evening's chef, takes a break with Dave Siegrist, chairman of the Greater Plymouth Service Project committee. Both are Plymouth Township residents.

"It's a healthy meal for a family," husband Carl added.

A committee chaired by Dave Siegrist of Plymouth Township was meeting down the hall to work out details for May 7's initiative at PARC, a first-time endeavor. Some \$35,000 has been raised in support, with food for about 126,000 meals ordered, Siegrist said.

"Everybody loved it," Siegrist, who chairs the Community Foundation of Plymouth, said of the food Wednesday. "I know I went back for seconds."

Siegrist and Carl Schultz are both active Kiwanians. "They're the ones that got involved very early with Kids Against Hunger," Nick Schultz noted about Kiwanis, which is among service clubs, student groups, the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, Community Foundation of Plymouth, Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, Plymouth-Canton

Schools, Wilcox Foundation and other supporters.

Checks or money orders payable to Community Foundation of Plymouth are welcome at: CFP-GPSP, P.O. Box 700866, Plymouth, MI 48170. CFP is a 501(c)3 nonprofit entity.

Volunteers are also still needed; to volunteer, send an email to douglas@plymouth-mich.org by Thursday, May 5.

Committee member Nancy Caviston said, "From what I understand, there's going to be a lot of people" May 7. She's in the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth and noted Kiwanis' extensive work with Kids Against Hunger.

"I'm going to be there" May 7, Caviston said. "I may be manning the information table. The actual packaging is going to be huge, from what I understand."

Isabelle Schultz had prepared such a meal at home years earlier for charity work and this time Dave Siegrist said, "Isabelle, you've got to come and cook up a meal," Nick Schultz said.

A couple of side salads and dessert were added for the occasion Wednesday, with leftovers going to Plymouth Opportunity House. It was back down the hall at PARC for committee members to work out final details before heading home for the evening.

"We've got the full community involved," Siegrist added.

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Letter carriers' food drive is May 14

Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Local service organizations and mail carriers are getting ready for the 2016 Stamp Out Hunger food drive, a national effort that helps keep emergency food pantries in the Plymouth-Canton-Northville area stocked.

The drive, the 24th annual, is sponsored by the National Association of Letter Carriers, the union that represents many U.S. Postal Service employees. Mail carriers will soon be dropping off donation bags at stops on their routes and plan to pick them up during mail delivery Saturday, May 14.

"We hope that they'll pick them back up nice and full," said Laurie Aren, director of family and community ministries at the Plymouth Corps of the Salvation Army.

The Plymouth Corps is a longtime partner with the NALC in Stamp Out Hunger.

Corps employees and volunteers gather the donated food and basic home- and personal-care products, weed out damaged and outdated items, sort the donations and stock the Corps food pantry, which helps financially struggling local individuals and families stretch food dollars from month to month. The food bank is at Corps' headquarters on South Main.

"It's definitely our biggest project that we do all year," Aren said. There are more than 100 volunteers involved, donation bags have to be printed, trucks to carry the donations found (the use of two semi-trucks was donated this year) and the donations unloaded. "It's a huge, huge endeavor."

The Corps' food bank recently began sharing resources with a food pantry at the Plymouth



FILE PHOTO

Workers sort donated items at the Plymouth Corps of the Salvation Army after a past Stamp Out Hunger drive. This year's food-donation event is Saturday, May 14.

Community Council on Aging, sending over some items, like nutritional supplements, that would be better suited for senior citizens. In turn, the PCCA sends to the Corps any donations that would be more likely to be needed by families with young children.

Items at the Plymouth Corps' food pantry are available to eligible individuals, couples and families in Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton Township.

Other local pantries

For residents of Belleville and Sumpter and Van Buren townships, there is a food pantry at Belleville First United Methodist Church, and for Northville and Northville Township residents, a pantry is run by Northville Civic Concern; both of those pantries also work with the NALC during Stamp Out Hunger.

Aren said the Corps is seeing more food pantry applicants who are working single people, senior citizens, especially women and couples without children, but that fewer families with children are applying. "We have noticed that our clientele, or demographics, are changing," she said. On average, Aren

said, about 250 people a month visit the food pantry. Some, she said, become repeat customers, including people who are trying to stretch their state food assistance, as well as those who don't qualify for that program.

Last year, Aren said, more than 44,000 pounds was collected just for the Corps' pantry through Stamp Out Hunger and more than 400,000 pounds have been collected since 2006.

Suggested items that can be donated May 14 include canned goods, cereals and oatmeal, boxed pastas, boxed macaroni and cheese mixes, spaghetti sauce, pancake mixes and baking mixes. Also needed are soap and shampoos, deodorants, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, dish soap, home cleaning products and items for babies, like disposable diapers.

To volunteer for the Corps during Stamp Out Hunger this year, email Sandra Kollinger, the Corps' volunteer and special events coordinator, at Sandra.Kollinger@usc.salvationarmy.org.

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Special Observer & Eccentric Reader Offer Breakthrough relief for back pain and sciatica

By: Sam Potter
Health Correspondent



IF YOU suffer from low back pain and sciatica, you are one of over 20 million adults in the USA with this often crippling spinal condition.

Shooting, stabbing and burning pains from the low back, sometimes with additional pain through the buttocks and down the legs are all symptoms of a pinched nerves often called "sciatica".

In severe cases, it can lead to muscle wasting, numbness and constant tingling down to the tip of the toes. Left untreated, the intense pain can rapidly wear you down and drain the joy out of life.

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Recent advances in the treatment of sciatica and lower back pain have led to the development and huge success of Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care.

The excellent results of this treatment have been published in major medical journals. With success rates as high as 90% some back surgeons recommending their patients try this treatment first before having back surgery.

In Livonia, you can try Non-Surgical Re-constructive Spinal Care at the Kramer Chiropractic — the office low back pain and sciatica relief expert Dr. Gregory Kramer.

Gregory and his team of fully trained spinal care specialists have helped over 3,000 patients find relief from their agonising spine based problems.

According to Gregory, "We use a combination of ultra-advanced technology, not found elsewhere in Livonia, for precisely diagnosing the cause of your low back pain and sciatica; and a unique programme for reconstructing the damaged area causing the pain; this means superior long-term results for most people."

Because the treatment is non-surgical, safe and easy, most patients report an almost immediate relief from their pain.

Patient Sister Marie from Dearborn says,

"I could not walk, stand, sit, work, sleep for 7 or 8 months!

I was given various drugs but many I was allergic to and the others only lasted a hour and then pain returns again.

Dr. Kramer has restored my health and allowed me to work and live healthy!

Thank god I called your number It's like a miracle to me.

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The Observer&Eccentric has teamed up with the spine therapy specialists at Kramer Chiropractic, to help readers find relief from their persistent back and sciatic pain.

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Mention this article (CODE: BOS37SCID5) and Greg will happily reduce his usual consultation fee of \$195 to just \$37. But hurry, due to obvious reasons — this is a time limited offer — with only 100 reader consultations available at this exclusively discounted rate.

My advice, don't suffer a moment longer...

Find out if Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care can help you, book a consultation with Greg and his team now by calling 248-615-1533, they are waiting to take your call today.

They actually treat the cause of your health problem, not just your symptoms. That's why hundreds of grateful patients tell them "You gave me back my life!"

Over the years, they've treated thousands of patients with back problems and sciatica. The vast majority of them have enjoyed superior, lasting relief. In fact, many who've suffered and have tried other remedies have told them they gave them back their lives!

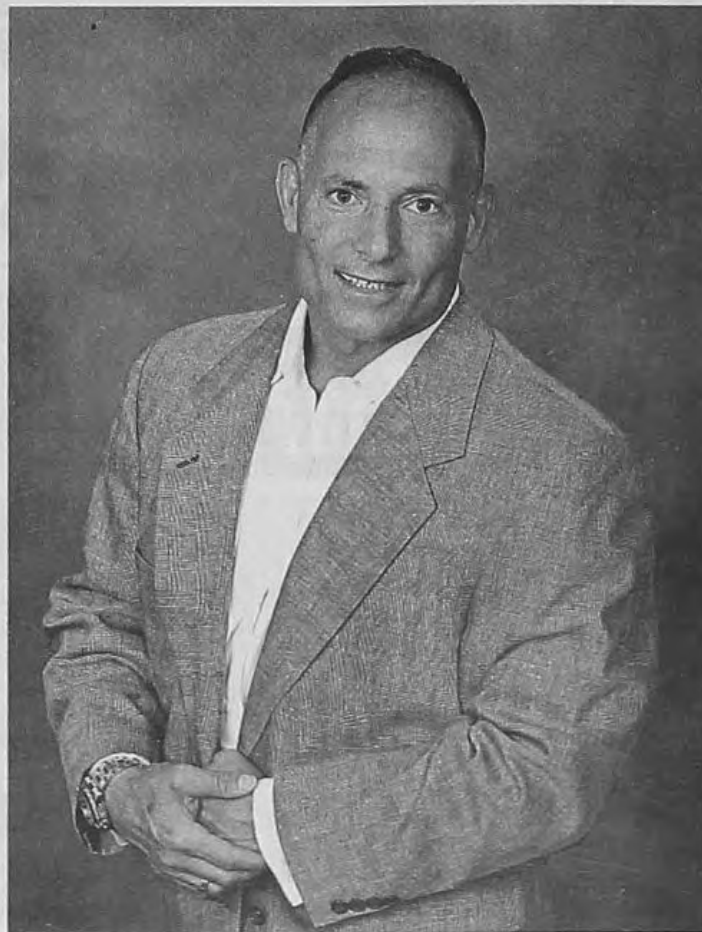
Call them now and get a full and thorough examination to pinpoint the cause of your problem for just \$37, the normal cost of such an exam is \$195 so you will save \$158!

Don't suffer from the pain and immobility any longer. Discover the natural treatment that can eliminate the cause of your problem and give you the safe, lasting relief you deserve.

Call them now on 248-615-1533 and cut out or tear off this valuable article now and take it to your appointment. You'll be entitled to a comprehensive examination to diagnose the cause of your problem — and you'll be on your way to safe, lasting relief! Don't delay your important diagnosis and treatment another moment!

You can even call on the weekend and leave a message on their answer machine to secure your spot as they promise to return all calls; and during the week they are very busy, so if they don't pick up straight away do leave a message.

Federal Guidelines Apply



Sciatica Relief Expert Greg Kramer, says: In 20 years of practice, I've never seen a treatment as effective as Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care for patients with sciatica or lower back pain.

Plymouth Christian expands home school partnership

Plymouth Christian Academy leaders never dreamed that when they began a home school partnership program in 2011 – with only nine students – that six years later they would have 29 students enrolled and plans to expand the program for the fall.

“This has been a year of growth, development and community building. We are just responding to the needs of the community,” HSP coordinator Missy McCreedy said.

According to Caryn Huntsman, school superintendent and principal, home-schooled students who are in kindergarten through sixth grade can choose to attend PCA on either Tuesday or Thursday to enjoy a day of “specials,” such as vocal music, art, physical education, world language, chapel, computers, science labs and library.

These students may also participate in all the co-curricular programs and grade-specific field trips that the school offers.



Allison Writebol and Abigail Powell at Plymouth Christian Academy.

“The PCA HSP program has been such a blessing to me and my family,” HSP parent Dana Pop said. “A program like this is difficult to find for home school families and I am

so glad I did. PCA is a wonderful school to begin with, great teachers, great teaching and a solid Christian environment. My son has loved every minute of it and can hardly wait

for Tuesdays to come. He loves his teacher and has made some good friendships with other children. This will definitely be a long-lasting partnership for our family.”

In addition to the Tuesday or Thursday specials offerings, PCA is expanding the current program to offer two academic days for home-schooled students who are entering first and second grades. These two academic days will be taught by a certified teacher who will teach Bible, math, language arts, grammar/writing, reading, science and social studies. Additionally, the teacher will provide parents with a weekly lesson plan and curriculum so parents can coordinate the home schooling of their children on the other days of the week. With this type of support, the PCA leadership hopes to prepare and empower parents to guide their child or children through their daily lessons.

Interested home school families may call 734-459-3505 to schedule a tour of the campus and to hear more about the PCA home school partnership program.

Schoolcraft College board approves tuition increase of 6 percent

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Students at Schoolcraft College will see a larger-than-usual tuition increase for next school year when the bill comes.

The increase will total about 6.35 percent, taking tuition for in-district students from \$96 to \$102 a credit hour and for non-resident students from \$139 to \$148. Out-of-state and international students will see tuition increase from \$205 to \$218.

The college's Board of Trustees voted to approve the recommended tuition increase at its meeting Wednesday in the Jeffress Center at the Livonia campus.

Typically, tuition increases at the college in recent years haven't been more than 4 per-

cent. Tuition for the current school year went up 3.23 percent from the 2014-15 fiscal year.

The larger percentage increase comes partially as a result of the failed millage increase request Schoolcraft College put in front of voters last fall, college President Conway Jeffress said.

“We had to raise more money. Normally, our tuition goes up usually 3 percent or less,” he said. “To have one that's going up 6 percent is unusual for us. Even though the cash amount is not that (large), the percent amount is.”

That request, which would have added an additional 0.6 mills to property taxes across the taxing district, failed by more than 1,000 votes in November. The taxing district for Schoolcraft College in-

cludes the following school districts: Clarenceville, Livonia, Garden City, Plymouth-Canton and Northville.

With the tuition increase, the college anticipates collecting an additional \$1 million or so. That figure doesn't completely make up for lost revenues over recent years, said Glenn Cerny, a Schoolcraft College vice president and its chief financial officer.

“The problem is the short-fall we're seeing is about \$8 million,” he said. “So this is a drop in the bucket. So that's the reason we continue to have deferred expenditures and maintenance and not hire people.”

Even with all the major developments being constructed at the Livonia campus, such as the new Masco Corp. headquarters and the



FILE PHOTO

Tuition will increase more than 6 percent next year for students at Schoolcraft College.

new soccer dome, funding from those projects isn't enough to make up other lost funding from declining property values over the years.

Jeffress said those projects will only bring in a few hundred thousand dollars apiece for the college.

Even with the increase,

Jeffress said the college will remain a competitive place to attract students over other two-year colleges in southeast Michigan. The college isn't expected to see a decrease in enrollment because of the increase.

“Even if (other schools) went up 2-3 percent, we'd be in good shape,” Jeffress said. “We're still trying to make sure the cost to the students is as low as possible. You don't want to gouge anybody in the process. You don't want anybody to have an undue burden.”

“But at the same time, our expenses rise like everybody else's. And you try to accommodate that.”

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Market fire leads to arson charges for teen

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Canton teen has been charged with breaking into a local market and setting a fire, causing what a police official called minimal damage.

Nathan Howard Gu-

denburr, 19, has been arraigned in 35th District Court on charges of third-degree arson, breaking and entering a building and arson preparation to burn, Detective Sgt. Dan Traylor said Thursday.

Gudenburr could face penalties ranging up to 10

years in prison if he is convicted as charged.

Traylor said authorities haven't yet been able to determine a motive for the incident, which occurred just after 2 a.m. April 17 inside the market near Sheldon and Sheldon Center roads.

The investigation is continuing.

The fire was started after an intruder broke into the market. Police haven't released details about how the fire was set, saying it could compromise the investigation.

Traylor said the fire set off an alarm inside the store and prompted a response by police and firefighters.

"There was minimal damage to the store," he said.

Gudenburr was jailed with a \$50,000 cash bond

during his arraignment April 18 in 35th District Court.

Traylor said police did not have a photo of the defendant.

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CANTON TOWNSHIP - FULL-TIME POSITIONS
Canton Township is now accepting applications for the Recreation Specialist, Adult Services (Full-time) and Ordinance Inspector (Full-time) position. Application Deadline: Thursday, May 12, 2016. Job descriptions with hiring process are available on the Canton Township website: <http://canton.applcantpro.com/jobs/>. (EOE)

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General

Detroit Red Wings seek a **Director of Statistical Analysis and Hockey Administration** at its facility in Detroit, Michigan. Duties: Responsible for advanced statistical analysis and analytics in the areas of salary trends, contract valuations, free agent market acquisitions, trades, NHL Entry Draft, and player performance. Requirements: Master's degree in Mathematics, Statistics or Business with concentration in Finance or Economics. 3 years of documented experience as Statistician, Financial Analyst or Mathematician. 1 year of experience playing, coaching, managing or working in hockey operations for a junior, collegiate or professional ice hockey team. Full-time. To apply: Send letter of application, resume, official transcripts, and three letters of recommendation to: Detroit Red Wings, Inc. Attn: Ms. Michele Bartos Office of Human Resources 221 Woodward Avenue Detroit, MI 48201



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Canton Township is now accepting applications for the Firefighter / Paramedic (Full-time) position. Application Deadline: Monday, June 6, 2016. Job description with complete qualifications and hiring process is available on the Canton Township website: <http://canton.applcantpro.com/jobs/>. (EOE)

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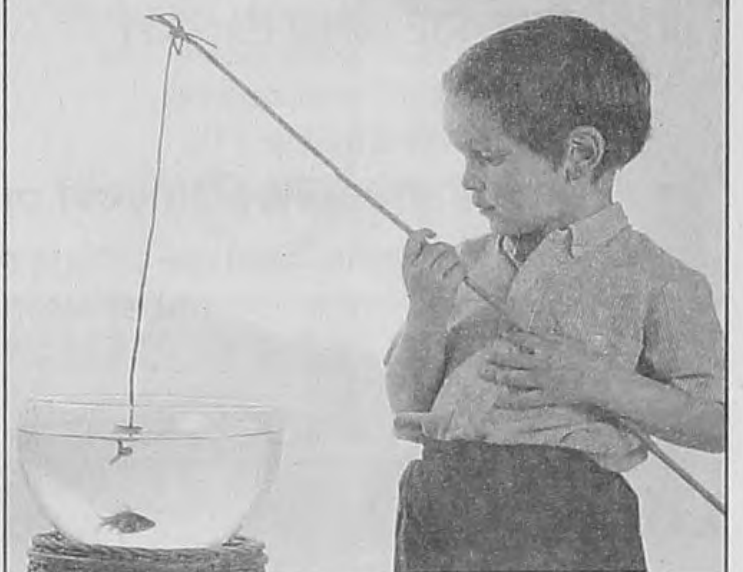
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Colbeck to host May meeting in Northville

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck and district manager Penny Cridler will conduct a monthly office meeting 6-7 p.m. Monday, May 2, at the Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady St.



Colbeck

attend. I believe it is very important to hear directly from constituents about state and pocketbook issues."

Colbeck will be on hand to answer questions and respond to concerns any residents of his district may have. All are welcome and no appointment is necessary.

"I'm looking forward to continuing our regular series of office hours throughout the district in Northville," Colbeck said. "I encourage anyone who needs help or wants to express a viewpoint to

attend. I believe it is very important to hear directly from constituents about state and pocketbook issues."

Colbeck represents the 7th District, which encompasses the cities of Livonia, Northville, Plymouth and Wayne, as well as the townships of Canton, Northville and Plymouth.

For more information or to contact Colbeck, go to www.SenatorPatrick-Colbeck.com or call 517-373-5713.



All Busch's Fresh Food Market guests will have the opportunity to purchase "ready-to-go bags" with 11 lunch items for only \$10, make a \$5 produce donation or a \$10 bakery contribution. Customers can even donate bottle and can return receipts and cash donations will be accepted. The drive runs May 2-11.

Busch's food drive 'All About Children'

Because hunger never takes a summer vacation, Busch's Fresh Food Market has decided to make sure all children in the region have enough to eat once school lets out.

Store officials know many families cannot afford to feed their children, so Busch's Fresh Food Market is stepping up to the plate to help. The "All About Children" food drive is a community-based effort where food and dollars raised in specific cities stays in those cities.

All Busch's Fresh Food Market guests will have the opportunity to purchase "ready-to-go bags" with 11 lunch items

for only \$10, make a \$5 produce donation or a \$10 bakery contribution. Customers can even donate bottle and can return receipts and cash donations will be accepted. The drive runs May 2-11.

United Dairy Industry of Michigan is lending their support, as well, and will donate one gallon of milk for every gallon of Prairie Farms 1% Milk purchased, up to 10,000 gallons.

"Last year Busch's Fresh Food Market raised more than \$116,000 in food donations and cash and this year we are determined to grow that number," Busch's Fresh

Food Market marketing director John Hunter said. "We are and have always been committed to serve our communities and this is just one more way for us to demonstrate our appreciation to our loyal customers and their families."

Specifically benefiting from this program are Forgotten Harvest, Food Gatherers of Washtenaw County, Airport Community Schools & Ash-Carleton Goodfellows, Tecumseh Community Schools and Service Clubs, Pinckney Community Schools, Saline Social Services and Clinton Community Schools.

Busch's Fresh Food

Market, which opened its doors in 1975, has grown to 15 area stores. Recently celebrating its 40-year anniversary, Busch's continues to be Michigan's hometown local food market providing quality, value, convenience and personal service.

Busch's Fresh Food Market has locations in Ann Arbor, Clinton, Carleton, Dexter, Farmington Hills, Livonia, Novi, Pinckney, Plymouth-Northville, Rochester Hills, Saline, South Lyon, Tecumseh, West Bloomfield and coming soon to Canton. Go to buschs.com for more information.

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 Achieve-3250 Denton Rd. South, Canton-734-397-0960-May 12, 4:30pm
 Canton-49100 Ford Rd., Canton-734-453-9517-May 11, 5:30pm
 Plymouth Scholars-48484 N. Territorial Rd., Plymouth-734-459-6149-May 16, 6:30pm
 South Pointe Scholars-10550 Geddes Rd., Ypsilanti-734-484-0118-May 12, 5pm
 Copies of the Budgets for the listed Public School Academies will be available at the school office.
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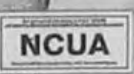
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Check out 2016 Maxima at Nissan of Canton

The redesigned 2016 Nissan Maxima is a powerful, good-handling sedan that stays true to the nameplate's performance-oriented heritage and features an upscale interior that befits its price. You can view and test drive one at Nissan of Canton, 42175 Michigan Ave.

"Maxima" is Nissan's longest continually-in-use nameplate, and the eighth-generation car is a boldly styled sedan that draws heavily from the Nissan Sport Sedan Concept.

Ever since the Nissan Altima grew into a mid-size family sedan in the early 2000s, the Maxima hasn't fit neatly into a segment. Nissan says the 2016 Maxima is designed to compete with larger, traditional full-size sedans like the Chevrolet Impala and Toyota Avalon, as well as appeal to buyers looking to move up to a luxury car, like the Acura TLX.

The 2016 Maxima is offered in five trim levels — S, SV, SL, SR and Platinum — that determine the level of equipment; accessories are available, but there are no option packages. We drove an SL, which is priced at \$37,715, and the \$38,495 SR. That one is the most performance-focused model, with unique suspension bushings, springs, shocks, front stabilizer bar and chassis bracing, in addition to 19-inch alloy wheels with stickier Goodyear tires (prices include an \$825 destination charge).

Exterior and styling

The Maxima brings Nissan's Energetic Flow design language to its sedan lineup. Signature cues include a plunging grille bordered by LED daytime running lights and gloss-black pillar finishes that give the roof a floating appearance — something Nissan

says is inspired by a fighter jet's canopy. The front end is aggressive — the car looks menacing when you see it coming up on you in your rear-view mirror — and also memorable. It's a design that demands a reaction, good or bad.

How it drives

Large cars may be known for a forgiving, comfortable ride quality, but that's not the Maxima formula. Compared with a Chevrolet Impala or Chrysler 300, which both do a good job smoothing out bumps and cracks in the road, the Maxima is a much more connected, tighter-handling car. There's remarkably little body roll when driving quickly through a corner. You feel bumps, but they're dealt with in a refined way.

The SR trim level's unique suspension is considerably firmer and busier; you feel more road imperfections, even smaller ones, and the impact is harsher when you hit a big pavement crack. It's a little too rough-riding for me, especially considering the good ride-and-handling balance the regular suspension provides.

You'll want the SR trim if you really care about steering feel, as it offers the best of the bunch. Press the Sport button in an SR, however, and the steering wheel gains a nice, firm heft to it and some feedback through the wheel. It feels right in this performance-focused trim.

All trim levels benefit from the performance of the standard 3.5-liter V-6 engine, which provides smooth, effortless acceleration. Rated at 300 horsepower, the V-6 still has power to spare for a quick pass at highway speeds. It pairs with a continuously variable automatic transmission that's programmed to act like a conventional auto-



The 2016 Nissan Maxima.

matic at low speeds for a more traditional driving experience, according to Nissan.

The Maxima shows how far CVT technology has come recently, at least when paired with a powerful engine. It's mostly unobtrusive, with only a hint of the droning that's associated with this type of transmission when you accelerate hard. If you've been driving a car with a conventional automatic, this CVT won't seem strange or different.

One of the benefits of a CVT is that it's able to quickly increase engine speed when you want more power because it doesn't need to shift to a lower gear. The Maxima's CVT is very responsive; nudge the gas pedal and engine rpm immediately increases, providing more power.

CVTs usually enhance gas mileage, and the Maxima's EPA-estimated 25 mpg combined rating tops most V-6 competitors by a few mpg or so.

Interior

Overall quality and attention to detail is very good. The standard leather-wrapped steering wheel feels great; it's even better in the SR, which has Alcantara simulated-suede inserts. The upper sections of the doors are finished with soft-touch material that's a comfortable alternative

to the door armrests. The center console has a padded section to rest your knee against, and there's real stitching on the doors, console and dashboard. One element that doesn't look premium, however, is the simulated metal finish on the dashboard, doors and center console. It doesn't look real.

Fighter jets also informed the layout of the cabin controls, according to Nissan. The center dashboard control panel is angled 7 degrees toward the driver, and center console controls are close at hand.

The new Maxima's roofline is 1.3 inches lower, which contributes to the sedan's hunkered-down look.

The Maxima has the latest version of Nissan's NASA-inspired Zero Gravity front seats. They're finished in cloth (S), leather (SV and SL), premium leather with quilted Alcantara inserts (SR) or premium leather with quilted leather inserts (Platinum).

Ergonomics and electronics

Digital screens are rapidly taking over the dashboards of modern cars, and there are two in the Maxima: a 7-inch screen between the gauges and an 8-inch touch-screen in the center of the dashboard. The gauge cluster screen lets

you cycle through different modes to see information like speed and heading, trip data, tire pressure and active safety features. The dashboard screen is the primary display for the standard navigation system and multimedia functions. The Display Commander control knob on the center console can also operate the dashboard touch-screen.

Cargo and storage

The Maxima's 14.3-cubic-foot trunk is nicely shaped, and the trunk lid's support arms move within an enclosed area, so there's no risk of them crushing your cargo. The release straps for the 60/40-split folding back-seat are in the trunk. The rear seatbacks fold flat with the trunk floor.

The Maxima has a media bin just ahead of the center console cupholders. The bin is large enough for an iPhone 6 Plus, according to Nissan, and it's also where the car's two standard USB ports are located.

Safety

Most of the Maxima's active safety features come on SL and higher trims. These models have standard blind spot warning, rear cross-traffic alert, adaptive cruise control, forward collision warning with autonomous braking and predictive forward collision

warning. Predictive forward collision warning uses low-mounted radar to "see" under the car directly ahead of you to the next one in line. The system can issue a warning if it senses that car slowing suddenly — even if you can't see it yourself.

The top-of-the-line Platinum trim adds a surround camera system with moving-object detection and a drowsy-driver warning system. Drowsy-driver warning compares steering inputs at the beginning of a drive with ones later in the trip to determine if the driver is getting tired and needs to take a break.

Value in its class

Years ago, Nissan dubbed the Maxima the 4-Door Sports Car. It's an ambitious tagline, but it reflects the fact that the car caters to a specific type of buyer: the driving enthusiast who still needs sedan practicality. The 2016 Maxima is no different from its predecessors in this regard, but its new level of luxury — both in terms of cabin materials and features — now makes it a credible alternative to entry-luxury sedans. If you're shopping sport sedans, it's worth a test drive.

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Plymouth Garden Club to celebrate its 80th year

Eighty years and still going strong, the Plymouth Garden Club will celebrate its 1936 charter in May with the Women's National Farm & Garden Association. Since that early beginning, women have continued to share in the core values developed in those early days of community service, friendship and gardening interests.

The club contributes proceeds from its greens sale during the holiday season, to local, state and national organizations that support environmental and horticultural causes. It also awards annual college scholarships to Plymouth-Canton high school students. Members are also

involved in numerous community projects, some of which are city plantings, Scarecrow in the Park, Christmas Tree in the Park, 4th of July Parade and the DTE Garden, to name a few.

The Plymouth branch meets September through June on the second Monday of each month. Meetings are at noon and are usually held at the Plymouth Library, although some meetings and special events are held at members' homes.

For more information go to google.com/site/plymouthgardenclub or the current president's email deni_burrows@comcast.net.

Canton library collecting items for First Step

This Mother's Day, the Canton Public Library is again helping women experiencing violence and abuse by donating to First Step, an organization dedicated to reducing domestic and sexual

violence and providing service to people affected by these crimes.

Through May 13, the library will accept donations of book coloring books, colored pencils, knitting or crochet

kits, extra yarn and gift cards to local stores such as Target, Meijer, Kroger and CVS, among others.

Laurie Golden, the library's community relations department head, said the

project was well-received last year. "We had a great response last year," she said.

Items may be taken to the library, located at 1200 S. Canton Center.

Canton chamber schedules annual Girls Night Out

The Canton Chamber of Commerce's third annual Girls Night Out is set for 5-9 p.m. Wednesday, May 18, with an after-hours gathering at Fellows Creek Golf

Club.

Chamber officials say it's a good opportunity for women to check out some of Canton's businesses.

The outing starts at 5 p.m. at the chamber office, 45525 Hanford, where women will receive their shopping bag with goodies and a list of participating busi-

nesses. They can go to any of the destinations for refreshments, discounts and special gifts.

Everyone will head to Fellows Creek Golf Club to close the evening with socializing, drink specials, light refreshments and door prizes.

New this year, Girls Night Out will

feature a special purse raffle. Ladies will have the chance to bid on the handbag of their choice.

Registration is \$20 per person. A limited number of spaces is available. Call the chamber office at 734-453-4040 or register online at www.cantonchamber.com.



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Livonia Public Schools Opens Renowned Academically Talented Program To Out-of-District students

Twelve out-of-district **FIRST GRADE** seats are open in the Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (ACAT) program for the 2016-2017 school year.


ACAT Limited Registration Window: **May 2 - May 13, 2016** at Webster Elementary, 32401 Pembroke, Livonia, 48152. Call **734-744-2795** for more information or email David Zyczynski at dzyczynski@livoniapublicschools.org.

Five **SEVENTH GRADE** seats are open in the Middle School Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (MACAT) program for the 2016-2017 school year.

MACAT Limited Registration Window: **May 2 - May 20, 2016** at Livonia Public Schools Administration Building, 15125 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Call **734-744-2525 ext. 46132** or email dcoates@livoniapublicschools.org.

Both programs are geared toward academically talented students looking for a specialized learning experience. All candidates must meet the ACAT or MACAT selection criteria. Visit www.livoniapublicschools.org and click on Programs > Academically Talented > ACAT or MACAT for more information.


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Nominees sought for Giving Hope philanthropy awards

Giving Hope, Women's Giving Circle is seeking nominations for local philanthropists who have made a difference in the Canton and Plymouth communities.

Those selected will be honored and featured in a video presentation Friday, Oct. 21, at the Giving Hope 10th anniversary celebration at Laurel Manor. All nominees will be named to the Giving Hope Honor Roll.

Eligible are neighbors, friends, relatives, youth or a business that deserves recognition for making a difference in Plymouth and Canton.

Send nominee's name, address, daytime phone

contact, along with a short narrative about why the individual, couple, family or student deserves this honor, to givinghopewg@gmail.com with a subject line of GIVING HOPE HONOR. Deadline for email nominations is Monday, May 16. Nominators should also provide contact information.

Nominees must live in Plymouth or Canton and have fostered an idea, event or action in philanthropy as a donor or volunteer to help make life better for other people. Nominations will be accepted for individuals or families.

A student category will honor a young person or persons up to age 21 who have demonstrated a commitment to philanthropy in their community.

In 2016, Giving Hope is celebrating 10 years of supporting Plymouth and Canton area non-profit groups that help women and children.

"Giving Hope members are compassionate, hard-working women from diverse backgrounds who are committed to making a difference in our community," said Cynthia Kabza Vercruysse, chair of the Giving Hope advisory board.

"Over the last 10



A fund of the Canton Community Foundation

years, Giving Hope has donated more than \$71,000 to groups dedicated to making an impact in lives of women and children," she added. "We are asking the public to speak out and nominate local indi-

viduals or families who have also engaged in community philanthropy."

Giving Hope, Women's Giving Circle was born out of the belief that women in the Canton and Plymouth communities can make a meaningful impact on the lives of women and families in need.

Local grants over the last decade have helped:

- » First Step, the Wayne County program to assist victims of domestic violence
- » The Plymouth Canton Community Schools Clothing Bank
- » Enough SAID Campaign (a collaboration between the Michigan

Woman's Foundation, the Detroit Crime Commission and the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office to bring to prosecution a backlog of sexual assault crimes).

» Community Literacy Council to support tutor training.

» Michigan Philharmonic Symphony to support the Celebration Youth Orchestra

» Plymouth-Canton Community Schools to support the Students Helping Homeless Students project.

The Giving Hope, Women's Giving Circle is a donor-advised fund of the Canton Community Foundation.

No foul play suspected in body found in parked vehicle

David Veselenak and Laura Colvin
Staff Writers

A missing Milford man's body was located Wednesday afternoon in a Livonia subdivision inside a vehicle parked on the street for a lengthy amount of time.

Livonia police say the man, later identified as Steven Crawford, 35, appeared to have been in the vehicle for several weeks before it was discovered. He was found in a black Chevrolet HHR on Richland, near Angelina Circle, in a subdivision located north of Ann Arbor Trail and east of Newburgh in Livonia.

Lt. Tom Goralski said police arrived on scene and were able to rule out any criminal activity leading to the man's death.

"Absolutely no foul play," he said. "He was sleeping in his car."

The windows were heavily tinted, Goralski said, making it difficult for anyone to see inside the vehicle.

'Adored by everyone'

As news spread among family and friends looking for Crawford, a friend described him in a Facebook post: "He's a man of intensity, big gestures, strong friendships, hard work and even harder play. He's adored by everyone



Livonia police and fire at the scene where a body was found inside a parked vehicle near Richland and Angelina Circle. No foul play is suspected in the man's death.

MICHAEL KINNEY

he meets and the love and admiration is always reciprocated."

According to Milford police, Crawford's family and friends hadn't heard

from him in about a month when he was reported missing April 19

by his former girlfriend, a village of Milford resident.

The woman told police Crawford had shared her home on Houghton Street for several months in 2015, but checked into a sober living house in December in Detroit, where he remained for 90 days before returning in late February.

On March 2, a report said, Crawford pleaded guilty to a charge of operating while intoxicated, second offense, but did not appear for his next scheduled court appearances March 10 and March 30.

After he was reported missing, Milford police spoke to individuals close to Crawford, including his mother, who told

investigators she last heard from her son March 26, when he sent her a text message stating he "could not go back to jail."

Subsequent calls and text messages, she said, were not returned.

"We obviously hoped for a better outcome," Milford Police Lt. Matt Brumm said. "We never want this to be the result of a missing person investigation. Our hearts go out to all his family and friends who reached out to help look for him."

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Plymouth senior sets power-lifting world records



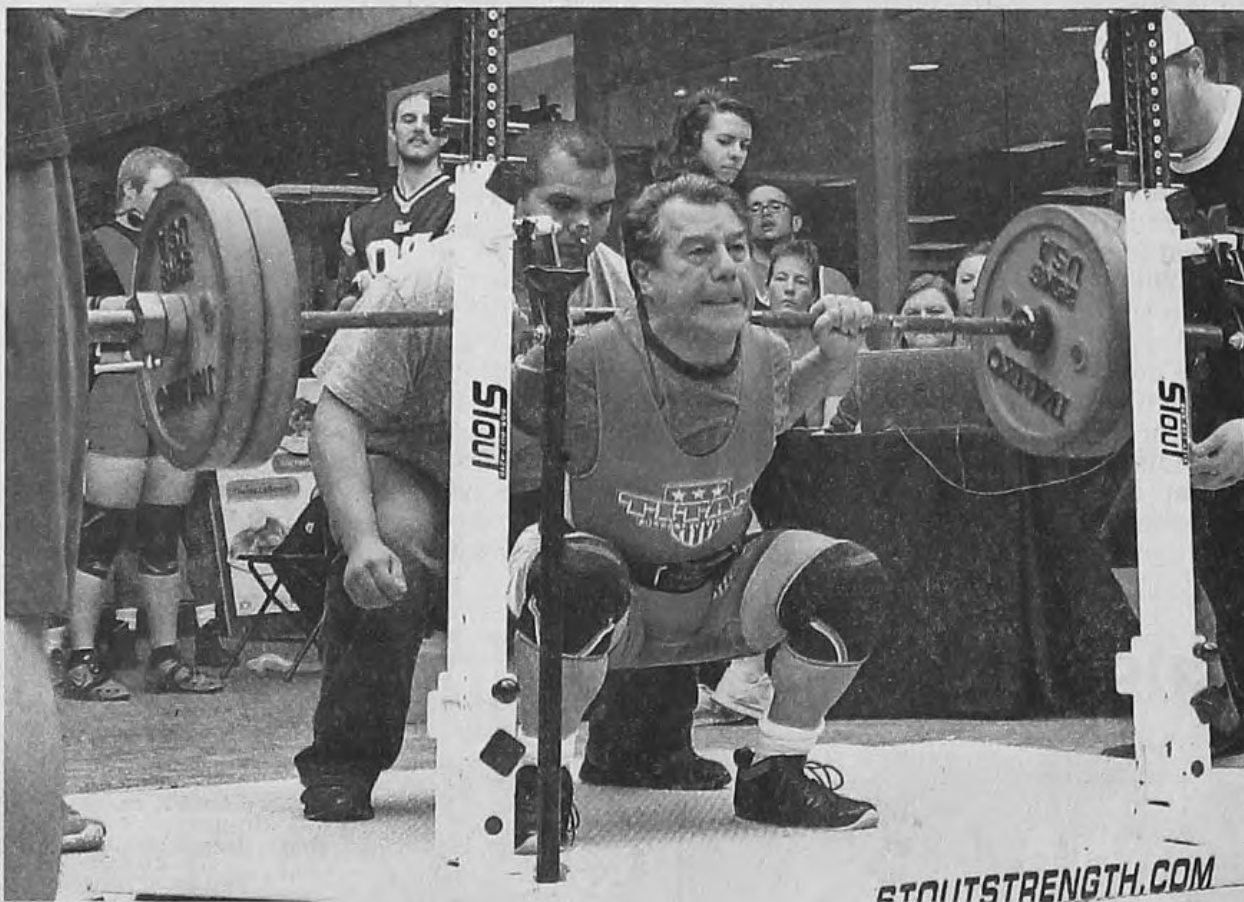
Ray Fougner with his medals.

Seventy-three-year-old power lifter Ray Fougner recently returned home to Plymouth after setting four world records at the 2016 Amateur Athletic Union North American Powerlifting Championships in Laughlin, Nev.

Fougner was sponsored by the Oneida Indian Nation, where he grew up on its homelands in central New York. He is a retired teacher and former head of the American Indian program at Cornell University. Fougner now splits his time living in Tennessee and Michigan.

Despite not joining power lifting until into his 70s, Fougner has achieved incredible success in the sport. But the most powerful part of Fougner's unique story is his mission to use his success to motivate others, particularly fellow Native Americans, to embrace fitness and a healthy lifestyle.

Fougner won the men's 70-74 age division, while setting new world records for the class in the squat, bench press, dead lift and total overall score categories. He was also selected from all male participants of every age group as the Best Lifter in the entire event. This performance qualifies



At 73, Ray Fougner of Plymouth, set four world records in power lifting recently.



Plymouth resident Ray Fougner was sponsored by the Oneida Indian Nation.

Fougner for the AAU World Powerlifting Championships, to be held Sept. 23-25 in Las Vegas.

Oneida Indian Nation officials said they are proud to sponsor Fougner in his travels, applaud his success

and strongly support his mission to inspire Native Americans to embrace fitness and health at all ages.

Farmington Hills man faces charges in Redford bowling alley shooting

Scott Daniel
Staff Writer

A 24-year-old Farmington Hills man will face a pair of felony charges in connection with the April 23 homicide of teenager Bethany Walker at Mayflower Lanes in Redford.

Ramon Dotson was arraigned Tuesday on armed robbery and felony firearm charges at 17th District Court and is currently being held on a \$100,000/10-percent bond. He will face a preliminary examination May 10 in front of 17th District Judge Charlotte Wirth

to determine if enough evidence exists to bind him over to Wayne County Circuit Court for trial.

Walker, 18, also of Farmington Hills, was killed after gunfire was exchanged by two men at the Plymouth Road bowling alley. The Oakland Community College student was struck in the neck and later died at an area hospital.

The two men – a 33-year-old from Redford and a 19-year-old Detroit – exchanging shots were also wounded in the incident, which started as a verbal altercation between separate groups inside the bowling alley. Redford Police Capt. James Turner said an investigation into the homicide is ongoing and that charges are expected to eventually be filed.

Police believe Dotson was involved in the verbal altercation. It's unclear whether he fired any shots in the bowling alley.

Dotson is accused of robbing three women outside Mayflower Lanes. Police said the women fled the bowling alley when shooting started.

After the alleged robbery, the women stopped Redford officers and informed them of what had happened. Officers found Dotson a short time later nearby.

Anyone who witnessed Walker's shooting is asked to call the Redford Township Police Department at 313-387-2551 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-SPEAK-UP.

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Tax consequences from selling a second home

Dear Rick: We recently sold our second home, which we did not owe anything on, as we can no longer afford the taxes. Being both retired, is there anything to invest the money from the sale to avoid taxes on the income?



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

crease the basis in your property. The basis is what you paid for the home, plus any improvements you may have made over the years. For example, if you remodeled a kitchen or bathroom or had an addition added to the home, that would increase your cost basis, which in effect would reduce the amount of gain. You should go back and look at all the improvements you may have put into the home, whether it is a new kitchen or new flooring or

something of that nature and add that to the cost basis. Of course, one of the issues that may come up is do you have receipts and documentation.

If the IRS contacts you regarding the sale of the second home, the main issue most likely will be your cost basis. If you have receipts and documentation, there's no problem. What do you do if you don't have the appropriate documentation? In that regard, there are two courses of action you can choose. The first is not to factor into the basis any improvement you don't have documentation for. This would be the very conservative route to

take and it certainly would make dealing with the IRS easier if you're ever contacted. However, you will pay more in taxes. The other course of action is to factor into the equation the home improvements and deal with the IRS if it contacts you. The chance of being audited is slim, but you do have to accept that you would have a risk.

Just because you don't have receipts doesn't mean you automatically lose if the IRS contacts you. In conducting audits, the IRS must be reasonable and there may be other ways to show you've done these home improvements without receipts. If you are reasonable when it

comes to the amounts, you also would have a much better chance of prevailing than if your numbers made no sense whatsoever. All things being equal, if it was me and I did not have the receipts, I would probably factor the improvements into my cost basis and hope for the best. Recognize the risk that, if I was audited, you may have to pay tax and some penalties.

Many people that own second homes forget that the taxation of the sale of second homes is different than on our primary residence. That is why if you do any home improvements to a second home, make sure you retain that documenta-

tion. Even though you cannot deduct these items, they will increase your basis, which will eventually reduce the taxes on the sale.

I'm frequently asked if you own a second home and you sell it as a loss, can you deduct it? Unfortunately, you cannot do that. Yes, you have to pay taxes on the gain but, no, you cannot deduct losses. Who said tax laws are fair?

Good luck!

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

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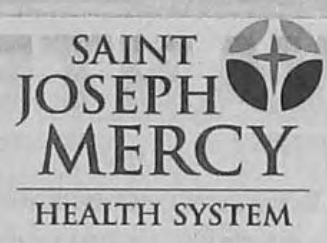
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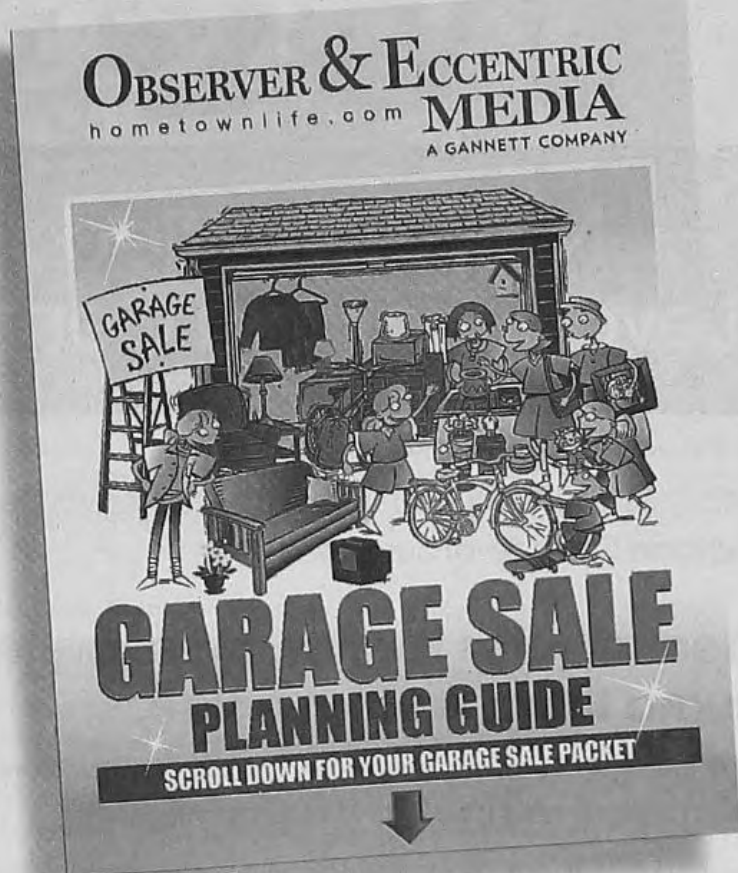
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Human trafficking forum describes 'horrible crime'

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Carrie Wood is pastor of visitation at the First United Methodist Church of Plymouth. A few years back ago, she involved in the fight against human trafficking.

"There's no nice way to say it," Wood, a Livonia resident, told attendees at an April 28 forum at Madonna University. "It's a horrible crime against God's children. People are treated as chattel. It's about greed, it's about power."

Wood founded Pearls of Great Price Coalition, based at her church, in 2014 to combat human trafficking. "Awareness, awareness, awareness," she said at the Madonna forum, put on with Madonna's help as well as the Michigan Intergenerational Network. "We find that people really don't know about this. If they don't know, they can't fight it."

Her co-chair is Kelley Wardzala, a Canton resident and Friendship Church of Canton worshiper. They've done two large workshops at FUMC, talk to many groups and recently spoke at Plymouth Christian Academy.

"In the back yard," Wardzala said, noting that sexual trafficking happens here and isn't confined to the Third



JULIE BROWN

Carrie Wood (left) of Livonia is founder of Pearls of Great Price Coalition, based at the First United Methodist Church of Plymouth. She's with co-chair Kelley Wardzala of Canton, a worshiper at Friendship Church of Canton.

World or poor neighborhoods. Wood noted the recent raid and shutdown of a Livonia massage parlor.

Wood said some 85 percent of Americans know nothing about human trafficking. Wardzala said, "In the law enforcement, how they treat the victims," there's a need to improve.

She also favors better training in the medical area, so emergency room and clinic staffers can ask the right questions. Wardzala noted trafficking involves force, fraud or coercion, as well as abuse of anyone under age 18.

Maj. Mary Ann Wood of the Salvation Army, based in Ann Arbor, said, "We are committed to meeting human need without discrimination."

The Salvation Army's early start in London, England, in the 1800s focused on protection of women and children from labor and sexual exploitation, she said.

The Salvation Army's undercover work led to awareness and support to in 1885 raise the age of consent in England from 13 to 16, the major noted.

"The Salvation Army's been an advocate for those trapped in human trafficking for a very long time," she said, urging those present "to end this horrific act against humanity."

'Modern-day abolitionists'

Carrie Wood said, "We are modern-day abolitionists because this is a problem of slavery." The undercover nature of the

crime makes statistics difficult to find, but an estimated 100,000 children in the U.S. are sexually trafficked each year, she said.

Wood briefly cited labor trafficking, which can range from nanny work to farm work to day laboring. "It's a huge problem," she said, noting those workers are given little rest or food and receive little to no pay.

She told of sexual trafficking in which girls are "sold" repeatedly as virgins with their genitals sewn up and raped by up to 20 men a night. "They keep them drugged and beaten and threatened," Wood said, including threats to kill family members or post photos on social media.

"Their sense of self-worth is beaten out of them" and they lose their childhood, she said.

Some 20-40 percent of victims are boys. "The boys really don't tell, they are so shamed by this," Wood said, noting only one North Carolina facility exists to help boys in the U.S. and can accommodate four.

Rhonda Hines of Romulus spoke on Save Our Adolescents from Prostitution, founded in 2009 by a woman who was trafficked repeatedly as a teen out of Birmingham Groves High School. S.O.A.P. is a national

organization.

"She was sold to men over and over again" for about two years, Hines said. "They made her feel as though her family would get killed." Now 50, the woman has spoken out with a book. "She started realizing she wasn't alone and it was an epidemic," Hines said.

S.O.A.P. gives labeled bars of soap at high-volume events like the auto show and educates hotel staff, working with them to identify victims. Hines noted many victims were sexually abused as young children.

"What do they feel they're good for as they get older?" she asked. "That's all they know." Hines also noted sexualized media images, as well as violence.

Some victims are drug abusers, she added, or simply have no place to stay. "If sex did not sell, this would not be happening," Hines said. "Shine a light on this, speak for those who can't."

'Bigger support system' needed

The attendees brought items for Clair's House, a 27-bed shelter on the east side of Detroit slated to open in the fall. Tanya Ruiter of Superior Township mentors young victims through Vista Maria, including runaways, and also works with the

Pearls coalition.

"There needs to be a bigger support system from the community," Ruiter said before the workshop. Victims need life skills like balancing a checkbook; some relocate to an unfamiliar area and have trouble reading a bus schedule.

"They need a lot of support outside," Ruiter said. "Even just going to a high school could be difficult for some."

She's volunteered since 2013 with all kinds of at risk youth. "God put it on my heart," said Ruiter, who later in life realized a friend was being trafficked at age 13.

"I was able to see all the markers she had," Ruiter said of the woman, who worked as an escort in her 20s. Ruiter favors educational programs like the one at Madonna.

"That's going into the schools and telling kids about it," as well as their parents, she said.

FUMC's associate pastor Nick Berlanga noted pornography is the "advertising arm of sex slavery" and that younger women now view pornography more than was true in the past. A survivor of sexual trafficking also spoke to the Madonna audience.

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Good results for lead tests in Garden City schools water

Diane Gale Andreassi
Staff Writer

Tests for lead in the water at Garden City school buildings recently came back much lower than what the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality has identified as levels of concern, explained school Superintendent Derek

Fisher. ARCH Environmental Group tested the water in all nine school buildings in mid-April. The report was sent to a certified laboratory.

"All of the buildings were within the very low levels," Fisher said.

In Garden City the lead levels were either zero or "in the single

digits," Fisher said.

Fisher said he received emails and comments from residents and parents earlier this year questioning the lead levels in Garden City schools. Most of the inquiries were prompted by the Flint water crisis that developed when the community switched its water source to the Flint

River to save money.

The river water was more corrosive than the city's former source, Lake Huron. Lead in the pipes and fixtures of older homes and schools began to leach into the Flint water. Elevated levels of lead were found in Flint children and toxic levels of lead were found in the water in

schools.

"Flint is a national tragedy, but at least it renews focus of the inherent dangers of having high levels of lead in the water," he said.

The Michigan Department of Education is expected to require all school districts in the state to conduct water testing.

"We were proactive and started it before that directive," Fisher said.

A MDEQ spokesperson didn't return calls for comment before deadline.

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

RELAYS FOR LIFE

Time/Date: 10 a.m. Saturday, May 14, for Canton; 11 a.m. Saturday, June 11, for Plymouth Park; For Plymouth: Kellogg Park

Details: Relay for Life events in Canton and Plymouth. The American Cancer Society is recruiting teams from local families, businesses, schools and places of worship, among other groups.

Contact: Relay for Life of Canton www.relayforlife.org/CantonMI; Relay for Life of Plymouth www.relayforlife.org/PlymouthMI

WHODUNIT AT BAREFOOT

Time/Date: 2 p.m. May 1
Location: Barefoot Productions Theater, 240 N. Main, Plymouth
Details: The production group will stage "Laura," written by Vera Caspary and George Sklar. It is a murder mystery about a gritty detective, Mark McPherson, who is assigned to find out who killed the glamorous Laura. He secretly falls in love with her as he reads her letters, basks in the light of her portrait and interviews her friends. He

falls in love with her beauty and mystery.

Contact: For tickets call 734-404-6889 or www.justgobarefoot.com.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. Monday, May 30
Location: Plymouth, Main Street

Details: The Plymouth Lions Club, American Legion Post No. 391, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 6695 and the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter No. 528 are planning the 2016 Plymouth Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony.

Contact: If your organization is interested in marching in the parade, contact Lee Ekholm at 734-812-8724.

ACTS OF CULTURE

Time/Date: Sunday, May 1, through Sunday, May 8

Location: Various locations in Canton

Details: Canton will once again focus a spotlight on arts and culture during the sixth annual Canton Acts of Culture Week. The week-long event, presented by the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage, will

begin Sunday, May 1, and continues through Sunday, May 8, at various community locations.

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

DEMENTIA WORKSHOP

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon each Wednesday through May 25

Location: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi

Details: The Area Agency on Aging 1-B and the Alzheimer's Association-Greater Michigan Chapter host free educational workshops for families caring for someone with a dementia-related illness, such as Alzheimer's disease. The Creating Confident Caregivers program is a six-week workshop series.

Contact: Advance registration is required. To register, call the AAA 1-B at 800-852-7795. For more details or additional information, go to www.aaa1b.com.

BOOK AND AUTHOR LUNCH

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. Friday, May 6

Location: Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center, 8768 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth Township

Details: The Friends of the Plymouth District Library will host the annual Book and Author Luncheon. Mystery writer and Michigan native Bryan Gruley will speak.

Contact: plymouthlibrary.org

FRIENDS HOST BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, May 12

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street

Details: The Friends of the Plymouth District Library will host U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Steven Rhodes who will present, "The Detroit Bankruptcy Case: An Insider's View from One Year Later."

CANCER SUPPORT

Time/Date: 6-7:30 p.m. third Monday of each month

Details: Connecting with others who know what it is to have lung cancer can help during this difficult time. To start, join the Lung Cancer Support Group at the Beaumont Cancer Center-Farmington Hills, 27900 Grand River Ave., Suite 230. Thoracic surgeon Dr.

David Sternberg leads the group. The group is open to anyone living with lung cancer and their loved ones. Meetings are free the third Monday each month. For more information, call 248-473-4828.

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 9 a.m. the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

Details: Join Widowed Friends, a peer support group, hosting a Men's Only Breakfast and Fellowship at Steve's Family Restaurant, 15800 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. Contact Dick at 313-534-0399.

Time/Date: 9 a.m. the first and third Monday of each month.

Details: Join Widowed Friends, a peer support group, hosting a Ladies Only Breakfast and Fellowship at Connor's Restaurant, Haggerty/Five Mile Road, Northville. To save a seat, contact Carol at 313-562-3080.

Time/Date: 9 a.m. the first Thursday of each month.

Details: Join Widowed Friends, a peer support group, hosting Co-Ed Breakfast at Richard's Restaurant, on Plymouth Road at Eckles Road. Contact Jerry at 734-455-2651.

SENIOR PROGRAMMING

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday

Location: Friendship Station Senior Center, 42375 Schoolcraft, Plymouth Township

Details: The Plymouth Community Council on Aging announces new programs for senior community from the city of Plymouth and Plymouth Township Upcoming programs and events will include Chair Exercise, Free Wii Bowling, Knitting & Crocheting Class, Craft Classes, Free Drop in Game Day, Senior Cardio Fitness and Senior Yoga. In addition to the new programs, the center will offer free monthly bingo beginning Feb. 16. Presently, the Community Senior Transportation is at the Friendship Station. The center will offer Focus Hope distribution and a newly created food pantry.

Contact: For more information and a calendar of dates and times and information on membership, call 734-354-3222. For transportation information, call 734-459-8888.

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CANTON'S ACTS OF CULTURE WEEK

The Canton Commission for Culture, Arts & Heritage is proud to present the 6th annual Canton Acts of Culture Week from May 1 - 8, 2016. This community celebration will feature a variety of cultural offerings at various locations throughout the greater Canton Community. There's something for everyone to enjoy; come experience the vast talent that our community has to offer! Download a complete calendar of events and times at www.cantonfun.org.



- Canton Historical Society - History of Culture Exhibit (April 30-July30)**
Canton Historical Museum - www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org - Free
- MI Opera Theatre - How Nanita Learned to Make Flan (May 1)**
Village Theater - www.cantonvillagetheater.org - Tickets \$6
- "Personalities, Plus" Exhibition by Artist Barbara Eko Murphy (May 1-30)**
Gallery @ Village Theater - www.cantonvillagetheater.org - Free
- Ladies Dillenbeck 6th Annual Art Exhibition: "Defining..." (May 1-31)**
D&M Art Studio - dmartist1@aol.com - Free
- D&M Art Exhibition - Opening Champagne & Desserts Reception (May 1)**
D&M Art Studio - dmartist1@aol.com - Free
- Family Workshop presented by Dr. Arifa Javed - Raising Children in a Society WE Were Not Raised (May 1)**
Canton Public Library - RSVP at arifajaved2015@gmail.com - Free
- Mother's Day Collection Drive for First Step (May 1-13)**
Canton Public Library - www.cantonpl.org
- Summit Water Color Class - Adult Open House Sponsored by D&M Art Studio (May 2)**
Summit on the Park - dmartist1@aol.com - Free
- 2016 Summit Spring Art Show (May 2-9)**
Summit on the Park Lobby - www.summitonthepark.org - Free to Public - Paintings available for purchase
- MI Philharmonic Youth Orchestra - Spring Concert (May 3)**
Village Theater - www.mpyo.org - Tickets \$15 adults/\$5 students
- Canton Senior Center - 8th Annual Jewelry & Purse Sale (May 3 & 4)**
Summit on the Park - www.cantonfun.org - 734/394-5485
- Cinco de Mayo Kindermusik Playdate (May 4)**
Kindermusik at Evola Music Center - Register: <https://app.jackrabbitclass.com/reg.asp?id=515859&preLoadClassID=5573549&loc=Canton> or call 734/455-4677
- Plymouth Community Arts Council - You & Me Together Drop-In Art (May 4)**
Plymouth Community Arts Council - www.plymoutharts.com - \$8 members/\$10 non members
- Canton Leisure Services - Annual Mother/Son Dance (May 5 & 6)**
Summit on the Park - Tickets only sold at Summit Front Desk: all ages \$9.25 residents/\$10.25 non residents
- Free Drawing Classes for Veterans (May 6)**
Classes offered every Friday to Veterans & their spouses at D&M Art Studio - dmartist1@aol.com - Free Registration
- Acts of Fashion - Fashion Show (May 7)**
Village Theater - www.cantonvillagetheater.org - Tickets \$15
- Interfaith Community Outreach - Lunch, Laugh & Learn Event (May 7)**
Geneva Presbyterian Church - YouAreAGreatLeader@gmail.com - Donation of \$3 - \$5 suggested
- PCAC Damaris Fine Art Scholarship Exhibit with PCAC Emerging Artists (May 7-31)**
Plymouth Community Arts Council - www.plymoutharts.com - Free
- PCAC - Summer Art Camps & Teen Workshops Open House (May 7)**
Plymouth Community Arts Council - www.plymoutharts.com - Free

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SHOWDOWN AT WAYNE STATE

Chiefs get better of Pats in twinbill

Chance to play two at Wayne State suits Canton fine

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

It was "April in the D" for Canton and Livonia Franklin, and the experience proved to be a winning one for Mark Blomshield's varsity boys baseball team.

Canton swept Wednesday's KLAA South Division baseball twinbill held at Wayne State University, posting 3-0 and 4-3 victories over the Patriots.

The victories nudged the Chiefs one rung higher in the division standings than Mark

Fournier's squad; following the doubleheader, Canton improved to 15-3 overall and 9-1 in the KLAA South. Franklin remains strong with a 14-4, 9-2 record.

"Both teams are off to a great start and it was a hard-fought battle down to the last out, as we knew it would be," noted Blomshield in an email to the Observer.

Blomshield and Fournier are longtime friends and the Canton coach praised his Franklin counterpart for giving the Chiefs a chance of a

lifetime — to play at a major college, on a field sporting a Fenway Park-like wall and auxiliary scoreboard from old Tiger Stadium.

"We are grateful Franklin provided us with the opportunity to play at Wayne State University," Blomshield continued. "... (it was) a great way to reward all the players for their efforts this season."

Strong pitching by senior Tyler Byers in the opener set the tone, as he allowed just



Canton's Andrew Krafft slides across the plate for a run Wednesday against Livonia Franklin at Wayne State University. JON VESPAZIANI

See CHIEFS, Page B3

PREP TRACK AND FIELD

Relays expand to include girls teams

Observerland meet gets a makeover in 2016; format changes to regional style

Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

The Observerland Relays, a high school sports tradition in western Wayne and southern Oakland counties for nearly half a century, is changing this year.

While the annual track and field competition has been an all-boys event for most of its history, the girls will compete on the same day, at the same site, for the first time.

Nineteen girls and 17 boys teams will showcase their talents when this year's expanded meet takes place Saturday, May 7, at Farmington High School.

A change in the format has helped to revive interest in the meet and create new enthusiasm for it. Instead of being a mostly relays event, a regional format will be followed.

"It's been an awesome meet over the years for the

guys," North Farmington girls coach Bill Pinnell said. "I do like the new format with it being regional-type races. It's a quality meet. There will be a lot of teams there, so it gives the girls excellent competition."

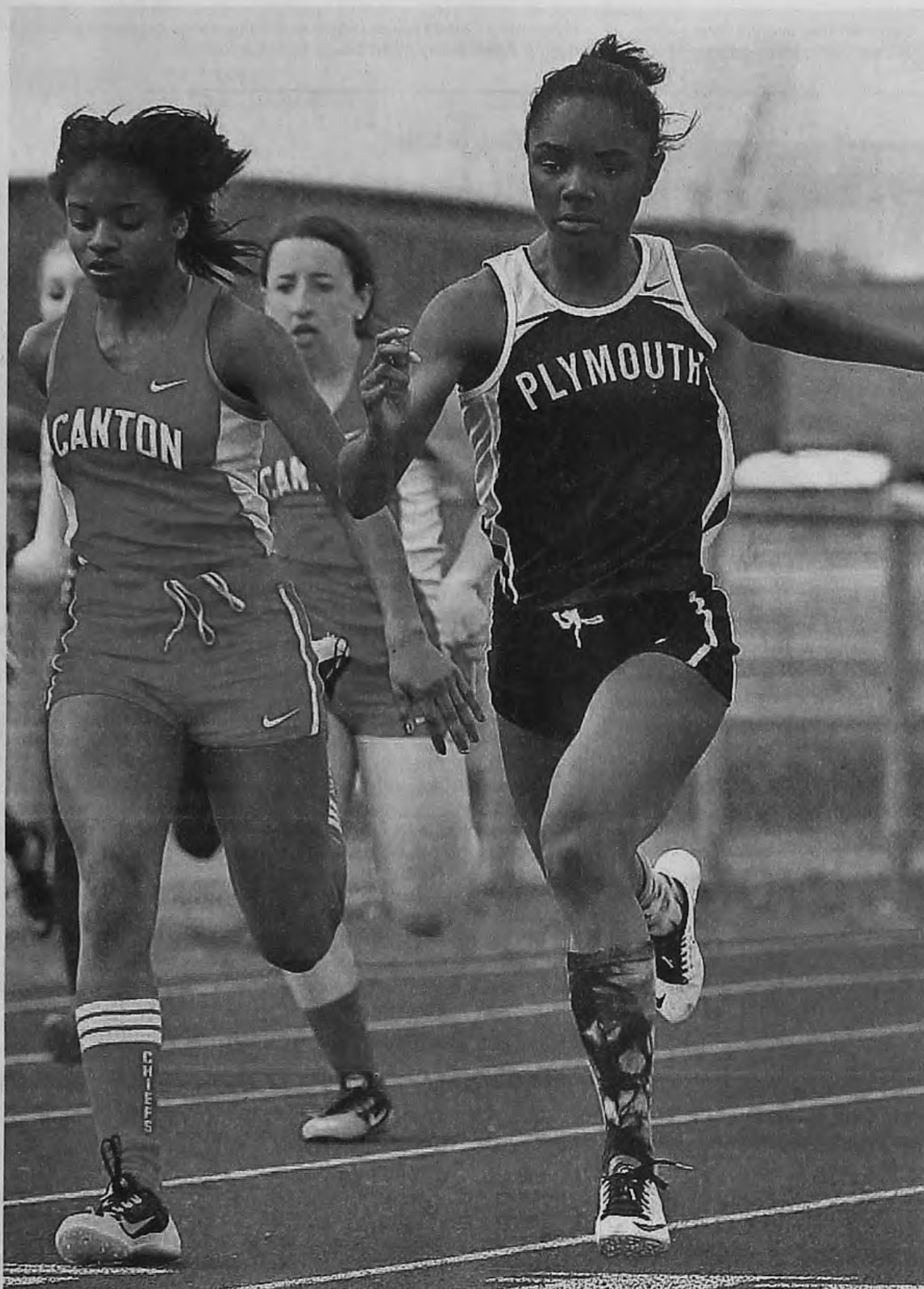
It will be a traditional track and field meet, basically. It will include the same events as a regular dual meet or regional competition. Unlike most dual meets nowadays, the pole vault will be included, too.

According to Plymouth girls coach Ricky Styes, the makeover hits the spot.

"I am excited to have our team finally have a chance to compete at the Observerland meet," Styes said. "This has always been a high-quality meet that the boys in the area have had on their schedule."

"Girls have always had problems finding a meet like

See RELAYS, Page B4



MICHAEL VASILNEK

For girls track and field athletes such as (from left) Canton's Jade Sabir and Plymouth's Ryen Draper, competing in the revamped Observerland Relays will be a new opportunity.

PREP GIRLS SOCCER

Eagles work overtime for 3-2 win

Crecelius scores on penalty kick to give Plymouth Christian 3-2 victory

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

One could sense the determination in Plymouth Christian Academy freshman defender Crystal Bock the moment she started dribbling the soccer ball out of her own end Thursday afternoon.

The host Eagles were trailing 2-1 to Rochester Hills Lu-

theran Northwest with about eight minutes remaining in the second half when Bock started her trek up the center of the pitch.

Bock dashed up into the Crusaders' end of the field and chipped the ball into the 18-yard box and junior midfielder Allison Crecelius did the rest — booting the ball into the Lutheran Northwest goal from

short range to even things up at 2-2.

Then in the second of two 10-minute overtimes, Crecelius ripped a penalty kick inside the left post for her third goal of the game. That held up as the Eagles (4-1-1) earned a 3-2 victory.

"I dribbled around them, but they pushed me in the back," Crecelius said, describing the sequence that resulted in the PK. "I know my coaches, from club, they've always told

See EAGLES, Page B2



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Allison Crecelius (right) tries to send the ball past the Lutheran Northwest goalie. Crecelius scored all three PCA goals in the game.

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PREP LACROSSE

Wildcats strong at both ends of field in victory

Plymouth's all-around effort sparks 16-4 win over Salem

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Keeping pace with Canton at the top of the KLAA Kensington Conference boys lacrosse standings, Plymouth routed Salem, 16-4, Wednesday night.

The Wildcats improved to 5-4 overall and 2-0 in the conference, catching the Chiefs (9-0, 2-0) entering weekend action.

"We just wanted to come fast and energized from our Northville win on Monday and take control early," Plymouth head coach Brian Walsh said. "Salem had a lot of energy and intensity, so we had to counter that. It was a good win, with contributions from everyone."

Spearheading the Plymouth offense was Zach Gallaher, with four goals and an assist.

But he had plenty of support from Nolan Ouellette (three goals), Jake Roach (three goals), Carson Miller (two goals, assist), Jack Balch (goal, two assists), Ian Gozdor (goal), Bradley Twszkiewicz (goal), Bryan Twinney (assist) and Chazz Shaver (goal).

Shutting down the Rocks with 16 saves was standout Plymouth senior goalkeeper Trevor McManus, who blanked Salem in the first half.

But McManus had strong help in the back from defenders Tyler Ramer, James Hansen, Keaton Courtney, Shaver, Jake Marciniak, Brady Terchonok, Joe Oleczak and Nate Messer.

"We really think our strength of schedule has prepared us for a strong conference run," Walsh said.

Salem fell to 3-5 overall and 0-3 in the Kensington Conference.

Girls lacrosse

Plymouth also prevailed against Salem in Wednesday's girls lacrosse match-up, winning 20-10.

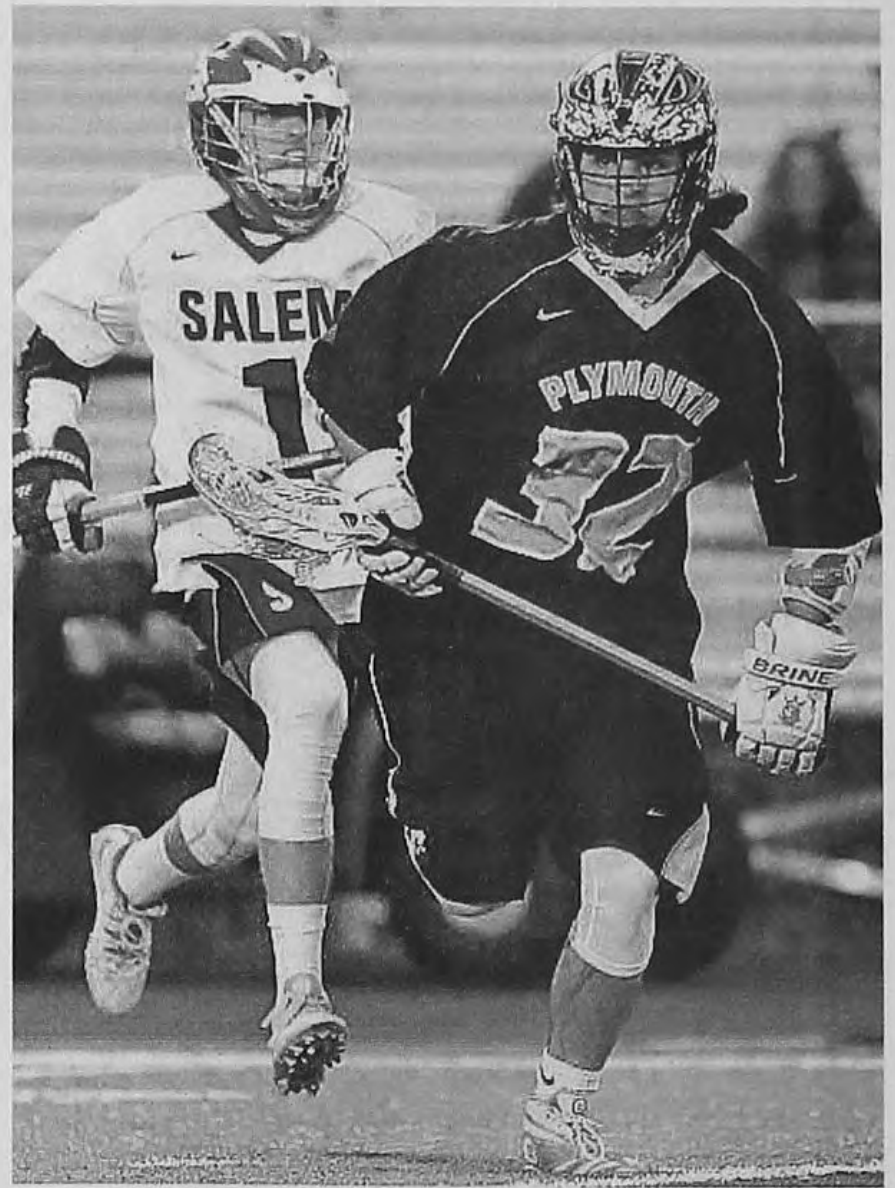
The No. 9-ranked Wildcats (7-1, 2-1 in the Kensington Conference) built an 8-0 lead early on, but Salem bounced back to trail 10-4 at halftime thanks to goals by juniors Stephanie Miller (two goals), Kayla Goleniak (two goals) and two by junior Leah Tardiff (five goals).

Junior Brianna Waggoner scored early in the third quarter, to cut the deficit to 10-5 and the Rocks (2-8, 2-2) kept rallying with two more goals by Tardiff and one by Goleniak.

But the Wildcats turned the page and put the game out of reach with a series of goals.

Details about Plymouth's scoring were not available as of press time.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
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MICHAEL VASILNEK

Plymouth's Carson Miller (right) maintains a step on Salem's Marty Mills during Wednesday night's boys lacrosse contest.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

South Lyon High varsity softball player Emma Sawicki attempts to put the tag on Salem's Jamie Squires during Wednesday's game.

KLAA SOFTBALL

Rocks sweep South Lyon

Salem takes two behind Rosiewicz's pitching and extra-base power

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The Salem varsity softball team climbed up into the top 10 with Wednesday's double-header sweep over South Lyon.

After hanging on for a 2-1 victory in the opener, the Rocks cranked up the offense in a 10-0 win to complete the sweep.

Maddy Rosiewicz pitched Salem to both victories, going the distance in each.

In the opener, Salem broke a 1-1 tie when Morgan Overaitis and Kara Hutchison registered back-to-back hits, followed by a perfect squeeze bunt by Jamie Squires (two

RBI) to score Overaitis (2-for-4, two runs).

Game 2 featured Salem's 13-hit attack, led by Overaitis (3-for-5) and extra-base power from Kristin Mihalic (homer, double).

Adding two hits was Rosiewicz, with Hutchison and Squires doubling in one run each.

Jordan Hazel and Hailey Dechalk both helped the cause with one hit and two RBIs.

"I've also got to say, we had some great defensive plays," Salem head coach Bonnie Southerland said.

"Outfielder Kristin Mihalic, playing center field, made a great throw to Kara Hutchison at the plate.

"Kara being one of the most experienced catchers in the league, made a reaching out behind her tag to get the runner at the plate. This hap-

pened in the first inning and set the tone for the rest of the game."

Chiefs win, 14-1

Canton scored 14 runs in the first three innings Monday and coasted to a KLAA Kensington Conference crossover victory.

Olivia Grant went 3-for-3 for the Chiefs, with other contributors including Mackenna Payne (double, triple, two RBIs), Hannah Zajdel (two-run single) and Izzy Dawson (RBI single).

Payne was in control in the circle, giving up just two hits. She walked one and struck out three.

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GIRLS TENNIS

Plymouth clinches division

Wildcats win eight flights in straight sets

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Plymouth's varsity girls tennis team rolled to an 8-1 victory Tuesday over Canton, clinching the KLAA South Division in the process.

The 5-0 Wildcats were paced by straight-sets wins in singles play by Jessica Braun (No. 1), Kara Hug (No. 3) and Swetha Duraiswamy (No. 4).

Continuing the positive momentum for Plymouth were the doubles tandems, each earning straight-set victories.

Winning at No. 1 were Alyssa Lopez and Bei Li Martin.

Victorious at No. 2 were Amy Luo and Justine Ko, with Allie Baker and Emily Solecki winning at No. 3.

Closing out the big day for Plymouth were the No. 4



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Plymouth's Sara Hug, shown from last season, continued to excel as the Wildcats clinched the division.

tandem of Alayna Stults and Olivia Schafer and the No. 5 team of Ria Mahesh and Manasi Sharma.

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GIRLS SOCCER

Northville edges Salem, 3-2

Megan Williams notched the game-winning goal from Kendall Dillon with only 3:16 remaining Thursday to give Northville a 3-2 win over host Salem.

Northville jumped out to a 2-0 halftime lead on a goal by Megan Krygier (from Nikki Buie and Megan Williams) in the 23rd minute, followed by Sydney Schembri's goal from Ashley Troup in the 35th.

But Salem (2-3-3, 1-2-2) countered with a pair of second-half goals by Katie Coleman (46th minute) and Nikki Pilon (65th minute) to even the match at 2-2.

Northville goalkeeper

Carlie Castiglione made six saves.

"All week, we talked about momentum and how important it was moving up the ranks in our division," Northville coach Eric Brucker said. "Momentum caught us off-guard a little bit in the second half when Salem took control of the game, but we found a way to persevere. Great team effort."

S.L. EAST 1, SALEM 1: Monday night, the Rocks tied South Lyon East thanks to a tying goal by Nikki Pilon.

"Salem applied pressure throughout the second half and created more scoring opportunities but could not score," coach George Tomasso said. Playing well for the Rocks were Pilon, Jayna Lenders, goalie Anna Lundh, Kamrey Dingelday and Casey Kotrba.

EAGLES

Continued from Page B1

me when you take a PK, aim for the back stanchion. So I just aimed for the back corner."

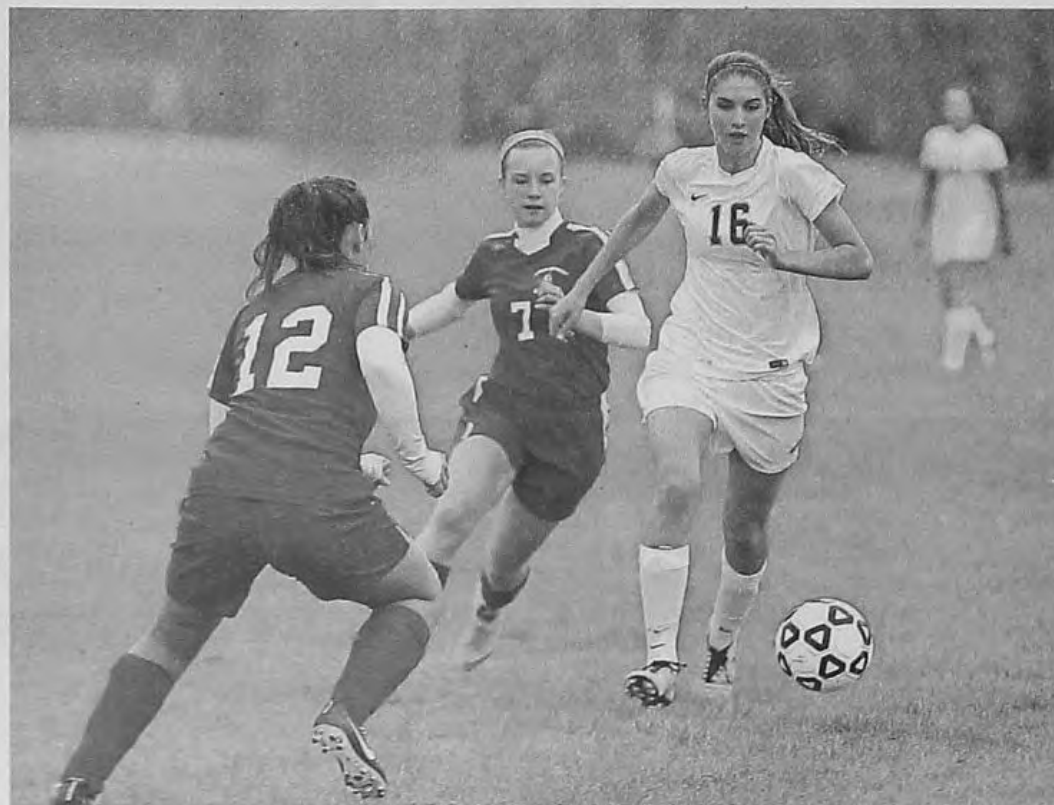
There was 6:15 to go when PCA took the lead and the Eagles held the fort with smart defense and by doing a good job of maintaining possession.

"Our coaches told us to play defensive. We were up and just trying to keep the lead," Eagles junior midfielder Jessica Paulson said. "So we were just trying to keep everything out of the back and make sure we were winning all the balls in the center.

"I think it (the comeback win) definitely helps a lot, helps us keep our confidence up and just know we can push through everything, even coming from behind."

Plenty of heart

According to PCA assistant coach Kyle Breitmeyer, his



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Plymouth Christian junior Jessica Paulson (right) dribbles past Lutheran Northwest players during Thursday's varsity girls soccer contest.

team has shown heart and hustle all season despite being shorthanded virtually every game due to injuries.

"I think it's a very good win," Breitmeyer said. "Obvi-

ously, the first 20 minutes were against us, but I think the girls really came out.

"It's been in a struggle with injuries all season, playing down a player just about ev-

ery game. But I loved the heart, I loved the effort. We really found a way to come back and win. It was great."

The confident rush by Bock that resulted in the clutch

equalizer was duly noted by Breitmeyer as an important moment in the MIAC contest.

"Crystal in the back line is just a great player," Breitmeyer said. "She's very young, very new to the school, but we're very excited to have her.

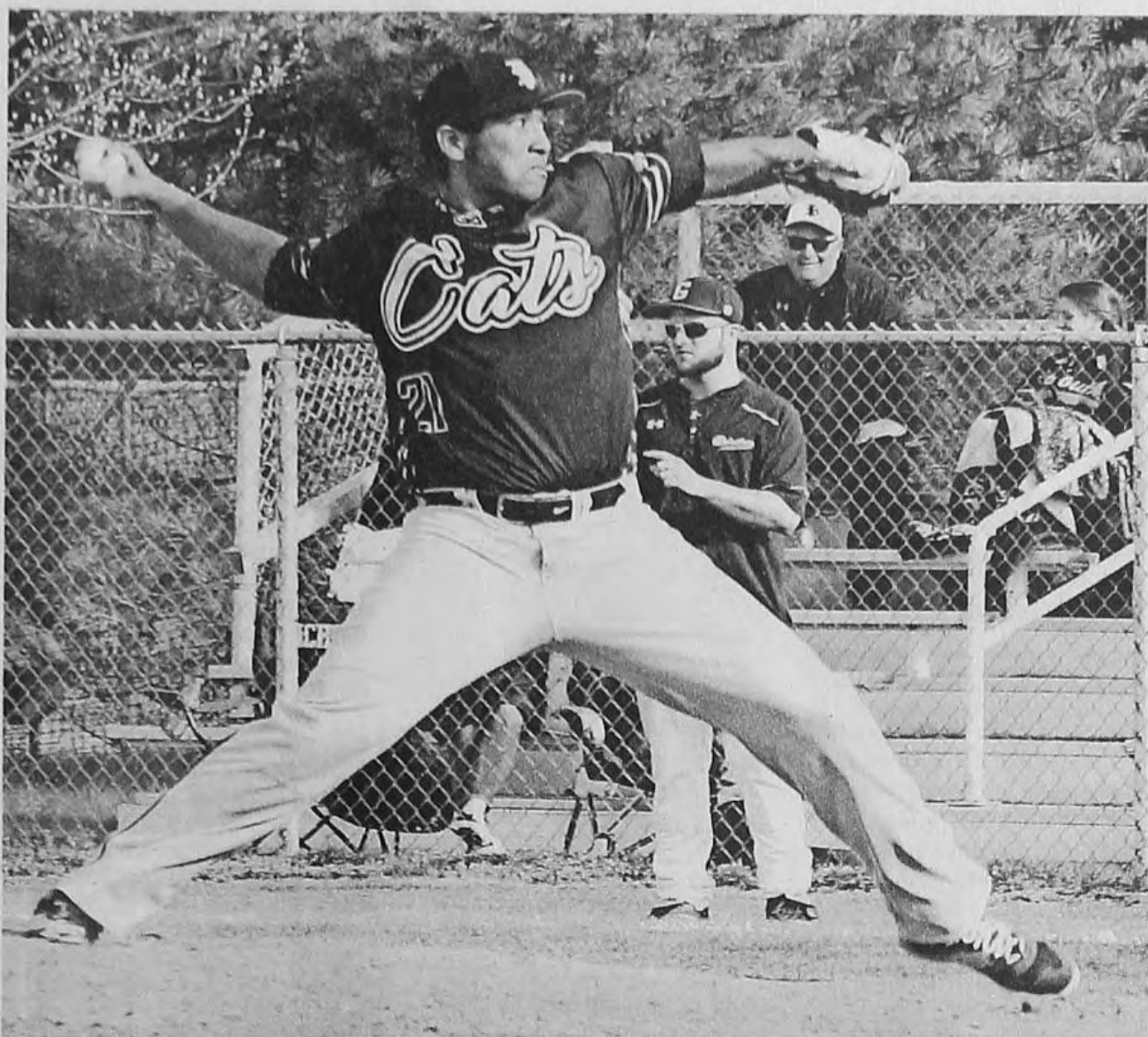
"She's got a lot of good experience and she's a very good leader back there."

Plymouth Christian trailed 1-0 at halftime, but knotted the score at 1-1 six minutes into the second half as the Paulson-to-Crecelius combination clicked. Paulson sent a through ball up to Crecelius and the latter made no mistake with her shot.

"Jessie and I, we've been playing together since middle school and we just know how each other works," Crecelius said. "She's better at some stuff than I am.

"I'm good with speed and she's good with her touches and she just knows when to play the ball in."

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Plymouth pitcher Brenden Lacorato delivers a pitch against Westland John Glenn.

ED WRIGHT

PREP BASEBALL REPORT

Wildcats win opener, but can't complete sweep

Salem gets best of Stevenson in suspended game

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

When your friendship stretches as far back as the one shared by Brian Martin and Brenden Lacorato, it's not difficult to read the other's mind.

That worked to the detriment of Lacorato, a hard-throwing junior pitcher for Plymouth, during the second game of Wednesday's double-header against Westland John Glenn — the team Martin stars for.

With Rocket Noah Damian standing on third and one out in a scoreless game, Martin stepped into the batter's box in the bottom of the third with a dangerous bat and a clever hunch.

"I've known 'Laco' for so long — we've been great friends since we were 10 years old — I had a feeling, with a 3-2 count, he was going to throw me a curve ball," said Martin, who guessed right, drilling the pay-off pitch for a run-scoring sacrifice fly in a game the Rockets would eventually hold on to win, 5-3. "I kind of knew how he would attack me. I had a couple good swings against his fastball earlier in the count."

Lacorato and John Glenn's Kyle Richards were locked in a classic pitchers' duel throughout most of the nightcap. Richards yielded just one hit — a third-inning single to Chase Every — over the first five innings, striking out five and allowing just four balls to leave the infield.

Two of the outfield outs came in the fourth, when John Glenn center fielder Matt Nutt chased down Austin Scheffer's deep blast in the right-center field gap. Nutt then made a diving grab of Evan Good's sinking liner.

Lacorato escaped a one-out, bases-loaded jam in the bottom of the first, when he got

Reid Zielinski to hit a ground ball to third baseman Good, who fired the ball to catcher Zach Beadle for the force. Nutt then flew out to left fielder Every to end the threat.

Damian led off the bottom of the third with a walk. He advanced to second on Kevin Brewer's sacrifice bunt, went to third on a passed ball and scored on Martin's well-struck fly to center.

John Glenn padded its lead to 5-0 in the bottom of the fifth — even though the ball never left the infield.

Steven Hegenauer and Damian sandwiched walks around a strikeout. They moved up to second and third on a passed ball before Hegenauer came home on an error to make it 2-0.

Lacorato, who gave up just two hits in 4½ innings, was replaced by Regan Fleisher with runners on first and second and Martin at the plate.

Following a wild pitch that pushed the runners to second and third, Martin was intentionally walked. Fleisher fanned River Turek for the second out, but Zielinski reached on a bang-bang fielder's choice play, driving in the third run of the inning.

Nutt then beat out an infield single to score Martin and extend the hosts' lead to 5-0.

The Wildcats answered with three runs in the top of the sixth as the first five batters reached base. Every singled, Josh Sulak walked and Scheffer brought home Every with a sharp single to right. Good singled home Sulak before Kyle Wolter walked to reload the bases.

Richards was lifted for Trevor Smith, who induced an infield pop out and a strikeout. Smith then hit Mike Wischer to force home the third Plymouth run before getting Jacob MacBrien to fly out to

center to end the inning.

Smith pitched a 1-2-3 seventh to earn the pressure-packed save.

Plymouth earned the Game 1 win, 2-0, thanks to a complete-game gem by senior Kyle Wolter, who outdueled Martin in a crisply-played game that featured few baserunners.

"That's the best Kyle has thrown in a while," Plymouth head coach Jason Crain said. "He had a low pitch count, he was throwing his curve ball for strikes and he only missed throwing a first-pitch strike to seven batters."

"We saw Martin pitch last year, so we knew it was going to be a battle. Kyle was phenomenal."

"I thought Lacorato pitched really well in the second game. We missed a few plays we should have made, but that's baseball. There are always going to be mistakes, but ours were untimely."

Salem victorious in suspended game

Salem put the stamp on a 1-0 victory in a game that suspended following the third inning due to darkness April 20.

Jake Siepinko earned the complete-game victory by scattering six hits and two walks while striking out eight over seven innings.

The game's lone run came in the first, when Matt Brooks knocked in Griff Shiminski.

PCA hangs on

Plymouth Christian Academy edged Lutheran Westland, 3-2, Tuesday behind a complete game, two-hitter by pitcher Phil Morby.

Strong defense by shortstop Matt Cusumano (nine assists) helped Morby.

The Eagles scored three runs in the first, with RBI singles by Nick Andres and Jake Shook.

PREP PROFILES

Scheffers enjoy unique diamond duel

Father and son in opposite dugouts for KLAAs double-header

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

In some families, the apple doesn't fall far from the tree.

In the Scheffer family, the baseball didn't fall far from the "tee."

Like father, like son, Canton resident and Westland John Glenn head baseball coach Lawrence Scheffer taught his oldest child, Austin, the finer points of the sport he excelled at as a youth, coaching Austin until he was 11.

On Wednesday, during a high school baseball double-header featuring Plymouth and the host Rockets, the Scheffers shared the same diamond, but were stationed in opposite dugouts for the first time.

Austin Scheffer is a 6-foot-2, 285-pound power-hitting first baseman for the Wildcats, so any success he tasted on Wednesday would be at the expense of the team his dad engineered.

The unique encounter created some memorable moments in the hours leading up to the game.

"Austin came in (Tuesday night) and said to me, 'I can't talk to the enemy,'" Lawrence Scheffer said, smiling. "I had some jitters all day today. I'm proud of him. He's hitting in the four hole for Plymouth and doing well."

"I've worked with him a lot on his inside-out swing and going the opposite way. I know that at any given time he can hit the ball in the gap. Today, I was just hoping our guys would throw good pitches and our fielders would catch it."

Although Wednesday's double-header was special for Austin, he tried to handle it with as much normalcy as possible.

"As far as playing against

my dad's team, I really tried not to think about it much," the younger Scheffer admitted. "My dad told me (Tuesday night) to just go out and play like it's any other game."

During one of Austin's at-bats in Wednesday's first game, the home-plate umpire ruled that he checked his swing. His dad thought otherwise and asked for an appeal to the second umpire, who ruled that Austin did indeed go around.

"Hey, you have to keep coaching, no matter who's at the plate," Lawrence said, smiling.

Austin, who is a standout offensive lineman for Plymouth's football team, started playing baseball when he was 4 or 5, his dad reflected.

"When it came to sports, baseball was his first love," Lawrence said. "I coached him until he was 11 or 12, and then I let other coaches coach him. You have to let them go at some point."

Austin was always around baseball fields as a youth — and he loved it.

"Growing up, I was always here, at Glenn, wearing blue and red," he said. "Having a dad who knows as much about baseball as my dad does definitely helped my skill set."

Adding another layer of coolness to Wednesday's match-up was the fact that John Glenn's pitching coach is Austin's uncle, Aaron Scheffer.

"They obviously know my strengths and weaknesses when I'm hitting," Austin said. "So it was kind of a mental game today when I was up."

Wednesday's double-header ended with a split — Plymouth won the first game, 2-0; John Glenn took the second, 5-3.

So bragging rights in the Scheffer household will be shelved until next season — or possibly in a few weeks if the Rockets and Wildcats meet in a district game at Plymouth.

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Westland John Glenn head coach Lawrence Sheffer coached against his son, Austin, a power-hitting Plymouth first baseman, for the first time during Wednesday's KLAAs South Division double-header at John Glenn.

ED WRIGHT

CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

two hits over six innings of work. Closing it out with a scoreless seventh was Noah Spencer.

Collecting two hits each in Game 1 were juniors Justin Mattson and AJ Brazleton, with Spencer, Lou Baechler, Michael Flaishens chipping in with one safety a piece.

The Chiefs held off a late charge by the Patriots to claim the nightcap.

Franklin chipped away at an early 4-0 deficit to pull to within 4-3 in the sixth, but relief pitcher Tyler Donlin escaped a jam (in relief of starter Mitchell Zelenak) and Spencer sent the Pats down in order in the seventh for his second save of the day and

fifth of the season.

Mattson led Canton's Game 2 attack with two hits, with other contributors by Flaishans, Nick Sprosek (double), Brazleton and Jake O'Donnell.

Despite the sweep by the Chiefs, nothing is decided in the KLAAs South as crunch time draws near.

Injury-ridden Plymouth (7-10, 5-5), Westland John Glenn (8-5, 5-5) and Livonia Churchill (9-7, 4-6) likely will be looking up at the Chiefs and Patriots when the final contest is concluded.

"With six games remaining, the Chiefs have put themselves in a situation to compete for a division title and we are looking forward to that opportunity," Blomshield concluded.

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Busting it down the first-base line Wednesday is Canton's Jake O'Donnell (left), while Livonia Franklin players converge on an infield grounder.

KENSINGTON CONFERENCE BOYS GOLF

Boczar leads the way for Plymouth

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Livonia's Idyl Wyld Golf Course was anything but idle Wednesday, as it provided the setting for some wildly exciting golf during the annual KLAAs Kensington Conference Invitational.

Although small spheres — from golf balls to baseballs — aren't supposed to fly far in chilly air, you would have had a hard time convincing that to followers of Plymouth's Jack Boczar, who fired 6-under-par 66 to lead the Wildcats to the conference title with a team score of 296.

All four Plymouth scorers carded 81 or lower, which is remarkable considering four of the 12 teams who competed

didn't have a single golfer who scored lower than 81.

Joining Boczar on the victory train were Wildcats Kyle Kozler (73), Joe Fontana (76) and James Baldwin, who netted 81.

Northville was in the hunt for a title most of the day, before settling for second with 303. Mustangs Jimmy Dales (71) and Abhi Alluri (72) were the lowest-scoring duo other than Boczar and Kozler.

Led by sophomore Connor Jakacki, Livonia Stevenson tallied a score of 320 to earn a third-place tie with Novi. Joining Jakacki throughout the Spartans' impressive day were Trevor Lopus (78), Jon McDonald (80) and Easton Schlatterbeck (85).

Novi's contributors were

Michael Ulle (75), Ryan Welch (76) Trevor Angell (83) and Ryan Havens, who turned in 86.

Canton, (321), Livonia Churchill (323) and South Lyon (324) were locked in a tight battle for the fifth-, sixth- and seventh-place positions.

Led by Phillip Conrad, the Chiefs' quartet of players registered scored that ranged from 78 to 82. Brian Oldani shot 80, Suhas Potluri fired 81 and Brenden Chan recorded 82.

Salem finished ninth with a 350 tally. Hayden Winch recorded 84 for the Rocks.

Other finishers for the Rocks included Bryce Henderson (85), Shawn Weldon (87) and Adam Marcero (94).

SCHOOLCRAFT SOFTBALL

Tough-luck home finale for Lady Ocelots

Rallies fall short in Schoolcraft's final home games of debut season

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

For the most part, it's been a rewarding debut season for Schoolcraft College's women's softball team.

But Friday's final home games at Ford Field left a bittersweet taste in the mouth of head coach Rey Linares and players such as sophomore outfielder/pitcher and Plymouth High School alum Elaine Gerou.

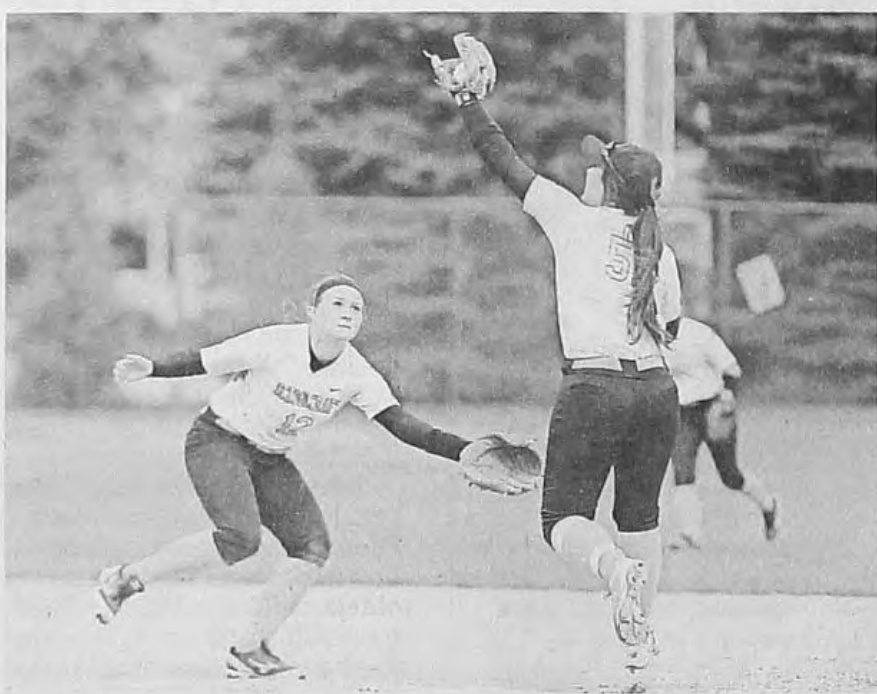
Missed opportunities — whether miscues on the basepaths or not coming through in the clutch — cost the Lady Ocelots, who dropped a doubleheader to St. Clair County Community College. The Skippers took both ends of the twinbill, 7-5 and 5-4.

"We didn't execute today, we just didn't execute," said Linares, whose team dropped to 14-21 overall and 11-13 in the MCCA Eastern Conference.

Gerou had one of those chances that slipped away when, with the bases loaded and Schoolcraft down 4-1 in the third inning of the nightcap, she slammed a ball at Skippers third baseman Sydney Church for an inning-ending double play.

Had the ball gotten past Church, the Lady Ocelots might have been on to something.

"It's kind of hard, sad to know that we went our last



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO
Schoolcraft second baseman Kassidy Lipinski snares a line drive in the seventh inning of Friday's opener, while shortstop Katlyn McIntosh closes in.

game out on a loss on our home field," Gerou said. "But it's good to know that most of the girls will be back here next year to take care of business and to hopefully have a better finish."

"We were right there today, we had lots of opportunities to capitalize."

Not quite

Schoolcraft scored three runs in the fifth to get to within 5-4, but could not deliver the equalizer.

Katlyn McIntosh (Garden City) singles and former Cougars teammate Kelsie Powell then tripled over the centerfielder's head to make it 5-2.

The next batter, Shelby Shelton, laced a double to left-center and it was a 5-3 contest. With two outs, pinch hitter Mariah Coleman scored Shelton with a single up the middle.

But pitcher Chase King retired Sabrina Coleman to end the threat.

Skippers reliever Riley Thompson then shut the door over the final two frames, giving up just one hit (to Livonia Stevenson alum Kassidy Lipinski) and a walk.

St. Clair improved to 16-14 overall and 13-9 in the MCCA Eastern Conference.

"It would have been real nice, but we're not done," said



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO
Pitching two innings for the Lady Ocelots in the opening game was Plymouth alum Elaine Gerou.

Linares, about being able to win the Ford Field finale. "We've got four more games and we get to play them again at their field. We're going to try to go in there and take a couple."

Powell went 3-for-4 with a run and an RBI in the nightcap, while McIntosh collected two hits.

In Game 1, the Lady Ocelots outthit St. Clair by a 14-10 margin, but could not finish a late rally.

The Skippers were up 6-1 going into the bottom of the sixth and Schoolcraft chipped away to score twice on three hits and an error.

In the seventh, down 7-3, the Lady Ocelots again tried to surge ahead only to fall short.

Sabrina Coleman led off the frame with a single and scored on a double to right by Mackenzie Quinn (2-for-4).

Lipinski (2-for-3, two runs) followed with a single to left, followed by McIntosh's third hit in three at bats to close the gap to 7-5.

Team opened eyes

But Schoolcraft, despite a single by Powell (3-for-4), could not get any closer. Hurting the rally was a runner being called out for interference.

"We made some mental mistakes on the basepaths," Gerou said. "I think the first game should have been ours today, as well."

Within the next week, the Lady Ocelots will conclude their schedule with four road games, which also ends Gerou's career. She will stay at Schoolcraft next year to study nursing.

Yet Gerou is proud of the mark the first-year team made, noting victories over Oakland, Macomb and Mott.

"Overall I think our first season went great," Gerou noted. "There were a lot of things that went well, there's a lot of potential for the girls next year."

"For a first-year program I think we surprised a lot of teams."

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RELAYS

Continued from Page B1

this on their schedules, one with a number of high-quality teams."

Interest among the boys teams had waned in recent years under the old relays format and participation had declined. That was due to coaches seeking opportunities for athletes to attain good seed times for conference and regional meets, according to Livonia Franklin girls coach Dave Bjorklund.

"By the first Saturday in May, coaches are looking to run regional format meets, not relay meets," Bjorklund wrote in an email. "This has been accelerated by many of the conferences having their championship meets the week before the regional, as opposed to after the regional, as many did for a number of years."

"This has made the track season seem shorter and shorter. Cold weather in April over the last few years hasn't helped either."

Styes concurred that the new format gives athletes an improved chance to get up to speed before state meets arrive on the schedule.

"Changing the meet to a regional format I am sure has made a lot of coaches happy," Styes said. "As we get close to the big meets at the end of the season, many of us want to find fast meets that are running the events that we will see in the MHSAA regional and state meets."



MICHAEL VASILNEK
The Observerland Relays on May 7 will give athletes such as Salem's Chaz Jeffers a chance to compete in a regional-style format.

"We are hoping for great performances from our girls at this meet."

Due to the new enthusiasm for the meet brought about by the change in format, some schools had to be turned away, according to Farmington co-coach Jeremy Auer.

"The girls teams in the area are really talented and they were going to those (regional-style) meets to try to get those (seed times)," he said. "We

filled up pretty quickly. We were limiting it to 18 teams; it didn't take long and it was full."

"I think the response has been really good. Our girls are excited to run some fast times on their home track."

Farmington senior Maddy Trevisan, an all-state distance runner who was named Miss Cross Country last fall, is one of them.

"It's really exciting," she said. "Obviously, the meet has a

lot of history. For (the girls) to make our mark on that history, it's really cool. It's even more special for me, being a senior and being able to host it on our home track."

"It's a great opportunity to PR in such a good field, especially in the distance races. The distance races will be run at night under the lights when it's cooler and those are great conditions for some good times."

Junior Raven Tatum is part

of an outstanding group of North Farmington sprinters. She and her teammates are hoping to do well in those individual events and relays.

"I think it's going to be a great experience, because it's the first year for the girls," Tatum said. "I'm excited to go against new teams. I'm not sure what teams are going to be there, but I'm always ready to run at the meets."

One veteran coach is enthusiastic about the new format.

"Our athletes have been performing well so far this season and we look forward to seeing how they handle competing at a regional format against some very tough competition," Canton boys coach Jess Shough said.

Senior middle distance runner Morgan Merlino of Farmington is excited to be a part of the new Observerland Relays and to run in front of the home crowd at Falcon Field.

"It's supposed to be a really competitive meet," Merlino said. "I'm really excited because we heard we'll have some really good competition, which will be good for me to bring down my times and, hopefully, get the school record (in the 800)."

"It should be really fun, exciting and competitive. Who doesn't love running a competitive race?"

The meet will start at noon with the pole vault, followed by the other field events at 1 p.m. The running prelims start at 4 p.m., finals at 5:30 p.m.

Staff writer Tim Smith contributed to this report.

College-bound Mercy athletes



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Four senior athletes at Mercy High School in Farmington Hills will continue playing their chosen sports at the collegiate level. The foursome includes (left to right) Jordyn Schluter, basketball, Calvin College in Grand Rapids; Zora Pullen, basketball, Lake Forest (Ill.) College; Abbey Przekop, soccer, Assumption College in Worcester, Mass; and Cari Padula, softball, Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo.

THE WEEK AHEAD

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Monday, May 2
Canton at S.L. East, 4 p.m.
Plymouth at Stevenson, 4 p.m.
John Glenn at Salem, 4 p.m.
Parkway at PCA, 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 3
Inter-City Baptist at PCA, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 4
Novi at Salem (DH), 4 p.m.
Canton at Churchill (DH), 4 p.m.
Wayne at Plymouth (DH), 4 p.m.
Thursday, May 5
PCA at Inter-City Baptist, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 7
Canton at Bay City Western, 10 a.m.
Arbor Prep. at PCA, 11 a.m.
Milan at Salem (DH), 11 a.m.
Canton at Kalamazoo Central, 12 noon
HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL
Monday, May 2
Salem at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Canton at S.L. East, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, May 3
Regina at Ladywood (DH), 4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 4
Novi at Salem (DH), 4 p.m.
Canton at Churchill (DH), 4 p.m.
Wayne at Plymouth (DH), 4 p.m.
Friday, May 6
Ladywood at Mercy (DH), 6 p.m.
Saturday, May 7
Canton Classic, 9 a.m.
Churchill Invitational, 9 a.m.
N. Farmington Invite, 9 a.m.
John Glenn Breast Cancer Tournament, 9 a.m.
Salem at Clarkston, TBA
GIRLS SOCCER
Monday, May 2
Canton at Saline, TBA
Salem at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, May 3
PCA at Roeper, 4:30 p.m.
Salem at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

Regina at Ladywood, 6 p.m.
Churchill at Canton, 7 p.m.
Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, May 4
Garden City at Thurston, 7 p.m.
Clarenceville at Crestwood, 7 p.m.
Thursday, May 5
Summit at PCA, 5 p.m.
Ladywood at Marian, 6 p.m.
Plymouth at Canton, 7 p.m.
Salem at Novi, 7 p.m.
Saturday, May 7
Salem at Pioneer, 11:30 a.m.
TRACK & FIELD
Tuesday, May 3
Garden City at Edsel Ford, 3:30 p.m.
Canton at Churchill, 3:30 p.m.
S. Lyon at Stevenson, 3:30 p.m.
Clarenceville at Annapolis, 3:30 p.m.
Franklin at Plymouth, 3:30 p.m.
RU at Thurston, 3:30 p.m.
John Glenn at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Friday, May 6
Wayne, John Glenn at Saline, 10 a.m.
Saturday, May 7
Observerland Invitational, noon
BOYS GOLF
Monday, May 2
RU at Fordson, 3 p.m.
Thurston at Belleville, 3 p.m.
Romulus at Garden City, 3:15 p.m.
Churchill at Seaholm Invite, noon
Tuesday, May 3
Plymouth vs. Canton at Fox Hills, 3 p.m.
Salem at S.L. East, 3 p.m.
Franklin at Churchill, 3 p.m.
Wednesday, May 4
Northville vs. Salem at Fox Hills, 3 p.m.
Wayne County Invite, 8 a.m.
Garden City at Edsel Ford, 3 p.m.
Thursday, May 5
Stevenson at South Lyon, 3 p.m.

Canton at Wayne, 3 p.m.
John Glenn at Franklin, 3 p.m.
Friday, May 6
RU, Thurston at Crestwood, TBA
Churchill at Plymouth, 3 p.m.
GIRLS TENNIS
Monday, May 2
Annapolis at Garden City, 4 p.m.
Thurston at Robichaud, 4 p.m.
Ladywood at Our Lady of Lakes, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, May 3
KLAA Crossover vs. North, 4 p.m.
Wednesday, May 4
Garden City at Romulus, 4 p.m.
RU at Thurston, 4 p.m.
Thursday, May 5
Ladywood at Frankel Jewish Academy, 4 p.m.
Lakeland at Churchill, 4 p.m.
GIRLS LACROSSE
Monday, May 2
N.D. Prep at Ladywood, 4:30 p.m.
Canton at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.
Novi at Salem, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, May 4
South Lyon at Salem, 7 p.m.
Canton at Novi, 7 p.m.
W.L. North/Central at Plymouth, 8 p.m.
Friday, May 6
Gabriel Richard at Canton, 7 p.m.
BOYS LACROSSE
Monday, May 2
W.L. Western at Canton, 7 p.m.
Salem at Novi, 7 p.m.
Plymouth at Pioneer, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, May 4
Salem at South Lyon, 7 p.m.
Plymouth at W.L. Western, 7 p.m.
Friday, May 6
Novi at Canton, 8 p.m.
Saturday, May 7
Clarkston at Plymouth, 1 p.m.
Canton at Troy, 7 p.m.

Vintage is in vogue at Michigan Modernism Preview Party



Julie Yolles
SOCIAL SCENE

The Detroit Area Art Deco Society put on the 22nd annual Michigan Modernism Preview Party, featuring the best mid-century antiques, art and novelty collectibles. Held last month at the Southfield Civic Center, the Modernism Expo gave patrons a chance to purchase vintage clothing, furniture, housewares and art from dealers who came in from all over the country.

At times, it was hard to tell who was the dealer and who was the buyer, given the authentic vintage fashions that people brought out of their cedar closets to wear that night. Guests enjoyed a Retro Chic Fashion Show hosted and put together by Leah Damiani, owner of Leah's Closet in Royal Oak. Proceeds from the Modernism Preview Party benefit the Society's scholarship, restoration and preservation programs.

JVS Women to Work

It's no secret that the Trade Secrets event is the place to be — so much so that each year the venue gets larger to accommodate the supporters of JVS' Women to Work Program. This year's eighth annual dinner at Temple Beth El in Bloomfield Hills was a sell-out with record attendance of 500-plus.

Keynote speaker Linda Schlesinger-Wagner, founder of the wonder tank line of skinnyttees that now includes skirts, tops, leggings, dresses, bandeaus and active wear, recalled her struggles following a divorce 10 years ago. She worked a variety of jobs to keep herself and her two children afloat, battling depression while her son fought a drug addiction.

"We were the little family of three musketeers," Schlesinger-Wagner told the audience.

But with a \$1,000 advance credit from a friend and a support network of dedicated boutiques like Impulse in Brighton and Guys & Gals in West Bloomfield, she was off in a new direction. And for \$8.99, her son, David, purchased the name skinnyttees from godaddy.com and the rest, as she'll say, is history.

"I was happy to reinvent myself," said Schlesinger-Wagner, who has been happily married for two and a half years to Paul Wagner, whom she met on a blind date.

"Women today have the help to recreate themselves and make magic."

Schlesinger-Wagner's magic is spread across the world in over 1,000 stores and on QVC, to the tune of a growing \$8 million clothing line.

Award winner

Not only did Schlesinger-Wagner recover from a divorce and need to get back into the workplace, Felicia Militello of Commerce Township



Mia Durham (left) of West Bloomfield and Julie Skene of Farmington Hills have a colorful evening at The Detroit Area Art Deco Society's 22nd annual Michigan Modernism Preview Party.



Ariana Carps of Berkley and her mother, Elaine Blumenthal of Farmington Hills, attend the JVS Trade Secrets benefit which raised more than \$250,000 for JVS' Women to Work program.



Livonia resident Lora Weingarden and Franklin resident Linda Sircus enjoy the Trade Secrets event, which drew a sell-out crowd.

worked through challenges and graduated from the Women to Work Program. She was honored with this year's JVS Women to Work Award. She was referred to the Women to Work Program through HAVEN, which provides services to victims of domestic violence. HAVEN will host its Hopes & Dreams Gala on May 6 at the Detroit Marriott Troy.

"I was in an unhealthy relationship for two decades that led to isolation and shame," said Militello, who now works as an escrow closer for Best Homes title Agency in Farmington Hills. "I knew to the core of my being that I had to leave. I had no plan, no home and no money."

"Women to Work activities were helpful in building up my confi-

dence and helped me see that I have skills and traits that are important in the workplace."

With the \$250,000 raised at this year's Trade Secrets event, the money will provide career counseling, job search training and skills assessment to women who must find employment to support their families following divorce, a disability, death or unemployment of a spouse or partner.

The 19th annual JVS Strictly Business Luncheon will be held at 11:30 a.m. June 23 at MGM Grand Detroit.

For more information, go to www.jvsdet.org/women.

Contact Julie Yolles at socialscenejulie@gmail.com or leave a message at 248-642-9465.



Alison Laesser-Keck (left) of Plymouth-based VLD Events and Emily Andrews of Tecumseh enjoy shopping at the Modernism Expo. Andrews bought her vintage leopard coat at Le Shoppe at the event and literally wore it to go.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

BROXTON JACKSON VIOLANTE

JOY L. Age 71. April 25, 2016. Beloved mother of P. Michael (Holly) Boroday and Jill Christine (Jim) Stefanich. Cherished daughter of Fran and the late Richard Broxton. Loving grandmother of Landon and William Boroday. Sister of Richard Broxton and Rick (Cindy) Broxton. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Services have been held. Memorials appreciated to The Humane Society of the United States. Obituary and condolences at lynchfuneraldirectors.com.



RUTH Age 96 of Canton, passed away on April 29, 2016. Beloved wife of the late William Jackson. Loving mother of Ron (Carol) Jackson, George (Cindi) Jackson, and Patty (Ron) Hoffman. Proud grandmother of Shari, Kelly, George, Jim, Kristie, and Nancy. Great-grandmother of 16. Caring sister of Norman Robinson and the late Kenneth Robinson. Visitation Sunday 2-8 p.m. at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road (between Sheldon and Beck), Plymouth. Gathering of family and friends, Monday, 10 a.m. until the 11 a.m. Funeral Service at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to the Michigan Parkinson Foundation or American Heart/American Stroke Association. To share memories, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com.



JOHN P. June 17, 1957-April 23, 2016. On April 23, 2016, after a short battle with cancer, John Philip Violante went home to The Lord; he was surrounded by family in the home he had built with his wife. He leaves behind his adoring wife and high school sweetheart, Sue (Bond) Violante; loving daughter, Alexandra (Christopher) Reznik; and loving son, John Violante, Jr. John is also survived by his sisters, Patricia Greenwood, Beth Violante, Sue Willet, Lori (Tim) Makela, and Nancie (Kerry) Puzio; his brothers, Mike (Laura), Ric (Connie), Tom, and Bob (Debbie) Violante; many nieces, nephews, and a large extended family. He is reunited with his parents, Edward and Patricia Violante. Those who were lucky enough to have known John knew he was a big teddy bear, more bark than bite. If he picked on you it meant he cared about you. And no one cared about their family as deeply as John; always selflessly putting others before himself. John requested to be cremated. A memorial service will be held Friday, April 29, 10:30 a.m. at St. Michael's in Livonia. His ashes will be placed at his favorite fishing hole, the Violante family cottage, where his life will be celebrated with family and friends. In lieu of flowers, please send a donation to Jack's Place for Autism. His Christmas coffee cakes will be truly missed!

HAYWARD



JOHN G. "JACK" Of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, died on Wednesday, April 27 at the age of 88. A lifelong resident of Michigan, he grew up in Royal Oak, the son of Louise Hayward and longtime Royal Oak Police Chief Ray Hayward. Jack was President of his Royal Oak High School senior class and served in the Navy during World War II, and after law school as an officer in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. He graduated from the University of Michigan in 1950, and from the University of Michigan Law School in 1953. He began to practice law, and shortly afterward met Judith Seaborn; they were married in December, 1956, and were married for 59 years. He practiced law with his own firm and later with Howard and Howard. Jack served as General Counsel for the Wayne Oakland Bank for 19 years, and thereafter served as a director of both the Wayne Oakland Bank and First of America Bank. He was also city attorney for Huntington Woods for 17 years. Over the years, Jack served as a Deacon of the First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak, a member of the Royal Oak School Board, and as a Director of the Oakland County Bar Association. He was a member of the Birmingham Athletic Club and the Walloon Lake Country Club. An avid fly fisherman, skier and golfer, he loved to travel, and traveled all over the world with his wife and family. Jack was an honest and ethical man, with a great sense of humor and a friendly personality, which made him beloved to all those who were lucky enough to know him. Jack embraced life, whether he was working passionately for his clients, or spending time with his precious family, whom he loved above all else. Jack is survived by his wife, Judith Hayward; his sister, Ruth Goulding; his children, Doug Hayward, Anne Hammond (Ed), and Julie Armstrong (Jim); as well as grandchildren, Emily Hammond Olson, John Hammond, Sarah Hammond, Jack Armstrong, and Caroline Armstrong. Funeral Services will be held on Friday, May 6 at 11:00 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the Salvation Army, 16130 Northland Dr., Southfield, MI 48075 or veteran's charity of donor's choice. A.J. Desmond & Sons, 248-549-0500.

View obituary and share memories at AJDesmond.com.

MARKES

GRAHAM WILLIAM Age 95 of Holland went to be with his Heavenly Father Tuesday, April 26, 2016. Born in Wyandotte, Michigan, Graham graduated from Alma College with a degree in Chemistry. He served his country in the Army Air corp and returned to the states in 1945. He was employed for many years by the Ford Company as a research chemist working in several plants in and around Detroit. In 2002 he moved to the Holland area to be near family. His first wife Elizabeth Markes preceded him in death in 2004. He is survived by his wife, Joyce Markes, children; Susan (Don) Bigwood of Holland, Graham (Tulin) Markes II of Clarence New York, Fran (William) Renton of Sarasota, Florida., ten grandchildren; nine great grandchildren; step-children, Steven (Ruth) Waterman of Zeeland, Janet (Garry) Strout of Grand Rapids, MI., six step-grandchildren; nine step great grandchildren and two step great great grandchildren, as well as a sister-in-law, Nancy Lumber of Portland, Oregon. Funeral services will be held Saturday, April 30, 1:00 p.m. at Northwood Chapel, Dykstra Funeral Homes, 295 Douglas Ave., Holland. Friends may call on the family Friday 7-9 p.m. at the chapel. Memorial gifts may be given to Hospice of Holland. Please visit www.dykstrafuneralhome.com to sign an online registry or to leave a memory.

ENGAGEMENT

Langevillier-Hurst

Cory Robert Hurst and Nadiana Langevillier announce their engagement.

Cory, the son of Gary and Rebecca Hurst, is a Plymouth native and a 2008 graduate of Canton High School. He received a bachelor of arts degree in history and his teaching certification from Michigan State University. He has also earned a master's degree in educational technology from Michigan State University. Cory teaches middle school world history, at iCademy Middle East, in Dubai, UAE.

Nadiana, the daughter of Christian and Kareemah Langevillier, is from Château-Renault, France.



Cory Robert Hurst and Nadiana Langevillier plan to marry in July.

She received a bachelor's degree in teaching modern foreign languages from University of Wales Institute of Cardiff, in Cardiff, Wales. She manages and teaches at an English language in-

stitute in Alcázar de San Juan, Spain.

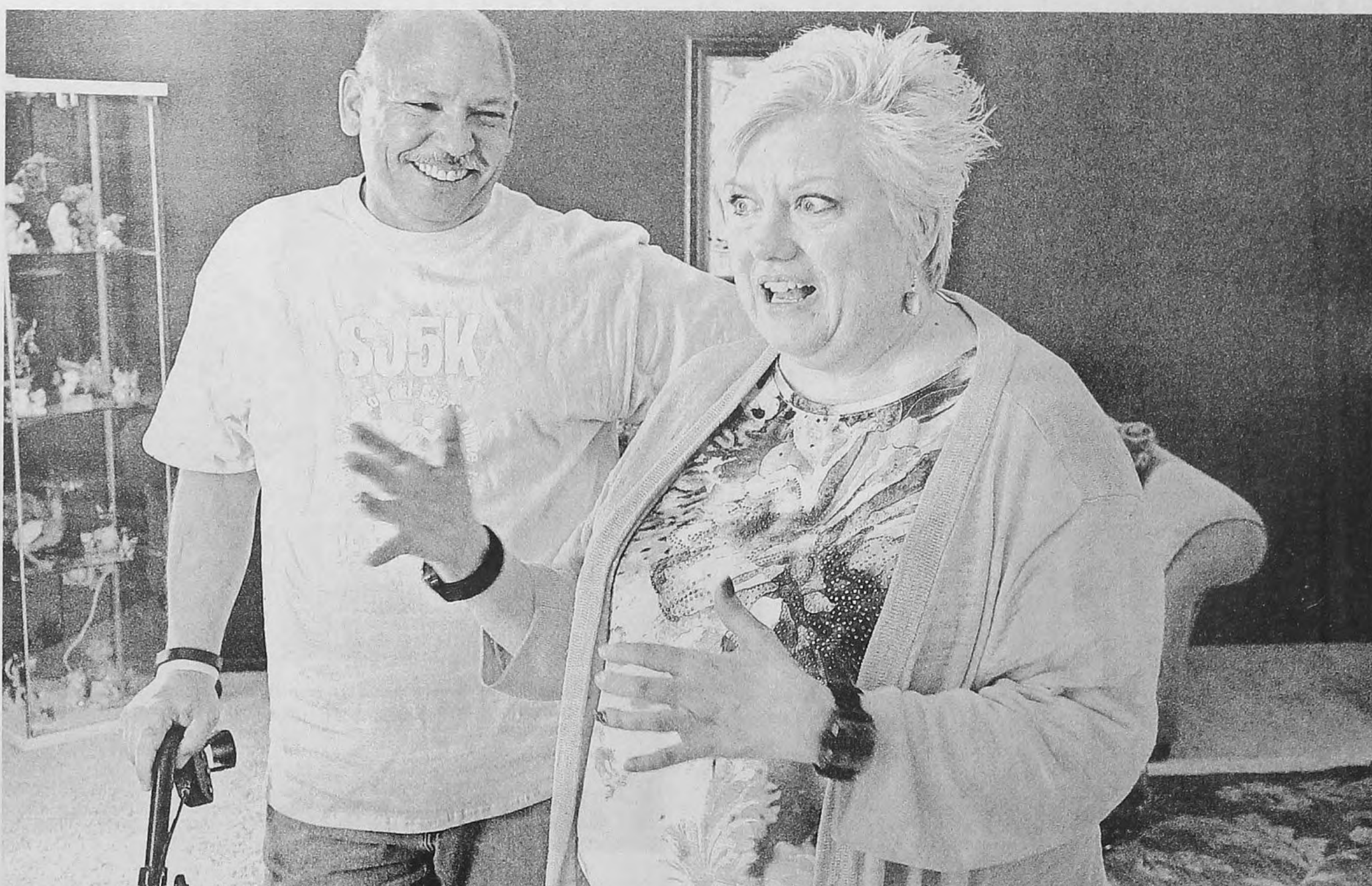
The couple plans to marry in July 2016 at the Longacre House in Farmington Hills. They will reside in Alcázar de San Juan, Spain.



Wishes of peace to you and yours in this time of sorrow.



May you find peace in your time of sorrow.



Terri and Jeff Saenz face ALS together, and manage to find joy in life.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton woman sees blessings in her life, despite ALS diagnosis

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

FUNDRAISERS

Terri Saenz will learn the results of a 10-month clinical trial for ALS this summer.

The Canton woman will find out if she received a placebo or stem cells during a research study last year at the Mayo Clinic, in Minnesota.

In the meantime, she'll receive proceeds from two community events, the annual SJ5k run May 1 and from an inaugural golf outing May 21, to help pay for medical needs.

Saenz, 48, was diagnosed in January 2015 with ALS, a fatal neurodegenerative disease that affects muscle-controlling nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. Two months later, she was accepted into a 48-patient clinical trial, conducted by Brainstorm Cell Therapeutics in Massachusetts and Minnesota. Earlier trials with a small sample of patients in Israel showed improvement in slowing the disease's progression for six months following treatment.

Saenz traveled to the Mayo Clinic every month from June-December 2015 with her husband, Jeff, to participate in the study.

But now it's a waiting game with a disease that generally claims its victims within two to five years after diagnosis. And even a positive trial result doesn't guarantee Saenz continued stem cell treatment.

"Even if Brainstorm's trial is successful, by the time it comes on the market, I could be gone. Even if I got the cells (during the trial) I couldn't get another dose because it's not available. What I read is that the best results are from multiple doses," she said.

The company could allow placebo recipients to receive stem cells, but Jeff Saenz says that appears unlikely.

"It all comes down to funding and they are the ones that have to fund it," he explained. "Even if we say, you know what, we'll raise whatever money it takes, we'll make it happen, they won't do it."

» SJ5k Charity Run raises money for local families in medical crisis. Register for this sixth annual event beginning at 7 a.m. Sunday, May 1, at the Canton High School varsity field, 8415 Canton Center Road, south of Joy Road, in Canton. A ceremony honoring the five families that will receive race proceeds will precede the 5k, which will begin at 8:15 a.m. There's also an optional 1-mile walk. Recipients this year are Torrance Johnson, Eriksson Elementary School fifth-grader with muscular dystrophy; Ann Slomkowski, a West Middle School teacher who is battling cancer for the second time; Sharon Laing, a Plymouth High School teacher who is undergoing treatment for cancer; Chris White, an alumnus who was diagnosed with a brain tumor in his sophomore year at Central Michigan University; and Terri Saenz. For more on the event, email sj5kcommunity@gmail.com or visit sj5k.org.

» The first MyFriendTerri.com Golf Tournament begins with registration, coffee and pastries at 8 a.m. Saturday, May 21, at Fellows Creek Golf Club, 2936 Lotz Road, Canton. The 18-hole scramble starts at 9 a.m., and will include course contests, prizes, lunch and soft drinks, a dinner reception with prize raffle and cash bar, for \$125 per golfer. Visit MyFriendTerri.com to register

"Right now they are saying no. But if it's super positive (trial results) why wouldn't you? I've written five letters to the company."

Saenz said she hopes the trial is successful and helps accelerate the research. She is grateful to have been involved in the trial, but is realistic about what it could mean for her future.

"The fact that this disease has been around 144 years and there is just one treatment that prolongs life for only two months, that is mind-blowing," she said.

Physical changes

Her breathing function has declined slightly over the past year, a physical change that



Jeff Saenz talks about the device Terri uses at night to assist in breathing.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

could make her ineligible for stem cell injections even if she had received the placebo and the company decided to make them available.

"It's counter-productive in my mind to make that a requirement. Most ALS patients die from diaphragm muscles weakening and they are no longer able to breathe," she said. "And as a patient, there is a little part of you that goes, let's be real. If this is successful you will make millions of dollars. You make the money and I may never get the treatment. Why aren't you required to help me get what I need?"

In March, Saenz began using a BiPAP machine at night after discovering that patients who use the aid "earlier than later" benefit from it.

Her speech has slurred a bit more over the past year and she now uses a rolling walker when she's tired. But she still drives, walks and refuses to

park in handicap spaces unless absolutely necessary. Her daily regimen includes dietary supplements, exercise and eating healthful meals. Saenz used a motorized scooter when she accompanied her husband on a business trip to Las Vegas, Nev., last year. When they celebrate their anniversary with a cruise this summer, she'll have a wheelchair on hand. Saenz said she and her husband try not to let ALS get in the way of their lives. They adjust, rather than give up.

Advocates

They'll be in Washington, D.C., for a few days in May with representatives from the ALS Association of Michigan for the annual National ALS Advocacy Day and Public Policy Conference to help build awareness of the disease, tell their story and learn more about opportunities available to patients. Last month, the

organization's Michigan chapter honored them with the Embers of Hope patient and caregiver award. Saenz's good friend, Peggy Fenwick, was named the Advocate of the Year.

"There have been so many blessings," Saenz said, tearing up as she recalled events of the past year. "People helped us put up our Christmas tree. I had friends who came over and helped us decorate it."

Strangers have shoveled their walk in winter and raked leaves in the fall. They've delivered gift cards and flowers.

"I try to be good to people and I think it's coming back to me," she said. "I think the world is good."

Follow Saenz's progress at facebook.com/myfriendterri/. Register for the golf outing at myfriendterri.com and get more information about the 5k at sj5k.org.

Barefoot monologue show focuses on the ups, downs of motherhood

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Barefoot Productions will present an encore of "Motherhood Out Loud," for Mother's Day weekend.

The Plymouth-based theater staged the play in 2014 to sold-out audiences and will bring it back May 6-8 with lots of

changes. It consists of 15 monologues and five "fugues," which are scenes with several characters whose monologues intertwine at a fast pace.

"It's 90 percent different," said Amanda Durham of Westland, who co-directs the play with Chris Steves, Barefoot Productions president.

"Last time the for the

fugues we had choir books," she said, adding that the actors read their lines. "We felt that broke the connectivity between actors and the audience. This year, we're trying it memorized. Everyone in a fugue is in black and they stand on boxes to give it different levels. We changed some of the fugue roles to men this year —

there are a lot of stay-at-home dads now — and they are having a lot of fun with it."

A few actors play two characters backing to cue, with a mere lighting cue between two different monologues.

"Our monologues in this series, we've directed them a little. Some have props and some have movement."

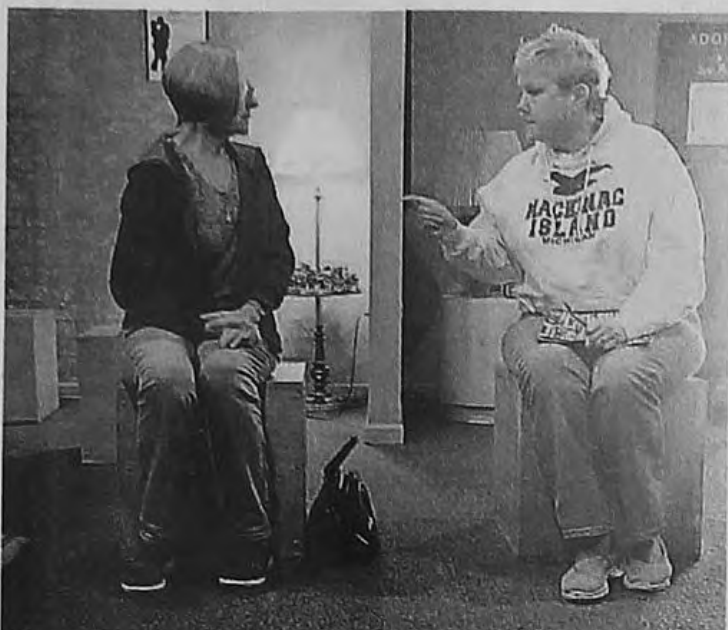
The monologues and fugues are organized around five themes, fast births, first day, sex talk, stepping out and coming home. The play starts with stories about new mothers and ends with a mother and her baby. In between, there's advice from a grandmother, sto-

See PLAY, Page B7



SUBMITTED

The fugue cast of "Motherhood Out Loud" is Jessie Carlin (back, left), Ederique Goudia, Beth Wondolowski, Cory Chambless, Ashley Lyle, Marian Busa, (front left) Keiona Smith, Betty Beryman and Jamie Hendrix.



SUBMITTED

Marian Busa and Wendy Sielaff rehearse a scene from "Motherhood Out Loud."

PLAY

Continued from Page B6

ries about children as they grow, with some monologues drawing laughs and others, tears. "I find myself crying at funny things I feel will be my future," Durham said. She's a mother of toddlers and can relate to many of the stories. Cory Chambless, who plays several parts in the show, said dads will relate to the stories, too. "Non-parent men and women will relate," he said. "We're all someone's child." All but two members of the cast are parents. The actors also reflect a mix of ethnic backgrounds and communities.

"We have a Muslim woman doing a monologue about a first period. There's one monologue that aims toward gay parenting. We have a lot of variety this year," Durham said. "The first time I think we pulled a lot of (actors) who were already in our talent pool. This time around more people heard about it. We got people from all over." The production contains adult language and topics and is for mature audiences. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 6-7, and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 8, at Barefoot Productions, 240 N. Main, Plymouth. Tickets are \$15-\$17. For more information, call 734-404-6889 or visit justgobarefoot.com.

sdargay@hometownlife.com

Major opera stars to perform in local production of 'La Boheme'

Jay Grossman
Staff Writer

"It's just you and your voice."

That's how Cuban-born soprano Elizabeth Caballero describes the challenge of being a professional opera singer. It's a challenge she understands quite well, having performed on some of the biggest stages in the world, including the Metropolitan Opera.

"I'm getting paid to put on costumes and play make-believe — so in that sense, it's pretty incredible," she said. "But you need a very tough skin in this profession. You're up there all alone. You might have a wig and a costume and some scenery on the stage, but it's still you."

Caballero is starring in the lead role of Mimi in a Live@First production of Puccini's "La Boheme" at 7:30 p.m. May 7 at the First United Methodist Church of Birmingham. Adult tickets are \$25 and students will be admitted free.

The opera, which will be presented in concert form, also includes American bass Peter Volpe (Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera), along with soprano Katrina Van Maanen, tenor Drake Dantzler, baritone Stephen Hartley and basso-buffo Stephen Eisenhard.

"These are some really big names and we're definitely excited to have them here and perform for us," conductor Casey Proch said. "It's a neat way to see an opera, in a small venue, where there are no walls between the performers and the audience. It's really kind of electric."

Tickets for the show can be purchased at liveatfirst.org or by calling 248-646-1200.

Caballero started singing professionally at the age of 26. One of her



PHOTOGRAPHY
Soprano Elizabeth Caballero is starring in the lead role of Mimi in Puccini's "La Boheme" at the First United Methodist Church of Birmingham.

early breaks came in 1995, when she was still in school and sang at a voice competition that was organized by legendary opera singer Luciano Pavarotti.

"I didn't win, but out of 2,000 participants, he chose me to be one of the finalists," she said. "He told me, 'Elisabetta, you are a diamond that needs to be polished.' Those were his exact words. It made me go even further to become an opera singer."

Her recent engagements include the role of Donna Elvira in "Don Giovanni" at the Seattle Opera; a performance of "Carmina Burana" with Florida Orchestra; a chance to sing the title role in Daniel Catán's Spanish opera "Florencia en el Amazonas" with Nashville Opera; John

Rutter's "Requiem" at Carnegie Hall; and a concert appearance as Micaëla in "Carmen" by Bizet and Previn's "Honore and Rue" in returns to the Pacific Symphony.

She'll be returning to New York City Opera this summer to sing the title role in "Florencia en el Amazonas."

She avoids alcohol to keep her voice sharp and stays proficient in Italian, German and French, as most of the great works are written in those three languages. She enjoys "living like a gypsy" and traveling to perform in shows around the globe.

If she listens to music, it's usually the soft rockers like Bon Jovi and Madonna. She admits that, for the most part, she keeps the radio off in the car.

"When I'm not performing, I just like the quiet or some white noise," she said.

There was no opera music in her household growing up and Caballero concedes her parents were a bit skeptical at first when she decided to become a professional singer.

"Now, they're my biggest supporters," she said. "My parents are wonderful — they're my heroes for choosing to bring our family to this country. I don't know the life they had in Cuba, but they made the decision to come here and give my sister and I the opportunity to follow our dreams."

jgrossman@hometownlife.com
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Twitter: @BhmEccentric

RELIGION CALENDAR

MAY CARD PARTY

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Friday, May 6
Location: SS Simon and Jude Church, 32500 Palmer, Westland
Details: Play cards and games of your choice. Admission is \$8. Door, table prizes, 50-50, light meal and snacks
Contact: 734-722-1343

CHARITY CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 14
Location: St. Mel's Catholic Church, 7506 Inkster Road, north of Warren Road in Dearborn Heights.
Details: Admission is \$1 with all proceeds to help veterans and their families. Bake sale, food available.
Contact: AmericanLegionAux396craftshow@yahoo.com

CONCERT

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. May 15
Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford
Details: The concert Choir of Michigan Lutheran Seminary of Saginaw performs. A free will offering will be accepted
Contact: 313-532-8655 or 734-968-3523

DANCE

Time/Date: 5 p.m. social hour, 6 p.m. buffet, May 15
Location: St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church, 26375 W. Chicago Road, Redford
Details: Music by the Off Beats and entertainment for children. Tickets, including dinner and refreshments, are \$40 per person; free for children, 12 and under. Sponsored by the Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit to benefit retired Orthodox priests and priests' widows.
Contact: Mihaela Charlier at 313-595-7640 or coccdetroit@yahoo.com

FOOD ASSISTANCE

Time/Date: Doors open at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 7
Location: Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church, 9600 Laverne, Redford
Details: S.H.A.R.E. program includes spending time "in God's word," followed by distribution

of bagged groceries. Open to the first 40 families

Contact: Diane at 313-937-2424

MOM2MOM SALE

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 7
Location: St. Valentine School Gym, 25875 Hope, Redford
Details: Bake sale, refreshments. \$1 admission, \$2 early bird. For table rental and contract, visit stvalentineschool.com
Contact: Renee Williams at 313-931-2549, Renee3471@att.net; Jessica Wimmer at 734-223-3390, Jessica-wimmer@hotmail.com

PRAYER IN THE PARK

Time/Date: Prayer, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; worship and prayer service, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 5
Location: Kellogg Park, downtown Plymouth
Details: Pastors from various churches will lead prayers throughout the day, coming together for the worship service in the evening. Sponsored by Heartbeat of Plymouth in celebration of National Day of Prayer
Contact: heartbeatofplymouth.com

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 5; 9 a.m. to noon Friday, May 6; 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, May 7
Location: Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, between Newburgh and Wayne Road, Livonia
Details: \$2 per adult Thursday only; free admission Friday-Saturday. Saturday half-price sale
Contact: 734-422-0149

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 6-8:30 p.m. May 5; 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 6; 9:30 a.m. to noon May 7
Location: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile Livonia
Details: Preview sale on Thursday is \$2 admission. \$3 bag sale (bags will be provided) and half-price sale on Saturday
Contact: 734-464-0211

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 19; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, May 20
Location: First Farmington

United Methodist Church, 33112 Grand River Ave., at Warner Street, Farmington

Details: Bag sale will be Friday. Items that don't fit in the bag will be half off that day
Contact: 248-474-6573

RUMMAGE, BAKE SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 13-14
Location: Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman, Livonia
Details: Furniture, crafts, electronics, books, clothing, toys, kitchen items, small appliances, holiday decorations, jewelry, collectibles, gadgets, antiques, office items and more. \$3 bag sale begins at 12:30 p.m. Saturday. Cash only
Contact: 734-427-1414

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Our Lady of Loretto
Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday
Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township
Details: Scripture study
Contact: 313-534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel Parish
Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. second and fourth Thursday, through May
Location: 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: Gary Michuta, author and Catholic apologist, leads a study of Isaiah. Bring your own Bible
Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200, or www.livoniastmichael.org

Faith Community Wesleyan
Time/Date: 4-5 p.m. every Saturday
Location: 14560 Merriman, Livonia
Details: This informal class includes fellowship, discussion and question and answers. All ages welcome. Bibles available if you don't have one
Contact: pastor Tom Hazelwood at 734-765-5476

EXERCISE
Time/Date: 6:45-7:45 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday
Location: Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Mid-

dlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia

Details: Instructor Wendy Motta, a seven-year Zumba practitioner, teaches Zumba through drop-in classes. Each costs \$3. Participants should bring water, a towel and wear athletic shoes. For more information, email Motta through zumba.com
Contact: 313-408-3364

FAMILY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday
Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills
Details: Free meal
Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

HEALING SERVICE

Time/Date: Arabic service, 3-4 p.m. first Tuesday of the month; English service, 3-4 p.m. third Tuesday of the month
Location: The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of Saint Mary, 18100 Merriman, Livonia
Details: The service includes prayers of petition and intercession, hymns, Scripture readings and the anointing of the sick. Offertory candles are available for a free will offering in the vestibule of the church.
Contact: Rev. George Shalhoub at 734-422-0010 or email Stacey Badeen at sbadeen@tbosm.com

MOMS
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May
Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners
Contact: Ethanie Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at 734-658-2463

Dunning Park Bible Chapel
Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays
Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford
Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.
Contact: Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE
Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday

Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.
Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER

St. Edith Church
Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday
Location: Parish office, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia
Details: Group meets for singing, praying and short teaching. Fellowship with snacks follows
Contact: Parish office at 734-464-1223

St. Michael Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday
Location: 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton
Details: Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.
Contact: 734-459-3333 for additional information

RECYCLING

RISEN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. third Saturday of the month
Location: 46250 Ann Arbor Road, between Sheldon and Beck roads, Plymouth
Details: Recycle your cell phones, laser cartridges, ink cartridges, laptops, iPods, iPads, tablets, eReaders on the third Saturday of each month. Use the doors on east side of church.
Contact: Lynn Hapman at 734-466-9023

SINGLES

Detroit World Outreach
Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Sunday
Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 304
Details: Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated.
Contact: The facilitator at 313-283-8200; lef@dwo.org

Steve's Family Restaurant
Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday
Location: 15800 Middlebelt, ¼ mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others.
Contact: 313-534-0399

SONG CIRCLE

Congregation Beth Ahm
Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m. every Shabbat
Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield
Details: Sing zemirot (Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original Hebrew.
Contact: 248-737-1931 or email nancyellen879@att.net

SUPPORT

Apostolic Christian Church
Time/Date: 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily
Location: 29667 Wentworth, Livonia
Details: Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act.
Contact: 734-261-9000; www.woodhaven-retirement.com

CONNECTION CHURCH

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday
Location: 3855 Sheldon, Canton
Details: Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery for all hurts, habits and hang-ups. Child care is available for free
Contact: Jonathan@Connectionchurch.info or 248-787-5009

DETROIT WORLD OUTREACH

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday
Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 202
Details: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems
Contact: 313-255-2222, Ext. 244

FARMINGTON HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August
Location: 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills
Details: Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group
Contact: 248-433-1011

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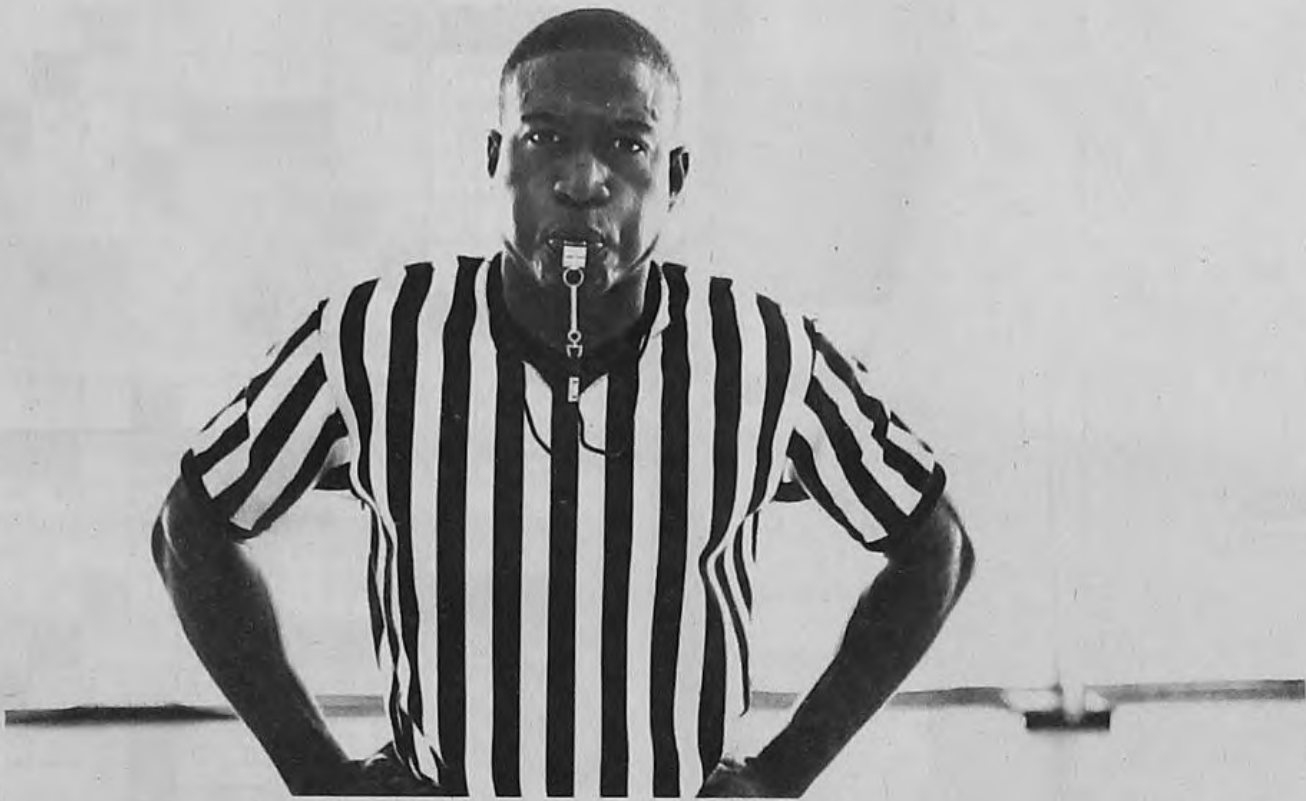
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BY MATT TARPEY
 CAREERBUILDER

With baseball, basketball and hockey in season right now, there isn't a better time of year for sports fans. And while sports are just a pastime for some people, true fans know that the love of the game is present in everything they do. If you're looking for a job where your intense passion for sports is an asset rather than a distraction, look no further than these six great jobs. (Earnings data and education details are from Economic Modeling Specialists Intl.)



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 Even top athletes in solo sports don't succeed on their own. An important part of that success comes from the support of athletic trainers, who specialize in preventing, diagnosing and treating muscle and bone injuries. Like pits in NASCAR races, off-the-court training can often mean the difference between victory and defeat.
 ▶ Average hourly earnings: \$21.17
 ▶ Typical entry-level education: Bachelor's degree
- 2. Bartenders**
 Spectator sports are inherently a communal activity, and nowhere is that more appar-

- ent than at a local sports bar on game night. Bartending is a great way to immerse yourself in the fandom and get paid to take part in one of your favorite hobbies — talking sports.
 ▶ Average hourly earnings: \$9.77
 ▶ Typical entry-level education: Less than high school
- 3. Broadcast news analysts**
 If getting paid to talk about sports is the dream, then sports journalists take it to a whole new level. To become a professional sports ana-

- lyst, you need more than just a passion for sports — you need a passion for information, since organized sports create a lot of data. Serious fans demand serious analysis, so you have to be confident that you know not only the game, but also how to make sense of the numbers.
 ▶ Average hourly earnings: \$30.53
 ▶ Typical entry-level education: Bachelor's degree
- 4. Coaches and scouts**
 You don't have to coach professional athletes to make a living with your knowledge of

- the game you love. After all, there are a lot of levels between volunteer youth-league coach and head coach for the Golden State Warriors.
 ▶ Average hourly earnings: \$15.26
 ▶ Typical entry-level education: Bachelor's degree
- 5. Radio and television announcers**
 Talking sports is one thing, but being able to provide relevant facts, entertaining anecdotes and real-time play-by-play details for an audience who may not be able to see the action at all is a truly special talent.

Radio and television announcers on broadcasts of live sporting events can have an immense impact on the way fans perceive the competition and are given an unparalleled platform from which to share their fandom.
 ▶ Average hourly earnings: \$15.74
 ▶ Typical entry-level education: Bachelor's degree

6. Umpires, referees and other sports officials
 You know a sport inside out, and you want to put that knowledge to work. While the role of referee or umpire may be a thankless one — get ready for a lot of people yelling at you and complaining about your rulings — there's no denying its importance. You can't profess to have a love of the game without a love of the rules of the game. Referees and umpires make sure sports are played the way they're meant to be played, plain and simple.
 ▶ Average hourly earnings: \$12.62
 ▶ Typical entry-level education: High school diploma or equivalent

Matt Tarpey is a writer for the Advice & Resources section on CareerBuilder.com. He researches and writes about job-search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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Car Report

Take That, Silicon Valley: Toyota Plans To Make Ann Arbor Its Most Important Research Center for Fully Autonomous Driving



By Dale Buss

Who said Michigan can't compete with Silicon Valley for leadership of the self-driven car?

Toyota is turning Ann Arbor into a global test site for connected cars and one of

its three crucial locations across the country for research and development of automated-driving features and, ultimately, autonomous vehicles.

In partnership with the University of Michigan's Transportation Research Institute, Toyota plans to equip 5,000 cars in and around Ann Arbor with "awareness devices" that will help Toyota and other researchers figure out how to communicate wirelessly with similar vehicles and with infrastructure such as traffic

signals.

This "vehicle-to-vehicle communications" arena is an important one if self-driving cars will ever be able to enjoy the road together—and with traditional vehicles in what would surely be a long transition period.

"Ann Arbor is an international hub for connected vehicle technology and research, and it has everything to do with the community," said James R. Sayer, director of the UM institute, in a Toyota press release.

Indeed, this announcement followed quickly on Toyota's decision to establish its third Toyota Research Institute facility near the UM campus, joining existing outposts in Silicon Valley and at MIT in Cambridge, Mass.

Interestingly, in addition to the cluster of automotive expertise and technological capabilities in Ann Arbor and southeast Michigan generally, one of the biggest reasons

cited by Toyota for its new investment is the ability in Michigan to "perform extreme-limit testing in a wide variety of environments"—meaning, amid swirling snows and ubiquitous potholes in the area.

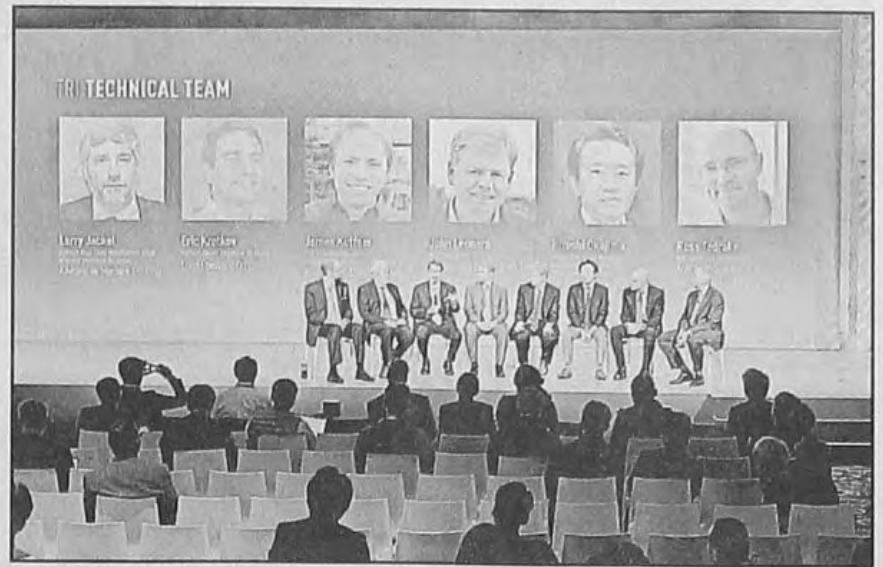
This is, of course, a stark comparison to the sunny California skies where digital tech giants like Google initially led the autonomous-driving charge. "Where we need autonomy to help most is when driving is difficult," said Gil Pratt, CEO of the Toyota Research Institute, in the press release. "It's this hard part that TRI intends to address. Toyota's goal is safer mobility for all, at any time, in any place."

So it turns out there's a great upside to perpetual winters, ruinous freeze-thaw cycles that create lunar-like landscapes of potholes, and a state transportation budget that still isn't large enough to fix all the roads.

One of the biggest reasons cited by Toyota for its new investment is the ability in Michigan to "perform extreme-limit testing in a wide variety of environments," as Edwin Olson, a University of Michigan professor who is joining TRI-ANN, put it in a news release.

TRI-ANN will specialize in research on artificial intelligence, robotics and materials science. It is scheduled to open in June and staff up to 50 people eventually.

In fact, Toyota has designated TRI-ANN as the facility where the core discipline will be to focus on fully autonomous driving. Meanwhile, the other two TRI facilities, one at MIT in Cambridge, Mass., and the other in Palo Alto, Calif., will focus, respectively, on



Members of the Toyota self-driving team discuss technology at the CES Show in January. "simulation and deep learning," and "guardian angel" driving, where the driver is always engaged but the vehicle assists as needed.

In the regional struggle between the Midwest and the coasts to assume the lead in the push for self-driving, Michigan already is more competitive than its rivals may assume. The state holds by far the largest concentration of automotive engineers and scientists, of course, with not only the Detroit Three automakers but also technical centers established by many foreign-owned car companies, including Toyota, Honda and Hyundai, as well as major suppliers such as Germany-based Bosch.

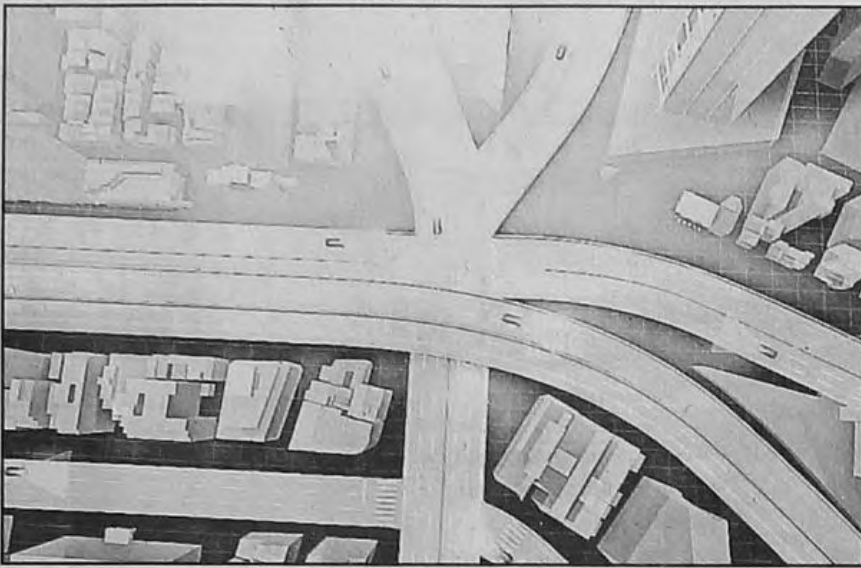
Bosch's more, what is arguably the nation's foremost facility specifically designed for testing self-driving systems in an urban environment, Mcity, already is operating in Ann Arbor. Toyota is a partner in Mcity, and Ford among other automakers already is testing cars there.

And a private-public partnership is pushing to transform an old airport at nearby Willow Run into the world's most vast and advanced testing area of the future, in direct competition with sites under consideration and development in California.

Actually, Toyota is just the latest automaker to demonstrate the industry isn't about to just pack up, leave the Midwest and emigrate to Silicon Valley.

Ford, for instance, just announced that it's beginning a sweeping overhaul of its 63-year-old research and engineering campus in Dearborn to transform the aging, crazy-quilt collection of facilities into a "modern, green and high-tech" environment that centralizes more employees to encourage collaboration and innovation.

It's also going to renovate the nearby, iconic Ford World Headquarters building, known as the Glass House.



A Toyota-generated depiction of some of the complexities of self-driving that the company will research in Ann Arbor.

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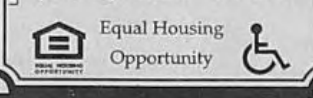
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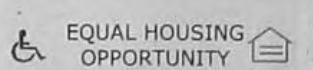
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