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Ramp work worsens pain; traffic fix still hot issue

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

With two ramp closings causing worsening traffic bottlenecks around the already snarled I-275/Ford interchange, a long-range solution to Canton's motoring woes remains elusive. However, the Michigan Department of Transportation and gauge public opinion as early as this fall, MDOT project manager Gorette Yung said Monday. MDOT has broadened its traffic and environmental study beyond embattled Ford Road to encompass an area bounded by Warren to the north, Cherry Hill

to the south, Sheldon to the west and Lotz to the east. "We're still proceeding with the study," Yung said Monday. "We're looking into the data and analyzing it, and we're brainstorming some options." MDOT initially indicated the options could be unveiled as early as this month during a public meeting in Canton, but Yung said the latest timetable appears closer to late September or early October.

Still closed
The latest developments come as MDOT has closed off two Ford Road

Please see TRAFFIC, A5



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Eastbound Ford traffic finds the northbound ramp closed.

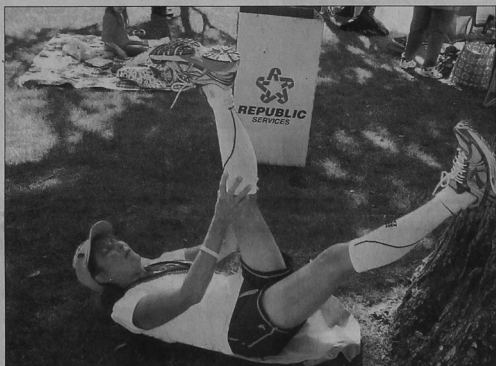
School blitz

This week, the Salvation Army will be collecting donations for its annual Back 2 School Blitz in an effort to help make it easier for needy families to meet the back-to-school burden. Donations are being collected this week, with sorting happening 1-6 p.m. Friday at the Corps headquarters, 5451 S. Main in Plymouth.

Distribution of the school supplies, for eligible families, takes place Monday by appointment. The Plymouth Salvation Army serves Canton, the Plymouths, Northville and Belleville. The Belleville blitz happens 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at Twisted Rooster Restaurant, 9729 Belleville Road. Call (734) 453-5454 for details.

O&E tourneys

The annual Observer & Eccentric Hometown Media golf tournaments are right around the corner with the women's event scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 26, at Livonia's Whispering Willows, followed by the 36-hole medal play men's event Sunday, Sept. 2, at Livonia's Fox Creek and Monday, Sept. 3, at Whispering Willows golf courses. Entries for the men's tourney, limited to the first 120 golfers, close at 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 27. The entry fee is \$95. You can register in person at Whispering Willows, located at 20500 Newburgh, just south of Eight Mile. For more information, visit www.golflivonia.com or call (248) 476-4493.



Mary Ivan of Canton works the kinks out during a stop in Kellogg Park, about halfway through the Saturday portion of the 3-Day.

Step by step

Walkers raise \$3.2 million to kill breast cancer

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Six years ago, Mary Mack had no idea who Rose Ceroni was. Neither one of them knew Darcy Blakemore.

Now, the three women are fast friends, bound by fear and purpose, friendship and hope. They met for the first time when they walked in the 2006 Susan G. Komen Michigan 3-Day, a 60-mile hike in support of breast cancer research. And that's what brought them to downtown Plymouth Saturday to cheer on some 1,100 walkers who raised some \$3.2 million this year. Walkers passed through Plymouth at about the halfway point as they do every year. The first day had already taken them through Farmington, Farmington Hills and Livonia, where they'd camped at Greenmead Historical Park. When they hit Plymouth, they found Mack, Ceroni and Blakemore waiting among the throng. The three are tied



Walkers accept the cheers and support of hundreds of people who lined the sidewalks of downtown Plymouth.

together by the walk and the disease. Mack, a Northville resident, is a 19-year survivor, while Ceroni is a 21-year survivor.

Please see WALK, A3

Accused molester misses court

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

A Canton man had been in a hospital when he failed to show in court Monday for a trial on charges he sexually molested a young girl who formerly lived near his home, authorities confirmed Wednesday.

Robert Carl Kahler, 57, didn't appear in Wayne County Circuit Judge Cynthia Gray Hathaway's courtroom for trial on three counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct and one count of second-degree CSC, a court clerk confirmed.

Kahler didn't notify the court he had been in a hospital, prompting Hathaway to issue a warrant for his arrest. He is expected to face the judge, and a new trial date will be set.

Canton Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said defense attorney Robert Kinney indicated Monday that Kahler was sick or in a hospital.

"But he could not account for his whereabouts and he specifically could not account for him not being there (in court)," Schreiner said Tuesday.

Kinney couldn't be reached for comment Tuesday during two attempts. It was learned Wednesday that Kahler had indeed been in a hospital. Formerly jailed, Kahler had been released June 28 on a \$150,000/10-percent bond, meaning he was freed pending trial with \$15,000, but he had been placed on an electronic tether, Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Maria Miller said.

Kahler was supposed to stand trial after he had been ruled competent to aid in his own defense. If convicted as charged, he could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.



Kahler

Please see MOLESTER, A5

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B4 set to help fund historical society

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer



All Directions is set to headline 'Brew, Brats and Bands at the Barn,' the third annual fundraiser for the Canton Historical Society set for Saturday, Sept. 22.

serve the artifacts of the past," said Gregg King, Canton Leisure Services facilities supervisor and a historical society board member.

B4 has become increasingly popular, and King said ticket sales this year could approach 500, a sharp increase from first-year sales he pegged at around 200.

It's quickly becoming an early fall tra-

dition with over 50 samples of craft and specialty beer, tasting mugs, brats with fixings, pretzels and community conversation.

This year's entertainment features All Directions, a band that plays music such as pop, jazz and R&B, and Tabasco Cats, a group performing everything from Discland to blues to early jazz.

Tickets are available in advance through Sept. 7 for \$25 at places such as Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway; the Canton Treasurer's Office, 1150 S. Market Center; the Canton Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sundays at Preservation Park; and the Canton Parks Office, on the second floor of township hall.

Tickets also can be purchased online at www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org or for \$30 at the gate. They include food and seven beer-tasting tickets for four-ounce samples. Extra sampling tickets are available on site, four for \$5.

To keep it a safe event, designated drivers get in for a mere \$10.

Especially during tough economic

times, Canton historians say it becomes more of a challenge to preserve history and educate the public.

"We need every cent we can get to do both of those things," Carlson said.

On the Preservation Park site alone, she said, six buildings are in need of painting. Moreover, some of the agricultural and other equipment housed in the buildings need yearly maintenance.

The first year alone, B4 raised an estimated \$3,500, part of which was used to build a foundation for a lean-to roof for the Preservation Park pole barn.

King said anyone who has questions about B4 may call (734) 394-5314. Moreover, Carlson said anyone who wants to become a Canton Historical Society volunteer may send an e-mail to her at lizzcarlson@comcast.net.

Volunteers are needed to lead tours of places such as the historic Bartlett-Travis House in Preservation Park and to help with efforts such as transcribing Civil War era diaries.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238

W-W school board accepts applications for vacant position

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

The Wayne-Westland school board has begun the process of filling a vacancy in its ranks created by the resignation of Andrea Clawson last week.

The board is accepting applications from residents interested in the appointment through 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 5. The school board has 30 days from the time of Clawson's resignation to fill the vacancy. The trustees will meet in special session at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 11, to interview candidates and

then select a new member. The person selected will serve until the next school election in November 2014 when voters will select a candidate to finish out the remainder of the term.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old, a U.S. citizen, resident of the state of Michigan and the school district, a registered voter in the Wayne-Westland school district and otherwise eligible to hold office. Other criteria the school board will consider is the applicant is a trusted member of the community and has experience in responsible decision making, a

desire to work as a team member, a commitment to educational excellence and to representing the community and a record of fiscal responsibility.

Letters of interest, resumes and/or other information applicants find appropriate to the application can be submitted to the office of Superintendent Greg Baracy in the school district's administrative building at 36745 Marquette, east of Newburgh, Westland.

For more information, call the superintendent's office at (734) 419-2010.

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CORRECTION

A story in Sunday's *Canton Observer* should have identified the first name of

Mrs. Michigan Lisa Hemmie's husband as Matt.

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WALK

Continued from page A1

vivor from Livonia. And Blakemore, who lives in Westland, has two aunts who fell victim to the disease.

"That's how we became friends," said Blakemore, a seven-time walker who took this year off to care for her ill father. "It's total support. (Walkers) need us. They're our family."

Long-term survival

Cerroni has now been part of that family. Having survived for more than two decades, she's acutely aware of the kind of work done with money raised by the walkers.

"They're walking has gotten (Mack) to 19 years and me to 21 years," Cerroni said.

Mary Ivan of Canton walked the 60 miles for her cousin, Karen Reynolds, who died in 2006 at the age of 37 after a five-year fight with breast cancer. She was in Kellogg Park Saturday with her boyfriend and her sister and a niece, all of whom have walked the walk, though they weren't this year.

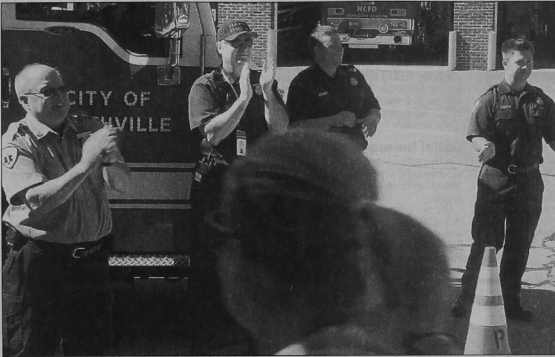
"They were an inspiration to me," said Ivan, who lay on the ground stretching tight leg muscles. "Karen was a great person, and she was a fighter. This is my way of giving back to her." Jeanette Jones of Novi wasn't walking, but she was among the 350 volunteers who served as crew members for the walk. She said she's got family and friends fighting different kinds of cancer, and she supports anything that raises money to support a cure for any of them.

"If you find a cure for one, it'll trickle down to all forms of cancer," Jones said.

Kellie Stallings of



The waters in the Kellogg Park fountain flowed pink in honor of the Michigan 3-Day walkers.



Lt. Jim Davison and firefighters James Baron, Justin Evans and Nick Johns from the Plymouth fire station show their support as the 3-Day walkers pass by.

Livonia walked with her friend, Courtney Zochowski of Redford as part of the team "Linda's Legacy, Kathy's Recovery." Stallings has an aunt who lost a battle with cancer, and a friend who is surviving.

Zochowski said she walked for the future.

Positive experience

"We walk to find a cure," the Redford woman said. "We walk for survivors, for our friends and for our children. We walk so one day they won't have to worry about cancer."

Emma Lucken of Birmingham and Claire Westlund of Beverly Hills were part of the Susan G. Komen Youth Corps, supporting Emma's mom, a breast cancer survivor since 2008.

"I wanted to be part of it ... I did it last year," Emma said. "It was lots of fun."

Her mom, Pam Lucken, said her daughter and her friends have really been "part of it" for years, having come along many times with Mom, who was taking part in her eighth walk. She's glad for the support, but prouder of the experience the kids are gaining.

"It's fun coming out here with the kids, especially when it has impacted their lives," Pam Lucken said. "It's a great, very positive experience for them."

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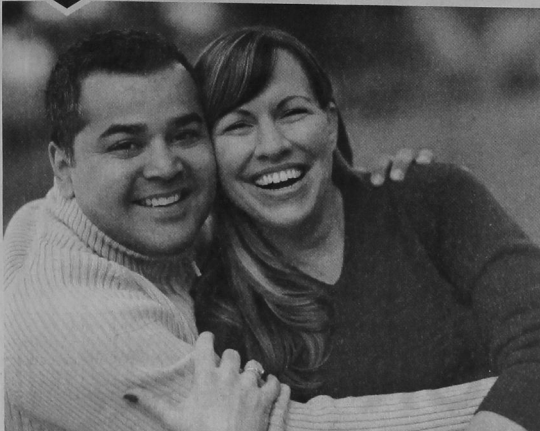
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Sentencing delayed for former teacher

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Still jailed as he awaits his punishment for having sex with teenage students, former Wayne Memorial High School teacher Brandon Tomblin of Canton will have to wait until Sept. 14 to learn his fate.

Tomblin's sentencing, once scheduled for Wednesday, was delayed until Wayne County Jail staffers can complete a presentencing investigation, defense attorney Robert Mullen said.

Tomblin "is doing as well as can be expected"

as he awaits Judge Marjie Braxton's decision on penalties ranging up to 20 years in prison.

"He has taken responsibility for his actions," Mullen said.

Tomblin, 26, faces sentencing after he pleaded guilty to multiple criminal charges for having sex with two male students and exchanging nude photos with a third teen.

Under Michigan law, it was illegal for Tomblin as a teacher, to have sex with students.

Charges began to arise in March after a 16-year-old student's mother con-

tacted police to allege inappropriate contact between Tomblin and her son.

Tomblin has remained jailed with a \$325,000/10 percent bond, meaning it would have taken \$32,500 to free him as he awaits his sentencing.

Tomblin pleaded guilty after he was charged with third-degree criminal sexual conduct, fourth-degree CSC, child sexually abusive activity, using a computer to commit a crime and distributing sexually explicit material to children.

One teen has testified during a prelimi-

nary examination that he had sex with Tomblin in his Wayne Memorial office. He and another teen recounted sexual acts they said occurred at Tomblin's sister's house in Garden City and in a car parked off a Romulus road.

A third teen said he and Tomblin traded explicit photos on their cell phones but never had sex.

The teens were 16, 17 and 18 when they testified June 8 during the exam in Romulus 34th District Court.



BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sentencing for Brandon Tomblin, with defense attorney Robert Mullen at an earlier court appearance, has been delayed until Sept. 14.

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CRIME WATCH

O'Reilly robbery

Canton police are investigating a robbery that occurred around 10 p.m. Aug. 15 at the O'Reilly's Auto Parts store on Ford Road between Canton Center and Sheldon.

Store employees indicated there were two suspects during the incident and that a gun was implied.

Police have not released any other details about the robbery.

Smashed glass

Police confirmed that vandals smashed out glass at two businesses on Michigan Avenue near Lilley.

The first incident happened about 4:30 a.m. Monday at Viscount Pools. The other occurred shortly after 5 a.m. at The Weave Depot.

The investigation was continuing, and no other details were available.

Domestic dispute

Police went to The Crossings, an apartment complex southeast of Joy Road and I-275, after being notified of a domestic assault that occurred about 2:30 p.m. Sunday, a police report said.

One witness indicated that a man and a woman had been fighting in the parking lot.

Police arrived and learned from a 22-year-old woman that she and her boyfriend had

argued over some shoes he had bought for her, a police report said. She told police the dispute started on the phone and then he came over.

She told police she was inside her apartment and refused to open the door when he allegedly kicked it in, pushed her against a wall and onto the floor, the report said. She said he took the shoes in question and some of her belongings when he left.

The incident was under investigation.

Social harassment

A 25-year-old man notified police Friday afternoon following allegations his ex-girlfriend has been harassing him through social media.

The man, who lives on Tamarack, northeast of Michigan Avenue and I-275, said the former girlfriend posted on a comment on Twitter making fun of him for a nose piercing he had received. He told police he responded and the incident spilled over to other social media.

Police advised the man to limit his use of social media. He told police he has received messages from the former girlfriend that are rude.

A police report indicated authorities earlier had advised the man to take out a personal protection order against the woman. He told police he and the woman had resumed contact on Facebook a few days before the latest

incident occurred, and he said things deteriorated.

Narrow escape

A Canton woman may have narrowly escaped having her 2009 Ford Escape stolen, a police report indicated.

The incident happened on Meadowview, northwest of Ford and Beck.

The woman told police she had parked the vehicle in her driveway and that it was tampered with sometime between 8:45 p.m. last Thursday and 7 a.m. Friday.

She told police she didn't lock the doors, and she said she found a paperclip in the ignition, though nothing was missing from the vehicle.

Bike stolen

A woman who lives on South Haggerty south of Michigan Avenue notified police to report that her son's bicycle had been stolen from behind her house sometime between 6 p.m. Aug. 15 and 10 a.m. Aug. 16.

She said the bike had been on a cement pad next to a lawn mower. She described it as a 12-inch, red and black X games bike that she said resembled a motorcycle although it isn't, according to a police report.

Compiled by Staff Writer Darrell Clem from Canton Police Department reports.

Yazaki exec pleads guilty

An executive of Tokyo-based Yazaki Corp. has agreed to plead guilty for his role in a conspiracy to fix prices of instrument panel clusters, also known as meters, the Department of Justice announced Wednesday.

In a one-count felony charge filed today in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan in Detroit, Toshio Sudo, a Japanese national, was charged with engaging in a conspiracy to rig bids for, and to fix, stabilize, and maintain the prices of instrument panel clusters sold to customers in the U.S. and elsewhere.

According to the plea agreement, Sudo has agreed to serve 14 months in a U.S. prison, to pay a \$20,000 criminal fine and to cooperate with the department's investigation.

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TRAFFIC

Continued from page A1

ramps for repairs — one that allows westbound motorists to access southbound I-275 and another that lets eastbound drivers get onto northbound I-275.

Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said the eastbound ramp is expected to remain closed until early October, while the westbound ramp could be shut down until early November.

The ramp closings come as Canton motorists already have been grappling with the shutdown of two separate overpasses — Warren and Palmer over I-275 — along with ramp projects at the Michigan/I-275 interchange.

While those projects will improve roads, they are, for now, dumping even more traffic on Ford, Cherry Hill and Joy roads, making for a grueling orange-barrel season.

"We've heard a lot of complaints," Faas said, "especially on Cherry Hill."

Even before the latest construction projects began, one MDOT traffic study had indicated that as many as 50,000 motorists traveled every day



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westbound Ford Road traffic finds the southbound I-275 ramp closed.

along Ford Road in Canton, though a more recent analysis put the number closer to the mid-40,000 range.

Find a fix

Regardless, local officials such as township Supervisor Phil LaJoy have repeatedly demanded that a traffic solution be found, whether by MDOT or the U.S. Department of Transportation. LaJoy has called Ford Road traffic woes a regional problem.

Canton and MDOT, despite widespread support from neighboring communities, lost four attempts to secure money

to reshape the I-275/Ford interchange by applying for a federal grant dubbed TIGER, or Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery.

With hopes now pinned on the state, MDOT and a consulting firm, Wilbur Smith Associates, came to Canton's Summit on the Park grand ballroom in June for an informal meeting to hear the opinions of local residents who face the traffic woes every day.

During that session, Canton resident Larry Lucas summed up the sentiments of many.

"I want to find out when

they're going to fix this mess," he said.

No one can say with certainty, it seems. Money has been a huge hurdle.

Phasing in

Yet, Yung has said MDOT's approach likely will involve a phased-in approach to road improvements, rather than one massive fix.

Traffic accident studies indicate the extent of the problem. During the last six years, more than 2,378 crashes have occurred along Ford Road between I-275 and Canton Center. Officials have called it the state's most accident-

prone stretch of road, particularly along the area of Ford near Haggerty and Lilley.

One years-old study aimed at easing traffic problems involves adding connectors from the southbound I-275 exit at Ford to allow motorists to access Haggerty Road in either direction without getting onto Ford. It also suggests a northbound service drive east of the interstate from Cherry

Hill to north of Ford Road.

MDOT officials have said that option would be considered along with other alternatives before they seek input from area residents during the next public meeting this fall. State transportation officials have indicated they hope to close in on a specific plan next year.

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MOLESTER

Continued from page A1

His trial was set to begin 10 months after he was charged following allegations he molested the girl when she was 7 to 10 years old and living in his neighborhood. She and her family have since moved.

After Kahler's arraignment last October on multiple CSC charges, the girl testified in November behind closed doors in 35th District Court that

she was sexually molested by Kahler.

Judge Michael Gerou had ordered his courtroom cleared of spectators in an attempt to ease the girl's emotional trauma of facing Kahler. Authorities have said the girl gave strong testimony and convinced Gerou that Kahler should stand trial.

Canton police have alleged Kahler befriended the girl's family when they lived near his home. Charges stem from allegations he molested the girl between 2007 and 2011.

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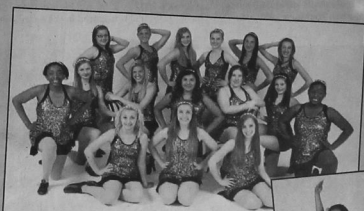
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Decked out in various degrees of pink are Rose Cerroni of Livonia (left), Mary Mack of Northville and Darcy Blakemore of Westland. The women have become friends since meeting at the 2006 Michigan 3-Day. Mack (19 years) and Cerroni (21 years) are cancer survivors.

Walkers raise money, hope in mission to end breast cancer



A single white tent amid a field of pink is where the memories of lives taken by breast cancer are solemnly remembered. The Remembrance Tent, as known by event participants, is also a stark, visual reminder of the reason why 1,100 individuals walked 60 miles in last week's 2012 Susan G. Komen Michigan 3-Day.



Tony Skilton of Canton with his English bulldog, Beckham, (outfitted with a pink ribbon) waits to welcome his wife, Kim, and his mom, Tina Skilton of Farmington, who participated in the 3-day event.



Courtney Zochowski (left) of Redford and Kellie Stallings of Livonia capture the moment during the pit stop in Plymouth Saturday.



Taking time out to pose in front of the Kellogg Park fountain (spouting pink-colored water in honor of the walkers) are (from left) Lisa Comerford of Indiana, Natalie Rager of Indiana, Ruth Susee of Maine, Jody Peris of Farmington and Lisa Joy Gordon of Farmington Hills.



Karen Patrosso of Plymouth along with her granddaughter Olivia Gorsuch, 15, of Livonia (at right) and Bridget Donehue, 15 of Livonia (middle) welcomed walkers to Plymouth Saturday. Karen's best friend, Charlotte McCulley is a breast cancer survivor. Patrosso hosts her bra display and welcomes (with the help of her daughter and grandchildren) the walkers every year in Charlotte's honor. Patrosso who lives on Ann Arbor Trail just east of Sheldon has been welcoming 3-Day participants for the last three years - since the walk route has been coming through Plymouth. Patrosso and her crew handed out Popsicles and suckers to the walkers who were enroute to their lunch stop at West Middle School on Sheldon and Ann Arbor Trail.

Goci facing charge of lying to federal agents

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Wayne-Westland school board member and recent congressional candidate John Goci was arrested earlier Wednesday on a charge of lying to federal agents investigating an alleged loan shark who owns Bray's Hamburgers.

FBI agents took Goci into custody at his home in the 36000 block of Canyon in Westland.

Released on bond following his federal court arraignment, Goci could face up to five years in prison, if convicted.

Goci has served on the Wayne-Westland school board since 2009. School officials learned of his arrest Wednesday morning and alerted the other board members, according to Superin-



John Goci, a Wayne-Westland school board trustee and a recent candidate for Congress, was arrested Wednesday morning by the FBI.

tendent Greg Baracy.

"It's very unfortunate to have school board member arrested by the FBI and it's very unfortunate for the school district and our students," he said.

Baracy declined to talk about the specifics, saying "we have no knowledge of John's personal business."

"We have no further information as to the circumstances surrounding this situation; however, we do not believe there is any relationship between this event and the Wayne-Westland Community School District," he said in a prepared statement released later in the day.

The criminal complaint, unsealed earlier today, charges that Goci lied to federal agents about a loan he obtained from Tomo Duhanaj, accused of running a loan sharking operation and being an illegal immigrant from Albania.

Specifically, the indictment charges Goci lied to federal agents by telling them his loan from Duhanaj carried a 15 percent interest rate when he was actually paying in excess of 45 percent interest.

The affidavit in support of the indictment details the investigation into the loan sharking operation in which it was alleged that Duhanaj loaned money to members of the Albanian community at interest rate as high as 45 percent.

Goci had obtained a \$30,000 loan from Duhanaj, described as a former Albanian freedom fighter. A cooperating witness told federal investigators that loans were repaid due to Duhanaj's reputation as a killer and threats of violence.

When Duhanaj, now held in federal custody without bond, was pulled over for a traffic stop in May police found a check from Goci. Police also found a paper detailing outstanding loan payments that listed Goci and others.

An FBI forensic accountant analyzed the paperwork and found the payments reflected interest at more than 45 percent.

The indictment also details a conversation between Goci and Duhanaj, who was the subject of FBI wiretapping. The transcript of one conversation has Duhanaj doing most of the talking, telling Goci to stick with the 15 percent interest rate story.

The FBI also intercepted a June 26 telephone call from Goci to Duhanaj seeking help with a fundraiser for his 13th District congressional campaign. Goci subsequently lost his bid for the Democratic nomination to U.S. Rep. John Conyers, D-Detroit.

rogers@hometownlife.com (313) 222-5428

AROUND CANTON

"Around Canton" is designed to announce upcoming events taking place in the community. Items will run on a space-available basis. Send details to bkadrinch@hometownlife.com

JOB SEEKER WORKSHOP

Date/Time: Saturday, Aug. 25, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Bayou Grill, 404 Main in Belleville

Details: A job seeker workshop hosted by Joe Barnabei from Beacon Hill Technologies, who specializes in finding jobs for people in Michigan. This event will cover building a great resume, interviewing, effectively searching for a job, tips and tricks of the job boards and networking. All of this is free. There will also be an opportunity for professional, one-on-one assistance with your resume and interviewing technique with all proceeds going to a great charity. One-on-one resume assistance will cost \$20 and one-on-one interview coaching will cost \$20.

BLOOD DRIVE

Date/Time: Friday, Aug. 24, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: Canton Public Library

Details: The Canton Public Library will host an American Red Cross blood drive. You may walk in or reserve a spot. Donors in the month of August are automatically entered in a raffle for a \$500 gas card. You must be 17 and capable of giving an entire pint. Hospitals in southeastern lower Michigan use 900 pints of blood per day; we hope to collect 31 pints.

Contact: Call Kathie Gladden at (734) 397-0999, Ext. 1071 or emailing gladdenk@canton.org

GIVING BLOOD

Details: The American Red Cross hosts blood drives at a variety of locations this month. Blood drives are scheduled for 1-6:45 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 23, First United Methodist Church of Plymouth; 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Friday, Aug. 24, Canton Library; 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 26, St. Kenneth Church; 2-7:45 p.m. Monday, Aug. 27, VFW Post 6695 in Plymouth; 1-6:45 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 28, Salem High School; 1-6:45 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30, Plymouth District Library. Donors will be entered into a monthly drawing for a \$500 gas card.

Contact: Call Diane Risko at (313) 549-7052 or email Diane.Risko@redcross.org to set up an appointment.

POM CLINIC

Date/Time: Saturday, Aug. 25, 9-11:30 a.m.

Location: Canton High School North (Phase 3)

Details: The Canton Chieftettes host their pom clinic for potential cheerleaders ages 5-14. Students will learn pom techniques and a short dance routine. Parents will be treated to a performance at 11:30 a.m. Participants will also perform at the Canton High School varsity football game Aug. 30. Cost is \$45 for pre-registration, \$50 at the door.

Contact: Pre-register at www.cantonchieftettes.com; call (734) 397-1782 for more information.

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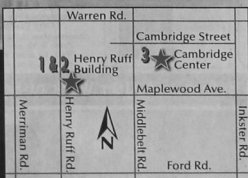
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Main Street can help you send kiddies back to school in style

They're the three words kids often dread this time of year: Back to school.

Yet while the younger set might be sorry to see summer drawing to a close, there's no denying the excitement of looking forward to a new grade, a new classroom and new adventures.

That means, of course, that it's time to hit the stores. And downtown Milford merchants are ready with a great assortment of shoes, clothing, accessories and more for students to head off to school in style.

"We've got great back-to-school shoes — we just picked up a brand new line, Tsukihoshi," said Traci Goodnough, owner of For Feet Sake. "They're machine washable, very flexible and very, very soft. They're especially good for kids who are extra-sensitive because they have no seams or stitching inside, and they fit great for kids who have a high instep."

Tsukihoshi has sizes for kids up to about 8 years old, she said. For larger sizes, check out the store's assortment of Brooks and Saucony. "They're great running shoes and built just like the adult line. There's lots of great support, and it's a good, quality shoe," she said.

The store has plenty for teens too, including Sorel fashion boots which combine top style, waterproofing and warmth. An assortment of UGG boots is expected in soon, too, she said.

Goodnough reminds customers that For Feet Sake offers custom fitting. "We take care of everybody," she said.

The Clothing Cove and Bling are a couple other Main Street stores that are gearing up for back-to-school. Rachel

Horsley at the Clothing Cove said Miss Me jeans are hot right now — and they have lots of them. Teen girls are pairing them with "boyfriend jackets and fun blazers," she said.

Horsley reminds customers that updating a wardrobe doesn't have to mean a complete overhaul. "You can just add a few new key pieces into what you already have and let them pop. It's like having a new wardrobe on any budget," she said.

At Bling, owner Jennifer O'Rourke is already selling dresses for Homecoming and, in one case, next year's prom. And no wonder — all of the social occasion dresses at her shop are priced at less than \$100. But you'll also find casual clothes; fall jackets and T-shirts line the racks and shelves, and a variety of hoodies and sweaters are coming soon. Bling also carries shoes, backpacks, costume jewelry, scarves and more.

And don't forget about lunches when you're shopping for back-to-school. At Acorn Farm, check out expandible, collapsible bowls in three sizes, Koko brand insulated fashion bags, apple-and-dip and carrot-and-dip containers, washable Lunchskins reusable sandwich and snack bags, and personal coolers to add that special touch from home when you pack your youngster's midday meal. Acorn Farm can even help you bump up the old PB & J standby a few notches with all-natural Koeze peanut butter and plenty of Michigan-made cherry jams.

Here's to a new school year — with a little help from Milford's Main Street merchants.

By Aileen Wingblad

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Meet Me in Milford

Congress gets \$174K salary, vested pension after five years and \$900K for staff

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

They're good perks, if you can get them.

Members of the U.S. Congress earn a salary of \$174,000, are vested in a pension system after five years and are allowed to have up to 18 employees with total salaries just under \$1 million.

Actually, there are several perks in being elected to Congress, many far better than businesses dole out to their employees and executives, including the members' representational allowances, which support congressional members in their official and representational duties, averaging \$1,446,009 in 2011, according to Congressional Benefits Service.

With an unemployment rate hovering at 9 percent in Michigan and economic difficulties strapping the country, Congress needs to learn to live within its means, according to an employment chair of the Wayne County Taxpayers Association.

"These are the same people who can't produce a balanced budget, they spend more than comes in, and they can't reach a decision that isn't a decision that will get them elected," Bogaert said. "Why are we paying them so much and giving them a lifetime pension?"

"It's ridiculous. We pay them all the time not to do their job. It makes me sick to my stomach with what they are doing."

These benefits will be available to one of two political newcomers in the new 11th District, which includes Livonia. On Nov. 6, voters in the new 11th District will elect either Republican Kerry Benivolio of Milford or Democrat Syed Taj of Canton to a two-year term to start Jan. 3.

In the old 11th District, voters will decide in a special primary election Sept. 5 between five Republican candidates (Benivolio, Nancy Cassis of Novi and Ken Cridler, Carolyn Kavanagh and Steve King, all of Livonia) or one Democrat (Ken Curson of Belleville) with the winners facing off in the Nov. 6 election. The winner in the old district will serve the remain-

ing six or seven weeks of the unexpired term of Thaddeus McCotter, who resigned July 6.

For the sake of simplicity, this article focuses on what the congressional member in the new 11th District will receive in starting a new two-year term in January.

Salary

Congressional members currently earn \$174,000. Members of Congress are on track to receive a pay raise in 2013, unless they vote against it when they return from August recess, according to Government Executive, a government's business news daily and website for federal managers and executives. Since the 11th District is without representation since McCotter's resignation, no one will vote for or against the proposal on behalf of the district.

Lawmakers are eligible for a maximum pay hike of 1.1 percent in 2013, or about \$1,914, according to lawmakers, based on a formula derived from the Employment Cost Index. Lawmakers may not see that extra \$1,900 because their annual pay adjustments cannot exceed the annual base pay adjustments of General Schedule employees. When Congress approved a two-year pay freeze for government workers beginning January 2011, it effectively froze its own pay.

Unless both chambers pass either standalone legislation or through appropriations, it will be up to President Barack Obama to decide by Aug. 31 whether federal employees will receive a pay boost in 2013. Obama has recommended a 0.5-percent bump for government workers next year. So if he does receive a 0.5-percent bump and Congress doesn't specifically deny itself a raise, lawmakers also will receive a 0.5-percent raise in 2013.

Pension

Congressional members who participated in the congressional pension system are vested after five years of service, according to the Congressional Research Service. A full pension is available to members 62 years

of age with five years of service; 50 years or older with 20 years of service; or 25 years of service at any age.

A reduced pension is available depending upon which of several age and service options is chosen. If members leave Congress before reaching retirement age, they may leave their contributions behind and receive a deferred pension later.

The current pension program, effective January 1987, is under the Federal Employees Retirement System, which covers members and other federal employees whose federal employment began in 1984 or later. This replaces the older Civil Service Retirement System for most members of Congress and federal employees.

Congressional members have four options: CSRS and Social Security; the CSRS Offset plan, which includes both CSRS and Social Security; CSRS contributions and benefits reduced by Social Security contributions and benefits; FERS and Social Security; or Social Security alone.

Congressional pensions are financed through a combination of employee and employer contributions, according to the Congressional Research Service. All members pay Social Security payroll taxes equal to 6.2 percent of the Social Security taxable wage base (\$97,500 in 2007). Members covered by FERS also pay 1.3 percent of full salary to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund.

The pension amount is determined by a formula based on years served and average pay for the top three years in terms of pay. For example, a member of Congress who worked for 22 years and had a top three-year average salary of \$153,900 would be eligible for a pension payment of \$84,645 per year.

As of Oct. 1, 2010, 443 retired members of Congress were receiving federal pensions based fully or in part on their congressional service. Of this service, 262 had retired under CSRS and were receiving an average annual pension of

\$69,420. A total of 181 members had retired with service under FERS and were receiving an average annual pension of \$38,460 in 2010.

Allowances and personnel

The members' representational allowance supports congressional members in their official and representational duties. The MRA is calculated based on three components, including personnel, official office expenses and official (franked) mail. The 2011 allowances range from \$1.3 million to \$1.6 million, with an average MRA of \$1,446,009.

The MRA's personnel allowance, which totaled \$944,671 in each member's MRA in 2010, is available to employ staff in a congressional member's Washington, D.C., and district offices. Each member may employ no more than 18 permanent employees.

The MRA also funds ordinary and necessary business expenses incurred in official and representational duties to the district. A base allowance of \$256,574 was authorized for each member in 2010, but the total varies for each member.

The official office expenses allowance may be used for travel, office equipment lease, district office rental, stationery (paper, envelopes and other supplies), telecommunications, printing, postage, computer services and other expenses.

The MRA is not to be used to defray any personal, political or campaign-related expenses. A member also may not use campaign funds to pay for expenses related to his or her official duties; may not use committee funds to pay for official representational expenses; may not use an unofficial office account to support official and representational duties; accept from a private source any in-kind assistance with a monetary value for an official activity; and may not use personal funds to pay for franked mail.

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Volunteer Gabrielle Mussehl (from left), Lisa Kluka, Morgan Benjamin, Canton Public Library Board President Don Turner, volunteer Ilene Saunders and Library Director Eva Davis.

Library volunteers get presidential honors

Proud friends and family gathered at the August meeting of the Canton Public Library Board of Trustees as 11 library volunteers were awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award.

Don Turner, library board president, presented a bronze service star, certificate and letter signed by President Obama to recipients Morgan Benjamin, Quinn Ebner, Betty Hellmers, Lisa Kluka, Diane Miner, Gabrielle Mussehl, Jason Pino, Ilene Saunders, Carolyn Sumner, Sandra Walczak and Xiao Zhu.

"These people demonstrated an undiminished passion for a library that we all love so much," Turner said. "I know that I speak not just for the board, not just for the leadership of the library, but really for all the citizens of Canton when I say thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the work you've done for the Canton Public Library, truly a jewel in the state of Michigan because of folks like you."

Scanning resources for digital archives, cutting scrap paper and shelving

books were just a few of the tasks performed by the 11 volunteers, who accumulated 1,282 service hours in 2011, as part of a volunteer corps that logged a total of 4,397 hours.

The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation was established in 2003 to recognize the valuable contributions volunteers are making in our communities and encourage more people to serve. The Council created the President's Volunteer Service Award program as a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service.

"Volunteers help the library immensely by performing necessary tasks and allowing our staff to focus on essential service areas. We are extremely grateful for their dedication and value their contribution," Canton Public Library Director Eva Davis said. "They have played an important role in our ability to handle our shrinking budget without cutting hours."

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Congress can choose health insurance from more than 300 plans

With all the debate and discussion about the Affordable Health Care Act during the presidential and congressional campaigns this year, the public is probably curious about the health insurance received by members of Congress.

It turns out they have a lot of options from which to choose.

House and Senate mem-

bers are allowed to purchase private health insurance offered through the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, which covers more than 8 million other federal employees, retirees and their families, according to FactCheck.org, a project of the Annenberg Public Policy Center.

According to the Con-

gressional Research Service, the FEHBP offers about 300 private health care plans, including five government-wide, fee-for-service plans and many regional health maintenance organization (HMO) plans, plus high-deductible, tax-advantaged plans.

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Investor's goal is to make money

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

I met with new clients last week to review and analyze their portfolio. They haven't done much with their portfolio in a while because they didn't know what to do. However, as a Ford retiree he just received the pension buyout offer from Ford which motivated them to sit down with someone on a professional basis.

There were many mutual funds in the portfolio that I had recommended in the past such as Janus and Fidelity Magellan. Although these funds and others were stellar performers back in the '90s, they have underperformed over the last decade. When I asked the client why he continued to own these funds, his answer simply was he never got around to selling them.

One of the unfortunate facts about investing is there are a large number of investors who buy an investment and never sell it. Mutual fund companies and other investment companies rely on this and that is why you see funds that have severely underperformed for long periods of time continue to have large amounts of money under management. They depend upon



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

the fact that many investors are lazy and will never sell an investment.

Whether it's because of laziness or loyalty, it doesn't matter. The goal of an investor is to make money.

If you have investments that are underperforming - when you compare them to other investments in the same category - why continue to hold them? Of course, I don't mean underperforming over the short term (six months or a year), but rather two or three years or longer.

If you have funds in your portfolio such as Janus or Fidelity Magellan or other types of funds that have severely underperformed, there are two options. The first is to become more active in your portfolio. This means occasionally rebalancing your portfolio and selling investments that no longer fit your needs or those underperforming. The second option is to recognize that for whatever reason, you're not going to do it on your own and turn your portfolio over to a professional. Not a professional

salesperson but someone who will not be paralyzed by analysis, someone whose sole loyalty is to you and what's good for your portfolio. Someone that designs a portfolio based upon your individual goals and objectives.

Investing has become more complex and more difficult over the years. The number of investment alternatives has dramatically increased as well as the pace of change. I think we can all agree that life has become much faster than it's ever been before. When you couple these items with the facts that we are living longer and that we are all responsible to save for our retirement, it adds up that we have to be proactive, not passive. The strategy of buy and ignore just doesn't work anymore.

We live in changing times and if you're not doing the same thing with your portfolio that you did years and years ago, it probably means you need to consider a change. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. *Observer & Eccentric* readers can submit questions at money@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit his website at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.



Mayor Jack Kirksey with Margaret Dunning inside Wilson Barn with the tribute he presented to her.

Livonia mayor honors Plymouth's Dunning

Mayor Jack Kirksey welcomed the Motor City Packards of Metropolitan Detroit to Livonia recently and presented one of its members, 102-year-old Margaret Dunning of Plymouth, with a special tribute commending her love and enthusiasm for classic cars and her ability to remain young at heart.

The club held its annual picnic at the historic Wilson Barn. Many of the members drove their Packards to the picnic.

Dunning, who still drives the 1930 Packard she has owned since 1949, couldn't drive it Sunday to the picnic because the cream-colored 740 roadster has been out of town on the Concours d'Elegance show circuit, said Tom Mitchell, picnic chair.

However, she rode to the picnic with Kirksey in a 1948 Packard (38,000 original miles) owned and driven by Packard club member Art Kirsh.

The mayor and Dunning left from Livonia City Hall and on the way to the Wilson Barn, Dunning brought up many memories she had of Livonia. Her parents' original farm included the land that is now Rosedale Gardens.

"She is the sharpest (centenarian) by far of anyone I've encountered," Kirksey said, adding that as may be, he's attended many birthday parties for 100-year-olds.

She recalled a toll station her grandfather had on the southwest corner of Merriman and Plymouth roads, where he collected tolls for Plymouth Road, and where he also had a stable to change

horses for the Pony Express.

"She talked about Henry Ford stopping in for dinner," Kirksey said. Her grandfather also knew Judge Alexander Blue, who was justice of the peace in Livonia Township for 28 years and whose house is at Greenmead Historical Park.

Kirksey said he plans to get together again with Dunning, whom he met for the first time last Sunday, to hear more of her recollections of Livonia's past.

Kirksey, a car enthusiast himself who's restored a 1919 Model T and a 1931 Model A, said in his tribute that Dunning has been a lifelong car buff ever since her father taught her about cars and how to drive his Model T Ford while growing up on their potato farm in the 1910s and early 1920s.

She now owns a classic car collection, which includes a 1931 Ford Model A, a 1966 Cadillac DeVille, that she often drives to car meets; a 1975 Cadillac Eldorado convertible; her everyday car is a 2003 DeVillie; and her most-treasured 1930 Packard 740 roadster.

She belongs to several car clubs, including the Michigan Region Classic Car Club of America, enjoys showcasing her beloved Packard at exhibits and has participated in the Woodward Dream Cruise many times.

She is a longtime volunteer and philanthropist serving on several Plymouth community boards and her charitable endeavors and donations include a restored 1906 Model N Ford and a 1930 Cadillac convertible to the Glimore Car Museum at Hickory Corners, Mich., property to establish what is now the Dunning-Hough Library and monetary contributions totaling over \$1 million to the Plymouth Historical Museum.

Race fan wins Roush Stage 1 Mustang

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Mary Jane Rickett loves vacationing in Michigan and watching racing at Michigan International Speedway.

Those two interests merged over the weekend when the 46-year-old Redford resident won a 2012 Roush Stage 1 Mustang in a sweepstakes co-sponsored by Pure Michigan, Roush Fenway Racing and MIS.

"It's a beautiful car," Rickett said. "It sounds great when you rev up the engine. It sounds amazing."

Rickett, 46, who works



Mary Jane Rickett and her 2012 Roush Mustang.

as a receptionist in the body shop at Bill Brown Ford in Livonia, learned of the contest on Facebook, which had a link to

the MIS website.

She was one of more than 7,000 people who entered the online contest. Two weeks ago, she

found out she was one of three finalists. As a finalist, she received VIP tickets to the Pure Michigan 400 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race last weekend at MIS for herself, husband Joe and two friends as well as the use of a recreational vehicle Friday through Sunday. While there, she and the other two finalists competed in a chipping contest to see who could get closest to the pin and the chance to be the first to pick one of three keys.

Rickett won the chipping contest and was first to pick a key, which happened to be the right one.

"I started it up and that was it," she said. "I felt almost guilty when I won it. Since I was the first one to start it up, they never got a chance to sit in the car (to try their keys)." Bill Brown Ford sales consultant Kevin D'Arcy said the custom-made GT coupe Rickett won is valued at \$41,000. "It's pretty cool," he said of the car. He said the dealership sells Roush Mustangs, but there aren't too many buyers. "Who has the money?" he asked.

ksmith@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2098

PARKS DIVISION

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Wayne County

CRUISIN' HINES

"Just like in the 70's"

Aug. 26, 2012

WOMC

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11:59-12:30 PM

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Wayne County

Observer & Eccentric

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CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT AUCTION

876 RAILROAD ST
YPSILANTI MI 48197
AUGUST 30TH 2012 8:00AM

1992 Ford Econoline 1FMEE11N8NHA74293

Publish August 23, 2012

OE0780204 2/1

STOW & GO SELF STORAGE AUCTION NOTICE

Pursuant to state law, Notice is hereby given that a public auction will be held at **STOW & GO SELF STORAGE, 41999 ANN ARBOR ROAD, PLYMOUTH, MI** on **August 25, 2012 at 10:00 am**, on past due tenants listed below. The entire contents of the following units will be auctioned and sold to the highest bidder on each individual unit. **CASH ONLY! DESCRIPTION IS BRIEF SUMMARY OF ITEMS, MAY OR MAY NOT CONTAIN MORE OR LESS ITEMS.**

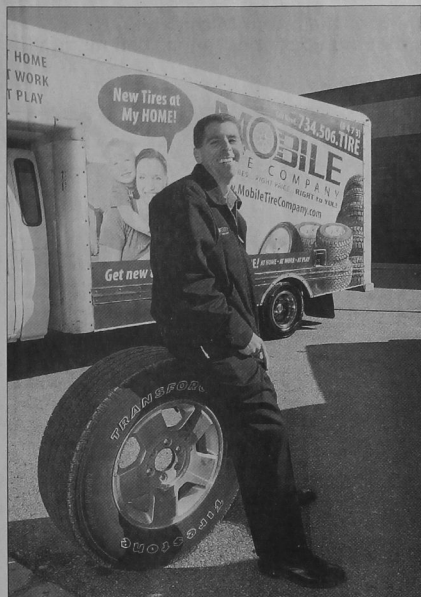
- Unit #013 - HAZELEE FRANCE, 9108 N LILLEY #140, PLYMOUTH 48170**
Vacuum, TV, tables, dresser, stuffed chair, table game, misc. boxes and other items
- Unit #412 - DONALD HOFFMAN, 650 PROVINCETOWN LAKE, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170**
Dewalt Recipal saw, Washer & Dryer, Wagner spray painter, Fan, (4) boxes of CDs, softball equipment, misc. mens clothing; (2) Finish Nailers, folding chairs, misc. boxes, and other misc. items.
- Unit #623 - CAROL LOESCH, 840 MC KINLEY, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170**
Golf clubs, table saw, stroller, shop vac, TV, kids toys, bookshelf, stereo equipment, 8mm movie projector, argus 300 projector, film splicer, misc. boxes, and other misc. items.
- Unit #538 - CHRIS MANDELKA, 28428 DONNELLY, GARDEN CITY, MI 48135**
Shelving unit(s), toilet, children games, saw horses, (3) sectional mirror, (3) wheel baby stroller, misc. boxes and other misc. items.
- Unit #677 - DEREK DIDARIO, 3086 N. CUSTER, MONROE, MI 48162**
Leather couch & loveseat, vacuum, stereo system, fan, misc. carpet, Sharp TV, full mattress & boxspring, sentry safe, small tool box, misc. boxes and other misc. items.
- Unit #621 - ROB CLOUGH, 9450 S. MAIN #101, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170**
Large dresser, camping chairs, propane tank, luggage, framed pictures, misc. boxes and other misc. items.
- Unit #694 - NICOLE GNATEK, 1014 S. CAMPBELL, ROYAL OAK, MI 48067**
Metal file cabinet, recliner, glass table with 4 chairs, TV, bed frame, mattress set, misc. xmas decorations, coffeemaker, misc. boxes and other misc. items.
- Unit #605 - RICHARD ESTEP, 15670 NORTHVILLE FOREST DR., PLYMOUTH, MI 48170**
Metal Art pieces, metal trunk, duffle bags, model car, misc. xmas decorations, walker, misc. books, misc. boxes and other misc. items.
- Unit #722 - JEFFREY SMOLKA, 15863 ALEXANDER, LIVONIA, MI 48154**
Dewalt drill & rotor, 6 ft. ladder, misc. boxes and other misc. items.

SALE DATE IS AUGUST 25, 2012 AT 10:00 A.M.

Publish August 19 & 23, 2012

OE0780207 - 3/4

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Josh Cohen started Mobile Tire last year, with the idea of bringing the new-tire experience to the customer, rather than making the customer wait.

Mobile firm takes tires on the road

Observer: Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature?

Mobile Tire: Mobile Tire Company is a complete tire shop on wheels. We can mount and high speed balance new tires, or repair your damaged tires, right at your home, office, any place that is convenient. We can also get a wide variety of aftermarket wheels. We understand the importance of doing things right the first time, so we use all the best equipment to ensure your job is done to the highest quality. It's really that simple.

Observer: How did you first decide to open your business?

Mobile Tire: I'm a car guy. I love working on them, admiring them, and building them. Over the years, I have developed a weird passion for tires. Yet, I hate waiting in a tire shop waiting room. So, I figured there had to be a better way. Mobile Tire Company puts that traditional tire shop on the road. We install, mount and balance your new tires while you are at home, playing with your kids, or spending time with your family.

Observer: Why did you choose the Plymouth-Canton area?

Mobile Tire: It's a great community! Everything from top-notch schools, to great parks, many different dining experiences and some great shopping.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

MOBILE TIRE

Business name: Mobile Tire Company, Belleville

Your name and title: Josh Cohen, owner

Your hometown: Belleville

Business opened when: June 2011

Number of employees: 2

Hours of operation: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and by appointment.

Your business specialty: We specialize in providing customers with the right tires for the right price for their car or truck, installed at their home or office. We also handle repairs, rotations, balances and TPMS work.

Business phone | website: (734) 506-8473 | www.mobiletirecompany.com

Mobile Tire: Mobile Tire Company is unique since we come right to you for tire installation. Many consider it a painful experience to waste valuable time in a typical tire shop waiting room—uncomfortable chairs, old magazines, burnt coffee and watching soap operas on a small TV. Mobile Tire Company was founded on the premise that you have more important things to do with your time than wait at a tire shop.

Observer: How has the business changed since it opened?

Mobile Tire: Our business model hasn't changed much since we opened. We continue to expand our selection of wheels and tires. We are also fully capable of working on TPMS systems.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Mobile Tire: The current economic conditions actually help us. With our low overhead, we

are able to provide some of the lowest tire prices around. By coming right to our customers, we also save them gas money, along with time. As we approach our second year of business, we are seeing a huge growth in business. I'm sure this is from our great tire selection, low prices and awesome customer service.

Observer: Any advice for other business owners?

Mobile Tire: Do something you are passionate about and you will enjoy it, through the good times and the bad. Also, get involved in your community. There are many groups, like the Chamber, and social events available to build some good relationships.

Observer: What does the future hold for your business?

Mobile Tire: We hope to see our current growth rate continue. We plan to expand into more areas, with more trucks, and eventually franchises. This will give us the ability to serve the local communities.

CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

Top credit union

Genisys Credit Union was named the 2012 Outstanding Credit Union of the Year by the Michigan Credit Union League for achievements in several categories including financial strength and performance, new and improved services to members, new activities or programs, financial literacy efforts, community involvement, community service and legislative advocacy.

It's an honor to receive an award of this distinction," said Jackie Buchanan, CEO. "Our core values of being trustworthy, focusing on our members and providing quality service are fully reflected in this recognition."

Genisys had outstanding financial strength and performance in 2011, and once again received BauerFinancial's five-star rating for financial safety and soundness. Active membership grew by 5.43 percent, and new members joining in 2011 increased 20.7 percent over 2010. The Member Satisfaction Rating was 96.2 percent, confirming that members are extremely happy with the service provided.

Flagship software

Facility Results introduces FlashTrack, the company's flagship software system designed to save lives by offering a more complete and affordable solution for performing arc flash analyses. FlashTrack is the only soft-

ware product of its kind that addresses a problem every electrical contractor is confronted with: how to catalog, document, and capture all required electrical nameplate information to ensure a facility safe from the personal dangers and production hindrances of hazardous arc blasts.

In June, Facility Results began limited marketing of FlashTrack—a one-of-a-kind tool for the entire arc flash analysis life cycle, from data collection through label installation to ongoing change management. Now, with the software readily available from the company's website, it has attracted a notable list of customers, including, but not limited to, a major Tier 1 automotive supplier, a local community college, a major waste management corporation, and various electrical contractors—some with as many as 150 electricians in the field and others with as few as one or two.

"Our appeal to both large companies and small businesses is one of the reasons we're a strong contender for this year's Showstopper award at the 2012 NECA Show in Vegas in September," explains Bryan Rupert, co-founder and lead consultant at Facility Results. "We have customers who have confirmed time savings of up to 30 percent on data collection and label installation alone. Some of our contractor customers have even reported profits of up to 60 percent compared to their previous methods for arc flash analysis."

Facility Results of Plymouth was founded in 2009 by Bryan and Kelly Rupert.

CANTON CHAMBER CHAT

Golf outing

Each year the Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts an Annual Golf Outing, and this year's takes place Thursday, Sept. 13, at Pheasant Run Golf Club of Canton. This event is open to the public and there are various packages available for purchase.

• **Team Sponsor \$2,500**—Includes Company name on all advertising, recognition in all weekly emails and articles promoting event, banner with company name listed as sponsor at event, sponsor recognition on Chamber website, reserved table with signage and recognition at dinner, golf shirts with your logo

for all your team members, golf for four including 18 holes of golf w/cart, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, beverages on the course and dinner.

• **Golf for Four Package, \$600**—Includes golf with cart for four, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, buffet dinner, prizes, gift package and more.

• **Golf for Four Sponsorship Package, \$650**—Includes golf for four with cart and a hole Sponsorship, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, buffet dinner, prizes, gift package, signage at the course, recognition at the dinner.

For more information, call the chamber at (734) 453-4040.

Novartis MS Education Link

Hear
Mark Silverman, DO
discuss
information about
multiple sclerosis (MS)
and a prescription
treatment option.

August 28, 2012 6:30pm

Andiamo's

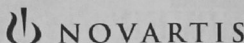
21400 Michigan Ave

Dearborn, MI 48124

Please RSVP by August 27, 2012

by calling 800-973-0362.

Light food and beverages served.



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Web every day at
hometownlife.com

OUR VIEWS

Closing the gap State's Focus standard gives inaccurate view

When Michigan received a flexibility request to the No Child Left Behind Act, the state created a new standard of measuring achievement — one that identifies the gap between the highest 30 percent and lowest 30 percent of a school's student achievement.

The 10 percent of schools with the widest gap are labeled Focus Schools. The Michigan department of Education on Aug. 2 announced that 358 schools — including five Plymouth-Canton Community Schools buildings — are on that list.

But that surprises you, especially considering Plymouth-Canton is one of the top performing school districts in the state.

But if you look at why some of Plymouth-Canton's schools have been labeled — incorrectly, we believe — with the Focus designation, you'll be able to breathe easier knowing that your children are still in one of the best public education systems in Michigan.

Take, for example, Miller Elementary and East Middle schools. Those buildings house the district's Talented and Gifted students, which naturally widens the gap between its highest and lowest students. Annually, these schools are among high-performing schools on the MEAP test.

Plymouth-Canton officials are addressing the achievement gap, including focusing on raising the achievement in its subgroups (English Language Learners, special-education students, etc.).

Now the state is going to spend resources to help close the gaps at Plymouth-Canton schools, and that's just wrong. Those funds should be going toward helping districts that desperately need it. If that doesn't make sense to the folks in Lansing, then it's no wonder we're in such poor financial shape.

The goal of No Child Left Behind — 100 percent of students achieving adequate yearly — was unrealistic, but the new measure created by the state's waiver is a poor way to determine success.

Plymouth-Canton residents, many of whom moved here because of the district's reputation, are now wondering when they read this new information if they made the right move. Trust us — you did.

Plymouth-Canton officials are measuring achievement in a variety of ways: MEAP results; Northwest Assessment results; curriculum assessments; defining what it means to grow and achieve in Plymouth-Canton. The Board of Education has made student achievement its priority for years.

These are the areas where Plymouth-Canton needs to focus its energy, not with someone from the state telling the district that it needs instructional coaches, a literacy library with proper materials, opportunities for teachers to talk to each other about struggling students, or a curriculum that is clearly articulated and accessible.

Plymouth-Canton already has all of that.

And you are going to hear other districts trumpeting the fact that they have no Focus Schools — yet their achievements are far lower than Plymouth-Canton. Do those districts deserve applause for closing their gaps? Absolutely, but don't be fooled into thinking these latest rankings are an apples-to-apples comparison.

Dr. Jeremy Hughes, Plymouth-Canton's superintendent, is concerned about the gap. "Even before the state announced the Focus school designations, the Board of Education created an achievement goal to deliver 133 percent growth this year for non-proficient students. Our board is insisting we raise the floor and close the gap," Hughes said.

Plymouth-Canton is dealing with a very diverse student body with multiple cultures, languages and economic classes. Yes, there are gaps, but these new rankings undeservedly call out the district without addressing the schools that truly need help.

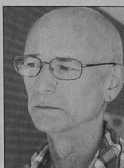
COMMUNITY VOICE

What do you think of the recent Michigan Court of Appeals ruling that municipalities cannot ban medical marijuana?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



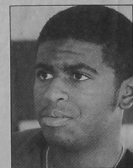
"I would say it's OK just for medical purposes."
Joannette Belser
Canton



"It's grossly abused by potheads. I think it can be dispensed by a doctor but I wouldn't support it in places like head shops."
Roger Bius
Canton



"I believe medical marijuana should be allowed. I believe it should happen and, yes, it should be protected. I question the cost and how well the war on drugs is working."
Earl Lundy
Canton



"To me it's not hurting anybody. The use of it might not be for everybody. Alcohol is legal and it hurts people too. I don't think it's bad for medical purposes."
Josh Smith
Canton

LETTERS

Wildcat thanks

On behalf of the entire Plymouth Wildcat Football family we would like to thank the community for their support and generosity during our annual coupon card fundraiser.

Our football players went door-to-door and sold over 2,700 cards raising funds for jerseys, helmets and necessary equipment. This is not always an easy or enjoyable task, but under the direction of head coach Mike Sawchuk these young men were respectful and courteous and were rewarded with the same.

We would also like to thank the following businesses for offering over \$300 in special savings, BOGO items and free items with purchase: Applebee's, Arby's, Auto Lab, BD's Mongolian, Big Apple Bagels,

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:

Web: www.hometownlife.com

Mail: Letters to the Editor, Canton Observer, 615 W. Lafayette,

Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226

Fax: (313) 223-3318

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.

Deadline: Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

Bailey's, Bigby Coffee, Chili's, Cold Stone Creamery, Crow's

Nest, Dunkin' Donuts, Fast Lane, Hayden's, Jet's Pizza, Kilwins, Leo's Coney Island, Los Tres Amigos, Papa John's, Penn Grill, Plato's Coney Island, Play it Again Sports, Tim Horton's, Trading Post, White Castle, and Zap Zone.

We are incredibly fortunate to be part of a community that supports not only the Wildcat Football Team but the drive and determination of each player. We invite you to visit our website at www.football.plymouthwildcats.com or like us on Facebook for more information and our current Wildcat Football schedule. We look forward to your continued support at the game.

**Plymouth Wildcat Football
Booster Club**

STAFF COLUMN

Will GOP voters send 'Krazy Kerry' to Congress?

I suspect we'll know a lot more about how much Republican voters really feel about Kerry Bentivolio on Sept. 5, that is when we'll have the results of the "useless" primary election for the Republican nomination to see who will fill out the remainder of former Congressman Thaddeus McCotter's term.

That's how Northville Township Clerk Sue Hillebrand characterized this election, which was forced on voters after McCotter inexplicably resigned in disgrace due to the shenanigans and likely illegalities of his re-election team. Hillebrand, along



Kurt Kuban

with just about every local clerk and taxpayer living in the 11th District, thinks the special primary election is a waste of time and money — and they are absolutely right. The winner of the election will ultimately serve only about two months in a Congress that will be in recess for much of that time.

What makes the election interesting, however, is it will mark the first time that the names of both Bentivolio and Nancy Cassis will appear on a ballot. They are among the five Republican candidates (Jovona residents Ken Cider, Carolyn Kavanagh and Steve King are the others) seeking to ride out the crashing wave that was McCotter's career in Congress.

You may recall Bentivolio absolutely drubbed Cassis in the Aug. 7 primary. That wasn't exactly a fair fight considering Cassis had to rely on voters to pencil her name in, rather than merely checking a box as they did for Bentivolio. My guess is that made all the difference, especially considering an EPC/MRA poll conducted a week before the election showed voters favoring Cassis by 16 points.

Regardless of what happens Sept. 5, however, Republicans are stuck with Bentivolio for the next two years. He is the only Republican on the ballot in November to represent the new, Republican-crafted 11th District.

And it's been clear for awhile the Republican establishment is not enamored with Bentivolio. Let's be honest, had McCotter's political career not imploded before our eyes, Bentivolio would still be an unknown political commodity. Republicans didn't even take him seriously until McCotter's fall from grace, which left Bentivolio as the only GOP candidate running for an event McCotter held for nearly 10 years. Once that became clear, a number of Republicans lined up to run as write-in candidates, with Cassis getting the support of the local Republican establishment.

During her brief stint in the race, Cassis did everything she could to remind voters about the far-right, Tea Party leanings of Bentivolio, a former teacher, military veteran and reindeer rancher who has never been elected to public office. She even went as far as to label him "Krazy Kerry." But Bentivolio, like a good soldier, kept his head down and weathered the storm, knowing he was in a formidable position. Write-in candidates, even well-funded ones, very rarely win elections.

Now Republican voters must decide if they like Bentivolio enough to vote for him over Democrat Syed Taj, a Canton Township trustee and former chief of medicine at Oakwood Hospital. The fact is most of the voters of the 11th District — Republicans and Democrats alike — don't know a whole lot about Bentivolio, a Milford resident.

The first thing people should understand about Bentivolio is he's a nice guy with an interesting story to tell. He is a veteran of two wars. He was a school teacher before stepping down to

run full-time for Congress. He plays Santa Claus at Christmas and raises reindeer on his Milford property. He has plenty of hobbies, including, it seems, acting.

One of the things Cassis tried to make voters aware of before the primary election was Bentivolio's appearance in the film "The President Goes to Heaven." I found a link to the film on the web. It's pretty hard to describe, so I'll just list the link here (www.povtv.com/video.php?vide=11120) and you can make up your own mind. Let's just say, I have to agree with Cassis when, in one of her political ads, she asked about his decision to appear in the film: "What was Kerry Bentivolio thinking?"

Bentivolio's brief acting career shouldn't be what defines him. I think it should be his political leanings. First and foremost, he is no fan of government, especially the federal government. He hates Obamacare and wants it repealed. He said he would vote to disband the Department of Education. He thinks businesses should be less regulated, and that oil producers should be able to drill more domestically, and he is even open to the idea of drilling under the Great Lakes. He is Tea Party through and through, which should play well in the more conservative northwest part of the district.

Just wonder if the more moderate, but still Republican-dominated areas of the district — like Livonia, Plymouth and Canton — will buy his far-right rhetoric. Will they fall in line and learn to love (or merely tolerate) Bentivolio for two years?

The Sept. 5 election, as ridiculous as it is, should provide some answers.

Kurt Kuban is community editor of the Northville Record. He welcomes your feedback at kkuban@hometownlife.com or (248) 437-2011, Ext. 245.

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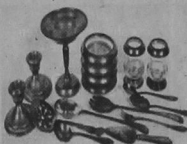
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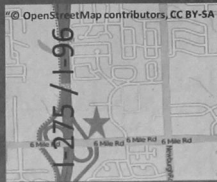
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SECTION B • (CP)
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SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR
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734-469-4128

Aspinall gets boys track post

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Steve Aspinall is at work preparing his Salem varsity boys cross country team for the 2012 season, but he's also thinking ahead to next spring.

That's because the 28-year-old Aspinall was named Monday to succeed longtime Rocks varsity boys track and field coach Kyle Meteyer.

Aspinall assumes the top spot after six seasons as an assistant coach, working with the team's distance runners.

"I'm excited about it," Aspinall said. "The first year that Kyle was head coach I was student teaching, and I helped out where I could. We learned a lot together and I'm proud of where the Salem track and field program is right now."

"We won the region last year. I think all Salem athletics are on an upswing. There's a renewed sense of spirit in the school."

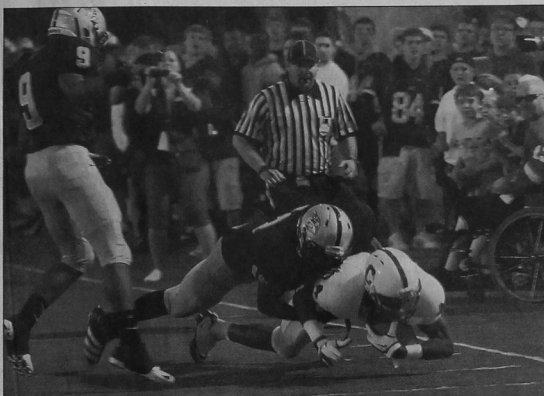
Aspinall mentioned how the 2011-12 boys basketball team won the KLAA championship, along with increasing numbers and optimism surrounding this fall's football team.

"You feel the energy with more people hopping on board across the school with cross country and track and basketball and football," he said.

After Meteyer announced his retirement

Please see **ASPINALL, B2**

2012 FOOTBALL PREVIEW — PART 2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

In this 2011 game, Plymouth's Stefan Turrentine (No. 19) demonstrates the Wildcats' aggressive defense with a strong tackle against a Canton player. Turrentine is expected to reprise his role this season. At left for Plymouth is Devin McMillan (No. 9), a 2012 graduate.

'Cats ready to fight

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Two-a-days and four-way scrimmages are fine and dandy.

But Friday night lights are where it's at for Plymouth's varsity football team, looking to stay on the positive role of recent seasons.

The Wildcats open the 2012 season with a game at Lansing Sexton, the first-ever matchup between the schools. Plymouth head coach Mike Sawchuk eagerly awaits how his team will do in the contest.

"They made the playoffs last year and they're very athletic," said Sawchuk, whose team won the KLAA South Division and Kensington Conference a year ago only to fall to Canton in the

opening round of the postseason. "I don't know that much about them."

Here's the deal

So what are Sawchuk and his assistant coaches telling players on the eve of the opener?

"That 'You're at Plymouth High School and you're still going to have a target on your back. People are going to want to measure themselves by you because you've had success,'" Sawchuk said. "As far as us going into it, we've got to take one game at a time and be mentally prepared to have a battle on our hands."

The task of getting prepared for action is — as always — taken seriously by Sawchuk and his staff. The fact the 2010 Wildcats

made the Division I finals and last year's team went 9-2 doesn't change the program's overall mission.

"Nothing comes easy," Sawchuk stressed. "You don't just show up and automatically win six or more games and go to the playoffs. You got to work for it."

Early signs are the Wildcats will have no problem in that regard. "We did a great job in the weight room over the offseason," Sawchuk explained. "The group of (senior) kids we have right here have only lost two (regular season) games their whole careers. There's a lot of skill here. It's just a matter of trusting the coaches, holding each other accountable

Please see **WILDCATS, B2**

O&E tourney registration

Registration continues for the annual Observer & Eccentric Hometown Media men's golf tournament through 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 27.

The 36-hole, medal-play event will be played Sunday, Sept. 2, at Fox Creek Golf Course and Monday, Sept. 3, at Whispering Willows Golf Course.

The tournament is limited to the first 120 golfers. The entry fee is \$95 and does not include a cart. Golfers must have a USGA index handicap (maximum of 20) to participate.

The event also includes a 17-and-under boys junior division tourney. The entry fee is \$49.

Register in person at Whispering Willows, 20500 Newburgh Rd., just south of Eight Mile. Checks should be made payable to T.J.W. Inc.

For more information, visit www.golflivonia.com or call (248) 476-4493.

MU spikers win opener

The No. 16-ranked Madonna University women's volleyball team got double-figure kill performances from a trio of Crusaders Tuesday night in a 25-15, 21-25, 25-13, 25-20 season-opening victory over St. Francis (Ind.).

Senior Nastija Baranovska and sophomore Samantha Geile led MU with 12 kills each, while 6-foot-3 sophomore Emilie Freeman (Lutheran Westland) added 10 to go along with six block-assists.

MU setter Evia Prieditis collected 35 assists and 10 digs, while Amanda Obrycki led the defense with 15 digs.

NFL notes

• Houston Texans wide receiver Keshawn Martin (Westland High Glenn) had three catches for 36 yards in Saturday's 20-9 preseason win at home over the San Francisco 49ers.

The fourth-round pick from Michigan State made his NFL preseason debut Aug. 11 with two catches for 24 yards in a 26-13 Texans win over the host Carolina Panthers.

• Tennessee Titans linebacker Tim Shaw (Livonia Clarenceville) had two tackles in a 30-7 exhibition victory Friday over the host Tampa Bay Buccaneers. The Penn State grad, a special teams standout now in his sixth NFL season, had one tackle in the Titans' 27-17 loss Aug. 11 against the host Seattle Seahawks.

Wildcats fall 1-0 in hard-fought KLAA opener

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Early season progress isn't always measured in victories, and that's the case for Plymouth's varsity boys soccer team.

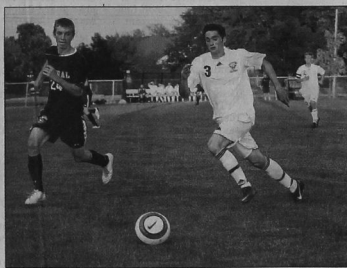
After going 0-2-1 Saturday's Gary Balconi Invitational, the host Wildcats dropped a 1-0 decision to Walled Lake Central in Monday's physical, hard-hitting KLAA crossover that perhaps set the tone for the start of the high school football season.

"It's been tight the past few years we've played them (Vikings)," Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich said.

Plymouth is now 0-3-1 (including the Balconi tourney), but improving incrementally, Neschich said.

"I can see our team is going in the right direction, making less unforced errors, possessing it a little better," added Neschich, whose team is idle until playing a road game Monday at Ann Arbor Skyline.

But the Wildcats could not finish in Central's end of the pitch and the lone goal came off a cor-



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

It's a foot race between Walled Lake Central's Jimmy O'Brien (No. 24) and Plymouth's Teddy Phillips (No. 3) during Monday's varsity boys soccer game.

ner kick with about 29 minutes to go in the second half.

The Vikings were stymied on a corner kick moments earlier, when Plymouth sophomore goalkeeper James Gibbs (who relieved starter Mario Gruszko

zynski at halftime) went to block a hard blast by Nick Marsh.

No mistake

But that sequence ended with Central taking another corner kick, and this time Gibbs could

Salem wins Balconi Invite, B6.

not hold the fort.

Joey Miller kicked the ball into the box, where teammate Saimin Hanna headed it front and center in front of Gibbs. There to drill the ball into the net was Connor Lund.

"We just can't let them get to the rebounds like that," Neschich said. "You got to have two or three people in front of that. That's just a giveaway right there."

The Wildcats kept pressing for the equalizer, but could not manage to beat goalkeeper Danny Heyn.

Jason Liguori sent a direct kick that was headed just wide of the Central goal with about 15 minutes left.

A few minutes later, Heyn soared to nab an in-close bid by Chris Lebiada and, with three minutes remaining, a header by Michael Blake (off a pass from Teddy Phillips) went just wide.

The Vikings subsequently kept Plymouth from making any rush,

Please see **SOCCKER, B6**

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Thursday, Aug. 23
 Midland at Carleton, 7 p.m.
 Detroit Douglas at Redford Thurston, 7 p.m.
 Waterford Mott at Wayne, 7 p.m.
 North Farmington at Bay City John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 24
 Plymouth at Lansing Sexton, 7 p.m.
 Ann Arbor Huron at Salem, 7 p.m.
 Detroit Western at Garden City, 7 p.m.
 Romulus at Redford Union
 Lutheran High Westland at Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, 5 p.m.
 Southfield Bradford Academy at Livonia Clarencville, 7 p.m.
 Livonia Church at Walled Lake Northern, 7 p.m.
 Livonia Franklin at Livonia Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 Westland John Glenn at Farmington, 7 p.m.
 Farmington Hills Harrison at Detroit Renaissance, 7 p.m.

Wright	Smith	O'Meara	Emons
Canton Thurston Mott Glenn	Canton Thurston Mott N. Farmington	Canton Douglas Wayne Glenn	Canton Douglas Wayne Glenn
Plymouth Salem Garden City Union Lutheran High Clarencville Church Franklin Farmington Harrison	Plymouth Salem Garden City Romulus Lutheran High Clarencville Northern Stevenson Farmington Harrison	Plymouth Salem Garden City Romulus Cranbrook Clarencville Church Franklin Farmington Harrison	Plymouth Salem Garden City Romulus Cranbrook Clarencville Church Franklin Farmington Harrison

WILDCATS

Continued from page B1

and playing together as one. That's the name of the game."

Speed and offense

The name of the Plymouth game again will be speed and offense. If all goes according to plan.

Standouts such as quarterback Shaun Austin and running back Donte Fox graduated. But Sawchuk is confident in how the offense will work with senior converted receiver Jamari Eiland at quarterback.

"(Eiland) is very elusive, very fast," Sawchuk said. "We're going to use him more in the run game this year than we did with Shaun (Austin)."

One of Eiland's primary targets will be senior wide-out Nate Emminger, also a standout in the defensive secondary.

"He's definitely a great football player. I wish he was a little bit taller," said Sawchuk about Emminger. "But I tell you what, he is the best actual football player we've had since I've been here."

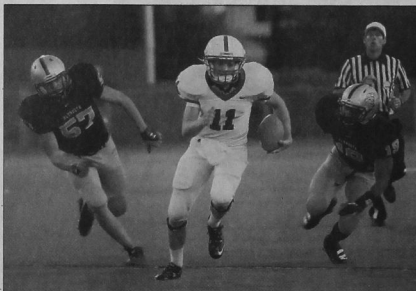
"...He's a little pick of dynamite. He gets it done."

Other players who will be counted on for big-play receptions include senior receivers Matt Janke, Jared Davis and Lucas Bunting.

"We've got a ton of speed on this team," Sawchuk said. "But (options) is going to be our thing."

Eiland will have reliable tight ends in Gage Fassbender and Chris Mattei as well as a solid cast of running backs, who also can run and catch when called upon.

Sharing the load there will be seniors Stefan Turrentine and Mike Ken-



Plymouth's defensive secondary will again have plenty of speed, shown here in this 2011 photo from Kyle McMillan (No. 57) and Stefan Turrentine (No. 19). Here, they chase after Canton quarterback Kyle Adams (No. 11).

FAST FACTS

School: Plymouth.

Head coach: Mike Sawchuk, 11th season with team, seventh as head coach.

2011 record: 8-2 overall (including 0-1 in playoffs); 5-0 KLA South Division, champions of division and Kensington Conference.

Notable losses to graduation: Donte Fox, Shaun Austin, Faris Abraham, Tyler Goble, Bobby Riche.
Top returnees: Jamari Eiland, Sr. QB-DB; Nate Emminger, Sr. WR-DB; Brenton Zuzo, Sr. P-K; Kory Ignagni, Sr. DL-OL; Matt Janke, Sr. DB-WR; Lucas Bunting, Sr. DB-TE; Kyle McMillan, Sr. DL-OL; Stefan Turrentine, Sr. LB-RB; Bobby Deeg, Sr. P-K.

Others to watch: Mike Kennedy, Josh Dennard, Logan Luttrell, Jared Davis, Kyle Durham, Derrick Rossell.

Sawchuk says: "Nothing comes easy. You don't just show up and automatically win six or more games and go to the playoffs. You got to work for it."

Schedule: (all 7 p.m. except as noted) Friday at Lansing Sexton; Thursday, Aug. 30, vs. Milford; Friday, Sept. 7, at Livonia Churchill; Friday, Sept. 14, at Livonia Franklin; 6:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 21, vs. Westland John Glenn (JV Field); Friday, Sept. 28, vs. Wayne Memorial; Friday, Oct. 5, at Canton; Friday, Oct. 12, vs. KLA South crossover; 6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19, vs. Grand Blanc (JV Field).

nedy along with Derrick Rossell.

In the trenches

The big man up front on both sides of the ball will

be returning all-leaguer Kory Ignagni, along with center Patrick Sullivan, guard Brad Beerman, tackles Travis McCall and Jacob Lackey.

Returning starting line-man Kyle McMillan will be a key performer both on the offensive and defensive lines while Jared Pitts is another player "who can play whatever. All of these guys are sort of interchangeable."

Although Plymouth's linemen as a whole aren't as physically imposing as in previous years, Sawchuk said they have "decent size. Not as big as we have been in the past, but fast."

Fassbender and Matt Buckley also will be available to help out in the trenches.

Once again, the Wildcats have plenty of talent at linebacker and defensive secondary. The lineup at linebacker is slated to feature Turrentine, Kennedy, Austin Sylvestre and Logan Luttrell.

Emminger and Janke will man the safety positions with Josh Dennard and Kyle Durham expected to start at cornerback.

Sawchuk added that he won't hesitate to plug in Davis, David Doyle, Conner Stella and Ghasan Lbuel to give the starters a breather.

Sharing kicking and punting duties will be Brenton Zuzo and Bobby Deeg (mostly for PATs).

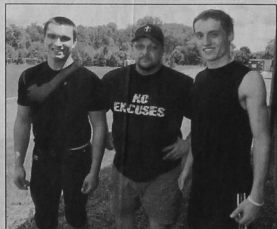
"They've both worked their butts off," the coach said. "I'd like to reward kids with something."

Once again, the team's depth should be a strong suit.

"We got a lot of skill," Sawchuk said. "We got a lot of kids that played a lot last year because we were up in games. So we're going to be all right."

Of course, he won't know for sure until "we hit another color jersey." That all starts Friday night.

tmth@hometownlife.com
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STEPHEN CANTELLI / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lutheran High Westland's 2012 football fortunes rest with defensive end Alex Reardon (from left), coach Paul Gusé and running back Jacob Richter.

Warriors hope to build on success

By Brad Emons
 Observer Staff Writer

Earning its first-ever postseason playoff berth in school history, Lutheran High Westland's football team generated plenty of buzz in 2011.

Now the trick is to build off that excitement and perhaps get a playoff victory in 2012.

The Warriors finished 6-4 after losing 46-14 to speedy Melvindale Academy of Business & Technology in the opening round of the Division 8 state playoffs.

Last Friday, 11th-year Lutheran Westland coach Paul Gusé got a better read on his team after scrimmaging Flint Atherton and Springfield.

"We had some troubles in the secondary," Gusé said. "We had a junior and sophomore starting at the corners, and a senior that has never played before at safety, so we screwed up some coverages. But overall — up front — I thought we did a good job against the run."

The Warriors lost arguably their two top defensive linemen in first-team All-Area pick Dawson Davenport and Eddie Abromovich, a pair of 240-pounders.

Plugging these holes will be senior defensive end and guard Alex Reardon (6-0, 195) and undersized sophomore nose guard Caleb Richter (5-7, 130).

"At taking on bigger kids and shooting gaps ... we couldn't block him last year in practice as a freshman," Gusé said of Richter. He had a sack and several tackles in the run game (in the scrimmage). The kid is amazing. For being as little as he is, he's got a heart 10 times the size he is. He's just a tough kid."

The team's top offensive threat will be senior Jacob Richter (5-8, 145), who rushed for 728 yards on 123 carries (5.9 average) to go along

with five touchdowns. He will be joined in the backfield by senior running back Greg Klein (5-10, 165), along with junior quarterback P.J. Gusé (5-10, 150), who takes over the starting job from Matt Sylvestre.

Junior center Cole Niemi (5-8, 160) helps anchor the offensive line along with Reardon and senior offensive tackle Ricky LaChance (6-2, 220).

"Cole is very intelligent, makes all the calls on our blocking schemes," Gusé said. "We still a wing-T team. We ran some 'J'et' last year, but our philosophy is basically a Wing-T team. It's run first, pass later, especially with young quarterback back there."

The Warriors open their season 5 p.m. Friday at Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook before moving to Michigan Independent Athletic Conference play Thursday, Aug. 23 at Rochester Hills Lutheran North-west.

Despite several key losses to graduation, Gusé said there is one variable to the upcoming season that can't be predicted.

"Like always, injuries will determine how far we go," he said. "Last year was pretty amazing. We only lost a couple of kids to injuries and the year before that lost everybody to injury. I like our starting 11. The problem is we don't have a lot of depth."

So is a return to the postseason a possibility.

"I don't know we can make the playoffs, but we'll know more after we play Cranbrook on Friday," Gusé said. "It's a winnable game for us, but it took us two weeks to get rolling last year. Last year we didn't have a scrimmage, but with the scrimmage this year, it really moves us forward."

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ASPINALL

Continued from page B1

following last season to pursue a doctorate in education at Eastern Michigan University. Aspinall weighed the pros and cons of taking the job.

"I talked with Kyle over the summer. I told him I was considering it," Aspinall said. "I talked to my wife (Jill) about 'Is this something I want to do?' because it's time-consuming."

But Aspinall senses something positive building with the program and wants to keep the momentum going.

Continuity counts

"I hope not much changes," he said. "We won two regional championships in the last three or four years. The Park has had tremendous success. Last

year we were 1-2-3 in the region (boys side)." Aspinall added that he intends to maintain a strong connection between the track and football programs.

Kurt Britnell, who is the head varsity football coach and an assistant on the track staff, likely will continue working with the discus and shot put throwers.

"Not much is going to change with the track program," Aspinall said. "I'm hoping all the coaches who were around before will still be around."

"I talked with coach Britnell and he's interested in sticking around and having that same similarity between the fall and spring with football guys. I'm excited about where we're headed."

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Action Jackson

Youngster wins national 3-point hoop contest, sinks golf ace hours later

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Jackson Sartain really knows how to keep his eye on the prize, whether with a basketball or golf club in his hands.

The 13-year-old youngster, who plays for the Plymouth Canton Force 7th grade basketball team, last month won the American Youth Basketball Tour National 3-Point Championship in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Less than two days later, back home at the Woodlands Course of Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center in Plymouth, Jackson aced the 141-yard No. 3 hole — using an 8 iron for the impressive shot. The ace helped him finish with a score of 39 strokes for nine holes.

"After my hole-in-one I was really excited," said Jackson, asked to compare the two feats. "I called my dad (Doug Sartain) right away from the hole at the golf course to tell him."

"My grandpa has seven hole-in-ones so I wanted to call and tell him too when I got home."



Hard work and natural ability are helping Jackson Sartain to keep stockpiling hardware for his basketball skills. The tallest trophy here is the Ohio State Free Championships.

is demonstrating a knack for rising to the occasion under pressure. To win his second straight AYBT 3-Point title (last year, he won the 6th grade competition and overall championship), Jackson took on 120 other participants.

He sank his shots as well as the hopes of his opponents: • First, he made 15 of 18 tries to reach the grand championship (against all

grade levels). • There, he made another 15 of 18 in one minute to become the only repeat national champion in AYBT history.

• In the last three competitive one-minute rounds, he made 45 out of 53 total 3-balls (85 percent).

Target practice Determination, work ethic and some fatherly encouragement have

indeed helped him — especially in basketball.

According to Doug Sartain, his sharp-shooting son practices every night shooting a total of 70 basketball shots from a combined 14 spots marked on the driveway. Oh, and don't forget 100 free throws.

"I started the drill with him in fourth grade and some days it took well over an hour to finish," Doug said. "After every



Jackson Sartain proudly stands by the No. 3 pin at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center, where he sank a hole in one.

practice with his team (PC Force) he stays after and does this drill.

"He is the first kid at practice and the last kid to leave the gym at night."

And since he is named after Jack Nicklaus, it follows that Jackson also rolls up his sleeves on the links.

As a member of Fox Hills, he often drives golf balls on the range a couple hours at a time.

Jackson's early prowess in two sports is something he doesn't want to give up when he reaches Salem High School, either. He plans on playing and excelling in both.

"I really like both sports and I like the competition in each sport," Jackson noted. "Basketball is a team sport and golf is more individual."

"I hate to lose so I try to do my best and win at anything I do. I know I have to work hard and practice every day."

Still humble

Meanwhile, Jackson remains quiet and humble despite his growing collection of hardware (he now has won 11 basketball trophies, medals and plaques).

Doug Sartain recalled a conversation he had with his son after the 2011 AYBT championship.

"On the way back to the hotel I asked Jackson how does it feel to be the national 3-Point champion and beat all the other kids," he said. "His immediate answer was 'Dad, can we not talk about it in front of the shooting trophies, I don't want them to think I am bragging.'"

He might not brag, but he brings it. And so beyond hitting everything in sight in a gym or golf course, it seems as though Jackson Sartain is dead on in the intangibles department, too.

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Equally thrilling

Jackson added that his feeling of excitement and accomplishment were pretty much equal for the hoops title (his second in two years) and sinking an ace.

"They are both special," he explained, "because of all the practice I do in my driveway every night doing the shooting drills and going to the driving range to hit golf balls."

The impressive youngster works extremely hard at both sports and

Canton netters could make noise

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

BOYS TENNIS PREVIEW

A young and improving cast comprises the 2012 Canton varsity boys tennis team, which officially starts the season next week.

The Chiefs have several top returnees from last year's team, which went 4-3 overall (11th in the KLAAs and 4-1 in the KLAAs South Division).

"We are a fairly young team but already showing signs of success," said veteran head coach Barb Lehmann, following recent practices and scrimmages.

Three singles players already showing signs of success, said veteran head coach Barb Lehmann, following recent practices and scrimmages.

Senior co-captain James Dodge — a dou-

bles player in 2011 — moves up to the No. 3 singles spot while junior Kirk Wang returns as the No. 4 singles player.

"Our doubles are close to being in position with the team of senior Michael Kelley and senior Nathan Benjamin seated No. 1 followed by Mitchell Tross (senior co-captain) and his partner Craig Lou (senior playing No. 2 doubles)," noted Lehmann in an e-mail to the Observer.

Rounding out the third and fourth doubles tandems for the Chiefs will be as follows: No. 3, senior Paul Lou and junior Zain Ahmed; No. 4, sophomore Noah Lindbauer and freshman Athul Rao.

Lehmann said she still is determining who will play at No. 5 doubles.

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Marlins set for successful year

By Dan O'Meara
Observer Staff Writer

GIRLS GOLF

Farmington Hills Mercy had a good start to the 2012 girls golf season Thursday, and the Marlins expect quality performances will be the norm this year.

Mercy was the runner-up in Milford's tournament at Huron Meadows Metropark, posting a 340 team score and finishing two strokes ahead of Novi.

Senior Brenna Hammond shot an 80 and placed among the top 10. Senior Gillian Hickey and junior Jess Geer each finished with an 86, junior Katie Baird 88 and sophomore Erica Heath 89.

"We had all of our scores under 90; that was excellent," coach Vicky Kowalski said.

The Marlins were

minus one of their top players — senior Sarah Montone, who was training to be a Mercy member to incoming freshmen.

"Our score could have been even lower," Kowalski said. "She has been playing really well."

Hammond and Montone were selected for the All-Observer first team last year, Heath the second team.

With those three, Hickey and Francescova Sovis, the Marlins tied for sixth place in the Division 2 state tournament.

Sovis, who also made the all-area second team, was the only graduation loss from the top group of players.

Geer is a transfer from Brighton High School, and Baird was a reserve varsity player who has

stepped up her game, according to Kowalski.

"I think we can have a lot of top-10 finishes by individuals, so I think the girls are going to earn a lot of medals," Kowalski said. "This core group of six is very unhappy if it's not breaking 90. The seniors and Jess are looking to go low 80s and down into the 70s."

"There's a real effort to have good team scores and they know they can only do that when the individuals play well. All of them are trying to improve a few strokes."

Mercy has moved up to Division I due to an enrollment increase, but

Kowalski thinks it can do just as well with an experienced and capable team.

"I hope for a top-five finish at state," she said. "That's a good team goal; that's what the girls are gunning for. I looked at what teams shot last year, and I think we can be right in the mix."

"The girls have said we need to improve our short games, stop three putting on greens and work hard to just keep improving our scores."

The Marlins, who were regional champs last year, will continue to host a regional on a neutral course at Fox Hills in Plymouth.

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Sept. 7	7 p.m. vs. Wayne – PCEP Varsity Turf Field
Sept. 14	7 p.m. at Westland John Glenn
Sept. 21	7 p.m. vs. Livonia Churchill – PCEP Varsity Turf Field
Sept. 28	7 p.m. at Livonia Franklin
Oct. 5	7 p.m. vs. Plymouth – PCEP Varsity Turf Field
Oct. 12	7 p.m. vs. KLAA Conference Crossover TBD
Oct. 19	7 p.m. vs. Salem – PCEP Varsity Turf Field

PCEP= Plymouth-Canton Educational Park

Jr. Varsity Canton

Aug. 22	7 p.m. at Midland
Aug. 29	6:30 p.m. at Brighton
Sept. 5	6:30 p.m. at Wayne
Sept. 13	6:30 p.m. vs. John Glenn
Sept. 20	6:30 p.m. at Churchill
Sept. 27	6:30 p.m. vs. Franklin
Oct. 4	6:30 p.m. at Plymouth
Oct. 11	6:30 p.m. vs. KLAA Conference Crossover
Oct. 18	6:30 p.m. vs. Salem

Freshman Canton

Aug. 22	4:30 p.m. at Midland
Aug. 29	4:30 p.m. at Brighton
Sept. 5	4:30 p.m. at Wayne
Sept. 13	4:30 p.m. vs. John Glenn
Sept. 20	4:30 p.m. at Churchill
Sept. 27	4:30 p.m. vs. Franklin
Oct. 4	4:30 p.m. at Plymouth
Oct. 11	4:30 p.m. vs. KLAA Conference Crossover
Oct. 18	4:30 p.m. vs. Salem

VARSITY Plymouth

Aug. 24	7 p.m. at Lansing Sexton
Aug. 30	7 p.m. vs. Milford – PCEP Varsity Turf Field
Sept. 7	7 p.m. at Livonia Churchill
Sept. 14	7 p.m. at Livonia Franklin
Sept. 21	6:30 p.m. vs. Westland John Glenn – PCEP JV Field
Sept. 28	7 p.m. vs. Wayne – PCEP Varsity Turf Field
Oct. 5	7 p.m. vs. Canton – PCEP Varsity Turf Field
Oct. 12	7 p.m. vs. KLAA Conference Crossover
Oct. 19	6:30 p.m. vs. Grand Blanc – PCEP JV Field

PCEP= Plymouth-Canton Educational Park



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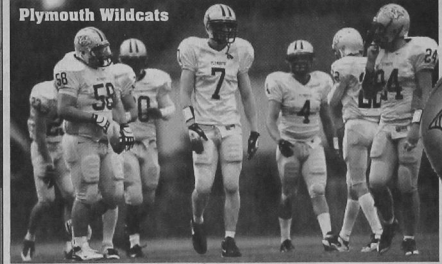
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Aug. 23	6:30 p.m. vs. Lansing Sexton
Aug. 29	6:30 p.m. at Milford
Sept. 5	6:30 p.m. vs. Churchill
Sept. 13	6:30 p.m. vs. Franklin
Sept. 20	6:30 p.m. at John Glenn
Sept. 27	6:30 p.m. at Wayne
Oct. 4	6:30 p.m. vs. Canton
Oct. 11	6:30 p.m. vs. Conference Crossover
Oct. 18	6:30 p.m. at Grand Blanc

Freshman Plymouth

Aug. 23	4:30 p.m. vs. Lansing Sexton
Aug. 29	4:30 p.m. at Milford
Sept. 5	4:30 p.m. vs. Churchill
Sept. 13	4:30 p.m. vs. Franklin
Sept. 20	4:30 p.m. at John Glenn
Sept. 27	4:30 p.m. at Wayne
Oct. 4	4:30 p.m. vs. Canton
Oct. 11	4:30 p.m. vs. Conference Crossover
Oct. 18	4:30 p.m. at Grand Blanc

VARSITY Salem

Aug. 16	1 p.m. at North Farmington (4-Way Scrimmage)
Aug. 24	7 p.m. vs. Ann Arbor Huron - PCEP Varsity Turf Field
Aut. 30	7 p.m. at Walled Lake Northern
Sept. 7	6:30 p.m. vs. Novi - PCEP JV Field
Sept. 14	7 p.m. vs. Northville - PCEP Varsity Turf Field
Sept. 21	7 p.m. at South Lyon East
Sept. 28	7 p.m. at South Lyon
Oct. 5	7 p.m. at Livonia Stevenson
Oct. 12	7 p.m. vs. KLA Conference Crossover - PCEP Homecoming - PCEP Varsity Turf Field
Oct. 19	7 p.m. vs. Canton - PCEP Varsity Turf Field

PCEP= Plymouth-Canton Educational Park

Jr. Varsity Salem

Aug. 23	6:30 p.m. at Ann Arbor Huron
Aug. 29	6:30 p.m. vs. WL Northern
Sept. 5	6:30 p.m. at Novi
Sept. 13	6:30 p.m. at Northville
Sept. 20	6:30 p.m. vs. South Lyon East
Sept. 27	6:30 p.m. vs. South Lyon
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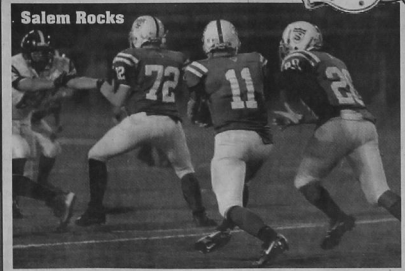
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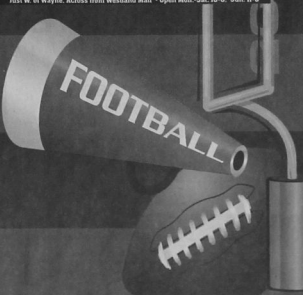
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PKs help Rocks nab Balconi crown

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Don't let the schedule fool you.

Yes, full, 80-minute matches didn't begin until this week for the Canton, Plymouth and Salem varsity boys soccer teams. But Saturday's "marathon" Gary Balconi Invitational — despite games going only 60 minutes — jump-started the 2012 season, according to those who should know.

"I think it's a wonderful way for us to start the season, with three games, and really get an opportunity to find out what kind of team you have," Salem head coach Ed McCarthy said. "The day overall is a physical grind, but it's a perfect way to move on to your season."

"Now, playing a single game in any given day that's 80 minutes is almost a relief compared to this marathon of a day."

Canton head coach George Tomasso said having a triple-header on the eve of the regular season helps "you really

2012 GARY BALCONI INVITATIONAL

understand where your team is when it comes to fighting for trophies."

And the longtime campus rivals butted heads on a glorious August Saturday at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's varsity soccer field as if they were hooked up in a district final. The game ended 1-1, although Salem broke the deadlock on penalty kicks for the lone purpose of determining a tournament champion. Each team receives a tie on its record, both coaches said.

Energy boost

"I think anytime you play Canton, the motivation is much higher than playing any other opponent in the state," McCarthy said. "And I think that helped provide some energy in this one, and also probably helped provide them with the energy to come back when they were down a goal."

"The effort level in these

games is always higher than any other game we play in."

Both teams won their first two games of the day — Salem defeated Novi-Detroit Catholic Central and Walled Lake Northern by scores of 2-0 and 1-0, respectively; Canton blanked University of Detroit-Jesuit 2-0 — to advance to the tournament final against each other.

Plymouth went 0-2-1 in the eight-team tourney, losing 4-0 to Walled Lake Northern, 2-1 to Catholic Central and earning a 1-1 draw against UD-Jesuit. Scoring for the Wildcats were Teddy Phillips (against CC) and Nathan Harris (against the Cubs).

In the final, Salem led 1-0 at halftime on a goal by Connor Cole. Canton's Bobby Budlong knotted the score midway through the second half (with the teams playing two 30-minute halves). For trophy cases only, the teams moved on to penalty kicks (with Salem prevailing 5-3).

"I'm delighted with our performance the first day of the

season," McCarthy said. "I thought defensively we were very, very good. I was very happy with the goalkeeping and we saw three very good teams. So the fact that we got off to a good, quick start, especially defensively, shows that we have the opportunity to have a good year if we continue to improve."

Fighting through

Tomasso also said he liked what he saw from his squad. "We went down 1-0 to Salem in the first half, and we were kind of discussing some things at halftime and said it was a good opportunity to overcome adversity," he said. "And going into the second half, we did overcome the adversity. We scored a goal, we tied it and forced the shootout."

And I couldn't be happier with this group of boys right now because we started our season with two wins and one tie.

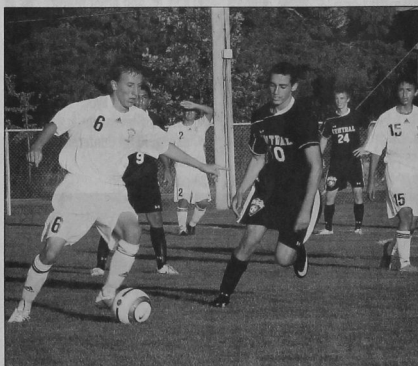
"Even though we lost the shootout, I thought we battled really hard. We wound up scor-

ing nine goals in three games." Salem jumped out to the early lead, when Daniel Marsden sent a crossing feed to Cole, who headed the ball past Canton goalkeeper Ian Wingate.

The Chiefs turned up the pressure after intermission and evened things up when Budlong, back at full strength after missing 2011 with a knee injury, blasted a 25-yarder from beyond the left side of the box. Salem goalkeeper Collin Hewett sprawled in an attempt to block the ball, but could not get all of it, and it dribbled behind him into the net.

Scoring for the Rocks in the subsequent PKs were Cole, Andriy Pelek, Brady Cole, Tyler Fosdick and Luke Hazen. Canton fell behind after the first round, when Dom Murphy's attempt sailed over the crossbar. Subsequent tries by the Chiefs (by Nick Tomei, Budlong and Robbie Morgan) all hit the target, but by then it was too little, too late.

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Plymouth's Michael Blake (No. 6) dribbles the ball against Walled Lake Central's Danny Meltzer (No. 12) during Monday night's game. Watching in the background for the Wildcats are Chandler Olah (No. 2) and Jason Liguori (No. 15).

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

SOCCER

Continued from page B1

outside of a harmless, spinning shot at the horn by Chandler Olah.

"We just had too many opportunities tonight that we didn't capitalize on," Neschich said. "Possessing and attacking like we did and not putting anything on the board was ... kind of hard to deal with. We couldn't

finish in that final attacking third."

Not having junior Viet Nguyen in the lineup (due to illness) hurt the Wildcats' chances to score, the coach stressed: "He's a key player."

Balconi recap

About how the team fared at the Balconi invite (losses to Walled Lake Northern, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central and tying University of

Detroit-Jesuit), Neschich said there was improvement from the start of action to the end of the third contest.

"We progressively got better as the day went along Saturday," he said. "We're filling a lot of holes, and still shuffling people around figuring out who needs to play where."

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Canton streak hits 28

Canton and visiting Northville played to a 0-0 tie Tuesday to improve to 3-0-2 for the season, extending its two-year unbeaten streak to 28 games.

Although Northville had the better chances in the first half, and Canton in the second half, neither team sustained much pressure or possession during the game.

The game was very physical, particularly in the midfield, where Canton's senior co-captain Bobby Budlong and Northville's senior co-captain Ben Holbrook took turns making hard tackles on each other. The Chiefs did have a few good chances in the second half, but Budlong had a shot pushed just wide, while senior co-captain Dan Ovesea and junior Griffin Parks each sent balls just wide of the mark.

Making his first varsity start and coming through

with a strong effort for the Chiefs was junior goalkeeper Brandon Pickert. His best save came late in the first half, when he got a hand on a shot that looked like it was headed under the crossbar and tipped it safely away. Pickert made 10 saves on the night.

CANTON 3, W.L. NORTHERN 0: Canton blanked Walled Lake Northern Monday night in a RAA match to open the league schedule.

The Chiefs opened the scoring midway in the first half, when Parks jumped on a loose ball and played it to Ovesea. He alertly saw that the Northern keeper was off his line, and chipped in a shot from well outside the 18-yard box.

Canton scored again a little more than 10 minutes into the second half, when Budlong made a tackle in the midfield and quickly led Ovesea with a pass down the sideline.

When the Northern keeper dove at Ovesea's feet, he calmly avoided the tackle and found Parks all alone in front of the goal for Parks' first goal of the season.

Following that goal, Northern had about 10 minutes of strong pressure on the Canton defense, and nearly scored on four occasions.

Twice, Wingate dove onto loose balls, another shot hit the crossbar, and senior Connor Shennan broke up one attack all by himself, jumping on a loose ball in the middle of the goal box and carrying it out of trouble nearly to midfield.

Canton put the game away with just 10 minutes to play, when Budlong's corner kick found Ovesea all alone on the back post.

Goalkeeper Ian Wingate made 12 saves to earn the shutout, several of them from very close range.

Revamped MU eyeing turnaround

By Brad Emmons
Observer Staff Writer

When it comes to the Jeff Hodgson era, this is the year the Madonna University women's soccer team is expected to

WOMEN'S SOCCER

turn the corner.

Coming off 6-9-1 and 3-6-7 seasons, the third-year MU coach believes his 2012 squad has all the ingredients to put together a winning formula.

"Of the three years I've been here this is obviously the strongest group yet that we have had," Hodgson said. "The first two years were kinda look-and-see approach and now this year we need to have some success."

Despite losing eight players to graduation, including assist leader Diana Brda (13) and starting goalkeeper Chelsea Gregg (1.84 goals and 727 save percentage), Hodgson is confident the Crusaders can challenge near the top of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference and improve upon their 1-4-1 mark.

Dynamic duo

First-team All-WHAC selection Ashley Parent, a sophomore forward from Amherstburg, Ontario, tallied a near eight goals a year ago.

She'll form a potent one-two punch up top along sophomore Katlyn Krysiak (Madison Heights Lamphere), who finished with 17 points.

"Ashley is coming into camp pretty determined," Hodgson said. "I can probably see her getting more goals and more opportunities. And there's a girl next to her, Katlyn Krysiak, who had seven goals last year. Those two are a pretty dynamic combination for the WHAC."

Junior Amanda Ferrick (Warren Cusino), a second-team All-WHAC selection, will anchor the midfield.

"She probably didn't have her best year last year, but played great as a freshman," Hodgson said. "She came in really good shape this year and the few scrimmages we've had she's done extremely well."

Senior Lauryn Dostilio (Sterling Heights) will once again lead the defensive corps.

Other returnees include junior midfielder Amanda Jenaway (Livonia Stevenson), who had four goals and four assists; junior forward Liliana Serratos (Dearborn), who added 11 points; senior defender Chelsea Budlong (Novi); junior midfielder Kristin Black (Dearborn Heights Crestwood); senior forward Jackie Vaquera (Brighton) and sophomore midfielder Mo DeGrandis (LaSalle, Ontario).

Promising trio

Three incoming freshmen should also contribute immediately including defender Dayna Meloche (Amherstburg, Ontario), midfielder Jennifer Jurczak (Utica Eisenhower) and goalkeeper Blaire Schmalenberg (Cousino). Hodgson also added Lindsay McMullen (Livonia Churchill), a junior defender from Schoolcraft College; junior midfielder Kelsey Littman, a transfer from Rochester College; and sophomore Morgan Himanek (Warren Regina), a transfer from Wayne State.

WE STILL HAVE SEATS AVAILABLE



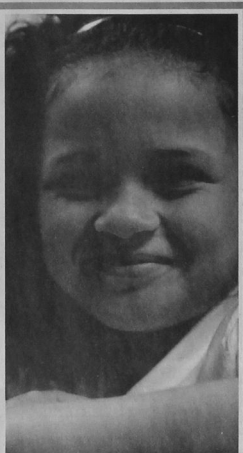
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RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

August

CONCERT

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25

Location: Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth

Details: Musical groups from St. Michael Lutheran Church in Canton, will present selections of contemporary worship music

Contact: (734) 459-3333

FAMILY FAIR

Time/Date: 2-6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25

Location: Alpha Baptist Church, 28051 W. Chicago Road, between Middlebelt and Inkster Road, Livonia

Details: AlphaFest Family Fun Fair will include a jumbo slide, dunk tank, face painting, balloon animals, caricatures, live entertainment, and games for children of all ages. Refreshments are free to the public and will include hot dogs, popcorn, cotton

candy and ice cream. Attendees 18 years and older will be eligible to enter a free drawing to win a TV or other prizes

Contact: (734) 421-6300 or www.alphabaptistlivonia.com

SEEKING CRAFTERS

Time/Date: Sign up now, show is Oct. 6

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile one block west of Inkster Road, in Livonia

Details: An 8- by 10-foot space can be rented for \$30. Tables are available for \$5 and electricity for \$5. Crafts must be handmade; no resale. Profits will go to mission work in the community

Contact: (248) 478-4708 or e-mail jimc2436@yahoo.com

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25

Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City

Details: "Rocky Point Lighthouse" is designed for children, 5-11 or in K-5th grade. It will include stories

about Jesus, crafts, music, games, snacks, lunch and more. \$5 donation per child. Sponsorships are available to families in need

Contact: Register at (734) 427-3660

September

BETHANY

Time/Date: 8 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Sept. 29

Location: Don Hubert VFW Hall, 27345 Schoolcraft, east of Inkster Road, Redford

Details: Admission to this Bethany Together Dance is \$13

Contact: Loretta at (586) 264-0282

BIBLE STUDY

Time/Date: 9:25-11:15 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 11-Nov. 13

Location: Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, Northville

Details: W.O.W. Ladies Bible Study focuses on the Book of Proverbs in these interdenominational sessions. Fee is \$15. Free children's program for children, 5 and under

Contact: (248) 348-7600

BROTHERHOOD BREAK-

FAST

Time/Date: 9 a.m. breakfast; 9:30 a.m. program, Sunday, Sept. 9

Location: Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills

Details: Bill Ballenger, editor of "Inside Michigan Politics," will kick off a Sunday morning breakfast speaker series. Ballenger is a former state representative and senator, an ex-state racing commissioner and former director of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulation. The breakfast costs \$3; coffee and bagels are \$2. No charge for the program. Both are open to the public

Contact: Barbara Grant at (248) 851-1100, Ext. 3149

DIVORCED CATHOLICS

Time/Date: 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 13

Location: Our Lady of Good Counsel Church Social Hall, 47550 North Territorial, Plymouth

Details: New Beginnings, a support group for divorced Catholics, meets. The Rev. John Riccardi, pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel, will talk, followed by a Q&A ses-

sion that gives attendees the opportunity to discuss issues related to divorce and faith in a safe, confidential, and prayerful environment. Pre-registration recommended. No admission charge for the event

Contact: newbeginning-solgc@gmail.com

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Time/Date: Rosh Hashanah services, 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 16 and 10 a.m. Monday, Sept. 17; Yom Kippur services include Kol Nidre service, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25 and Neilah service and breakfast, 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 26

Location: Congregation Bet Chavrim, 321 Ridge Road, at Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, Canton

Details: No tickets are required. Donations accepted

Contact: (734) 480-8880; BetChavrim@yahoo.com; BetChavrim.com

LECTURE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 6

Location: Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills

Details: Marni Davis will be the guest speaker at the 2012 Mary Einstein Shapiro Memorial Lecture sponsored by the Rabbi Leo M. Franklin Archives of Temple Beth El. She will talk about her book, "Jews and Boozie: Becoming American in the Age of Prohibition" which portrays American Jews' relationship to alcohol during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the years of the national Prohibition movement. No admission charge. Davis' book will be available for purchase

Contact: For reservations or more information call (248) 865-0628 or at e-mail to franklinarchives@beonline.org

RALLY DAY

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. service; 11:30 a.m. picnic

Location: Mt. Hope Congregational Church, 30330 Schoolcraft, Livonia

Details: Get acquainted with Mt. Hope at a Rally Day service and old-fashioned picnic. The picnic will include lots of food, old-fashioned games, music and a dunk tank

Contact: (734) 425-7280

Rosary Rally returns to Livonia

Mark your calendar for Saturday, Oct. 13, if you want to pray with others outdoors, using rosary beads.

The annual Livonia Rosary Rally will return to the parking lot at Madonna University for an hour-long gathering. The Rev. Don LaCuesta will lead the crowd in praying the rosary from noon-1 p.m. The rosary is a Catholic devotion that uses beads to keep track of each prayer recited.

"We had 206 people last year in bad weather conditions," said Paul Daniel, rally organizer, in an e-mail. "We're hoping to get over 500 people this year."

The rally will be held in conjunction with similar gatherings nationwide that are promoted by an organization called America Needs Fatima.

Participants may bring a chair to the rally



ARCHIVE PHOTO

A crowd withstands cold, damp weather to pray with rosary beads in the parking lot at Madonna University last year. Organizers of the 2012 Rosary Rally hope for better weather and a larger crowd.

ly and handicapped parking and restroom facilities will be avail-

able. For more information or to register for the

Livonia rally, call (734) 591-0360 or e-mail to padaniel1@gmail.com.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oeobits@hometownlife.com
Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday



ODOM,
RAYMOND E.

August 19, 2012, age 75 of Plymouth. Beloved husband of Rose Gibbs-Odom and dear husband of the late Eta Kate Odom. Loving father of Mark E. (Kim) and Keith A. (Melissa) Odom. Proud grandfather of Brian (Jessica), Ashley, Chelsea and Nicole. Dear great grandfather of Ariana Maya. The family will gather with friends on Sat at 3 PM until the 4 PM Memorial Service at Newburgh United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Memorial contributions may be made to the Church. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

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www.wardchurch.org
Traditional Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m.
Contemporary Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m.
Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.
The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 580 AM
OBSERVATIONS

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Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia just north of I-96
www.christsavior.org
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Sunday Evening - 6:00 p.m.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00-7:30 p.m.
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www.stpaulslivonia.org
OBSERVATIONS

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OBSERVATIONS

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or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com



A youngster checks out "The Monkeemobile" at a previous Livonia Church of Christ Charity Car Show.



Exhibitors find a shady spot to sit while showing their cars during the Livonia Church of Christ Charity Car Show last year.

Family-friendly car show benefits Angela Hospice

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Got a vehicle that isn't quite old enough to be called classic, but one that has aged a decade or two?

Members of the Livonia Church of Christ will give you their blessing to get in on the fun at the church's 11th annual charity car show, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25.

"We don't have any restrictions on the vehicle. If it's unique and interesting, if people will be interested in looking at it, bring it out," said Lisa Stewart, a church member who's helping with publicity for the show. "It's not just classic cars that fall into a specific year or are considered antique."

Cars, trucks, and motorcycles will be on display in six different classes ranging from vehicles up to 1960 to those from 2003 and newer. Registration is \$15 per vehicle — cash only — the day of the show. The first 100 entrants will receive a goody bag and door prizes will be awarded throughout the day. Judges will award class trophies and "best of show."

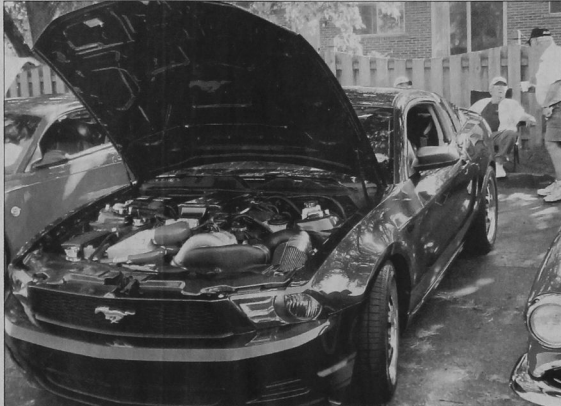
Spectators are admitted to the show for free. A disc jockey will be on hand, food and drinks will be available for purchase and a tin can auction will be held.

Mike Bennett, a church member and one of the show organizers, said the number of cars on display varies from year to year, depending on the weather. The show last year drew 78 vehicles, including a few trucks and classic motorcycles. "Our show draws an eclectic mix of high quality vehicles, falling generally into two groups — classics, those from the 50s, 60s and early 70s, and late models, those from the last couple of decades," Bennett said. "This is different from some shows which are limited to vehicles at least 25 years old and is why we changed the name of the event from Classic Car Show to Charity Car Show."

Helping hospice

The show has included some form of charitable giving since its inception. For the first two years, Memories in Motion, a car club that helped the church organize the event, suggested raising money for Mott's Children's Hospital. The club supported the hospital at its own shows.

"We elected to support Angela Hospice because members of our congregation had connections with it through volunteering or family experiences, plus it was a local charity," Bennett said. Money raised from the first two shows was split between the hospital and



Visitors to the 11th annual Livonia Church of Christ Charity Car Show can peek under the hood of vehicles on display.

the hospice. "Since we've been organizing the shows ourselves, all the money raised has gone to the hospice."

Last year the church raised \$2,000 for Angela Hospice.

Celebrity cars

Mustang Owners Club of Southeastern Michigan has supported the show through the years with a large turnout of

members. The Hypnotic Kreationz, a club dedicated to customizing late model vehicles, also was on hand last year. Two years ago car stars of television and movies, including the Monkeemobile and replicas of the General Lee from the *Dukes of Hazzard* and the *Ghostbusters* car, turned heads at the show.

"That same group is invited this year," Stewart noted.

This year the show is sandwiched between two much larger car events. The Woodward Dream Cruise was held last weekend and the Cruisin' Hines Drive Cruise is Sunday, Aug. 26. Stewart isn't certain if their proximity will help or hurt the charity car show.

"It could be beneficial in that they still have their car out ... it depends on the mindset

of car enthusiasts," she said.

The charity show started as an activity that fathers in the congregation could share with their children on Father's Day. It became a late summer event to avoid often poor weather and busy schedules earlier in the season.

For more information, visit livoniachurch.net. Livonia Church of Christ is located at 15431 Mer-

Make plans for State Fair fun

You'll find clowns, livestock, agricultural displays, and more under one roof at the new Great Lakes State Fair, Friday, Monday, Aug. 31-Sept. 3 at the Suburban Collection in Novi.

Advance tickets for all exhibits, entertainment, a Shriners mini circus, and unlimited midway rides, are \$25 for adults and \$20 for children, 3-12. Add \$5 for admission at the door Aug. 31-Sept. 3.

Tickets for livestock and indoor exhibits, entertainment, and beer garden only are \$6 for adults and \$5 for children, 3-12, if purchased in advance. At the door prices are \$8 for adults and \$6 for children.

Visitors will see homegrown fruits and vegetables, homemade arts and crafts, photography, quilts and home-baked goods at the agricultural area and will get a close-up view of cows, sheep, goats, rabbits, poultry and pigs in the livestock exhibit. Galloping Clydesdales, Percheron, and Belgian horses will perform in the Fair's arena. Local musical acts will entertain throughout each day of the Fair. Annabelle Road will kick off the evening entertainment at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 31 with a sound



Jack

that combines the styles of Carrie Underwood, Johnny Cash and Lynyrd Skynyrd. Singer-songwriter, Jill Jack, the winner of 33 Detroit Music Awards, will headline at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 1 and David Shelby, playing country-rock, is set for 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 2. Country artist John Phillips wraps up entertainment at 4:15 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 3. Other performers include Kidz Kiez, Stray Saints, Gratitude Steel Band, Kaylyn Pace, Six Foot Poles, Michael Stefaniak, Detroit Soul Men, Paige Bolen, Tim Reeves, The Last, Jeff Taylor Band, Men of Grace, Azusa Street Band, Jennifer Lawson, Saline Fiddlers, Marvin Thompson Jr. and Friends, and Lyni' Dogs Band.

On the Midway, Michigan-based Arnold Amuse-



Shelby

ments will provide rides, amusements, games and tasty treats and the Shrine Circus will thrill crowds with high wire heroics, acrobatics, clowns and a number of wild animals acts.

Fairgoers will be able to buy food, beverages and other items that are grown, manufactured or produced in Michigan at the Michigan Pavilion. Michigan brewed-beer also will flow from taps outside in the Beer Garden.

Visitors, age 5 and older, may participate in a variety of contests — from spitting watermelon seeds to hula hooping — throughout the Fair.

The Suburban Collection is located at 46100 Grand River Ave., in Novi. For more information visit www.greatlakesstatefair.org.

Symphony plays free concerts

Tickets will be available for five free Detroit Symphony Orchestra (DSO) concerts beginning Aug. 27 at dso.org/dtemusic.

The concerts are set for five metro Detroit venues. They were selected from a pool of nearly 100 locations that were nominated for DSO concerts.

Local venues with concert times and dates are:

• 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, Wayne Memorial High School, 3001 4th St., Wayne

• 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 23, Pioneer High School, 601 W. Stadium Blvd., Ann Arbor

The venues were selected by a panel of community members, influenced by an overwhelming volume of feed-

back from the public. dso.org/dtemusic, which has profiled each eligible venue since June 5, received nearly 5,000 notes from community members in support of their favorite venue, and immediately became the DSO's most frequently-viewed page with more than 9,000 visitors.

Attendees will be eligible for an exclusive \$99 subscription offer, which includes six concerts — The Romance of Rachmaninoff, Oct. 19, 21; Rodeo!, Nov. 9-11; The Nutcracker!, Dec. 13-14; Elgar's "Enigma", Jan. 19-20, 2013; Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, Feb. 2, 2013 and Classical Roots, March 8-9, 2013. Box office personnel will be on-site to assist with purchase and seating.

GET OUT!

Location: Livonia City Hall lobby, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia

Details: The Club, founded in 1960, holds its 52nd annual art exhibit, featuring oils, acrylics, watercolors, pastels, collage and drawings

Contact: Livonia City Hall at (734) 466-2200

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Aug. 25

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "Thoughts With Thread" exhibit features art quilts, woven tapestries, embroidery, paper, baskets, felted wool and figurative

work

Coming up: "Beyond Borders: Mosaic Exhibit and Auction" runs Sept. 7-22 and features mosaic work by artists from around the world that will be auctioned online at <http://www.BiddingForGood.com/DWB-MSE>. Online bidding runs from 5 a.m. Friday, Sept. 1 to 9 p.m. Sept. 21. Opening reception is 6-9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 7 at Northville Art House

Contact: (248) 344-0497

Dance

FAIRLANE BALLROOM DANCE CLUB

Time/Date: 7:30-10:30

Please see GET OUT, B9

Art

CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: Through Aug. 24

Location: Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: "Fire and Ice" exhibit features photos by Royall (Roy) Severs. Severs was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2001. His now-limited mobility, however, has not put a damper on his love for photography. He often uses a vehicle to get him to his subjects, whether on land or water

Contact: (248) 473-1800

LIVONIA ARTISTS CLUB

Time/Date: Sept. 5-28

GET OUT

Continued from page B8

p.m. every Thursday
Location: Lyskawa VFW Hall, 6840 Waverly, east of Telegraph, south of Warren in Dearborn Heights
Details: Singles and couples dance to live bands on a hardwood dance floor. Admission is \$7 for members and \$8 for nonmembers. Free refreshments
Contact: Jean Orleans at (734) 516-0500

MOON DUSTERS

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday; dance lessons 7-8 p.m.
Location: Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Singles and couples; free refreshments. Dance lessons cost \$5;

dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests, \$6.50 for associates and \$6 for Moon Dusters members
Contact: Joe Castrodale, club president, (248) 968-5197

Film

COMPUWARE ARENA DRIVE-IN

Time/Date: Gates open at 7:30 and movies start at dusk; open nightly through Sept. 2
Location: 14900 Beck, Plymouth
Details: Listen to the film through a battery-operated FM radio or your car radio. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$6 for ages 4-12 and free for age 3 and under. Students with ID pay \$7 Sunday-Thursday
Contact: (734) 453-8300

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 24 and 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 25-26
Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth
Details: "Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted," \$3
Coming up: "Moonrise Kingdom," 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 31-Sept. 1, 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 2, 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 6, "Brave," 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 7, 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 8-9, and 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 13
Summer Cinema: All shows screen at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. "Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit," Thursday, Aug. 23; and "Muppets from Space," Thursday, Aug. 30.

Tickets cost \$3

Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com
REDFORD THEATRE
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Aug. 24 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Aug. 25
Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit
Details: "North by Northwest," \$4
Coming up: "What's Up Doc?" 8 p.m. Sept. 7 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sept. 8, \$4; "The Sea Hawk," 8 p.m. Sept. 21 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sept. 22, \$4
Contact: (313) 537-2560

Music

THE ARK

Time/Date: Anders Osborne, Aug. 23; Mustard's Retreat, Aug. 24; Mark O'Connor & The Saline Fidd-

lers, Aug. 25; Blue Highway, Aug. 26; Goitse, Aug. 27; Take a Chance Tuesday featuring Daniel Champagne, Aug. 28; Studebaker John & The Hawks, Aug. 29; Brendan James, Aug. 30; Bill Kirchen, Aug. 31
Location: 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor
Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8
Location: Seligman Performing Arts Center, 22305 West 13 Mile, at Lahser, Beverly Hills
Details: The Juilliard String Quartet opens the 69th season of the Chamber Music Society of Detroit, a non-profit organization based in Farmington Hills. Tickets

are \$30-\$60.

Contact: (248) 855-6070 or www.ChamberMusicDetroit.org

CULTURAL CONCERT SERIES

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8
Location: Farmington Players Barn Theatre, 32332 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: Cut Time Players kicks off the series with a program of light classics, such as "The Sorcerer's Apprentice," Ravel's "Bolero," and more. Cut Time Players is an ensemble formed in 1995 by an enthusiastic group of Detroit Symphony Musicians. Tickets are \$19 for adults and \$17 for students and seniors.
Contact: (248) 473-1848; recreg.thgov.com

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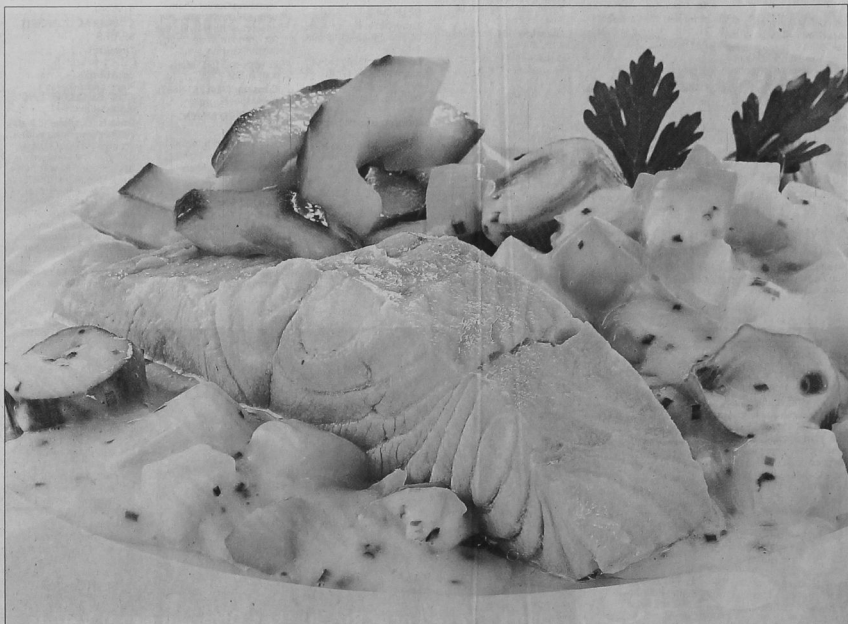
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Poached Norwegian Salmon with Stewed Vegetables and Cucumber Salad

Make a delicious, healthful meal with Norwegian salmon

Whether you're trying to control your weight or embrace a healthier lifestyle, the food choices you make have to be enjoyable. And deliciously healthy recipes are the key.

"Recipes that use elements from New Nordic Cuisine are a great way to enjoy healthy eating," said registered dietician and author Kate Geagan. "This cuisine is naturally rich in some of the healthiest, purest foods in the world. And, it can be easily adapted to U.S. tastes and lifestyles."

A plate filled with seafood, especially Norwegian salmon, is a hallmark of New Nordic Cuisine. "I love how this cuisine is inspired by the sea," Geagan said. "The ocean provides some of nature's most perfect proteins that deliver whole body benefits."

For example, a serving of Norwegian salmon is an excellent source of high quality protein and omega 3 fats. It also contains key nutrients, including selenium (thyroid and cell health), iodine (thyroid and hormonal health), vitamin D (bone and immune health) and vitamin B12 (red blood cell and neurological health).

Norwegian salmon is available fresh year-round, so it's easy to incorporate into your everyday meal planning. For more recipes, visit www.salmonfromnorway.com.

Smoked Norwegian Salmon and Pearl Barley Salad

Serves: 4

- 1 pound smoked Norwegian salmon
- 1 cup pearl barley, soaked in cold water overnight
- 4 1/2 cups water, divided
- 1 cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons wine vinegar
- 3 tablespoons fresh orange juice
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 1 cup broccoli florets
- 1 carrot, cut into small cubes or strips
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 red bell pepper, cut into small cubes or strips
- 1 cucumber, cut into large cubes
- 2 tablespoons chives, chopped
- 1 tablespoon parsley, chopped

Dice salmon into 1/2-by 1/2-inch cubes (or if already sliced, cut in strips) and set aside in refrigerator.

Drain water from barley. Simmer on low heat in 1 cup water with sprinkling of salt for approximately 30 minutes or until soft. Drain barley and transfer to bowl. Immediately add oil, vinegar, orange juice, salt and pepper, mix well and set aside to cool.

Bring remaining 3 1/2 cups water to boil and add plenty of salt. When water boils vigorously, add broccoli and carrots and let cook for 30 seconds. Remove vegetables immediately with slotted spoon, plunge into ice water, and then take out of water to drain.

When barley is cold, gently mix all ingredients together and serve with whole-grain bread or sprinkling of bread croutons on top. Vegetables and herbs can be varied according to your own preferences.

NEW NORDIC CUISINE

Nordic cultures have long enjoyed a reputation as some of the healthiest people in the world. New Nordic Cuisine is filled with healthy, hearty foods anyone can enjoy. Delicious elements of this cuisine include:

- Seafood, such as salmon
- Whole grains such as rye bread, barley and oats
- Cabbage and other cruciferous vegetables
- Berries, apples and pears
- Root vegetables

Norwegian Salmon in Aluminum Foil

Serves: 4

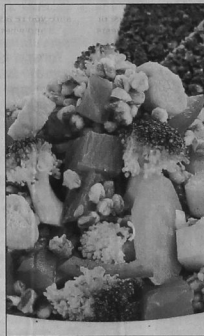
- 4 sheets aluminum foil (12 by 18 inches, slightly larger than yellow legal pad)
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 2 medium carrots, cut into thin strips
- 1 small leek, cut into thin slices
- 1 onion, cut into thin slices
- 1 head iceberg lettuce, cut into 8 wedges
- 11 pounds Norwegian salmon fillet, boneless, skin removed, cut into 8 portions
- 1 tablespoon water for each package
- 4 tablespoons crème fraîche or sour cream
- Salt and pepper, to taste

Preheat oven to 350°F. Place aluminum foil on table with shortest side facing you. All food will be placed in middle of bottom half of foil. Top half of foil will eventually be folded over food. Brush center of bottom half with oil.

Mix all vegetables and spread 1/2 of them over oil. Arrange 2 portions of salmon with vegetables. Add water. Season with salt and pepper. Repeat with remaining three sheets of foil.

To seal pouches, fold top section of foil over. Fold and squeeze edges together to form well-sealed pouch. Place packages on large baking sheet and place in preheated oven. When packages enlarge, they're ready to serve — usually after about 6 to 8 minutes.

To serve, carefully place each package on plate and open at table with pair of scissors or knife. Spoon crème fraîche or sour cream onto fish and sprinkle with lemon juice. Fresh herbs can be added before or after cooking. Eat straight from package.



Smoked Norwegian Salmon and Pearl Barley Salad



Norwegian Salmon in Aluminum Foil



The cold, clear waters of Norway create the ideal environment for ocean-farming salmon.

Poached Norwegian Salmon with Stewed Vegetables and Cucumber Salad

Serves: 4

- 1 pound Norwegian salmon fillet, boneless, skin removed
- 4 1/2 cups water
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1 lemon
- Stewed Vegetables:
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 4 potatoes, cut into cubes
- 3 carrots, cut into cubes
- 1 medium celeriac root, cut into cubes
- 2 onions, cut into cubes
- 1 medium size leek, cut into cubes
- 2 tablespoons fresh parsley or chives, chopped
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 1/2 cup milk
- Cornstarch, to thicken sauce
- Cucumber Salad:
- 1 pound cucumber
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons olive oil

Cut salmon into 4 even pieces and rinse well under cold water.

In large pot, bring water to boil, add salt and then salmon. Immediately remove from heat and let stand to poach for 4 to 6 minutes, depending on thickness of fillet. Be careful not to overcook — the flavors and texture of salmon is at its best when served opaque throughout. Remove from pot with slotted spoon and let water drain off on towel before arranging salmon on plate.

For vegetables, sprinkle water with salt and bring to boil in a large pot. When water is boiling, add potatoes, carrots, celeriac root and onions. Lower heat and simmer until soft.

Add leeks and fresh herbs and simmer for 2 more minutes. Drain vegetables carefully in colander and make sure you keep cooking water.

In same pot, bring milk and cooking water to boil; season with salt and pepper.

Dilute cornstarch in small amount of cold water and add to boiling liquid until you have thick sauce. Add vegetables to milk mixture to reheat before serving.

For cucumber salad, peel cucumber, split lengthwise and remove seeds with small spoon. Cut at an angle in thick slices and mix with sugar, vinegar and oil.

Serve salmon with stewed vegetables and cucumber salad on the side.

Serving Suggestion: A few drops of lemon juice on the salmon is a must.

Moving? Make sure your possessions are protected by planning ahead

The average American makes 11.7 moves during a lifetime, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. That's about one in six people pulling up stakes each year.

With so many on the move to new homes, new cities and new opportunities, it's important to protect household items while in transit or in storage before arrival at the new location, according to Charles Valinotti, head of product and underwriting with insurer QBE.

Your homeowner's insurance policy will protect your personal possessions, whether they're located in your home or in a moving truck. However, Valinotti cautions that there may be a time limit attached to the coverage, such as a 30-day period, and your policy may only cover up to certain dollar limits on property being moved or stored.

"Ask your agent to explain the level of coverage, what exactly is covered and confirm that your items are insured if you have to store them," he says.

Other points to keep in mind as you hit the road:

- If you're using a professional moving company or shipper, verify that they're insured and bonded to cover damage they may be responsible for. Valinotti says to keep in mind that movers limit their responsibility to basic damage amounts: "You may want to check into buying additional insurance to make sure you're adequately covered during your move."

- If you're packing and moving yourself with a rented truck, take a look at your auto insurance policy. Many policies will cover rental trucks, but only up to a certain weight. "Don't assume your policy covers you when you're behind the wheel of a 26-foot, 10,000-pound moving truck," he says.

- In a self-move, careful packing is critical, as well as keeping your property locked up and secured along the way.

- Note the condition of your items being relocated. Then if



you have a claim, the condition of your possessions will be documented.

- Know the value of high-dollar items that will be making the move. "Make a complete list of everything," Valinotti suggests. "Take photos and, if necessary,

get appraisals of these items before the move."

Valinotti says before a move is a good time to review your overall insurance coverage to make sure you're adequately covered and whether you need to increase your limits. "A good

look at insurance coverage every couple of years is something everyone should do," he says. "And you don't have to wait until you're ready to pack up and relocate."

— Courtesy ARA

Michigan could use licensing standard

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: Has any state passed a licensing requirement for management companies?

We think

Michigan is in need of it.

A: Unfortunately, Michigan does not have a licensing requirement

for management companies doing condominium management unless, perhaps,

they are in the business of leasing condominium units. However, a

new condo owner protection bill was signed into law recently in Connecticut which requires

managers of Connecticut community associations to be certified and

adhere to high ethical standards of conduct. It is something that

should be the case here in Michigan. There is an administrative body

to enforce the requirements imposed upon management companies and their agents. Michigan badly needs this

type of requirement!

Q: We had a home inspector make a mistake

when inspecting our condominium premises and is now trying to enforce an

exculpatory clause that says that we are only entitled to \$300 in damages based on

what we paid him. What do you think?

A: Many of these clauses have been upheld by the courts, but recently the West Virginia Supreme Court held, based upon the

plain language of the West Virginia home inspector regulations, that it is "clear that

there exists in the state an established standard of conduct with

which home inspectors are expected to comply in performing home

inspections and preparing reports for their clients. This standard of

conduct renders unenforceable exculpatory

clauses in which home inspection contracts purport to exempt home

inspectors for their failure to comply with such conduct standards."

Whether or not that type of reasoning will result in other states recognizing

that policy is debatable.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of May 7 - 11, 2012 at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

2495 Barkhill Rd	\$222,000
7141 Becky Ct	\$329,000
6683 Brookshire Dr	\$163,000
2619 Campbell Ct	\$254,000
5843 Castlegate Ct	\$261,000
42166 Cherylawn Ct	\$164,000
7273 Chesterfield Rd	\$228,000
44957 Coachman Ct	\$125,000
7127 Copper Creek Ct	\$122,000
234 Cornish Dr	\$209,000
39271 Coronation Rd	\$158,000
3986 Elizabeth Ave	\$77,000
366 Filmore St	\$60,000
6811 Fox Path	\$242,000
50170 Grant St	\$242,000
285 Harward St	\$195,000
47592 Lindenhurst Blvd	\$67,000
1840 Maple Park Dr E	\$102,000

190 Mcdougal Ct	\$340,000
46972 Mornington Rd	\$310,000
1996 Pebble Creek Dr	\$96,000
41788 Princess Dr	\$255,000
5947 Runnymede Dr	\$170,000
6022 Runnymede Dr	\$140,000
3579 Shepherd Ln	\$149,000
46941 Sherstone Dr	\$205,000
848 Wildwood Ln	\$176,000
2546 Woodmont Dr E	\$168,000
46978 Yarmouth Dr	\$289,000

GARDEN CITY	\$83,000
32501 ALVIN ST	\$50,000
27631 Book St	\$95,000
31027 Dawson St	\$30,000
29514 Sheridan St	\$118,000
32545 Sheridan St	\$117,000
32545 Sheridan St	\$32,000

LIVONIA	\$42,000
38166 Ann Arbor Trl	\$45,000
14735 Berwick St	\$200,000
16162 Blue Skies Dr	\$118,000
11314 Brookfield St	\$135,000
11327 Brookfield St	\$125,000
15405 Brookfield St	\$95,000
15939 Deering St	\$25,000
33021 Fargo St	\$137,000
15001 Gary Ln	

20625 Golf Ridge Cir	\$30,000
19029 Harrison Ave	\$182,000
9511 Hartel St	\$98,000
14025 Hillcrest St	\$80,000
9339 Houghton St	\$65,000
14649 Huff St	\$115,000
37644 Jamison St	\$137,000
29748 Mark Ln	\$103,000
14454 Merriman Rd	\$108,000
31501 Myrna St	\$164,000
39291 Ross St	\$143,000
36000 Schoolcraft Rd	\$115,000

NORTHVILLE	\$335,000
16809 Abby Cir	\$332,000
47537 Blue Heron Ct	\$460,000
18425 Fox Hollow Ct	\$460,000
42528 Lake Success Dr	\$60,000
47856 Manorwood Dr	\$690,000
16544 Mulberry Way	\$328,000
39805 Phillips Dr	\$250,000
48880 Rainbow Ln S	\$282,000
412 Randolph St	\$80,000
610 Randolph St	\$149,000
18537 Steep Hollow Ct	\$550,000
17189 Tall Pines Ct	\$435,000
16538 Yellowstone Dr	\$311,000
PLYMOUTH	\$332,000
1536 Zorn St	\$83,000

11853 Appletree Dr	\$208,000
9144 Canterburywood Dr	\$289,000
500 Ford St	\$35,000
46280 Green Valley Ct	\$190,000
41119 Wywood Ln	\$170,000
9132 Pinewood Dr	\$290,000
970 Sutherland Dr	\$122,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real-estate closings recorded the weeks of April 23 - 27, 2012 at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS

16900 Woodland Ave	\$119,000
BINGHAM FARMS	\$245,000
30705 River Crossing St	\$170,000
497 Coolidge Rd	\$88,000
554 Fairfax St	\$530,000
1791 Greentree Rd	\$83,000
1031 Hazel St	\$558,000
2666 Pembroke Rd	\$209,000
411 S Old Woodward Ave Unit	\$775,000

202 Suffield Ave	\$435,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
1162 Edison Ave	\$10,000
4786 Pickering Rd	\$325,000
7358 Sandy Creek Ln	\$430,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
311 Tibury Rd	\$650,000
COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP	
2326 Brigantine	\$40,000
1835 Carriage Hl	\$314,000
4893 Cooley Lake Ct	\$133,000
2259 Palmetto	\$140,000
FARMINGTON	
24019 Colchester Dr	\$50,000
23700 Ely Ct	\$95,000
23700 Ely Ct	\$118,000
32040 Grand River Ave Unit	\$419,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
22158 Averhill St	\$40,000
28401 Hawberry Rd	\$143,000
31498 Hunters Circle Dr	\$143,000
28932 Kendallwood Dr	\$160,000

30308 Kimberly Ct	\$30,000
32370 Nottingham Knls	\$140,000
31410 Orchard Crk	\$60,000
28825 Salem Rd	\$383,000
35789 Springdale St	\$190,000
29825 Sugar Spring Rd	\$180,000
33777 W 9 Mile Rd	\$130,000
FRANKLIN	
31220 Lucerne Dr	\$389,000
Lathrup Village	
28777 Sunset Blvd W	\$155,000
MILFORD	
3170 E Maple Rd	\$227,000
1970 Mystic Hills Dr	\$305,000
NOVI	
27342 Benjamins Way	\$249,000
50584 Billenia Dr	\$549,000
50625 Billenia Dr	\$474,000
24414 Bonnie Brook Dr	\$76,000
23067 Brookforest Dr	\$135,000
50733 Calvert Isle Dr	\$516,000
50817 Calvert Isle Dr	\$498,000

50924 Chesapeake Dr	\$674,000
25444 Danway Way	\$55,000
40558 Lenox Park Dr	\$255,000
42230 Park Ridge Rd	\$137,000
22132 Piccadilly Cir	\$190,000
23719 Stonehenge Blvd	\$53,000
24674 Whitman Way	\$230,000
SOUTH LYON	
53713 Edgewood Dr	\$25,000

48361 Grenleefe Cir E	\$350,000
54944 Grenleefe Cir W	\$70,000
24253 Ravine Dr	\$57,000
54205 Villavillage Dr	\$288,000
SOUTHFIELD	
28411 Fairfax St	\$30,000
21420 Independence Dr	\$100,000
23379 Maplebridge Dr	\$116,000
28480 Ranchwood Dr	\$46,000
17265 Shirley Dr	\$40,000
28440 Stuart Ave	\$32,000
19603 W 12 Mile Rd	\$24,000

Robert M. Meisner is

a lawyer and author of

Condominium Operation: Getting Started &

Staying on the Right Track, second edition,

available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping/handling. He also

wrote *Condo Living: A*

Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a

Condominium, available

for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping/handling. Call (248)

644-4433 or visit bm@meisner-law.com

This column should not be construed as legal advice.

Short sales

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

Many sellers are misinformed or not sure about how the procedures work. Organizers will also discuss the internal workings

of short sales and the different steps involved. Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon. Additional parking across the street in back. Please call the office at (248) 782-7130 or e-mail june.quan@gmail.com

tum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 11 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@ndeval.com

ureality.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday at Gulate to Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia.

Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Participants will discuss what they have learned. Invest-

tors will answer questions and offer a market update.

Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. each first Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership.

Call Wayne Koehler at (313) 277-4168.

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APPLIANCES

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DIVING ROOM SET-UP

DRIVING SET-UP - 177. 248-232-3336

DIVING TABLE/CHAIRS

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