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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2014 • hometownlife.com

USA WEEKEND



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FOR A  
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HOME

## Focus shifts for arts complex project

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

Even as the Canton Partnership for the Arts & Humanities comes up on its annual spring fundraiser, partnership officials are considering a shift in the way they're going to allocate money raised.

Local favorite Steve King and the Dittillies will headline the March 1 fundraiser at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill and the proceeds — as they are from all of the partnership's 2014 fundraisers — will be used to help fund the arts complex the partnership is trying to build in Cherry Hill Village.

But now some of the focus of that project — designed to help veterans and to create a regional arts presence — is changing. The partnership a couple of years ago purchased the 14-acre property that used to house a factory built by Henry Ford to provide jobs for veterans.

Money this year will be dedicated to the first phase of the project, turning the World War II veterans dormitory into a building dedicated to offering art therapy services to veterans.

But down the road, the partnership also has to decide what to do with the 50,000-square-foot factory building. Original plans were to put some art studio space into half of it, with the other half being turned into a banquet hall-style facility.

But after discussions with consultants and potential partners, Jill Engel, the executive director of the partnership, said the goal might be changing. Now, partnership board members are considering bringing in some sort of food or beverage partner.

And instead of renovating the building, Engel said it might be more cost-

See ARTS, Page A2

## Canton replaces aging cop cars

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

After racking up as many as 183,000 miles, five Canton police vehicles will be replaced as township officials move to keep reliable crime-fighting wheels on the road. "That is our officers' office," Public Safety Director Todd Mutchler said. "It is their work environment."

In all, Canton's elected leaders have agreed to spend \$155,894 to replace five aging cars and add two new rides to the police department's 49-vehicle fleet. Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said. By the time replacement cars are received, Faas said some aging vehicles — worn due to rough driving conditions getting to and from calls for help — will approach the

200,000-mile mark.

"The patrol cars have a higher turnover than your typical vehicle," Faas said.

The Canton Township Board of Trustees has agreed to spend \$155,894 for two Ford Police Interceptors, one Ford Explorer, one GMC Terrain, two Chevrolet Impalas and one Ford Taurus — vehicles that will be used by patrol officers, the department's

rapid response unit, the detective bureau and a deputy police chief.

Canton police work in a 36-square-mile community and often go beyond the township to investigate crimes, round up suspects or to appear in courts.

"We're a very large geographic community," Mutch-

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## a bug's life



South Canton Scholars Academy first-graders perform "Itsy Bitsy Spider" during their "Creepy Crawlies" Fine Arts Night.

## South Canton first-graders perform 'Creepy Crawlies'

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

Sarah Lapinski of Canton is used to hearing her daughter, Rhianna Lowery, singing all over their Canton home.

On Thursday, Lapinski got to listen as Rhianna joined the other first-graders at South Canton Scholars Academy perform a variety of songs at the school's first-grade "Creepy Crawlies" Fine Arts Night.

"It was fun," Rhianna said. "I did a lot of fun stuff and a lot of singing." The Fine Arts Night was designed for the first-graders to put various parts of the academy's curriculum together in one night of fun. The event had three components: music, art and poetry.

Students first performed a concert of songs for their parents and teachers, all centered around a "bug" theme.

"(Bugs) are fun," music teacher Heather Loock said. "There is a lot of age-appropriate music and the kids had a lot of fun with it."

After hearing their kids singing, parents walked through a student-

See BUGS, Page A2

## RAISING THE ROOF

**What:** Spring fundraiser for the Canton Partnership for the Arts & Humanities.

**Who:** Steve King and the Dittillies

**When:** 7 p.m. Saturday, March 1

**Where:** Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton

**Details:** Welcome reception starts at 7 p.m.; the concert starts at 8 p.m. Sample-size hors d'oeuvres will be provided by E.G. Nick's of Plymouth, Twisted Rooster of Belleville and 502 Grill in Canton. Showroom of Elegance will provide promotions to ladies.

**Tickets:** \$35; get them by calling 734-394-5460 or online at [www.cantonvillageattheater.org](http://www.cantonvillageattheater.org)

## Relay cuts ribbon on 2014 walk

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

Having seen her mother battle — and survive — cancer three times, Charina Hansen knows what it's like to fight off cancer.

And she's getting tired of having to.

That's why Hansen, a Canton native now living in Grand Rapids, Ohio, is getting involved — again — with the Canton Relay for Life for a 17th year. Hansen, who is chairing the event for the second straight year, has been in-

See RELAY, Page A2

## KICKING IT OFF

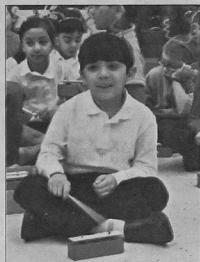
**What:** Official kickoff for the 2014 Canton Relay for Life, an American Cancer Society Fundraiser

**When:** Tuesday, Feb. 25; registration 6:30 p.m., program 7-8 p.m.

**Where:** South Canton Scholars Academy, 3085 S. Canton Center, Canton

**Why:** It's a program to help kick off the fundraising campaign leading up to the Canton Relay for Life, set for May 17-18 in Canton's Heritage Park

**Details:** Find more information on the Canton Relay for Life at [www.relay-forlife.org/cantonmi](http://www.relay-forlife.org/cantonmi)



Ansh Kumar accompanies his classmates during Thursday's performance.



PRICE: \$1

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- 2 lbs. New York Strip Steaks
- 3 lbs. Sirloin Tip or Rump Roast
- 3 lbs. X-Lean Steak Meat
- 6 lbs. Lean Ground Round
- 2 lbs. Porterhouse or T-Bones
- 3 lbs. Pot Roast
- 3 lbs. Cube Steaks
- 2 lbs. Homemade Meatloaf



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## BUGS

Continued from Page A1

created art gallery which displayed a variety of spider drawings. Students studied the book *The Very Busy Spider* and considered the type of illustrations the author used to get his message across.

Students also shared poems they created to stretch their writing muscles.

Kids were excited about performing Thursday night, a level of enthusiasm Look said they'd been showing in the weeks leading up to the evening.

"It brings a lot of energy," Look said. "It lets the students showcase all of their creative abilities and highlights that for their parents."

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## CARS

Continued from Page A1

ler said. "We need to make sure we have equipment that is working effectively and efficiently and not quitting on us."

Canton buys its cars for special prices through county and state bidding procedures. The latest purchases are

being made through Signature Ford of Perry, Shaheen Chevrolet of Lansing and Red Holman Buick GMC of Westland.

The vehicles are expected to arrive within 60-90 days. Paas said township vehicles — not just for the police department — are taken off the road and replaced a few at a time to avoid larger purchases.

Some of the police

equipment and technology will be moved from the older cars to the newer.

Mitchell said police vehicles are able to reach the mileage they do because of top-rate maintenance performed by Clark Brussow, fleet supervisor, and his employees.

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## ARTS

Continued from Page A1

effective to tear it down and start from scratch. Estimates are it would cost some \$2.8 million to make required renovations.

"Because that building needs so much work, tearing it down would give us the flexibility to design it how we want it and how (potential tenants) would want it," Engel said. "A restaurant would create more of a destination." When you're in the veterans, you're trying in the heritage of the property. If you add a restaurant, you make it a destination."

While the focus of the largest building on the property is shifting, plans for the other two buildings remain the

same: help veterans. It won't be a residential site as it was back in the day, but the plan is still to provide medical and art therapy services to veterans.

And the partnership picked up what Engel called a key endorsement when retired Brig. Gen. Carol Ann Fausone, who runs The Veteran Advocate, LLC, backed the project.

Fausone, a Canton resident who was the first woman to reach the rank of general, said the reason she supports the project is simple. "It's for veterans," she said. "It will provide services that are needed. Hopefully, the components that will be offered will meet the needs of the veterans. It's about giving back."

And Engel hopes the March 1 fundraiser fea-

turing King will help make the project happen. The Dittillies are a popular local attraction.

Engel said she got a call from a woman in Metamora who wanted a recommendation for a hotel in the area because she's planning on attending the fundraiser. Steve King and the Dittillies, it seems, played at the woman's wedding 21 years ago.

That kind of enthusiasm for King isn't surprising, according to Engel.

Steve loves the arts, he loves the (partner-ship's) project and he loves the Village Theater," Engel said. "His music has such a wide range. We have people 20 years old to 80 years old who attend his concerts."

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## RELAY

Continued from Page A1

volved as a walker, board member or chair for all 17 of the Canton Relays, the American Cancer Society's most successful Relay.

Hansen's mom, Canton resident Joyce Hansen, is a three-time survivor and Charina Hansen knows what a supportive role events like the Relay for Life can play.

"It represents all cancers, not just one particular cancer," Hansen said. "I've been to a lot of other Relays and I don't find the fabric of the community or the enthusiasm that we have in Canton. We have a good core group (in Canton) of people to build it up and pass on their own enthusiasm."

The Canton Relay for Life got a big boost of support Thursday from Canton Township officials who helped cut the ribbon to unofficially kick off the Relay for Life season (the official kickoff is Tuesday). Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy, Canton Chamber of Commerce President Thomas Paden and other township officials and Relay volunteers were on hand to cut the ribbon.

LaJoy extolled the virtues of the annual event, pointing out it has grown from some two dozen teams in 1997 to some 80 teams in recent years. While the initial event raised some \$50,000, he said, total donations now are in the millions.

"We're looking for-



Canton Chamber of Commerce President Thomas Paden (from left), 2014 Canton Relay for Life chairperson Charina Hansen and Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy cut the ribbon, with other committee members and supporters on hand.

ward to Relay for Life," LaJoy said. "It's part of the fabric of the community. We are as committed as a community as we've ever been."

Abigail Stonerook, the American Cancer Society staff partner for the Canton Relay, pointed out dollars raised in Canton are used in Canton, many of them at the St. Joseph Mercy-Canton Cancer Center, which offers a variety of programs to cancer patients. She also extolled the virtue of programs of the American Cancer Society Resource Center, housed at St. Joseph Mercy-Canton.

"Canton is a very special community because here we're able to see the complete cycle of where our Relay fund-raising dollars are making a difference in the lives of our neighbors," Stonerook said. "Right here is where many of us first learn of cancer — when it hits our friends and loved ones."

That's why organizers and supporters feel the Canton Relay for Life is

such an important event to support. Jennifer Mann, a radiology therapist at St. Joe's, said programs offered at the center would be diminished without money raised by events like Relay for Life.

Mann said programs such as Look Good... Feel Better, an ACS program that teaches beauty techniques to women cancer patients in active treatment, and Road to Recovery, which provides transportation to patients who need rides to treatment and other appointments, would suffer without Relay for Life dollars.

"Relay brings back money directly into communities we serve through several programs," Mann said. "We wouldn't have the level of services we're able to provide (Relay) helps raise money for all of the programs that people in our community use on a daily basis."

The 2014 Canton Relay for Life is set for May 17-18 in Canton's Heritage Park.

# Finally a Solution for Peripheral Neuropathy Get Rid of the Pain in Your Legs and Feet

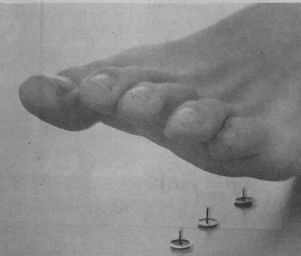
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— Dr. Sol L. Cogan, DC

### Symptoms of Peripheral Neuropathy:

- Tingling or numbness
- Feels like something is in your shoe but there's not
- Abnormal sensations
- Feels like you have socks on, even though you are barefoot
- It is becoming harder and harder to walk
- Losing your balance more often
- Stumble into things
- Unbearable foot pain
- Feels like pins and needles
- Restless legs
- No longer can feel hot or cold sensations
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### Do Pain Pills Work?

Many neuropathy patients develop prescription drug dependency after first taking them to help cope with the associated pain. Medications can sometimes provide temporary relief but can also introduce unintended consequences. At HealthQuest you will be shown many non-surgical, drug free options all customized to your needs.

### Neuropathy may contribute to emotional stress and depression

Many who suffer from peripheral neuropathy don't realize what they have or that it can be treated. Often the condition can be misdiagnosed or even ignored until it is unbearable. This can affect every aspect of your

life and may even cause emotional stress or depression. Why suffer longer than you need to? If you feel that your symptoms may be caused by Peripheral Neuropathy, call today and schedule a FREE, no risk consultation with the Doctors and staff at HealthQuest.

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— Dr. Sol L. Cogan, DC

### What are patients saying?

*"I was diagnosed with postchemotherapy neuropathy in 2008. I tried several types of medications, but was allergic to all of them. After treatment I feel much better and I can even dance with my wife."*

— Jerry W.

*"I had peripheral neuropathy for 3 years and suffered from numbness in both feet and lower legs. I tried several types of medications, which didn't work. After treatment on the ReBuilder® the feeling in my feet has returned to normal and I can now feel the temperature of the water on my feet when I exercise in the pool."*

— Pam O.



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## Meissen: 'State of the district very strong'

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

There's a lot of education in Dr. Michael Meissen's background, as well as some coaching.

So it wasn't surprising to hear Meissen, Plymouth-Canton's new superintendent, talking about "team" and collaboration Wednesday during his first State of the District address.

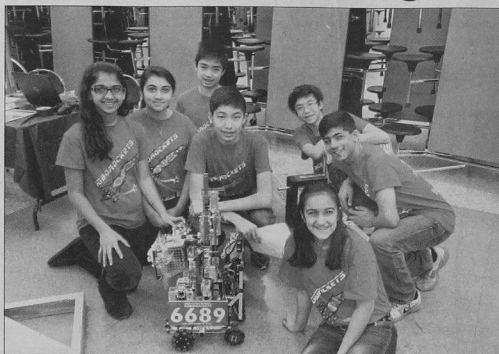
Speaking at a luncheon sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce and the Canton Chamber of Commerce at Plymouth High School, Meissen included community members when talking about the "one team" that fuels the district.

"One team can create miracles for kids," said Meissen, whose parents and all four of his siblings are all involved in education in some facet. "I'm really pleased with all of the assets we have in this community."

In an upbeat message delivered to a partisan audience of school district supporters, Meissen called the state of the district "very strong" and credited the people in the audience, many of them representing businesses. To shore up the point, Meissen gave a shout out to:

» The East Middle School robotics team, which had its robot on hand for demonstrations. The team qualified for one of four Super Regional tournaments and is headed April 4-6 to the University of Iowa.

» Students like Canton High School senior Shannon Perry, president of the National Honor Society and the coordinator of the annual Super Jess 5K, a charity run to benefit needy



The East Middle School team shows off its robot. The team qualified for one of four Super Regional tournaments and is headed April 4-6 to the University of Iowa.

families in the community. Meissen said Perry "represents a lot of the students here. She's a great ambassador for the state of our district."

» School board members, who have what Meissen called "the toughest job" in government.

» Community partners, particularly Schoolcraft College, which bought and filled an entire table at the luncheon. "Those partnerships are game-changers," Meissen said.

"We're looking to take our 'game' from good to great."

Meissen talked about the district's sports teams, which continue to deliver successful seasons. He praised the cul-

nary and robotics teams at The Park, both of which have achieved success at world championships. And he pointed out the district annually has some 20 National Merit Finalists.

Meissen also praised the dedication of administrators and, especially, the 1,000 or so teachers in the district. He talked about the focus teachers in the district have on students of all ages.

"I wanted to be part of a district where they looked at the youngest kids, but didn't see high school graduation as an end," Meissen said.

Having been a parent, a mentor and a coach, Meissen

said he walks into a classroom and envisions it through his "parent" eyes.

"The question I ask myself is, 'Would I feel comfortable enrolling my kids here?'" Meissen said. "The answer is an unequivocal yes."

He urged people in the audience to become partners with the district. In a community where businesses like Bosch are involved, Meissen said those kinds of partnerships help kids.

"The work we've been doing in the short time I've been here is building a stronger team," said Meissen, who took over in July. "When that happens, kids benefit."

## District to talk Central plans

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials and Board of Education trustees are in the middle of discussions about what to do with the Central Middle School property when the school closes after the 2014-15 school year.

And they're looking for help from the public. District officials will conduct an informational session 9-11 a.m. Saturday, March 1, in the Central Middle School library.

On the agenda for the meeting:

» Discussion of the complete time line of the disposition process, including past and future milestones leading up to the Board of Education's decision.

» An opportunity for members of the community to share additional thoughts on how the district should dispose of the property and for any potential purchasers to declare interest.

The Board of Education, with attaining fair market value for the property as its chief goal, has begun accepting ideas and proposals for the property.

While the board has backed a planned Plymouth Area and Recreation Complex plan to re-purpose the property, board members have also said they'd listen to other plans/ideas.

Central Middle School is located at the corner of Main Street and Church in downtown Plymouth. For more information, call 734-416-2755.

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# Stewart drops from senate race

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

Plymouth attorney John Stewart on Wednesday dropped out of the race for the state Senate in the 7th District.

Citing an agreement he had with his family, Stewart, who served three terms in the state House from 2000-06, said the entry of Canton Democrat Dian Slavens into the race brought on his



Stewart

own decision to withdraw. "I made a commitment to my wife and daughters back in

August that there wouldn't be a contested primary," Stewart said. The move leaves Slavens, who is term-limited in the state House 21st District, as the only de-

clared challenger to incumbent Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton. Slavens had been considering getting into the race for months before finally announcing her intentions earlier this month. Stewart said he'd gotten a good deal of support from his candidacy, but didn't want to get into a protracted primary fight with Slavens. "I have heard from a

ton of people that I was most electable," said Stewart, who felt his moderate leanings would have fit well in the district. "But the political process is what the political process is."

Candidates have until April 22 to file. Colbeck has not publicly announced his intentions.

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## ON CAMPUS

### Brenau University

**Cristobal Zubia** of Canton achieved merit list honors at Brenau University for fall semester in the 2013-14 academic year.

Merit list students must maintain a 3.5 grade-point average while carrying 12 to 14 semester hours of course work with no grade lower than B in that semester.

Founded in 1878, Brenau University enrolls students in graduate and undergraduate studies on campuses and online. Brenau offers year-round art exhibitions, lectures and literary readings, and performances of theatrical and musical works. [www.brenau.edu](http://www.brenau.edu)

### Northern Michigan

Several local students made the Dean's List for the Fall 2013 semester at Northern Michigan University.

These students qualified with a grade-point average of 3.25-3.99.

» **Canton:** Erica

**Bingham, Shannon Flynn, Edman Haroon, Cassandra Hodge, James Hodgson, Brian Katafiasz, Leanna Miller and Collin Richter.**

» **Plymouth:** Bridget Eades-Kasinger, Nicholas Fisher, Bethany Grysko, Anna Lang, Samantha McPartlin, Kathryn Meade, Caitlin Orr and Justin Rooze.

### Ferris State

**Erica Fite** of Canton has been named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at Ferris State University.

Fite, a 2011 graduate of Dearborn Divine Child High School, is the daughter of Gary and Jeanne Fite of Canton.

### Grove City College

Two local residents were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2013 semester at Grove City (Pa.) College.

**Jessica Heck**, a senior business management student, was named to the Dean's List with High Distinction. She is a 2010 graduate of Plymouth High School and is the daughter of Manfred and Debbie Heck of Canton.

**Jamie Dottavio**, a freshman mathematics student, was named to the Dean's List with High Distinction. She is a 2013 graduate of Plymouth High School and is the daughter of James and Debra Dottavio of Canton.

### Hillsdale College

**Jessica Jenkins**, a freshman biology major at Hillsdale College, was named to the Dean's List for the 2013 fall semester.

Jenkins is the daughter of Michael and Mary Ann Jenkins of Plymouth and is a 2013 graduate of Father Gabriel Richard High School in Ann Arbor.

# Barefoot presents 'Twilight of the Golds'

If your parents knew everything about you before you were born, would you be here?

That is the question posed in the controversial, entertaining "dramedy" *Twilight of the Golds*, the next mainstage production from Plymouth-based Barefoot Productions. The story, by Jonathan Tolins, revolves around Suzanne Gold-Stein and her close-knit New York family, who celebrate an anniversary dinner at which she reveals she is pregnant.

Through genetic testing, arranged by Suzanne's biomedical research husband Rob, they learn that the baby will be healthy and intelligent—but will most likely be "different." The news forces the entire Gold family to confront the issues of bigotry, evolution and the limits of love as Suzanne



Barefoot Productions presents "Twilight of the Golds" through March 2.

contemplates a difficult choice.

The production is directed by Barefoot Productions founder Craig Hane.

"*Twilight of the Golds* is a powerful dramatic glimpse into the inner workings and secrets of the Gold family," Hane said. "The play is interwoven with music and an exploration of Wagner's famous opera *The Ring Cycle*. The show uses the opera to evoke larger-than-life themes of heroism and betrayal, love and tragedy and the

end of the family of man, played out in microcosm by the contemporary Gold family."

Performances run through Sunday, March 2. Following the Feb. 23 and March 2 performances, there will be audience participation "talk-backs" to discuss themes and materials from the play. Talk-back facilitators are:

» **Sunday, Feb. 23:** Limits and boundaries of unconditional acceptance, led by social worker Dale Simmerman, a professional who will

guide the discussion in family dynamics and counseling, in addition to the topic of forgiveness and how it is possible.

» **Sunday, March 2:** The challenges of raising a child who is "different." Discussions will be led by a Livonia teacher on the philosophical and ethical aspects of parenting non-normative children or "different" kids. The facilitator will be bringing three students and they will talk about their experiences with parents, what they have been through, what would help them and what they want and need growing up "different."

Tickets can be ordered by calling the box office at 734-560-1493 or online through Barefoot's website at [www.just-gobarefoot.com](http://www.just-gobarefoot.com).

The Barefoot Productions Theater is located at 240 N. Main in Plymouth.

## MILITARY NEWS

### Marshall award

Army Cadet **Joshua H. Hurst** received the George C. Marshall Award during an awards ceremony at the Marshall Center, Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Va. The award is named in the honor and General of the Army George C. Marshall, who served in World War II as the Army Chief of Staff and in the post-war era served as secretary of state and secretary of defense.

The award is presented annually to the most outstanding senior Army ROTC cadets in military science studies and leadership values in each battalion at host universities or colleges. This is a national award and the highest award an ROTC cadet can receive.

The cadets participate in focus groups and round table discussions and lectures on the theme of the national security of the U.S. and the Army's security role in the international arena. Cadets receive formal speeches from the highest echelons of the U.S. Army's leadership ranks, scholars and experts in the area of national defense.

Hurst is a student at Eastern Michigan University, Hurst, a 2009

graduate of Canton High School, is the son of Dan and Kathy Hurst of Canton.

### Basic training grads

» **Air Force Airman Alex K. Arble** graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Arble, the son of Ellen Roarty of Canton, earned distinction as an honor graduate. The airman is a 2013 graduate of Salem High School in Canton.

» **Air Force Airman 1st Class Dawn D. Draper** graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Draper is the daughter of William Draper of Canton and Diane Draper of Livonia. She is a 2008 graduate of Salem High School.

» **Air Force Airman Clemente A. Velasco** graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Velasco is the son of Ayacacatl Velasco of Canton. He is a 2012 graduate of South West High School, San Antonio, Texas.

### Combat training

Army Reserve Spec. **Christopher L. Bramer** has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chem-

ical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot

marches, and field training exercises.

Bramer is the son of Louis Bramer of Canton. He is a 2004 graduate of Canton High School and earned a bachelor's degree in 2011 from Eastern Michigan University.

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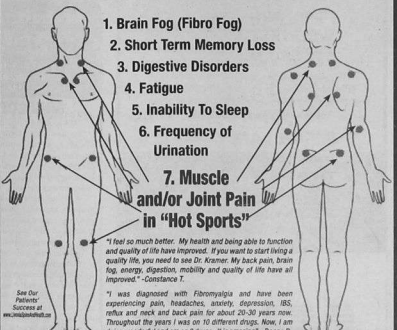
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# W-W to provide breakdown of fees for sinking fund projects

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

Big packages presented to the Wayne-Westland school board for sinking fund projects will now come with a breakdown of the fees for construction management and architectural fees.

Trustee John Goci, who for more than a year has questioned the lack of bidding for those professional services contracts, scored a victory in getting the fees for using McCarthy and Smith Inc. as the construction manager and TMP Architecture Inc. included in the costs of sinking projects.

While the board and administration agreed to provide that information going forward after the board approved a \$194 million sinking fund project for mechanical upgrades at Wildwood Elementary School, Goci revisited the subject this month after receiving the fees associated with that project.

"I can't speak for the board, but I am a member here who doesn't like we're paying for," Goci said. "I'd like to see the fees

associated with the bid so we can be aware of the true cost of the project."

## Project fees

According to the information provided by Deputy Superintendent Jim Larson-Shidler, the district will pay McCarthy and Smith \$54,100 in fees, in addition to a construction management reimbursement not to exceed \$153,300 for such things as personnel based on site and a not to exceed \$64,000 general condition fee for such things as construction trailer rental and office supplies. With those fees, any money not expended returns to the school district. The fee for architectural services was around \$119,000, Goci said.

"That's \$264,000 in expense we don't even see in the bid package," Goci said. "It makes no sense to approve construction projects without knowing the full cost."

The Wildwood project includes replacement of the entire mechanical system at the Westland school. A geothermal system will be installed to utilize the ground

temperatures to provide heating and air conditioning.

"Wildwood has some history as one of the district's original buildings," Doug Underwood, supervisor with McCarthy and Smith, said in presenting the bid package to the school board last month. "It was built as all electric and at some point turned into a hot water system. It runs on a three-pipe system, not a four, and you can heat or cool, but you can't flip between them."

According to Underwood, it was the desire of the district, especially the maintenance department, to go with a geothermal system.

"The way the project has been designed it should provide a decrease in the costs of utilities in the years to come," he said.

Goci has been an outspoken critic of the no-bid contracts. He has pressed to have the service put out for bid. The firms' work, according to the administration, is considered professional services and, by law, bids are not required. However, last September the board approved 10-year agreements with McCarthy and

Smith and TMP to handle architectural planning and construction management for the district's sinking fund projects.

"I didn't realize the fees were that high," Goci said. "I want to have it in the bid package. We vote on this and I think we should be aware of what we're voting on."

## Not to exceed amounts

In referring to the information provided by Larson-Shidler, board Treasurer Frederick Weaver pointed out that a portion of the fees are not to exceed amounts and that the unused portion returns to the school district.

"I think I may be true that McCarthy and Smith may spend all of this money, but it's not necessarily true," Weaver told Goci. "So to throw out that \$264,000 figure without sharing that bit of information... I want to put it in perspective."

Board Vice President Thomas Buckalew equated the use of a construction manager to the failed Wayne County Jail project that ballooned from \$290 million to \$410 million with no one aware of what was

going on. He was reassured by Larson-Shidler that the district has regular meetings with the construction manager about projects.

"So we will never find ourselves in the position of waking up one morning and finding ourselves in that position," he said. "You can look at those figures and think they're too much, but that security seems to have value and what we pay McCarthy and Smith seems much more reasonable."

While he was able to get some discussion about the fees on the record, he was cut short by board President Shawna Walker, who ruled the item as out of order.

"This was an agenda item in the past, it's a done deal," she said. "We don't need to bring this back to the board. We talked about this at the last meeting."

In the end, Goci and his fellow trustees were assured by Larson-Shidler that "going forward, we will supply you with those numbers."

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# Growth Works lauds those who overcome, give back

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

Some might give up on Growth Works clients, but others know better. With help, those clients can become contributors to society.

Growth Works, a nonprofit youth services agency in western Wayne County, recognized volunteers, community members and young people for their efforts over the past year.

Program Recognition awards went to Logan Grissom of Livonia, Dennis Ross of Dearborn Heights and one other, Darick Molisee of Westland, for their achievements and outstanding efforts over the past year.

One honoree is from the new adult outpatient program started in 2013, said Dale Yagiela. Growth Works executive director. "We're really excited about that," Yagiela said. "It's been well received."

The other two Program Recognition honorees are in community-based services. Since 1970, the agency's focus has remained services for at-risk youth, helping to change immediate behavior while promoting long-term commitment to responsible choices and building stronger families. Programs include



Logan Grissom of Livonia thanks the audience for his award.

Aftercare & Residential Treatment, Community Intervention & Treatment and the Western Wayne Career Management Organization.

## Substance abuse and crime

Yagiela, at Growth Works since 1971, said crime is often associated with drug and alcohol use. He's concerned policy makers don't understand the importance of dealing with substance abuse as it relates to crime.

"We talk a lot about prevention. It's really about early intervention," he said.

At Growth Works, he and colleagues see people in their early 20s who've gone off to college and continued with substance abuse, which wasn't dealt with in their teens. "We have, I think, a real social toler-

ance to this, too," he said.

Yagiela is concerned about casual attitudes toward marijuana use. "Marijuana is not a gateway drug," he said, although some heroin users have also used marijuana. "It's a problem in and of itself."

Marijuana leads to degradation of cognitive abilities, he said. "If I talked about medical alcohol, people would think I was crazy," Yagiela said.

He's concerned about a bill in the state Legislature to legalize marijuana edibles and about some parents' casual attitudes related to their own younger years. "I'm concerned that we just can't seem to get this figured out," Yagiela said.

"These kinds of things aren't just youthful adventures," he added. Substance abuse, social costs, he said, and often makes the juvenile justice system and criminal justice system the place substance



Dennis Ross of Dearborn Heights accepts his award.

abusers end up.

He's appreciative of community support for Growth Works, centered in Plymouth-Canton, but also throughout western Wayne. "The community has been very supportive," Yagiela said.

Volunteers David Sculati of Farmington Hills, Bill Ventola of Farmington Hills and Ann O'Flaherty of Plymouth were recognized for milestone years, 10, 10 and 25, respectively, on the Board of Directors and bringing their expertise to the agency.

Northville resident Brian Morrow, deputy chief of the Juvenile Division of Wayne County Prosecutor's office, has been instrumental assisting with Growth Works' CMO clients and the Teen Court program.

Morrow and Alan Kelley of Grosse Pointe Woods, a therapist with Orchards Children's Services who facilitates the Intensive Family Management Program, both received community awards for their ef-

forts aimed at improving the lives of young people.

"He's been very helpful to my staff," Yagiela said of prosecutor Morrow. Yagiela also praised the Conference of Western Wayne.

Kelley took a program and modified it for Growth Works to help parents manage their children better, with staff in the home part time to help resolve conflict and address parenting. "Alan's been really very good at this and has been warmly received by the families he's worked with," Yagiela said.

Awards were presented Thursday, Feb. 20, at Growth Works' 25th annual Recognition & Awards Dinner at the Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center of Plymouth.

## 'Hard work'

Yagiela said many other recognition banquets involve a public figure such as an athlete. For Growth Works,

the focus is on recognizing those who've overcome obstacles and those who helped them get there.

"This is what all the hard work produced," he said. "People get better, they make progress." There aren't a lot of thanks in such work, Yagiela noted, so the annual dinner is important.

Growth Works is expanding into Washtenaw and Livingston counties, with a drug court in Livingston and Washtenaw for adolescents. There will also be a small residential program in Washtenaw, as well as an intensive outpatient program in Livingston.

The young people at Growth Works aren't often seen as assets, he said. He's proud of those former clients who now serve on his Board of Directors.

Yagiela just had a call from a western Michigan prosecutor's office for a former client applying as an assistant prosecutor. He's also proud of a physician in Texas, a former client, and of those who are now teachers, lawyers, financial planners and other community contributors who were Growth Works clients.

"When you begin looking at the results of this, it's really rewarding," Yagiela said.

For more information about Growth Works, call 734-455-4095.

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## SHOULDER PAIN IN WINTER

How to avoid it.

Anyone using a snow blower should only buy one with an electric starter. An all too common cause of injury is shoulder strain from repeated use of a rip cord to start the blower engine. The combination of cold muscles, a short, sudden and harsh pull on the arm followed by repeated such pulls is a guaranteed risk to the happiness of a freely moving shoulder.

A related risk is shoveling snow. Again the same set of dangerous practices applies: cold weather that itself tightens muscles, repetitive action of heavy weight on the shoulder, and sudden pulls from shoveling a load of snow too heavy to handle and heaved too far for the muscles charged with doing the job.

How to treat a sore shoulder at home.

Home treatment is simple: heat and rest. Apply moist heat with a hydro collar pack rather than with an electric heating pad. The reason is that moist heat cools with time, while a heating pad keeps up its heat indefinitely. It is difficult to develop a burn with moist heat and all too easy with an electric heater. Apply heat for ten minutes per hour. That is all the time needed to dilate blood vessels and allow an augmented blood supply to heal the injury. Limited resting of the shoulder is all that is practical. Just refrain from overhead motions, all other movements cause no further strain.

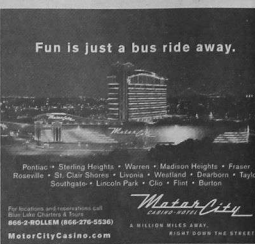
When to see the doctor.

Make an appointment if pain disrupts sleep or ordinary movement interferes with work or recreation. Physicians are trained to distinguish shoulder strain from tendinitis, rotator cuff tear, or a pinched nerve.

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# Literacy council hosts youth spelling bee

The Community Literacy Council, a local non-profit organization that provides tutors to adults with literacy skills below a ninth-grade level, hosts a spelling bee at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26, at Discovery Middle School.

This spelling bee will feature 18 fourth- and fifth-grade students from throughout the community competing for the championship.

While the Community Literacy Council has hosted adult spelling

bees for the past 23 years, this will be the first year that the competition is open to youth.

"We are excited about hosting a spelling bee for elementary students," said Debbie Cortellini, CLC board member and retired elementary teacher. "This competition will allow students to demonstrate their spelling skills, while also helping their community."

Unlike the adult spelling bee, where contestants compete in teams,

the youth spelling bee will be an individual competition.

Contestants come from schools throughout the area, including Bentley, Farrand, Miller, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Plymouth Scholars and Tonda.

All proceeds come from corporate sponsors of the event and directly support the CLC's adult literacy programs.

For more information, contact Amy D'Urso at 734-589-0011.

# Movie buffs: Celebrate Oscar™, enter for chance to win prizes

The Observer & Eccentric Media, in cooperation with Imagine Theatres, is offering movie buffs three ways to celebrate and win in our Academy Awards™/Oscar™ Contest.

» **Grand prize:** Correctly identify the top seven Oscar™ categories and you could win a 12-month pass for two to Imagine Theatres, a \$1,000-plus value. Second-place winner will receive four movie passes. Deadline to enter is 11:59 p.m. Saturday, March 1.

» **Double play:** Enter by Feb. 14 and select "Double Play" and you will be entered for a chance to win a pass for two to a special showing of the 2013 Best Picture-nominated films at Imagine Now! First winner will be selected no later than Feb. 14 to see movies playing Feb. 14-20 (*American Hustle*, *Gravity*, *Captain Phillips*, *Dallas Buyers Club* and *Her*). The second winner will be selected by Feb. 19 for movies playing Feb. 21-27 (*Wolf of Wall Street*, *Nebraska*, *12 Years a Slave* and *Philomena*).

» **Triple play:** Enter by Feb. 26 and select "Triple Play" and you will be entered for a chance to win an Academy Awards™ Viewing

and Dinner for up to four people at Star Lanes Restaurant and Sports Bar at Imagine Royal Oak. Watch the Academy Awards™ show while you dine. Prize includes a light supper, champagne toast and dessert.

Go to hometownlife.com and select the Oscar™ Contest icon located in the DON'T MISS section of the website or go to fb.com/ohometown and click the Oscar™ Contest icon.

The seven contest categories are:

» **Best Picture:** *American Hustle*, *Nebraska*, *Captain Phillips*, *Philomena*, *Dallas Buyers Club*, *12 Years a Slave*, *Gravity* and *The Wolf of Wall Street*.

» **Best Actor in a Leading Role:** Christian Bale in *American Hustle*, Chiwetel Ejiofor in *12 Years a Slave*, Bruce Dern in *Nebraska*, Matthew McConaughey in *Dallas Buyers Club* and Leonardo DiCaprio in *The Wolf of Wall Street*.

» **Best Actress in a Leading Role:** Amy Adams in *American Hustle*, Judi Dench in *Philomena*, Cate Blanchett in *Blue Jasmine*, Meryl Streep in *August: Osage County* and Sandra Bullock in *Gravity*.

» **Best Actor in a Supporting Role:** Bark-

had Abdi in *Captain Phillips*, Jonah Hill in *The Wolf of Wall Street*, Bradley Cooper in *American Hustle*, Jared Leto in *Dallas Buyers Club* and Michael Fassbender in *12 Years a Slave*.

» **Best Actress in a Supporting Role:** Sally Hawkins in *Blue Jasmine*, Julia Roberts in *August: Osage County*, Jennifer Lawrence in *American Hustle*, Lupita Nyong'o in *12 Years a Slave* and June Squibb in *Nebraska*.

» **Best Animated Feature Film:** *The Croods*, *Frozen*, *Despicable Me 2*, *The Wind Rises* and *Ernest & Celestine*.

» **Best Director:** David O. Russell for *American Hustle*, Alfonso Cuarón for *Gravity*, Alexander Payne for *Nebraska*, Steve McQueen for *12 Years a Slave* and Martin Scorsese for *The Wolf of Wall Street*.

» **First tiebreaker category is for Best Documentary Feature:** *The Act of Killing*, *Cutie and the Boxer*, *Dirty Wars*, *The Square* and *20 Feet from Stardom*.

» **Second tiebreaker category is for Best Original Score:** *Osage County* and *Saving Mr. Banks*.

# Unmarried couples need estate plans

Q: Dear Rick: My significant other and I are in our mid-40s and have decided to live together. We've been with each for more than 10 years, but we've decided for financial reasons it would make sense to have only one place. We are committed to each other, but have no intention of marrying. We have changed our wills, naming each other as sole beneficiaries. In addition, he has changed his life insurance policy at work, naming me as the beneficiary. We will be moving into his house, where we will split the



**Rick Bloom**  
MONEY MATTERS

costs. He wanted to put my name on the deed, but he could not because of the mortgage. However, I am the beneficiary in the will, is there anything else that we need to do to protect ourselves?

A: There are a couple of other things you should consider. The first is to have a medical and a durable power of attorney for each other. This will allow either one

of you to act on the other's behalf if something should occur.

I also recommend that you consider a co-habitation agreement, which is similar to a prenuptial. It would discuss what happens if the relationship does not work out. A well drafted co-habitation agreement would prevent a significant legal battle.

Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like him to respond to your questions, please email [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).



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# Friends celebrate success of White, Davis

By Diane K. Bert  
Correspondent

Watching the Olympics has been especially meaningful to Birmingham-area residents as Groves High graduate Meryl Davis and Roeper School alumnus Charlie White won the gold medal in ice dancing.

Davis and White were paired up by youth coach Seth Chafetz and took second place in their first major competition, the 1998 Junior Olympics. In the early days, they trained at Detroit Skating Club. White and Davis were U.S. Champions six times and world champions twice before winning the top prize in skating, Olympic gold at the Sochi Games.

White, 26, and Davis, 27, are both students at the University of Michigan. The pair trains at the Arctic Edge Ice Arena in Canton, along with fellow Olympians Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir.

Katie Blair is a friend of Davis from middle school and Groves. "Meryl was awesome, smart and a dedicated student who gave insightful answers," she said. "She was truly a sweet person, showing maturity and gracefulness in daily life."

Barbara Shaheen was Davis' gifted/talented teacher at Groves.



The watch party for Meryl Davis and Charlie White at The Roeper School. THE ROEPER SCHOOL

"Meryl's caring, conscientious manner helped her make a success of a modified schedule," Shaheen said. "She would take part of the day off and would have frequent periods of time when she would leave for competitions. She would always get her

assignments done.... Her mother worked tenaciously to help her realize her talents and abilities."

The staff and students at Roeper School have fond memories of White. Denita Banks-Sims has known him since his earliest days in pre-

kindergarten. She is currently development director at Roeper.

"My daughter was his classmate. They took violin lessons together at age 5 after school," she said. "I spent countless hours next to his mom watching as they

learned to play. Charlie went on to play in string ensembles here at Roeper galas and for special guests, including Robert Kennedy Jr. and James Earl Jones. Charlie played soccer and hockey, too."

Millions of Americans enjoyed White's violin playing on the NBC Today program. He had promised to play if he and Davis won the gold medal.

Katie Ewing was White's classmate and sent an email from Australia with her memories.

"He was a funny, bespectacled kid cracking jokes all the time," she wrote. "Charlie put so much effort and dedication into all he did, whether that was school, violin, hockey or skating. It came as no surprise to any of us that he achieved his dream of becoming an Olympic champion. I think it is rare to find an athlete who is so accomplished and yet so humble and genuine at the same time."

A group of Roeper graduates watched White and Davis during the Olympics and had a Google hangout at the same time, since they live all over the world, Ewing said.

"Their gold medal ceremony and hearing the national anthem played for them had us all in tears," Ewing said. "We really could not be any more proud of them!"

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# Tribute group aims for Guinness world record

A call is being put out for Rosies to come Saturday, March 29, to Willow Run Airport to try to set a Guinness world record for the "most Rosie the Riveters in one place."

The iconic figure Rosie the Riveter is synonymous with the Arsenal of Democracy and women who came into the workforce during World War II. The original Rosie worked at the Willow Run Bomber Plant, and, because of that, a group of women have been volunteering their time to help raise funds for the effort to save 175,000 square feet of the Ford Willow Run Bomber Plant.

The current Rosies, along with a few Rosies who actually worked at Willow Run during World War II, attempted to set a Guinness world record Oct. 30, 2013, for the most Rosie the Riveters in one place. They fell short of the record, but enough enthusiasm was generated to warrant a second attempt.

The 2014 record attempt will take place at 4:30 p.m. at Hangar 1 of Willow Run Airport. Sign-in begins at 2 p.m. This attempt is being sponsored by the Michigan Aerospace Foundation, the Yankee Air Museum and the Wayne County Airport Authority.

"The enthusiasm shown by these women who turned out on a cold day in October and fell just short of the record was wonderful to see. Willow Run Airport and the Wayne County Airport Authority are excited to once again help sponsor the Rosies as they make another attempt to set this record. I think they will succeed this time," said Michael Conway, director of public affairs for the Wayne County Airport Authority.

"We look forward to welcoming over 250



The Tribute Rosies – (bottom, from left) Jeannette Gutierrez of Ann Arbor, Wendy Zielen of Plymouth, Kim Godek of Ann Arbor and Jane Vass of Ypsilanti – are hoping to get enough Rosies together March 29 to set a Guinness world record. SUE MASON

women to the Yankee Air Museum as our Rosies attempt once again to set a World Record," said Kevin Walsh, executive director of the Yankee Air Museum.

According to Dennis Norton, president of the Michigan Aerospace Foundation, the Save the Bomber Plant campaign has so far mobilized more than \$5.5 million toward the estimated \$8 million initial cost of separating and preserving approximately 175,000 square feet of the bomber plant and turning it in to the new home of the Yankee Air Museum.

The Willow Run Bomber Plant built nearly 9,000 B-24 Liberator Bombers during the war, finishing a plane every 59 minutes. At the time of its construction, the plant was the largest factory in the world, employing more than 40,000 men and women, including riveter Rose Will Monroe, more famously remembered as Rosie the Riveter.

If the Save the Bomber Plant Campaign is successful, the Yankee Air Museum will move from its current location on the east side of Willow Run Airport to the former bomber plant, which is adjacent to the airport's western boundary. All of the museum's collections and exhibits, including aircraft, would be then be reunited at a single site.

The plant is part of the former GM Powertrain plant which is currently being demolished. The museum has until May 1 to raise the money to save a portion of the historic bomber plant as the museum's new home.

"Detroit's mass production was pivotal to our victory in World War II and no place was more vital in that respect than Willow Run," said Ray Hunter, chairman of the board of the Yankee Air Museum.

"Rosie the Riveter, representing all the women who entered the work force during World War

II, is a significant and in some ways a little known part of the story. We recognize their importance and their contribution to the victory in World War II and are pleased to once again help sponsor this attempt to set a Guinness world record."

The Tribute Rosies were formed as member Wendy Zielen's daughter Alison Beatty stood on a street corner in Ann Arbor to raise awareness about the Save the Bomber Plant Campaign.

Zielen came up with the idea and was able to get a group of women together to dress like Norman Rockwell's Rosie the Riveter. The Rosies made their first appearance at the Thunder Over Michigan air show last August and created such a stir that they only made it 15 feet through the crowd in two hours. As a result, they are now the official Yankee Air Mu-

seum's Tribute Rosies. Jane Vass is now heading up the Rosie participation for the Michigan Aerospace Foundation.

"I encourage all women who would like to help us honor the Rosies who were so important to the World War II Victory and who also helped set the stage for women entering the workforce in later years, to come out to Willow Run Airport on March 29," Vass said.

"Help us set this Guinness world record."

To add to the excitement, the company, school, club, congregation, sorority or other group that brings the most women more than 18 years of age dressed as Rosie on March 29 will win an award.

For more information, contact Vass at 734-358-1648 or by email at dazyjane@aol.com.

For more information about the Save the Bomber Plant Campaign," visit [www.savethebomberplant.org](http://www.savethebomberplant.org).

The Yankee Air Museum was founded in 1981 to preserve and honor southeastern Michigan's aviation history. Since then, it has acquired and returned to flying status four World War II aircraft, including the Yankee Lady, a B-17G that was used in the movie *The Tora! Tora! and is the museum's flagship.*

The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, visit the museum website at [www.yankeearmuseum.org](http://www.yankeearmuseum.org).

Willow Run Airport Hangar One is on Kirk Profit Drive (appears as Willow Run Airport Drive on Google Maps), just west of the intersection of Airport Drive and Tyler Road in Ypsilanti Township.

## DRESSING AS ROSIE

The Yankee Air Museum Rosies invite women and girls of all ages to "Rosie up" and join in the second attempt to set a Guinness world record for the most Rosie the Riveters in one place. Minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Participants must be in full Rosie gear to be counted for the record. To be counted as a Rosie, you must wear the following:

- » Red bandana with large-sized white polka dots tied at the top of the head. The bandana can cover the back and top of the head or be folded so the back of your hair shows, but if so, hair should be "pinned up" and not hanging down long or in a ponytail.

- » Dark blue long-sleeved worker's coveralls, or long-sleeved dark blue collared work shirt and dark blue pants or very dark blue jeans (not faded). Roll up your sleeves to show some of your forearm.

- » Red knee socks (solid red). Roll up your pant legs to show the red socks.

- » Black work boots or work shoes (or as close as you can get, as long as they're black) or brown work boots.

- » Lunchbox and lapel button optional.

The large dot cotton bandana fabric is available at Joann Fabrics and the pattern is named "Lipstick." Allow one yard per bandana. Pre-made bandanas will be available for purchase to benefit Save the Bomber Plant.org at the event for \$10 (cash or check only), or can be pre-ordered for \$8 for pick up at the event by emailing [dazyjane@aol.com](mailto:dazyjane@aol.com).

**THE NO-NO'S**

- » No faded denim jeans, no faded denim shirts, only solid dark blue fabric that isn't denim.

- » No bib overalls, no T-shirts, no sweats, no bare midriffs.

- » No high heels, no colored shoes, no white shoes, no athletic shoes.

For more information, contact Jane Vass at 734-358-1648 or by email at [dazyjane@aol.com](mailto:dazyjane@aol.com).

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## PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Spelling bee

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, March 26, 7 p.m.  
**Location:** Canton High School Allen DuBois Little Theater

**Details:** The Community Literacy Council hosts its 2014 spelling bee, a night of what organizers call "spirited spelling competition" that supports the local literacy program. Businesses, groups and organizations can sponsor a team, make a donation, be a speller or be part of the cheering section. The event is designed to "make a difference for many adults in our community who are not proficient in English."

**Contact:** For more information, call chairperson Carol Saunders, 734-455-4940, email [desaunders4@comcast.net](mailto:desaunders4@comcast.net) or visit [www.plymouthcantonliteracy.org](http://www.plymouthcantonliteracy.org)

## Church fundraiser

**Dates:** Feb. 21 through March 21  
**Location:** Abundant Life Church, 2100 Hannan, Canton

**Details:** The youth department of Abundant Life Church of God is holding a Little Caesars® fundraiser to raise money for Summer Youth Revival & Community Service Activities. Pizza kits, cookie dough and pie kits range in price from \$12 to \$19 and contain all the ingredients to bake pizza, bread, pies and cookies at home in minutes.

**Contact:** To order items from Abundant Life Church of God, contact Pastor Bobby Curry at 734-249-1801 before March 21.

## Briscoe fundraisers

**Dates/Times/Locations:** Wednesday, Feb. 26, 5-8 p.m. at Pot Belly, 29579 Plymouth Road,

Livonia; Friday, March 7, 4-8 p.m., Jungle Java, 6481 Canton Center, Canton

**Details:** American Cancer Society Relay for Life team Briscoe Family Ties holds a pair of fundraisers. Pot Belly will donate 25 percent of all sales to the team; Jungle Java is donating 50 percent of all paid admissions. Participants should mention they're there for the fundraisers.

## Community conversation

**Date/Time:** Thursday, March 20, 7 p.m.

**Location:** Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main in Plymouth.

**Details:** The Center for Michigan will hold a Community Conversation at which the public is invited to provide their input regarding education, jobs and prosperity, quality of life and public money priorities, among other state issues. This is

an opportunity to engage in meaningful and informative conversations that make a difference to Michigan residents.

**Contact:** To RSVP, email [IreneLama-nen@gmail.com](mailto:IreneLama-nen@gmail.com)

## Charity Mom2Mom

**Date/Time:** Saturday, April 5, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
**Location:** Summit on the Park in Canton

**Details:** In anticipation of their Mom2Mom Sale benefiting Big Family of Michigan, which serves the needs of Michigan's foster children and young adults, the Canton Newcomers and Neighbors Club, a social, civic and charitable organization, invites table renters to sell new and gently used maternity, baby and child items including furniture and larger play equipment.

**Contact:** For more information, call Carrie at 313-520-5626 or email [cpollaccia1975@yahoo.com](mailto:cpollaccia1975@yahoo.com).

## Bingo night

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, March 5, 7:15 p.m.  
**Location:** Sunflower Clubhouse, 45800 Hanford, Canton

**Details:** Canton Newcomers and Neighbors' Bingo Night features prizes donated by local businesses, a slice of pizza from Benito's, a raffle to benefit First Step and an opportunity to sign up for activities for the entire family at the next adult general meeting. Request a complimentary March newsletter at [www.cantonnewcomersandneighbors.org](http://www.cantonnewcomersandneighbors.org).

**Contact:** To RSVP, donate a small prize or with any questions, call Noreen at 734-981-0486 or email [nrybar@yahoo.com](mailto:nrybar@yahoo.com).

## Medicare/Medicaid counseling

**Date/Time:** March 5, 1-3 p.m.  
**Location:** United Home Health Services,



## Heart conscious

West Middle School students Evan Angell, Camille Burt, Carter Hackney, Zachary Hawkins, Nour Kazbour, Katherine Parker, Samantha Fashjian, Aiden Pierson and Asha Shah made red dresses for St. Mary Mercy to display in its South Lobby for its annual display honoring Healthy Heart Month. Life Management teacher Eva Bazzi and Technology Education teacher Mark Tzedak (not pictured) supervised the project, designed to convey to women the importance of heart disease awareness using the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women campaign symbol of the red dress.

2200 N. Canton Center Road, Ste 250, Canton

**Details:** United Home Health Services offers free individual counseling with a certified MMAP counselor who will help you understand: Medicare/Medicaid eligibility, transitioning from employer coverage to Medicare, plan options, assistance programs, drug insurance and Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse identification and reporting. Medicare plan enrollment and subsidy application assistance also provided.

**Contact:** Call Heather Pinage at 734-727-2083 to schedule an appointment. For MMAP information, visit [www.mmapinc.org/pages/about.html](http://www.mmapinc.org/pages/about.html)

## Hospice support

**Date/Time:** Third Saturday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** Compassionate Care Hospice, 5730 N. Lilley, Suite A, Canton

**Details:** Compassionate Care Hospice conducts a grief support group, "Compassionate Words," providing emotional support to any

adult grieving the loss of a loved one. The group focuses on the various stages of grief and incorporates basic journal writing as a way to express feelings. The program is free of charge.

**Contact:** To register, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator at 888-983-9050 or email [achristensen@cchnet.net](mailto:achristensen@cchnet.net).

## Jazz @ the Elks

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, Feb. 25, 7-10 p.m.

**Location:** Plymouth Elks Lodge, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

**Details:** Jazz @ The Elks happens on the last Tuesday of each month.

There is a \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres. Featured will be Cliff Monear Trio with vocalist Stephenie Monear, Monear on keyboards, Jeff Pedraz on bass and Scott Kretzer on drums.

**Contact:** For more information, call 734-453-1780 or email [plymouth-elks1780@yahoo.com](mailto:plymouth-elks1780@yahoo.com) or visit [www.plymouth-elks1780.com](http://www.plymouth-elks1780.com).

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# Peter Leonard's effects on Emore's life

By Jay Grossman  
Staff Writer

There's always going to be a little Emore in Peter Leonard.

Emore Leonard was a world-famous crime novelist. His son Peter is carving out his own literary path, having published five novels in the past six years.

Peter Leonard's latest book, *Eyes Closed Tight*, comes out in March. The story starts out in Pompano Beach, Fla., before it shifts to Detroit — and Birmingham. His dad owned property in Pompano Beach and set many of his stories in Florida.

Father and son share an ear for dialogue and a writing style that's sparse, but spot-on with details. Their lead characters are competent, but make mistakes.

And there, the chain breaks. Emore Leonard died last August at the age of 87. With his death, Peter Leonard lost a dad and a friend.

"It seems a little odd that we're not out on the road," Leonard said, as the two often traveled together on book tours in recent years. "But he was getting tired; he was slowing down. We went to the University of South Carolina and after that trip he said to me, 'You know, I think I'm done.' It was just too much work."

Now, his son works at the same desk where his dad wrote *Rum Punch*, *Get Shorty*, *Out of Sight* and dozens of other famous novels. Leonard lives in Birmingham, not too far from Quanton Lake. A large photo of his dad taken by Annie Leibovitz looms over the desk. A photo of Hemingway rests on the fireplace mantle in the den.

The home almost would announce: writer lives here. Leonard, of



Sitting below a framed environmental portrait of his father, Peter Leonard sits behind the desk he inherited from Emore. (JOHN STORMZANO | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

course, has a more humble view of the situation. "When you write as I do, no one thinks you really have a job," he said. "My wife doesn't, so I'm fair game if someone needs to be picked up at the airport or they need help moving something."

## Meet O'Clair

His main character in *Eyes Closed Tight* is a retired Detroit homicide investigator by the name of O'Clair. He runs a name in Pompano Beach with his girlfriend Virginia and life is good until a serial killer shows up. Then things go terribly bad.

"He's the older guy who doubts himself," Leonard said of O'Clair. "He doubts that he's good enough to have this good-looking girl who's much younger than him. He feels it's beyond him."

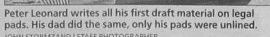
The name, it turns out, was inspired from one of Leonard's classmates at

Brother Rice High School. "The real O'Clair is a big guy," Leonard said. "He played football and I knew him pretty well in high school. I liked his name and using it grounds the character in reality."

One scene takes place in the old Forte restaurant. "The style of the book is a partner in an ad agency located in the same building."

Several scenes are set at a townhouse on Merrill Street. The story itself is rather dark — a contrast to his dad's breezier plots. "The style of the book is a mystery," he said. "My father never wrote a mystery — he didn't care for mysteries. I look at *Eyes Closed Tight* as old-fashioned crime fiction that's been updated."

Part of his research came from spending several weeks shadowing the Detroit homicide unit. He went out on the after-



Peter Leonard writes all his first draft material on legal pads. His dad did the same, only his pads were unlined. (JOHN STORMZANO | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

noon shifts and more than once found himself observing a murder investigation.

"The first scene I went to, there wasn't a body," he said. "It was a drive-by shooting — the person who was shot was taken to a local hospital."

"What I saw was the car the guy was riding in, the bullet holes in the windshield and blood all over the interior. I walked around to the driver's side of the car and saw four bullet holes in the driver's door. There was a down vest where the driver had been — and in the vest pocket was a stack of hundred dollar bills. It was eerie to see it."

And then a little Emore comes out in him:

"One observation: the black guys were way better dressed than the white guys," he said about the detectives. "I was struck by how stylish they were. It was in the dead of winter when I went out with them and these guys were wearing cashmere coats with their Borsalino hats. They looked good."

## Life after Emore

There's another photo in the study, a black and white snapshot of Leonard's dad, Peter Leonard

and never met him.

"He died before I was born," Leonard said. "He was a dude — well-dressed, well-groomed. He owned a Chevy dealership in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and wanted Emore to take over the business. But Emore wouldn't have any of it. He wanted to be a writer."

The family grew up in Lathrup Village.

Before Emore was truly famous, he was the somewhat eccentric dad who drove a Fiat and grilled an onion-topped burger for the neighborhood kids that he proudly dubbed the Emore Burger.

"He was the odd guy — all my friends had fathers who worked for the auto companies in some way," Leonard said. "But it's interesting that my dad always knew what he wanted to do. If you want to be a writer, how do you make a living? Eventually, maybe you do. But you never know."

Leonard said his dad was still around when he was writing *Eyes Closed Tight*.

"Emore was going through a lengthy divorce and he would have dinner at my house maybe four times a week," Leonard said. "He was working on

"When you write as I do, no one thinks you really have a job. My wife doesn't, so I'm fair game if somebody needs to be picked up at the airport or they need help moving something."

PETER LEONARD

a novel called *Blue Dreams*, his 40th, and he would talk about the scenes he wrote that day. He would light a Virginia Slims 100, I'd pour him a glass of wine and we were off."

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# One year later: Awrey's looking to grow more

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

After the company almost went to auction nearly a year ago, Awrey's Bakery owners have declared the company expects to double its work force over the next year.

That's good news to production supervisor Brenda Gonzalez, who's worked at the bakery for almost 33 years. "It'll be great. We're hiring slowly now," the Canton resident said. "It means more business and hiring more people."

Awrey's Bakery, 1301 Farmington Road, celebrated its one-year anniversary Wednesday as a new company after the 103-year-old company was minutes away last year from a liquidation auction that could have spelled the end of Toaster Rounds, Ripple Cakes and Long John Coffee Cakes. The bakery was purchased for an undisclosed price by now-chairman Ron Beebe and now-CEO James McColgan and operated under the Awrey's name as a part of Minnie Marie Bakers Inc.

Beebe said the company has been going strong since it was purchased and announced the bakery would launch several new items, including meat pies and a gluten-free line of goods. These goods are certified to be gluten-free and are baked in an area where gluten is not present. The gluten-free line will include 40 types of goods, including pasta, bread, flour and muffins.

"So many people have either opted to go gluten-free or need to due to health reasons," Beebe said. "We are committed to being the largest supplier of gluten-free products in North America."

Larry David, the gluten-free food processing manager at Awrey's, said he's worked at the company for 14 years. Moving into the gluten-free line of work has shown him the extreme detail needed in order to craft the gluten-free products.

"Everything's critical," the Redford resi-

dent said. "Everything's got to be perfect."

The company's sale was finalized just minutes before an auction was to take place to sell the bakery's equipment last year. About 200 employees were informed that they would be out of work at the time. About 50 employees were hired back immediately last year, when the bakery began production again in March. It currently has 94 employees working at its production facility.

With the reopening, the bakery, which started as a small business in Detroit by Elizabeth Awrey before it moved to Livonia, is starting to make appearances in many southeast Michigan grocery stores, such as Kroger and Hollywood Market.

Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey said having the bakery still operating and in Livonia is a tribute to the people of the city. Hearing the plans the bakery has when it comes to increasing production and bringing back workers was good



Awrey's chairman Ron Beebe talks about the bakery's new products, which include a line of gluten-free items, meat pies and deli trays.

news to him. "All of that's extremely exciting dialogue," he said. "When people think of Awrey's, they think of Livonia."

McColgan praised the city Wednesday as well, saying the support they've received from Livonia has been like "a great family feeling."

"Ron and I can't thank the city of Livonia enough," he said. "The whole city's been tremendous."

While the company is still not at the same levels of employees it was a year ago, Gonzalez said it has been a relief being back to work for the last year after the company was liquidated.

She said she's excited about the progress being made and hopes it continues for many years to come. "I think they have a great outlook," she said. "We're happy to have our jobs back."

dveselenak@

hometownlife.com

313-222-5379

Twitter: @DavidVeselenak



Novi resident Jim Marson helps prepare sandwiches during an event at Awrey's Bakery. Marson is the director of gluten-free development, a new division at Awrey's as it expands its product line. PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAK

## PLYMOUTH CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PLYMOUTH, MI 48170 SECTION 00 11 13 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for the Plymouth Canton Community Schools, Bid Package #4, consisting of Technology

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Other Facilities

Tanger Center

Curriculum Building

Starkweather Academy at Fiegel

will be received at the office of Mr. Brodie Killian, Deputy Superintendent of Business & Operations, Plymouth Canton Community Schools, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170 until 1:30 P.M., local time on Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at which time they will be opened and read publicly at Plymouth Canton Community School, E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170. Bids received after this time and date will be returned unopened.

Faxed or e-mailed proposals will not be accepted.

This Project will consist of separate sealed bids for the following Bid Divisions of work:

143. Electrical

Bidding documents prepared by TMP Architecture, Inc. will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., located at 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335, the Dodge Plan Room, Construction Association of Michigan (CAM), Reed Construction Data, and Builders Exchange, Lansing.

Bid Documents will be available beginning at 12:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 20, 2014 via the following:

- Bidders may obtain one (1) set of 1/2 size bidding documents for a refundable \$50.00 deposit, beginning at 12:00 P.M. on Thursday, January 20, 2014, by contacting the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., at (248) 427-9400. Deposit checks should be payable to Plymouth Canton Community Schools. Deposit will be refunded upon return of complete documents in good condition to McCarthy & Smith, Inc. no later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the bid opening.

- Bidders may download bid documents from Gradesbeam.com free of charge by contacting the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., at (248) 427-9400.

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope. The bid division(s) being bid is/are to be identified on the outside of the envelope.

There will be a pre-bid meeting held on Wednesday, February 26, 2014 at 10:00 A.M. at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., located at 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the project, schedule and to answer any questions that bidders may have. All Bidders are encouraged to attend.

Bids should include 2 copies (1 original, 1 copy) of the Proposal Pricing Form (Section 00 41 26), Proposal Execution Form (Section 00 42 00), and the Iran Economics Sanctions Act Affidavit. The Proposal Execution Form provides a space for the bidder to disclose any familial relationship as required by Section 1267 of the Revised School Code, as amended, MCL 380.1267, and this form must be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted. The Iran Economic Sanctions Act Affidavit form may be found in section 00 42 10 of the Bidding Requirements & General Conditions Manual.

All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in either the form of a bid bond or certified bank check, in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to Plymouth Canton Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the proposal is accepted, the school district is secured from loss or damage by reason of the withdrawal of the bid or failure of the bidder to enter a contract for performance. Further, the bidder will execute the contract and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract.

If awarded a contract, the successful bidder may be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond. Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informality and irregularities in the bidding. This project is authorized by Plymouth Canton Community Schools' Board of Education Secretary Kimberley Crouch.

Published: February 23, 2014

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In addition to classic favorites at Awrey's, the company is expanding into other offerings, including deli trays and meat pies.

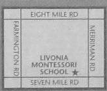
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# Retired police officer writes children's book

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

During his time as a Westland Police officer, Matthew Bobby gave police station tours to a lot of people.

"Everyone loved them - kids and parents, they all loved them," said Bobby, who spent three years working as a school resource officer at Westland John Glenn High School and other local schools.

So Bobby used that experience for his new children's book, *Jake's Trip to the Police Station*.

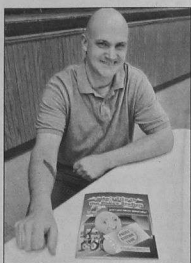
"A long time ago, everyone told me I should write a book with all the stories I had with 20 years at the police department," said Bobby, who retired from the department in 2013 and now is a Schoolcraft College campus officer.

The title character, Jake, is the 10-year old son of Bobby and his wife April, both lifelong Westland residents. Their daughter Madison, 15, a Westland John Glenn High School student, also makes an appearance in the book.

Bobby's brothers - Joe, a Westland Police canine officer, Jeff, a Garden City Police officer, and Mike, who recently retired from the Inkster Police Department - are characters in the book, as are Westland Police Department retirees Steve Borish and Mark Engstrom.

Not to be left out, Bobby's horse Taser, trained for police duty, is a character in the book, but has the only pseudonym - he's called Cuffs.

The book is aimed at letting kids know more about what police officers do and also encouraging literacy, Bobby said.



Former Westland Police officer Matthew Bobby has published his first book. BILL BRUSH/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

When Bobby was a Westland school resource officer, he said he had a goal of visiting each elementary school class for a safety session.

"I didn't have time to do that. I was busy from the time I came on duty until the time I went home," said Bobby, who handled juvenile investigations and other duties, along with time spent at schools. "A lot of schools don't have officers coming through anymore - they don't have the resources."

That prompted Bobby to develop *Lawman for Literacy*, through which he will take his book and a related program on law enforcement into classrooms.

"I talk about crime safety, Internet safety, proper use of 9-1-1 and stranger danger," he said. "Once I retired, I thought I have a good idea - they (students) can meet the author, which will promote literacy and a positive outlook on police."

The books and related program got a boost thanks to the Wayne-Ford Civic League, which

purchased 400 copies of the book for Wayne-Westland schools.

League President Vic Barra was so enthusiastic about the program that he contacted Wayne-Westland Schools Superintendent Greg Baracy and Deputy Superintendent Paul Salah.

"We were invited to meet with all 11 elementary school principals and their staff. It was very well-received," said Barra, who was set to deliver copies of the books to the schools last week. "Over the years, I've witnessed the reduction in community funding for police officers to interact with students. This was definitely an opportunity to fill that void."

There are 25 books earmarked for Norwayne youngsters attending a community event March 29 at the Dorsey Center. Bobby will be on hand to talk with the youngsters and autograph their books.

*Jake's Trip to the Police Station* is available at [cuffspublishing.com](http://cuffspublishing.com).

[lr@hometownlife.com](mailto:lr@hometownlife.com)

# State fair attendance up 50 percent in 2013

Event returned more than \$250,000 to community

The expanded 2013 Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi launched several important new initiatives, added additional space to existing attractions, and welcomed 80,000 patrons over the course of Labor Day Weekend, a 50-percent increase from the fair event held in 2012.

"We are deeply grateful for the overwhelming support for the new Michigan State Fair as a private sector event," said Blair Bowman, proprietor of the Suburban Collection Showplace and the Michigan State Fair, A Private Entity, LLC.

"The state fair was truly one of the most community focused, positive events we have ever hosted at the Showplace," Bowman said. "We look very forward to 2014, as we are already formulating ideas and plans for how we can grow the fair and enhance the experience for all who attend."

More than \$250,000 was returned to a wide variety of community and charitable programs as a result of the 2013 Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair, including the Detroit Shriners charities, Rotary and Lions clubs, local police and fire benevolent societies and the city of Novi Parks and Recreation and Public Library programs.

A new Urban and Rural Agricultural

Youth Scholarship Program debuted over the summer, with support from the Detroit Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Detroit Shriners organization, aimed at nurturing interest in growing fresh local food in communities across the state. It was accompanied by the return of the venerable Gold Ribbon Scholarship program, which rewards young exhibitors who excel at county and regional fairs across the state.

Urban Farming Initiatives across the state are serving as an important boost in helping cities reclaim blighted areas and begin to thrive. Beyond growing fresh food for neighborhoods, they also assist with connecting the youngsters involved to greater appreciation and understanding of seasonal cycles, food sources and the earth.

This new Agricultural Youth Scholarship Program has given students an opportunity to be recognized for their work and also highlights the positive impact these initiatives have upon themselves and the communities in which they serve.

In October 2013, all of the young people who were awarded State Fair Scholarship programs were invited by state Sen. Mike Kowall and state Rep. Hugh Crawford to visit the capitol in Lansing. Their accomplishments were recognized on the Senate floor and later they enjoyed a special tour of the state Legislature.

Looking forward to Labor Day Weekend

2014, plans are well under way to again expand the footprint of the Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair westward along the I-96 freeway, doubling the Shrine Circus performance tent area, presented by Bright House Networks; adding additional rides to the Arnold Amusement Midway; and also offering more outdoor attractions for fair goers.

Inside the Suburban Collection Showplace, the Made-In-Michigan Pavilion, livestock exhibits and Farm Market will also be adding more content to their respective indoor sections of the fair. The 2014 Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair will once again be a Pure Michigan partner event.

"The 2013 Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair was one of the most gratifying sponsorships I have participated in, over my career at the bank," said Jack Riley, senior vice president of marketing, Fifth Third Bank. "This was truly a fair steeped in the authentic traditions of the state fair during its heyday, now with the modern conveniences of an air conditioned building, ample safe parking and a fabulous midway."

For 2014, sponsorship opportunities are expanding to also include other attractions and elements of the fair. Corporate partners who may wish to participate in this rapidly evolving community event are invited to visit [www.MichiganStateFairLLC.com](http://www.MichiganStateFairLLC.com) for additional information.

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# Teachers hope earning system catches on

By Jay Grossman  
Staff Writer

Stacey Mollison wants to help you raise a smarter child, one word at a time.

The Birmingham resident teaches first grade at Forest Elementary School in Farmington. She's also president of Simply Smart Kids, LLC, which is a group of four area educators who want to see kids get off to a better start in school.

They developed a program called Simply Smart START! P.O.W.E.R. Tools that offers specific strategies on ways parents can talk to their kids to help build language and literacy skills.

"No matter where

your kids are starting, our program will accelerate their progress and help you maximize their potential," Mollison said about the program.

Susan Coon, a Southfield resident and speech-language pathologist at Wood Creek Elementary in Farmington, is a member of the group, along with former educators Berna Ravitz of Bingham Farms and Diane Hanaway of Orchard Lake.

Launched in 2013, the program consists of five DVDs, a guidebook, vocabulary-building cards and other resources. It's available for purchase on the group's website at [www.simplysmarkids.com](http://www.simplysmarkids.com) and aimed at children ages newborn through 6 years.

"We were seeing so many kids come to schools—even in kindergarten—that were significantly behind," Coon said.

"We could see first hand and we knew statistically that those kids would never catch up and they would go to middle school and be further behind."

The whole idea, in a nutshell, is to talk more to your child.

According to their research, the more words a child hears from newborn to age 3, the higher they'll be at age 7. Plus, they do much better in school.

"What you say is important, too," Coon said. "That's why our P.O.W.E.R. Tools teach you five specific strategies—the

five most powerful ways to talk to your kid to make them smarter."

They're committing a portion of their proceeds to battle literacy problems in Detroit.

They also want to purchase a camper and turn it into a mobile "Smarty School" that can travel around southeast Michigan to work with families and provide them with free services and materials.

"We all grew up around Detroit and feel passionate about helping this community," Ravitz said.

The company was recently enlisted by Bloomfield Hills Schools Superintendent Rob Glass to provide a six-week seminar for pre-school teachers and par-



The Simply Smart team (from left): Berna Ravitz, Susan Coon, Stacey Mollison and Diane Hanaway.

ents. Coon said each session lasted two hours and took the group through different strategies.

"Here's the thing," she said, "Obviously, Bloomfield Hills doesn't need our product as

much as Detroit... but no matter where your kid is, if you use our strategies, you will maximize their progress."

[jgrossman@hometownville.com](mailto:jgrossman@hometownville.com)  
586-226-7030  
Twitter: @BhmEccentric

## Cottage & Lakefront Living, Outdoorama shows hit Novi

The seventh annual Cottage & Lakefront Living Show returns to the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi from Feb. 27 through March 2, and runs in conjunction with Outdoorama. Patrons to either event receive free crossover admission.

"Our pre-season event is for anyone who owns or dreams of owning a cottage or lakefront home," said Mike Wilbraham, show producer of ShowSpan, Inc. "We offer vacationers and homeowners the opportunity to explore new ideas and plan for this summer's family experiences and memories."

The Log and Timber Frame Showcase will include how a cabin is put together, floor plans, pros and cons of options, log species, cedar siding, full logs, post and beam and do-it-yourself or contractor built home packages. Builders and contractors will be available for scheduled private consultations through the

show's website.

Cottage Living Stage experts will explain how to set up cottage ownership within a family for sharing and handing down; describe science-based practical application smart gardening designed to be sensitive to the environment, lower the environmental impact and reduce time and money spent on lawns, soil and plants; and explore other ways to enjoy a cottage more.

Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership will provide informal advice and educational materials from Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Michigan Lake & Stream Association and other agencies, organizations, consultants and professionals on shoreline construction projects and natural shoreline landscaping that will lake ecosystems and protect Michigan's inland lakes.

Michigan artists at the



Outdoorama patrons can expect to find great deals on fishing and hunting boats, porticoes, kayaks and pleasure boats, marine accessories, docks, lifts, hunting and fishing gear and camping supplies.

Cottage Fine Art Show will present Great Lakes and Michigan inland lakes steel silhouettes, Petoskey stone art, rustic and driftwood furniture, copper-enamelled garden art, jewelry, wood lake art, hand-carved cottage décor and signage, chain-saw carvings and wildlife oil paintings for sale. Home décor, furnishings, decorative accessories, handcrafted ceramic art tiles and gourmet and specialty appetizers and foods will be available for purchase at the Lakefront Marketplace.

The Beach, a giant sandbox complete with carving tools, will be ready for creative building of sand sculptures by children and adults. Sand Pirate Janet Schrader of Fairy Godmother Services in Lakeside, MI, will share the secrets of sand as she builds a giant medieval sandcastle, teaching how to make towers, doors, windows and staircases and hosting a sandcastle contest. Children will have the opportunity to fish at the trout pond fully stocked by Michigan B.A.S.S. Federation Clubs and play in the kid's activity center at the Cran-Hill Family Zone. Michigan Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society, dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of historic boats, will have boats on display.

Cottage Living Center will provide the opportunity to relax and work on

a community puzzle, put a pin in an oversized Michigan map to show where cottages are located, listen to the 2014 Cottage Favorite Play List music and read a 2014 Essential Cottage Reading List book. Patrons owning cottages are able to post them on the Cottage for Sale or Rent Board.

The Water & Woods Photo Contest Display will allow voting for the best photo that captures the cottage and lakefront lifestyles.

Landscaping ideas to increase your outdoor living space are incorporated in landscape design that includes wooden cabins, fireplaces, cooking options, patios, decks and garden products. Other exhibits with information and educational materials for those looking to buy, build, rent or maintain cottage and lakefront property include log, timber frame and cedar homes, cottage rental, cottage furnishings, lakefront home-builders and realtors, lakeshore maintenance, boats and docks, outdoor recreational equipment, non-profit environmental organizations, government agencies, financing and other products and services. Experts throughout the show will provide tips, advice and knowledge on purchasing, renting, planning and maintaining spring, summer and year-round cottage and lakefront living

### TWO SHOWS IN ONE

**Events:** Cottage & Lakefront Living Show and Outdoorama  
**Location:** Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River (between Novi and Beck roads) Novi

**Dates:** Feb. 27 through March 2

**Hours:** 9:30 a.m. Thursday, noon to 9:30 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

**Admission:** \$10, \$4 for children ages 6-14; and free for children 5 and under. Discount coupons for \$2 off Thursday or Friday box office adult admission are available at show's website and participating Wendy's restaurants. Free crossover admission from the Cottage & Lakefront Living Show to Outdoorama.

**Parking:** free on-site

**Web:** [www.NoviCottageShow.com](http://www.NoviCottageShow.com)

**Phone:** 800-328-6550

homes.

### Conservation, family fun highlight Outdoorama

For more than 40 years, Michigan's sportsmen and sportswomen have helped make Outdoorama the state's most popular outdoors event. With over four acres of boats, hunting and fishing equipment, outfitters, conservation organizations and other features this year's show promises to keep the tradition alive when it comes to Novi.

Michigan is home to more than 1 million hunters and anglers, many of whom reside within an hour's drive or so of Novi. That's why the aisles at Outdoorama are looking for hot deals on boats and sporting gear, for conservation education that includes nearly 100 free seminars, and for family entertainment and fun. Show patrons can expect to find great deals on fishing and hunting boats, porticoes, kayaks and pleasure boats, marine accessories, docks, lifts, hunting and fishing gear, and camping supplies.

Returning to crowd favorite are favorite attractions like Big Buck Night (Thursday only), Wildlife Encounters and Ultimate Air Dogs with Milt Wilcox hosting daily demonstrations and weekend competition. For the first time this year Outdoorama patrons may bring their deer, bear, elk and turkey trophies and have them

scored for free by Commemorative Bucks of Michigan and displayed throughout the show for all to see.

Although hunting and fishing are the show's roots, Outdoorama has long appealed to legions of conservationists who enjoy hiking, camping, boating and canoeing, and who pursue bird watching, wildlife photography and mushroom hunting.

"Outdoorama is the epitome of family fun and conservation all wrapped into one spectacular show," show producer Henri Boucher said. "Hunting and fishing are certainly the foundations of the show, but there truly is something for everyone from opportunities for kids to tie flies, catch trout and experience virtual fishing to opportunities for adults to pick up tips on hunting and fishing and learn the facts about conservation efforts taking place in this amazing state."

For those interested in booking an out-of-town adventure, Outdoorama again features dozens of lodges, outfitters, guides and charter boat captains from Alaska to Africa and across North America.

The first 500 attendees Thursday and Friday receive a free, collectible Darvelde spoon from Eppinger Manufacturing Co. in Dearborn. The first 750 attendees Saturday and Sunday will receive a K&B Bass Stopper lure from Stopper Lures in Hastings.

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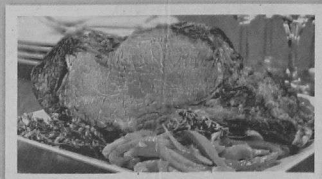
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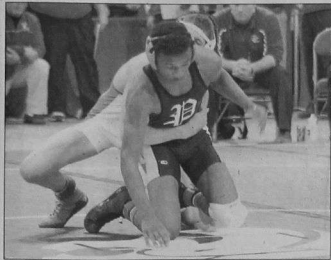
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## SECTION B (CP)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2014  
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA  
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## SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR  
TSMITH@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM  
734-469-4128

Plymouth's Brandon Harris gets out of the grip of Catholic Central's Tommy Hermann on Friday at Kellogg Center. Harris won a decision in the 112-pound match-up. SCOTT KEYES | SPORTS SCENE

## CC snaps Wildcats' title hopes at Kellogg

Plymouth can't hurdle Shamrocks in bid for Final Four

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Sometimes the luck of the draw as to where in the lineup a match opens can really be a downer.

Consider the Plymouth Wildcats. They were without heavyweight Michael Jordan for Friday's Division 1 team quarterfinals against Novi-Detroit Catholic Central at the

Kellogg Center in Battle Creek.

And that 285-pound bout is where the quarters happened to open, with Ricky Burke filling in admirably for Jordan against Nick Jenkins of the Shamrocks.

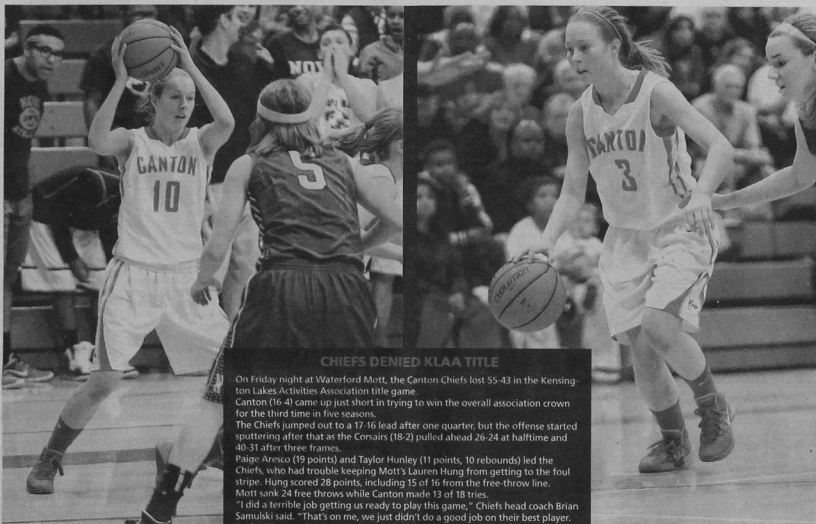
Burke did go into deep into the third period before Jenkins pinned him (at 5:24), but it was pretty much all CC throughout the lineup as the Shamrocks

routed Plymouth, 57-9.

"Michael Jordan got hurt last week at regionals, so we didn't have him," Plymouth head wrestling coach Quinn Guernsey said. "It would have been nice had we gotten him and maybe gotten a little swing at 285 and make it a little more of the right mindset."

See WRESTLING, Page B3

## A GOOD WINTERS NIGHT



Canton senior Rachel Winters (No. 10) waits to make a play while being guarded by Novi's Kerri McMahan (No. 5).

## CHIEFS DENIED KLAAS TITLE

On Friday night at Waterford Mott, the Canton Chiefs lost 55-43 in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association title game.

Canton (16-4) came up just short in trying to win the overall association crown for the third time in five seasons.

The Chiefs jumped out to a 17-16 lead after one quarter, but the offense started sputtering after that as the Corsairs (18-2) pulled ahead 26-24 at halftime and 40-31 after three frames.

Paige Areco (19 points) and Taylor Hunley (11 points, 10 rebounds) led the Chiefs, who had trouble keeping Mott's Lauren Hung from getting to the foul stripe. Hung scored 28 points, including 15 of 16 from the free-throw line.

Mott sank 24 free throws while Canton made 13 of 18 tries.

"I did a terrible job getting us ready to play this game," Chiefs head coach Brian Samuels said. "That's on me, we just didn't do a good job on their best player. And again, you shoot 32 free throws because we're reaching and lunging."

Canton will be idle until 7 p.m. Wednesday, when they take on the district host Northville Mustangs.

Canton's Natalie Winters (No. 3) brings the basketball up the floor Wednesday night.

PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

## Canton sisters frustrate Novi's McMahan in conference showdown

By Tim Smith | Staff Writer

It seemed as though wherever Kerri McMahan tried to maneuver on the basketball floor Wednesday night, one of Canton's Winters sisters was there to stop her progress.

The talented senior point guard for Novi must have thought she was in an office building somewhere, repeatedly getting doors slammed in her face. McMahan's struggles against sophomore guard Natalie Winters throughout

the first half (just four of her 11 points) — and later against senior guard Rachel Winters — had a lot to do with the Wildcats falling 30-20 to host Canton in the KLAAS Kensington Conference championship game.

"Awesome job, all that credit goes to Nat," Canton head coach Brian Samuels said. "A tremendous job on her. Kerri's a phenomenal player and Nat should feel good with what she got on the defensive end tonight with that."

Canton (16-3) will look to win the association title for the first time since 2011

See HOOPS, Page B2

## Salem icers rock Chargers, 6-1

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

For much of the season, goals have been tough to come by for the Salem Chargers.

So head coach Ryan Ossensmacher worked with his team on the "smaller things," like going to the front of the net, for starters.

On Wednesday night, all of that extra work paid off big-

time in a 6-1 shellacking of shorthanded Livonia Churchill at Plymouth Cultural Center.

Senior forwards Jason Newell (one goal, three assists) and Jake Sealy (two goals, one assist) keyed the offensive assault launched against two Churchill goaltenders.

"The last couple weeks, we really tried to focus on some of the smaller things that help you score goals," Ossensmacher

said. "The simple plays, they're simple, not easy is what we've been saying. Going to the net with your stick down, battling in front, putting pucks on net, bad-angle shots."

Shots came from every where against Chargers starting goalie David Turel and Chris Adams (who took over in the third with Salem up 5-1).

See ICERS, Page B2



Making a rush into the Livonia Churchill zone is Salem forward Steven Homrich (No. 14). Trailing on the play are Churchill's Evan Gibbonney (No. 5), Justin O'Brien (No. 11) and Salem's Trevor Mac (No. 24). JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

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COMMUNITY  
FINANCIAL

# Swan song: Penguins seniors 'blast' to coach

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

The rivalry in girls hockey between Plymouth-Canton-Salem and Farmington Hills Mercy goes back to when the Penguins' Class of 2014 were just starting out in their varsity careers.

PCS got the best of the Marlins in 2012, winning in triple overtime to win the Division 2 championship in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League.

And the games since then have been tough, tense affairs. Tuesday night at Arctic Edge in Canton, on "Senior Night" for the Penguins, Mercy pre-

vailed 2-1 in OT. The teams remain 1-2 in the D2 standings with the postseason around the corner.

"PCS played well but we had a few breakdowns throughout the game which Mercy capitalized on," Penguins head coach Mary Beth Smith said.

Although the Penguins fell short (they're now 8-6-1-1, 18 points; Mercy is first with 20 points), Smith praised her group of seniors.

Those include team captain and defenseman Alexis O'Flynn (who scored an unassisted goal in Tuesday's second period against Mercy goalie Caitlin Somerville), forwards (and assistant

captains) Jenna Carter and Morgan Cusumano and goalies Gwen Gadulka and Becky Lough. "Jenna, I have had for all four years and she has been an absolute blast to coach," Smith said. "They all have been. It's a great feeling watching these girls become better hockey players and to watch them grow up along the way."

"Alexis and Becky came to us their sophomore year and the three of them (including Carter) won a state title in 2012. Morgan and Gwen came to us their junior years. The Class of 2014 will truly be missed."

In the loss to Mercy, Gadulka made 15 saves.



The Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins seniors are: Back row (from left) Morgan Cusumano, captain and Alexis O'Flynn and Jenna Carter; front row (from left) Gwen Gadulka and Becky Lough. JOHN KEMSKI/EXPRESS PHOTO

## Whalers win two of three on road trip

What started as a lousy road trip turned out to be a pretty good one for the Plymouth Whalers.

After getting trounced 9-3 by Guelph Monday, the Whalers rebounded to defeat Sault Ste. Marie on Wednesday and edge Sarnia 3-2 on Friday thanks to a three-goal

second period. Sarnia jumped out 1-0 in the first period but Connor Chatham evened things up at 4:56 of the second period on an assist from Francesco Viardi.

Danny Vanderviel then put Plymouth up 2-1 when he scored at 8:59, with assists to Gianluca

Curcuruto and Ryan Hartman.

The Sting made it 2-2 before the end of the frame when Davis Brown beat Whalers goalie Alex Nedeljkovic (28 saves), but that set the stage for Yannick Rathgeb's game winner at 17:53 of the third.

Rathgeb scored on the

power play, set up by Matt Mistle and Chatham.

The Whalers (23-29-0-6) were slated to host London on Saturday night.

**PLYMOUTH 5, SARNIA** Ryan Hartman scored two goals Wednesday to lift the visiting Plymouth Whalers to this win at Sault Ste. Marie.

Also scoring for Plymouth were Francesco Viardi, Zach Lorentz and Yannick Rathgeb while Carter Sandick collected two assists.

## ICERS

Continued from Page 81

Both Churchill goalies played as well as they could considering that, according to Salem's score sheet, the Rocks (10-13-1) held an enormous edge in shots on goal.

"You know what? They had seven shots, we had 65," Ossenmacher said. "That's probably the most complete game we've played. We played well."

Churchill head coach Jason Reynolds tipped his cap to the Rocks, but also stressed that three of his top forwards were out of action.

Drew Puihes is sidelined by a concussion and he leads the Chargers (7-15-2) with more than 30 points.

Also not in the lineup Wednesday were C.J. Cromie and Dylan Smith.

"We had to put some lines together on short notice and tried to get everybody up to speed with each other," Reynolds said. "We did a nice job of battling in the first half of the game. Our whole focus was just to try to contain them; they have a pretty potent offense."

"We did a nice job, but in the second half Salem broke it open."

Sealy, who now has 12 goals, got Salem off and running in the opening period with assists to Cam Clark and Jason Newell.

### Relentless

Salem then poured it on in the second, with goals in succession by

Jason Newell, Noah Saeed, Sealy and sophomore winger Evan Newell (Jason's younger brother and linemate who posted one goal and an assist).

The trio of the Newell brothers and Sealy accounted for four goals and five assists, the kind of production Ossenmacher hopes continues 7:30 p.m. Monday in a Division 1 pre-regional contest against Canton (also at PCC).

In the third, Trevor Mac scored on the power play for Salem. Setting up the marker were Jack Driscoll and Clark (three assists).

Also collecting an assist for the Rocks was Steven Homrich.

Churchill's only goal came in the first, when Parker Hodges set up Nolan Church.

That was the only puck to get past Salem senior goalie Parker Godfrey.

**PRE-REGIONALS ON TAP:** All three teams from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park are competing at a Division 1 pre-regional at Plymouth Cultural Center.

First up will be Salem and Canton, squaring off at 7:30 p.m. Monday. The visit will be that matchup faces Plymouth in a game slated for 7 p.m. Wednesday.

The regional final will be Sunday, March 1, at the Dearborn Ice Skating Center.

**PLYMOUTH 4, HARTLAND 3:** Two powerhouse squads squared off Monday at Arctic Edge and the Wildcats (12-13-2) came away with an impressive one-goal win.

Plymouth outscored Lakes Conference champion Hartland 2-1 in the decisive third period. The Eagles dropped to 14-4-4.

Four players registered a goal and an assist: Mitchell Lupatrine, Mike Schatz, Charlie Superski and Colin Stach. Snapping 24 of 27 shots for the victory was goalie Jared Maddock.

"It was a great test for us against a quality team that is well-coached," Plymouth head coach Gerry Verbo said.

He did not know that playoffs are around the corner and that now is the time to start playing playoff hockey. "They are a very focused group."

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Canton players and coaches hoist the Kensington Conference and KLA South Division trophies in jubilation following Wednesday's win over Novi. JOHN KEMSKI/EXPRESS PHOTO

## HOOPS

Continued from Page 81

(when Rachel Winters, Paige Aresco, Taylor Hunley and Shannon Perry were freshmen) at 7 p.m. Friday at Lakes Conference champion Waterford Mott (17-2).

"We knew we had to stop her dribble drive, she's a very good player," Rachel Winters said about McMahan. "Natalie did a great job on her in the beginning and then I switched on to her."

"Our team helped off

her really well, too, and we just tried to get her stopped."

It wasn't until the final minute of the game before McMahan reached double figures in scoring, tallying Novi's only two points of the fourth quarter (with the game decided) on foul shots.

### Breathing room

Rachel Winters (nine points) was a key in the Chiefs finally cracking the ice on offense, too. But that didn't happen until the fourth quarter, which began with Canton trailing 18-16.

She opened the final quarter with a game-tying jumper from the left corner and followed a minute later with a trey from the same side of the floor to put the Chiefs in front 21-18 with 6:10 left.

Unwavering defensive pressure by the Chiefs led to back-to-back turnovers by Novi.

Hunley (11 points, 10 rebounds) cashed in with successive layups and, all of a sudden, a tightly contested game was 25-18 with five minutes remaining. The Wildcats would not add to their total until McMahan's

late free throws.

"Every time we play Novi, you know it's going to be a defensive battle," Samulski said. "I thought we guarded well all night, towards the end we were able to get some open looks."

"Rach hit some big shots on the wing, Taylor got some scores inside with Paige feeding her from top. It went from there. But the key is, if you guard and rebound, you'll have a chance."

Aresco chipped in seven points.

Other than McMahan, the Wildcats (15-4) received five points from Taylor Pavlika and four points from Kristen Schubring.

Samulski's communication and motivation skills also helped the cause.

He turned up the volume during an urgent full timeout in the third, with Novi leading 15-14 and Canton grasping at offensive straws.

"He told us to calm down, play our game," Rachel Winters said. "Don't worry about the officials and just keep plugging through."

And that is what the Chiefs will need to do to win the association title Friday night and have any success in the state tournament (which begins next week).

"At this point in time in the year, game 20, game 19, game 18, you're always playing good people," Samulski said. "It is what it is. We'll go and play someone good and we'll see what we can do."



Churchill goaltender Chris Adams (No. 31) makes the save on Salem's Richie Corson (right) as teammates Dan Hufley (left) and Evan Gibboney (No. 5) converge on the play. JOHN KEMSKI/EXPRESS PHOTO

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### Rocks baseball clinic

The Salem Rocks Dugout Club announced the annual varsity baseball clinic is scheduled for Saturday, March 29, in the Salem High School gymnasium.

Session 1 (players ages 7-10) is set to run from 9 a.m. to noon. Session 2 (players ages 11-15) is from 1-4 p.m.

Cost is \$30 per session. A snack will be served after each session and each participant will receive a T-shirt.

Visit [www.rocksbasketball.com](http://www.rocksbasketball.com) to download a flier or call Anne Driscoll of the Dugout Club at 734-392-4901.

**Little League walkups**  
Plymouth-Canton

Little League is having walk-in registration from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Court-house Grille (Beacon Room), 41661 Plymouth Road in Plymouth.

Additional spots have just opened for more teams but are filling up fast. Contact info@ply-cant.com or visit [www.ply-cant.com](http://www.ply-cant.com).

**Girls lax meeting**  
A player/parent informational meeting for any student-athlete interested in playing Salem girls lacrosse (JV and varsity) is set for 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26.

The session will take place in Room W2112 (second floor) and will last about one hour. Visit [www.salem-girlslacrosse.com](http://www.salem-girlslacrosse.com) for additional information.

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# CEP gymnastics teams eye regional

Chiefs, Wildcats, Rocks all finish in top 10 at KLAAM meet; regional March 1 at Plymouth

The girls gymnastics season is coming down the home stretch and Plymouth-Canton Educational Park teams are in the thick of things.

On Saturday, March 1, at Plymouth, the Kensington Lakes Activities Association conference meet held Feb. 15 at Walled Lake Central served as a sneak preview.

The top three KLAAM finishers—Canton (145.200), Plymouth (141.700) and Livonia Blue (140.85) —will all be at the Plymouth regional.

KLAAM members Livonia Red (sixth, 133.925), Northville

(eighth, 131.650) and Salem (10th, 127.525) will be joined by Adrian, Dearborn Edsel Ford, Dearborn-Frontier, Grosse Pointe South, Saline and Tecumseh.

The top three teams there advance to the state finals the following weekend at Plymouth.

Saturday's performance for Canton (30-0) continued season-long excellence.

In Division 1 competition, Jocelyn Moraw and Melissa Green tied for third place in all-around (36.8) with Moraw finishing second on vault (9.4) and floor exercise (9.45). Also

in DI for Canton, Maddie Thal contributed three nines while Stephanie Cox medaled in all four events.

Plymouth's Haley Metz (fifth, 36.425), Simu (eighth, 34.550) and Salem's Alexia Fratzekakis (tied for ninth, 34.075) all had outstanding scores in the all-around.

Other top DI scores from Park performers included Simu (tied for fourth on vault, 9.250; ninth on floor, 8.975), Metz (tied for sixth on vault, 9.200; fifth on beam, 9.250; eighth on floor, 9.075), Fratzekakis (fourth on beam, 9.300; tied for fifth on floor, 9.150).

Canton's Haley Hodgson was D2 champion on vault (9.225) and floor (9.3).

In other D2 scores, Kayla

Janevski of the Wildcats came in second on vault with a total of 9.175 while Plymouth teammate Katie Salanga placed third on beam (9.350) and fifth on floor (9.100). Also registering a nine on floor was Plymouth's Brenna Connor (seventh, 9.100).

**WALLINGFORD LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION GIRLS GYMNASIICS MEET Feb. 15 at Walled Lake Central**  
**TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Canton, 145.200 points; 2. Plymouth, 141.700; 3. Livonia Blue, 140.850; 4. Howell, 140.500; 5. Brighton, 139.750; 6. Livonia Red, 139.125; 7. Walled Lake Central, 132.275; 8. Northville, 131.650; 9. Huron Valley Midwest Academy, 128.675; 10. Salem, 127.525; 11. Waterford, 123.525; 12. Walled Lake Gold, 121.175.

**DIVISION 1 RESULTS**  
**Vault:** 1. Moraw (Canton), 9.425; 2. Jocelyn Moraw (Canton), 9.400; 3. (tie) Maddie Thal (Canton), 9.350; 4. (tie) Melissa Green (Plymouth), 9.350; 5. (tie) Melissa Green (Plymouth), 9.300; 6. Stephanie Cox (Canton), 9.225; 7. Alexia Fratzekakis (Salem), 9.175; 8. Haley Metz (Plymouth), 9.100.

**Uneven bars:** 1. Mejian (Brighton), 9.2; 4. (tie) Green (Canton), Metz (Plymouth), 9.00.

**Balance beam:** 1. Moraw (Canton), 9.55; 4. Fratzekakis (Salem), 9.300; 5. Metz (Plymouth), 9.250; 6. Green (Canton), 9.200; 7. Thal (Canton), 9.100; 10. Cox (Canton), 8.950.  
**Floor exercise:** 1. Green (Canton), 9.5; 3. (tie) Moraw (Canton), 9.425; 4. (tie) Jocelyn Moraw (Canton), 9.400; 5. (tie) Fratzekakis (Salem), 9.350; 6. Metz (Plymouth), 9.300; 7. Thal (Canton), 9.250; 8. Cox (Canton), 9.225; 9. Haley Metz (Plymouth), 9.100; 10. Alexia Fratzekakis (Salem), 9.075.

**ADDITIONAL PAGE SPOTLIGHT** 38.875; 3. (tie) Moraw (Canton), Green (Canton), 36.800; Metz (Plymouth), 36.425; 6. Thal (Canton), 36.475; 8. Simu (Plymouth), 34.550; 9. (tie) Fratzekakis (Salem), Claire Womersley (Brighton), 34.075.

**Vault:** 1. Haley Hodgson (Canton), 9.225; 2. Kayla Janevski (Wildcats), 9.175; 3. (tie) Katie Salanga (Plymouth), Samantha Horton (Plymouth), 8.900.  
**Uneven bars:** 1. Jess Weisk (Blk), 8.75; 4. Adrienne Martorello (Salem), 8.300; 5. Emily Welch (Plymouth), 8.275; 6. (tie) Ellie Bachman (Canton), 8.175.

**Balance beam:** 1. Sammi Pajagi (Gold), 8.65; 3. Simu (Plymouth), 8.350; 5. Jessica Seeger (Canton), 8.150.  
**Floor exercise:** 1. Hodgson (Canton), 9.3; 5. Salanga (Plymouth), 9.175; 7. Brenna Connor (Plymouth), 9.100.

**All-around:** 1. Rhoad (Blk), 35.475; 5. Hodgson (Canton), 34.525; 9. Metz (Plymouth), 34.050.

## Powerful Marian

## wallops Stevenson

## PCA bounces back from loss

After losing Sunday's Catholic League Division girls basketball championship to Farmington Hills Mercy on a last-second shot, state-ranked Birmingham Marian was bound to take its frustrations on somebody else Wednesday night.

The unfortunate victim was host Livonia Stevenson as the Mustangs dominated from start to finish en route to a convincing non-conference 60-24 victory.

The Mustangs jumped out to a 23-8 first-quarter lead and never looked back in dropping the Spartans to 11-8 overall.

Bailey Thomas paced Marian with 13 points, while Brittany Gray and Kara Holinski chipped in 12 and 11, respectively.

Rachel Wilkinson and Rebecca Morse tallied six and five, respectively, for Stevenson.

**PCA 42, LUTHER N'WEST 27** Plymouth Christian Academy (10-9, 7-4 in the MAC, tied Division) shut down Lutheran Northwestern (4-20, 2-12) in Friday's first half taking a 25-9 lead and never relinquished control.

PCA took the fourth half 16 scores with 16 points for the Eagles while senior teammate Jen Malcolm scored 17 and grabbed 12 rebounds.

Other PCA scorers included senior center Janelle Fuller and freshman Alycia Jones (seven each) and sophomore Chae Chapel (four).

"It was nice to see the freshmen get into the game and have a good game," said head coach "Our commitment to defending the ball really paid off."

**ROEFER 62, PCA 54:** After falling behind 33-20 at halftime, Plymouth Christian Academy overcame seven points in the second half but the Eagles ultimately came up a point short.

Rogger improved to 15-3 overall and 10-2 in MAC play. Blue Division while PCA dropped to 9-6, 6-4.

Rachel Smith brought 30 points to the Eagles while Jensen and Wilson added 15 and 14, respectively, and finished with three rebounds each.

Also having solid showings for PCA were Rachel Smith (13 points) and Jen Malcolm (10 points, seven rebounds).

**OUR LADY 37, LADYWOOD 28:** Anna Ralls scored 11 points, including three triples, to propel Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes (7-12) to Catholic League Division with Wednesday at Livonia Ladywood (2-17).

Our Lady's last year's Class D state runner-up and state champion the previous three years (2002, 2011 and 2010), jumped out to a 12-2 first quarter lead.

Ladywood cut the deficit to 24-9 entering the third quarter, but couldn't get any closer.

Erika Selaskiewicz scored 11 points for the Black and white. She had 10 rebounds and 25 points. Amber Reinhardt added six points, while Shelby McElroy grabbed five rebounds.

Shelby McElroy grabbed five rebounds, while Mary Adams added nine for Ladies.

## WRESTLING

**MISSEA DIVISION 1 TEAM WRESTLING QUARTERFINALS NOVEMBER 25 C57 PLYMOUTH**

**Feb. 21 at Battle Creek**  
285 pounds: Nick Jenkins (DCC) pinned Ricky Barnes 5:24; 103: Devin Ransinger (DCC) pinned Jordan von Zuch (Livonia) 1:12.

Brandon Harris (P) defeated Tommy Herrmann, 1:12; 112: Brandon Harris (P) defeated Tommy Herrmann, 1:12; 112: Brandon Harris (P) defeated Tommy Herrmann, 1:12.

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285 pounds: Dakota Powers (D) pinned Jeremy Castillo (2), 2:03; Jacob Alvarez (D) pinned Ryan Casariego (2), 1:52; Mike Johnson (D) won by technical fall over Jeremy Johnson, 16:0; 160: 119: Chase Pender (P) defeated Ryan Casariego, 1:12; 112: Lincoln Olson (P) defeated Nathan Adams, 1:12; 112: Lincoln Olson (P) defeated Nathan Adams, 1:12.

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# Salem boys bowlers rolling into postseason

## Seven individuals from P-CEP teams qualify for D1 regionals

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

The Salem varsity boys bowling team wouldn't mind turning an outstanding season into a "Super" one next weekend.

Having won the KLAAC Central Division with an undefeated record in dual meets — and with all five varsity rollers averaging 200 pins per game or more — the Rocks entered the Division 1 regionals Friday and Saturday at Super Bowl in Canton. Friday's results were not available as of press time.

After having plenty of success during the regular slate of matches, Salem qualified for the regionals with a fourth-place finish Feb. 14 at Grand Blanc Lanes, at the KLAAC tournament. The Rocks were defeated 178-154-181 to 175-181-173 by eventual tournament champion South Lyon.

As for playoff qualifiers, Salem placed fourth with 3,073 pins, trailing Wayne Memorial (3,138), Waterford Kettering (3,131) and Walled Lake Northern (3,081). Canton registered 2,959 pins for seventh.

"The boys worked really hard this season, they performed as a true team," said Salem coach Kathie Hahn, who worked in tandem with coach Glenn Clark. "When one was down the others picked them up, they feed off each other, make suggestions to each other and support each other."



Macunovich

"As a coach what more can you ask for, they made our job as coaches much more enjoyable to sit back and watch."

Salem's lineup of 200 bowlers includes Nolan Rudis (212 average), captain Steven Cadwell (211), co-captain Tyler Snyder (210), Brandon Allison (203) and Tyler Ridgeway (201).

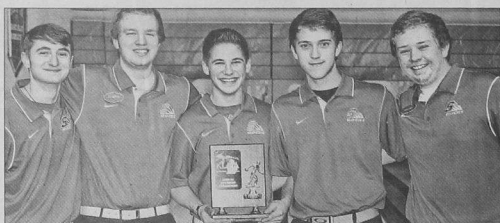
All but Ridgeway were named to the all-KLAAC team for high averages, as were Canton's Josh Pozan (209.6), Aaron Madsen (209.3) and Michael Richards (204.8).

"They choose the top 21 kids from the KLAAC," Hahn said. "Salem had four boys and Canton had three. Seven boys is a great showing for the Park."

Canton coach Kurt Brubaker, whose boys team went 9-3, lauded the efforts turned in all season by seniors Pozan and Richards and junior Madsen, along with seniors Trent Montgomery, Nick Blain and sophomore Mitchell Zelenak.

Contributing as needed were junior varsity bowlers Josh Criscenti, Jacob Peltz, Teddy Lane (all juniors) and sophomore Tyler Pozan.

"Those players will fit in very well with the returning players we have," said Brubaker, adding that the future of the team looks solid because there are enough bowlers to com-



The KLAAC Central Division champion Salem Rocks include (from left) Tyler Ridgeway, Brandon Allison, Tyler Snyder, Nolan Rudis and Steven Cadwell.

prise a second JV unit.

Peltz in particular shows promise. He was the runner-up in the singles event at the JV state championship in Sterling Heights.

### KLAAC girls tourney

Canton's girls bowling team finished sixth at the KLAAC tourney, also Feb. 14 at Grand Blanc Lanes.

The Chiefs reached the quarterfinals before being defeated by Walled Lake Central (the tourney champs), 192-177 to 127-166.

A bright spot for Canton was Meghan Macunovich. She was the first-place individual finisher with a 170-255-425 series.

Macunovich also was named to the all-KLAAC team. The freshman's season average of 204.93 was third highest in the conference.



All-KLAAC boys bowling team selections include (from left) Canton's Aaron Madsen, Salem's Nolan Rudis, Salem's Brandon Allison, Canton's Michael Richards, Salem's Tyler Snyder and Steven Cadwell and Canton's Josh Pozan.

### KENSINGTON LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION BOWLING TOURNAMENT

Feb. 14 at Grand Blanc Lanes

#### BOYS RESULTS

**Championship final:** South Lyon (151-195) defeated Waterford Kettering (138-166).

**Semifinals:** South Lyon (178-154-181) def. Salem (175-181-173); Kettering (158-154-209) def. Westland John Glenn (136-162-182).

**Quarterfinals:** South Lyon (213-175) def. Wayne Memorial (164-175); Kettering (183-179) def. Canton (180-149); John Glenn (180-220-178) def. Walled Lake Northern (192-160-136); Salem (182-208) def. Grand Blanc (168-177).

**Playoff qualifiers:** Wayne, 3,138; 2. Kettering, 3,131; 3. W. Northern, 3,081; 4. Salem, 3,073; 5. Grand Blanc, 3,024; 6. John Glenn, 2,965; 7. Canton, 2,959; 8. South Lyon, 2,950.

**Top individual scores:** Cody Townsend (Kettering), 290-203-493 (series).

#### GIRLS RESULTS

**Championship final:** Walled Lake Central (170-116) def. Canton (163-153-179) def. Waterford Mont (183-147-119); John Glenn (160-146) def. South Lyon (125-193).

**Semifinals:** W. Central (192-177) def. Canton (127-166); John Glenn (156-194) def. Northville (118-140); South Lyon (145-153) def. Grand Blanc (132-172); Mont (217-188-183) def. Wayne (211-142-163).

**Quarterfinals:** 1. John Glenn, 2,735; 2. Mont, 2,594; 3. W. Central, 2,807; 4. South Lyon, 2,580; 5. Grand Blanc, 2,578; 6. Canton, 2,558; 7. Wayne, 2,546; 8. Northville, 2,475.

**Top individual scores:** Meghan Macunovich (Canton), 170-255-425 (series).

## Madonna cagers Naubert, Melcher named to All-Academic team

By Brad Emmons  
Staff Writer

Madonna University's Boby Naubert and Rachel Melcher have proven to be as adept in the classroom as they are on the basketball court.

Melcher, a redshirt junior guard from Birmingham, Mar-ian, became the first MU women's basketball player in school history to be named to the Capital One Academic All-America first team as selected by the members of the College Sports Information Directors

of America (CoSIDA).

Naubert, a senior guard from Livonia Stevenson, was named to the Capital One Academic All-America second team for the second straight year.

Melcher's and Naubert's selections give Madonna its 13th and 14th Academic All-America honorees since 2005.

A Sterling Heights native, Melcher also earned NAIA Scholar Athlete and Academic All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference honors as a sophomore and will repeat both of

those honors this season.

A biology major with a 3.96 grade point average, Melcher leads the Crusaders in scoring (15.9 points), rebounds (8.8), assists (3.81) and steals (1.74) per game.

She is currently 27th nationally with 237 total rebounds and ranks 34th in rebounds per game.

Naubert also earned NAIA Scholar Athlete and Academic All-WHAC selections as a junior and will repeat both of those honors this season.

A history and social studies

major with a 3.68 G.P.A., Naubert earned WHAC Player of the Year and NAIA All-America second team honors as a junior as the Crusaders earned their first WHAC tournament championship and inaugural bid to the NAIA National Championship.

This season, the 5-foot-10 Naubert leads MU in points (18.1) and assists (6.0) per game. He is also second on the team in rebounds (41).

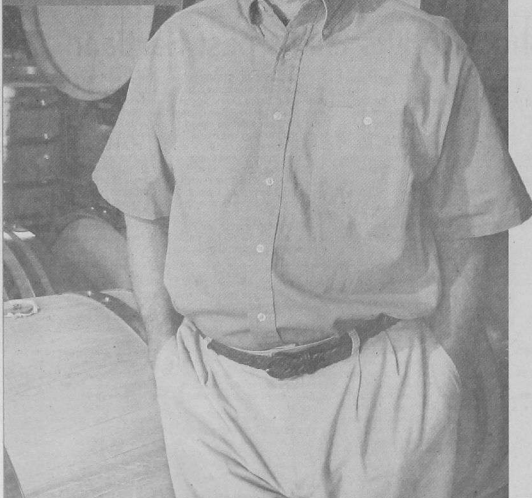
On Feb. 12 against the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Naubert became the first play-

er in WHAC history to record 1,800 career points, 700 assists and 500 rebounds.

He currently ranks first in the WHAC and third nationally in total assists (169) and assists per game.

To be eligible for Capital One Academic All-America team, a student-athlete must be nominated by the school's sports information director as well as be a starter or key reserve, a sophomore academically and athletically, as well as possess a 3.3 GPA or higher.

Sam is 64 years old. His youngest daughter just went off to college. Now he's searching for a big screen tv to turn her room into a sports lover's paradise.



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## Obese children risk more injury from simple falls

A new study from the University of Michigan Health System found that obese children may sustain more serious elbow injuries from a simple fall than children of normal weight.

Obese children who experience a common above-the-elbow fracture — called a supracondylar humeral fracture — are at greater risk of bone, joint and nerve damage that sets them up for long-term health problems, according to the findings that appear in the February issue of the *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery*.

“Something as simple and

common as falling onto an outstretched hand while playing at the playground can have far greater health consequences for children who are diagnosed as obese,” said senior author Dr. Michelle S. Caird, M.D., assistant professor in the department of orthopedic surgery at the U-M Medical School.

“There are many serious risks to childhood obesity, including fractures and surgi-



Caird

cal complications. It’s important that children get the proper amount of exercise in order to strengthen their bones early in life.”

Similar studies have shown that overweight children who break their femur — or thigh bone — are more likely to need bigger surgery and have more complications than children who are not overweight.

“Future research needs to focus on modifying obesity in kids to see how that impacts fracture complexity and above-the-elbow fractures,” Caird said. “We should also explore ways to improve child-

hood bone health overall whether that means more calcium, Vitamin D, exercise or a combination of such measures to help build and maintain a skeleton that can structurally and metabolically support the person through their lifetime.”

Caird offers these tips to help children build strong bones:

» Get enough calcium and Vitamin D in kids’ diets while maintaining a healthy weight. Vitamin D is found in Vitamin D-fortified milk and a daily Vitamin D supplement as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

» Good sources of calcium include dairy products, such as milk, and leafy green vegetables.

» Daily exercise in the form of weight-bearing sports like walking, hiking, soccer, and basketball helps strengthen bones.

» Focus on healthy safe play and careful team play with attention to cross training to avoid overuse injuries.

» Keep regular visits to the pediatrician or family doctor to maintain kids’ good health.

### UPCOMING

#### AARP driving course

The AARP Smart Driving program is an eight-hour classroom refresher course for experienced motorists, 50 and older. It runs 12:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 12-13, in classroom 11 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, located at Five Mile and Levan, in Livonia. Participants will learn how to sharpen their driving skills, and develop strategies for adjusting to age-related changes in vision, hearing, and reaction time. They also will learn about the effects of medications on driving performance, about car safety, maintenance of the vehicle, and ways to prevent accidents. Registration and attendance at both sessions are required. No walk-ins. \$15 fee for AARP members and \$20 fee for nonmembers. Register by calling 734-655-8950.

#### Atrial fibrillation

Dr. Dipak Shah, M.D., a cardiologist, will offer a free seminar on atrial fibrillation, the most common abnormal heart rhythm, 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25, in conference room A at the Outpatient Center, Providence Park Hospital, 47601 Grand River Ave., Novi. He’ll talk about diagnostic and treatment options. The likelihood of developing atrial fibrillation increases with age and increases the risk of stroke. Pre-registration is recommended by calling 888-751-5465.

#### Blood drives

» 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23,

at Our Lady of Loretto’s Church Family Center, corner of Six Mile and Beech Day, Redford. Walk-ins welcome or make an appointment by calling 313-534-9000.

» 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, March 6, in the North Auditorium of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit redcrossblood.org. Appointment signups are also available in the hospital cafeteria. Walk-ins are accepted, but appointments are preferred.

» 6:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Monday, March 3, at Providence Hospital, 16001 W. Nine Mile, Southfield. Register at www.redcrossblood.org and enter the code, PROVSFD or call Abigail Goffin at 248-849-3067. Walk-ins welcome.

#### Breakfast class

A registered dietitian from Botford Hospital will show how eating a healthy breakfast can help you stay healthy, 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 12, at Busch’s Fresh Food Market, 24445 Drake, Farmington Hills. Cost is \$5 and includes recipes, food samples, nutritional advice and a \$5 Busch’s coupon. Tickets available from Busch’s Guest Services Counter or by phoning 248-427-7400.

#### Celiac support

Chef Doug Cordier will prepare two gluten-free soups and will provide basic nutritional instruction at the next meeting of the Tri County Celiac Support Group, March 10, at First Presbyterian Church, 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. Doors open at 6:30

### MEDICAL DATEBOOK

p.m. and the meeting begins at 7 p.m.

#### Cooking class

Learn to make healthy slow-cooked stews at a class led by chef Rebecca Wauldron, 6-7 p.m. Thursday, March 6, at Busch’s Fresh Food Market, 33300 N. 14 Mile, West Bloomfield. Cost is \$10 and includes recipes, samples, nutritional advice, and a \$10 Busch’s coupon. Tickets available from Busch’s guest services counter or by calling 248-539-4581. Registration required.

#### Drug series

Dawn Farms-sponsored programs at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center Auditorium, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti:

» Mary Jo Desprez, M.A., will provide an overview of the national and local efforts to build recovery support programs on college campuses, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25. Call 734-485-8725, or email info@dawnfarm.org.

#### First responder training

Huron Valley Ambulance is forming a volunteer medical first responder team and will hold eight-week training classes for participants interested in volunteering at community events or assisting with community awareness programs and administrative tasks. An informational meeting is set for 6 p.m. Thursday, March 20, at Emergent Health Partners, 1200 State Circle, Ann Arbor. The free classes run from 6:10-30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, beginning May 6. After completing the course,



Participants of Walk with a Doc on the trail at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills. The first walk of the season is March 20.

participants take a state exam for certification. Call 734-477-6331 for more information.

#### Hearing loss support

Don Evans of Zounds Hearing Center will talk about the company’s product and answer questions at the next meeting of The Hearing Loss Association of America, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 12, at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. For more information, call Tony at 734-664-3297.

#### Scleroderma Foundation

The Scleroderma Foundation Michigan Chapter offers support for scleroderma and overlapping autoimmune patients. The Livonia group meets 7-8 p.m. the

first Thursday of the month, February-June and September-November, at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. Group leader is Sue Harris, sharris27@mi.rr.com; 248-982-5740. A virtual support group meets 1-3 p.m. the third Thursday of the month, February-November. Contact Judy Nichols at kenjudynichols@gmail.com; 231-775-8446.

#### Walk with a Doc

Marshall Solomon, a board-certified podiatric surgeon, will discuss “Better Shoes for Better Feet,” noon Thursday, March 20, at Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile in Farmington Hills. Walks are held rain or shine. Register by calling 877-477-Doc1, option #1.

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# COMMUNITY LIFE

# Church youth group runs bone marrow registration drive

**By Sharon Dargatz**  
Staff Writer

When Benjamin Shearer, youth pastor at Chinese Gospel Church in Livonia, heard that a former member was battling leukemia, he knew he had to "step up and do something."

Jerry Yang, 5, had moved with his parents, Singyang and Jiaquan, to Texas before Shearer began serving the church last year. Shearer had never met the family, but learned about the youngster's release while reading a weekly email about church happenings. Jerry had received a bone marrow transplant while living in Michigan, and needed another after his release.

"I have a son and another child on the way," said Shearer, a Plymouth resident. "When I read about him I was taken aback. And as a parent, one can only imagine how challenging and hurtful it is to be put in such a situation."

Jerry has found a donor match and is scheduled for a transplant next month. Meanwhile, Shearer and a parent of the church's youth group put their heads together and decided to register potential donors through a bone marrow drive in Jerry's honor. The donor registration will be held in conjunction with Delete Blood Cancer, 2-6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, at the church, 35301 Five Mile, between Levant and Farmington Road, Livonia.

Shearer, who enlisted the help of his church youth group for the drive, hopes to register 200 potential donors.

"It seems like so many Christian churches are afraid to get out into the community.



The Yang family, Singyang and Jacquian with their son, Jerry, are former members of the Chinese Gospel Church, in Livonia, where a bone marrow donation registration drive is being held Sunday, Feb. 23.

This is one area the church needs to be active," Shearer said. "One of the things I challenged our youth group to do is to feel like they aren't restricted by age, to dream big and reach out."

### Youth involvement

Youth club members have spread the word and will be on

hand to help out at the donor drive.

"When Jerry had his first transplantation, families from our church would go sign up to visit him in the hospital," said Karen Xu, a Novi High School student. "I thought that was a really thoughtful thing to do and I really want to do something as great as that."

"This event means a lot to our youth group and church and especially Jerry's family. I'm really happy we are doing this to help people and it's just a great feeling to know that we are doing this much to help save lives."

The registration process takes just a few minutes. Potential donors first answer basic health questions to make sure they are eligible for the program. According to the Delete Blood Cancer website, donors must be between 18 and 55, in good health, and meet height and weight requirements. If eligible, they swab the inside of their cheek and the swab is sent to the Delete Blood Cancer registry.

"By going through the registration, you are committing to it — if someone matches, you donate to them. If after the

initial registration you don't feel comfortable, you can remove yourself from the registry," Shearer said.

He said the odds of being a match for a patient are about one in 80,000, although matches can be made around the globe.

"People from many different countries around the world check the same data base and marrow can be sent anywhere," Shearer said. "One of the things I wanted to accomplish here is that although it says Chinese Gospel Church on our sign, we want everyone to come."

For more about Delete Blood Cancer, visit [DeleteBloodCancer.org](http://DeleteBloodCancer.org). For more about the church, visit [cgc-detroit.org](http://cgc-detroit.org).

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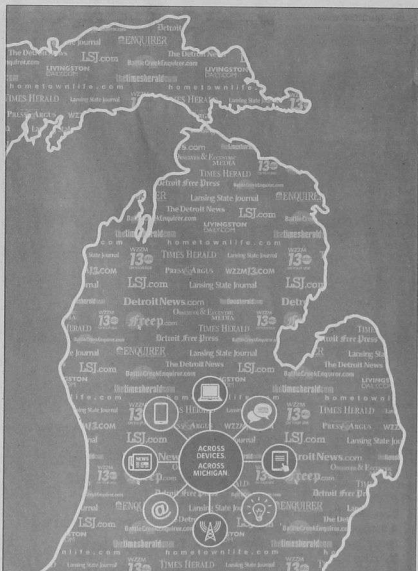
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\*Source: Monthly unique visitors, comScore Multi-Platform Report, March 2011



Kelsey Pettengill, who monitors bluebirds with her mother, Sandy, checks out a nesting box at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills.

## Get ready to meet bluebirds this spring

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Bird lovers can get a closeup view of bluebirds this spring by adopting a nesting box in Heritage Park, Farmington Hills.

"We have 38 monitored boxes in the park," said Ashlie Smith, nature center supervisor and naturalist. "They look like typical bird nesting boxes but they have a couple special things — the size of the hole, there's an overhang to shade the box and with our boxes, one side is hinged and can open up so the bluebird monitors can check it once a week."

"A few of us (naturalists) will adopt a box or two, but we rely heavily on volunteer monitors."

Volunteers can train to become bluebird monitors, 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 5, at the park, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile. New monitors and returning monitors will learn how to identify bluebirds by appearance and song. They'll also receive a training packet of information for study at home.

Monitors check nesting boxes — the temporary summer homes for visiting bluebirds — on a weekly basis from approximately April through August. They're trained to open the bird houses without disturbing inhabitants. They look for adult birds, eggs, nests and baby birds and then input their findings online at NestWatch.org, a program run by Cornell University's Ornithology Lab. The nationwide monitoring program tracks trends in bird reproduction and helps researchers study how bird populations change as a result of climate change, habitat loss, and the introduction of non-native plants and animals.

The monitoring program tracks many kinds of birds nationwide. Why bluebirds at Heritage Park? "It's not because we don't care about other birds, it's because this area, especially in the suburbs of Detroit, used to be open farmland and that is prime habitat for bluebirds," Smith explained. "They used to nest along fence posts. Now that has gone away and the area has become more urbanized. By giving them nesting boxes, we're taking away one of their stressors, giving them proper habitat." Some other birds are welcome, too. Monitors also take note of black hat chickadees, tree swallows, and house wrens that also may use the boxes.



Baby birds await dinner in their nesting box at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills.



### PET PROJECTS

"They're also considered desirable birds. We do have English sparrows and house sparrows that are not native. They're invasive song birds and when they move into an area where there are boxes it's bad news for the other native birds. They are aggressive and can not only kill hatched birds, but also the parent birds," Smith said. "It's like a soap opera out there — murder, intrigue and revenge. It's something we take an aggressive



A bluebird settles into a comfy nest inside its temporary summer home.

stance on. The monitors learn more about it during training, how to protect the box."

Boxes are identified by GPS coordinates. Some are located close to parking areas and trails; others are placed deep in the park, giving volunteers a chance to go off established paths.

"Bluebird monitors are specially trained to

go off trail and since they are trained to do that they get to visit areas of the park that everyday visitors don't see. They also might stumble on a newly born fawn or a monarch chrysalis."

Register for bluebird monitor training at [creg.fhog.com](http://creg.fhog.com). Or call the Costick Center at 248-473-1800.

### Pet therapy

Great Dane Rescue Inc. in Plymouth will hold its first meeting of the Grace Hospice Pet Therapy Group, 1-2 p.m. Saturday, March 8, at Zingerman's Deli, 422 Detroit Road, Ann Arbor. The meeting will focus on what it takes to get a dog certified as a therapy dog for visits in homes and hospices. Questions? Contact Sandy Suarez at 734-454-3683; [info@greatdanerescueinc.com](mailto:info@greatdanerescueinc.com).

## Contest will choose top senior volunteers

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Over age 65 and still volunteering?

You can nominate yourself — or nominate someone else — for Home Instead Senior Care network's Salute to Senior Service program.

Home Instead Inc. is accepting nominations for outstanding senior volunteers through March 1. It will choose a winner from each state by popular vote and a panel of senior care experts will select the national winner from the state honorees. The company will donate \$500 to the state winners' designated and approved nonprofit organizations and \$5,000 to the national winner's designated and approved charity. Their stories of volunteer service also will be posted online.

Nominated seniors must be at least 65 years old and volunteer at least 15 hours monthly.

"You can't volunteer wrong, that's the best part," said Jean Borin, director of community services for the Home Instead office that serves western Wayne County. "Research says that 95 percent of seniors feel happier and healthier than seniors who don't volunteer."

"There are so many different ways you can volunteer. It's amazing the different things that people do and why they do it. It helps them stay more physically and emotionally engaged in life."

Borin said the state winner last year was 97 and a volunteer for the Christian service ministry at her church in Livonia. The woman

makes items for the homeless and "believes it's important to help those who are less fortunate," Borin said.

Nomination forms are available online at [SaluteToSeniorService.com](http://SaluteToSeniorService.com). They can be completed online or printed and mailed to Salute to Senior Service, P.O. Box 285, Bellevue, NE 68005.

The Home Instead Inc. website suggests a variety of ways that senior citizens can stay active and engaged through volunteering. A few ideas:

» Contact a church or hospital guild for knitting or sewing ideas. Seniors can "give back" by making prayer shawls or blankets and booties for newborns.

» Assist at a homeless shelter or senior center. Invite a friend to dinner or arrange for a fun outing with other seniors.

» Help with a community garden.

» Call bingo at a senior center.

» Send a letter or care package to military troops.

» Become a foster grandparent through SeniorCorps.org.

» Check with local schools for opportunities to read to children or mentor youth.

"If you're going to have someone volunteer, it needs to be something they are interested in," Borin said. "Church may be the perfect place to volunteer. If they had a loved one go through an experience in the hospital and they felt a connection there, then that is the perfect place to volunteer. They need to feel a connection and it needs to come from the heart."



### GARDEN CALENDAR

Send material for the Garden & Nature Calendar to Sharon Dargay, Observer & Eccentric, [sdargay@hometownlife.com](mailto:sdargay@hometownlife.com).

#### Butterfly garden

Local gardener John Blair will use a PowerPoint presentation at the next meeting of the Wayne Garden Club to show how he built his butterfly garden. The meeting is set for 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 12, at the Wayne Public Library, 3727 S. Wayne Road, Wayne. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 734-765-0780 or email [farlawley3479@wowway.com](mailto:farlawley3479@wowway.com).

#### Multiplying plants

Judy Cornelli, founding member of the Troy Garden Club and a member of the Michigan Herb Society, will be the guest speaker at the next meeting of the Livonia Garden Club, 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 4, at the Civic Park Senior Citizen Center, 15218 Farmington Road, south of Five Mile, Livonia. Cornelli, who is a staff member at Telly's Greenhouse, in Troy, will demonstrate how to multiply plants. Refreshments will be served. For more information, visit [www.livoniagardenclub.org](http://www.livoniagardenclub.org). Or call Ruth Moline at 734-525-3167.

#### Terrariums

Lisa Steinkopf will present "Terrariums: Gardens Under Glass," at the next meeting of the Farmington Garden Club,

March 3, in the Spicer House in Heritage Park, 24914 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. The meeting will start at noon, followed by the presentation at 1 p.m. Steinkopf will talk about choosing plants and accessories to bring snippets of nature indoors. Questions? Call Pat, 248-943-6026.

#### Wildflower gardening

Friends of the Rouge and the Alliance of Rouge Communities have teamed up to offer a native garden design workshop to teach residents in the Rouge River drainage area how to garden with native wildflowers and reduce rainwater runoff. The session runs 6:15 p.m. Wednesday, March 5, at Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile. Register by calling 313-792-9621 or at [therouge.org](http://therouge.org).

#### Frog & toad workshops

Friends of the Rouge will hold three training workshops for its 17th annual Frog & Toad Survey.

Participants will learn to identify frog and toad calls, a skill needed to conduct a survey this spring.

Surveyors are assigned their own survey area within the Rouge River watershed. Surveys are conducted independently on a warm spring



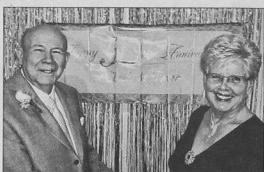
## GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

TERESA AND CHARLES  
MISNER

Charles and Teresa (Hynes) Misner of Redford Township marked 50 years of marriage April 20, 2013. The couple celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at a surprise party given in their honor at the South Lyon home of their daughter and son-in-law, Jennifer and Christopher Mattina.

Attending the gala were 85 family and friends, many of whom were guests of the happy couple at their wedding exactly 50 years earlier.

Teresa and Charles were married at Epiphany Catholic Church in Detroit in 1963. Charles had been introduced by a co-worker to Teresa in 1962 at Detroit's Bonnie Brook Golf Club, a venue for many Irish dance events. The Misners have made their home in Redford Township since 1964.



Charles and Teresa Misner of Redford

Charles and Teresa are the parents of Sean of Walled Lake; Sue of Tampa, Fla.; and Christina (Joe) Archer of South Lyon, in addition to Jennifer (Christopher) Mattina. The Misners have three grandsons, Ryan, Danny and Evan Archer, in addition to 32 nieces and nephews.

Charles retired from Ford Motor Co. in 1998 after 31 years at the Wixom assembly plant in the computer department. Born in Pontiac, Charles served in the

U.S. Army's 62nd Tank Battalion 10th Division from 1956-58 in Kitzingen, West Germany. Teresa retired in 2000 after 15 years as office manager for specialists at Providence Hospital. She immigrated to Michigan in 1957 from Kinvaara, County Galway, Ireland.

The Misners attend St. John Bosco Catholic Church in Redford. They enjoy reading, poetry, traveling, golf, Irish history and family genealogy.

## Astronaut to speak at Livonia prayer breakfast on May 1

Save the date! The 40th Annual Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast will be held at 7 a.m. Thursday, May 1, at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman, Livonia. Gen. Charles F. "Boss" Duke Jr., the 10th man to

walk on the moon, will be the featured speaker. Duke and fellow Apollo 16 astronaut John Young landed on the moon in 1972. Their stay was a record-setting 71 hours and 14 minutes. Debbie Hart, a Livonia

native, will perform a patriotic music program. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$10 for students. K-12 RSVP's are due April 18.

For tickets, call Sally Butler at 248-476-9427.

## ENGAGEMENT



Chris Weeks and Beth Prost

an advertising agency in Chicago, Ill.

They plan a July 2014 wedding in Chicago.

## PROST-WECKS

Beth Prost and Chris Weeks announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Kevin and Debra Prost of Livonia. Her fiancé is the son of John Weeks of Livonia and the late Jeanne Weeks.

Beth and Chris both attended Stevenson High School in Livonia. They met while at Michigan State University. Both are employed by Digitas,

## RELIGION CALENDAR

## FEBRUARY

## BLOOD DRIVE

**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23

**Location:** Our Lady of Loretto, corner of Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

**Details:** Walk-ins or

appointments are welcome.

**Contact:** 313-534-9000 or [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) JUDAICA ON DVD

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26

**Location:** Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

**Details:** Howard Lupovitch delivers a lecture, "The Soviets Archives: The Unknown World of Eastern Europe," on DVD.

**Contact:** Nancy Kaplan at 248-737-1931, [nancyellen879@att.net](mailto:nancyellen879@att.net) SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

**Time/Date:** 6:30 p.m.

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FERRANTINO, ESTELA

Age 84 of Plymouth, February 11, 2014. She was preceded in death by the love of her life, Michael Loving mother of Christine Ferrantino, Toni (Randy) Kowalski, Janette Ferrantino, Nancy Ferrantino, Michael (Kellie) Ferrantino, grandnephew of 16 Peter, Michael O., Michael Christa, Angela, Sean, Danielle, Elsie, Rob, Shannon, Michael A., Marisa, Kyle, Michael J., Nicolas and Madeline. Great grandmother of nine: Peter, Collin, Michael, Jack, Lucas, Connor, Julia, Alexandra and Madeline. Estela volunteered for many years at Oakwood hospital knitting and sewing for the patients. She loved gardening, bird watching, baking and family time. Interment Holy Cross Cemetery, Memorial to Huron Woods, 5361 McAuley Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48106 or Alzheimer's Assoc., 20300 Civic Center Dr. Ste 100, Southfield MI 48076.

## HASBROUCK, KATHY (MISZAK)

Age 58, passed away after suffering a heart attack on Monday, February 17, 2014 in Jennings, Louisiana. "A little lady with a big personality and a big heart," she is survived by daughter Malina (Justin) LaVerge of Jennings, Louisiana; (Meagan) Hasbrouck of Chapman, Kansas; and former spouse and lifelong friend Rodney Hasbrouck of Engadine, Michigan. Kathy doted on her grandchildren Haley, Collins, and Myah. LaVerge and Bruna and Raylen Hasbrouck. The cherished daughter of Edward and Geraldine Miszak of Redford, she is survived by siblings Stephen (Betsy) Miszak, Dennis (Renee) Miszak, Denise Cooke, Jenny Litvin, Colleen (William) Barslow, Robert (Linda) Miszak, and Allison (Chris) Howard as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, and uncles. She was preceded in death by sister Marlene and grandson Justin LaVerge Jr. Visitation Sunday 3-5 p.m. with a memorial service at 7 p.m. at St. Rosemary at Charles R. Step Funeral Home, 18425 Beech Daly (between 6 & 7 mile) in Redford. In state Monday 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Mass at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, 27101 West Chicago in Redford. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Memorials to the family are requested in lieu of flowers. Condolences to [charlesstepfuneralhome.com](http://charlesstepfuneralhome.com)

## RUSSELL, DAVID ERIC

Of Lake Orion, Michigan, previously of Bloomfield Hills and Birmingham died peacefully in his sleep on February 16, 2014 at the age of 64. Beloved father to Kelli, Jeffrey and Molly; son of Dean Louis Jr (deceased) and Jeanne brother to Carmel, Dean III (Patti), Michael (Karen), Brian (Margie), Bruce (Wilma). Survived by many other loving family members and friends. David was employed as sales manager at Dry Coaters Inc. in Oxford, MI for the last 18 years. During his tenure he oversaw a fivefold increase in sales with his steady and dedicated efforts. He loved to read and spend many leisure hours with books studying on various topics with a special love of current events, history and geography. An avid fan of all sports he particularly loved the Detroit Tigers and Lions and he rarely missed a game. He had a passion for playing golf and perfected his game with many friends over the years. David fought cancer for as long as he could before he courageously decided to live out the rest of his life on his terms, having fun and at peace. He spent his last summer surrounded by his family and many lifelong friends, boating, fishing and searching for "The One That Got Away". Many trophy fish were caught including monster Pike and Bass! Services have been held. Donations accepted by the children of David Russell.

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MISZAK

## ASH WEDNESDAY

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. March 5

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

**Details:** Service marks beginning of Lent. The church holds a soup supper at 6 p.m. and service at 7 p.m. every subsequent Wednesday during Lent

**Contact:** 734-427-3660

## ASH WEDNESDAY

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 5

**Location:** Loka Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

**Details:** Free soup and sandwich supper served at 6 p.m.

**Contact:** 313-0532-8655 or 734-968-3523

## AUCTION

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. Saturday, March 1

**Location:** St. Damian Catholic School, 29891 Joy Road, Westland

**Details:** "Totally 80s" auction with dinner served at 7:15 p.m. and the auction at 8:45 p.m. Cash bar includes Jell-O shots and pudding shots. Tickets are \$30, available only in advance from St. Damian parish office at 734-421-6130; St. Theodore at 734-425-4421; Divine Savior at 734-453-3620; and St. Ignace at 734-427-1680

**Contact:** [www.stdamian.org](http://www.stdamian.org)

auction 2014. weekly.com

## CHILDREN'S CONCERT

**Time/Date:** 1:30 p.m.

## GARDEN

Continued from Page 87

evening after dark in March during mid-May.

Survey participants must attend one two-hour training session

» 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 4, Canton Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton

» 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 8, Livonia Civic Center

Sunday, March 2

**Location:** Sacred Heart Banquet and Conference Center, 29125 Six Mile, just east of Middlebelt, Livonia

**Details:** "The Doughnut Man" Rob Evans and his sidekick Duncan will perform original Bible story-songs such as *In The Beginning and The Miracle Song Families* are encouraged to sing along and dance in the aisles. Tickets are \$5 at the door; children under 2 are admitted free

**Contact:** The Rev. Joseph Marqui at 734-522-3166

## GRIEF SUPPORT

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, beginning March 12 for five consecutive weeks

**Location:** St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

**Details:** "Grieving with Great Hope" is for anyone who is mourning the loss of a loved one. It is conducted by Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization co-founded by John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy. Register through the ministry's website or through the church

**Contact:** 734-261-1455; [goodmourningministry.net](http://goodmourningministry.net)

## GRIEF SHARE

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. Sunday, beginning March 16

**Location:** Faith Community Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia

**Details:** This bi-week, nondenominational program features Christ-centered, biblical teaching that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. Includes a video seminar featuring grief experts and real-life stories; support group discussion and workbook

based personal study and reflection. Grief-related handouts available weekly. Fee is \$15 and includes the workbook

**Contact:** pastor Roger Wright at 313-682-7491

## GUEST SPEAKER

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday, March 6

**Location:** St. Linus Church, 6466 Evangeline, Dearborn Heights

**Details:** Al Kresta, author and host of the radio show, *Kresta in the Afternoon* on AM 990 WDEO, will talk about "The New Evangelization: Build the Church, Bless the Nation."

**Contact:** [jgilbo@wowway.com](http://jgilbo@wowway.com) for more information

## RELATIONSHIP SEMINAR

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesday from March 5-April 9

**Location:** Loka Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

**Details:** Theme is "From Garden to Glory" **Contact:** 313-532-8655 or 734-968-3523

## SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

**Time/Date:** 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 8

**Location:** Concordia Lutheran School, 9600 Everette, Redford

**Details:** Tour the school and visit the annual spring carnival. Includes carnival games, book fair, food and more. New students can receive a coupon for \$5 in free carnival tickets by calling the campus or visiting online

**Contact:** 313-937-2233; [www.concordia.org](http://www.concordia.org)

## SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

**Time/Date:** 1-3 p.m. Sunday, March 9

**Location:** St. Paul's Preschool and Daycare, 20805 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Child care for ages 2½ and up; preschool for ages 3-4; Young Fives classes; extended care and summer camp for all ages

**Contact:** 248-474-2488

## SOLANUS CASEY CENTER

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 11

**Location:** Trip to the center departs St. John Neumann parking lot, 4100 Warren Road, Canton

**Details:** Participants will carpool to the Center in Detroit. Cost is \$15 and includes tour and lunch. Deadline to pay and register is Monday, March 3, at the church; 734-455-5910

**Contact:** [jgilbo@wowway.com](http://jgilbo@wowway.com) for more information

**Contact:** 313-274-4500 for more information

## LENTEN SERVICES

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesday from March 5-April 9

**Location:** Loka Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

**Details:** Theme is "From Garden to Glory" **Contact:** 313-532-8655 or 734-968-3523

## RELATIONSHIP SEMINAR

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. March 10-13; with banquet at 6 p.m., March 14

**Location:** Plymouth Seventh-day Adventist Church, 4295 Napier, Plymouth

**Details:** Emerson Eggerichs talks about understanding and communicating with the opposite sex in this seminar on div/d; admission free; optional workbook available for \$8

**Contact:** Register at 989-965-4861

## SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

**Time/Date:** 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 8

**Location:** Concordia Lutheran School, 9600 Everette, Redford

**Details:** Tour the school and visit the annual spring carnival. Includes carnival games, book fair, food and more. New students can receive a coupon for \$5 in free carnival tickets by calling the campus or visiting online

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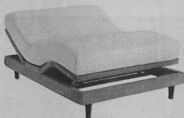


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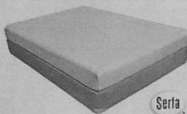


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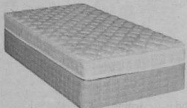


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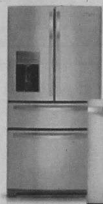


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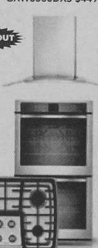
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**26 city /  
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MPG<sup>2</sup>**

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- This Vehicle Features:**
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  - Leather-Trimmed Seats with Six-Way Power Driver's Seat
  - SiriusXM Satellite Radio with Six-Month Subscription (not available in AL or HI)
  - SelectShift® Six-Speed Automatic Transmission

## 2014 FUSION SE FWD

EPA-estimated rating of  
**22 city /  
34 highway  
MPG<sup>2</sup>**



**\$225**  
PER MONTH  
LEASE

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and license fees extra.

- This Vehicle Features:**
- 2.5L Duratec® I-4 engine
  - AdvanceTrac® with Electronic Stability Control
  - SYNC® with MyFord® Voice-Activated Communications and Entertainment System<sup>1</sup>
  - SecurCode™ Keyless-Entry Keypad
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## 2014 ESCAPE SE FWD

EPA-estimated rating of  
**23 city /  
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MPG<sup>2</sup>**



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- This Vehicle Features:**
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  - 6-Speed SelectShift® Automatic Transmission
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## 2013 EDGE SEL FWD

EPA-estimated rating of  
**19 city /  
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MPG<sup>2</sup>**



**\$265**  
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- This Vehicle Features:**
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  - Front-Wheel Drive (FWD)
  - Reverse Sensing System
  - AdvanceTrac® with Roll Stability Control™
  - SecurCode™ Keyless Entry Keypad
  - Voice-Activated SYNC®<sup>1</sup>
  - Remote Keyless Entry System

## 2014 TAURUS SEL FWD

EPA-estimated rating of  
**19 city /  
29 highway  
MPG<sup>2</sup>**



**\$295**  
PER MONTH  
LEASE

For 24 months for  
current A/Z plan  
lessees!  
Security Deposit Waived. Taxes, title  
and license fees extra.

- This Vehicle Features:**
- 3.5L Ti-VCT V-6 Engine
  - AdvanceTrac® with Electronic Stability Control
  - Dual-Zone Electronic Automatic Temperature Control • Perimeter Anti-Theft Alarm
  - SYNC® with MyFord® Voice-Activated Communications & Entertainment System<sup>1</sup>

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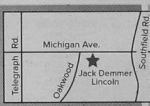
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## Car Report

Advertising Feature

### Chevrolet Gets Into Groove with New Products, Sharpened Branding



By Dale Buss

SUVs as well as the new Corvette Stingray and a re-entry into the mid-size truck segment with a fresh version of the Chevy Colorado.

So it's good news that Chevrolet also is in a brand-building groove as well right now, and that its huge marketing presence in the Sochi Olympics was a perfect fit with the goals that General Motors has laid out for 2014 for its biggest brand.

"There is a nice cadence of media properties this year, and we're still in the midst of a stream of major product launches," says Chevy Chief Marketing Officer Tim Mahoney told me. "The Olympics work was developed as a cohesive unit

of communication to seed 'Find New Roads' and tell our story through our new vehicles."

Thus, in its high-buzz TV ads that have laced NBC's Olympics telecasts for the last couple of weeks, Chevrolet has gotten entire new forms of mileage out of the "Find New Roads" tagline that it initiated a year ago. There was the first anthem ad for the games, including a depiction of a gay wedding, that underscored the "new" aspect of Chevy's positioning, for instance.

Many GM employees, dealers and retirees, as well as others among the vast American populace who haven't embraced the notion of intra-LGBT marriage, objected to the ad and lit up social media and other communication outlets with their complaints.

But Mahoney insisted that Chevrolet has received "overwhelmingly positive" feedback to its big first ad of the Olympic games, which had a safety and technology message about the Chevy lineup but which

has become a lightning rod because of the gay-wedding snippet and the commercial's description of "the new love."

"The idea behind it is that we're a new Chevrolet and a new world and we're a brand that is about inclusion and not division," Mahoney said. "It's welcoming all people to the Chevrolet brand from an authentic perspective, in that spot. All the family units in that spot were real families ... not hired actors."

Another popular ad has underscored the truly global nature of the Chevrolet brand, with drivers and passengers in a Chevy Cruze experiencing typical tussles over what music to play. Nearly two-thirds of Chevys sales nowadays are outside the United States compared with only about one-third 10 years ago, and Cruze is the most global of Chevy's vehicle lineup, available in local versions in 119 countries.

"The interesting thing that holds it all together is the human truth that, wherever you're at, if you're a passenger in the back seat, there's always back-and-forth about who gets to decide what's on the radio," Mahoney said. The universal sentiment is summed up by the final line of the ad, "Proof that we're not so different after all."

Toward the end of the Sochi run, Chevy also began showing what Mahoney likes to call a "smart-funny ad" for the all-new 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe, a cute spot in which a baby-sitter -- after getting a ride home from the mom in the upgraded new SUV -- jacks up her price for the evening.

Mahoney also expressed satisfaction with how Chevy's two Super Bowl spots performed earlier in the month. One,

"Romance," was another "smart-funny" spot ad, based on the story of a stud bull who was being hailed to his promised land by a heavy-duty Chevy Silverado. The other was a paean to cancer survivors that gave Chevy and its related "Purple Roads" initiative a big boost in internet interest.

Mahoney was CMO of Volkswagen of America a couple of years ago when the brand began upping its game in Super Bowl ads and using its own approach to "smart-funny" commercials.

He said defining advertising success related to the Big Game "is complicated." Yet Mahoney noted that, this year, Chevy "had the biggest increase in pre- versus



Inside, the 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe demonstrates the new vehicle's premium vibe.

post-Super Bowl fans engaged across the major social platforms. To me, that's a good barometer."

Mahoney said, in fact, that the brand is so much hitting on all cylinders that it doesn't have the marketing bandwidth to heavily promote everything that's going well. One example: The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety just gave the Chevy Spark the best safety rating of all the mini-cars it tested. But Chevy plans only on a small-gauge marketing effort to tout the car these days mostly via social media.



The 2015 Colorado will mark Chevy's re-entry into the mid-size truck market.

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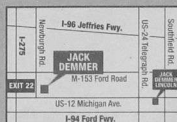
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