

SCHOOLCRAFT GRADUATE **MENTORING AREA HIGH SCHOOL CULINARY PROGRAM** FOOD AND DRINK, A4



Board taking a look at ethics policy

Officials will conduct first study in some 10 years

Brad Kadrich hometownlife.com

With a first-time supervisor and four members involved in local municipal government for the first time, the Canton Township Board of Trustees plans a review of its internal policies.

And with a guideline policy provided by the Michigan Townships Association, the

board is starting with its ethics policy.

The board decided Tuesday to form a sub-committee to study the current policy and make changes as necessary. Clerk Michael Siegrist will lead the group, which includes trust-ees John Anthony, a former FBI agent, and Anne Marie Graham-Hudak.

According to board mem-

bers, it'll be the first deep look at the policy in nearly a decade.

"It's probably been eight or nine years since it was reviewed," said Supervisor Pat Williams, elected in November after two terms as a trustee. "The first benefit is to introduce (new board members) to it. Because it has been so long, it's a good opportunity to bring them up to speed."

The purpose of the policy,

See ETHICS, Page A2



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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Canton **Township Clerk Michael Siegrist** will lead a sub-committee studying the township's ethics policy.



Judge Kathleen McCann of Livonia's 16th District Court, here hugging a graduate of the recent sobriety court program, said she's personally witnessed the horrors of opioid abuse in her community. She sits on new FAN chapter advisory board.

Bus monitor gets prison for molesting 7-year-old

> **Darrell Clem** hometownlife.com

A 47-year-old Plymouth Township man who worked as a school bus monitor is serving 10-20 years in prison for sexually assaulting a girl when she was only 7

Rocky Emmanuel Perillo's sentence by Wayne County Circuit Judge Lawrence Talon came earlier this year after he pleaded guilty to second-degree criminal sexual conduct and child sexually abusive commercial activity.

Perillo had worked as a special-needs bus monitor for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, which hired him through an independent company, Durham School Services. However, au-

thorities have said Perillo sexually assaulted the girl at a Northville Township apartment,



JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Local group forms to respond to epidemic of drug overdoses

LeAnne Rogers hometownlife.com

No community is exempt from what federal officials are calling an epidemic of opioid overdose deaths.

More people died from drug overdoses in 2014 than in any year on record and the majority of drug overdose deaths - more than six out of 10 - involved an opioid, according to federal statistics.

Families Against Narcotics, a grassroots organization dedicated to eliminating the stigma associated with addiction and providing families struggling with the disease the support and resources they need, has a new Northwest Wayne County Chapter - the first chapter in Wayne County. The first meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 10, at the LifeChurch annex building, 6900 N. Hag-

INSIDE

Lyon Township mom turns heartache into help, A2

gerty, Canton.

"Addiction is a family disease and it is devastating our community," said Lauren Rousseau, president of the Northwest Wayne County FAN chapter. "We are losing an unprecedented number of young people to this illness and families need resources, education and support.'

Rousseau, a law professor at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School, is a longtime resident of Livonia and is personally acquainted with the destruction that heroin can cause. From 2010-12, she said she was legal guardian for a young man, also a Livonia resident, who struggled with heroin addiction and ultimately died at age 19.

"It is a disease with a lot of stigma. People in recovery have a goal, but we also have people trying to make a difference. People will call me," said Cathy Sims Weir, founder and president of the South Lyon area FAN chapter, who lost her 22-year-old son to a heroin overdose in 2014.

The FAN membership includes people and families affected by addiction, concerned citizens, law enforcement and leaders in health care, education, business and religion. Founded in 2007, FAN originated in Macomb County and now has 12 chapters throughout Michigan, including a chapter in Oakland County that is divided into nine regions, each with its own monthly meeting.

Judge Kathleen McCann of Livonia's 16th District Court has personally witnessed the

horrors of opioid abuse in her community, seeing it escalate to epidemic proportions. She sits on new FAN chapter advisory board.

"As a sobriety court judge, I see the extraordinary pain and effort that our participants expend to finally be free of their dependency on opiates and heroin," she said in a statement. "Unfortunately, I have had to close too many files when parents bring me a death certificate because their child overdosed before we could reach them.'

The public and the schools are still not in tune with how pervasive this problem is and how young and vulnerable the population is that is being targeted, McCann said. "Families Against Narcotics will open another avenue of information, coordination and

See GROUP, Page A2

not while per-Perillo forming his work duties. Perillo's

guilty plea to sexually assaulting the girl, now 16, came as authorities agreed to dismiss other criminal charges, some involving allegations of criminal sexual conduct involving a disabled woman for whom he was caring in Plymouth Township. She came forward after learning of charges involving the young girl.

Perillo was arrested last May after a girl raised allegations he had sexually assaulted her. Initially, he had vigorously denied the accusations, but he ultimately pleaded guilty in a case handled by Michelle Jarczewski, an assistant prosecuting attorney with the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office.

'Defendant Rocky Perillo is behind bars because APA Michelle Jarczewski did an excellent job obtaining a guilty plea in this case for child sexually abusive activity with a sen-tence of 10-20 years in the Michigan Department of Corrections," Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Maria Miller said.

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ETHICS

Continued from Page A1

not surprisingly, is to "provide practical guidelines for ethical decisionmaking and to encourage ethical behavior" from township officials.

With a new elected structure in Canton and in the wake of a number of ethical scandals among politicians -- the whole Kwame Kilpatrick saga; the real estate mess that brought about Michigan Supreme **Court Justice Diane** Hathaway's retirement in January 2013 and the Macomb County bribery scandal involving the trash hauler Rizzo last year -- Canton Township attorney Kristen Kolb said the time was right to look at these issues.

"Obviously, with what happened with Rizzo, it's something fresh in people's minds," Kolb said of the ethics policy. "With a new board here, it's a good time to look at all of our policies, which we're doing.

Politically speaking,

it's not an inexperienced board. Williams served two terms as a trustee before being elected in November to replace the retired Phil LaJoy. Siegrist is a former Plymouth-Canton Board of Education member and Treasurer Dian Slavens is a former state representative.

Anthony is the board's longest-serving member and Trustee Steven Sneideman, elected to his second term in November, is also a former president of the Plymouth-Canton school board. Only trustees Graham-Hudak and Sommer Foster are firsttime elected officials.

But it's the first time for most of them at a township-level government and board members agree a fresh look is a good idea.

"You have a whole crop of new elected officials who aren't familiar (with policies)," Siegrist said. "One of the things we'll try to focus on is creating an ethical code which is self-enforced, That way we aren't just reacting to something.'

Lyon mother turns heartache into help

Families receive support in dealing with addictions

> LeAnne Rogers hometownlife.com

Having graduated from high school, Lyon Township resident Daniel Sims went to Arizona, where he completed technical training for motorcycle mechanics with a nearly 4.0 gradepoint average.

It wasn't until he returned home that his family found out that Sims had been using heroin during his time away. He relapsed after nearly four months being clean and, at age 22, died of an overdose in Janu-

ary 2014. "In high school, my son got caught with marijuana - that's where it started. That's not the case for everyone," said Cathy Sims Weir, Daniel's mother. "He went into counseling and seemed OK. He had his wisdom

GROUP

Continued from Page A1



Mom Cathy Sims Weir, Daniel Sims and his sister Kari Sims. Daniel died of an overdose at age 22, prompting his mom to start the South Lyon chapter of Families Against Narcotics (FAN).

teeth out when he was in college. The dentist gave him Vicodin — too many, a couple months worth."

With the painkillers prescribed by a dentist, Weir said she thought it should be OK. "I'm embarrassed to say I didn't know what opioids were. I talked to my son — he didn't seem himself," Weir said.

immediate treatment.

She is a frequent speaker

opioid pain pills and her-

oin. Michigan has been hard hit by the epidemic,

losing 1,960 residents to

drug overdose in 2015, a

13-percent increase over

need for more addiction

families in Wayne Coun-

bergen, director of com-

Growth Works, an adoles-

treatment organization in

Canton. "I regularly work

with young people strug-

and I am encouraged by

parents and other family

serves as vice president

of the new FAN chapter.

nia resident whose son

Dakota died from a her-

Andy Hopson, a Livo-

gling with this disease

new efforts to support

cent and adult addiction

ty," said Brian Spits-

munity relations for

resources and support for

"There is an enormous

2014 numbers.

Despite functioning at a pretty high level, Weir said there began to be other signs of a problem with her son. "He would tell me his backpack had been stolen or he'd had a speeding ticket (to get money)," she said. "He started using heroin for economic reasons. He was already addicted. At that point, he held a full-

"A big problem in getting these families the help and support they need is the stigma surrounding addiction,' Hopson said. "Families feel embarrassed and ashamed that their loved ones are struggling with this disease and they isolate and withdraw. What they really need to do is reach out for help.'

Also serving on the new FAN chapter board is Westland Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik.

"Throughout my ca-reer, I've learned that the majority of residents living in northwest Wayne County believe that heroin, cocaine and synthetic drug epidemics are inner-city problems and not a suburban issue," Jedrusik said. "Eyes are not generally opened to such problems until it affects a personal friend or a family member. Unfortunately, this is a current epidemic that is affecting all of our communities, young people and families."

Kari Sims, treasurer of the South Lyon area FAN chapter and Weir's daughter, said that she joined to spread awareness, educate and promote/prevent substance abuse.

"I joined to speak up

time job. He was very bright and very high functioning. I thought he knew better."

Two years younger, sibling Kari Sims was also shocked by her brother's addiction.

'I would have never in a million have guessed that my brother would become a heroin addict. We had an amazing child-hood, he was incredibly intelligent, gentle, humble, caring, funny," Kari said. "When he was a kid, he was overly cautious, wouldn't ride rollercoasters for fear of them falling apart, made us go into the basement during any storm. Just his whole character was the opposite of what people assume to be the 'stereotypical addict.""

Kari Sims described her brother as her absolute best friend. "He was the one person I know I could go to for anything. We talked almost every day and he would do anything for me. He'd

See MOTHER, Page A5

passionate about helping others and making more people aware, so I joined to support her. But I also joined to support myself and my passion for helping others. It is, unfortunately, comforting knowing that I am not the only person who is going through this."

It's a way to connect with people who under-stand the addiction problem, Sims said.

"Also, I wanted to spread the message that there is no such thing as a stereotypical addict. People can't use the excuse to not educate their loved ones just by saying, 'not my kid or not my family' because it could be anyone," she said. "The drug epidemic is out of control and more people need to stand up and fight and make a differ-ence and I want to be a part of that fight. These people losing their lives to drugs and alcohol, they leave behind so much. To most, they aren't just a drug addict - they are a sibling, child, friend. They are somebody whose life has been cut so short."

The Northwest Wayne County FAN Chapter launch meeting April 10 is free and open to all who would like to attend. For more information, go to familiesagainstnarcotics.org/northwest-wayne or email nwwayne@familiesagainstnarcotics.org.

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on the subject of addiction and the opioid epidemic The federal Centers

resources to communities that are very much in for Disease Control and Prevention recently reneed," she added. The keynote speaker ported that more than at the first Northwest 52,000 people died from Wayne County FAN chapdrug overdose in 2015 and ter meeting April 10 will approximately 33,000 of those deaths were due to

be Judge Davis of the 41B

Davis Township. President

Linda

and founder of FAN, Davis also chairs Gov. Snyder's Prescription Drug and Opioid Abuse Commission and is the driving force behind Hope Not Handcuffs, a program that enlists police departments and volunteers to help addicts seeking recovery find

District Court in Clinton

also sits on the board of directors of Northwest Wayne County FAN. He understands addiction better than most — in addition to losing his son to the disease, he's been in recovery from substance use disorder himself since 1991.

MONITOR

Continued from Page A1

While the sexual assault charges were unrelated to Perillo's work for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, school officials and Durham School Services had released a joint statement after his arrest. "Safety is our top

and tell people that our community does have a problem and that it does no one any good to just shove it under the rug. I want to speak up so people don't go through what I did," she said. "I joined because my mom was

priority and we will continue to keep that as our focus across all areas of our business. We would like to reassure P-CCS parents and members in the community that we have a stringent hiring process for bus drivers and monitors," the statement said, adding that steps prior to hiring are taken such as drug testing and a criminal background check.

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According to Michigan Department of Corrections records, Perillo had no prior criminal background.

School officials also made it clear the charges against Perillo did not involve students affiliated with Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

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Published: April 6 & 13, 2017

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a proposal Gym Floor Sanding and Refinishing Bid. Specifications of the Request for Proposal (RFP) are available on at PCCSK12.com, under departments and business office or by contacting Kristen Hennessey, Director of Procurement, and Plymouth Canton Community Schools at kristen.hennessey@pcck12.com. Proposals will be accepted as specified in the Request for Proposals at PCCS - E.J McClendon Educational Center Technology Department located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170 on/or before Friday, May 5, 2017 at 12:00pm. Bids shall be labeled: Bid document enclosed- "Sanding Bid." The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

> Board of Education Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Anupam Chugh Sidhu

Published: April 6 & 9, 2017

'Pillars of the community' earn awards

Darrell Clem hometownlife.com

Plymouth business owner Margaret Harris believes that running a successful company involves more than selling products and counting profits — it also means getting involved in the community.

"We're not just sitting here focused on our bottom line," said Harris, owner of MarsBell24 LLC, a promotions advertising and balloon company. "Your business is not going to thrive if you're not in a thriving community.'

She volunteered to help when the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex needed help for its warming center during the Plymouth Ice Festival. She pitched in when Community Financial organized an effort to rake leaves for the elderly. She supports numerous Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce events and has provided balloons for its annual auction.

MarsBell24 LLC was one of four recipients during the Plymouth chamber's third annual Business Awards Dinner, held March 29 at The Inn at St. John's. A committee singled them out because they not only boost Plymouth's economy, but also support the community in charitable ways that make a tangible difference

MarsBell24 LLC, in its 12th year, won the Small Business of the Year Award. Harris is involved with the Plymouth Historical Museum board of directors and in chamber activities such as its annual auction. She also helps with the Concours d'Elegance, the Showcase and Taste of Plymouth and PARC, among other organizations

Chamber president Wes Graff said the award winners are among the "pillars of the community." Others are:

Legacy Award

Patrick O'Neill, principal of O'Neill Blausey Hartsock Group at Morgan Stanley, was honored for his sustained support of the chamber. The company has become a goldlevel sponsor of the chamber and O'Neill is former chairman of the board

His leadership helped to negotiate the agreement to buy the chamber's current building on Ann Arbor Trail. He also has been involved in the chamber's golf outing and was a contributor to the building campaign.

Mid-size Business of the Year

C.L. Finlan & Son, Inc., was honored as a business that says integrity and fairness are critical to represent the company. It was founded in Plymouth in 1916 as a provider of insurance projects

President Kirk Kohn, an agency partner since 1983 and current president, is optimistic about the future of the agency and the insurance indus-

try in general. "Our goal is to protect the assets of our customers in an ever-changing insurance environment," he said.

The agency has 20 employees and has a history of giving back to the community through the United Way annual drive and The Salvation Army, with its bell-ringing day and holiday food drives.

The company is in-volved in the Rotary and Kiwanis clubs and has supported organizations and events such as the Plymouth YMCA Father's Day Run, the Plymouth Historical Museum, the Schoolcraft College Foundation, New Morning School's auction, the Alzheimer's Association and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.



Kirk Kohn of Finlan & Sons (third from left) was awarded the Mid-size Business Award. With him are state Rep. Jeff Noble; Nick Kennedy, representing U.S. Rep. Dave Trott; Oliver Wolcott, Plymouth city commissioner and mayor pro tem; Joe Barone, Wayne County Commission member; and Kurt Heise, Plymouth Township supervisor.



CAROL LABELLE | LABELLE PHOTOGRAPHY Margaret Harris and daughter Jojo of MarsBell24 LLC, a local promotions and balloon company, picked up these treasures from a past Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce auction.



Patrick O'Neill wins the Legacy Award and accepts it from Wes Graff, chamber president.

Large Business of the Year

Robert Bosch Corp., a leading global supplier of technology and services, has given extensively to the Plymouth community through its Bosch Community Fund. It is a nonprofit fund that has supported educational efforts.

Bosch has also implemented the Bosch Builds associate volunteer program, which gives employees paid time off to volunteer in the community.

Moreover, Bosch has a Community Advisory Committee that includes, but is not limited to, FIRST Robotics team

ARD WINNING

support in Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and Bosch energy, science and technology grants to teachers, among other efforts.

Bosch also has a high level of volunteerism with local STEM activities Bosch has supported

the chamber golf outings, the township fireworks

and Concours d'Elegance.

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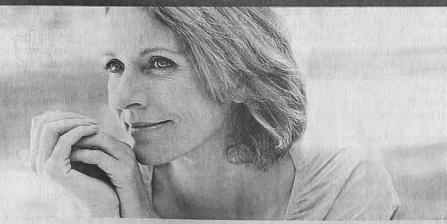






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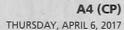
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Chef Polly Brown poses for a photo with students Kelly Zielinski and Austin Hannah.

JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Schoolcraft makes its mark at Saline culinary program

David Veselenak

Chef Polly Brown decided she needed a new career path after losing her job several years ago. She then decided going to culinary school was the right move.

Her job in an office got outsourced more than a decade ago, so she decided it was time to head back to school to learn a skill she could utilize in a new career path. "I said, 'What do I really

"I said, 'What do I really want to do for the rest of my life?" she said. "I had cooked my whole life."

Students at Saline High hool and in the bouth and West Washtenaw Consortium taking culinary classes appear to agree she made the right choice. Brown has assisted at the SWWC, which takes in students from such areas as Saline, Ypsilanti, Manchester and Dexter, for several years. She has several tasks at the school, including doing demonstrations every once in a while, but primarily focuses on preparing students for competition. She's gotten students ready for several competitions, including

ones held at Oakland Community College, where they've won several accolades over the years.

She said she always has a wide array of ingredients available for students so they head to competition prepared.

"They never know which vegetables they'll give them at competition, so it covers a lot all at once," she said. "I try to₁₀ really open up."

Austin Hannah, a junior at Saline High School, said he's learning these skills not necessarily for a career, but to be better prepared in life, especially after he leaves high school.

"We're in here and we're



Chef Sam Musto stands next to a display featuring several Schoolcraft College chefs hanging in a classroom at Saline High School.

tion at nearby Washtenaw Community College or Schoolcraft College.

"Our students who have gone to Schoolcraft have come out very successful," she said. "Because coming out of this program, they have the sanitation piece that Schoolcraft needs, they have the kitchen experience, they've worked with a variety of foods."

And the Schoolcraft College influence isn't just seen in the kitchen, but in the classroom Musto uses as well: an article featuring Schoolcraft College chefs, including culinary department head chef Shawn Loving, hangs by the door of

seeing it all take place," he said. "When I get to college, I'm going to be the man in the kitchen."

Schoolcraft influence

Much of the teaching at the Washtenaw County high school off Michigan Avenue is pulled from the Livonia two-year college: in addition to Brown's roots at Schoolcraft, the program's director, chef Sam Musto, also teaches at Schoolcraft College.

During his time at the high

gh schoolinto a bakery for culinary stu-
dents. He runs several pro-
grams, including a meal-to-gogrown'sprogram designed to sell meals
during the school day prepared
by students.

Musto said he brought Brown onto staff several years ago because he knew she could

school, Musto has overseen the

program's growth: for exam-

ed to child care classes was

ple, a room originally dedicat-

moved and that spaced turned

educate the students in a unique way.

"What I was looking for was someone who was good at teaching," Musto said. "I knew she understood the whole component of teaching."

DAVID VESELENAK

Brown, who graduated from Schoolcraft College in 2006, said the students taking culinary classes at Saline High School come out better prepared in the chance they decide to continue their educathe classroom.

"I keep this right here because I talk a lot about these guys to my (students)," Musto said. "I want the kids to know that I come from Schoolcraft and I want them to know that we have one of the best culinary programs in the nation.

"And I want them to know that that excellence is carried over here."

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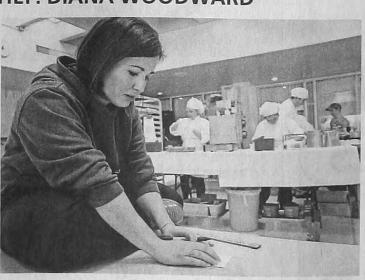
ASK A CHEF: DIANA WOODWARD

There are plenty of chefs out there who know Diana Woodward and credit her for their start in the culinary world. She is the instructor/ coach of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Hospitality and Culinary Arts program. In 2016, the team took first place in the Michigan ProStart® Competition, hosted by the Michigan Restaurant Association. That was followed by the team's national ranking of second place, out of 48 teams, in the 15th annual National ProStart Invitational. Students also run the popular Rock Cafe restaurant in Salem High School.

About 60 percent of Woodward's students go to the Schoolcraft College program and then on to stellar careers. Woodward graduated from Schoolcraft College in culinary arts and chef training and holds a master's degree in career technical education. She has worked as a pastry chef at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center; as well as the Ritz-Carlton in Dearborn and the former cafe bon homme in Plymouth.

Q: What are the most important spices a chef/cook should have in their kitchen?

A: Salt! Really. That's the one. It's the most important seasoning there is and food isn't the same without it. I can't think of single thing we make



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Diana Woodward, instructor/coach of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Hospitality and Culinary Arts program, takes notes while students prepare for a competition.

in the restaurant that doesn't have a pinch of salt in it. It enhances foods' natural flavor and diminishes overly bitter or sour notes. Its key for pickles, brines, marinades, braises and, yes, dessert.

Spices — meaning bark, root and seeds, not herbs? Other than that, it's up to your taste. The spices you use add dynamic or direction to the food you are making. I like to have a whole nutmeg pod on hand to grate into food (if you haven't tried it, it is so much better than ground) — just a tiny bit. Then comes cinnamon, cumin, coriander, chili powder, caraway seeds — my favorites all start with a 'c.' When it comes to herbs, I really try to use fresh, not dried. The flavor is more crisp, fresh and defined, I think. For home, I grind fresh herbs in a food processor with a little oil and then freeze the puree in tiny ice cube trays and keep them in labeled baggies. Then I always have a variety of fresh, minced herbs on hand.

Cooking classes bring out the inner chef

Want to up your foodie image? Check out these cooking and baking classes meant to stir something that inner chef within.

Experience cooking

Chef Jessica Sweetman remodeled her home kitchen in Farmington Hills to provide a classroom environment to the community to learn the craft of cooking. She welcomes beginners and avid cooks alike to enjoy classes such as Global Street Foods, Mexican Fiesta and Homemade Pasta. Go to www.experiencecooking.com for more information.

Taste: A Cook's Place

Located inside The Village Workshop in downtown Northville. Mary Spencer, along with assistants, demonstrates all classes unless otherwise indicated with the help of cameras and a 50inch TV. Classes such as Everything's Better with Bacon And Bourbon, Koreantown or Mediterranean Cruise Dinner run 6:30-8:30 p.m. and attendees are free to bring a bottle of wine to enjoy with the meal. Go to www.tasteacooksplace.net

for more information.

Sur la table

The national retail store offers classes such as Vegetarian 2.0, Classic Sauces from Scratch and Incredible Homemade Pizza. Various classes offered at is locations in Ann Arbor, Novi and Troy. Go to www.surlatable.com for more information.

BAKE! Zingerman's Bakehouse

Everything from legal magic brownies to family BAKE!cations. BAKE! offers dozens of different bread, pastry and cake hands-on baking classes in its own teaching kitchens located in Ann Arbor. Go to www.bakewithzing.com to learn more.

Healthy cooking at Demonstration Kitchen

Located within Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital, classes focused on living healthier are offered in the Demonstration Kitchen. Classes such as Essential Knife Skills, Eliminating Processed Food and BBQ Bootcamp will help you look and feel better

þ.

LOCAL NEWS

0 & E Media | Thursday, April 6, 2017 (CP) A5

Canton foundation accepting applications for grants

The Canton Community Foundation announced that it is accepting applications for grants to be distributed in June. Applications will be accepted through April 26. Applications can be made online through the

Canton Community Foundation website cantonfoundation.org

Grants will only be made to 501(c)3 organizations. Proposed projects should aim to improve social and health outcomes for youth and

seniors in the greater Canton community. Examples for youth include (but are not limited to) prevention and cessation of tobacco use, prevention of substance abuse, conflict resolution, afterschool activities, parenting education and overall wellness. Examples for seniors include (but are not limited to) cessation of tobacco use, disease prevention, management of chronic disease, mental health care, dementia support and overall wellness

Five grants will be

AREA CRIME WATCH

available to serve varying proposals: one at \$5,000, two at \$2,500 and two at \$1,000. The Canton Communi-

ty Foundation, founded in 1989, is a 501(c)3 public charity. Since its inception, it has granted \$2.5 million in grants and scholarships in the greater Canton commu-

nity. Grant funding is made available by generous area donors who contribute to existing funds or create funds to further their philanthropic interests. Go to cantonfoundation.org for more information or contact the foundation directly.

CANTON

Birthday man goes to jail after ruckus with girlfriend

A personal protection order against her boyfriend didn't stop a 26-year-old woman from celebrating his 24th birthday with him, though the party ended in his arrest, a police report said.

The incident unfolded about 3:45 a.m. Sunday, after the couple went to a birthday party at Sherwood Village mobile home park, near Michigan Avenue and Haggerty. They got into a heated argument that led to neighbors reporting the ruckus to police.

Police learned the man had a court order to stay away from the woman and to not drink alcohol, but the report said he had gotten drunk while celebrating his birthday.

In the end, the man started out his 24th year with an arrest for violating court orders.

Dog violations

A woman whose son had previously been bitten by a neighbor's dog notified police after she saw the pooch outdoors without a leash, in violation of Canton ordinance.

The incident happened about 3 p.m. Saturday in the 5900 block of Runnymeade, near Morton Taylor and Ford roads. Police arrived and found the dog owner sitting outside with two off-leash canines, which she quickly took inside.

She admitted one of her dogs had bitten a neighborhood boy, but she blamed the incident on the boy and said he was riding his bicycle toward the dog when he was bitten, the report said. The boy's mother told police she

didn't want the pet owner to receive a ticket for having her dogs off-leash but, rather, just wanted her to follow Canton's rules and keep them restrained. The pet owner told police she would obey the leash rules.

Marines tussle

Two U.S. Marines may have gotten a little rough while wrestling outdoors and practicing moves they received during training to bring an opponent under control, a report said.

A neighbor called police about 12:45 a.m. Saturday to report two men in gym clothing fighting each other outdoors on Ridge, north of Cherry Hill. The two men, ages 29 and 31, told police they had returned from a nearby bar and had been drinking when they started practicing their military moves.

They became so competitive that the 29-year-old Marine accidentally hit the other in the face, drawing blood. The injured Marine told police he didn't want to prosecute.

Odd happenings

A 70-year-old woman who lost her son to a drug overdose in January summoned police after someone stole his bicycle from her garage and replaced it with an older bike.

She also told police someone had knocked on her door about 4 a.m. March 28, but was not there when she looked outside.

The woman said the bike had been taken from the garage sometime March 21-31 in the 41600 block of Ravenwood, near Haggerty and Cherry Hill. She said her son's mountain bike was replaced with an older bike.

The woman told police she couldn't think of anyone who might have done

UPS package stolen

A 24-year-old man who received notification that United Parcel Service had left a package at his doorstep notified police after it was apparently stolen

The man had ordered a Rado watch and received word it had been delivered March 24 to the Village Squire apartment complex, northwest of Ford and Lotz roads. When he got home, the package wasn't there

He was told by UPS to start the investigation process by filing a police report.

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP

Hotel destruction

Police took a 21-year-old Westland man into custody after he caused a ruckus at the Red Roof Inn at Ann Arbor Road and I-275

Witnesses said the suspect became angry, kicked the door of a room and damaged it and also broke out a window, a report said. The incident hap-pened about 12:45 a.m. March 26. Others had brought the man to the

room earlier to spend the night. The

difference."

FAN board shared a story about finding a card on the windshield of her vehicle a month after a traumatic time as her son was in rehab.

"I came out of the Home Goods store in Brighton. The card was only on my car. I Googled FAN. My purpose and passion is to de-stigmatize addiction," the woman said, adding that she now also leaves notes on vehicles paying forward in memory of someone she loved.

For Sims, meeting someone who started coming to FAN meetings due to a card she had left on a car was confirmation she was going some-

FAN for the South Lyon area has its open forum the third Thursday of each month at the New Hudson Methodist Church, 56730 Grand River. Contact Weir for more information at CathyDSims@gmail.com.

Irogers@hometownlife.com 734-883-9039 Twitter: @LRogersObserver

MOTHER

Continued from Page A2

come over and talk my ear off about random stuff, just to have compa-ny," she said. "He'd go along with my silly adventures, even if it didn't really interest him. He was my childhood and should have been my future, too.'

Searching for help in the aftermath of Daniel's death, Weir came across Families Against Narcotics on the Internet. "I came across help for the person (who is addicted), but not for the families,' Weir said. "Not only does this disease affect the addict, it has a negative impact on the entire

monthly board meetings with members who are in recovery, addiction treatment specialists, law enforcement and court officials, along with family members.

"Although I personally never went down the path of addiction and I am not in recovery from drugs or alcohol, I, too, am recovering from what drugs did to my family. A lot of times I feel lost, alone," Sims said. "I lost a huge part of my life and I go to therapy because of it. It's a struggle for me and something I face every day waking up, knowing my life is different now."

At the first FAN meeting, Weir said, about 70 people showed up. "That indicated a need. FAN provides hope for other

al - it's in every community. We need something to help support the families and the person in recovery.' Along with losing her

brother, Sims lost her father to a heart attack and, six days later, her grandmother died. "I honestly believe it (her father's death) was just from a broken heart," she said. "I thought I was doing the best I could after losing my brother and it spirals into so much more.'

In memory of her brother, Sims said she decided to do something nice for others each year on her brother's October birthday and the date he died in January.

"Kindness seems to be missing in this world. I thought that on a day that

22 acts of kindness cards in his memory. I add a \$1 scratch off lottery ticket or note pad, candy, something small. I leave his name, date of birth and passing and a message as to why - something to

plant the seed." The note reads, "Three years ago today I lost my brother to heroin, be kind for everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about." Sims started leaving the cards anonymously on windshields, because the first time she passed out cards, she tried approaching people, who had a negative reaction to someone handling

them something. "That kind of says to me that people aren't used to kindness. So after police report said the man appeared to be high on prescription medications.

Witnesses said he became combative and started damaging the hotel. Police took him into custody for malicious destruction of property.

Unemployment fraud

A General Motors Corp. worker contacted police after someone fraudulently filed for unemployment using his personal information, a report said.

He reported the incident March 29 after he received an email from GM informing him of the action and advising him of the steps to take to report 1t.

The report indicated the case had been turned over to a state fraud unit.

Neighbor troubles

A spat brought police to a residential street in Plymouth Township after a man became annoyed with neighbors he accused of frequently pulling into his driveway to turn around, a report said

The man reported the latest incident March 28. The street where the incident occurred was redacted from the police report

The man said he got into a verbal yelling match with his neighbors. He said he has asked them to stop using his driveway.

In turn, the neighbors told police the man had yelled vulgarities at them. Police advised both sides to try to keep to themselves.

- By Darrell Clem

person, I'd be making a

One member of the

thing right.

Passages View Online

family."

Weir organized a FAN Southwest Oakland County/Livingston County chapter in the South Lyon area and serves as president. Kari Sims is treasurer and serves on the board, along with Weir's husband Gary. There are

families — we can help each other," Weir said. "Addiction affects all of us - no one is immune. People in mid-life, the elderly, young people. Most start with prescription drugs. I don't think our community is unusu-

shaved carrot, chicken

makes me sad, I could sit and feel bad for myself or I could make a difference and make others smile. It truly helps me make it through the rough days," she said. "Since my brother passed at age 22, I create

leaving them anonymously, I never really knew what people thought, if it touched them, if people thought it was weird or if it truly brightened their day," she said. "I told myself if by doing this I could reach out to just one

just about everything we eat is made in advance and frozen. My kids are big pasta fans, so every couple of months, I make three to four gallons of marinara with meatballs

and sausage and freeze it in quart containers. Then all you have to do is boil pasta and steam some vegetables really quickly. We do the same with stews, chilis, soups -

on or demonstrationcooking parties for adults

Great Lakes Culinary Center

The culinary center, located on Nine Mile in Southfield, is an events venue that offers foodservice professionals and the surrounding community the opportunity to test the latest kitchen equipment, attend cooking classes and demonstrations and host private events. Most cooking classes include two glasses of wine and a light snack, unless otherwise noted. Look for offerings such as Girls Night Out: Healthy Eats or Sunday Dinner at Grandma's-German Style. Go to glculinarycenter.com for more information.

How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 · fax 313-496-4968 · www.mideathnotices.com

Deadlines: Friday, 4:00 p.m. for Sunday papers Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. for Thursday papers Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

ZIMMERMAN SANKOVICH



HIPS" Age 92 of Farmington Hills, died peacefully in his sleep Thursday, March 23, 2017. Never has a finer man set foot on this earth. He was born June 5, 1924 in Tacoma, Washington. Mr. Sankovich served as a Staff Sergeant in U.S. Army during WWII in the Pacific Theater. He was a proud graduate of Lincoln High in Tacoma, WA. as well as the University of California, Berkeley where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. Mr. Sankovich joined the Ford Motor Company in 1949 holding numerous positions including Director of Ford Motor Company, South Africa and Portugal, Controller for the Transmission & Chassis and Engine Divisions. He retired as Finance Controller at the Dearborn World Headquarters in 1989 after 40 years of service. He lived an extraordinary life, having beaten Ben Hogan in a round of golf, danced with Ann Sheridan and Bette Davis, and once took over the lease on George Burns and Gracie Allen's apartment in Manhattan. Mr. Sankovich was a longtime supporter of the arts, including the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Michigan Opera Theater. He was a world traveler, loved cars and classic movies knew the words to thousands of songs and sang them often. He is survived by three children Linda (Marcia Ledford) Sankovich, Doug (Cheryl Tomblinson) Sankovich, Paul Sankovich, and several nieces and nephews. A memorial service is being planned for late June. Expressions of sympathy may be submitted online at www.janowiakfuneralhome.com



ROBERT O. April 2, 2017 Age 76 of Wayne. Beloved husband of Ann. Son of the late John "Jack" and Elsie. Brother of the late Jack Jr. He was loved and will be missed by his Aunts and many cousing Robert was a 1959 graduate of Wayne Memorial High School He was a letter carrier in the Wayne/Westland area and retired after 37 years. Funeral services were from the Uht Funeral Home, Wednesday April 5th. His burial took place at Glenwood Cemetery in Wayne. Family is requesting memorial contributions to Wayne High Schools Alumni Association Scholarship Fund in lieu of flowers. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhtfh.com



ASK A CHEF

Continued from Page A4

Q: What is your favorite salad to prepare? And what are the ingredients?

A: Warm weather is coming! There isn't much you can't mix together and call it a salad. To make for me to eat for dinner, I use romaine and baby lettuce, grilled corn, strawberries,

grilled with lemon, garlic and basil. I like to make my own fat-free vinaigrette because, really often, people eat salad because they think it is healthy. But add cheese and a little dressing and it's instantly just as highfat/salt as any other menu item. Try this: Whisk one

tablespoon of cornstarch with one cup of water or juice. Bring it to a boil and then cool it. Use it

make for a shared menu item (like for a buffet), use roasted red skins with tomato, avocado, spinach and bacon-balsamic vinaigrette. Q: Everyone today is in a hurry and making

instead of oil in salad

dressing recipes. To

dinner is often left up to chance. What is your suggestion for a quick dinner?

A: During the week, we are never home, so

CLASSES

Continued from Page A4

about your cooking game. Go to www.henryford.com and click on Demonstration Kitchen.

Mirepoix Cooking School

Located within the Holiday Market in Royal Oak, Mirepoix offers everything from cooking classes to wine tasting parties to private events to bring out the chef in everyone. Look for classes such as Date Night Spain, French Made Easy and Basic Knife Skills. Go to www.mirepoix cookingschool.com for more information.

The Community **House Birmingham**

The Community House offers a wide selection of culinary classes taught by various local



GETTY IMAGES | ISTOCKPHOTO

Area cooking classes range from family-friendly to adults-only serving wine.

chefs. Offerings range from the Wildtree series with Marybeth Zoller, Sprouts & Soufflé with Lucile Palancher to Kids in the Kitchen: Cook Off! Go to https://iis.tchserves.org for more information.

Cooking with Class

Cooking with Class, located in Franklin, was founded in 2005 by Deb Buzar with a desire to share her love and knowledge of food, wine and cooking with home enthusiasts in a personal environment. Buzar offers customized, handsstyle cooking classes and and teenagers in her kitchen or yours. Go to http://cookingwithclasswithdebbuzar.vpweb.com/ for more information.

these are our go-tos.

1

Optimist Club donates to local Salvation Army

The Plymouth-Canton Optimist Club has given a check for \$1,000 to The Salvation Army of Plymouth. Maj. Keith Bailey accepted it.

For more than 10 years, the Optimist Club has held a white elephant gift auction to raise money for support of the Salvation Army's efforts in our community

The Optimist Club strives to bring out the best in youth, community and everyone by organizing school-related events such as spelling bee, math Jeopardy, Kids Speak Out and oratorical contests, plus the popular Optimist pet show during the Plymouth Fall Festival

The purpose is to inspire and develop youth to grow and become great citizens. Plymouth-Canton Optimist Club members gather the first Monday of each month in

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A reason to move

I was the victim of a hit-and-run accident recently and had a passenger in my car. It does not make any sense to me why my insurance does not cover my passenger side paid for medical on my policy as required by law yet she is not covered because she has her own car insurance. Now if she files under her own car insurance rates are going to go up and it was either. It seems to both of us that the car insurance companies have the politicians in their back pocket. Another reason to move out of Michigan. Dennis Brown

Make Garden City great again

In declaring his candidacy for a fifth term, Garden City Mayor Ran-

Canton

Plymouth and the third 5776 or send an email to Wednesday in Canton to PlymouthCanton plan events. For more Optimists@gmail.com. information, call 734-502-

Charles Roebuck (from left), Optimist board member; Maj.

Optimist Club president; and Barry Burnham, board member.

Keith Bailey, Plymouth Salvation Army; Pamela Batcho,

dy Walker said, "There's still a lot to be done." Really? After eight years, why haven't you done it? Why would four

more years matter? Walker has taken our city down to Inkster's poor financial shadow. We have high water rates and high property taxes. Home values are still low. We have a special street light assessment while 75 percent of our streets need repair.

About 100 businesses closed with more than 50 of those businesses on Ford Road.

And who can forget how Walker earned his continuing reputation as "The Pizza Mayor," after the night of his last swearing in November 2015. He refused to allow the residents who were foreclosed upon to comment at that public meeting. Some contended that

they weren't properly notified. Facing a packed audience, Walker said comments couldn't be heard because pizza was in the oven at Albert's on the Alley and the elected officials all needed to head over there for the victory party.

Both Walker's and four council seats are up for election this November. The November ballot will include a special election to fill the remaining term — ending November 2019 — of Councilman Jim Kerwin, who recently died.

Petitions to seek placement on this year's ballot are due April 25 and must contain at least 75 signatures. We need residents to run for these offices. Our city's future depends on it.

I can only support Councilman Mark Jacobs for re-election. He ques-

tions the mayor and other council members on topics of interest. He votes no with his information and wants to see the city rebound.

The remaining council members are "yes" women

Residents are still paying for a \$15 million lawsuit lost by the city when Councilwoman Jaylee Lynch was mayor. The city could have settled for \$880,000. We are still being charged more than \$140 each year on our taxes for payments of \$1.7 million per year for years to come.

Councilwoman Pam King, a Realtor, has brought little forward thinking to her position.

Councilwoman Patricia McKarge, a former Garden City parks and recreation director, lacks objectivity often being more of an advocate for employees than for the

residents. Residents, please consider running for an office to make Garden City great again. I will support anyone who wants to help Garden City rebound. Together we can make a differ-

> Al Buckner Garden City

Jazz and blues at the Plymouth Elks

Blues @ The Elks happens 7-10 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge No. 325 in partnership with the Detroit Blues Society (www.detroit bluessociety.org). There is a \$5 donation at the door and bring your

dancing shoes. On April 11, The Tosha Owens Band returns bringing a great band that really grooves. Owens on vocals, Ray Goodman on guitar, Tony Suhy on bass, Mark Watson on keys and Glenn Giordano on drums. This band has been pleasing Detroit audiences for years, so come out and enjoy some great R&B! www.toshaowens.com.

Jazz @ The Elks happens 7-9:30 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month. There is a \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres. Enjoy jazz in a listening room setting close to the entertain-



Blues artist Tosha Owens will perform April 11 at the Plymouth Elks.

ers.

On April 25, come and hear the seasoned, gritty, humorous Ramona Col-lins Quartet. Collins did jazz before jazz went to college and one of her protégé's was Sean Dobbins. You will thoroughly enjoy hearing Collins on vocals, Cliff Monear on keyboard, Jeff Pedraz on

So we have a guy who

insulted his way into the

presidency. Telling his

base ("I love the unedu-

cated") that there is no

longer a need for "politi-cal correctness." That

honesty, civility and any

kind of respect for others

is no longer needed, even

most loyal and valuable

allies like Germany, Eng-

land, Sweden, Australia

and more. Donald Trump

needs to learn that every

issue isn't a contest, and

if he isn't being praised

'uneducated" base, it is

likely because his words

or actions are obviously

dangerous or just plain

He needs to put his big boy pants on and keep his

racist, homophobic, mi-

sogynistic thoughts to

himself. He isn't repre-

senting Donald Trump,

but our country, and the

grownups in the rest of

him, and us!

the world are laughing at

but he is still promoting

his silly campaign rheto-

ric, riddled with empty

promises like bringing

back coal miner jobs or

The campaign is over,

stupid!

by those outside of his

when it includes our

Grownups are

laughing

Flynn has a story to tell and very much wants to tell it, but not without a

grant of immunity. Three former Trump top aides are at the center of Trump's ties with Russia and all promised to testify without immunity. They are former campaign manager Paul Manafort, former Trump adviser Roger Stone and former foreign policy adviser Carter Page.

Is this why Flynn demanded immunity to testify?

Gerald Maxey Farmington Hills

Who says they wanted ACA repealed?

If I hear one more of our legislators, our socalled representatives, saying they are just ' keeping their promises." I will again utter the word "hypocrite" for the 100th time. Are the promises to repeal the Affordable Care Act still the promise that constituents want? With the Michigan and American Hospital Association, the AMA, the Nurse Executive Association, AARP, the Michigan and the American Nurses Organizations and millions of people who attended the Womens' March on Jan. 21, as well as the thousands of people who attended the subsequent Save Our Healthcare rallies, it is clear that there is much to save in the Affordable Care Act. There is even a commercial message on TV by health care providers to keep the ACA, but Congress doesn't seem to listen. The promise belongs to the Paul Ryans of Congress, not the will of 20 million people who now have Medicaid. What promises come with the American Care Act? Cuts in Medicaid? No insurance for the disenfranchised? I have learned by watching the videos of legislative town halls that our representatives tell their constituents what their own plans are. For instance, our so-called representative for the 11th District, Dave Trott, told his constituents what he was going support in Congress. He never asked the large crowd what they envision for new health care legislation or any other issue. What I would personally like to see would be that we all have the same health care insurance as our representatives - a premier plan for life aren't we all equal? Maybe our "representatives" believe that they are more elite than the rest of us and deserve special benefits. I truly wonder how many people in the country really want to repeal the Affordable Care Act after all (hard to keep track of polls). When will our representatives really represent us?

ST. MARY MERCY LIVONIA SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

The Center for Joint Replacement

Jazz singer Ramona Steinway will perform at the Plymouth Elks.

bass and Sean Dobbins on drums.

www.ramonacollins.com. The Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325 is at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. For more information, call 734-453-1780, go to www.plyaa325.com or email jazzatthe elks@gmail.com.



hometownlife.com

Rediscover Freedom



Are you living in pain? Now is the time to Rediscover your mobility.

The Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary Mercy Hospital has a comprehensive team approach to your care.

Our expert staff will answer your questions, discuss joint pain, joint replacement procedures, and implant options. Learn about our pre-surgical classes, choosing a personal coach, specialized physical therapy and what to expect post-surgery.

Our clinical expertise and team approach means shorter hospital stays, better pain management and faster recovery.



For more information, visit stmarymercy.org

To learn more, attend one of our **FREE** Educational Seminars 6 to 8 p.m.

Wednesday, April 19 Thursday, May 25 Wednesday, June 21 Classroom 10

To register for a seminar, call 734-655-2400.

Fight opioid addiction

ence.

Opioid addiction is on the rise, and effects more than just those who are addicted. The Westland Police Department would like the public to know about the Families Against Narcotics, (FAN), chapter that has been formed in Wayne County.

'Families feel embarrassed and ashamed that their loved ones are struggling with this disease, and they isolate and withdraw. What they really need to do is reach out for help." Andy Hopson, a Livonia resident who lost his son to the opioid epidemic.

The organization is dedicated to eliminating the stigma associated with addiction and providing families struggling with the disease the support and resources they need.

Westland Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik is an advisory board member of the committee, whose members include other members of law enforcement, concerned citizens, families of those affected by addiction, and leaders in healthcare, education,

business, and religon. The first meeting of the Wayne County FAN chapter is scheduled to take place on April 10, at 6:30 p.m. at the Life-Church Annex located at 6900 N. Haggerty Road in Canton. These meetings are open and free to the public.

If you need help, please take advantage of this free program. For more information, visit www.familiesagainst narcotics.org

Alfred Brock Wayne

health care for everyone that is better and cheaper, among a few of the more ridiculous. The more he talks, it is apparent that he has a very limited grasp of most issues or just doesn't care. Cutting Meals on Wheels (mostly for hungry seniors and veterans) or eliminating funding to protect our Great Lakes from invasive species aren't programs that save any significant federal dollars, but are just a few examples of the right wing's disregard for the poor and economic needs of the middle class.

It may take a while, but even the most "uneducated" of his supporters will soon realize that they were suckers to believe his empty promises and will be crying the blues over the many cuts he is trying to implement that don't, and never will, improve their day-to-day lives, or their future.

Steve Lawrence Northville Township

Why did Flynn ask for immunity?

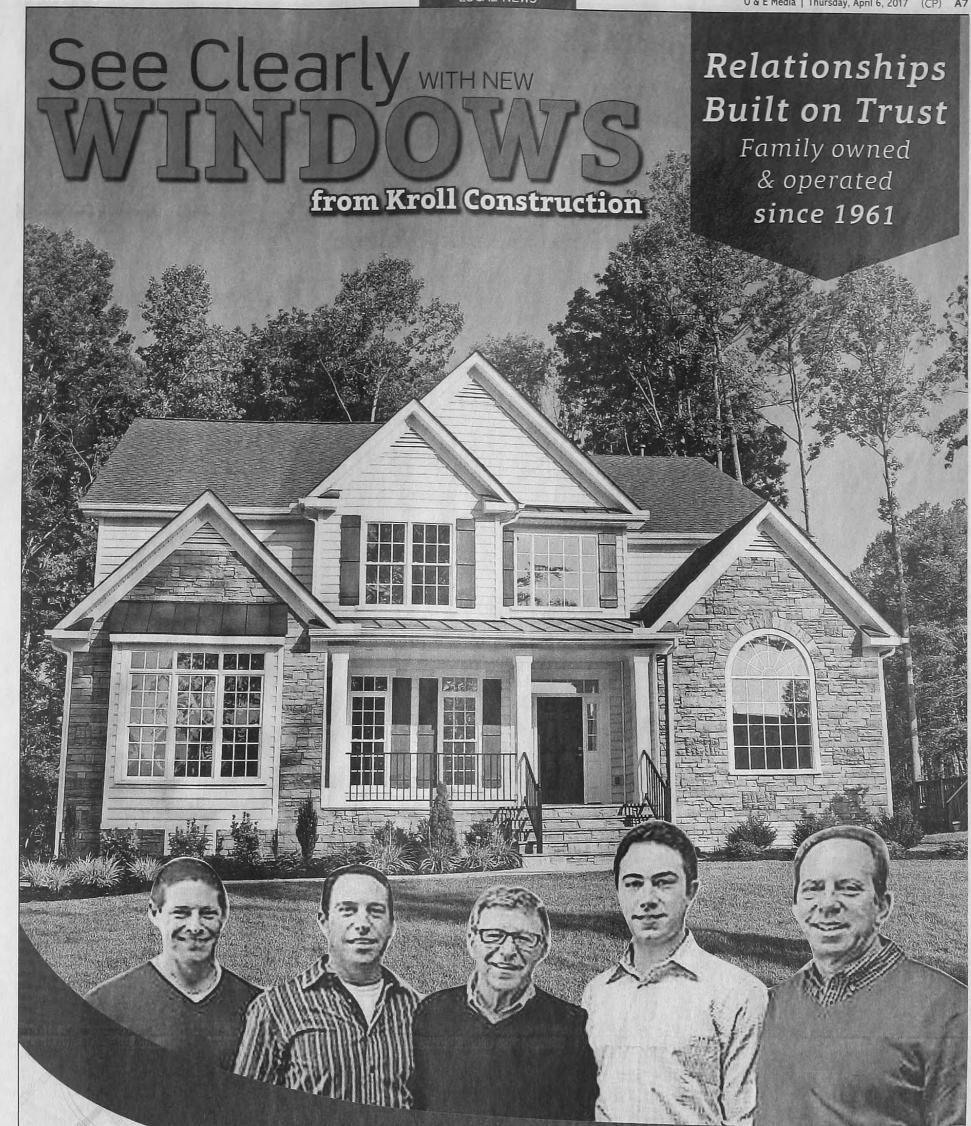
In a stunning revelation, retired Gen. Michael Flynn sought immunity to testify before the Senate and House intelligence committees. This was revealed on March 30 by Flynn attorney, Robert Kelner, in a letter to both committees and presumably the Department of Justice.

Flynn was Trump's national security adviser while working for and paid by Russia and Turkey.

Flynn himself said one does not pursue immunity unless he expects to be criminally indicted. Should Flynn be granted immunity? Depends on what he has to say. Flynn's attorney says

Joanne Lamar health care provider Plymouth

LOCAL NEWS



ROOFING • WINDOWS • SIDING • BATHROOMS KITCHENS • GUTTER PROTECTION

ROOFING FROM

A MONTH

At Kroll Construction, we specialize in the installation of the kind of replacement windows that Michigan homeowners need to lower their energy costs and be more comfortable in their homes year round. Call us to schedule your free in-home consultation.

ROOFIN WINDOWSSIDING

1



Gutterglove The End of **Cleaning Gutters** Limited time offer - call now! Previous orders excluded.

21

5

Any Set of 5 Windows Limited time offer - call now!

Previous orders excluded.

UP TO Kitchen or Bath Remodeling Limited time offer - call now! Previous orders excluded.





INSIDE: P-CEP BOYS GOLF TEAMS READY TO HIT THE LINKS, B3

SECTION B (CP) THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

CYO SOFTBALL NIGHT COURT

Judge Mike Gerou's 'day job' is at 35th District Court, but he relishes coaching Good Counsel softball

Tim Smith Hometownlife.com

As a judge or softball coach, Mike Gerou loves holding court.

Not only is Gerou a longtime judge at 35th District Court in Plymouth, but he also guides and directs young people in another way — as the new varsity softball coach at Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Whether wearing his black robe inside the courthouse or his green and gold Crusaders garb out on the softball field, he loves to connect and communicate

"I don't even know if they know," Gerou said when asked in his trophyladen chambers about whether any of his players knows he's a judge in his day job. With a hearty laugh, he joking-ly added that "in a few years they might.

All kidding aside, Gerou couldn't wait to get his new team out on the practice field at Farrand Elementary School in Plymouth to practice every-

thing from bunting to sliding. The Crusaders open the season with games Saturday against Dearborn Di-vine Child and Sunday against Livonia's St. Michael Catholic School.

He's no stranger to coaching soft-ball, having founded and coached the successful program at All Saints Catholic School in Canton. In a three-year span there, his teams went 29-1. Travel teams have benefited from

his coaching over the years, including renowned programs such as the PC Pride and Livonia Storm. And in 2015, he was the junior varsi-

ty coach at OLGC. He had to give it up for a season last spring, because it was his daughter Elaine's final year of col-

lege softball at Schoolcraft and "I didn't want to miss her games."

Helping the kids

Now that he is the Crusaders varsity coach, does Gerou worry about having enough time what with his duties at 35th District Court? He said he'd find a way to make it all work because he flat-out loves coaching the sport.

"Nah, I'm type A, terminally type A,"

See GEROU, Page B2

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Despite recovering from recent shoulder surgery, Our Lady of Good Counsel softball coach Mike Gerou (above) enthusiastically plays catch with a Crusaders player during practice.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Even when Mike Gerou is in his judge's chambers at 35th District Court in Plymouth, an overflowing trophy showcase reminds him and visitors about his "second" career.

WOMEN'S WORLDS IT'S ON TO THE SEMIFINALS

Strong special teams help U.S. Women's National Team in 5-3 victory over Finland

> **Tim Smith** hometownlife.com

Although the ice was tilted toward the Finland goal Monday night with a wide edge in scoring chances the U.S. Women's National Team found itself in a 3-3 tie with 11 minutes left.

Needing a victory to ensure a spot in the semifinal round of the 2017 IIHF Women's World Championships at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth, center Hannah Brandt and her line-mates sensed the urgency and oppor-tunity tunity.

"We knew it was going to be a battle going into it and we knew that after they got that third goal that we were going to need another one to win the game," said Brandt, who scored the winning goal in Team USA's 5-3 victory. "So our line looked at each other. We said, 'We got the next one' next one.

"It was pretty soon after that third goal that they got that we came back and were able to put one in. It was nice that we were able to get it back quick and our line was itching for a goal."

With the win, the U.S. moves on to the semifinal game set for 7:30 p.m. Thursday against the winner of Tuesday's Russia-Germany preliminary round match-up. Also Thursday, at 3:30 p.m., Canada will square off against either Finland or Sweden.

To the net

On the deciding goal, U.S. defense-man Gigi Marvin threaded a pass from the left corner to Brandt charging in front of the blue paint.

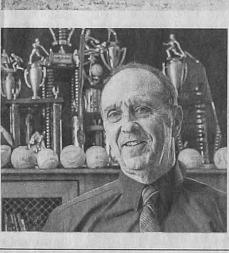
As Brandt lunged forward, she mustered enough on the re-direct to slip the puck past Finland goalie Noora Raty, who kept her team in it

with a 35-save performance. "I just went to the net and Gigi found my stick," Brandt said. "I real-ly just had to get enough on it and it trickled in."

But the victory was not yet signed, sealed and delivered. The U.S. needed to kill off a subsequent five-onthree situation for a span of 1:35. There were several factors behind

the penalty kill.

Goaltender Alex Rigsby (21 saves), who wasn't tested as much as Raty, came up with several timely





SPORTS

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PREP BASEBALL PREVIEW

Canton ready to pitch in for big season

Hard-throwing staff to set pace for Chiefs in upcoming campaign

> **Tim Smith** hometownlife.com

Throughout Mark Blomshield's tenure as head coach of Canton's varsity baseball team, pitching has been the name of the game.

And despite the loss of all-conference pitchers Noah Spencer and Mitch Zelenak to graduation, the Chiefs won't miss a beat or slow down on the radar gun

"We plan on picking up where we left off with a trio of hard-throwing aces that work the mid-80s and above with their fastballs," Blomshield said, referring to seniors Turner Donlin and Dean Dawson and sophomore Aaron Dolney. "I'm especially excited for Dawson, who made a nice jump this off-season and looks poised to make a major impact on our success."

They will be emboldened by senior side-armer Tyler Newsom, who will be a closer expected to "shut things down out of the bullpen in typical Chiefs fashion.

If the pitching is as strong as Blom-



One of the senior leaders for the Canton Chiefs is outfielder Jake O'Donnell.

shield anticipates, it should be another big season at Canton. In 2016, the Chiefs won the KLAA South Division (13-3) and finished 29-13 overall, ultimately falling in the district final to Plymouth.

See CANTON, Page B2

On defense, Farmington's Megan Keller out-muscled Finland forwards for possession of the puck behind the net. And players such as forward Kendall Coyne seemingly were everywhere to get in shooting lanes.

Clinching the win, before 1,368 fans, was an empty-netter at the 19-minute mark by Jocelyne Lamoureux.

"No. 1, we had Rigsby, who made some big saves," U.S. head coach Robb Stauber said. "You're going to need that on a five-on-three. And the key was we, for the most part, kept the shots off-angle.

"You're going to have to give up something. It's impossible to not give up a shot. So if you're going to, you

See USA, Page B2



RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY Team USA's Kendall Coyne (right) congratulates goal-scorer Hilary Knight.



IIHF WOMEN'S WORLDS Keller enjoying time in front of family, friends

Farmington resident is defensive stalwart for U.S. women

Marty Budner hometownlife.com

Megan Keller is having the time of her life playing hockey.

The 20-year-old Farmington resident couldn't be happier playing in the 2017 International Ice Hockey Federation Wom-en's World Championships right in her own backyard. Keller is displaying her world-class defensive skills for the U.S. Women's National Team in front of many familiar faces this week at the USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.

"I have quite a few family and friends who have come to the games, my immediate family and the people who just live around here and grew up playing in Honeybaked,' said Keller, the only Michigan player on the 23-person roster. "The hockey community is so small and so tight-knit that you kind of recognize everybody and get to know everybody.'

Keller and her U.S. teammates wrapped up the annual tournament's preliminary round with a perfect 3-0 record after hanging on to defeat Finland, 5-3, in a tough

game Monday night. The Americans recorded shutouts over arch-rival Canada (2-0) and Russia (7-0) in their first two games

Keller didn't register any points in those three games, but has played strong as a tall, lanky defenseman who brings a physical presence to the team. The 5-foot-11, lefthanded shooting Keller also plays an important role as a penalty killer and logs power-play time.

The one thing I try and use to my advantage is my size and my stick,' Keller said. "It really helps me out when people are coming down one-onone. That's something you want to use to your advantage. You want to see the ice and get the puck quickly to your teammates and that is always a great trait to have."

Coach: Megan is 'solid'

U.S. head coach Robb Stauber, a former goalie at the University of Minnesota in his first year guiding the team, said Keller fits right into the system.

"As a staff, we spend time evaluating our (defense) after every game and it's been really good. Our 'D' has been solid and (Megan's) a big part of it," said Stauber, who has been involved with the women's national team in some capacity since 2010. "The greatest thing about Megan is, any athlete is going to (make mistakes), it's not a perfect game. And she has great instinct when something doesn't go her way, how she can recover.

"Incredible instinct to, 'Oh-oh, I'm going to stop, I'm going to return and I'm going to figure out how to make this play better that didn't go the way I wanted it to.' That's her instinct, where there are some people that maybe make a mistake and they go 'darn' and then it's too late. It's got to be just automatic return and that's what she does so well for us.

"I assume she picked that up from when she was a kid, you know? She's a gifted player."

Keller attended Our Lady of Sorrows Elementary School and Dunckel Middle School before graduating from North Farmington High School in 2014. She was introduced to hockey by her older brother Ryan,



RENA LAVERTY Defenseman Megan Keller was all smiles after helping the U.S. Women's National Team open the IIHF world championships with a shutout victory over arch-rival Canada.

who played at Novi Detroit Catholic Central High School and then in college at Michigan State University from 2012-16.

Keller said she played the game as a youngster with Ryan and his friends and later learned to defend herself while playing recreational hockey on the Farmington Fire and Livonia Knights boys teams up through the pee-wee level. She eventually played with the girls teams in the wellknown Honeybaked organization.

"Neither of my parents played hockey, but a few of the kids in the

neighborhood did and that's when my brother started playing," Keller said. "Of course, being the younger sister, I wanted to do everything he did. And that's kind of how I got started in hockey. We always played mini-sticks and roller hockey out in the street. He was always nice enough to let me tag along

"Playing with the boys and with Honeybaked really helped me improve my skills and I think it brought out the physical part of the game by playing with my older brother. You have to learn quickly to hold your own and that's one thing that I'm thankful for, that he let me tag along with him and his friends. That really helped me hone my game."

Honing game at BC

Keller's hockey career has blossomed at Boston College, where she recently completed her junior season.

In her first three years at the Jesuit school in Chestnut Hills, Mass., Keller was named first team All-America twice and earned first team Hockey East all-star honors twice. As a freshman, she made the Hockey East all-rookie team,

as a sophomore she was voted Hockey East's best defenseman and this year she won the prestigious Cammi Granato Award as Hockey East's top player.

Keller is one of BC's leading offensive players, having registered 115 points in three years with 26 goals and 89 assists. She led the Eagles this past season with a plus-36 and was second in penalty minutes with 28.

"I think just the opportunities that I had playing around here in Michigan and playing for Honeybaked helped me get to Boston College, which has a great hockey pro-gram," said Keller, who is working on a communications major. "Boston Col-lege has helped me develop as a player.'

That development continues with USA hockey.

Keller and her teammates next play at 7:30 p.m. Thursday against Germany in the semifinals.

If the U.S. women defend their world championship, Keller will be accepting her third gold medal in front of family and friends in the city where she learned to play the game. What a cherished memory that will be.



Canton second baseman Justin Dolney tags out a Livonia Stevenson runner in action from last season.

CANTON

Continued from Page B1

Those hurlers will throw to senior catcher Justin Mattson, who led the Chiefs in batting

average a season ago. Other key returning starters include junior first baseman Lou Baechler, junior shortstop Andrew Krafft, senior second baseman A.J. Brazleton and senior outfielders Jake O'Donnell, Justin Dolney and Jake Dattilio.

"Jake (Dattilio) and Justin missed a lot of last season due to injuries and seem poised to make

their presence known in their senior season," Blomshield said. "Their work ethic is championship-caliber and they are highly motivated to make a big impact."

Canton opened the season with a 10-0 fiveinning win Sunday against Novi Detroit Catholic Central before going on a four-game road trip to Youngstown, Ohio, over spring break. The first KLAA contest is slated for Monday against South Lyon.

The Chiefs got off to a fast start against the Shamrocks, with seven runs in the first inning. Keying the attack with two hits each were Brazelton and Dattilio. Chipping in a hit and **RBI** was Mattson.

Taking care of the pitching duties was Dawson, who collected the victory after scattering two CC hits over three innings.

"I'm very proud of the way the team worked hard this off-season and we have made significant gains in all areas," Blomshield added. "Additionally, we return plenty of juniors and seniors that had significant playing time last season, therefore game experience will be a contributing factor to our success.

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problems you have with young players, boys and girls is, come spring and

USA

Continued from Page B1

want it off-angle and you want it off to the outside."

According to Stauber, his team (now 3-0 in the Women's Worlds) was strong on defense and had its best scoring chances so far during the tourney. Yet, for a while, the game was up for grabs.

"I did mention to the players that we've all been in games like this before where you look up at the shot clock," Stauber said. "It can be lopsided. But on the other hand, the score matters. It's not just shots on goal.

"So we've all been in games like that before and, the critical thing is, when it is

Continued from Page B1

GEROU

Gerou said, laughing again. "I'm a driven person. But I'm really passionate about coaching softball. I like coaching kids, I love the game of softball and it's a great opportunity to impart life's lessons to these kids.

"Not only (about) hard work, but that putting in the extra effort pays off. Also, attention to detail, setting lofty goals, believing in yourself, believing in your teammates, putting a plan in place and every day you work to get better and better.'

At any rate, he doesn't have far to travel from the courthouse to adjacent Massey Field, where the Crusaders play home games.

'It's a great opportunity," Gerou said. "The city of Plymouth takes care of Our Lady of Good Counsel. It's a fabulous field to play on."

Gerou said he was "honored" to be asked to take over the team, composed mostly of seventhand eighth-graders. Last year, the Crusaders had a rough go of it (1-8-1) against Catholic Youth Organization opponents in their initial foray into varsity play

"Some of the girls were saying they didn't know if they liked softball anymore, that sort of thing," Gerou said. "So I ran into Mike Riordan (Circuit Court of Appeals judge) and said, 'Hey, if anybody'd be looking for a coach, let me know

"I'm very excited to do so. I get a chance to coach a lot of the girls I coached two years ago. There's some new ones as well, but I'm excited for the opportunity."



THE GEROU FILE

Who: Mike Gerou, new varsity softball coach at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth

He's a vet: Gerou previously coached at OLGC in 2015, heading up the JV softball team. He helped found All Saints Catholic School in Canton and was softball coach there for several seasons

Community leader: The Canton resident is president of Catholic Youth Organization athletics at All Saints, has coached various community youth sports over two decades (including several nationally ranked fast-pitch softball teams) and was the first president of the Greater Canton Youth Baseball and Softball Association

Meet the judge: Gerou was elected in November 2002 to serve as a 35th District Court judge in Plymouth. He remains in that position

Meet the coach: He has an extensive background as a travel softball coach, including successful stints with the PC Pride, Livonia Storm, Queens of Diamonds and Michigan Strategy. Meet the Crusaders: His first OLGC varsity team includes players Sydney Marx, Madeline Stone, Zara Post, Clare Baker, Nikita Moore, Olivia Haass, Sophia Hogan, Rachel Paulin, Sarah Ellsworth, Fiona Riordan and Maria Plencner.

Coaching staff: Helping out Gerou will be OLGC main assistant coach Karyn Paulin, along with team manager Karen Baker. Daughter Elaine and son Nolan also will be helping out as assistant coaches. His oldest son is Miles.

Home games: The Crusaders will play home contests at Massey Field, a softball's throw away from Gerou's chambers.

hard and not be afraid of

throwing to the wrong

base or dropping a pop

fly. "I've been coaching

fast pitch softball for

kids sports for 20 years,

Don't worry

His first goal is for players to get just as excited about playing softball. Gerou intends on making sure they play **Our Lady of Good Counsel** softball coach Mike Gerou shows his team how it's done during practice last week.

about a dozen years," Gerou said. "I think a mistake a lot of coaches make is they try to teach kids to not make mistakes. What you have is kids freeze. The last thing you want them to do is be afraid of making mistakes.

"I tell them, 'Hey, we're going to make mistakes. We're going to make really aggressive mistakes. We're going to overcome those mistakes by playing an aggressive style of ball."

During early practice sessions, Gerou and his coaching staff - which includes Elaine (a former Plymouth High School softball standout) and son Nolan - worked with the kids on sliding technique.

To help cushion the learning blow, so to speak, players were outfitted in brand new sliding pads.

'One of the biggest

the ground's still hard and they haven't ever done this before they're afraid to slide," he said. "If you can't slide, you're never going to run the bases aggressively, so they bought some sliding pads. In our indoor practices, we've done extensive work on sliding.

Whether those sessions will help the Cru-saders rack up wins and victories remains to be seen

Game of life

But Gerou is more interested in coaching up kids so they can add to a different kind of victory column. He wants them to be respectful and go about their business the right way.

We have two team mottos," Gerou said. "One, we respect everybody. We respect our teammates, we respect our opponents, we respect the coaches, the umpires, the parents. And we fear no one

"The other team motto is every day, in every way, we're getting better and better. As long as we're seeing improvement every day, things just take care of themselves. We'll be OK.'

Meanwhile, according to Gerou the judge, there is another underlying reason it is essential for young people to have a purpose and a place to be.

"If they don't get any-thing else out of this, find something in life you're passionate about," Gerou said. "Just pursue your passions.

That's what Gerou does and he has no intentions of slowing down anytime soon.

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lopsided, that you still come out on top."

Group effort

One of the key performers for the U.S. was forward Hilary Knight, who scored two of her team's three power-play goals.

"It helps to have a veteran presence whenever you're a team in a big tournament on a world stage," Knight said. 'But I think the beautiful thing about our team is that we can get everyone going.

"And when we get everyone going, (we're) tough to stop."

Knight, however, added that although the atmosphere in Plymouth has been "fun," it would be even better with more spectators in the seats.

"I'd like to see more fans," Knight said. "But the fans are fantastic and I'm looking forward to a bigger crowd next time (in the semifinals).'

The U.S. also is assured of playing Friday, either in the bronze medal game (3:30 p.m.) or gold medal game (7:30 p.m.).

Also scoring for the U.S. was Coyne, on a power play at 3:33 of the second period, to snap a 1-1 tie.

Amanda Kessel's shot from the left circle was blocked, but the puck caromed over to Coyne near the right post. She collected it and jammed it home.

Tickets remain on sale at the USA Hockey Arena box office or online at 2017womensworlds.com.

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PREP SOFTBALL PREVIEW

Loss of quartet won't slow Canton

Chiefs return plenty of talent from 2016 juggernaut softball team

Tim Smith hometownlife.com

Other than a bump in the road in the districts, last season was a smooth and enjoyable ride for Canton's varsity softball team.

Veteran coach Al White's squad went 27-5 overall and captured the KLAA South Division, Kensington Conference and association championships before Plymouth spoiled things with a 6-3 win in the district final.

"The new season's here already; last year was just outstanding," White said. "When we look back, (it was) very enjoyable. The girls believed in themselves and each other and that makes coaching so great."

Canton enters 2017 minus four of last year's key components in leadoff hitter and center fielder Liz Yager (University of Detroit), catcher Victoria Porter (Schoolcraft), Maddie Stowe (Navy Seals) and pitcher Mackenna

Payne.

"Losing the four seniors will be hard to replace," White said.

Plenty return

But the Chiefs have enough important players from 2016 ready to keep the positive vibes going strong.

For starters, the lineup includes senior second baseman Sydney Dawson, junior third baseman and Kent State commit Hannah Zajdel, senior shortstop Olivia Grant, senior center fielder Peyton Philbeck and junior first baseman Izzy Dawson.

Others who White will not hesitate to pencil into his lineup card are senior outfielder Aja Penik, junior outfielder Morgan Stevens and speedy sophomore pitcher-outfielder Nicole Dawson.

Canton also will feature junior transfer student Kathleen Brady, both at lead-off hitter and outfield, and freshman pitcher Shea Scott. "Shea will see a lot of

time in the circle, but



Canton's Izzy Dawson, shown during a 2016 game, will be counted on to help lead the Chiefs' offense this year.

she can play just about anywhere we need her," White said.

They're ready

Another transfer student is senior outfielder Emily Roberts, while freshman Stephanie Schmuck is ready to help out at catcher.

Rounding out the roster are several players up from last year's junior varsity, including juniors Catherine Christenson and Morgan Pacheco and sophomore Avery Kilgore. The Chiefs will look to get off to a winning start when they visit South Lyon at 4:30 p.m. Monday before hosting Westland John Glenn at 4 p.m. Wednesday.

Fans of the ultratough KLAA South will want to circle Monday, April 19, on their calendars. That's when the Chiefs visit campus rival Plymouth for a doubleheader, certain to have an impact in the division standings.

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BOYS GOLF PREVIEW

P-CEP teams ready to hit the links

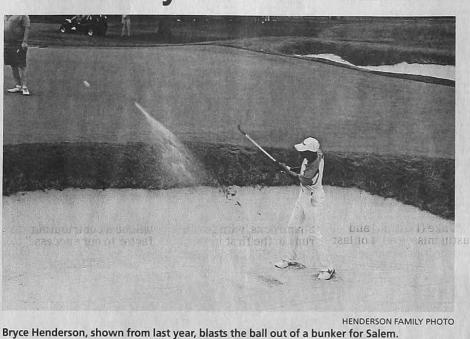
Tim Smith hometownlife.com

Unpredictable weather has sliced into practice time for Plymouth-Canton Educational Park varsity boys golf teams in preparation for the 2017 season.

But Salem, Canton and perennial state powerhouse Plymouth each have plenty of proven commodities and an influx of promising talent.

It could be a productive season for all three squads as they swing into action in the KLAA, with the pre-conference tournament April 13 at Whispering Willows in Livonia.

Following is a glimpse at what each team will



PREP BASEBALL PREVIEW

Intangibles key as 'Cats swing into action

Tim Smith hometownlife.com

Plymouth's last couple of seasons have been filled with wins and notable accomplishments, including making it to regionals both in 2015 and 2016.

Head coach Jason Crain sees no reason why the 2017 edition of the baseball Wildcats can't follow that successful path.

"The depth on our team is better than ever," said Crain, whose 2016 squad went 22-19. "Our interchangeable parts will help us overcome injuries and pick up guys



FILE PHOTO Plymouth's Mike Matovina

at what each team will bring to the links this spring.

Salem outlook

With a handful of top returnees, along with six first-year players, Salem head coach Ryan Nimmerguth likes the potential his team has to improve upon last year's 7-2 record (3-2 in the KLAA Central Division).

"The group of returners are showing some improvement since last season and have a strong desire to battle for division and conference championships," Nim-merguth said. "The six new members to the team are showing great promise as well in the early parts of this season, with some of them scoring low in practice and looking to battle for a spot in the varsity lineup.

Salem's scorecard figures to include seniors Shawn Weldon and Matt Schaumburger and junior Bryce Henderson at the top. Weldon averaged 42 strokes per nine holes in 2016 and 86 per 18, while Schaumberger (44/86) and Henderson (43/86) also are consistent players.

Seniors Matt Danis, Joey Driscoll and Luke Trulock and junior Justin Polce will add depth to the varsity squad.

Ready to step in when called upon will be senior Robbie Hermes, junior Jack McCarthy and freshman Josh German. Hermes and McCarthy are newcomers after playing lacrosse and baseball, respectively, last year.

Rounding out the roster are junior Tyler German, sophomores Cal Smiley, Cooper Rossio and Karan Singh and freshmen John Maki and Zach Thielen.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Sizing up a putt last year is Canton's Suhas Potluri, one of the Chiefs' top returnees.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Plymouth's Jack Boczar, entering his senior season, leads an impressive cast for the Wildcats.

"I think a key for us this season will be for this team to get off to a successful start and develop some confidence," Nimmerguth said. "If that happens, we could be very competitive in the KLAA.

"We need our players to play with confidence and belief that they can compete with the best teams and some earlyseason success goes a long way in developing that confidence and belief."

Canton outlook

Veteran Canton head coach Tom Alles can bank on a high level of performance from senior co-captains Suhas Potluri and Dominic Dimaya.

If the Chiefs are to climb up the standings in the KLAA South Division and Kensington Conference (the team went 8-3 overall and 4-1 in the division last year), others will need to push the envelope.

"Consistency will be key for this year's Canton squad," Alles said. "We don't necessarily have any superstars, but if we can develop four players to consistently shoot dual match scores in the high 30s and low 40s, I feel we will win our share of matches."

Potluri was all-KLAA and all-Observer as a junior, while Dimaya is committed to golf and bowl for Siena Heights University next season.

Other returning seniors are Curt Yun and Ryan Witczak, while juniors D.J. Jablonski, Paul Maurer and Patrick McDougall "all have considerable varsity experience."

Plymouth outlook

After capturing division, conference, association, district and regional titles in 2016, the Wildcats came in eighth at the MHSAA state finals.

It's a new season, but the talented quartet that spearheaded last year's successes returns to hopefully finish a bit stronger.

Seniors Jack Boczar, Justin Kapke, Matthew Decker and Joe Fontana will fill the top of the scorecard for head coach Dan Young.

"We have an excellent group," Young said. "We are going to be very competitive again. Jack is our leader, but we also have a lot of experience with Kapke. These two will lead the way for this group." Plymouth's roster

also has strength in numbers. In the addition to the top quartet, Young noted that junior Timmy Baldwin and sophomore Nick Andrews will be in the mix for varsity playing time.

So will juniors Carter Makelim and Carson Graves, sophomores Connor Brown, Justin Perry and Kyle Krause and freshmen Meehir Patel, Nicholas Downs, Caden Musa, Ian Smith and Joshua Wein.

"Our goal will be to again compete for championships in May and June," Young said.

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that are struggling.

"The chemistry on our team is top-notch and these guys care for each other and see that the success of the team is bigger than themselves. When you get that combination, any team can be dangerous."

First and foremost, the Wildcats are looking to challenge Canton in the race for the KLAA South Division championship.

"There is stiff competition in our division and we are excited to make a run at it this year," Crain said. "I think we will have the opportunity to win the division, but it certainly will be difficult with our cross-campus rival Canton always strong, not to mention the other formidable teams."

Talent and leadership abound on the squad, led by senior captain Brendan Lacorato (outfield) and junior captain Zach Beadle (catcher).

"Brendan is a tremendous leader on and off the field," Crain said. "He exemplifies everything that Plymouth baseball is about. Zach is a charismatic young man."

Plymouth also is strong up the middle, especially on the mound.

Veteran pitchers include seniors Mike Matovina (also an infielder) and left-hander Josh Janovsky, beginning his fourth season on the varsity.

Pitching newcomers include junior Mitch Harber, sophomores Dylan Brown and Kai St. Germaine and freshman Jeremy Fuchs. Brown and St. Germaine also play infield; Fuchs can log time in the outfield.

Winning mix

Back on the infield will be all-conference and all-district second baseman Jacob MacBrien, delivers a pitch last season. He is among several key returning players for the Wildcats.

along with junior Evan Good (first and third base). Matovina is a third baseman when not pitching, while senior Nik Patel is slated for shortstop and other positions as needed.

At designated hitter and first base will be senior slugger Austin Scheffer, who Crain said "is poised for a big year at the plate."

Contributing will be infield newcomers Logan Dziadzio, Dalton D'Alexander and Jake Cain. Dziadzio is a junior, while the others are sophomores.

Plymouth's outfield also is stellar, with biggame experience.

Senior Mike Wischer and junior Chase Every will "anchor our outfield" with Lacorato rounding out the starting trio.

They will be backed up by juniors Kyle Aniol and Sam Brusca, senior Dave Zylka and Fuchs.

Behind the dish will be Beadle, with junior newcomers Robby Begley and Tyler Patterson ready to chip in.

Promising to add offense to the lineup is senior returnee Max Marco.

"It is great when you have the mix we do, as the veterans will show the youngsters the way for continued success this year and beyond," Crain said. "Our positional depth is certainly a strength all around the field."

Plymouth visits South Lyon East on Monday, followed by a Wednesday doubleheader at Livonia Churchill.

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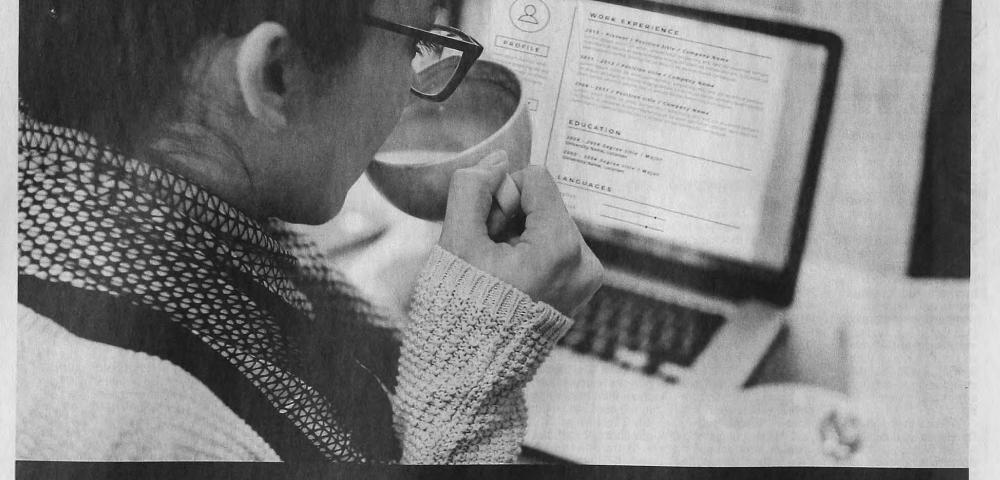
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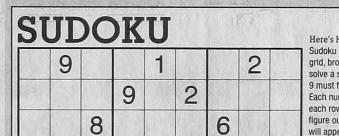
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Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues

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MEDICINE WORD SEARCH

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\$200,000 loan with 20% down & c	redit score	of 740 or above. J	umbo rati	es, specif	ic paymer	nt								
calculation & most current rates a	vailable Fri	idays after 2:00 P.N	A. at www	v.rmcrep	ort.com.									
All Lenders are Equal Oppo	rtunity Lend	ders. Lenders to pa	articipate	call (734)	922-3032	2								
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ENJOY CLOG-FREE GUTTERS ... GUARANTEED



At LeafGuard[®] of Michigan, we are dedicated to ensuring your home is

protected year round, which is why we offer a no-clog guarantee.

- J Lifetime No-Clog Warranty
- ✓ Fully Independent of Roof
- ✓ Lifetime Paint Finish Warranty
- √ One-Piece Design
- **√** 30% Thicker Material
- ✓ Family Owned & Operated





On any 200 ft. or more of gutter installed store tor del

Additional restrictions apply: Soc estimator for dotails, Model may vary, Limited time offer.

SPECIAL OFFER

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At WindowPRO, we pride ourselves on presenting the best quality replacement windows, patio doors and entry and storm doors.

Privately owned for 5 generations, the WindowPRO team has a combined 200 years of experience in the window and door industry. Our history, expertise and dedication to our customers make us a leader in window and door replacement.

\$200 OFF EACH WINDOW OR DOOR INSTALLED PLUS, NO INTEREST OR PAYMENTS FOR 12 MONTHS

See store for details. Not good with other offers or on previous deals.

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Window Replacement experts



Built around you."

REPLACEMENT WINDOWS *Built for life*

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Observer & Eccentric h o m e t o w n l i f e . c o m part of the USA TODAY NETWORK SPRING SENIOR EXPO MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2017

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE VisTaTech Center • 18600 Haggerty, Livonia

FREE: ADMISSION, PARKING, REFRESHMENTS, BLOOD PRESS SCREENING PRIZES • GIVEAWAYS • LOCAL EXHIBITORS

LEARN HOW TO MAKE WISE FINANCIAL DECISIONS AND LIVE A HEALTHIER LIFE PRESENTATION & WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:

9 a.m. - 12th & Clairmount, Detroit Free Press documentary on the 1967 riot, film preview and discussion with producers Kathy Kieliszewski and Bill McGraw

9:30 a.m. - Why Men Don't Listen and Women Can't Read Maps, Diane Zide, Botsford Commons and Kevin Snycerski, Senior Helpers

9:45 a.m. - What a Case Manager Can Do for You and Your Loved Ones with Annelle Hill, MANAGED REHABilitation Consultants

10 a.m. - How to Protect Your Hard-earned Assets from Long-term Care Costs, Christopher J. Berry, The Elder Care Firm

10:15 a.m. - New Technology in Pain Relief, Dr. Sol Cogan, HealthQuest Management

10:45 a.m. - An Update on Exercises for Osteoarthritis and Knee Pain, Kristie Kava and Frank Kava, Oakland Physical Therapy

11 a.m. - Building an Estate Plan that Fits Your Situation, Rick Bloom, Bloom Asset Management

11:30 a.m. - How to Stop Sleep Problems and Snoring from Stealing Your Energy and Affecting Your Health, Dr. Earl K. Bogrow, Dental Center for Sleep Apnea and Snoring

11:45 a.m. - Rediscover Your Mobility: Joint Pain Education, Dr. Stephen Mendelson and RN John Cunningham, St. Mary Mercy Livonia

12:15 p.m. - An Update on Exercises for Osteoarthritis and Back Pain, Kristie Kava and Frank Kava, Oakland Physical Therapy

Questions? Call 313-222-6895 or email dscola@michigan.com.

