



LOCAL MUDDERS TOUGH IT OUT
SPORTS, B1

Flanagan's consolidation plan met with skepticism

Local school leaders fear loss of control

By Brad Kendrick
Staff Writer

A consolidation proposal by state Superintendent Mike Flanagan to transfer administrative functions from Michigan's 500-plus school districts to existing intermediate school districts is

drawing mixed responses from municipal, political and public school officials around Wayne County.

His proposed "hybrid system" would centralize administrative and academic functions at the county or regional level, including transportation, curriculum development, staff training/development, food service, accounting, education technology and other operations.

Local school districts would

"focus primarily on getting their students to higher levels of achievement and on education evaluations," he stated.

Opinions vary

Not everyone agrees. John Barrett, the president of the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education, called it "an interesting concept" that would be overwhelming to do, particularly in large counties like

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Michigan Superintendent of Schools Mike Flanagan, shown here at an event last year with former Plymouth-Canton Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Hughes, has suggested making countywide school districts.



They're back again. The Canton Area Moms & Community group at Hayden's. Wendi Southwick, Aleasha Peck, Jessica Roland, Yvonne Lawson, Julie Weida, Liz Gurgel, Amber Farmer and Melissa Daneshyar are members of this shy and introspective group. ALL PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Feeding frenzy

Grub Crawl draws hundreds of food lovers

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

An army of 530 people wearing purple T-shirts packed Canton restaurants Tuesday evening to feast on their favorite cuisine during the 12th annual Grub Crawl.

Visiting from China, where her husband has been working for Chrysler Corp., Wendi Southwick enjoyed a hometown reunion with seven friends as they donned bright-colored and tinsel wigs for their evening out.

"This is a good way to see friends I haven't seen in a while," Southwick said during a stop at Hayden's Grill and Bar, which served up jalapeno dip, deep-fried pickles, boneless chicken wings and spinach-and-artichoke dip.

Southwick made the rounds with a group called Canton Area Moms & Community. Member Liz Gurgel said the women mapped out their Grub Crawl stops to reach as many of the 16 participating eateries as possible.

Over at 4 Friends Bar &



Phyllis Redfern rounds up riders heading for the next stop on the Grub Crawl.



At Schezuan, owner Pallas Wang (right) and Judy Liu serve up house specialties to Bob and Pat Maybouer.

Grill, on Warren near Sheldon, Lisa Matey was among a group of 10 people who sipped strawberry margaritas and other cool drinks to shake off a scorching hot day. The group dined on chicken stir fry, baked mostaccioli, deep-fried pickles and fried green beans.

"I would definitely come back here," Matey said.

That's just why manager Deana Brotherton wanted 4 Friends to become part of Grub Crawl - hoping to win over new customers while celebrating community spirit.

Thomas Paden, Canton Chamber of Commerce president, said the chamber sponsored Grub Crawl along with

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Canton opens cooling centers amid searing heat

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton residents who need an escape from scorching summer heat are encouraged to use designated cooling centers at Summit on the Park and the Canton Public Library.

Canton rolled out its cooling centers as temperatures are expected to hover around the 90-degree mark through the end of this week - though weather forecasters have said the heat will feel even warmer.

"We're packed," Laurie Golden, the library's department head for community relations, said Tuesday morning.

Golden said families, children and senior citizens have stopped by the library, 1200 Canton Center Road, to partici-

pate in the summer reading program, use computers or just read magazines and other materials.

"Families who want to get out of the house and do something - but who don't want to be outside because it's so hot - come here," she said. "A lot of people are coming in. We have been really busy the last couple of days."

Jennifer Provenzano, Canton Leisure Services recreation coordinator, said Summit on the Park has designated a lounge area where people can relax and beat the heat.

"As long as the temperatures are in a dangerous place, we will operate as a cooling center," she said. "We're riding out the heat

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Steve Price of Canton has advanced from Las Vegas to New York on America's Got Talent after continuing to wow judges with his Rubik's Goldberg machine. VIRGINIA SHERWOOD / NBC

Canton teen heads for Big Apple on national talent show

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton teen Steve Price, better known on television as Sprice, will show off his Rubik's Goldberg machine talents on the Radio City Music Hall stage after he survived the latest round of America's Got Talent.

"I'm really excited for the next round," Price said Wednesday, one day after he formally advanced to New York City from the Las Vegas

rounds. "I'm already working on my next machine. It's going to be a lot more complex. My plan is to make the last one look bad."

That might be a stretch, considering his last machine dazzled the show's judges when he used a domino and numerous household props to set off an impressive chain reaction that ended by sending a soccer ball into a net.

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HEAT

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wave with everyone."

Residents using the Summit Parkway, are asked to sign in at the front desk. Provenzano said visitors are encouraged to bring books or magazines "and just relax and beat the heat."

Canton Public Library hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call 734-397-0999.

Summit hours are 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call 734-394-5460.

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TALENT

Continued from Page A1

Price, a 19-year-old mechanical engineering student at Michigan State University and 2012 Canton High School graduate, has advanced to the New York competitions after being picked by judges Howard Stern, Heidi Klum, Howie Mandel and Mel B of Spice Girls fame.

Before he made the show during an audition in Chicago, Price never imagined he would become a television celebrity or perform at Radio City Music Hall.

"I definitely never expected it to happen," he said.

Price's talents have garnered him a huge following on television and on social media. He received numerous congratulations on Twitter after it was learned Tuesday evening he had made the cut.

The program begins airing July 23 from New York, when television viewers rather than judges will begin to decide which performers move on. Price's performance isn't expected to air until sometime in August.

He is hopeful he will rise above other competitors, including singers, dancers, comedians and the like. No one else on the show builds Rube Goldberg machines – a fact he said just might sway voters.

The overall winner of *America's Got Talent* is expected to be named in mid-September.

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Mosher announces 21st House bid

Democrat hopes to succeed term-limited Slavens in '14

Canton Democrat Natalie Mosher launched her campaign for the state House 21st District seat, seeking to succeed state Rep. Dian Slavens. D-Canton, who will be term-limited in 2014.

"The people of the 21st District must continue to have effective representation in Lansing," Mosher said. "Like Slavens, I will be a tireless fighter for our community and will



Mosher

help me bring maturity back to Lansing. Our state Legislature cannot continue to conduct themselves in a manner that puts us in gridlock or passes poorly-thought-out legislation."

Mosher is an experienced campaigner and has already

laid the groundwork for an effective and engaging grassroots campaign.

"In meeting after meeting with community leaders in Canton, Belleville and Van Buren Township the response to my campaign has been overwhelmingly positive," Mosher said. "We have a solid campaign plan and already have folks ready to volunteer for the campaign. This will be a true community effort and an experienced and effective advocate to Lansing."

Mosher was born and reared

in Detroit and is a graduate of Michigan State University. She was a teacher for close to a decade, a nonprofit executive with the National Retiree Volunteer Coalition and Detroit Riverfront Conservancy and served as a county commissioner in Erie County, Ohio.

In 2010, Mosher was the Democratic candidate in the 11th Congressional District. She and her husband, Bob, a retired Ford engineer, reside in Canton. They have two grown sons and recently became proud grandparents.



At 4 Friends (from left), Cheryl White, Sarah Rumpitz, Connie Plave, Lynette McCall, Duane McCall, Bill Hunt, Deb Dickson, Susan Hunt, Lisa Grendysa and Lisa Matey. ALL PHOTOS BY BILL BREWER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CRAWL

Continued from Page A1

Canton Township and its Downtown Development Authority to lure new and loyal customers to local eateries. Participants, some boarding shuttles while others drove themselves, paid just \$3.50 to sample local cuisine.

"It was a great event," Paden said. "It was a really fun night."

Over at Szechuan Restaurant, on Ford Road east of Canton Center, owners Pallas and Sonny Wang rolled out their General Tso's chicken, almond boneless chicken, vegetable spring rolls, crab rangoon and vegetable fried rice to the hungry crowd.

"I love Szechuan. I love their food," Karen Shaw said, dining with husband Ted and friends Bob and Pat Maybough. "It's a very good deal once a year," Ted Shaw said. "It's a lot of fun and you get to meet other people."

Other places that drew crowds included Rose's Restaurant, Bailey's Pub & Grille, bd's Mongolian Grill, Buffalo Wild Wings, Carrabba's Italian Grill, Carvell Ice



Jeff Werth, Ann Middleton and Jeff Middleton, sampling the food at 4 Friends.

Cream, Crow's Nest, Chili's, Olga's Kitchen, TC Gators, T.G.I. Friday's, Vintner's Canton Winery and Twisted Rooster.

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Ted and Karen Shaw try the crab rangoon at Szechuan.

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TED SHAW
Grub Crawl participant

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PLAN

Continued from Page A1

Wayne.

"I agree with many of the critics who say to jump into a countywide bureaucracy would be overwhelming," Barrett said. "It's difficult enough running a very large district, but to run it from a county level, maybe there are some things we could learn going forward."

"A much better idea is what Plymouth Canton is already doing, with sharing food service operations with Livonia. That's been very successful."

State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, whose district covers Plymouth, Northville and part of Canton Township, said such a plan would create "a rather unyielding operation." He said he doesn't believe there are districts "that should consider consolidation," but that a plan like Flanagan's likely would not work in huge metro Detroit counties.

"I think a countywide consolidation would probably be a little overboard," Heise said. "It might work in other parts of the state, in smaller counties, but to take Wayne, Oakland or Macomb (counties) and make one giant district, I'm not sure it would work effectively."

Flanagan's recent

letter to the state House and Senate appropriations subcommittees for K-12 education, as well as Rep. Bill Rogers and Sen. Howard Walker, outlines his plan that he believes will trim costs and help improve struggling school districts.

The plan, Flanagan believes, would result in "administrative efficiencies and a better ability to utilize state funding; better absorb the enrollment fluctuations one local school district might be suffering, and provide a more equitable education for all students."

Transitioning to Flanagan's plan would take several years and would require changes to the state School Code and School Aid Act, Proposal A and the state Constitution.

Property problem

Westland City Councilman Adam Hammons, a real estate agent, said a change to a countywide school district would have a negative impact on property values.

"School districts are a huge selling point," Hammons said. "One of the first concerns for people buying homes is school districts, along with affordability."

Livonia officials are also skeptical of Flanagan's plan. Livonia school board President Mark Johnson thinks Flanagan's comment was "a knee-jerk reaction" to

districts going bankrupt, and that countywide districts would strip local control.

"I'm not saying there may not be some counties out there that it would be certainly benefit, but as a blanket statement, I think it ignores the realities," Johnson said.

Livonia Public Schools Superintendent Kandy Liepa said countywide districts would create many issues that would need to be addressed with local communities.

"I think Flanagan does not see that as feasible. Loss of local control, employee bargaining agreement consolidation, curriculum priorities and decisions, budget priorities and decisions, creating a new administrative structure to manage the organization ... are all issues that would need to be addressed," Liepa said.

"Consolidation of services has been occurring for many years in school districts across the state," he added. "We have multiple shared services with neighboring school districts and our intermediate school district. Where it is feasible, it is being done or should be considered."

Size matters

Garden City Councilwoman Jaylee Lynch, who was recently named assistant principal of Tipton Academy, the new charter school in Garden City, agreed with Heise. She said in counties other than Wayne, Oakland and Macomb, it might make sense to have countywide school districts.

"They don't have the same number of schools, so it might be easier to consolidate," Lynch said. "With the very high population of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb, it would be much too hard. I thought that was the idea with RESA, that they were there to back all of these school districts."

Lynch doesn't believe it would work to have one superintendent over all the communities in Wayne County at one time.

"In a county as diverse as Wayne County is, I don't think that they would save any money because they would have to have six different assistant superintendents," she said. "The population is so diverse and there are so many schools. In a smaller community, they might be saving a lot of money."

Westland deputy superin-

tendent for instruction, said he believes talk about savings is premature. The state needs to do its due diligence and look at other states that have countywide districts. He also voiced concern about such things as a countywide curriculum.

"It doesn't make sense for the state or the county to impose use of curriculum 'A' on Wayne-Westland when it may not be what our students need," he said. "We want to meet the needs of our students based on our data. How do you meet that need when you have countywide schools?"

Leadership 'failure'

Tom Watkins, a Northville resident and former state superintendent, said it's ironic Flanagan is now calling for reforms that he was adamantly opposed to as head of the Michigan Superintendents Association.

As state superintendent under Gov. Jennifer Granholm, Watkins won a 2004 report on the inadequacies in the current public school funding model. The report, "Structural Issues Surrounding Michigan School Funding in the 21st Century," called for some of the same re-

forms now being touted by Flanagan.

Had reforms been implemented a decade ago, state taxpayers could have saved millions of dollars by now, Watkins said.

"The reason that we are in a crisis where we are a failure of leaders on every level refusing to act. We have known about this problem for more than a decade, but our leadership has pretended there is no problem," he said.

"For solutions, Watkins doesn't necessarily advocate any one measure. He said there has to be some consolidation of a system that now has more than 500 superintendents and more than 500 curriculum directors, for example. The current funding model is 'unsustainable,'" he added, and calls for structural change.

Yet more funding for public education should also be on the table, he said, and an adequacy study is a good place to start.

"How much does it truly cost to educate our children? We have not done a comprehensive study like that since the 1960s," Watkins said.

Gannett News Service contributed to this report.

Artistic excellence

Plymouth art fair delights thousands

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

The 34th annual Art in the Park in downtown Plymouth made history in at least one aspect.

Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincock, who has been around in one way or another for all of them, said the crowds got so large, particularly for Friday's opening day, that city officials had to do something they've never had to do before.

"Use a senior bus to supplement the annual shuttle that brings visitors into town."

"We've never had to do that on a Friday," Sincock said. "The crowds were just amazing. It's good for the city, good for business."

Thousands of people passed through downtown Plymouth during the three-day festival, which ended Sunday.

The weather was perfect, with sunny skies and temperatures that weren't soaring.

Visitors saw exhibits by about 400 artists and crafters. They jayned Kellogg Park and surrounding streets for three days, browsing the art, talking to artists, stopping in downtown restaurants and soaking up the rays and the atmosphere.

Jen Hackmann of Ann Arbor was there Saturday with twin 10-year-old daughters Jady and Jordan. Both girls were taking advantage of the Duck Tape booth, making duck tape jewelry.

"I love coming to the festival because you get to see all kinds of art," Jady said. "Plus, I love duck tape."

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Canton police released this photo following the theft of golf clubs at Pheasant Run Golf Course.

Canton police learn identity of man sought in golf club thefts

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton police have learned the identity of a man sought following the theft of golf clubs from Pheasant Run Golf Course, Detective Sgt. Craig Wilsner said.

The suspect, who was pictured in a surveillance photo released Tuesday, had contacted police as the investigation was unfolding, Wilsner said Tuesday afternoon.

"The investigation is continuing," he said.

Police hadn't released the man's name because he hadn't been charged early Tuesday afternoon.

Police had released sur-

veillance photos of the man and the truck he was believed to have been driving, he has since contacted authorities, Wilsner said.

Police sought the man after three sets of golf clubs were taken from a staging area of the golf course. The surveillance photos were released Tuesday for a theft that had occurred about 4:30 p.m. June 8.

Police also released a photo of a Chevrolet pickup, with a Red Wings logo on the rear window, that they believe the man was driving.

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Father sentenced to life in prison for baby's death

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A Westland man was sentenced to life in prison Monday for killing his infant son in December 2011.

Antonio Pepalonia Brandon, 23, was sentenced Monday by Wayne County Circuit Judge Craig Strong, who had presided at the trial that resulted in a jury conviction on charges of first-degree murder and two counts of felony child abuse.

Brandon was convicted of killing his son Kayden Brandon, age 2 1/2 months, and abusing Kayden's twin brother Cameron.

The mother of the babies,

Nicole Susanne Roberts, 20, is serving 18-40 years in prison after pleading guilty to second-degree murder and first-degree child abuse last month.

The death of Kayden, who weighed 10 pounds, was ruled a homicide, with asphyxiation and blunt force trauma as the causes. Testimony from the Wayne County medical examiner indicated the infant had a range of fresh and healing injuries, including deep tissue bleeding in his arms and neck muscles, broken ribs and bleeding in his chest cavity.

The autopsy showed Kayden had bruises and fingernail abrasions on his face that would be consistent with an

adult hand being placed over his mouth and nose, suffocating him.

Brandon and Roberts told police that they would place a hand over the face of Kayden, as well as his twin brother Cameron, when either of them cried. Once the baby crying stopped, the couple told police Brandon would bite the baby to startle him into breathing again.

Roberts and Brandon have been jailed in lieu of bond since being arrested shortly after Kayden died early Dec. 5, 2011.

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CANTON CRIME WATCH

Indecent exposure

A man walking toward two teenage girls near Sheldon and Cherry Hill exposed himself, prompting the two girls, ages 15 and 14, to run to their homes, a police report said.

The incident happened about 9:30 p.m. Monday in the area of Britanny Drive. The suspect was described as a white male, 5 feet, 10 inches, possibly in his late teens, with brown hair and brown facial hair. He was wearing a black tank top and black shorts with red and white stripes down the side, the police report said.

Guns seized

Police confiscated handguns and an assault rifle as an investigation was continuing after a Canton resident was accused of firing rounds from a 9 mm handgun on Stacy, northeast of Palmer and Hagerty.

Police received a call shortly before 8 p.m. last Thursday that a male suspect had fired three shots a couple of days earlier outside of a residence in Meadowood Townhomes.

A police report indicated the 23-year-old suspect had fired the shots into the air because he was frustrated over not being able to find a parking space. A neighbor contacted police after finding shell casings on the ground.

Police went to the suspect's townhouse and heard the man making a sound with what appeared to be a gun before he answered the door. Police surrounded the area and ordered the man to the ground when he answered the door, handcuffing him.

Police executed a search warrant and found several weapons, including handguns and an assault rifle, inside the townhouse. Police also found numerous rounds of ammunition.

The suspect at first denied firing any weapons, then changed his story and said he had recently fired a handgun at a shooting range during target practice. He then said he had fired rounds at a friend's house somewhere near I-275 - though the report didn't indicate he admitted firing the gun near the townhouse.

The police report indicated the man was issued a citation for discharging the firearm. It also indicated police confiscated the guns as the investigation was continuing.

Money missing

A 69-year-old woman who lives on Tamarack Drive, northeast of Michigan Avenue and I-275, told police someone took \$1,500 from the bedroom of her apartment, a police report said.

The woman told police the incident occurred between July 1 and July 8. She said the money was taken from under a dresser in her bedroom. She said she didn't know of anyone who had been in her residence.

Car vandalized

A 44-year-old woman notified police after she learned her car had been spray-painted with two large black circles while it was parked in the Emagine Theater parking lot between I-45 and I-420 p.m. Saturday, a police report said.

Compiled by Darrell Clem from Canton police reports.

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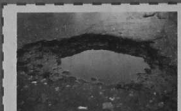
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Win gifts from O&E Christmas in July contest

Welcome to the third annual *Observer & Eccentric Media* Christmas in July contest.

Look for the holiday icon on the pages of the July edition of *Hometown Life INSPIRE* in print or online at hometownlife.com and then correctly identify all pages where the icon appears.

Submit an entry form via U.S. Postal Service or Facebook at hometownlife.com.

Winners will be selected in a random drawing of all correct entries.

You could win a \$500 gift card (grand prize) to Showroom of Elegance in Canton, a \$100 gift certificate (second place) to the Rugby Grill in the Townsend Hotel in downtown Birmingham or a \$50 gift card (third place) to Meijer. In addition, up to 10 other winners will receive a pass for two to any area Emagine Theatre.

Mail your entry (see the form inside the July *INSPIRE*) to Christmas in July, O&E Media, 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170 or go to hometownlife.com and see the Facebook information.

All entries - mail and online - must be postmarked or submitted by midnight July 31. Happy Christmas in July and good luck finding the holiday icons.

Author pays visit home for book event at library

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Amid praise for her first novel *Letters From Skye*, Canton native Jessica (Turza) Brockmole has agreed to greet her fans, discuss her book and sign copies Monday at the Canton Public Library when she pays a visit to her hometown.

"We're really lucky we were able to line this up," Laurie Golden, the library's community relations department head, said Tuesday. Brockmole's visit at 7 p.m. Monday, July 22, marks one of several key - and free - programs the library has lined up for July and August. Golden said registration isn't necessary. The library is located at 1200 S. Canton Center.

Letters from Skye is billed as a sweeping story, told in letters, spanning two continents and two world wars. It



Jessica Brockmole

is described as atmospheric as it captures the indelible ways that people fall in love, while celebrating the power of the written word to stir the heart. Golden said Brockmole, a Salem High School graduate, has received rave reviews from publications such as *USA Today* and *Good Housekeeping*. Golden said the novel has been printed in 23 languages and is featured on the Barnes and Noble website.

Other upcoming library programs focus on what is a favorite summer activity for many - cooking and eating. Golden said: The lineup:

- » Cooking from your Garden, 7 p.m. July 25. Discover how to use the goodness from your garden to make a delicious dinner in an informative

and fun program with Kristi Zebrowski.

- » Green-Egg Grilling, 6:30 p.m. July 30. Learn how to barbecue a tasty dinner using the latest grill technology with Dean Barell of Heat & Sweep.

- » Preserving and Canning with Chef Mary Spencer, 7 p.m. July 31. Spencer demonstrates how to preserve the bounty of fresh foods available in the summer. See how to put up raspberries and your own fresh salsa.

- » Ice Cream Maker Space, 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. Aug. 2. Children can make their own ice cream.

- » Pudding Food Art for Teens, 1 p.m. Aug. 13. Make an artistic creation you can eat with colorful and delicious food.

dclm@hometownlife.com
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Tell us about your best resale find

Tell us in 25 words or less (include a photo, too) about the best bargain or simply your favorite purchase at a resale shop.

Send your email to srosiek@hometownlife.com. Be sure to include what you bought, the name of the shop, where (include a community location) and why you believe it is the best.

Five lucky winners will receive a gas card so they can shop some more. Deadline to submit your entry is midnight July 21.

Be sure to look for a story on resale shops and your favorite finds in the August edition of *Hometown Life Woman*.

Village Market celebrates one-year anniversary

The Village Market by Fat Chef will mark its one-year anniversary with a community celebration from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

The market is located at 50419 Independence Street in Cherry Hill Village. For more on the Village Market by Fat Chef, go to www.fatchefmarket.com or call 734-394-0137.

Wayne County among 12 'Best To Invest' sites

Wayne County has been selected among the 12 "Best To Invest" locations by *Site Selection* magazine, thanks to the work of its Economic and Growth Development Engine organization, also known as EDGE.

"Our economic development work is now getting national recognition," Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano said. "Over the past 4½ years, 36 percent of private investment across the state of Michigan occurred in Wayne County and 23 percent of new job creation statewide occurred in the county during the same time period. Our EDGE organization will continue to look for opportunities for companies and businesses to locate in Wayne County."

In its May 2013 edition, *Site Selection* magazine recognized the county for a number of highlights, including:

- » 10, 582 new jobs and \$2.2 billion in capital investment in Detroit.
- » Sizable investments being made by Ford, Brose, Chicken Loans and a host of entrepreneurial startups.

Rankings are based on a community's growth in new facilities, capital investment and job creation. *Site Selection* uses a state of the art software program in analyzing investment success from around the country.

For more information on economic development opportunities in Wayne County through EDGE, go to the county website at www.waynecounty.com.

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Thirteen-year-old Nick O'Donohue makes and sells magnetic note boards. This is his second year at Art In The Park. Each board takes him about 30 minutes to complete.

A real CROWD PLEASER

Weather, venue combine for successful fair

Kelley Heath Bailey enjoyed her fourth – and possibly final – appearance last weekend at the Plymouth Art in the Park, the 34th annual art fair that put artists and crafts people front-and-center in one of the town's most popular festivals.

Heath Bailey, the owner of WhimZ Designs of Ann Arbor, said the show has been "very successful" for her business – she does original watercolors and makes magnetic bookmarks and other magnetic items – because, simply, "it's a great show."

"The people are wonderful, the promoters are fabulous," said Heath Bailey, who is preparing for a move to the U.S. Virgin Islands with her husband. "I enjoy selling, but I'm also having a great time. It's just a really nice town."

She wasn't the only one. Visitors crammed the streets of downtown Plymouth for the annual fair in what some observers felt were record numbers. City Manager Paul Sincok said a bus was called in to complement the shuttle service for the fair's opening day Friday.

"We've never had to do that before," Sincok said.

Organizer Dianne Quinn said word-of-mouth and marketing pay off for the annual fair, which this year featured more than 70 new artisans.

"All the (local) TV stations were out, the radio stations broadcast," Quinn said. "It's still largely word-of-mouth and a lot of people hear about it. People who might have forgotten or who are new to the area learn about it. It was fantastic. We couldn't be happier."

Heath Bailey credited Mother Nature for the overflow crowds.

"We've had kind of a bad spring," she said, "and now people can get out and have a good time and not worry about the weather."



Saturday crowds took advantage of a beautiful day.



Nine-year-old Kayla Vesterfelt makes her very own pet rock at a booth sponsored by Cavalcade, a Northville High School student-run literary magazine. Kayla visited the art fair with her dad Blair Vesterfelt. They are from Plymouth. ALL PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Beth Myers of Canton tries the progressive painting, a fundraiser for Bark For Life, set up at Jill Andra Young's photography studio.



Cindi McGaw and Leah Gunter, both of Allen Park, look at the work of metal sculptor Troy Anderson.

Penniman Avenue was jammed early Friday afternoon for the first day of Art in the Park.



Rachel Bissonnette makes a chalk drawing of a classic poster from the film 'Casablanca.'

Local fitness center's opening benefits charity

Saturday's celebration will serve as fundraiser

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

The grand opening celebration of Michigan Extreme Combat Sports and Family Fitness Center in Garden City this Saturday, July 20, will benefit two groups — C.S. Mott Children's Hospital and the Burger School for Students with Autism.

At the 7 p.m. Kids Kicking Cancer fundraiser, for every kick the kids do, money will be donated. Kids are going to kick bags.

The money will be split between the two groups.

Kevin and Melissa Whittenberg own the gym, which was formerly Big Daddy's Gym and was vacant for more than a decade.

C.S. Mott is special to the family because their eldest daughter, Edina, had an ovarian tumor

Melissa, who was born with a cleft lip and a cleft palate, spent the first few years having surgeries at the hospital. "My last surgery was when I was 14," she said.

The ribbon cutting at 2 p.m. begins the events throughout the day that feature karate, breaking and weapons demonstrations at the gym, located at 29135 Ford Road, east of Middlebelt.

Chinese lanterns are being sold for \$5 and will light the night sky.

Tickets for the evening's competitive events are available at the gym.

The gym recently relocated from Romulus, where it was located for four years, to Garden City to provide more visibility. It is a family fitness gym which also teaches mixed martial arts.

An interior wall separates the interior of the two-story building, part of which is still occupied by the Garden City Moose Lodge.

"We wanted to come here because this is a better location," Melissa said. "In Romulus, we weren't getting a lot of business. It was at the end of Romulus and there wasn't a lot of traffic."

Their first amateur cage fight in Garden City will be Saturday, July 20, and is expected to last four hours. The gates open at 5 p.m. and the fights start at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$40 for VIP, \$30 for general admission and \$20 for standing room only.

Melissa said there are always new fighters coming aboard, while others who have trained at the gym have ventured out. To train as a cage fighter, participants must be at least 18, she said.

It's called cage fighting because the participants get inside an octa-



Melissa and Kevin Whittenberg, owners of Michigan Extreme Contact Sports on Ford Road, will host a grand opening and open house Saturday, July 20. All photos by STEPHEN CANTRELL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Avery Klemola, 4, and Olivia Prye, 6, both from Garden City, warm up by doing jumping jacks.

gon-shaped cage and they fight. "They use their talent and skill inside that cage," she said.

Mixed martial arts is commonly referred to as "cage fighting" because often times MMA combatants fight in a cage. However, not all MMA organizations use a cage.

Garden City Fire Chief Catherine Harman referred the Whittenbergs to the Garden City location. In her free time, Harman has been a medic for the business for about a year. She is the only one.

Harman said she has been a part of MMA around this area for a number of years volunteering and working as a medic for the fights.

Kevin Whittenberg said that most of his clients live outside of Romulus and would not have a problem coming to another location.

Melissa lost 90 pounds working out at the gym, working out every day and watching what she ate.

The gym also teaches women's cardio kickboxing. Kickboxing combines the technique and style of boxing with kicking. Kickboxing is a standing sport and



Kevin Whittenberg and daughter Alexis, 9, Wayne residents, practice punching by hitting mitts.

doesn't allow continuation of the fight once a combatant has fallen to the ground.

MMA is a full-contact combat sport that allows a wide variety of fighting techniques and skills to be used in competitions. The rules allow the use of striking and grappling techniques, both while standing and on the ground.

Because of the class options, Melissa called the gym "family inclusive."

"We want to make this accessible for people to live a healthier life," she said.

As the business tries to establish itself in a new community, it is also trying to economize without using air conditioning in the summer.

For more information

or to purchase tickets, call 734-261-6327.

suck@hometownlife.com
(313)222-2249
Twitter@SueSBuck



New Canton Rotary President Abe Vinitiski is congratulated by Past District Governor Mary Kehoe of District 6400.

Rotary Club gets a new president

Vinitiski sworn in to serve one-year term

Abe Vinitiski was sworn in as president of the Canton Rotary Club earlier this month, chosen to serve a one-year term until July 2014.

A Livonia resident and a Rotarian since 2009, Vinitiski has worked for Canton Township's Leisure Services Department since 2000, where he currently oversees the Canton Sports Center. In his role as Canton Parks and Athletics supervisor, Vinitiski has helped coordinate numerous Canton Cup Soccer Tournaments and Liberty Fest, in addition to Canton's Relay for Life.

As president of the 18-member club, which received its charter from Rotary International in 1977, Vinitiski will be responsible for strengthening the group's participation in community and international service projects, while attracting new membership. The club meets at 12:05 p.m. each Monday at Antonio's Cucina Italiana Restaurant, located at 2220 N. Canton Center Road in Canton.

"It is a great honor to serve as president of the Canton Rotary Club," Vinitiski said. "During my time in office, we will continue to uphold our 'Service Above Self' mantra through humanitarian efforts supporting local

charities, as well as the Rotary's global initiatives. I'm looking forward to the challenge and opportunities of the next year and to continuing Rotary's history of dedicated service to the community."

Vinitiski and his wife Debbie were married in 1995 and have three daughters: Kylie, 16, Kaitlyn, 13, and Madison, 11.

The Canton Rotary Club's past projects have included helping to establish the Canton Public Library, as well as creating the Heritage Park's Clock Plaza. In addition to the club's annual Kiddie Rock and Candy Canes event at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, Canton Rotary Club members also make Christmas baskets for senior citizens, donate backpacks to the Plymouth-Canton Clothing Bank, host international exchange students and award vocational scholarships to Canton-area high school students.

One of the largest and oldest service organizations worldwide, Rotary was established in 1905 in Chicago and today includes approximately 1.2 million men and women who are members of more than 31,000 Rotary clubs in more than 165 countries. This organization of business and professional leaders provides humanitarian service and is committed to building goodwill in the world.

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CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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\$1,885.00	1989	PALOMINO	POPOP	1FA100M14K103841
\$2,285.00	1999	DODGE	DAKOTA	1B7FTL2N8X5322045
\$1,585.00	2008	YAMAHA	R6	JYARJ16E0A006797
\$855.00	2001	DODGE	STRATUS	1B3B74KX3N667906
\$855.00	1991	FORD	RANGER	1FTCR10U2MPB06152
\$785.00	2001	CHEVROLET	MALIBU	1G1ND527J1M667356
\$765.00	1998	BUICK	CENTURY	2G4WS52M4W1460689
\$655.00	2003	DODGE	DURANGO	1DAH8SN63P577389
\$555.00	1995	FORD	ESCORT	3FASP13J3SR105512
\$555.00	1992	CHEVROLET	CAVALIER	1G1JC14XN71341195
\$815.00	2002	PONTIAC	SUNFIRE	1G2JB12482780939
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Kelly Pepper, owner of Gentlemen's Consignment in Royal Oak.

Former Plymouth men's store owner finds new niche

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Kelly Pepper didn't even know what the word "consign" meant when he first heard it four years ago. Pepper, who lives in Westland, had just had gastric bypass surgery that helped him lose 145 pounds and one of his friends suggested that he sell his now useless clothes to a men's consignment store.

The only problem — he couldn't find one. "I was really intrigued by the whole concept and started making calls, but there was nothing out there," he said, noting the majority of the places he contacted carried mostly women's clothes and had only a few racks dedicated to men.

One of his calls was to The Emporium in Birmingham, a designer women's consignment store, where he talked to owner Betina Mascari. She urged him to fill the niche, so in 2012 Pepper opened Gentlemen's Consignment in Plymouth.

His stay in Plymouth was short-lived, however, as sales were stagnant.

But that didn't mean Pepper was going to call it a quits. He knew a change of scenery was needed.

He made the move to 623 S. Washington in downtown Royal Oak in mid-February, and sales have been booming since.

"It's amazing the difference a de-

mographic makes," he said. "The Royal Oak community is just crazy about it."

What makes Pepper's store even more unique is that he carries only high-end clothing and accessories from brands like Giorgio Armani, Brioni, Gucci, Burberry, Prada and more.

He checks out every piece of clothing that comes into the store himself and admits to turning away a lot more than he accepts.

"People will find it to be a really nice, refined experience," he said, adding that customers are only going to find the best items at a fraction of the cost.

Pepper said having the store is fulfilling a dream of his and he hopes to one day open another store that only sells the "best of the best."

"It's the best way to shop and find the best stuff," he said. "There's no place else to go but this store."

Gentlemen's Consignment is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Consigners can drop off five items or fewer during store hours, but appointments are needed for those dropping off more.

Anything Pepper does not keep is donated to the Neighborhood Service Organization.

For more information, visit www.GentlemenConsignment.com.

nmueller@hometownlife.com 586-826-7209

Twitter: @SOKEccentric

New agency

Allstate Insurance Co. announced the opening of a new office. Owned and operated by Allstate Exclusive Agent Cheryl Bowker, the office is located at 5972 Sheldon in Canton. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Agency staff can be reached by calling 734-738-0300.

Bowker also owns and operates an Allstate agency in Livonia. Agency staff can be reached at 734-525-9610.

"My staff and I are excited about the opening of our new office," Bowker said. "This is a full-service insurance agency, offering a complete line of insurance products and service for our customers to help them protect their things that are important to them, whether it's their car or home, or investment planning for the future."

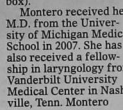
The agency offers auto, property and life insurance, as well as protection for motorcycles, boats, motor homes, recreational vehicles and businesses. Allstate also provides comprehensive financial services.

Agency staff members offer guidance and counseling about the various insurance products, helping customers choose the insurance coverage that best meets their needs.

ENT addition

Dr. Meredith J. Montero has joined the staff of Michigan Otolaryngology Surgery Associates. In addition to seeing patients with ear, nose and throat conditions, Montero is a specialist in laryngology, the study and treatment of diseases and disorders that affect the larynx (voice box).

Montero received her M.D. from the University of Michigan Medical School in 2007. She has also received a fellowship in laryngology from Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn. Montero



Montero is a specialist in laryngology, the study and treatment of diseases and disorders that affect the larynx (voice box).

served her residency in otolaryngology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock.

Among her professional honors, Montero received the 2011 Resident Research Award at the Resident Research and Alumni Conference. She was also a member of the American Federation for Aging Research Medical Student Geriatric Scholars Program.

"We are excited that Dr. Montero is joining the practice," said Melanie West, MOSA practice administrator. "She is bringing an excellent balance of general ENT skills in addition to her specialization in voice box conditions."

Management move

Custom software development IT firm GalaxE Solutions, Inc., announced executive management moves that will serve to augment and expand worldwide IT delivery capabilities from GalaxE's downtown Detroit software development center at Campus Martius.

Plymouth resident Justin Walker has been promoted to vice president of delivery for GalaxE's Detroit operations. In his new role, Walker, a metro Detroit native, will lead delivery execution of strategic engagements local to the Detroit market. He will focus on directing teams and building partnerships with customers to provide IT business solutions.

With the company for 2½ years, Walker has been instrumental in the successful execution of major engagements for some of GalaxE's Fortune 50 clients.

Youth Day

Level One Bank summer intern David Funke of Canton participated in a metro Detroit tradition Wednesday at 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth.

MDYD is designed to bring positive change in the community, with

more than 34,000 participants in 2012.

Metro Detroit Youth Day is the largest youth event in Michigan, bringing together young people of diverse backgrounds for a fun-filled and educational day to inspire and motivate the youth of local communities.

Level One Bank is hosting 10 summer interns from colleges and universities across Michigan. These interns are gaining hands-on work experience in a variety of departments, including accounting, commercial lending, retail banking, information technology and more.

Stinger merger

Stinger Medical, a manufacturer and provider of mobile clinical workstations and medical technologies known for its technologically advanced power systems, has merged with Canton-based Enovate, a manufacturer and provider of mobile and wall-mounted point-of-care medical solutions known for its aesthetics and ergonomically advanced design technologies.

Together, the two companies will be named Enovate Medical and will be the largest provider of mobile clinical workstations in the country. Stinger Medical CEO Nick Mendez will lead the combined organization. The company will maintain locations in Michigan and Tennessee.

"This merger creates a tremendous growth opportunity and combines two quality organizations, each with a commitment to excellence and superior client service," said Mendez, CEO of Enovate Medical. "We will gain the ability to expand our product offerings to health care providers at a critical time in the industry. As providers respond to health care reform, transformation and other market drivers, Enovate Medical brings the expansion and ability to help providers strengthen their most important goal — patient care."

For more information, visit www.stingerandenovate.com.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON CHAMBER CHAT

Business Development Workshop

The question so many in business have is how to use social media effectively to market their company. The good news is there are always new tools and new techniques being developed to make social media more effective.

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts its annual business development workshop and social media marketing update to cover what business owners need to know to maximize their ability to use social media. The workshop is set for 8:30-9:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 23, at the Plymouth chamber office.

For example, chamber officials said, many Facebook users have found since November 2012 that they reach more followers using no picture or link as an attachment to postings. On the other hand, they may get more likes or shares using a picture, while still reaching a smaller audience.

Presenter Art Johnson is the regional manager for high level marketing. He has been involved in small business and social marketing, both online and off-line, for more than 20 years. As a result, Johnson has taken a non-nonsense approach to small business marketing, delivering aggressive ROIs for companies.

There is no cost to attend, but the workshop

can only accommodate 35 people. To RSVP, email tr@plymouth-mich.org or call 734-453-1540. The chamber office is located at 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth.

Chamber ambassadors

The growing Canton Chamber of Commerce is in need of new members for its Ambassadors Committee.

This committee is for those looking for an opportunity to meet others and establish greater visibility for the chamber and for themselves. This is done through visiting members, attending ribbon cuttings, member retention grants, going to functions and attending Ambassador Committee meetings.

Chamber officials said they're "always looking for members that are willing to act as the public relations arm of the chamber." Ambassadors further their knowledge and potential of chamber membership, gain the opportunity to personally meet hundreds of chamber and community members and develop greater leadership skills with new friends on the committee.

For more questions or an interview to attend the next committee meeting, call the chamber at 734-453-4040.

Networking Coffee

The Canton Chamber of Commerce presents its July Networking Coffee 7-9 a.m. Thursday,

July 25. The event is hosted and sponsored by Saint Joseph Mercy Canton Health Center, 1600 S. Canton Center.

RSVP by calling 734-453-4040.

Constant Contact Training

Presenter Tamara Jaros, a chamber member and Constant Contact Solution provider, will talk about the "Next Steps: Build Your Email List with Constant Contact" at Constant Contact Training 8:30-10:30 a.m. Thursday, July 5, at the Canton Chamber of Commerce. Cost is \$99.

Attendees will learn email marketing basics, create contacts list, design an email template, incorporate social media, schedule and send and review reports.

For more information, call 734-453-4040.

Membership to the MAX

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts Membership to the MAX 8:30-9:30 a.m. Aug. 8, at the chamber office, 45525 Harford in Canton.

If you are a new chamber member or new to a company that is a chamber member, you don't want to miss this program. In just one hour, this program will highlight all the benefits of being a chamber member and show you how to utilize your membership to the fullest.

RSVP by calling 734-453-4040. The event is sponsored by Showroom of Elegance.

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Teach children lessons about personal finance

I was doing some research and found a new study that graded each state on how it teaches students K-12 on personal finance. Not surprisingly, the grades across the country were poor.

Michigan received a 'D' because schools are not required to teach personal finance as part of their curriculum. We received a 'D' versus an 'E' because schools do offer personal finance as an elective, but that generally is not until high school.

Something does not make sense to me. We live in the greatest capitalist society in the world and we don't teach our children about money. As far as I'm concerned, this should be a wakeup call for parents.

It is important to have a good handle on personal finance. In our day-to-day life, we are forced to make many financial decisions. The



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

consequence of making the wrong decision can be costly. That's why it's important to have a good handle on all the areas of personal finance.

The main areas that everyone needs a working knowledge of are estate planning, taxes, risk management, debt management and investing. If as an adult you do not have an understanding of these areas, there's no doubt you're going to run into trouble. Since the school systems don't teach these areas, it's up to you to make sure that your children that have an appreciation and understanding of money.

Resources available
I am not an expert on teaching children about

money. However, there are resources that parents and others can use, depending upon the ages of children. The Internet and public libraries have all sorts of resources to begin the process of teaching children the fundamentals. One site, for example, is <http://cuneclubmoneymamamals.com/>

Personal finance is not necessarily the most exciting topic and kids may find it incredibly boring — so what? Just like it's important for children to learn reading, writing and arithmetic, it is just as important that they learn personal finance.

If parents don't teach children personal finance, think about who will. They will learn about it from the charge card companies (which encourage people to buy, buy, buy) or they'll learn it from someone who has no clue.

Depending upon a

child's age, there are different skills to teach. Obviously, someone who is a teenager will understand more than a child in grade school.

Lifelong process

It is important to remember that personal finance is not something that you teach once and then forget about it. Learning about personal finance is ongoing. After all, the world of personal finance from 10 to 15 years ago is totally different than today.

Back then, it was more difficult to get competitive bids (before the Internet) for things such as your homeowners and automobile insurance or shop for CD rates. Today, that has become the norm. Just like our world is constantly changing, so is the area of personal finance. The bottom line, understanding personal finance is a process. The sooner you begin to teach your children, the better

it will be for them.

There is another positive about teaching your children about personal finance — along the way you can learn a little more, too. Understanding personal finance is a family affair and the more your family knows, the better things will be

for everyone in your family.

Good luck.

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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



New wagon

The Kiwanis Club of Plymouth red popcorn wagon, a fixture in downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park for 25 years, was recently replaced with an updated version. The popcorn wagon project is strictly the Kiwanis Club of Plymouth's although it works with the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth on a foundation to fund community charitable efforts. Popcorn sales support children's charities, including efforts at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital of the University of Michigan, the Plymouth Fire & Drum Corps and Plymouth-Canton Educational Park graduate scholarships for college.

CRAFTERS WANTED

Date/Time: Sept. 6-8, during Fall Festival hours
Location: Plymouth

Details: Organizers say it's not too early to send in an application for a booth in the Plymouth Fall Festival Craft Show. There are only a few spaces left in the show. Applications are available on the Craft Show page at www.plymouthfallfestival.com.
Contact: For more information, contact Colleen Brown, craftshow@plymouthfallfestival.com or 734-455-1614.

JAZZ @ THE ELKS

Date/Time: Tuesday, July 30, 7-10 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge, 41700 Ann Arbor Road.

Details: The Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 welcomes another series of Jazz @ The Elks with the Cliff Moner Trio with Stephanie Moner as the vocalist. Cliff has played at the Elks several times, but this is Stephanie's first appearance. The trio features Cliff on keyboard with Jeff Pedraza on bass and Scott Kretzer on drums. There is a \$10 dona-

tion at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres.

Contact: For more information, call 734-453-1780 or email plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com.

SENIOR OLYMPICS

Date/Time: Aug. 12-16, 8 a.m. (opening ceremony Aug. 12)
Location: Opening ceremony, Nankin Mills Field

Details: Plymouth seniors age 50 and older should get ready for the ninth annual Western Wayne County Senior Olympics. Opening Day Expo will be held at the Nankin Mills Field (Hines Drive south of Ann Arbor Trail). The \$5 registration fee will include Olympic T-shirt, healthy breakfast sponsored by Heartland Canton, Heartland Livonia North East. The Torch Light Ceremony will begin at 9:30 a.m. and all programs, activities and events will officially begin and will continue the entire week, concluding with an awards banquet. Registration forms and brochures are available at the PCCA Office, 201 S. Main, in Plymouth.

28th Annual Rathayatra

Festival of Chariots

Saturday, July 20, 2013



What to Expect?

Be one of over 8,000 expected in attendance!

The festival begins at 11:00 am with an opening ceremony featuring a live musical dance and appearances from the mayor and other dignitaries. An interactive three-mile parade with live music follows in which thousands of visitors pull a four-story tall chariot by rope. At Fuerst Park, a grand celebration awaits the crowd, including an exhibition showcasing India's spirituality and culture. There will be over 20 tents offering FREE FOOD, live entertainment, unique shopping, cooking demonstrations, henna, Vedic culture and arts, and many kid activities. Visitors will see a colorful display of traditional costumes, Vedic rituals, unique music, and dramas. The whole family will enjoy exploring the unique attractions revealing the spiritual heart of India.



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OUR VIEWS

Consolidating schools

Education change needed, but countywide districts have a lot of questions

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan thinks more money could be spent in the classroom if Michigan merged its public school districts into countywide school districts. He believes the move could save considerable money by eliminating duplicate jobs and providing more efficient services.

Michigan school districts can use all the savings they can get. With declining enrollment and stingy state aid, schools are struggling to make ends meet. For instance, while Plymouth-Canton presented a balanced budget this year, it has in recent years had to tap into its fund balance to survive.

Forming countywide schools always seems attractive to some who believe there would be savings by reducing the number of superintendents and administrators. But the devil is in the details. Flanagan says the idea might save millions of dollars, but there has been no supporting data to back that up. He says he plans to release a document to advance discussion.

Potential savings need to be examined. There are about 1.5 million schoolchildren in Michigan. So even a savings of \$15 million, which sounds like a lot, amounts to only \$10 per student. Every penny counts, of course, but such a savings will have little impact on troubled districts.

Will bigger districts save money? Perhaps. But the state's biggest district, in Detroit, is seldom used as a shining example of fiscal efficiency. Others argue smaller school districts may be more beneficial. A 2007 study by the conservative Mackinac Center for Public Policy indicated school districts are most efficient with a student population of about 2,900.

How real are the savings of countywide districts? It's easy to say there are too many administrators, but combining responsibilities is not always a simple solution. That's especially true with the wide disparity of school districts in Michigan. There are 34 school districts in Wayne County, including some of the state's largest (Dearborn, Detroit, Livonia and Plymouth-Canton). That's a lot of kids and, geographically, a lot of ground to cover.

Combining them into a single countywide district would still require some level of administrative presence in each community. There must be some comparison between the hoped-for savings and the loss of local control. Which communities, for instance, will think it's all right if they don't have a lead administrator for their schools?

Some of the savings that Flanagan envisions by combining services have already been captured locally. Central-office administrators already wear more than one hat. Rather than forcing consolidation, it might be better to find which districts could save money by following similar best practices (Plymouth-Canton and Livonia, for instance, now share a food services contract).

Flanagan's objective makes sense. Some school districts have always been too small for efficient operations. When districts start losing students in large numbers — sometimes through no fault of their own — they suffer from trying to run a district built for a larger population. That was one of the problems in the Buena Vista School District, which shut down for two weeks in May.

But the idea of consolidating districts, however well it might work, is looking for small victories when major change is needed. In a digital age where job skills change overnight, are we still best served by a nine-month school year in which most students follow a rigid 13-year schedule that is largely one size fits all?

Consolidating districts will ruffle a lot of feathers. It won't be worth it if the savings are minimal and the effort takes attention away from reform that could directly improve education for students.



Local officials say a better answer is consolidation of services, such as Plymouth-Canton's agreement to share food services with Livonia schools. (ILL BRESLER) STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CANTON OBSERVER

A GANNETT COMPANY

Brad Kadrich,
Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
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CANTON COMMUNITY VOICE

What's your favorite way to cool off on a hot summer day?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"Swimming or staying inside in the air (conditioning)."

Latifia Demps
Canton



"I like to go swimming and eat ice cream."

Latifia Bannerman
Canton



"Stay inside where it's air-conditioned, watch a movie and quilt."

Judy Schuyten
Canton



"Probably go in a pool."

Theresa Lafave
Canton

LETTERS

Collection fee

I just received my Canton tax bill this last week and noticed there was a \$21 collection fee as part of my summer statement. I don't know when this fee started, but it seems this is just another way of increasing property taxes. Wonder what would happen if I paid my taxes, but deducted this tax collection fee. Any other readers have any thoughts on this?

Loren Baric
Canton

Mishandled bond

Well, that didn't take long now, did it? There were three primary reasons why I was opposed to the new bond.

The details regarding how our money was going to be spent were virtually nonexistent. I have no confidence in the majority of this school board to spend our money wisely and the student pool is shrinking (households with ages 0-5 down 30 percent since 2012).

It has taken less than two months for the "mishandling of bond funds" concern to surface in a big way.

The Plymouth-Canton school board, namely John Barrett, Kimberley Crouch, Judy Mardigan and Sheila Paton, voted to

give McCarthy/Smith the construction management position without asking for bids.

As a result, McCarthy/Smith stands to make millions for overseeing the construction of the new school and bond-affiliated building improvements to existing facilities, uncontested.

This is a fiscally irresponsible decision. Where is this board's business savvy?

Don't we owe it to the kids in this community to make sure that as much money as possible ends up in the classroom to benefit the students?

This no-bid gift should not sit well with the citizenry of this community for a variety of reasons, including:

McCarthy/Smith was the entity that helped the administration derive the estimated cost of new construction and infrastructure improvements stated in the bond proposal. Isn't that a cozy relationship for a company that stands to profit from a percentage of the overall cost?

Why is outgoing Superintendent Hughes trying to run this business through before Superintendent Meissen takes over in July? Shouldn't the school board be allowing the new superintendent, the guy it picked, to be more involved in the decisions

regarding contractors he will be working with?

Posting this position out to bid will eliminate concerns of contractor complacency. Bidders would sharpen their pencils, ensuring competitive pricing under current economic conditions, eliminating any speculation.

I'm confident in asserting that if Trustees Barrett, Mardigan, Crouch and Paton were going to make a high-priced purchase with their own money, an expensive home improvement for example, they would get bids to evaluate. This school board must start handling our money more responsibly.

The citizenry should pressure the school board to fulfill its fiduciary responsibility and demand that members reverse this careless decision and put the construction management position up for bid. And the elected officials in our district who supported this bond initiative should be equally as vocal in expressing to the public and to the school board that this board needs to be smarter in handling the public's hard-earned money.

Being silent now might not bode well for their reputations come election time.

Matt Dames
Canton

STAFF COLUMN

Aches, pains just part of training for the 3-Day



Brad Kadrich

When Michele Potter served on the Plymouth City Commission, she was always accessible, informed and honest.

But Potter also has something of a sense of humor, so when she told me to slather my feet with Vaseline before going on my training walks as I prepare for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer 3-Day, my first reaction was, "Is she kidding?"

To be honest, I haven't tried it yet, but I'm willing to do just about anything at this point in my training. With about five weeks to go before the Aug. 16-18 walk, I think I'm doing pretty well. I face the longest training walk of my life Saturday — Komen's training program has me scheduled to walk 18 miles on Saturday, and 15 miles on Sunday.

I've done 15 miles in a single walk already and, although I usually hit a wall that I have to force myself through at about 10-12 miles, nothing so far has suggested to me I won't be able to do this, especially not with the support I've been getting. People — in the newsroom, on Facebook, in the Komen 3-Day chat rooms — have been very supportive. Kind, generous (with donations) and helpful.

Not that I haven't taken some kidding, particularly from my family. My kids all raised their eyebrows when I asked for a new fanny pack for Father's Day, but the folks in the chat rooms insist one is necessary.

And we were at my nephew's birthday party recently when my sister asked me when the 3-Day was. My daughter, who possesses my sarcastic sense of humor, told her, "It's three days



Walkers say the trip through downtown Plymouth, with its thousands of cheering fans providing their support, is the highlight of the Breast Cancer 3-Day for the Cure.

before his funeral." It was good for a laugh and not totally uncalled for regarding a 54-year-old fat guy talking about walking 60 miles in three days.

There have been setbacks. A couple of weeks ago, my back and calf muscles seized up a little bit, reminding me of the importance of stretching. Last week, I developed a huge blister on my left heel (hence the advice from Ms. Potter), reminding me to wear either thicker socks than I'm wearing or to wear two pairs.

Lisa and John Zacone, former Canton residents (John is a Plymouth High School grad), have developed a fitness app called Virtual Walk that I'm trying to try, hoping to gain motivation for the rest of my training.

I talked with Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincok at Art in the Park Saturday, and he assured me the walk will be coming through Plymouth, as it does every year. Truth be told, that's the part I'm looking most forward to. I have for years watched the support the community gives walkers, and I look forward to being part of that. I

suspect at that point I'll need it.

So far, I've mostly drawn inspiration thinking about the people with whom I'll be walking, the hundreds of women who are fighting breast cancer, who have thankfully survived it or who are walking because someone they love didn't.

I know it sounds corny to say, but when I hit that wall in my training, when I think I'm tired, my feet are hurting and my legs are dripping into my eyes, I try to think of those folks, and it usually helps. When it's over, and for a long time afterward, many of the people with whom I'll be walking are still going to be fighting cancer.

If I have to tend to some achy muscles and a few nasty blisters, it's a small price to pay. Now, I need to find a vat of Vaseline.

Brad Kadrich, community editor of the Plymouth and Canton Observer, is walking the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer 3-Day for O&E Media Inc. If you want to help, you can donate by going to www.thebreastcancer3day.org and find his name under "walkers" or donate on-line. He appreciates any help.



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SECTION B (CP)

THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2013

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
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SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR

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Plymouth and Canton friends (from left) Tyler Jeleniewski, Adam Powers, Kulraj Sandhu, Erik Wright, Billy Holden, Dan Wanshon and Max Julien sprint through the Tough Mudder's Electroshock Therapy obstacle June 29. The dangling wires packed a jolt of up to 10,000 volts of electricity. TERRY JELENIEWSKI

Hole-in-one

Suzanne Riggs of Livonia used an 8-iron to ace the 120-yard (from the women's tee) seventh hole at St. Johns Golf Course in Plymouth on June 26.

It was the second hole-in-one for Riggs, who also aced the 13th hole at Glenhurst Golf Course in Redford six years ago.

Riggs' latest feat occurred while playing a regular round in the Golf Fun-Addicts League, and it was witnessed by fellow league members Sue Hostetter and Sandy Brincat.

When she hit the tee shot, Riggs said she had no idea the ball would end up in the cup.

Wrestling in Westland

The Midwest Pro Wrestling Alliance will host its Collision card beginning at 3 p.m. Sunday, July 28, at Romanowski RVFW Post No. 6896, 28945 Joy Rd., Westland.

Doors open at 2 p.m. and the event is free for all ages.

The MPWA Collision card, which will be filmed and later edited on WMYD My TV 20, features Rick "The Righteous Maker" Baker, "Prime-time" Tommy Johnson, Rik Thorton, Titus, Jerome "Do It" Pruitt and many more.

Local rockabilly punk band The Devil Elvis will perform throughout the card. Concessions will be available.

The MPWA will also host a training seminar before event at 9 a.m.

Promoter Brian Shotwell and former TNA star and MPWA champion Rucj Baker will give participants an in-ring introduction about breaking into the business. The cost is \$25.

For more information, call Johnny Carruba at (734) 363-0080; or visit My MPWA.webs.com.

All-stars

The format for the annual high school football coaches association all-star game will change in 2014, going from an intra-state to an inter-state event.

Instead of an all-Michigan East-West game, a team of Michigan all-stars will play an Ohio all-star squad in the inaugural Border Classic Football Game June 14 on the University of Findlay (Ohio) campus.

The Ohio and Michigan coaches associations will each select 40 players and six coaches to participate in the game. Selections will be announced in February at a press conference.

Life-changing challenge

Tough Mudder event pushes local participants to the edge and back

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Depending upon which of the 25 grueling obstacles you happened to be passing through at the time, the Tough Mudder endurance event June 29-30 in Brooklyn, Mich., was chilling, shocking, thrilling and demanding (both physically and mentally).

Several Observerland-area residents who participated in the life-changing, 12-mile challenge all agreed that crossing the finish line ranked among the most uplifting experiences of their lives.

"It was the toughest thing



Livonia resident Alicia Martin (right) completed her second Tough Mudder with her good friend Donna Wolbers of South Lyon.

I've ever done and the coolest thing I've ever done — all at the same time," said 53-year-old Plymouth resident Scott David, who toughed out the mud-laced course with several of his

Southfield-based Guardian Alarm co-workers. "The next day my body hurt in places I didn't even know existed, but it was well worth it."

According to the event's

official website, Tough Mudders are "hard-core" 10- to 12-mile obstacle courses designed by British Special Forces that test participants' strength, stamina, mental grit and camaraderie.

After reviewing the never-a-

dull-moment course, it's easy to understand why only 78 percent of the entrants manage to complete each of the event's obstacles. In addition to running through fire, getting zapped on the back by high-voltage wires and getting submerged in muscle-paralyzing ice water, mudders have to run close to a half marathon — most of the way on a muddy path that only a massive pig could love.

Noble cause

The events have raised more than \$5 million for the Wounded

See MUDDERS, Page B3

Fast Eddie II takes the lead again

Farmington Hills owner's speedboat unbeaten in APBA hydroplane racing

By Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

Jim Sechler and his hydroplane racing crew hope to keep their victory streak intact this weekend when they compete in front of family and friends on Pontiac Lake.

The Farmington Hills owner of the Fast Eddie II will be going after his 11th straight win of the 2013 season in the 14th annual Quake on the Lake.

Sechler and his team have won all 10 of the races they've entered thus far in the American Power Boat Association's one-liter modified inboard class.

The three-day event begins Friday at the Waterford location and will include eight other inboard classes. New additions this year are the stock outboard boats.

Sechler will have his boat in the water for two heats both Saturday and Sunday. Each day counts as an official day of racing. A team can enter 20 races and select the top 15 finishes to determine its overall point total at the end of the season.

"We hope to win all of them," Sechler said of the four heats at Pontiac Lake. "Whether we can or not is a different story. We expected to win last year and didn't. What I will expect to see is a lot of fast boats competing and, hopefully, we can be better than them."

"There are probably four or five boats (with a chance to win any race). It's good for the class because then people want to watch it and that's what it's all about. Nobody wants to see the same guys win every single race."

While the competition has gotten better, the Fast Eddie II has stayed a step ahead of the



Fast Eddie II glides over the water during a one-liter, modified inboard speedboat race.

field and remained the class of the class.

Sechler and his team, which includes veteran driver Dan Kanfoush of Buffalo, N.Y., have won eight consecutive APBA national championships in the one-liter modified division and they're well on their way to winning a ninth.

"Anything can happen, of course, but I like our odds," said Sechler, whose profession is engineering and does much of the maintenance work on the boat.

Unlike last year, the Fast Eddie II and crew are well in front of the competition with a nice lead in the point totals this time around.

Sechler likes to front-load his schedule with a lot of early races in April and May. His team got going later last year due to bad weather and other scheduling matters and a late-season push was needed to claim a come-from-behind victory in the final points tally.

"We had races in August and September,

See FAST EDDIE, Page B4

Duhl welcomes double duty with Salem

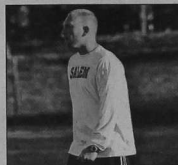
By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Scott Duhl didn't need to make much of a pitch to take over as the "pitch-man" for Salem's varsity boys soccer team.

The former Mr. Soccer runner-up and state finalist for the Rocks in the late 1990s last week was hired to succeed the man who coached him at Salem — Ed McCarthy.

Duhl is no stranger on the coaching sidelines at Salem, either,

See DUHL, Page B2



New Salem varsity boys soccer coach Scott Duhl (above) is looking to continue the excellent standard set by his former coach and mentor, Ed McCarthy.

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Ex-Spartans help Rams earn split

Two former Livonia Stevenson pitchers teamed up for the victory Saturday as the Michigan Rams earned a 4-3 victory and salvaged a split of their Livonia Collegiate Baseball League doubleheader with the Michigan Monarchs at Lakeland High School.

After falling 3-2 in the opener, Madonna's Evan Piechota pitched 6½ innings to pick up the win.

The right-hander allowed three runs on six hits with a walk and two strikeouts before former Stevenson teammate Chris McDonald (Hillsdale) came on for the final two outs and picked up the save.

J.P. Maracani's two-run HR in the top of the sixth inning proved to be the difference. McDonald and Griffin

Harms also knocked in runs for the Rams (12-11-2).

Losing pitcher Joe Buchalski allowed four runs on five hits in six innings. He struck out nine and walked seven. Victor Barron (MU) pitched a scoreless seventh.

Matt Priebe (Plymouth) had a two-run homer and Shane Dokey (MU) was 2-for-3 with an RBI for the Monarchs (17-8).

In Game 1, the Monarchs collected two RBI from Barron, including the game-winning hit in the bottom of the seventh, to earn a one-run victory.

Rob Zenas was the first five innings, allowing two runs on five hits and two walks. He gave way to Kevin Delapaz (Canton/Bowling Green), who pitched two

scoreless innings to pick up the win.

Kirk Stambaugh took the loss in relief after going the final two innings for Rams starter Spencer Goebel, who gave up just one earned run on four hits.

Maracani and Justin Sherman each contributed two hits and an RBI.

RAMS 1, BULLS 0: On Friday, Trent Drumheller's walk-off single drove Miles Sorise home

with the game-winning run in the bottom of the eighth inning to give the Rams (11-10-2) the LCB victory over the Michigan Bulls (17-5) at Bicentennial Park.

Sorise went 2-for-3 with a double for the Bulls.

Winning pitcher Jake Balicki went all eight innings to earn the victory.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Garden City Hockey Association signups

The Garden City Hockey Association is holding walk-in registrations on July 20 from 10 a.m. to noon; and on July 23 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Garden City Ice Arena.

The cost for house players registering on these dates will be \$115, which reflects a \$10 discount. The cost for the GCHA's learn-to-play

hockey program is \$40 for an eight-week session.

For more information, visit www.leagueleagues.com/gcha.

Motor City Junior

The Motor City Junior Golf Championship (ages 12-17), an 18-hole event sponsored by Caddy Shack, will begin at 8 a.m. Wednesday, July 31, at Whispering Willows.

Included in the \$49 cost is one 18-hole tour-

ney entry, one practice round (prior to the event), driving range balls (day of the event), lunch ticket and gift pack. Checks should be made payable to TJW, Inc.)

All entries are due by Friday, July 26. (See times will be available after noon Sunday, July 28.)

For more information, visit golfvillonia.com or call Whispering Willows at 248-474-4493.

DUHL

Continued from Page B1

having been an assistant coach for McCarthy in 2011-12.

Moreover, he was JV boys coach from 2004-10 and this spring coached Salem's varsity girls soccer team (a job he will continue in 2014).

"Getting the job was really exciting," Duhl said. "Since I started coaching here, I always wanted to be the one making tough decisions during the game."

Duhl emphasized that it is "bittersweet" getting the top spot, only because it meant McCarthy was leaving (he stepped down late last year for personal reasons).

Changing the voice

But he noted that he and McCarthy pretty much are on the same wavelength about how to get the most out of a soccer team.

"Talking over for Ed will be difficult in terms of expectations and people getting accustomed to doing things a certain way," Duhl said. "Players will have to adapt to different training times and hearing a different voice, but I believe that our philosophies are pretty close."

"We have had great pride at Salem that it has been hard to score goals on us historically."

As it turned out, McCarthy isn't exactly leaving the Salem soccer scene. Although opting not to continue with head coaching duties, McCarthy is sticking around as a mentor.

"The other thing that excites me the most that a lot of people do not know is that Ed has agreed to be back in a smaller role as an assistant this year," said Duhl, a standout forward and attacking midfielder after high school both at Western Michigan University and with the semi-professional Michigan Bucks. "He has a lot of things he is juggling with work and family life, so we're not sure how big the role will be out of the gate."

"But he has been the face of this program for 20 years and he knows he is always welcome here as long as I am around."

Augmenting the staff will be another big-time former Salem player, Brian Popney, a teammate of Duhl's on the Rocks' state finalists of 1999.

"I am really excited about my staff," Duhl said. "We have a lot of history together and really creates a great atmosphere for the players with all the tradition."

Plenty to do

Part of Salem's soccer tradition is a penchant for coaches and players alike to get after it.

Duhl, like McCarthy, is no stranger to a busy soccer workload and he welcomes the challenge. He also coaches club teams with the Michigan Wolves and Michigan Hawks and helps out teams in the Wolves Academy — all while keeping an ear to the ground and an eye on getting started with the 2013 Salem boys team.

"As much fun as it is

THE DUHL FILE

Who: Scott Duhl, recently named head coach of the Salem varsity boys soccer team.

In demand: He also coaches club soccer teams with the Michigan Wolves and Michigan Hawks, runs summer soccer camps and recently wrapped up his first season at the helm of Salem's varsity girls soccer squad.

Prep star: Duhl graduated in 2000 from Salem High School after a stellar four-year career as a forward/midfielder.

He nearly won "Mr. Soccer" honors his senior year in 1997 and 1999.

College kudos: All-conference honors came his way all four years at Western Michigan University (2000-03) and he was team MVP two of those seasons.

Pro stance: He played with the Michigan Bucks of the United Soccer Leagues Premier Development League and in 2011-12 was an assistant coach. Other experience after WMU included the Kalamazoo Kingdom and West Michigan Edge.

to score goals, I take more pride in being organized and defending while as a group," Duhl said. "With all that said, we will have high expectations this year and that makes me want to get the ball rolling."

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Bucks appear ready for PDL playoff push

Team avenges earlier loss against River City Rovers

By Brad Emmons
Staff Writer

After going an uncharacteristic 0-1-3 in their last four Premier Development League matches, the Michigan Bucks found their Midas Touch once again in Saturday's home finale at Pontiac's Ultimate Soccer Arena.

Headed for their 16th playoff berth in the 18-year history of the franchise, the Bucks posted a 3-1 victory over the River City Rovers (Ky.), only one of two teams to defeat them this season.

The second-place Bucks, who improved to 8-2-3 overall (27 points) in the Great Lakes Division of the PDL's Central Conference, locked up a home playoff game scheduled for next Tuesday at a site yet to be determined. (The Bucks ended their regular season Wednesday in Chicago against the Fire.)

"We needed it bad. I mean, no points for points or standings in the league, but so we get our confidence and the team back," Bucks coach Demir Mufdari said. "We don't want doubt starting to creep in and negativity to start creeping into the team. We want positive, confident Bucks soccer. That's what we ask these athletes to come play here. We got great trading cards and a great program. These guys need to carry it on. Every team at all levels goes a little bit through the ups and downs."

The idea is the great teams respond from it. And that's what we've been kind of preaching. Anger and frustration isn't going to solve anything. Let's solve the problem. The guys have been working hard at training. The guys have been really eager. They were firing tonight. They were really hungry."

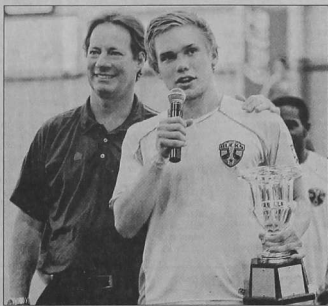
Gerald Ben's sixth goal of the season from Thomas Catalano in the 35 minute struck the Bucks to a 1-0 halftime lead.

Catalano, the former Oakland University standout, then scored in the 73rd minute from Sebastian Harris to make it 2-0.

But River City (4-7-1, 16 points) made things interesting when Dylan Terry nailed a free kick into the upper corner past Bucks goalkeeper Adam Grinwis to slice the deficit to 2-1 in the 76th minute.

But in the 81st minute, Harris took a feed from Matt Walker and perfectly timed a diving header to put the Bucks up two goals again and secure the victory.

"We changed a couple of things around and changed the roles of a couple of guys trying to change things up to have some guys in some different roles," Mufdari said. "We don't know that playing lineup yet. That's a work in progress, but we're working towards it. We hope to get it done soon here. We have a lot of options. And tonight was a great example of we're pretty deep. We've got some key injuries to some key guys. Other guys are able to step in and do a great job."



Michigan Bucks owner and Livonia native Dan Duggan (left) presented second-year player Zach Steinberger the 2013 Paul R. Scicluna Memorial Trophy. Steinberger, who plays at Butler University, leads the Bucks with 10 goals. The award goes to the player who best exemplifies the Bucks organization both on and off the field. Scicluna died tragically in a 1999 car accident. He was the former EMU women's soccer coach who helped launch the Livonia YMCA soccer programs. KELLY HAAPALA

The 25-year-old Harris, who was appearing in his seventh Bucks game, played the full 90 minutes.

"I thought the team from top-to-bottom worked great," Mufdari said. "A guy like Sebby Harris tonight was sensational. He hasn't started a game in awhile. He went from being a defender last year and now we're asking him to play up top. He sets up a goal and gets the third goal. He's all over the place. He's working

and doing all that he can. Guys like him is really what our team is all about."

"Guys do what they have to do for the betterment of the team. A guy like that could have pouted, been a little bit down, lost his confidence not getting a start in awhile. Instead, he gets his opportunity to start and he makes the most of it. He shows it and says, 'Hey, maybe I should start some more.'"

The Bucks were also able to

rebound from last Wednesday's 4-3 home setback to first-place London (Ontario) FC.

"Little details," Mufdari said. "We were a little bit cleaner in both penalty boxes. Our clearances defensively and our organization defensively a little bit better. We did better on second balls than we have been the last couple games."

"Offensively we were hungrier in the box and attacked the ball better. Our technique and speed of play in the final third was much better than it's been. We didn't really play poorly in that run we went on, just wasn't quite right. We took a step forward to go back in the right direction. Our work is not done. We can always get better."

The Bucks, with nothing to play for in the final regular season match, will now focus on getting healthy and gear up for a first-round playoff match against the third place team in the division (currently the Toronto Lynx).

"It's a different role for us," Mufdari said. "The last couple of years we've gone into the playoffs as the number one seed, but it doesn't make any difference. We've talked about it. Maybe we have a different role and we're under the radar a little bit and that's not a bad place for us to be. We're confident. We feel good about our team. We know we have a difficult task ahead of us, but nothing can't handle or deal with."

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Local players join UDM women's lacrosse team

University of Detroit Mercy women's lacrosse head coach Laura Maness has announced that Anniese Niermann (Plymouth, Mich./Canton) and Jaclyn Snyder (South Lyon, Mich./Ladywood) will join the Titans for the 2014 season.

"Both Anniese and Jaclyn round out our recruiting class nicely," said Maness, who will start her third year at the helm of the Titans.

"Both athletes have made impressive contributions to their local Michigan high school programs and I look forward to having all six athletes as part of our team."

Niermann earned four letters in lacrosse playing at Canton High School, taking home All-League honors and Scholar Athlete recognition in each of her final three years.

She also garnered the All-State Academic award and Plymouth-Canton Education All-Park Team her junior and senior years. In her final season of play, she was named an All-State honorable member and set a school record with 66 points.

Niermann also played club lacrosse with the Detroit

Coyotes for the past two seasons and will see a familiar face from playing with the Coyotes in 2014 signee Lauren Sharkey.

"Anniese is a smart player who sees the field well and is very solid offensively. She will be joining her club teammate Lauren Sharkey on the field," added Maness. Ladywood team MVP and 2013 senior captain Snyder also will know someone on the roster as she played for the Blazers with current Titan sophomore Kylie Birney.

Snyder garnered All-League, All-Catholic, and All-State Second Team honors last season as she helped the Blazers to the State Finals.

She tallied three goals and an assist to help Ladywood reach the State Finals for the first time in the school's history as the squad finished with a 15-3 overall record.

"Jaclyn will bring her speed and scrappiness to help support our midfield, and will also be rejoining high school teammate Kylie Birney," stated Maness.

Niermann also played club lacrosse with the Detroit

O'Shea resigns as Oakland soccer coach

Livonia native Nick O'Shea announced his resignation Monday as head coach of the Oakland University women's soccer team after 19 seasons at the helm.

O'Shea compiled a career record of 212-126-24 while leading the Golden Grizzlies to numerous Summit League championships and seven NCAA tournament appearances.

"I want to thank Oakland University for the opportunity to coach and work with all the exceptional student-athletes, coaches and staff during my tenure," O'Shea said.

"I feel like I am leaving the program well positioned for continued success, and I appreciate the commitment of all the current and former student-athletes that have played for me over the years. I also want to thank all my assistant coaches for their dedication. I am looking forward to new opportunities."

The search for a women's soccer head coach will commence immediately, according to OU athletic director Tracy Huth.

"On behalf of the university, the athletics staff and our student-athletes, I extend appreciation to Nick for his years of commitment to the Oakland women's soccer program," Huth said.



Nick O'Shea

"During Nick's time as coach, women's soccer achieved high levels of success that we believe will continue in the future. I wish Nick and his family success in all their future endeavors."

O'Shea, the only head coach in the history of the OU program, is the Summit League's most successful coach ever, accumulating 15 league titles in 14 seasons (seven regular season and eight tournaments).

He was named Coach of the Year three times (1999, 2003, 2010) and led Oakland to the NCAA second round in 2012 with a 3-1 win in penalty kicks over No. 4 Ohio State in Columbus.

O'Shea, who attended

Franklin High School, also played and coached at Schoolcraft College and OU. In his two seasons at OU (1982-83), the Pioneers as they were then known advanced to the NCAA Division II semifinals. He was an all-region player in 1983.

Prior to going to Oakland, O'Shea was the women's head coach at Schoolcraft College and girls head coach at Livonia Churchill High School.

He led Schoolcraft to the National Junior College Athletic Association title in 1987 and was named NJCAA Coach of the Year. His teams also earned a pair of third-place finishes. Churchill advanced to the MHSAA Class A state finals twice under O'Shea.

As a player, O'Shea went to Oakland after two seasons at Schoolcraft, where he earned second team NJCAA All-American laurels. He played professionally with the Kalamazoo Kangaroos and the Toledo Pride of the indoor AISA and the Tulsa Tornados and Oklahoma City Stampede of the outdoor USL from 1984-87. O'Shea's teams in Rochester Hills with his wife, Leslie-Ann, and their three children, Ashlyn, Sydney and Rylee. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2008 for his accomplishments as an OU player.

MUDDERS

Continued from Page B1

Warrior Project, a non-profit organization whose mission is to "honor and empower wounded warriors of the United States Armed Forces."

While strength and stamina are important, even the toughest "mudders" won't survive the course without a healthy dose of camaraderie, according to Livonia resident Alicia Martin, a special education para-

pro who completed the event along with good friend Donna Wolbers. "Everybody on the course becomes everybody else's best friend," Martin said, her words coated with emotion.

"There's one obstacle on the course where you have to walk along a plank and then jump about 12 feet into water. There was one lady who was absolutely terrified to jump off the plank."

"Donna and I and some others stayed there about five to 10 minutes, encouraging her until she finally did it. You see

people helping others throughout the entire course. You're not worried about your time as much as you are helping everybody get through it. The entire experience is incredible."

Life-saving experience

Training for the Tough Mudder started out as a family-bonding experience for Westland resident Kristi Parker, her father Phil Jeffers and brother Phillip, who is a veteran of the Iraq War and is himself a Wounded Warrior.

But it soon became so much more.

"I'm convinced it was a life-saver for my dad," said Parker, a 39-year-old single mother of three kids. "Before he decided to try the Tough Mudder, my dad was on drugs for high blood pressure, high cholesterol and a few other things. He was in pretty bad shape."

"Thanks to the training we did - we worked out on the trails in Canton that run along Michigan Avenue - he lost 25 pounds, started eating healthier, substituted drinking pop with water and now he feels like a totally different man."

Each of the obstacles the participants encountered carried a descriptive name - from the Electroshock Therapy, which required running through a maze of wires that packed up to 10,000 volts of electricity, to the Mud Mile, which was jam-packed with mini-freezes and plenty of mud.

Freeze factor

But the toughest for many of the local athletes proved to be the Arctic Enema, a challenge that called for entrants to submerge themselves in ice water so cold that it temporarily paralyzed their muscles.



Farmington Hills resident Tania Macioce is assisted up the Everest obstacle by members of her team.

cles.

"When you jump in the ice bath," Farmington Hills resident Tania Macioce said, "your entire body literally becomes numb. It's so cold, it's almost heart-stopping. Without your teammates helping you, it's hard to get through it."

After initially hearing about the Tough Mudder from her niece Shelley Kulick, Canton resident Ann Robb was gung-ho about giving it a shot.

"When I heard it was an obstacle course, I was like, 'I'm in, I'm in,'"

Robb said. "But when I went to the website and saw what it was about, I was like, 'I'm out, I'm out.' But Shelley told me they had already paid my entry fee, so I couldn't back out."

"Although I was resistant at first, it turned out to be an emotional experience for all of us (Kulick's husband Troy and Robb's nephew Michael Gabb also completed the event). It was one of the most amazing things I've ever done."

ewright@hometownlife.com



Westland's Kristi Parker (left) completed the Tough Mudder with her father Phil Jeffers (center) and brother Phillip Jeffers. Both of the Jeffers live in Canton.

Waza athletes qualify for AAU national meet

Five Observerland athletes are among the 21 representing the Waza Track Club who have qualified for the national AAU Junior Olympics in track and field.

Josh Momeyer of Livonia, Jordan and James Weekley and Robert Irwin of Farmington Hills and Ammar Chishti of Canton will compete on the national level July 27 through Aug. 3 at Ryneerson Stadium in Rye, N.Y.

Jordan Weekley, 12, won two events and was third in another in the state championship meet and national qualifier

June 29-30 at Ypsilanti High School.

Weekley, who won the discus (75-6) and turbo javelin (63-0) and was third in the shot put (29-1), set personal records in each event.

Momeyer and James Weekley qualified in four events for the AAU national meet.

Momeyer won the 800-meter run (2:26.02) in the 13-year-old age group, and he also was third in the 200 hurdles (31.22), fifth in the 400 run (1:01.46) and seventh in the long jump (12-8.5).

Weekley was second in the 3,000 run



Jordan Weekley



Josh Momeyer



James Weekley



Robert Irwin

(9:20.2), third in the 1,500 run (4:15.41) and fifth in the 800 run (1:58.91).

Weekley, who made the All-Observer third team in the 3,200 run as a Harrison High School freshman last month, also was part of the 3,200 relay team that finished second (4:51.54).

Irwin, 13, was the state

runner-up in two events and also will be going to the national meet. He posted times of 5:02.43 in the 1,500 meters and 10:40.9 in the 3,000.

The fifth Observerland athlete, Canton's Ammar Chishti, earned fourth place in the 3,000 run (9:59.3) and sixth in the 1,500 run (4:29.55).

The 16-year-old also helped Waza get second place in the 3,200 relay (9:07.54).

The 21 Waza competitors earned 32 medals (first-fourth places) and 12 ribbons (fifth-eighth) and qualified for the national meet by being in the top eight. The club had six state champions. Each athlete set at least one personal record.

The other state champions are Kyle Samluk of New Hudson, 12, in the 3,000 meters (11:53) and turbo javelin (52-3.5) and Jordan Turner of Highland Park, 11, in the discus (59-8), shot put (27-6)

and turbo javelin (42-5).

Also competing and qualifying for the national meet were Bella Harves, Dearborn (9); Kellen Vife, Birmingham (10); Bo Anderson, Clarkston (10); Autumn Nickell, Flushing (11); Melanie McDowell, Novi (12); Elizabeth Palt, Novi (12); Matthew Brown, West Bloomfield (12); Michael Brown Jr., West Bloomfield (13); Haley Rathwell, Commerce (14); Marisa Saliu, Commerce (15); Andrew Bill, Berkley (15); Joost Plaehtinck, Novi (15); John Hamilton, Novi (15); and Josh Holcomb, Novi (15).

SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

Franklin girls hoop

The Livonia Franklin girls basketball clinic (grades 5-8) will be 5-7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, July 23-25, at the fieldhouse. The clinic is free.

To register, visit livoniafranklingirlsbasketball.com or email coach Jim Milican at jmilican@livoniampublicschools.org.

Hawks-Wolves

The Michigan Wolves and Hawks will offer a summer soccer camp for boys and girls (ages 5-15) from 10 a.m. until noon, Monday through Thursday, Aug. 12-15, at Jaycee Park, 19800 Mayfield Street, Livonia.

The cost of the four-day camp is \$75 (if registered before Aug. 5) or \$95 (after). Included in the cost is camp T-shirt. For more information, email dbardley1515@ebgoblog.net; or visiting michiganwolveshawks.com.

Salem soccer

Boys entering high school at Salem this fall are eligible to take part in the Rocks' boys soccer camp.

The sessions will take place from 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday through Friday, July 24-26, at the corner of Joy and Canton Center roads.

For more information, email coach Scott Doherty at scott.doherty@ya-hoo.com.

GC volleyball

The Garden City High School volleyball program will host a camp for advanced players from 5-8 p.m., Monday through Friday, July 22-26.

The cost is \$100 and includes a T-shirt. For more information, send an email to gardencityvb@ya-hoo.com.

Cabrera baseball

Triple Crown batting champion Miguel Cabre-

ra will be the attraction at a baseball camp from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 1, at Lake Orion High School.

The Detroit Tigers slugger will be joined by former Phillies minor league pitcher Mark Rutherford (Livonia Churchill Eastern Michigan University).

The camp is open to boys and girls ages 6-14. Cabrera will talk about the finer points of the game.

Participants receive an autographed team photo with Cabrera and a ProCamp T-shirt, among other items. The camp fee is \$99 and space will be limited. Visit www.miguel-cabrera.com.

Churchill football

The Livonia Churchill Offensive and Defensive Skills youth football camp for incoming grades nine-12 will be from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday through Friday, July 24-26, and 6-8 p.m. Monday, July 29, at the high school.

The cost is \$100 (if registered by July 19) or \$125 (sibling discount available).

For more information, call Allan Flegel at 734-718-4987.

Canton camps

Canton Leisure Services will be host a pair of basketball camps from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday through Friday, July 22-26 and July 29, Aug. 2, at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton.

Cost is \$140 for residents and \$150 for non-residents. There will be a pre-camp shoot-around from 8-9 a.m.

The camp, directed by Pat Watson, will focus on drills and skills for offensive strategies and defensive plays in game situations.

For more information, call 734-483-5600.

MU basketball

The Madonna University All-Star Boys

Basketball camps will be from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 22-26, and July 29 through Aug. 2, at the MU Activities Center.

The cost is \$215 per week.

For more information or to register online, visit www.AllStarBasketballCamps.com.

The Crusader Nation Girls Basketball Camp will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, July 15-18, at the Madonna University Activities Center.

The cost is \$130.

For more information, visit www.madonnacrusaders.com or call 734-432-5606.

Mini-soccer camp

A soccer mini-camp for boys and girls ages 5-12 (all skill levels) will be from 6-8:45 p.m. Monday through Thursday, Aug. 5-8, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia.

The cost is \$15 (includes instruction, snacks and a soccer ball to take home).

To register, visit www.christour Savior.org. For more information, call 734-522-6830.

MU cross country

The Madonna University Summer Cross Country base camps (incoming grades seven-12) will be 8-9:45 a.m. Monday through Friday, July 29 through Aug. 2, at Cass Benton Park in Northville.

The cost is \$75 (includes camp T-shirt). MU will also stage long runs 7:30-9 a.m. Saturdays, July 13, 20, 27 and Aug. 3, at Cass Benton. Donation is \$2 for each run.

For more information, email MU coach Pat Daugherty at pdaugherty@madonna.edu.

You can also call 734-432-5634 (office) or 734-658-0226 (evenings).



The varsity Salem Rockettes named to the UDA All-American Pom/Dance Team are (from left) Brianna Dotson, Kayla Stokfisz, Meghan Grossmann, Taylor Harvath, Vanessa Bank and Raven Reynolds.

Salem Rockettes named to All-American squad

Members of the Salem Rockettes proved they are among the best of the best in pom and dance.

At the recent UDA camp, girls from the varsity and junior varsity Rockettes were rewarded for their strong performances by being

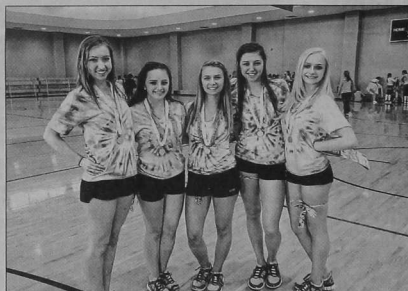
named to the UDA All-American Pom/Dance Team.

Only 10 percent of participants at each UDA camp are selected.

Varsity Rockettes to make the cut include seniors Vanessa Bank, Brianna Dotson, Meghan

Grossmann, Taylor Harvath, Raven Reynolds and Kayla Stokfisz.

All-American selections from the JV team include sophomores Becky DeWater, Erica Garczynski, Sarah O'Donnell, Morgan Poulos and Kelcie Rocheleau.



The JV Salem Rockettes named to the UDA All-American Pom/Dance Team are (from left) Becky DeWater, Sarah O'Donnell, Morgan Poulos, Kelcie Rocheleau and Erica Garczynski.

Murphy starts strong at Women's National Junior golf tournament

Kelsey Murphy is showing she still has game even after graduating from Plymouth High School.

Murphy, a prep all-stater last fall for Plymouth's varsity girls golf

team and instrumental in that team's Division 1 state championship, is off to a strong start at this week's Women's Western Golf Association 87th National Junior Championship.

ing off a successful weekend in which it won the Western Divisional on Black Lake near Olympia, Wash.

Sechler also has taken his boat to the Orange Cup Regatta in Florida, the Run for the Records and the Solar Cup in Washington state and, staying closer to home, the Walled Lake Thunder.

Ironically, the Fast Eddie II won three of four races and earned the most points at the Quake on the Lake last year, but it finished second overall.

The one race it lost (runner-up) was the Saturday final, which also determined the World Championship, one of the four major races.

But when you're chasing points, we did what we really needed to do," Sechler said, adding the

With a first-day round of 40-37-77, Murphy finished in a tie for seventh place at the 5,816-yard Dubuque Golf & Country Club in Iowa.

Murphy was just six strokes behind Monday's

leader, Bing Singhumalee (35-36-71) of Naperville, Ill. Entering Tuesday's second day of stroke play qualifying.

At the conclusion of Tuesday's action, players will be placed in flights.

Contestants with the lowest 32 scores will contend for the title beginning with single elimination match play on Wednesday.

Consolation rounds are Thursday for

Wednesday's unsuccessful contestants. The championship final match and consolation match for championship flight are set for Friday.

For more information, go to www.WWGA.org.

FAST EDDIE

Continued from Page B1

which is fine except sometimes the weather can be fickle," Sechler said. "I don't like waiting until the end of the year to finish the schedule. Fortunately, we did hit a few races out East that we weren't planning to go to. We were successful in those events and made up for the spring. In the end, it worked out."

"This year, we did what we typically do. We hit it hard in April and May. Right now we're sitting on 10 days of racing and we only need 15. We're hoping the Waterford races will be (win) Diod at 12. If that's the case, we should be in pretty good shape."

Fast Eddie II is com-



Fast Eddie II has won eight straight national championships in APBA hydroplane racing.

boat that won was fourth or fifth in its qualifier.

Sechler said the Fast Eddie II has never run better. He doesn't like to give too much information and tips to the competition, but he did make

some minor changes during the winter.

"We're breaking our own records now," Sechler said, adding three of the five APBA records are for different course lengths and two are

straightaway speed records for one kilometer and a quarter mile.

The Fast Eddie II team is looking over its shoulder for these days as the competition continues to get better, however.

"A couple new boats have been brought out that definitely make it a lot more difficult," Sechler said. "Now, people actually come out and watch our class because it's exciting to watch."

"While we've been successful, we've had to work real hard to stay out front. I think people can see the competition has gotten lot better. In our region (Michigan, Ohio and parts of Indiana and Kentucky), we have a lot of fast boats."

But the Fast Eddie II has remained the fastest boat - if not in every

race, at least over the course of an entire season.

"I think our edge is the fact we've been successful over a long time, so we're able to make just small changes to make ourselves better," Sechler said. "Whereas, the competition has to make bigger strides."

"It has allowed us to be more consistent. While any one boat can beat us at any race, the fact we've run consistently well is to our advantage."

"There are very few people we race who were racing back in 2005 when we won our first championship. There are some who've raced longer, but they haven't run as many races and run as hard as we have for as many years, so we just have that advantage."

RELIGION CALENDAR

JULY
MIME WORKSHOP

Time/Date: Workshops, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 26-27; worship and mime ministry, 10 a.m. Sunday, July 28
Location: Way of Life Christian Church, Lilly Executive Plaza, 9401 General Drive, Suite 100, Plymouth

Details: James and Clarice Green, with 17 years together in ministry, will lead the workshop. They use mime as a way of ministering to individuals who may need help to see it or get what God is saying. Cost is \$30 for adults, \$55 for couples, and \$20 for children and teens, 10 and above

Contact: Dorothy at 313-412-5917 or email to dnmurphy-ho.com

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sundays, through Aug. 18
Location: Grounds at Cherry Hill Village Schoolhouse, located at Ridge and Cherry Hill Roads, Canton

Details: St. Michael Lutheran Church offers a worship service in a casual atmosphere. Bring your own lawn chair. In case of inclement weather, service will be held at the church, 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, July 26 and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 27
Location: Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, South of Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia

Details: The sale will be in the lower level of the church

SINGLE PLACE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, July 18-25

Location: First Presbyterian Church of Northville, 200 E. Main St., Northville

Details: A cookout will be held July 18; cards and games night is planned for July 25. Ice cream is available July 25 for \$5. The cookout is \$7

Contact: www.singleplace.org

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. July 29 through Aug. 2

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

Details: "Kingdom Rock" is the theme; \$15 fee includes a T-shirt

WOW JAM

Time/Date: 4-8 p.m. July 19
Location: Goodway Recreational Park, 3355 S. Wayne Road, Wayne

Details: Cornerstone City Church offers this event that will include free groceries, free haircuts and manicures, free family photos, free bike repair, free potted plants, free hot meals and a singing contest.

Contact: denise.hunt7@gmail.com or info@cornerstonecitychurch.us

AUGUST
CAR SHOW

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24

Location: Livonia Church of Christ, 15431 Meridian, Livonia
Details: 12th annual Charity Car Show will benefit Angela Hospice. All makes of cars, trucks and motorcycles are welcome. There are class trophies plus best of show, a club participation award, goodie bags for the first 75 entrants, door prizes, a live DJ, and food and drinks available for purchase. The entry fee to show a vehicle is \$15. No charge to view the entries. Organizers also are seeking sponsors for the show

Contact: 734-427-8473

CHOIR DIRECTOR WORKSHOP

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m. Aug. 12
Location: Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: The three-day workshop at Holy Cross Lutheran Church is designed for choir directors and music educators, led by Michael Burkhardt
Contact: www.hearthandsvoices.org; 734-427-1414 for more information

C.L.E.A.P. FROG

Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, Aug. 5-21

Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Meridian, Livonia
Details: This learning program in a Christ-centered environment is designed to sharpen a child's skills and give them a "leg up into the coming school year. C.L.E.A.P. FROG — which is not a VBS program — will offer the basics, including math, reading, music, science and more. This free program is for children entering grades 1-6. A class for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten also is offered. All children must be pre-registered

Contact: Mary at 248-471-1322 or Melissa at 248-464-8694 to register

PARENTING CLASS

Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, Aug. 5-21

Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Meridian, Livonia
Details: The class for adults is based on the book "Have a New Kid by Friday" by Dr. Kevin Leman. It focuses on changing a child's attitude, behavior and character. It provides practical and doable strategies for regaining control and being the parent you always wanted to be. Cost is \$8 payable upon enrollment. Pre-registration is required

Contact: Mary at 248-471-1322 or Melissa at 248-464-8694 to register

SOCCER CAMP

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Aug. 5-8

Location: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Soccer mini-camp is for boys and girls, 5-12. Students may bring their own soccer ball or shin guards if desired. Items not required to enroll. Cost is \$15 per student and includes instruction, snacks, and a soccer ball to take home

Contact:

www.christoursavior.org; 734-522-6830

VOCATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. to noon Aug. 5-8

Location: Fellowship hall at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 8601 Hubbard, Livonia
Details: Designed for children, 3, through those entering fifth grade in the fall. Cost is \$10 per child and \$35 for families with three or more children. Each child will receive a free CD with all of the music from the week. Registration forms are available in the church office

Contact: Pam Gunderson at rgpcchildren@yahoo.com or 734-422-0494, Ext. 14

WORSHIP & MUSIC CAMP

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 12-15

Location: Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: "Hearts, Hands and Voices," is designed to help students in grades two-seven grow spiritually and musically

Contact: Register at www.hearthandsvoices.org; 734-427-1414

YOUTH RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 18-19 and 8 a.m. to noon, July 20

Location: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia

Contact: 248-442-8822

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Men's Bible study
Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.

Location: John Shulenberger at 734-464-9491

New Life Community Church

Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m. Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville

Contact: 734-846-4615

Our Lady of Loreto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

Location: 5x Mile and Beech Dale, Redford

Details: Scripture study

Contact: 313-534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday

Location: School library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Catholic adult and Bible scholar, Gary Michuta, leads a study of the Gospel of St. Luke. The sessions are open to all, regardless of their faith or parish affiliation

Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200, or www.livoniamichael.org

Ward Presbyterian
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays

Location: Room 401, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville

Details: Learner's Bible study is held

Contact: 248-374-5920

FAMILY COMMUNITY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday

Location: The Salvation Army, 27500 Shawwassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal

Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

FOOD BANK

New Hope Church
Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only

Location: 44815 Cherry Hill, Canton

Contact: Call pastor Nancy Brown to schedule an appointment at 734-270-2528.

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, MOPS; 7-8:30 p.m. first and third Thursday, MOPSnext. Both programs run September-May

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners; MOPSnext supports mothers of school-aged children

Contact: Rebekah Creeden at 734-522-6360 for MOPS and Susan Magner at 248-478-3643 for MOPSnext details.

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays

Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • eoebits@hometownlife.com

Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

MOSS, SHELLEY M.

July 16, 2013, Age 37 of Westland. Loving father to Leo Gildea. Mother to her newborn son Jack R. Gildea. Daughter of Emma and the late Jack Moss Sr. Step-mother to Joshua Gildea. Sister to Jack (Laura) Moss Jr. and the late Lisa Marie, Kelly Lee, and Alicia Regina Moss. Also survived by many nieces and nephews aunts and uncles. Funeral service from the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland, Monday 11:30a.m. Visitation at the funeral home Sunday 1-5pm.

Burial to take place at Marienville Cemetery.

Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhtfh.com

Uht FUNERAL HOME

35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland, MI 48106

Phone: 734-447-4460 Fax: 734-447-4461

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope. Meet with other women for companionship and support.

Contact: Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday

Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: All Creatures U.S. sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service. All Creatures U.S. describes the gathering as nondenominational and Christian. Wine is available for dogs.

Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER

Nardin Park United Methodist Church
Time/Date: 1 p.m. Wednesday

Location: 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Participate in an open time of praying silently and alone together as well as responding to personal requests.

St. Edith Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back of the church.

Details: Music, singing, prayer

Contact: Grace at 734-464-1896, Shirley at 734-464-3656 or Geri at 734-464-8906

St. Michael Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday

Location: 7000 Sheldon, Canton

Details: Praying silently or alone together; prayer requests welcomed

Contact: 734-459-3333

SINGLES
Detroit World Outreach
Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Sunday

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 304

Details: Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated. Open to the public and visitors are welcome.

Contact: The facilitator at 313-283-8200; lffdw@ow.org

First Presbyterian Church
Time/Date: 7:30-7:45 p.m., social time; 7:45-8 p.m., opening; 8-9 p.m., program Thursdays

Location: 200 E. Main St., Northville

Details: Single Place Ministry; cost is \$5

Contact: 248-349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

Steve's Family Restaurant
Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 14 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast.

Contact: 313-534-0399

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. Sunday

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville

Details: Single Point Ministries, for 30 and up, offers fellowship, coffee, doughnuts, conversation.

Contact: 248-374-5920

EIGHT&FOUR GRAVE PRIVATE FAMILY ESTATES

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248-477-4460

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Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. - Traditional

Sunday School/Bible Class
Time/Date: 9-9:45 a.m. Early Childhood Center

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
Pastors: Davenport, Bayle & Creeden

734-522-6830

Fellowship Presbyterian Church
Adult Sunday: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • **Worship:** 10:30 a.m.

Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Services held at: **Saint Andrews Episcopal Church**
16560 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road

Hunbury provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org

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CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
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St. Anne's Academy • Grades K-8
38100 Five Mile Road
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Mass Schedule:
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Saturday Mass 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Mass 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.
Consecration Heard Prior to Each Mass
Makers of Perpetual Help Devotion
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

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Wednesday 7 pm
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Between Farmington & Meridian
Pastor: Jeff Peterson
248.471.5282
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WARD CHURCH
40000 W. Six Mile Rd.
Northville, MI 48061
Traditional Worship: 10:30 A.M.
Contemporary Worship: 11:00 A.M.
Children's Programs available 10:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.
radio each week at 11 A.M. on 103.0 FM

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

St. Paul's Ev. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
17810 Farmington Road
Livonia 48150-1106
Worship Services
Sunday: 8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.
Tuesday: 6:30 P.M.
Website: www.stpaulslivonia.org

0E2350783

St. Peter's Lutheran Church & School
1343 Penniman • Plymouth
School: (734) 453-3393
School: (734) 453-3460
Website: www.slp.org

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday Worship 9:30am

0E2350783

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church
Adult Sunday: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • **Worship:** 10:30 a.m.

Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Services held at: **Saint Andrews Episcopal Church**
16560 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road

Hunbury provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org

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For Information regarding this Directory,
please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011 ext. 247
or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

From big band sound to improvisation: free Michigan Jazz Festival has it all

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

The Michigan Jazz Festival will feature a special guest artist for the first time in its 19-year history when it returns to Schoolcraft College in Livonia this weekend.

"We've never had one artist pointed out as being special. But this year we have the sensational jazz drummer, Peter Erskine. He has been performing with big bands like Buddy Rich and jazz fusion groups like Weather Report," said Barton Polot, music department chair at Schoolcraft and a liaison between the college and the festival.

"He's a West Coast guy and was a student at Interlochen way back. He'll be sitting in with two groups, guys who we have here every year."

Another West Coast-based performer, Terry Harrington, a woodwind instrumentalist and saxophone player also will be on hand. He's provided the music behind Lisa Simpson's saxophone playing on the animated show, *The Simpsons*.

One other new twist to the festival, which will offer jazz fans nine hours of continuous music, starting at noon Sunday, July 21, is a tribute to jazz legend Don Palmer. Polot said the Detroit Jazz Festival donated funds to make the tribute happen, enabling Michigan Jazz Festival organizers to bring in the Detroit Jazz Festival Strings with Chris Collins conducting.

Of course, many favorite performers will be back on the festival stage this weekend. The outdoor tent will feature Dave Taylor, Dixie, Steve Wood Quintet, Lynn LaPlante 7, Russ Miller Sextet, Dobbins, Krahnke & Weed Trio and Paul Keller Quintet.

Indoors, guests can choose



A performer belts out a jazz tune on one of the five indoor stages at the Michigan Jazz Festival.



Peter Erskine is a featured performer at the Michigan Jazz Festival, Sunday, July 21.

from 22 bands on four stages and six pianists in the Steinway Solo Piano Room. The Schoolcraft College Jazz Band, Masters of Music Big Band, The Johnny Trudell Big Band, Cliff Cliff Monear Trio, Dave Bennett and Gary Schunk Trio are just a few of the returning favorites.

Attracting youth

The Future of Jazz Stage is dedicated to young performers and this year will feature Nolan Young Quartet, Ann Arbor Public Schools, Eddie Codrington Quartet, and Playing with the Pros.

"We're committed to the younger generation. It's not just a chance for (youth) to hear these great players, but to mingle with them and to play for an astute audience," Polot said.

He anticipates the festival this year will attract 6,000-7,000 jazz fans to the campus, which is located on Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile.

"It's hard to find a festival of this size where five of the six stages are under one roof," he said. "I've got a list of peo-



Big bands are among the performers at the annual Michigan Jazz Festival.

ple who want to perform at the jazz festival. For many of them it's the highlight of the year. They get paid union scale. They don't do it for the money — it's because they play for jazz aficionados."

The festival holds two ma-

jor fundraisers each year to help defray costs and accepts year-round donations. Last year, it formed a partnership with the college, which had participated in the event as a venue only.

"Now Schoolcraft is more

invested and that ensures the festival's ongoing success."

Henry's Cafeteria will be open during the event and wine and beer will be available. For more information about the Michigan Jazz Festival, visit MichiganJazzFestival.org.

2013-2014 **TRUCKEE** Season!

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Sep 5 - Oct 13, 2013

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by Nora and Della Ephron
Oct. 25-27, 2013
Not included in Season Pass

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Nov 21 - Dec 31, 2013
"New Year's Eve Event"

Murder at the Howard Johnson's
by Ron Clark and Sam Bobrick
Jan 30 - Mar 9, 2014

Old Love by Norm Foster
Apr 3 - May 4, 2014

The Red King's Dream
by David Belke
May 29 - June 29, 2014

The Kings of Unionville
by James R. Kuhl
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www.amantearestaurant.com

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ARTS, CRAFTS CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through July 19
Location: Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: Paintings by Marilyn Thomas are on exhibit.
Contact: 248-473-1856
DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday
Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit
Family Sundays: 2 p.m. Sundays: storytelling, performances; free with admission
Exhibits: Printmaking by Ellis-Worth Kelly, through Sept. 8
Contact: 313-833-7900, www.dia.org

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday and one hour before and during public performances at the theater, as well as by appointment through July 28
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: Kyle Culp and Scot Ferguson exhibiting their mixed media works
Contact: 734-394-5300; cantonvillagetheater.org

FILM COMPUWARE ARENA DRIVE-IN

Time/Date: Gates open at 7:30 p.m., with movies starting around 9:20 p.m., daily, through Sept. 1
Location: 14900 Beck between Five Mile and M-14, Plymouth Township
Details: Cost is \$10 for adults; \$8 for children, 4-12; kids 3 and under are admitted free of charge. Students with proper ID are admitted for \$8 Sunday through Thursday. Patrons listen to the movies on the FM band of their car radio
Contact: 734-927-3284

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. Friday, July 19 and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, July 20-21
Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth
Details: "EPIC," admission, \$3
Coming up: "Star Trek into Darkness," 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 26-27 and 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, July 28, "Now You See Me," 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Friday-Saturday,



Bill Bynum & Company performs at Stars in the Park July 18 in Farmington Hills.

Aug. 2-3, 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 4, and 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 8; "The Kinds of Summer," 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 9-10, and 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 11.

Summer Matinee: E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial, July 18; "The Goonies," July 25; "Annie," Aug. 1; "The Sound of Music," Aug. 15; "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang," Aug. 22; "The Muppet Movie," Aug. 29. Movies run at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.

Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, July 26 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, July 27
Location: 17360 Lahar, north of Grand River Avenue, Detroit

Details: "Notorious," \$5

Coming up: "The Long, Long Trailer," with Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz, 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 9 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 10
Contact: 313-537-2560

HISTORICAL PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: The current exhibit, "EPIC," highlights leisure activities that families and individuals engaged in before television. The exhibit runs through Nov. 10. Admission \$5 for adults and \$2 for students 6-17
Contact: www.plymouth-

history.org; 734-455-8940

MUSIC JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last Tuesday of the month — except December
Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge No. 1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Cliff Monear Trio will perform July 30. The group will include Monear on keyboard, Jeff Pedraz on bass, Scott Kretzer on drums and Stephanie Monear with vocals. There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds from Jazz Elks goes toward special needs and disadvantaged children and veterans.
Contact: 734-453-1780 or email to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN

Time/Date: 8-10 p.m. every Monday
Location: 884 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: Open mic for music and poetry

Friday featured artist: Potters Field, July 26. Featured performer concerts start at 8 p.m.

Contact: 734-454-0178

ROCKIN ON THE RIVERFRONT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 19

Location: GM Plaza on the Detroit riverfront

Details: America performs in this free summer series

Coming up: Grand Funk Railroad, July 26; Great White, Aug. 2; Loverboy, Aug. 9; Night Ranger, Aug. 16

Contact: www.facebook.com/Rockinontheriverfront

STARS IN THE PARK

Time/Date: 7 p.m. July 18

Location: Heritage Park, on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills

Details: Bill Bynum & Company performs country, bluegrass and original songs. The outdoor concert is free
Contact: 248-473-1856

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Jason Harrod with Kelsey Rottiers, July 20. The Lost Dogs, July 27; Lindsay Lou and The Flatbellys, Aug. 2; Kaivama, Aug. 8. Most shows tickets are \$25 and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted
Contact: 248-464-6302; www.detroitzoo.org

SOMETHING DIFFERENT DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, until 8 p.m. Wednesday in July and August

Location: 1-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

Details: Admission is \$11 for adults 15-61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for



America performs July 19 at Rockin' on the Riverfront in Detroit.



Lindsay Lou & The Flatbellys perform Aug. 2 at the Trinity House Theatre in Livonia.

children ages 2-14; children under 2 are free

Wild Beasts, Wild Wine:

Sample wines from more than 30 local and national wineries and vineyards, 6-10:30 p.m., Friday, July 26. The event features live performances by jazz crooner Ben Sharkey and Gino Fanelli's Red Hot Sugar Daddies, after-hours access to animal habitats, complimentary tram tours, animal enrichment and zookeeper talks. Tickets are \$35 until July 19; after that, any remaining tickets will be available for \$40 online or at the gate. Designated driver tickets are \$25 and include admission, parking and unlimited soft drinks
Contact: 248-541-5717; www.detroitzoo.org

KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, to July 21

Location: 4345 S. State, Ann Arbor

Details: "Red Rock & Rust Belt" is an exhibition of photographs by Susan Webb that explores the connection between two great

cities that do not readily suggest comparison: the modern city of Detroit and the ancient site of Petra in modern Jordan.

Contact: 734-764-9304

THEATER FARMINGTON PLAYERS

Time/Date: 6:30-9 p.m., July 24

parents information meeting and youth workshop; auditions by appointment for teens and adults, 7-10 p.m. July 25 and by appointment for children, ages 6-15, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. July 27

Location: The Farmington Players Barn Theater 32332 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Auditions for the musical, "Annie," which will be performed Friday-Sunday in December

Contact: Kandi Krumins at 248-797-1818

PAUL'S PLAYERS

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., July 25-27

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: "The Sound of Music," includes a cast of more than 50 actors. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors
Contact: 248-347-4134, or e-mail paulsplayers@gmail.com

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Redford Parks & Art Conservancy presents

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Explore from the Arctic to Australia all in one great day at the Toledo Zoo!

Clip this coupon or visit toledozoneo.org/daytrip

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child's admission ticket with the purchase of an adult ticket on Saturday, July 27.

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Valid only July 27, 2013 through Aug. 3, 2013. Expires

Don't miss the **WILD Summer Day Trip contest**, Fill out the form below for a chance to win these great prizes:

- **Grand Prize:** 4 Toledo Zoo admission passes, 4 Behind-the-Scenes Tour passes and a fuel gift card
- **Runner-up:** 4 Toledo Zoo admission passes and a year's membership to the Toledo Zoo
- **Third Prize:** 4 Toledo Zoo admission passes

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First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

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One entry per person

Official rules at hometownlife.com

Sponsored by the Observer & Eccentric Media and the Toledo Zoo.

ELEGANT ENTERTAINING WITH BOLD FLAVORS

Summer entertaining is easy with simple, crowd-pleasing recipes from light bites to sweet delights that require almost no time in the kitchen.

Invite over a few of your closest friends, heat up the grill and set out your favorite wines for a truly memorable outdoor dinner party. Select simple recipes that can be prepared ahead of time and quickly seared on the grill once your guests have arrived. Everyone will enjoy the food and you'll love that you're not trapped in the kitchen. Prep, chop and marinate everything then store it all in containers.

Continue the trend of simplicity by serving food-friendly wines, such as those from Las Rocas. Las Rocas, which literally means "the rocks" because of the rocky soil where the grapes are grown, produces an incredibly vibrant Garnacha and refreshing Rosé that pair wonderfully with these dishes.

Make the occasion truly special by beginning the festivities at sundown to take advantage of the cool breezes and beautiful sunset. Line the tables with a row of small candles, hang sparkling white lights from the trees and put on your favorite music. Your guests may never want to leave.

For more information, visit www.lasrocaswine.com.

Courtesy of Family Features

PAN SEARED RIB EYE WITH BALSAMIC GLAZE AND CRISPY SALTED POTATO WEDGES.

Yield: 4 to 6 servings

For Crispy Fingerling Potatoes:
1 pound small Yukon gold potatoes cut into wedges

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
1 teaspoon roughly chopped fresh rosemary leaves, plus a couple of sprigs

For Steaks:

Kosher or coarse salt and freshly ground black pepper
4 1/2-pound bone-in rib-eye steaks, about 1 1/2 inch thick
1 large shallot, thinly sliced
1/2 cup aged balsamic vinegar
2 tablespoons unsalted butter

For potatoes: Place the potatoes in saucepan and cover with cold, salted water. Set over high heat and bring to boil. Cook until potatoes are fork tender, about 10 minutes depending on size of potatoes. Drain and rinse under cold running water. Pat potatoes dry with paper towels and season with salt and pepper to taste. Set potatoes aside and begin steak. For steak: Sprinkle large cast-iron skillet with kosher or coarse salt; heat skillet over high heat for about 8 minutes, then add steaks. Sear until steaks are crusty brown, about 4 minutes; turn steaks. Sear to desired doneness or about 6 more minutes for medium rare. Transfer to cutting board and let rest while you make sauce. Wipe out pan and add shallot; cook, stirring, about 1 minute. Slowly add vinegar and 1 tablespoon of water and bring to a boil. Stir continuously until reduces and thickens, about 2 minutes. Remove pan from heat, swirl in butter, and season with pepper to taste. Drizzle sauce over steaks just before serving.

To finish potatoes: Heat olive oil in large skillet over high heat. When hot, add seasoned potatoes, cut side down, and rosemary. Cook until golden and crispy, about 2 minutes per side. Sprinkle with additional salt and pepper to taste.



GOAT CHEESE CROSTINI WITH GRILLED PEACHES, SERRANO HAM AND MARCONA ALMONDS

Yield: 1 dozen crostini

12 slices French bread, sliced on the diagonal into 1/2-inch-thick slices

Extra virgin olive oil
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
12 thinly sliced pieces
Serrano ham

2 ripe peaches, halved, pitted and sliced onto 12 thin wedges

2 ounces goat cheese, crumbled (about 1/2 cup)
1 tablespoon roughly chopped Marcona almonds

Preheat grill. Brush each slice of bread on one side with olive oil and sprinkle with salt. Grill, oil-side down until lightly golden brown, about 3 minutes. Remove from grill and place a piece Serrano ham on each. Drizzle peaches with 1 tablespoon of olive oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper to taste. Grill peaches until grill marks appear, turning once, about 1 to 2 minutes per side. Place warm grilled peaches on top of each crostini and sprinkle each with crumbled goat cheese and Marcona almonds. Drizzle them lightly with additional olive oil. Serve.



RED WINE AND VANILLA BEAN PANNA COTTA

Yield: 6 servings

1 orange

1 cup blackberries and/or raspberries
1 vanilla bean, cut in half
3 cups Las Rocas Garnacha wine
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup whole milk
1 1/2-ounce packet unflavored powdered gelatin
2 cups whole Greek style yogurt
Fresh mint sprigs for garnish

Remove a wide, 2-inch-long strip of zest from orange with sharp paring knife. Peel and segment orange and toss with blackberries, cover and refrigerate.

Scrape seeds from vanilla bean. Place seeds and pod in small saucepan. Add wine, 1/2 cup sugar and orange zest strip. Simmer over medium-low heat until reduced to 1 1/2 cups, about 35 minutes. Discard vanilla bean pod and zest strip. Cool completely. Set aside 1/4 cup for serving.

Combine milk with remaining 1/2 cup sugar in medium saucepan. Sprinkle in gelatin and let stand, undisturbed, until gelatin softens, about 4 minutes. Cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until gelatin and sugar are just dissolved (do not boil); let cool. Whisk in 1 cup of wine reduction and yogurt until smooth. Pour into six 6-ounce ramekins or jars, cover and refrigerate until set, at least 3 hours or overnight.

If using ramekins, dip bottom of each ramekin in warm water to loosen. Invert each panna cotta onto a plate. If using jars, skip this step. Drizzle panna cottas with reserved wine reduction and garnish with oranges and berries and sprig of fresh mint.



The finish line looked mighty fine for members of Team Schippa and other bicyclists at the Michigan Tour de Cure.

Plymouth Realtor rides 100 miles to help American Diabetes Association

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Realtor Tony Schippa of Coldwell Banker Preferred at Plymouth participated in an American Diabetes Association bicycle riding benefit Saturday, June 15, in Brighton. Proceeds support work of the American Diabetes Association. "It was the first time I did 100 miles in a day," Plymouth resident Schippa said of the ride. "We started and ended at Brighton High School."

Two years ago at age 47, Schippa found out he was diabetic. "I started exercising and lost about 50 pounds," he said.

Exercise has kept most of the weight off, although he noticed recently his "skinny jeans" were a little snug. Summertime exercise helps him in those jeans.

"I'm also off the medication too, so that was the big thing," he said of his Type 2 diagnosis. Schippa wasn't taking insulin but rather an-



Realtor Tony Schippa of Plymouth (right) and Team Schippa members take a break during the June 15 Michigan Tour de Cure in Brighton.

other medication. "I'm sure a lot of us know that, but until something like

this hits you..." he said of basic exercise and diet advice. Schippa knew for his

sake and that of his family he needed to shape up and practice good health habits.

There were over 1,000 riders at the Michigan Tour de Cure in Brighton, and they've raised over \$420,000 toward a goal of \$550,000. Schippa, a past president of the Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors, is grateful to his sponsors and his clients for their support of the fundraising Tour de Cure.

Funds raised through Tour de Cure support research projects for all types of diabetes, as well as programs and advocacy efforts that support the 25.8 million people in the U.S. with diabetes.

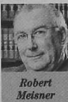
Team Schippa sponsors were US Bank, Baker College, First American Title, NDT Technologies, and Al's Quick-Release Bicycle Shop. Team Schippa raised over \$4,000. Donations are still welcome at <http://www.adiabetictory.com/>.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Check with lawyer on type of deed

Q: I just entered into a purchase agreement to sell my property, and the buyer didn't describe what type of deed has to be given. No attorneys were involved. What kind of deed do you think I have to give to satisfy the transaction?

A: A recent unpublished decision by the Michigan Court of Appeals held that a Quit Claim



Robert Meisner

Deed was an appropriate deed where the buyer exercised a purchase option under a lease and the lease was silent as to the type of deed to be given. Even though this is the least the court relied on a Michigan statute which provides that under a land contract, if the form of the deed is not specified in the land contract, conveyance is by an appropriate deed. So, the rational would probably apply in your situation as well. Obviously, any attorney representing a seller or buyer should specify in the land contract, the purchase agreement, the option agreement, or any other document what type of deed is to be given.

Q: I am wondering if we could pass a speed limit in our condominium that can be strictly enforced. There has been much debate about it. You may wish to try it.

The Illinois Supreme Court recently held that it would not interfere in the internal affairs of a homeowners association that had implemented such a rule. A homeowner had argued that in creating a security officer that issued tickets to members of the association was unlawfully exercising police powers. The court suggested that regulating and enforcing rules was reasonably necessary to maintain the roadways and under the state law of Illinois the association retained the right to enforce its own traffic rules and regulations, so the association was free to enforce its own rules and regulations against its members. It should be noted that the association did not ticket any non-members. Michigan courts are also reluctant to interfere in the internal affairs of corporations such as nonprofit condominium associations.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of *Real Estate Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling, and Operating a Condominium*. It is available for \$24.95 plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. *Condo Living 2* is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and BarnesandNoble.com. He is also the author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$2.20 for tax, shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. Email Glen.Gis@addvalue Realty.com or visit FreeForeclosuresTour.com.

Short sales

Free informational seminar on short sale procedures. 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 email juan.tumig@quantumrealestate.com for your reservation or additional information.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 11-15, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS

16221 Beechwood Ave \$210,000
17965 Birchwood Ave \$150,000
17965 Birchwood Ave \$240,000
32457 Sheridan Dr \$114,000
32457 Sheridan Dr \$270,000
400 Southfield Rd \$212,000
16280 Waverly St \$212,000
1428 Bird Ave \$210,000
1809 Cole St \$141,000
1838 Derby Rd \$695,000
440 E Southlawn Blvd \$535,000
621 Henley St \$825,000
1800 Henrietta St \$565,000
1571 Humphrey Ave \$157,000
2517 Manchester Rd \$220,000
1508 Maryland Blvd \$618,000
1075 N Old Woodward # 13 \$186,000
1735 Norfolk St \$270,000
2806 Pembroke Rd \$195,000
284 Pilgrim Ave \$860,000
1429 S Bates St \$399,000
400 Southfield Rd # 7 \$167,000
1592 Washington Blvd \$145,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

69 Garden Ct \$280,000
2008 Hawks Ridge Dr \$145,000
750 Kennesbec Ct \$490,000
4796 Lakewood Rd \$400,000
4269 Margate Ln \$360,000

770 N Cranbrook Rd \$856,000
4113 Telegraph Rd # G-110 \$53,000
1201 Timberview Trl \$300,000
1745 Tiverton Rd Unit 24 \$150,000
4154 Wabek Lake Dr \$235,000

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

2975 Bloomfield Crossing \$245,000
1268 Circle Ct \$550,000
731 E Fox Hills Dr \$45,000
7342 E Greenwood Dr \$325,000
2674 Hunters Blf \$265,000
2827 Hunters Blf \$570,000
1615 Hunters Ridge Dr \$180,000
3624 Maxwell Ct \$687,000
5090 Mohr Valley Ln \$320,000
1898 Pine Ridge Ct \$360,000
2608 Rambling Way \$207,000
4831 School Bell Ln \$315,000
5099 Toontown Rd \$729,000
5595 Woodland Pass \$235,000

COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP

2901 Colt Ct \$335,000
224 Havana St \$60,000
2261 Palmetto \$40,000
4685 Ponderosa St \$139,000
482 Ridgemont St \$139,000
5460 Wentworth Dr \$265,000
FARMINGTON HILLS
21184 Case St \$35,000
20908 Colwell St \$38,000
3701 Dunstable Ct \$285,000
30084 Fox Club Dr \$378,000
23276 Fox Crk \$275,000
20805 Gill Rd \$225,000
29823 Highmeadow Rd \$255,000
37853 Lancaster Dr \$245,000

24175 Locust St \$190,000
20841 Metroview Rd \$87,000
21782 Middlebelt Rd # \$89,000
21800 \$177,000
29961 Mullane Dr \$210,000
34687 Pickford Dr \$140,000
26773 Plumgrove Ln \$285,000
35984 Quakerstown Ln \$140,000
25533 Springbrook Dr \$140,000
28321 Timberview Ct \$203,000
31935 W 14 Mile Rd # 232 \$88,000

FRANKLIN

30745 Cheviot Hills Dr \$603,000
30676 Harlinton Dr \$650,000
26773 Plumgrove Ln \$210,000
35984 Quakerstown Ln \$140,000
25533 Springbrook Dr \$140,000
28321 Timberview Ct \$203,000
31935 W 14 Mile Rd # 232 \$88,000

MILFORD

3121 Bradford Ct \$470,000
1080 Rivestone Cir \$240,000
784 S Millford Rd \$74,000
2605 W Commerce Rd \$145,000
351 Walnut Rdg \$100,000
42205 Vanhook Ln \$225,000
21265 Equestrian Trl \$604,000
21402 Richmond Dr \$260,000

NOVI

43050 12 Oaks Crescent Dr \$160,000
43100 12 Oaks Crescent Dr \$142,000
30666 Ardmore Ct \$105,000
20208 Bartlett Dr \$84,000
45739 Cider Mill Rd \$255,000
41553 Cornell Dr \$146,000
22118 Edgewater \$95,000
44684 Ford Way Dr \$295,000
27953 Hopkins Dr \$140,000
24403 Olde Orchard St \$68,000

44950 Paine Dr \$367,000
25680 Shoreline Dr \$660,000
44836 Stockton Dr \$84,000
41748 Sycamore Dr \$175,000
23784 Wintergreen Cir \$530,000

SOUTH LYON

54823 Glenwood Dr \$376,000
24381 Glenwood Dr \$323,000
54774 Greenleaf St \$232,000
742 Heathside Dr \$150,000
59295 Morrisey Ln \$310,000
24822 Purlin Ct \$93,000
61100 Saddlereck Dr \$273,000
52536 Trailwood Dr \$423,000

SOUTHFIELD

18409 Alta Vista Dr \$130,000
18418 Dorset St \$90,000
19170 Dorset St \$75,000
29124 E Chanticleer Dr \$85,000
17155 Hilton St \$176,000
26622 Kieworth Pl \$55,000
22105 Vanhook Ln \$107,000
17380 Madison St \$85,000
17160 Morrison St \$70,000
29830 N Befford St \$145,000
28655 Ranchwood Dr \$115,000
28441 Sellark St \$49,000
28335 Stuart Ave \$45,000
17266 W 11 Mile Rd \$45,000
29323 Wellington Ct # 62 \$50,000
29153 Wellington Dr E \$50,000
18285 Westover Ave \$35,000
17805 Windflower Dr \$81,000

WHITE LAKE

41 Country St \$102,000
1255 Pinecrest Dr \$225,000
12355 Rockfield St \$86,000
18 Wildrose Dr \$237,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of April 1-5, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

4052 Amanda Ct \$184,000
7765 Binkley Dr \$375,000
1543 Brookdale Dr \$200,000
1174 Celina Ct \$150,000
6763 Edgewood Rd \$232,000
2008 Hawks Nest Ct \$167,000
7346 Hillsboro Dr \$197,000
2284 Liberty St \$320,000
43931 Manhattan Dr \$330,000
1540 Napier Blvd \$167,000
5400 Napier Rd \$253,000
3655 Parklawn Dr \$200,000

5974 Runnymede Dr \$115,000
31525 Alabama St \$140,000
42274 Trent Dr \$238,000
1627 Whittier Dr \$126,000
2633 Woodmont Dr \$189,000
30914 Barton St \$50,000
34284 Pierce St \$50,000

LOVAIN

14126 Houghton St \$153,000
14322 Houghton St \$153,000
4667 Nola St \$155,000
17717 Parklane Ct \$190,000
38658 Reo Ct \$226,000
NORTHVILLE
4065 Bekeley Way \$426,000
15935 Bradner Rd \$125,000
17660 Crestbrook Dr \$629,000
46670 Crystal Downs W \$451,000

16242 Forest Lake Dr \$225,000
48105 Four Seasons Blvd \$750,000
48710 Freestone Dr \$110,000
18099 Mission Pt \$651,000
43683 Prestwick Cir \$462,000
42779 Prestwick Cir S \$446,000
530 Rouge St \$301,000
41652 Sundynale Ln \$280,000
117 D W Dunlap St \$675,000
18080 W Northville Trl \$383,000
112 Walnut St \$169,000

PLYMOUTH

13173 Andover Dr \$386,000
41174 Greenbrook Ln \$150,000
27373 Hunters Park Dr \$295,000
11686 N Haggerty Rd \$129,000
730 Penningman Ave \$296,000
11166 Pinehurst Rd \$275,000
9518 Starkweather St \$165,000
1828 Tavistock Dr \$250,000

REDFORD

23371 Barbara \$130,000
23371 Barbara \$87,000
26099 Dover \$60,000
17661 Gaylord \$65,000
10052 Mercedes \$155,000
10052 Mercedes \$47,000
14116 Salem \$40,000
2097 Alberta St \$31,000
37113 Armhurst Dr \$90,000
1509 Berkshire St \$87,000
34936 College St \$80,000
38080 Florence Ave \$155,000
35009 Pardo St \$83,000
1341 S Merriman Rd \$10,000
1660 Shoemaker Dr \$35,000
35006 Somerset St \$122,000
621 Summerfield Dr \$84,000
27692 Trailbrooke Cir \$50,000

