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Residents face sidewalk repair costs

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Hundreds of Canton homeowners are facing an average price tag of \$250 to repair damaged sidewalks along their properties, township officials said.

The cost comes as Canton embarks on the 16th year of a sidewalk-repair program that arose after the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that town-

ships, slapped by trip-and-fall lawsuits, had a responsibility to protect the public.

Just under 1,000 property owners are facing repairs this summer, mostly in an area east of Lilley Road between Cherry Hill and Michigan Avenue on Canton's east side, Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said.

The work is expected to start in May and be finished by August.

"We want to have it done before school starts back," Faas said.

Property owners face repairs to sidewalks that are cracked, sloped, buckled or otherwise damaged, including sections prone to standing water. Repairs also include efforts to make pedestrian areas compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Canton has hired a Fenton-based contractor, Mattioli Ce-

ment Co., to do the work for an amount not to exceed \$220,134. That decision came after the Canton Township Board of Trustees last week had a public hearing that fueled minor questions but no outcry about sidewalk repairs.

Most property owners choose to have the township's contractor perform the work and have the cost placed on their winter tax bills. They may choose to hire their own

company, but Faas said they have to take steps such as pulling permits from the township and county.

Local residents, Canton Township and Wayne County all face some share of sidewalk repair costs, depending on where problem areas are found. Sidewalk sections sprayed-painted with green dots are the responsibility of

See SIDEWALK, Page A2



This is a photograph taken by Ron Farina of a glass orb created by artist Paul Stankard.

CLASS REUNION

Canton art exhibit reunites teacher, students

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton resident Ron DePentu will be reunited with former art students he taught nearly 40 years ago when their photography work is displayed alongside a renowned glass artist's pieces now on display at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

Before his college teaching days in Syracuse, N.Y., DePentu taught art, mostly photography, for 26 years in the North Syracuse school system. Four of his students — Ron Farina of New Jer-

See REUNION, Page A2

Colbeck files for re-election

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, has filed for re-election, submitting signatures to the Wayne County Clerk's office to have his name placed on the ballot for the 2014 election for the state Senate 7th District.

Colbeck was first elected in 2010. The new state Senate 7th District adds the communities of Livonia and Wayne to the current communities of Canton Township, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville and Northville Township.

"When I ran for the senate in 2010, our state was not great shape," Colbeck said. "Michigan was the only state in the nation to have lost population during the 2010 census. Families were being split up as our youth were seeking employment and raising their families in other states."

"After only three years, I'm pleased to report that Michigan is coming back. Not only is our state growing again, we are well on our way to achieving my 2010 campaign goal of our state becoming the number one job-growth state in the nation after years of decline."

In a statement released after his filing, Colbeck pointed out Michigan has "added over 250,000 jobs since January 2011." According to Colbeck, Michigan now has the fourth-fastest private sector job growth ranking in the nation and ninth-fastest growth in per capita income.

Colbeck said more than 73,000 job openings have been posted at midlevelconnect.org, with more than 17,000 of them "within a short commute of our homes in the 7th Senate District."

In addition to a high unemployment rate, Michigan was left with crumbling and hazardous roads. After years

See COLBECK, Page A2

It's finally here: I-96 shuts down Saturday

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

The orange barrels are out. The detour signs are uncovered. The equipment is staged.

After nearly two years from when the project was announced, I-96 is finally scheduled to close early Saturday morning through Redford and Livonia for more than six months of reconstruction work.

Compared to other large-scale freeway shutdowns in

recent memory, such as the Southfield Freeway or the Lodge Freeway, Michigan Department of Transportation engineer Jeff Horne said this project is unique in that the entire seven-mile stretch is a full reconstruction.

"The difference between the I-96 project and the Lodge and Southfield projects is that the Southfield project and the Lodge had a combination of different fixes. It wasn't a complete reconstruct through-

See I-96, Page A7

Crews prepare for Saturday's I-96 closure. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, has filed to seek re-election in the 7th District.



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Village Theater Art Curator Dorrie Milan oversees some unpacking as the theater gets ready for the "Beauty Beyond Nature" exhibit.

REUNION

Continued from Page A1

sey, Dennis Krukowski of New York, Bernie Meyers of Utah and Dave Chiemelowski of California – have shipped their photographs to Canton, where they are being shown through April 30 alongside glass artist Paul Stankard's work. DePentu hasn't seen his former students in decades, but they will be reunited in Canton, including an artists' reception open to the public 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 29, at the Village Theater, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, on Canton's far west side.

"This is fantastic," DePentu said. "It's a great feeling." In the meantime, the exhibition, "Beauty Beyond Nature," is free and open to the public in the theater gallery from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, during public performances at the theater and by appointment by calling 734-394-5300.

The idea began a few months ago, when DePentu received a book from one of his former students, Farina, who had taken photographs for the book, also titled *Beauty Beyond Nature*, about Stankard and his work. DePentu was so impressed, he approached Jennifer Tobin, Canton arts coordinator, who wondered if Stankard would consider showing his glass artwork, mostly small pieces, at the Village Theater.

DePentu contacted Farina, who got a commitment from Stankard for the exhibit. DePentu took it a step further to get Farina and the other

"This is fantastic. It's a great feeling."

RON DEPENTU

Canton resident and former art teacher

three former students to show their photographic artwork.

"I am thrilled," DePentu said.

The exhibit features glass orbs and columns by Stankard that are currently on loan from the Robert M. Minkoff Foundation.

The public and students in particular are encouraged to attend the artists' reception April 29. Moreover, the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage has invited the public to a special lunch buffet and panel discussion by the artists at noon Wednesday, April 30, at the Village Theater. The event comes during the fourth annual Canton Acts of Culture Week.

Tickets to the luncheon are \$15 and can be purchased online at www.cantonvillage.theater.org. For more information, call 734-394-5300.

Stankard was trained in scientific glassblowing in scientific glassblowing and worked in industrial scientific glass during most of the 1960s before he started making paperweights in the early 1970s. His work can be seen at www.paulstankard.com.

More on the other artists can be found at www.ronfarina.com, www.dennisrukowski.com, www.bernardcmeysers.com and www.davidephotography.com.

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CANTONIAN CONVICTED IN FORECLOSURE SCAM

By Darrell Clem

Staff Writer

A 70-year-old Canton man could potentially spend the rest of his life in prison after police say he used the foreclosure crisis to swindle money from an investor and people losing their homes.

David Gerard Hieb faces sentencing April 11 in Wayne County Circuit Court after a jury convicted him in March of embezzling \$50,000 to \$100,000, obtaining \$20,000 or more through false pretenses and common law fraud.

"He was a con artist who bilked people out of thousands of dollars," Canton police Lt. Dave Schreiner said. "He took advantage of people at a low point in their lives."

Authorities say Hieb, charged as a habitual offender, began a scheme around 2007 that finally led to his conviction March 20 by a Wayne County jury. Judge Qiana Denise



Hieb

Lillard remanded him to jail as he faces sentencing and making an effort to meet them and scam money from them.

"He would take pictures of their houses," Kelley said, but when confronted by the homeowners, he would pose as a businessman who could help them save their homes.

Police described Hieb as a seemingly trustworthy con artist who convinced people in places such as Canton, Livonia and Northville that he was legitimate.

"He took money from them," Kelley said, citing dollar amounts around \$1,000 to \$2,000 from each of several victims who would eventually face eviction due to foreclosure.

"People ended up losing their homes," Kelley said.

Hieb was accused of using a U.S. Post Office box as an office address.

Hieb was accused of compiling a list of homeowners facing foreclosure, going to their neighborhoods and making an effort to meet them and scam money from them.

"He would take pictures of their houses," Kelley said, but when confronted by the homeowners, he would pose as a businessman who could help them save their homes.

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"He took money from them," Kelley said, citing dollar amounts around \$1,000 to \$2,000 from each of several victims who would eventually face eviction due to foreclosure.

"People ended up losing their homes," Kelley said.

Hieb was accused of using a U.S. Post Office box as an office address.

His case is one of many that arose as homeowners across the nation faced foreclosures amid one of the worst U.S. housing market crashes.

According to Wayne County Circuit Court records, Hieb had initially pleaded no contest to charges against him, then withdrew his plea and chose to face a jury that convicted him March 20.

Authorities have said the case should serve as a warning for homeowners to thoroughly check the credentials of people claiming to have the ability to help them avoid foreclosure.

Schreiner said such scams often occur when victims are desperate to avoid losing their homes.

Schreiner lauded Kelley for his role, along with prosecutors, in bringing Hieb to justice.

"He did a very good job," Schreiner said.

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Plymouth Showcase coming up April 14

By Matt Jacobman

Staff Writer

Visitors will have a chance to get acquainted with nearly 100 area businesses, nonprofits and other organizations and sample the fare from more than 20 restaurants and food businesses when the Plymouth Showcase and Taste of Plymouth marks its silver anniversary later this month.

The Showcase, a social and networking event sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, is 5-7:30 p.m. Monday, April 14, at the Inn at St. John's. For the \$10 admission price, visitors can try out a variety of food and drink, talk to local business owners and pick up the trinkets like pens, refrigerator magnets and tote bags that are handed out.

There will also be raffle prizes given away by the non-food exhibitors, a food-judging contest for best appetizer, best main dish and best dessert and only publication of an ad constitutes acceptance of the advertiser's order.

"It's a great way to reconnect with longtime customers and at the same time expose ourselves to a (new customer group) that's not familiar with us," said Rob Costanza, the owner of the Station 885 restaurant in Old Village, which will be participating in its first Showcase in several years.

Business variety

The 98 businesses scheduled for this year

include a number of newcomers, said Teri Fry, the chamber's events coordinator. Among the eateries new to the Showcase will be Stella's Black Dog Tavern, the Post Local Bistro, the Alpine Chocolate Haus and the Court-house Grille.

There will also be exhibits by local shops and service businesses, banks and credit unions, real estate companies and health care providers and community organizations as diverse as the Community Foundation of Plymouth, the Yankee Air Museum, the Plymouth District Library and the Northville City Fire Department.

Costanza said Station 885's booth will be serving ossu-buco chicken, roasted cuts of the thickest part of a chicken leg, served in a tomato broth. Station 885 will next be introducing a new menu, which will include a new line of meats, flat-bread pizzas and new vegetarian dishes.

Costanza said, and the Showcase and Taste of Plymouth will be a chance to get the word out.

"We just feel the need to stay connected to the community," he said.

Showcase tickets will be available at the door the day of the event. The Inn at St. John's is at 44045 Five Mile, just east of Sheldon Road.

The annual event is usually scheduled for May, but Fry said a scheduling conflict resulted in an earlier date this year.

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COLBECK

Continued from Page A1

of struggling to find federal funds to solve the safety and congestion issues at the Ford/I-275 interchange, Colbeck secured state funding last year to kick off a solution to this problem. Colbeck said he's focused much of his efforts on "finding long-term solutions to our state's ongoing road funding problems."

He said he has developed a plan to fully fund roads without raising taxes (a plan that can be found at "Road Funding Plan" at www.SenatorPatrickColbeck.com).

"We need to go beyond just the quick fixes that happen during election years and instead put in place a solution that will ensure Michigan has a system of quality roads that last," Colbeck said.

"Road construction should not be a jobs program that places ever increasing burdens upon hardworking taxpayers for diminish-

"... I have been focused on solving problems not playing politics."

PATRICK COLBECK
state senator

ing returns. I voted against taxes such as the senior pension tax and the Homestead Property Tax increase because the data clearly shows that we can fund our state's needs without raising taxes."

If re-elected, Colbeck pledges to continue his track record of remaining true to his campaign commitments.

"Throughout my service tenure, I have been focused on solving problems not playing politics," Colbeck said. "The political environment can be difficult to navigate. I have chosen to chart my course by focusing on what is noble, true, excellent and praiseworthy."

SIDEWALK

Continued from Page A1

homeowners.

After this summer, Canton will finally have made a sweep through all residential neighborhoods after starting the program 16 years ago.

"It's the end of a long process," Faas said. Now, the township will begin to revisit subdivisions.

Subdivisions on this year's repair list are Aziz Estates No. 1 and No. 2, Camden Park,

Cherry Blossom Estates, Dasher Heights, Hidden River Estates, Maple Ridge Woods, Pheasant Creek, Pheasant Creek North, Pheasant Woods, Sierra Heights No. 1 and No. 2, Sunflower North, Villa Maria, Westfield Estates and miscellaneous areas.

Residents who question the need for sidewalk repairs along their property may call 734-394-5150 to request another inspection.

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Help Determine the Future of Patriot Park and Preservation Park

Canton residents are encouraged to attend the following Focus Groups to provide feedback.

Preservation Park, formerly known as the Bartlett Treas Property, is located at 500 North Ridge Road and is currently home to several historic buildings, Community Gardens, the Farmers Market, and Dog Park. Patriot Park, located on the northwest corner of Ford and Ridge Roads, is currently undeveloped.

Join us and give us your input:

Preservation Park Community Forum

Monday, April 7 from 7-9 p.m.

Canton Administration Building

located at 1150 S. Canton Center Road

Patriot Park Focus Group Open House

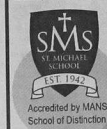
Monday, April 14 from 7-9 p.m.

Cherry Hill School, located at 50440 Cherry Hill Road

Please RSVP for these Focus Groups by calling 734-394-5300

or by email lellor@cantontown.org

Current Master Plan for both of these areas is available online at cantontown.org



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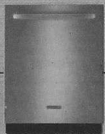
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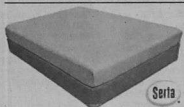
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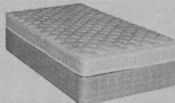
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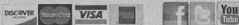
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Alleged burglar faces new stalking charges

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer



Martin

A 33-year-old man arrested by Canton police on charges he had burgled tools is facing mounting legal woes after a widening investigation led to additional counts of stalking that involves two women he knew, authorities said. Thomas Earl Martin of Wayne is facing a preliminary exam Friday in 35th District Court on charges of stalking, aggravated stalking and possession of burglary tools, Canton Detective Sgt. Chad Baugh said. Martin, arrested at his home, was jailed with a \$100,000 bond when he was arraigned Friday by 35th District Judge James Plakas. Martin could face penalties

ranging up to 10 years in prison if he is convicted as charged, Baugh said. A not-guilty plea has been placed in Martin's court file as he awaits the preliminary exam that will determine whether he should face trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Martin's troubles began shortly before 2 a.m. March 21, when Canton police noticed a suspicious man lurking near the Children's Hospital of Michigan Specialty Center, on Cherry Hill east of Canton Center, while it was closed, Baugh said.

According to police reports, the man claimed he believed the specialty

center was an animal hospital and he was in the area, but his car was nearby.

Baugh said police found binoculars, a flashlight, a Swiss army-type tool kit and, from the man's car, what Baugh described as a lock-picking set.

Further investigation indicated the man had allegedly been stalking two women with whom he had prior contact, Baugh said, though some details couldn't be divulged because the case was still pending in court.

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CANTON CRIME WATCH

Online threats

A 51-year-old Canton man contacted police Sunday afternoon after a 65-year-old suspect from Far Wayne, Ind., allegedly made threats against him online, a police report said.

The Canton man said he had chastised the suspect for being rude to people on a website and telling him that he couldn't handle criticism of himself. The suspect, in turn, reportedly told the Canton man he was planning a trip to Canton and warned him to keep looking over his shoulder. Police advised the man to contact authorities if there are any other signs the suspect is going to make contact.

Identity theft

A Canton couple notified police Friday after it was learned the husband may have become a victim of identity theft.

The man's wife reported the incident. She said an attempt was made to file their taxes electronically and it was rejected. She said H&R Block notified the couple there was an issue with the return.

The couple contacted the Internal Revenue Service, where they learned the husband's Social Security number had been used to file a fraudulent tax return.

Disorderly conduct

Canton police cited a 39-year-old man for be-

ing disorderly and resisting a police officer following allegations he was panhandling outside the Speedway gas station Monday evening at Ford and Lalley, a police report said.

The suspect began yelling and cursing, prompting police to push him to the ground to bring him under control, the report said. He refused to get into a police car.

Police brought him under control and later talked with his father, who said the suspect is schizophrenic. The suspect was released on bond after receiving his citations.

—By Darrell Clem

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Pair cited on shoplifting charges

A Canton Township man, 24, and a Belleville woman, 18, were cited on shoplifting charges Friday following an incident at the Kmart on Ann Arbor Road.

Police were called to the store shortly before 1 p.m. after a security worker confronted the pair outside, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report.

The worker told police he had watched, via a security camera, as the man picked a wallet from a store display, removed the packaging and put it in a pocket of his jeans. The woman, meanwhile, put some costume jewelry and a pair of headphones in a coat pocket, he said. The two then left the store after the woman bought some candy, he said.

Once confronted, the pair complied with the guard's request to come with him to the security office. Police released the pair at the scene after issuing tickets for third-degree retail fraud.

SUV stolen

A 2012 Ford Edge was reported stolen Sunday from the driveway of a house on Turtlehead Court, north of Ann Arbor Road between Sheldon and Beck.

The complainant told police she was unsure if she had locked the Edge and that she kept a spare key inside. Police found no signs of forced entry, a report said. The complainant noted the Edge was a leased vehicle that she was supposed to turn in

Tuesday

Vehicle burglaries

Cash was reported stolen March 24 from an unlocked Ford Escape that was parked in the driveway of a house on Glasgow Court. The theft occurred late March 23 or early March 24, a police report said.

A navigation device was reported stolen March 26 from an unlocked Jeep Wrangler that was parked in the driveway of a house on Powell Ridge Court.

The complainant told police she suspects the theft occurred between 1:30 a.m. and 2 a.m. that day, as her dogs were barking at that time. When she looked outside, she said, she saw a vehicle driving away.

A purse and its contents, including cash and credit cards, were reported stolen recently from a Jeep Commander that was parked unlocked in the driveway of a house on Wildwood Court. The incident occurred late on March 26 or early the next day, a police report said.

Cash was reported stolen recently from an unlocked Jeep Cherokee that was parked in the driveway of a house on Deer Creek Run. The theft occurred on March 26 or March 27, the complainant told police.

Identity theft

A township man reported March 24 that his Social Security number had been fraudulently used on someone else's income tax return.

The man told police that shortly after he filed his income taxes electronically three days earlier, he re-

ceived notice that his number had been used on another return. He contacted the Internal Revenue Service, he said, and was told to begin the investigation process by filing a police report locally.

Thefts

A child's booster seat was reported stolen recently from the garage of a house on Redbud Avenue.

The complainant told police she put the seat on the trunk of her car, which was parked in the garage, and left the garage door open at about 11 a.m. March 25. When she returned around 1 p.m., she said, the seat was gone.

A leaf blower was reported stolen March 27 from an unlocked backyard shed at a house on Northern. The complainant told police he had last checked on the shed about two weeks prior.

Vandalism

The mailbox outside a house on Cobblestone Circle was knocked off its post last week, police report.

The complainant told police a neighbor had reported hearing a crash about 2:30 a.m. March 25 and looking outside to see two men driving away in a truck.

Funny money

A phony \$20 bill was used last weekend at the drive-through window of the Taco Bell on Ann Arbor Road, police report. The counterfeit was turned over to police early Sunday; the eatery's manager said it had been rejected by an automated safe.

—By Matt Jachman



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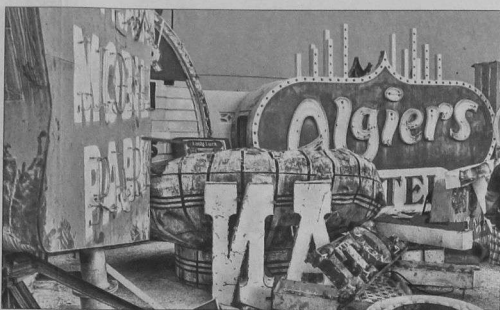
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"Johnathan Vegas Has Left the Building"

Three Cities club holds art show at Westland library

Three Cities Art Club will present its second annual juried art exhibition Friday through Monday, April 4-7, at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.

The show is free and features the work of 30 artists. Included is some of the area's finest original art, including oils, acrylics, watercolors, pastels, collage, photography and more.

This year's juror and judge, Elden (Al) Weber, studied at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, Purdue University and Indiana University. As juror, he selected 83 out of 128 pieces submitted. As judge, Weber chose his top five favorite photos and top five drawings/paintings from those he juried into the show.

The top three in each category will receive a cash prize and high-resolution print of their art, created and donated by Westland Printworks. Two honorable mention awards in each category will receive a gift certificate donated by D&M Art Studio of Canton.

Westland Mayor William

Wild will select his favorite work of art and the artist will win his cash prize of \$100 "Wild Art Award." This year's prizes for the artists total more than \$1,300.

Everyone attending the exhibition will have the chance to vote for their three favorite works of art, which will enter them in a drawing for a chance to win a print by Westland artist Charlyn Darling of Thad-prince Illustrations.

Show hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday. On Sunday, April 6, Three Cities Art Club will host a free "Art and Appetizers" reception 1-3 p.m. Many of the artists will be on hand to talk with guests. Wild will present his award to the creator of his favorite piece and awards will be presented to the artists whose work was chosen by Weber.

Michael Darling of Westland Printworks will present the high-resolution prints he created for the top award winners. Sharon Lee Dillenbeck of D&M Art Studios will present

gift certificates to the honorable mention winners. J.D. Kilgas of Piano Pleasures will provide music for the event.

There will be free guided tours upon request by volunteer club members to enhance the experience. Learn about the styles and techniques used by the artists whose works are on display. Watch artists demonstrating their techniques. Friday and Saturday with a very special pin stripping demo Saturday by Dennis Gibbish.

In addition, there will be instructional art books and art magazines available at deep discount prices, plus note cards, refrigerator magnets and prints of the artist's work available for purchase. All sales will benefit the artists and help efforts to proliferate visual arts in our area.

The library is located at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road. To learn more about this event or the club, contact Marilyn Meredith at 313-231-3939 or marilynmeredith@wowway.com. The club's website is www.threecitiesartclub.org.

How to establish a statutory pet trust

A recent report stated that Americans spent more than \$53 billion on their pets last year. There is no doubt that Americans love their pets. However, one thing that many pet owners tend to forget about is what happens to their pet when they die or become disabled. Unfortunately, as much as we care and love our pets, under the law they're treated as personal property. Pet owners who want to make sure that their pet is taken care of after their death need to put something in their estate plan.

The two ways of leaving money for the benefit of a pet is in one's will or a trust.

A will is the easiest method, however, it's not necessarily the best. Remember, wills go through probate and they sometimes can be very time-consuming and expensive. Although amending or drafting a will to provide for your pet may be the least expensive way, it probably is not the best.

I believe the best way to leave resources to a pet so they are cared for is to establish a trust. A pet trust can deal with all the issues regarding care and custody of your pet. In Michigan, laws allow someone to create a statutory pet trust. This type of trust is relatively inexpensive and can be added to an existing living trust.

In establishing a statutory pet trust, one of the key elements, as with any trust, is who is going to be in charge. Since this is a person who will be in charge of your pet, it is important that you select someone who not only likes your pet and who your pet likes as well, but also one that can handle the duties needed to take care of the pet.

In addition, you need to address how much money you should use to fund this portion of the trust. Obviously, the pet's needs and age would enter into the discussion.



Rick Bloom

MONEY MATTERS

Compensate caregiver?

Another item to consider is whether you compensate the caregiver of your pet. What happens to the remaining money after the pet passes on is another issue to decide.

In many situations, people are concerned if upon the pet's death the remainder of the funds goes to the caregiver. It gives the caregiver a disincentive to take care of their pet. That is why in many situations, upon the pet's death, the unused funds go to charity.

I recognize that this may sound a little crazy, however, take into consideration income tax issues when you do a statutory pet trust. If the trust that was established upon death earns at least \$100 in income, then it is liable to pay income taxes. The caregiver would be responsible to complete IRS Form 1041 to pay the taxes.

In establishing a statutory pet trust, make sure you identify what pet the trust is established for and whether the trust includes future pets. After all, most people are very slow to amend their trust. You may want to tackle these issues from the start.

There's no question that Americans love their pets. In today's ever-changing world, things are more complex and that is true in dealing with pets. If you have a pet and you want to make sure they're taken care of upon your death, look into a pet statutory trust.

Good luck.

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



Independence Village



Senior Living | Independent and Assisted Living

All ★ Star
Independence Village
Baseball Opening Day

TAKE
ME OUT TO THE
BALL GAME

Saturday, April 26th
11:00am - 2:00pm

DATE	TIME	PRICE
4/26	11-2	FREE
PLEASE		RSVP

More Great Events:

Outstanding Jazz Vocalist
Wednesday, April 2
1:30 p.m.

Sheila Landis is a seven time winner of Detroit Music Award's "Outstanding Jazz Vocalist". Sheila will perform her unique style of jazz, Latin and blues. Join us for great music and refreshments.

RSVP by March 31.

Grand Piano Dedication
Thursday, April 10
1:00 p.m.

The Village Joy Singers, IVP's own Resident Choir, under the direction of Charlotte Worthen will dedicate our 100 year old grand piano. Join us as we celebrate this exquisite addition to our community.

Mingle with Marilyn
Friday, April 25
1:30 p.m.

Entertainment provided by Marilyn Monroe and Debra Jimmerson, a phenomenal mother/daughter duo. Don't miss this great performance. Refreshments provided.

RSVP by April 23.

Stay and Play

Try us out on a complimentary basis and see why at Independence Village of Plymouth, our residents live life their way, in an affordable but luxurious setting. Call to learn more or stop by for a tour.

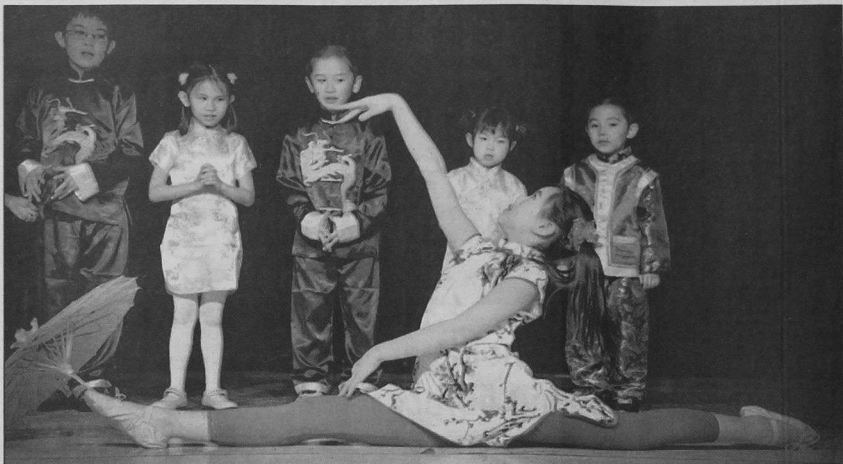
RSVP
Don't miss out
on the fun!



Independence Village of Plymouth

14707 Northville Road Plymouth, MI
South of 5 Mile Road

www.SeniorVillages.com
734-453-2600

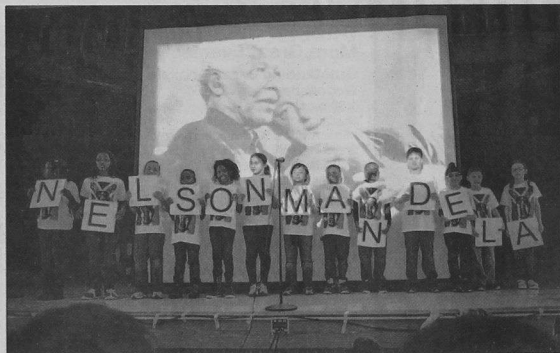


Workman Elementary School's diversity celebration included musical and dance performances from the school's students. PHOTOS BY AMY ROSS STUDIO PHOTOGRAPHY

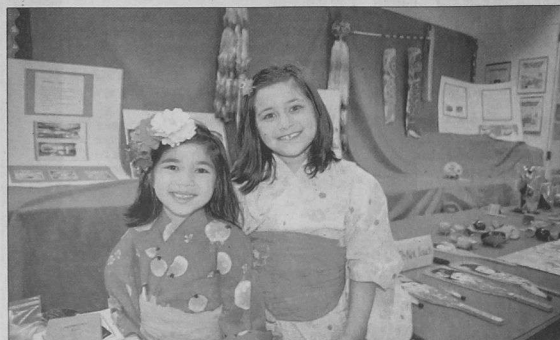
STUDENTS TAKE WORLD TOUR



The Workman choir helped the school celebrate diversity Friday.



Students pay tribute to Nelson Mandela.



Smiling faces were a big part of Workman Elementary's diversity night, where students learned about the cultures of various nations.

Workman celebrates school's diversity

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

When Nikki Grenillo attended Workman Elementary School's diversity night the year her oldest child was in first grade, Principal Jim Burt said something to her that has been with her ever since.

Burt told her, "Our students don't look at each other and see different races."

So a few years later, when Workman was looking for someone to replace former organizer Sabrina Boykin, Grenillo remembered that conversation and stepped up.

"It really resonated with me," said Grenillo, who has three of her four children at Workman now. "I was a Plymouth-Canton student and it was different back then. We had one African-American child in the whole school at the time."

Grenillo organized Workman's diversity program this year. It took place Friday and featured a variety of musical performances and then a "world tour" of classrooms set up to represent various cultures from around the world.

With a big assist from the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Di-

versity Council, the Asian-Pacific American Club and others, students received "passports" and then made the rounds of various classrooms.

There were 10 countries represented on the world tour. Grenillo said kids were given questions for each "country" and, when they found the answers, their passport was stamped. Prizes were awarded once students received five stamps. Eight of the 10 rooms provided food from the culture, something Grenillo said has become popular.

"My children don't normally eat Japanese food," she said with a chuckle. "But when they come here, they try it."

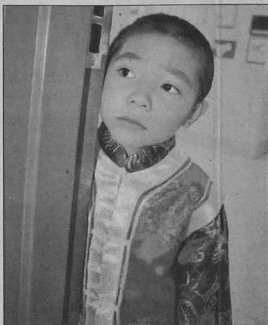
Grenillo said the school's diversity — and the district's, for that matter — is something that should be celebrated.

"It's important our kids celebrate our diversity and the uniqueness of everybody," Grenillo said. "I really think the kids get a chance to learn about their friends and learn about the cultures they share at their home. It's a chance to see people are different, even though they're in the same school. They do have differences, we're all unique, but we can embrace that."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich



Students learn to use chopsticks in one of the cultural classrooms.



Native dress was part of the cultural experience at Workman Elementary.

Continued from Page A1

LIVONIA

RED FORD

I-96

I-75

Plymouth Rd.

Schoolcraft Rd.

Telegraph Rd.

Newburgh Rd.

Farmington Rd.

Merriman Rd.

Midwood Rd.

Beech Daly Rd.

Six Mile Rd.

Columbia Rd.

EB Schoolcraft Rd.

Callout 1: Temporary ramp widening to accommodate more traffic: the exit ramp at SR I-275 to Six Mile Rd.

Callout 2: Additional lane for NB Telegraph Rd. Just north of Schoolcraft Rd.

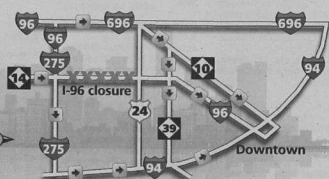
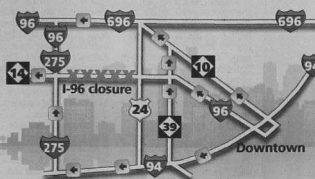
Callout 3: Bridges slated for complete replacement.

Callout 4: Schoolcraft Rd. east and west will see lane reductions throughout the span of the project from Telegraph Rd. to Newburgh Rd.

Callout 5: Temporary traffic signal at Columbia and EB Schoolcraft.

Sign: Drive Safely

EASTBOUND DETOUR



From western Wayne County to downtown Detroit:

Take I-275 south to I-94 east,
Take I-275 north to I-696 east to M-10 east to M-39 south to I-96 east, or
Take I-275 north to I-696 east to M-10 east

"It was not because of this project," he said. "But because of this project, we sped it up. We wanted it in place before this project. But it was going to get one regardless."

There are several ways to keep up with the status of the I-96 reconstruction project and request information:

- Twitter:** @96fix
- Facebook:** 96Fix
- Website:** www.96fix.com
- Email:** MDOT_96fix@michigan.gov
- Phone:** (734) 261-0560

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1/2 OFF 2nd dinner

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734.981.9800

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Dearborn Heights
Shopping Center
313.278.6000

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IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

It's always party time thanks to local caterer

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

Angel Food: We are a full-service catering company – give us your dreams and budget and we will do all the rest, as well as your coordinating. One call and we will provide an amazing, worry-free event.

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

Angel Food: So many people requesting us to prepare food and decor for their events and our desire to serve.

Observer: Why did you choose the Canton area?

Angel Food: The facility, kitchen equipment and size met our growth and expansion needs and we love the people and the area.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Angel Food: We train our staff, using some "Disney" techniques to go above and beyond customer expectation. We focus on serving with a servant's heart.

Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Angel Food: We have experienced growth every year and expanded our food and decoration options.

Observer: Do you have a funny story to share about your experience as a small-business owner?

Angel Food: When we first started, we would take our four kids with



Judy and Mike Maynard opened Angel Food Catering in 1996.

us to the store. They loved to stop at the stands for samples. So we would have to stop at each one. On late nights, we brought sleeping bags and videos to the shop to keep them entertained.

Observer: How has the economy affected your business?

Angel Food: We grew 24.5 percent in 2013 and are at 23-percent growth already in 2014.

Observer: Any advice for other small-business owners?

Angel Food: Utilize a network of business advisers who aren't afraid to tell you what they think – not a "yes" man. Train your staff, watch costs and control growth. Don't go beyond what you can realistically handle.

Observer: What's in store for the future of your business?

Angel Food: We want to continue to offer our dinner theaters and will offer a Salsa Showdown, as well as other community functions.

DETAILS

Name/address: Angel Food Catering, Inc., 44850 N. I-94 Service Drive, Belleville, MI 48111

Name and title: Judy Maynard, president; Mike Maynard, chief operating officer
Hometown: Ypsilanti and Saline
Business opened: 1996

Number of employees: 45
Hours of operation: Office, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday; catering, 24/7

Your business specialty: Graduations, open houses, picnics, weddings, anniversaries, grand openings and corporate and private events
Business phone/website: 734-697-1100; www.angelfoodinc.com

Real estate talent

RE/MAX of Southeastern Michigan recognized its top real-estate talent for the region at a recent awards ceremony at the Motor City Casino in Detroit. The event celebrated the accomplishments of RE/MAX's highest performers.

More than 350 of RE/MAX's 700 real-estate professionals were recognized during the event, including Mike and Mary Gladuch, brokers and owners of RE/MAX on the Trail in Plymouth, who received the prestigious Showcase Award for average commissions per agent for an office category of 11-30 agents.

"Mike, Mary and all the agents at RE/MAX on the Trail work extremely hard to achieve outstanding results for their clients," said Jeanette Schneider, senior vice president, RE/MAX of Southeastern Michigan. "It was a pleasure to see their efforts rewarded."

RE/MAX on the Trail is located at 1000 W. Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth. For more information, call 734-358-0700 or visit www.mikeandmarygladuch.com.

Magazine honor

The Sweet Aston Tea Room has been featured in the national magazine *Tea Time* as a candidate for Michigan's best tea shops, using the Bella Mia staff as their models for the photo shoot.

Tea Time also made a point to take a professional photo shoot of Tranquillitea. Look for both to be featured in the September/October edition.

Tops in Toyota

Johnson Controls has been awarded top honors in multiple categories by Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing North America, Inc.



Mike and Mary Gladuch, brokers and owners of RE/MAX on the Trail in Plymouth, received the prestigious Showcase Award for average commissions per agent for an office category of 11-30 agents.

Johnson Controls Automotive Seating, Automotive Electronics & Interiors and Power Solutions units received a "Superior" award in supplier diversity for their seating, overhead console, injection molding, headliner, door trim and battery products. The supplier diversity award is given to suppliers who implement diversity activities and exceed Toyota's targets.

Johnson Controls Automotive Seating unit also received an "Excellent" award in launch performance for the seats it manufactured for the Toyota Corolla.

"We're honored to be recognized by Toyota for our efforts and top performance in our product lines," said Beda Bolzenius, president of Johnson Controls Automotive Seating. "This further demonstrates our commitment to providing superior customer satisfaction, which is a key source of our success."

Top nursing home

Regency at Canton announced it has been recognized by U.S. News and World Report in its Best Nursing Homes rankings for 2014.

U.S. News and World Report created the ranking system to help consumers, their families,

and caregivers compare nursing homes more easily. To create the list, U.S. News and World Report drew on data from Nursing Home Compare, a program run by CMS, the federal agency that sets and enforces standards for nursing homes. They base the ratings on how well the home met health and safety standards for food preparations and other nursing-home activities in the latest three state inspections, the average numbers of hours per day of care received per resident from nurses at all levels and the percentages of residents who got recommended care such as flu vaccinations and percentages of residents who had pain, bedsores, urinary tract infections and other care-related problems.

Regency at Canton offers short-term rehabilitative services and long-term skilled nursing services. It provides physical, occupational and speech therapy, around-the-clock skilled nursing, wound care, management, culinary and nutritional services, pain management, dental, podiatry, and psychiatric and recreational therapy.

"We are so pleased that U.S. News and World Report has given our facilities the highest ranking possible and named us to their list of Best Nursing Homes," said Mohammad Oazi, president and CEO, Ciena Healthcare. "We are proud of our quality services and outstanding health care professionals and proud that we have created state-of-the-art centers with the latest amenities and safety features to serve and heal our residents and patients."

Regency at Canton is located at 45900 Geddes in Canton.

Open 7 Days a Week, 11-6pm, Wednesdays 11-8pm

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Audiologists: Dr. Karissa Jagacki
Kimberly Carnicom, M.A.

Visit our website at www.personalizedhearingcare.com

New concessions OK'd for Metro's McNamara Terminal



Plum Market/Zingerman's Deli, Ann Arbor area favorites, are many local culinary favorites that will be added to concessions at Detroit Wayne County Metropolitan Airport.

More convenience

Incorporation of innovative technologies such as use of iPad and tablet self-ordering stations, mobile point of sale devices, social media and web-based information – all have a virtual concierge – will enable increased convenience, speed of service and opportunity for travelers to find and order exactly what they are looking for, even from the comfort of their gate areas, in several locations.

In addition to re-soliciting existing concession agreements that will begin to expire later this year, the airport took the program a step further by incorporating new, previously undeveloped spaces into the list of program opportunities. A vacant former Northwest Airlines WorldClub on Concourse B as well as parts of several gate area hallways were made available for concessionaires to show creativity and propose new non-traditional food and beverage spaces and service enhancements, within the existing gate areas.

The new program will add approximately 22,000 square feet of additional space to the McNamara Terminal food and beverage program and is expected to generate nearly \$31.6 million of capital investment, more than

\$614 per square foot on average.

'Truly unique'

"The combination of great concepts and design, high-quality chef-inspired menu options, web-based information, dining and new technology and service enhancements will make our program truly unique," said Marcus Kemper, Wayne County Airport Authority senior vice president of facilities and development. "Since the Airport Authority is an entirely self-sustaining and does not receive local tax dollars to support our operations, the enhanced non-airline-based revenue these new concessions will generate for the Authority are vital and help ensure we maintain a competitive cost structure which encourages new air service development."

During the first full year of the program, sales are anticipated to be approximately \$63 million, an increase of more than 47.5 percent above the current program, and revenue to the authority is projected to be over \$10 million, an increase of \$3.7 million or 57.3 percent. Design and construction of the new concession spaces will commence shortly and is anticipated to be complete by the fall of 2015.

SCORE workshop

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 8, 7 p.m.
Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: The Plymouth District Library welcomes local entrepreneurs and business professionals by hosting a free SCORE workshop. Steve Feinman, district director of Michigan's 10 SCORE chapters, will conduct the workshop. SCORE "Counselors to America's Small Business" is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping entrepreneurs succeed as small business owners. More than 11,000 volunteer business counselors in 320 chapters nationwide are available to provide you with advice, mentoring and small business planning assistance at no cost.

Contact: For more information, contact Library Director Carol Souchock at 734-453-0750, ext. 218, or csouchock@plymouthlibrary.org.

Craft show

Date/Time: Thursday, April 6, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: Mayflower Lt. Gamble VFW Post 6695, 1426 S. Mill, Plymouth
Details: The Ladies Auxiliary Post 6695 will host a craft show at the VFW Post.
Contact: For details, call 734-459-6700.

Confederate flags

Date/Time: Thursday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Historical Museum, 1555 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: Learn all about the formation of the different Confederate flags during the Civil War with speaker John Keller when he presents "Flags of the Confederacy," at the Friar's of the Plymouth Historical Museum's monthly meeting. Keller grew up in southeast Michigan and graduated from high school in 1950. One year later he joined the Marine Corps, where he witnessed eight of the first hydrogen explosions on Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands in 1954. After leaving the Marines, he worked at Detroit Edison for 42 years and earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering while attending night school at Lawrence Technological University. He is a member of the Sons of the Confederacy and has been a docent at the Verdier Museum for 10 years. The talk is free and open to the public.
Contact: Call the museum, 734-455-8940.

Blues @ the Elks

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 8, 7:30 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: Blues @ the Elks happens the second Tuesday of each month. This month features George Bedard & the Kingpins, with Bedard on guitar and vocals, Pat Proctor on bass, and Rick Ikhman on drums.
Contact: For more information, call 734-453-1780 or email info@plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com.



Guest reader

It was with great delight that Canton Township Supervisor Phil Laloy was welcomed into Maggie Hughes' first-grade classroom at All Saints Catholic School. Laloy joined in the celebration of reading month by surprising his grandson Andrew Laloy and the rest of the class as mystery reader Friday. The kids were excited to listen to Laloy read aloud, as well as hear some interesting facts about Canton Township.

Jazz @ the Elks

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 29, 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 two beverages. This month features Johnny Trudell Quartet playing jazz favorites with Trudell on trumpet and flugelhorn, Ray Tini on bass, Chuck Shermerton on piano and Bill Cairo on drums.
Contact: For more information, call 734-453-1780 or email info@plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com.

Price peaks

Date/Time: Friday, April 11, 11 a.m. to noon
Location: Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth
Details: The Plymouth Community Council on Aging hosts a guest speaker, Wayne County Commissioner Shannon Price, talking about "Scams and Frauds." The presentation overview will include subjects such as home repair, equity scams, identity theft, investment fraud, phone and mail scams and residential care choices.
Contact: RSVP to 734-453-1234, ext. 236.

Surgeon's seminar

Date/Time: Friday, April 25, 10:30 a.m.
Location: Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth
Details: Dr. Ryan Moll, orthopedic surgeon and hip and knee replacement specialist, will offer a free educational seminar. Moll is an international proctor/teacher of this technique. This event is hosted by the Plymouth Community Council on Aging.
Contact: RSVP to 453-1234, ext. 236.

Grief to New Hope

Date/Time: Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
Location: Living Peace Church, 684 Dear St., Plymouth
Details: A free six-week educational grief support group for those suffering the loss of a loved one (sessions end May 7). Sponsored by Vermuelen Funeral Home and New Hope Center for Grief Support.
Contact: If you'd like to attend this free workshop or know someone else who could benefit from it, call Nancy at 734-695-7408 or New Hope at 248-348-0115.

Antique appraisal

Date/Time: Wednesday, April 23, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Historical Museum, 1555 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: The Plymouth Historical Museum will be holding an antique appraisal clinic with Doug Dalton Auctioneer and Schmidt's Antiques. Items to be appraised include antique furniture, art and small objects. No jewelry, coins or stamps please. Appraisals are by appointment only and time slots are filling up quickly. Oral evaluations will be provided for \$10 per item. There is a maximum of four items to be appraised per 15-minute time slot.
Contact: For an appointment, call 734-453-8940 or sign up at <http://www.plymouthhistorical.org/events.html>.

Fair Housing month

Date/Time: Thursday, April 10, 10:30 a.m.
Location: Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton
Details: As part of the Fair Housing Month celebration, Canton will be hosting a fair housing presentation led by Neighborhood Legal Services of Michigan and including topics like whether you're a landlord or a tenant, learn why it is important to know your rights

annual Trivia Night. Proceeds benefit college scholarships for women and girls in the community. Cash prizes for first and second place. Cost is \$10 per person or \$100 per team (up to five people).
Contact: Register: www.aauw-plymouthcanton.org Trivia Questions: email AAPW_PlymouthCanton@yahoo.com or call 734-453-5009.

From dress sale

Date/Time: Saturday, April 5, 9 a.m. to noon.
Location: Plymouth High School, 8400 Beck Road, Canton
Details: The Annual Prom Dress Sale features what organizers call "a wonderful collection" of new and used dresses, both long and short dresses, as well as some formal shoes and jewelry. No dress is priced over \$20. Dress donations are greatly appreciated and being accepted in the office at Plymouth High School.
Contact: For more information, contact Lisa Benag eslpcsmail.net

Get out of debt

Date/Time: Saturday, April 5, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton
Details: The Financial Health Fair Corp. and St. Michael Lutheran Church present "How to Get Out of Debt in 5-7 Years - Including Mortgage" with Bob Maretti. Admission to the event is free (additional materials will be available for purchase) and child care is provided. Bring a list of your creditors, balances, monthly payments and a calculator and leave with an idea of when you will be out of debt.
Contact: Call 734-459-3333 to sign up and request your registration packet and personalized, confidential report.

Montessori

open house
Date/Time: Sunday, April 6, 1-3 p.m.
Location: Plymouth-Canton Montessori, 45245 Joy Road, Canton
Details: Plymouth-Canton Montessori School hosts an open house for parents interested in enrolling children in preschool or kindergarten programs. Teachers and staff will be available to provide classroom tours of the school and light refreshments will be served.
Contact: For additional information, call 734-453-5550 or visit www.montessorischool.org.

Trivia night

Date/Time: Friday, April 4, 7-9:30 p.m.; doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Location: Koppernick Tech Center, 40525 Koppernick, Canton
Details: The Plymouth-Canton Area Association of University Women host to fourth

Air Force Band

Date/Time: Wednesday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.
Location: Pease Auditorium at Eastern Michigan University
Details: The U.S. Air Force Band of Washington, D.C., will perform in the public concert featuring the U.S. Air Force Concert Band and Singing Sergeants. The concert is sponsored by Eastern Michigan University Bands and the EMU Department of Music & Dance. Tickets are not required for this event.
Contact: To request free tickets by mail visit emich.edu/mlb/ bands and fill out a request form. Tickets can also be picked up in person at the EMU Department of Music & Dance mail office, located at 1101 Alexander Music Building in Ypsilanti.

BNI meeting

Date/Time: Each Thursday, 7-8:30 a.m.
Location: Red Olive Restaurant, 1051 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: The BNI Northville/The \$1 million Referral Chapter meets every Thursday morning.
Contact: For more information, visit www.NorthvilleBNI.com.

Ask a lawyer

Date/Time: Thursday, April 24, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Location: 558 S. Mill, Plymouth
Details: The Law Office of David C. Helm, PLLC, will host a free "Ask a Lawyer" event. Local attorneys will be on hand to meet with community members regarding a variety of legal issues in areas such as criminal offenses, employment law, real estate, probate matters, estate planning, personal injury and many more.
Contact: Call David Helm at 248-679-8804.

Win a bike

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 22, 6:30 p.m.
Location: Max & Erma's of Canton, 2240 N. Canton, Center
Details: Dinners can join Max & Erma's each Tuesday through April 22 for "Kids Eat Free" and enter to win a bicycle and helmet. The drawing will take place 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 22. Donors can help Max & Erma's give bikes to everyone by dropping off used bikes April 5. Donors will get a coupon for a free hamburger, redeemable during May.
Contact: For more information, call 734-981-3370.

2014 Caring Stars Award

We are pleased to announce that Abbey Park at Mill River is the recipient of the presented to the top 1% of senior living communities in the nation. Only nine communities in Michigan were presented with this award for service excellence. At Abbey Park, we are committed to making each day the best that we can and attribute our success to our wonderful employees, residents and professionals.



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LEGAL NOTICE 1954 PA 188 PROCEEDINGS NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING Charter Township of Plymouth

Wayne County Michigan
TO THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that as a result of Petitions of property owners within the Township signed by the record owners of land whose front footage constitutes more than 50% of the total front footage of the hereinabove described Special Assessment District and the Township Board of the Charter Township of Plymouth proposes a road paving project in the Woodlawn South Subdivision and to create a Special Assessment for the recovery of the cost thereof by Special Assessment against the properties benefited therein.

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested, that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth has tentatively declared its intention to make the hereinafter described improvement.

The proposed improvements to the existing two-lane concrete roadway shall consist of complete and/or partial concrete pavement replacement, subbase and subgrade preparation, and miscellaneous driveway and drainage work, which may be needed to facilitate the replacement of the concrete road pavement. The project commences at the east right-of-way line of Timberwood Drive and proceeds eastward on Timberwood Drive approximately 985 to its point of termination at Marisa Court, proceeds eastward on Marisa Court approximately 220 where it turns into Woodlawn South Drive, proceeds southward and westward along Woodlawn South Drive approximately 1,240 feet, and southward on Woodlawn South Drive approximately 240 feet to the north right-of-way line of Joy Road. The project also includes Marisa Court commencing at the intersection of Timberwood Drive and proceeding westward approximately 750 feet to its point of termination, Cory Court commencing at the intersection with Timberwood Drive and proceeding eastward approximately 190 feet to its point of termination, Rockledge Drive commencing at the intersection with Marisa Court and Woodlawn South Drive and proceeding eastward approximately 275 feet, and Tania Court commencing at the intersection with Woodlawn South Drive and proceeding westward approximately 525 feet to its point of termination. That it has further been tentatively determined that the following described lots and parcels of land will specially benefit from said improvements and will constitute a Special Assessment District against which the cost of said improvement shall be assessed:

The district limit for frontage along Timberwood Dr., Cory Ct., Marisa Ct., Rockledge Dr., Woodlawn South Dr. and Tania Ct. consists of Lots 1 through 63 of Woodlawn South Subdivision, located in the Southwest ¼ of Section 33, T1S, R8E, of Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth shall meet on Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Plymouth Township Hall, 9655 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, Michigan 48170, for the purpose of receiving and considering all objections, appeals, and hearing objections to the improvement, creation of the Special Assessment District, and the assessment thereof. All persons may then and there appear and make any objections they may have to such improvement and assessment. Appearance and protest at the hearing is required in order to appeal the amount, if any, of the special assessment to the state tax tribunal. An owner or party in interest, or agent thereof, may appear in person at the hearing, or may file an appearance or protest by letter. All parties or agents appearing in person at the hearing for purposes of protest should request the appearance be entered on the record of the meeting.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the plans, specifications, estimates of cost and recommendations of the engineer for said proposed Special Assessment District have been filed with the Township and are available for public examination at the office of the Township Clerk. The estimate of costs of such construction is in the approximate amount of \$278,206.20.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that periodic redetermination of costs for the proposed Special Assessment District may be necessary and may be made without further notice to the record owners or parties in interest in the property.

Nancy Conzelmann
Charter Township of Plymouth
9955 North Haggerty Road
Plymouth, Michigan 48170
(734) 334-3224

OUR VIEW

Making electricity deregulation work

We're all about paying less for electricity, but we're unconvinced that a bill pending in the Michigan House would lead to lower bills and we're satisfied to see this legislation on a slow track.

Energy deregulation is getting a lot of attention recently, in spite of the fact that a bill that would allow more utilities to sell electricity in Michigan seems unlikely to advance in the Legislature.

Gov. Rick Snyder has already indicated his skepticism, while Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville, R-Monroe, calls the idea "a strategic mistake."

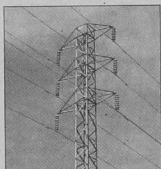
Even so, Michigan's big utilities are making known their opposition, with Consum-

ers Energy already bankrolling issue ads on television and radio opposing House Bill 5154.

Sponsored by Rep. Mike Shirley, R-Clark Lake, the bill would remove the current cap on electric choice. Michigan law allows customers to choose another electricity provider, but only up to 10 percent of a utility's electric sales.

The bill also would deregulate rates for Detroit Edison Co. and Consumers Energy, allowing rates to fluctuate with the market without Michigan Public Service Commission review.

The utilities' opposition to deregulation will no doubt trigger skepticism among consumers and lawmakers understandably wary of mo-



State law allows customers to choose their electricity provider.

nopolies and their impact on rates.

Michigan residents already pay more for electricity than consumers in neighboring Ohio and Illinois, both of which al-

low competition. A recent poll found that 58 percent of likely Michigan voters would support lifting the cap, a majority that held up in both political parties.

Yet the allure of reducing rates through increased competition may be illusory. Among the 24 states that have enacted electricity deregulation plans, the results are mixed.

Utility executives hoping to reverse public opinion on the issue could point to Pennsylvania. Hundreds of thousands of consumers who signed up for variable-rate plans were surprised to find their monthly bills had tripled or quadrupled in January and February as the demand for power increased during unusually cold weather

and the price of electricity went through the roof.

The lesson in Pennsylvania, however, isn't that deregulation can't work, but rather how deregulation is implemented requires careful attention to detail and regulatory oversight of how retail providers of electricity set rates. Transparency, of course, is essential.

It's disheartening to see campaign-style ads used to, essentially, head off the legislative process. Given the public's interest in electric choice, Shirley's bill deserves cautious study.

Now would be a good time to learn from the experience of other states where electricity deregulation is already part of the landscape.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Colbeck's accomplishments

Sen. Patrick Colbeck has been one of the primary drivers in bringing about a responsible balanced budget, while not voting for any tax increases or imposing unfunded liabilities on future generations. In the three years he has held office, state education funding has increased from a low of \$10,705,300,000, in 2009-10 to \$12,169,000,000 in 2014-15 (with the FY 2014-15 amount a projection, and the FY 2014-15 amount, the governor's recommendation).

He also was instrumental in creating an environment that is conducive to improving the state's job prospects, culminating in the increase of 250,000 jobs, creating hope for young people just entering the workforce, and reversing the outflow of people from the state to increasing the state's population.

Sen. Colbeck became the 7th District senator in January 2011. The state had just gone through a serious decline in Michigan's automobile industry, with a job loss of 217,000 auto workers (primarily union jobs) and a loss of 400,000 manufacturing jobs (including many union members). The state's revenues declined as the state's economy faltered. Besides Chrysler and General Motors going through bankruptcy, there was a substantial increase in small business bankruptcies. There also was an increase in personal bankruptcies and home foreclosures.

There are people who want us to forget history. Gov. Jennifer Granholm was in office from Jan. 1, 2003, through Jan. 1, 2011. In the 10 years—1999-2009 to 2009-10—the state increased spending by \$761,650,923, while state revenues declined due to job losses in the state. The state used up its "rainy day fund," incurred debt, while not balancing its budgets.

Gov. Granholm increased the state income tax from 3.90 to 4.35 percent and increased the gasoline tax; there were three straight years when education funding was cut. There was a reduction of 8,244 state government workers, 13 percent of the state's workforce (primarily union workers), while spending on state employees increased \$77,305,851,500, an total cost increase per employee of 58.2 percent. These fig-

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We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and contact information. Letters by the following formats: Web: www.hometownlife.com Mail: Letters to the Editor, Canton Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226 Fax: (313) 223-3318 Email: kb.adrich@hometownlife.com. Deadline: Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

ures reflect an increase of 21.3 percent in State Employee Base Payroll outlays, a 13.4-percent increase in retirement contributions and an increase of 65.3 percent in insurance costs. This occurred while automobile and related supplier workers were being laid off or experienced reduction in pay and while graduates were unable to find employment.

One wonders if the union members in the automobile and the related supplier industries, state and other workers who lost their jobs or experienced a reduction in pay feel that there has been a shared sacrifice.

Michael Hansel
Canton

Lack of character

Tim Smith's article regarding the firing of coach Scott Duhl speaks volumes about the character (or lack thereof) of the Plymouth-Canton district administrators and board members. I think all would agree there was likely an inappropriate comment made during a coaching session and one person took offense. On the surface, it sounds like something that should have been addressed in house with a simple reprimand. Coach learns his lesson and moves on.

But no. We have to apply a different set of rules because this is an employee of a sub-contractor. Conveniently, Michael Meissen chooses to pass the buck and let his sub-contractor fall on the sword for a bad decision. And when a large group of parents, players and

ex-players shows up to offer support, Mr. Meissen covers by suggesting the decision was "cast in stone regardless of the many testimonials."

Mr. Meissen, you and your board don't get off that easily. I've managed sub-contractor companies for much of my career and on a regular basis. Ultimately, I'm responsible for their actions and decisions. I have no doubt you had an opportunity to weigh in on "their" decision before it was cast in stone. Shame on you for suggesting otherwise. I, for one, don't believe you.

Frankly, I'm curious about the rules you apply to coaches holding teaching positions. I suspect you have multiple football coaches that didn't have some "colorful" exchanges with players? Heavens forbid you apply the Duhl standards to them.

And while I would never dissuade a student from filing a complaint, I think as a society we are becoming too skin-thinned. Life is full of disappointments and sometimes is unfair. Character is built on how we react to those experiences. Mr. Meissen and his characterless board turned their heads to many supporting coach Duhl and gave their input zero regard. That, too, speaks volumes.

Richard Bantau
Canton

Rush to build

I am very disturbed for the rush our board put on building this (new middle) school. We will not need an extra middle school after next year.

I wish we could have the board sign a contract as to what they are going to do with our money. We pass special taxes or renew taxes for our school and they took that money and put it toward the "STEM" program. This program only benefits a few kids and they told us the money was going for iPads.

Why do they get to lie about what we need the money for and then do what they want with it? Surprise, some of the board children are the ones benefiting from the "STEM" program. This is why politics get a bad name. They spend our money the way they see fit. Now we will have too many schools.

Not fair.

Kelly Demers
Canton

Food for thought

I would like to submit some "food for thought" regarding the headline article in the Sunday, March 23, *Canton Observer*, "Dems forum intended to spur action."

Here is a quote from Libby McGaughey, vice president of Planned Parenthood of Michigan. She said Democrats should work to "keep politicians out of your doctor's offices" and mentioned one group, Trans Women Are Watching, that plans to campaign against certain lawmakers. "Our plan is to go after people who are continually voting against our values." Values?

What values? Is it morally right to kill God's most defenseless, the unborn? Is it morally right to kill the baby that is the result of rape, when the father goes free? Is it morally right to teach our young school children (through Planned Parenthood "education") that, regarding sex, anything goes? Planned Parenthood is the largest promoter and provider of abortion.

May God help us. We are living in a culture that espouses there is no right or wrong; it's your choice. To quote Mother Teresa: "It is a poverty to decide that a child must die so that you may live as you wish."

In closing, here is something to ponder: Abortion kills a baby every 24 seconds—over 50 million abortions thus far.

Barb Schmid
Canton

Earned retirement

A lot has been said and printed regarding the Detroit retirees accepting Kevin Orr's package. They earned their retirement and the Michigan State Constitution guarantees that! So they should accept a 26-percent reduction?

The banks make millions and yet someone who is getting a \$19,000 per year pension should voluntarily give up 26 percent?

Come on now.

Tom Kelly
Plymouth

GUEST COLUMN

In Washington, the need for compromise is greater than ever

Not long ago, Northern Michigan University invited me to address students there as part of a series of addresses on public policy. The subject I chose for my address, in many places, is a scandalous subject: compromise.

Almost all of us in Congress have strong opinions on public policy, strong values that guide us. And on rare occasions, all of us agree on what is the right thing to do.

But we live in a large, complex nation. The interests of our state or region are different than those of others. And aside from local



Carl Levin
GUEST COLUMNIST

interests, sometimes the answer to a problem just isn't easy or clear. Sometimes we honestly disagree about what's best for the country.

The challenge for the Founding Fathers was designing a system that could accommodate the widely varying opinions of a nation that had at least some unity to survive. The solution to that puzzle was our Constitution, which ensures that, while everyone has some voice in our gov-

ernment, no single voice dominates. The whole system forces us to accommodate the views of others, even those who disagree strongly with us, in order to accomplish our goals. It forces us to compromise.

But that system breaks down when compromise is in short supply. And it is a rare commodity these days. Leaders in Washington are influenced by constituents back home who believe "compromise" is a dirty word.

Six months ago, that attitude got us a government shutdown. Some of my colleagues in Congress refused to approve funding to keep the government running. They demanded that any legislation to keep the government open also repeal the Affordable Care Act.

Now I can respect a strongly held opinion, even if I disagree with it. But when you refuse to allow basic government functions to continue unless you get

your way — your whole way — our system breaks down.

After all, I have strong opinions of my own. I feel strongly that the tax burden in this country has shifted so that working families bear more of the load and wealthy people less. Suppose that I, as chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, told my colleagues, "I will not allow our annual defense appropriations act to pass before the committee unless Congress passes a bill that closes unjustified tax loopholes used by corporations and the wealthiest individuals." What if every member of Congress adopted such an attitude? Each of us would refuse to allow government to function unless we won total victory — and nothing would get done.

And we have so much to do. We have to deal with immigration — with the millions of people who now live in the shadows as undocu-

mented immigrants — and with the economic costs of maintaining the status quo. We have to continue building our economy. We have to discover new weapons and new cures for deadly diseases.

We can't do any of that if we're not willing to compromise. There have been some signs that the wave of hostility to compromise is cresting. Early this year, Congress passed a two-year budget agreement. There were provisions that many of us disliked. But partial agreement meant we avoided the cycle of budget crisis after crisis that has done our economy so much harm.

And just last month, Congress passed a farm bill that had been delayed for almost two years by a variety of disputes. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, who chairs the Senate Agriculture Committee, did a remarkable job getting this bill passed. Nobody agreed with every part

of that bill. But we were willing to compromise. We knew that settling for half a loaf, so to speak, was important to the farmers who put the bread on our tables.

These compromises are not so remarkable when you compare them to the scope of the challenges before us. But I hope they are a start. I don't want to spend my remaining months in the Senate fighting over who can be tougher and more uncompromising. I'd rather spend that time working together on the challenges our country faces — challenges that will affect the lives of the NMU students I spoke to last afternoon. I am going home to Washington.

It is time for us all to recognize that if we are to be remembered in a positive light, it will not be for political opponents we hold down, but for the future generations we come together to lift up.

Carl Levin is the senior U.S. senator from Michigan.

Brad Kadrich,
Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
Executive Editor

Grace Perry,
Director of
Advertising

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OBSERVER
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Classes help young and old become Money Smart

Help is coming for consumers who want to learn how to better manage their personal finances. Classes will be offered next week at area libraries during the state's 10th anniversary of Money Smart Week®.

The week is coordinated by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, which serves most of Michigan, and hundreds of partner organizations promoting financial education. It is designed to teach consumers about money management and generate awareness of the resources available on a wide range of topics, such as saving, investing, using credit wisely and avoiding fraud, scams and identity theft.

Among the programs are:

» **Kids & Money.** Saturday, April 5, 10-11 a.m. - A 45-minute program of stories and games that promote a better understanding of money takes place at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main. Door prizes will be included, with one family winning a Kindle. Sponsored by Community Financial Credit Union. Library of Michigan and the Michigan Credit Union League, the program is aimed at kids 4- to 6-years old. RSVP by calling 734-453-0750, ext. 237, or emailing cchamp@plymouthlibrary.org.

» **Understanding Financial Statements.** Monday, April 7, 7-8 p.m. - Learn what financial statements are, under-

stand what they say and mean, and how to use them to start, manage, and grow your business. Geared toward the business user, Canton Public Library, 1200 Canton Center. Call 734-397-0999, ext. 1252.

» **Personal Finance 101.** Budgeting, Tuesday, April 8, 7-8 p.m. - "Budgeting 101: A Balancing Act," covers the basics of creating and maintaining a personal budget, including how, why & how to stick to one. Also addresses the issue of tackling debt at the Canton Public Library, 1200 Canton Center in Canton. Target audience is kids 18-25 years old and adults 26-64 years old. RSVP at 734-397-0999, ext. 1252, or email welm@cantonpl.org.

» **Educational and Financial Planning.** Wednesday, April 9, 8-9 p.m. - Sylvan Learning Center and Edward Jones Adviser Kristina Wittner talk about financial and academic strategies to adopt as you plan for college. Canton Public Library, 734-397-0999, ext. 1252.

» **Kids & Money.** Thursday, April 10, 10-10:45 a.m. - "Money Smart Start Storytime & Songs: Money Smart Kids Read!" features stories and songs to celebrate Money Smart Week. Target audience is kids 4-6 years old. Sponsored by CFCU, the Library of Michigan and the Michigan Credit Union League. RSVP to 734-397-0999, ext. 1252, or email welm@cantonpl.org.

Protesters want minimum wage hike

Members of MoveOn.org protested Tuesday outside U.S. Rep. Kerry Benivolio's office in Commerce Township, encouraging him to support increasing the minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour.

MoveOn members carried signs reading things like "We Deserve a Fair Wage" and "Rep. Benivolio: Stop Supporting Poverty Wages." The group said it presented petition signatures from 523 residents within the 11th District, which the Milford Republican represents. The district includes western Wayne and Oakland counties, as well as a portion that stretches east to Bloomfield Hills.

"Raising the minimum wage is common-sense policy with



Virgil Schave protests Tuesday afternoon outside U.S. Rep. Kerry Benivolio's Commerce Township office, supporting an increased minimum wage. JOHN HEIDER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

strong support, even in Repub-

lican held districts," Ilya Sheyman, executive director of MoveOn.org Political Action, wrote in a release. "Republicans in Congress, who are standing in the way of pay raises for millions of American workers, should be ready to pay at the ballot box in November."

Susan Temere organized the local event.

"Raising the minimum wage shows we value hard work. A \$10.10 per hour minimum wage would directly boost the wages of about 28 million workers, giving them more money to spend, which feeds back into the local economy," she said.

Tuesday's event was part of the political group's National Day of Action in support of increasing the minimum wage.



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All Natural Fresh Pork Bone-in Center Cut Chops	\$3.69 lb	Boar's Head Bacon	Veal & Pork City Chicken	Lake Trout	Fresh Wild Caught Mako Shark
		Niman Ranch Cage Free Eggs	All Natural Fresh Lamb Whole Leg		Prince Edward Island Mussels
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\$7.59 lb Boar's Head Save \$2.00 lb	\$9.99 lb Save \$3.00 lb	\$5.99 lb Save \$2.00 lb	\$5.99 lb Save \$2.00 lb	\$7.99 lb Save \$2.00 lb
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SECTION B (CP)
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SPORTS

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MEETING THE OCR DEADLINE

District steps up to Title IX plate

Plymouth baseball seats torn down, new scoreboard looms for softball field

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

What once was a seating patio along the third-base line at Plymouth High School's baseball field Monday was a pile of rubble, having been torn down by the district in order to comply with a mandate from the U.S. Education Department's Office for Civil Rights.

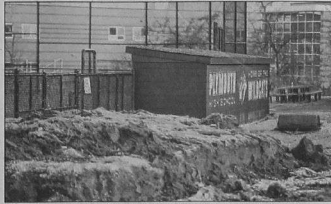
Will that be enough to halt the Wildcats season opener Wednesday against Holt? That remains to be seen, although varsity head coach Jason Crain emailed Monday night that the

field is ready for action.

At the heart of the matter is a recent ruling that the district violated Title IX — a federal law requiring school districts to provide equal opportunity for boys and girls — because the Plymouth baseball seating and scoreboard were deemed superior to the softball facilities.

An on-site audit late last summer also found that the baseball seating patio lacked a ramp to be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The seats on the baseball



This pile of rubble is all that remained Monday of Plymouth High School's raised baseball seating patio (JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO)

side are gone, likely to be replaced this week (hopefully in

time for the Plymouth-Holt twinbill) with the same kind of

aluminum seats that the softball field features.

Crain, meanwhile, noted that the handsome-looking scoreboard in right field will not have to be removed because the district will be erecting the same kind of structure on the softball field later this month, per OCR orders.

On time

The district needed to remove the seats as of Monday in order to comply with the OCR mandate.

Beth Savalox, director of activities and athletics for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, responded to several questions about the issue via

See SEATS, Page B2

PREP SOFTBALL PREVIEW - PART 1

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Future college players still have work to do with Wildcats

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

In future seasons, area college softball teams will be bolstered by Plymouth Wildcats alumni.

But first, those programs have to wait until the 2014 high school season plays out. Three key seniors — all slated to play at the collegiate level beginning in 2015 — have some unfinished business to attend to for their alma mater.

In 2014, the Wildcats nearly went the distance, going 31-5-1 while winning the Kensington Lakes Activities Association championship. But then came a disappointing loss to Canton in the districts.

Then came the graduation of No. 1 pitcher Elaine Gerou, second baseman Bri Giordano and first baseman Kayla Rebaun.

"We lost talent at pitcher, first and second base, players who all went on to play softball at the collegiate level," Plymouth co-head coach Bev McManus said. "Which hurts to

a certain degree. However, we are stacked with more talent to fill those positions (and) I am confident this team will exceed our expectations."

Talented veterans

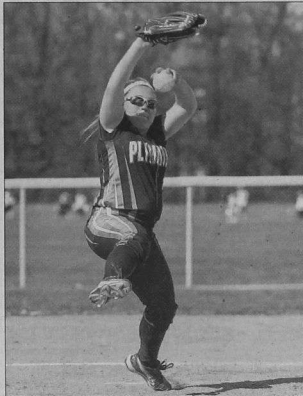
It doesn't hurt to have junior lefthanded pitcher Mikayela Marciniak ready to fill the void lost by Gerou's departure. Marciniak (committed to Oakland University) also has thrown plenty of innings for the varsity Wildcats the past two seasons.

Plymouth also returns seniors Lindsay Lutton, Brooke Senkbeil and Celeste Miller, three players who will go on to play collegiately.

Lutton is a fourth-year varsity player who will play shortstop. She is signed to go to OU in 2015.

Aquinas College-bound Senkbeil is a spark plug catcher, beginning her fourth season. She also can chip in at second base.

Third-year player Celeste Miller is another key



Plymouth left pitcher Mikayela Marciniak is a key to the Wildcats' chances. (JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO)

Plymouth's Brooke Senkbeil will focus on sparking the team with her hitting and catching talents. (JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO)

White primed to guide Chiefs

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Madonna University softball coaching legend Al White figured he had retired for good from the sidelines.

Then came an offer the Canton resident could not refuse — a chance to become varsity girls softball coach at Canton High School.

White takes over a very successful program. The 2013 Chiefs won the Division 1 regionals and sported an impressive 29-6 record.

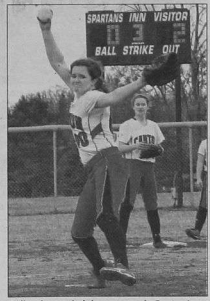
"I'm very excited to be here, giving back to these girls," White said. "I owe a lot to the game. That's what I live for."

Of course, most coaches would be excited to inherit the kind of roster that White did.

Seniors Hanna Warren, Paige Aresco, Kendyl Richter, Kaitlin Keys and Bryn Birchler lead the cast into the challenging waters of the KLAAs.

Warren is the team's ace pitcher (who also can play first base). She will pitch beginning in 2015 at Central Michigan University, but for this spring she leads

See CHIEFS, Page B3



Delivering a pitch last season is Canton's Hanna Warren. In the background is shortstop Paige Aresco. (JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO)



Power hitter Daniel Jipping will again spark the Plymouth Christian Academy offense. (BILL BREXLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

PREP BASEBALL PREVIEW - PART 2

Eagles bank on Jipping to power team

PCA roster features key returnees, impressive newbies

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Last year's Plymouth Christian Academy varsity baseball team captured a Class D district title, spearheaded by the slugging of Daniel Jipping.

The all-Observer first-teamer and future Central Michigan University Chipewas is expected to pick up where he left off as the 2014 season gets underway. That spells trouble for rivals in the

Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

That is, unless opponents give Jipping the Barry Bonds treatment and pitch around him, stressed PCA coach Joe Bottorff.

"Daniel had a monster year last year and if he can come close to duplicating that this year it is good news for the Eagles," Bottorff said. "Daniel, however, is no secret to our conference opponents, so there should be plenty of intentional walks mixed in."

Jipping will be penciled in third in the batting order and either catch or pitch most days in addition to other infield duty at times.

Another important senior returnee is Johnny Lauch, who will pitch, catch and play shortstop.

"Johnny will also be a table setter for the big bats in the lineup and will be a terror on the basepaths," Bottorff noted. Designated hitter/outfielder Jared Cobb and infielder/outfielder Reuben Galang are the team's other seniors.

Juniors key

PCA's hopes also will be helped by a quartet of juniors, starting with No. 1 pitcher Michael Slater.

"Michael will likely bat second and will have plenty of scoring opportunities batting

in front of Daniel," said Bottorff, adding that Slater also will see PT at shortstop when not on the slab.

Junior Lucas Albrecht is new to the Eagles, but brings skill and speed.

The Eagles will bank on that element of Albrecht's game, whether potentially at the top of the lineup or out in center field.

"Lucas is probably the fastest kid on the team," Bottorff noted. "And he gives us a lot of flexibility to run plays when he is on base."

Junior Tanner Hay is expected to play first base and

See PCA, Page B2

GIRLS SOCCER PREVIEW - PART 3

Familiar look to Rocks' roster

Salem's hopes strengthened with nine starters returning from Class A district finalist squad

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

With a strong nucleus of returning players from the 2013 Class A district finalists, Salem's varsity girls soccer team looks to overcome controversy surrounding its former coach.

Scott Duhl recently was fired from the position and is being replaced for the 2014 season by George Kithas, who is a coach in the Livonia Churchill boys soccer program.

"I am very excited about the upcoming season," Kithas said. "I know we have a very talented team and look to make a run at the state title."

Salem went 15-4-1 overall last season, including 7-3-0 in the KLA Central Division. This year got off to a losing start, with the Rocks falling 1-0

against Ann Arbor Pioneer on a late goal.

"Despite the result, I was very happy with the team's performance," Kithas said. Salem's nine returning starters provide the team with strength and versatility across the board.

The defense is expected to be stellar, led by co-captains Olivia Kaye and Taylor Jaaska along with Katie Binsfield and Kaitlyn Pelech.

Slated for the midfield will be co-captain Morgan Sterlit along with sophomores Caroline Simko and Leah Moss.

Up front, junior co-captain Hayley Rodgers will provide scoring punch.

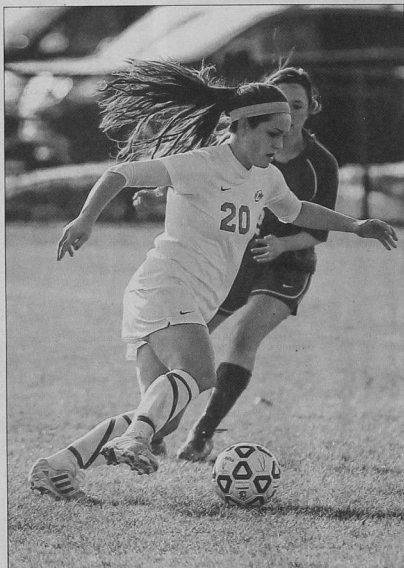
Able handling goalkeeper duties will be senior Ally Mann.

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Salem's Olivia Kaye (No. 8), shown from a 2013 contest, is one of nine returning starters for the Rocks this season. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

It's a footrace!



Canton's Chloe Donlin (No. 20) gets a step ahead of a Novi player during Tuesday's KLA varsity girls soccer game at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. Novi won 2-1 to drop the Chiefs to a 0-1-1 record for the early season. Canton opened last week with a 1-1 tie against Saline. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

SEATS

Continued from Page B1

email

The district fully cooperated to find a resolution agreement to make facilities equitable for

both genders," Savalos said. "We believe in the spirit of Title IX and have witnessed first-hand its dramatic impact on females in sports."

"Witness the championships secured at the Park this year alone (including gymnastics, girls

hockey and a Class A finalist berth for Canton girls basketball) to understand that our district believes in the educational value of co-curricular activities and their ability to develop qualities of teamwork, tenacity, persistence and dedication

for both males and females."

It was anonymously reported in October 2012 to the OCR about the apparent disparity in seating facilities and scoreboards at the Plymouth baseball and softball fields (which jut out on opposite sides of a shared press box/concession area).

Last year, Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's entire athletics facilities were visited and inspected by the OCR; the district was informed last

September that it needed to make corrections by March 31.

Because the district met Monday's deadline, any blots on its Title IX record will be wiped clean.

The enhanced seating had been constructed several years ago, after Plymouth Baseball Boosters generated money for the project by selling seats with special nameplates (some in honor of the memory of loved ones). Both Plymouth fields and their original

Ross and Eric Scott.

Ross and Scott also will help the cause at first base and third base, respectively.

Salem hopes to open the season (weather permitting, of course) with Thursday's twinbill at Adrian.

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PREP BASEBALL PREVIEW - PART 2

Salem vets look to finish strong

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Led by a nucleus of players intent on finishing their high school careers on a winning note, the Salem varsity baseball team is ready to take on all comers in 2014.

Last season, the Rocks finished with a 21-12 record overall, losing to Livonia Churchill in the Class A districts.

Senior leaders will abound all over the diamond, including first baseman Justin Sydowski, shortstop Jack Driscoll, third baseman/pitcher Colin Pietron, catcher Brendan Bird, outfielders Andrew Hunt, Nick Minnichello and Mike Vernon.

Power-armed junior Tyler Brooks is another key player. He also will play third base and likely head the starting pitching rotation for longtime head coach Dale Rumberger.

By the middle, the Rocks will feature Bird or junior Colin Savage at catcher, a double-play combination of Driscoll and either junior Josh Penn or sophomore Cameron Shaughnessy at second base.

Junior Brandon Gillen



Slick defensive plays such as this one from Salem shortstop Jack Driscoll should keep the Rocks in plenty of games in 2014.

and sophomore Alex Nicholson are expected to contribute plenty both at the plate and defensively, in the outfield.

Rumberger has plenty of pitching options. In addition to Brooks and Pietron, players who will see time on the mound include Gillen, Hunt, Nick March, Penn, Wes

and Eric Scott. Ross and Scott also will help the cause at first base and third base, respectively.

Salem hopes to open the season (weather permitting, of course) with Thursday's twinbill at Adrian.

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PCA

Continued from Page B1

the outfield as well as help with pitching duties. "Tanner had a bit of a breakout year last year and we expect him to build on that for this season."

The fourth junior is second baseman/outfielder Jordan Talbot, who Bottorff said "has also made great strides in the cage and should have a big year at the plate."

Youthful promise

PCA also boasts a couple of solid sophomores in Josh Slater and

Nick Andres.

Josh Slater will play first base and catch and provide some thump in the batting order.

"Josh is a powerful left-handed batter and contributed greatly last year as a freshman," Bottorff said. "So far in the cage this year, Josh has built a powerful swing and should be more aggressive at the plate once we get outside."

Nick Andres, meanwhile, "can play just about every position on the field and will probably get that chance throughout the season."

The Eagles' long-term future is looking bright, too, with four promising

freshmen ready to chip in this season.

Those players include Austin Andres (third base), Nathan Bishop (catcher, third base), Matthew Cusumano (infield) and Josh Mason (infield).

"All four are looking strong in the batting cage," Bottorff said.

Rounding out the roster are juniors Isaac Middleton, Joseph Iacopelli, Torre Crown; sophomores Will Creelias, AJ Greuber, Jake Shook, Aaron Wolak, Sam Jose, Freshmen Adam Albert, Ian Hay, Brendan Hess and Andrew Schuester.

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GIRLS TENNIS PREVIEW



Plymouth's varsity girls tennis team celebrates after winning the recent Midnight Madness tournament at Huron Valley Tennis Club.

Plymouth netters to take swing at success

Wildcats feature experience, depth throughout lineup

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Plymouth varsity girls tennis coach Rob McLaren welcomes 11 returnees from the 2013 team that captured the KLAAS South Division with a 5-0 record.

While plenty of excellent talent is back on the courts, the Wildcats — like all other tennis teams in the area — have had to deal with winter weather challenges that made it virtually impossible until this week to get much practice time outdoors.

"Due to weather conditions, we haven't been able to play as many challenge matches as we would like," McLaren said. "This is a vital part of determining our lineup."

Plymouth did get in some indoor work, however. The Wildcats prevailed in mid-March to win the seventh annual Midnight Madness

scrimmage at Huron Valley Tennis Club.

"It was a very close contest of seven flights of doubles," McLaren said. "It was especially gratifying to win it this year, because we came in last a year ago (in the tournament) against the same teams."

Top spots filled

Regardless of weather and practice time issues, the Wildcats return last season's No. 1 and No. 2 singles players in junior Keerthi Chakuri and senior Miranda Cerny, respectively.

"Both Miranda and Keerthi have a ton of singles experience, so I expect that to really pay off this year," McLaren said.

Looking to fill the remaining singles spots will be last season's No. 1 doubles unit of Sarah Gamble and Swetha Duraiswamy and Amber Tseng (a part of the No. 3

doubles team last year). Gamble is a sophomore while Duraiswamy and Tseng are sophomores.

"All three of them have worked extremely hard in the off-season to improve their games, and it really shows," McLaren said. "Just hitting with them (recently), I could tell their games are at another level."

"I'm looking forward to see how the challenge matches turn out. They are all very talented singles players. Unfortunately, one of them will have to play doubles, but having a lot of talent in singles is a good problem to have."

Depth at doubles

Returning to doubles play are juniors Emma Mullenax, Lauren Conley, Te'ahn Horton, seniors Katie Weyers, Nisha Patel and sophomore Alyssa Lopez.

"These girls have all put in

time in the off-season becoming doubles specialists," McLaren said. "Many of them practiced with each other in groups of four all season long, which is a real bonus for us."

"I'm going to try to keep partners from last year together, where possible, but some of that will be determined by how the singles lineup shakes out."

Others who are in the mix for remaining doubles spots include returnees Amanah Fatima (senior), Sumayyah Ahmed (junior) and newcomers Ria Mahesh (freshman), Justine Ko, Amy Luo, Sindhuja Borra and Gabriella Robles (all sophomores).

McLaren said that having most of last season's top doubles players back "is going to be a huge advantage for us. This is the most balanced team we've had."

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PREP LACROSSE

Canton girls turn it around

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Thanks to a strong all-around performance Monday night, the Canton varsity girls lacrosse team managed to wipe away the memory of Saturday's season-opening defeat.

The Chiefs, who lost 12-7 to Ann Arbor Skyline on Saturday, bounced back with a 14-7 victory Monday over defending Kensington Conference champion South Lyon United.

Leading Canton (1-1) with four goals was junior Jordan Church, with seniors Annika Nuler and Connie Cox each contributing three goals.

Helping the cause were junior midfielder Kelsey Tucker (1 goal, 2 assists), sophomore attacker Casey Bower (1 goal, 2 assists), senior attackers Sarah Davenport (1 goal) and Alexis O'Flynn (1 assist).

"We came out tonight a completely different team than we were during our opening loss to Skyline," Canton head coach Dave Bower said. "Our midfielders dominated play, winning draws and getting after ground balls, forcing turnovers and scoring on the offensive end 12 of our 14 goals."

Canton carried an 8-4 lead into halftime.

He cited Davenport for playing a strong, sure-handed game "especially in the second half when we were able to chip up a lot of clock after we had the lead."

That six players scored and five others garnered assists showed how much the Chiefs emphasized "good ball movement and unselfish team play."

Making saves when needed to ensure the win was senior goalkeeper Melissa Neal.

"We certainly have plenty to focus on and improve," Bower said. "But it was nice to get a win under our belt, especially against such a historically tough opponent."

In the loss against Skyline, Cox scored two goals with single tallies by Davenport, O'Flynn, Church, Tucker and Nuler.

SALON N. WEST BLOOMFIELD 5: The visiting Rocks took a commanding 11-2 halftime lead and went on from there to post the lopsided girls lacrosse victory on Monday night.

Janey Long led the way with four goals. Kelsey Tucker, Bridget Kewen and Lauren Britton also posted on the scoreboard were Kirsten Valia (2 goals), Leah Smith and Sarah Eggen (1 goal each).

CANTON BOYS VS. GRAND BLANC 7: In the home opener for Canton's varsity boys lacrosse team on Monday.

As predicted to prevail to 2-0 on the season.

Junior midfielder Jay Krone spalled Canton's attack with three goals while sophomore attacker Carter Pakala, junior midfielders Gerald Branger and Nolan Gilo each scored twice.

Senior attacker Kyle Topper augmented those players with four points (1 goal, 3 assists).

Making 18 stops was senior goalkeeper Collin Smith, who was helped out by solid defensive work by Jake Lewis (4 ground balls, 4 takeaways), Tom Gossman (2 takeaways) and Brian Newton (5 ground balls to lead the team).



Canton's Connie Cox sprints down the field during Monday's contest.

LORETTA O'FLYNN

Chiefs show promise as season begins

After the Canton varsity girls tennis team finished second last season in the KLAAS South Division, a number of players decided the summer to classes, conditioning and lessons.

According to head coach Barb Lehmann, all of that extra effort could really pay dividends during the 2014

season, which was expected to begin Tuesday against Allen Park.

Helping the cause are returning No. 1 singles player (and co-captain) Maddison Johnson and co-captain Anna Scheppele, moving up a slot to No. 2 singles.

Returning varsity players include Jasmine Njam-Henry,

Alexis Madava, Nikki Cotham, Julie Stevenson, Abby Wampler, Sarah Kalsky, Amy Dalton and Angie Distelrath.

Looking for enhanced roles on the squad are returnees Olivia Turbaro and Melissa Karbon, while newcomers Kaylee Rivera and Lila Pita round out the roster.

"While we have a great

start to the lineup we still have more challenge matches to determine the strongest team for the Chiefs," Lehmann said. "I am very encouraged by the strong practices we have had, the new junior varsity players and the improvements they have already made."

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'FootGolf' coming to Fox Hills

Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center of Plymouth is proud to announce that it is the first and only golf course in Michigan that has partnered with the American FootGolf League.

FootGolf is a combination of the very popular sports of soccer and golf played on a golf course on shortened holes with 21-inch diameter cups. On Saturday, May 10 (9:30 a.m. on the Strategic Fox Course), Fox Hills will host a FootGolf Kick-off tournament open to the public.

These rules are similar to the rules of golf. FootGolf is a game that is played throughout the world in many different forms, but as a sport, it is regulated by the Federation for International FootGolf.

The game is widely popular in youth both boys and girls and becoming popular across the United States and internationally.

"It was very excited to learn about FootGolf when we had the opportunity to play it at the National Golf Course Owner's Association annual meeting in Orlando (Florida)," owner Sandy Mily said. "We are excit-

ed to bring this sport to our golf course."

The American FootGolf League is organizing tournaments throughout the country working with golf courses to bring FootGolf to their clubs as another avenue for revenue and to develop the game further.

Fox Hills Golf Course is currently looking into hosting a tournament for the AFLG.

Meanwhile, Fox Hills (located at 8768 N. Territorial) is celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2014 and will continue to bring new and innovative programs, technology and opportunities to the golf community in Michigan. To sign up for the May 10 FootGolf Kick Off Tournament, visit www.foxhills.com.

JUNIOR GOLF OPEN HOUSE: Fox Hills, Saturday hosted a Junior Golf Open House at the Fox Classic Clubhouse.

Parents and families received information on all of the Fox Hills' testing and summer programs and took advantage of early registration discounts for 2014.

Golf professionals were on hand to assist parents on deciding what programs are best for their child.

The 2014 season programs include programs available for youth ages 5-12, Junior Strategic Fox Summer League, Junior Match Play, week long Junior Day Camps, Elite Team Training, Junior Memberships, private lessons and more.

For more information on FootGolf or Junior Programs, contact Sherie Handrinos, 734-341-6559 or Sherrine.Handrinos@gmail.com.

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page B1

senior who has signed with University of Michigan-Dearborn. She will start in the outfield.

Two other seniors on the roster are second-year player Hallie Barkume (outfield) and newcomer Vicki Urquhart (outfield).

Another college-bound

CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

a deep pitching staff of six. Shortstop Aresco is "very smooth, just a great athlete" while Richter will start at second base. Warren, Aresco and Richter are the tri-captains.

Another leader is Keys, set to be the starting catcher. "She has a good presence behind the plate. She will call her own game," White said.

The fifth senior is outfielder Richter, who the coach said is equipped with a strong arm to gun down way-

Miller is junior third baseman Brittney Miller. She also has committed to play at OU.

The Wildcats lineup also will be helped by juniors Alex Rakovitis (outfield, third year on varsity), Caylin Waters (first base/outfield, first year) and Janel Elland (pitcher/outfield, first year).

Rounding out the roster are sophomore second baseman/catcher Rachael Ring

ward runners.

Juniors include pitcher/first baseman Hannah Shuler (who hit said throws "very hard" from the circle), hard-hitting outfielder Nicole Clark, third baseman Halee Warren (a strong hitter who can fire the ball from the hot corner) and infielder Nikki Johnson.

Ready to step in

Speedy sophomore Elizabeth Yager will probably bat from the leadoff spot and White will give her the green light to run at will.

Also promising are sophomores MacKenzie Payne (pitcher/infield), Valeria

and sophomore outfielder/second baseman Rachel Zeroni. They are beginning their first and second seasons on the varsity, respectively.

Helping McManus will be co-head coach Dave Senkbeil and manager Allison Rayland. New to the program are Olin Grant and Sydney Dawson.

White added that several players on the junior varsity will be brought up from the time to time for number of weekend tournaments.

Those players include sophomores Victoria Porter, Shelby Rachwal, Molly Main and Emily Keys.

"These girls are every coach's dream as they know how to play at a high level, as most of our girls do," White added.

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Local sports net bar play rise at the

FIRST TEAM
Isaac Everette, Sr., John Glenn: The 6-foot-4 senior guard-forward, who missed Glenn's first six games with a broken finger, averaged 20 points per game for the Rockets.

The all-Kensington Lakes Activities Association pick, who could also play the point-guard position, led Glenn to the KLA Association, Kensington Conference and South Division titles.

Everette is being courted by Wayne State and Grand Valley State.

"Isaac was a three-year starter on teams that won 52 games and three South Division titles, along with a KLA championship," coach Dan Young said. "He had a tremendous year at Glenn, one of the best I've ever coached. He was a leader for every way on-and-off the floor."

Davon Taylor, Sr., Canton: The 6-6 senior forward was a force at both ends of the court this season, earning all-KLA accolades in the process.

One of the region's most improved players, Taylor averaged 17 points per game and 1.5 blocks per contest and set a new Canton High School season rebounding record with 244.

"His ability to score inside and rebound for me was outstanding," coach Jimmy Reddy said.

Reddy added that Taylor deserves "all the credit" for the strides he has made as a players since ninth grade to become one of the area's best players.

"I couldn't be more proud of the young man Davon has become in his time here at Canton, he was an absolute pleasure to coach," he said.

Jeron Rogers, Jr., N. Farmington: The 6-foot-6 junior is a three-year starter for the Raiders, who compete in the highest division (Red) of the Oakland Activities Association.

Rogers is a versatile player who can shoot the three, but he does his best work in the paint, scoring on post-up moves and competing for rebounds.

He had many double-double performances while averaging 21 points and 11 rebounds. Rogers also looks for his teammates and had four assists per game, an impressive number for a big man.

"Jeron had a great junior year, proving to be one of the best inside-out threats in the state," coach Todd Negoshian said.

"He is a tremendous competitor with a fierce desire to win and is a great teammate. All the time he is out there, he has started to pay off."

Otis Kemutambah, Sr., Thurston: Fueled by an incredible vertical-leaping ability, Kemutambah was a force in the paint for the Eagles, averaging 13.7 points and 8.9 rebounds per contest. In addition to shooting 50 percent from the field, the 6-foot-5 All-Western Wayne Athletic Conference Red Division first-teamer protected the rim on a steady basis.

Jordan Nobles, Sr., Canton: The numbers were down slightly this season for East-



Isaac Everette
John Glenn



Davon Taylor
Canton



Jeron Rogers
N. Farmington



Otis
Kemutambah
Thurston



Jordan Nobles
Canton



Connor Cole
Salem



James Pruitt
John Glenn



Noah Campbell
Stevenson



Jacob McKiddie
Redford Union



Donte Jackson
Churchill



Xavier Crofford
Thurston



Dan Young
Glenn coach



Bob Brodie
Salem coach

2014 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS BASKETBALL FIRST TEAM

Isaac Everette, Sr., John Glenn

Davon Taylor, Sr., Canton

Jeron Rogers, Jr., N. Farmington

Otis Kemutambah, Sr., Thurston

Jordan Nobles, Sr., Canton

Connor Cole, Sr., Salem

SECOND TEAM

Isaac Everette, Sr., John Glenn

Noah Campbell, Jr., G. W. Stevenson

Anthony Daxson, Jr., N. Farmington

James Jackson, Jr., G. W. Churchill

Xavier Crofford, Sr., Thurston

THIRD TEAM

John Roberts, Jr., G. W. Stevenson

Kenneth Dodson, Sr., G. W. Stevenson

Anthony Daxson, Jr., N. Farmington

Joan Anderson, Sr., G. W. Churchill

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Joan Anderson, Sr., G. W. Churchill

Think spring golf

PGA teaching professional Tami Beal is offering a series of spring golf classes and clinics at Hickory Creek Golf Course, 3525 Napier Road, Superior Township.

Among the first sessions for adults include: Get Golf Ready 8-10 a.m. Tuesday, April 8; Thursday, April 17; or 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 7. Senior Casual Golfer - 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 15 or May 6; Senior New Golfer - 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 15 or May 6; Ladies clinics, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 6.

Among the first sessions for youth include: Junior (ages 8-17) - 5 p.m. Thursday, May 7 and 5 p.m. Thursday, May 14; Little Linksters (ages 5-8) - 5 p.m. Monday, April 14 and 11 a.m. Saturday, May 3.

Beal will also host three open houses, which feature

free golf games for the whole family, from 1 p.m. Sunday, April 13; Saturday, April 26; and Sunday, May 18, at Hickory Creek.

Adult drop-in clinics are also available including: Golf Enhancement sessions - 6-8:30 a.m. each Monday (locations and times subject to change by season); Golf Simulator sessions - 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 1 at High Velocity Sports, 46245 Michigan Avenue, Canton; and Golf Conditioning - 10-11:30 a.m. each Saturday (Jan.-Nov.) at Hickory Creek.

To register for classes, visit Beal's Facebook page at TrainwithTamiGo.com or for more information, email TrainwithTami@gmail.com or call 734-731-0238.

Bucks host games

The Michigan Bucks of the Premier Development League

will host four top collegiate women's soccer teams, including Michigan and Michigan State, in a series of exhibition matches Saturday, April 5, at Pontiac's Ultimate Soccer Arenas, 867 South Boulevard.

MSU and Michigan, along with OU and Northwestern, will square off in the Best of the Midwest games.

Tickets are also \$8 for an all-day pass if purchased online. Group rates are also offered for 20 or more for \$7 apiece if purchased by a parent, coach or manager.

For more information, visit www.bucksoccer.com. You can also call Wayne Pirman at 248-701-0526 or email wpirman@bucksoccer.com.

Varsity pool clinic

The Livonia Stevenson varsity pool clinic (grades 3-11) will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 12, at

the high school fieldhouse.

(courts Nos. 1 and 3).

The cost is \$25 (includes light snack, T-shirt and CD). You must register by Wednesday, April 2, to be guaranteed a T-shirt. Students must wear gym shoes and workout clothes.

For more information, email Stevenson athletic director Lori Hyman at lyhman@livoniapublicschools.org.

MU cross country

Madonna University will stage its summer cross-country base camps for serious high school runners from 8:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, July 12, 19, 26 and Aug. 2, at Cass

Benton Park. The cost is a \$2 donation each long run.

For more information, email Madonna cross country

coach Pat Daugherty at pdaugherty@madonna.edu.

Sponsor needed

The 11-and-under Livonia Rockets, a travel baseball team which will play six to seven tournaments this season, is seeking a team sponsor.

Any donation is appreciated.

For more information, call Steve at 734-716-5194 or coach Ed at 734-670-6768.

Women's golfers

The Livonia Whispering Willows Golf League will be expanded to 18 holes for \$28 per week (includes greens fees and cart) beginning at 8 a.m. Thursday, May 1.

Non-residents are encouraged to join the 20-week league.

For more information, call Beth at 248-473-9068 or email beth4wby@aol.com.

VERSATILE INSTRUMENT

Harp Quartet hits big notes

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Larry Gage promises a rare treat when The Modern Harp Quartet performs Sunday, April 6, at First Presbyterian Church of Farmington.

"When you consider the number of strings and chords possible to play with that instrument, it is absolutely remarkable," said Gage, who coordinates the Great Performances in a Sacred Space concert series at the church. "It is a rich sound, and when you get four harps together, all four are unbelievable. The sanctuary will be filled with a sound that most of our audience has never heard."

"One reason I wanted so much to bring in the ensemble is that I always try to program unique kinds of experiences for the audience. We're always trying to enlarge the musical experience of folks." "Menuet a la mode," will include pieces that incorporate the French minuet along with other similar works in 3/4 time by French and British composers. It starts at 4 p.m. in the church, 26165 Farmington Road, north of I-11, in Farmington Hills. Admission is a donation of \$15 per person or \$25 per family. For information call 248-474-6170, Ext. 208, or visit www.farmington-pres.org/performing-arts.



The Modern Harp Quartet, Lydia Cleaver (left), John Wickie, Anne Brege and Maurice Draughn, will perform Sunday, April 6, at First Presbyterian Church of Farmington.

Cass Tech alumni

The quartet members—Maurice Draughn, Lydia Cleaver, John Wickie and Anne Brege—are Detroit Cass Tech High School alumni who began their harp training as members of the school's harp choir, under the direction of Patricia Terry-Ross.

Wickie lives in Atlanta, Ga., where he teaches, composes and arranges. He received a bachelor of music degree from Boston University and a master of music degree from the University of Michigan and has performed with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, the

New World Symphony, and the Eastern Musical Festival Orchestra in North Carolina.

Cleaver, director of the harp program at Cass Tech, earned bachelor's, master's and specialist degrees in harp performance from the University of Michigan. She has performed with Aretha Franklin, Diana Ross, Mannheim Steamroller and orchestras throughout the Midwest.

Brege, who has master's degrees in music history and in harp performance from Wayne State University, lives in Wisconsin and has performed with the Wayne State Symphony Orchestra, the Wayne State Wind Symphony, and Detroit

Civic Symphony Orchestra, the Dearborn Symphony, Royal Oak Symphony, and Grosse Pointe Symphony.

Draughn, an academic adviser in the Wayne State University School of Music, earned a bachelor of music degree from Wayne State and a master's degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. He has performed with Aretha Franklin, Ray Charles, Robert Sims, the three Irish Tenors, and Glen Campbell and has appeared as a soloist in several symphony orchestras. He also arranges and composes music for the harp, voice and choir and performs as a studio harpist.

Rare ensemble

"When you see a harpist, they're usually playing solo for a wedding or a reception. Even in an orchestra you might see one or two. A harp ensemble is a rare thing. We use music arranged for two harps and then double it," Draughn said, adding that the group has begun to arrange and commission works for four harps.

Although the group plays some contemporary pieces, including jazz standards, the "modern" in its name refers to the instrument, rather than music.

"The modern harp is comprised of an intricate array of mechanisms controlled by seven pedals," Draughn noted.

"The instrument is capable of producing a vast number of sound effects and tones. A large portion of our repertoire consist of pieces composed in the 20th century to showcase the tonal possibilities of the instrument."

The upcoming concert will be a reunion of sorts for Draughn, who served as the church's organist a few years ago.

"There have been several occasions since then where I have either played for a service at the church or ran into members who were in attendance at one of my performances in the area," he said.

Great Performances in a Sacred Space wraps up its current season May 18 with Canadian organist Devon Hansen.

Its 2014-15 season starts Sept. 21 with Jerry McKenzie's Just Jazz, followed by Gary Greenfield's Dynamic Resonance Tickets \$18 for adults, \$19. The Paul Vornhagen Quartet with jazz standards, Nov. 16; The Cantata Academy Choral, Dec. 12; Pierre Fracalanza, organist and vocalist, Feb. 13, 2015; Bob Milne, ragtime-boogie-woogie pianist, March 15, 2015; The Wayne State University Symphony, April 19, 2015; and The Vanguard Voices, May 17, 2015.

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ANIMALS

DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Labor Day, with closing time at 8 p.m. Wednesdays in July and August.

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

Details: Admission is \$14 for adults 15-51, \$10 for senior citizens 62 and older, and for children ages 2-14; children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking.

Contact: 248-541-5717 detroitzoo.org

ART & CRAFTS

CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: Through April 22; gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday; and 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday

Location: Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Oil paintings of Anthony Mascione

Contact: 248-473-1556

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Gallery hours, 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, April 4-26; opening reception and artist talk, 6-9 p.m., April 7

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "Detritus," an exhibit of works by airbrush master, Tom Thewes

Contact: 248-344-0497; <http://www.northvillearts.org>

WESTLAND LIBRARY

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 4-5; noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 6, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, April 7

Location: 6122 Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road, Westland

Details: Three Cities Art Club presents a juried exhibition of oils, acrylics, watercolors, collage, pastel and photography. An art and appetizers reception, with son artists on hand, runs 1-3 p.m. Sunday. Free guided tours on request. Art demonstrations Friday-Saturday

Contact: Marilyn Meredith at 313-231-3939

COMEDY

EMERGENT ARTS

Time/Date: Open mic, 8 p.m. Sunday, April 6, 13, 20 and 27, following 5 p.m. "Gimme Yo' Dojo" class

Location: The Mix Studio Theater, 8 N. Washington Street, Ypsilanti

Details: Chili Chellis, national headliner comedian and former staff writer for The Tonight Show With Jay Leno, coaches new and experienced comics in the nuances of their craft during his Comedy Dojo. Mark Matlock emcees the open mic, \$5 suggested donation at the door. For more about the fee-based classes, visit ChilliChellis.com

Contact: 234-985-0875

FILM

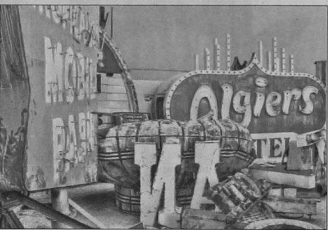
MJR DIGITAL CINEMAS

Time/Date: Saturday-Sunday, April 5-6

Location: Westland Grand Digital Cinema 16, 6800 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: *Mur Job* screens. Free to children 12 and under; parents pay \$1. Admission on a first-come, first-served basis. Call for times.

Contact: 734-298-6257



"Jonathan Vegas Has Left The Building," is among the art works on display April 4-7 at the Westland Library.

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 4-5, 4:30 and 7 p.m. Sunday, April 6, and 7 p.m. Thursday, April 10

Location: 760 Pennington Ave., Plymouth

Details: *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*, admission \$3

Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penn-theatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 11 and 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. April 12

Location: 17360 Lahser, north of Grand River Avenue, Detroit

Details: *Ben Hur*, \$5

Coming up: Three Stooges Film Festival, 8 p.m. Friday, April 25, and 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, April 26, \$6 admission

Contact: 313-537-2560

MUSEUM

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 10

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: John Keller of Fort Royal, S.C., will present "Plays of the Confederacy." The former Michigan resident is a docent at the Verdeir House Museum in South Carolina and a member of Sons of the Confederacy.

Coming up: Antiques appraisal clinic with Doug Dalton Auctioneer and Schmidt's, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 23. Items include furniture, art and small objects. No jewelry, coins or stamps. A maximum four items. Call for appointment, \$10 per item

Contact: 734-455-8940

YANKEE AIR MUSEUM

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 5

Location: Hangar 1 on the northwest side of Willow Run Airport. Enter during the evening of M2 Aircraft Management, at Willow Run, Kirk Profit Drive, Building 2601, in Ypsilanti

Details: 19th annual Bomber Buffing Party, is an airplane polishing party for all ages. Polish the "Yankee Lady," a B-17, and the "Yankee Warrior," a B-25. You're encouraged to bring clean, soft rags. A pizza luncheon will be served

Contact: yankeemuseum.org

MUSIC

BLUES@THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780, 41700 Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Simon Phillips, drummer for The Who in their 1989 American reunion tour, performs with Andy Timmons on guitar, Ernest Tibbs on bass and Steve Weingart on keyboards. Tickets are \$20, available at StarTicket.com, ticketmaster.com or the Music Hall Box Office

Contact: 313-887-8501

JAZZ CAFE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Friday, April 4

Location: Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison, Detroit

Details: Simon Phillips, drummer for The Who in their 1989 American reunion tour, performs with Andy Timmons on guitar, Ernest Tibbs on bass and Steve Weingart on keyboards. Tickets are \$20, available at StarTicket.com, ticketmaster.com or the Music Hall Box Office

Contact: 313-887-8501

MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 5

Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: Fiestal will include music from Latin America. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$25 for senior citizens and \$10 for youth

Contact: 734-451-212; michiganphil.org

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

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

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Jan Krist and Jim Bizer, April 5; Empty Chair Night featuring Annie and Rod Capps, Joel Palmer and Dave Boutette, April 6; Shari Kane and Dave Steele, April 11; Dave Boutette, Derek Daniels and Mike Anderson in the Round, April 12; Erin Zindke, April 25; Michigan Fingertail Guitar Society presents Muriel Anderson, April 26; Gurf Morris, April 27. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted.

Contact: 734-464-6302

VIVACE MUSIC SERIES

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, April 12

Location: The Birmingham Temple, 28611 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: The Manhattan Piano Trio with Milana Streteva on piano, Wazare Le on violin and Seanun Thorpeind on cello, perform music of Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Schumann and Babadjanian. Tickets are \$23 general admission and \$20 for seniors and students

Contact: Joyce Chereah at 248-788-9338 or Ann Sipher at 248-661-1348



The Yankee Lady is one of the airplanes that will be polished during a buffing party, April 5, at the Yankee Air Museum, Ypsilanti.



BRASS by Thomas Thewes is on display in his solo art show, *Detritus*, April 4-26 at Northville Art House.

THEATER

BERMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Sunday, April 6

Location: On the campus of the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: The Kibbutz Theater performs *Address Unknown*. The play recounts the breakup of a friendship between a Jewish art dealer in California and his German business partner, who returns to Germany in 1932. The story is told solely through their letters. Admission \$20, \$15 for Jewish Community Center members

Contact: 248-661-1900

EMERGENT ARTS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, through April 6

Location: The Mix Studio Theater, 8 N. Washington Street, Ypsilanti

Details: An original play, called *Confessions of the Easter Bunny*, has the iconic Easter character going to therapy while seeking meaning and a new sense of purpose. Tickets are \$12 general and \$10, students and seniors. Buy online with a credit card or at the door with cash or check only

Contact: 313-985-0875; emergentarts.com

MAGENTA GIRAFFE THEATRE COMPANY

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 4-5, 11-12, 18-19 and 25-26 and 3 p.m. Sunday, April 13

Location: Abstract Performance Space, 1301 W. Lafayette, Westland

Details: *Playwright Sean Paraventi of Redford presents a twisted love story about predators and victim in Love Is Strange*. No minors will be admitted without a parent for this play that includes mature content. Tickets are \$18; \$15 for students and seniors.

Contact: 313-408-7269; info@magenta-giraffe.org



Steve Elliott portrays The Easter Bunny in *Confessions of The Easter Bunny*, at The Mix Studio Theater in Ypsilanti.

SPOTLIGHT PLAYERS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 10-12, 2 p.m. April 12-13

Location: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: In *The Drowsy Chaperone*, characters come to life in a man's apartment to the bar. Opening night includes a bachelorette party with prizes and games at 7:20 p.m. in the theater lobby. Audience members who stay the show on Sundays will hear readings by a psychic. Donates a gently used bridal gown and receive two free tickets. The gown goes to The Bride's Project, which supports cancer research. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$15 for students and seniors

Contact: 248-590-9919; twomuses-theatre.org

TWO MUSES THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, through April 13

Location: Barnes & Noble Bookstores, 6800 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield

Details: *The Current*, by Redford playwright Sean Paraventi, centers on a bachelorette party that takes an interesting turn when the bride-to-be and her friends visit a psychic on their way to the bar. Opening night includes a bachelorette party with prizes and games at 7:20 p.m. in the theater lobby. Audience members who stay the show on Sundays will hear readings by a psychic. Donates a gently used bridal gown and receive two free tickets. The gown goes to The Bride's Project, which supports cancer research. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$15 for students and seniors

Contact: 248-590-9919; twomuses-theatre.org

UDM THEATRE CO.

Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 4-5 and 2 p.m. April 6

Location: Grounds Coffee Haus on the McNichols Campus of The University of Detroit Mercy, 4001 W. McNichols, Detroit

Details: Ashli Lewis of Westland plays "Katie" and Stephanie Nicols of Troy, a guest Equity artist, plays her mother, "Maggie," in *Memory House*, by Kathleen Toldes. Tickets are \$20, \$10 for students and \$5 for UDM and Marygrove students

Contact: 313-993-2270; theatre.udm-mercy.edu

Whether you're entertaining for a big group or a small gathering, a successful Easter brunch or dinner starts with finding the right recipes to impress with less stress.

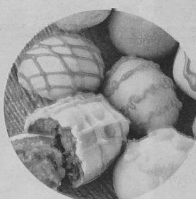
"Colorful individual desserts, like Easter-egg cake bites, cupcakes and mini cheesecakes, are easy to make ahead," said chef Kevan Vetter of the McCormick Kitchens.

Those tasty sweets can be as fun to make as they are to eat. Set out a tempting array of single-serving treats so guests won't have to pick just one.

For more Easter serving ideas, visit www.mccormick.com.

ADD FUN, COLOR TO EASTER GATHERINGS WITH

BITE-SIZED TREATS



EASTER EGG CAKE BITES

Serves: 24
Serving Size: 2 cake bites
1 package (2-layer size) white cake mix
2 teaspoons pure lemon extract or pure vanilla extract
McCormick Assorted Food Colors & Egg Dye
1 cup marshmallow creme
1 bag (14 ounces) white confectionery coating wafers

Decorating Glaze:
½ cup confectioners' sugar
2 teaspoons water
McCormick Assorted Food Colors & Egg Dye

1. Prepare cake mix as directed on package, adding lemon extract and desired food color. Bake as directed on package for 13-15-inch baking pan. Cool completely on wire rack.
2. Crumble cake into large bowl. Add marshmallow creme; mix until well blended. Shape into 1-inch balls then roll to form an egg shape. Refrigerate 2 hours.
3. Melt coating wafers or white chocolate as directed on package. Using a fork, dip 1 cake bite at a time into the confectionery coating or chocolate. Tap back of fork 2 or 3 times against edge of dish to allow excess to drip off. Place cake bites on wax paper-lined tray.
4. For the Decorating Glaze, mix confectioners' sugar and water in small bowl until well blended. Tint with desired food color. Using a fork, drizzle glaze over cake bites. Let stand until glaze is set.



EASY MINI CHEESECAKES

Serves: 12
2 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
½ cup sugar
2 eggs
2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
½ teaspoon pure almond extract
12 vanilla wafers
1 cup fresh berries

Preheat oven to 325°F. Beat cream cheese and sugar in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add eggs and extracts; beat well.

Line 12 muffin cups with paper baking cups. Place a wafer in bottom of each muffin cup. Spoon batter into each cup, filling each ¾ full. Bake 22 to 24 minutes or until centers are almost set. Cool in pan on wire rack. Mini cheesecakes will deflate in center upon cooling. Refrigerate 4 hours or overnight. Garnish with berries.



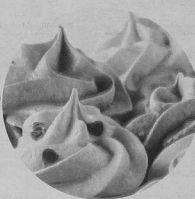
EASY LEMON DAISY CUPCAKES

Serves: Makes 18 1-cupcake servings
1 package (2-layer size) white cake mix
1 tablespoon (plus 2 teaspoons) pure lemon extract, divided
1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
½ cup (1 stick) butter, softened
2 tablespoons sour cream
1 package (16 ounces) confectioners' sugar
10 drops McCormick yellow food color
18 large marshmallows
Decorating sugar
Jelly beans
Green sprinkles

Prepare cake mix as directed on package, adding 1 tablespoon of the lemon extract. Spoon into 18 paper-lined muffin cups, filling each cup ¾ full. Bake as directed for cupcakes. Cool cupcakes on wire rack.

For the frosting, beat cream cheese, butter, sour cream and remaining 2 teaspoons lemon extract in large bowl until light and fluffy. Gradually beat in confectioners' sugar until smooth. Stir in food color until evenly tinted. Frost cooled cupcakes.

To decorate cupcakes, cut each marshmallow crosswise into 5 slices. Sprinkle 1 side of each marshmallow slice with decorating sugar. Arrange 5 marshmallow petals on top of each cupcake to resemble a daisy, pressing the marshmallows into the frosting. Place jelly beans in the center of the petals. Garnish with sprinkles.



FESTIVE MERINGUE COOKIES

Serves: Makes 6 dozen or 12 (6-cookie) servings

4 egg whites, at room temperature
½ spoon cream of tartar
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
25 drops McCormick Assorted NEON! Food Colors & Egg Dye

Preheat oven to 225°F. Beat egg whites in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until frothy. If using a freestanding mixer, use wire whisk attachment. Add cream of tartar; beat until soft peaks form. Increase speed to medium-high. Add sugar, 1 tablespoon at a time, beating until sugar is dissolved and stiff peaks form. Beat in extract and food color until well blended. Gently stir in chips, if desired. Drop by rounded measuring teaspoonfuls about 1 inch apart onto 2 large foil-lined baking sheets sprayed with no stick cooking spray. Bake both sheets of meringues at the same time 45 minutes. Turn oven off. Let meringues stand in oven 1 hour or until completely cooled.

CITY BITES

Vegetarian cooking

Farmington Hills — Learn how to make B-B-Q Veggie Beef and Veggie Meat Sauce, 10 a.m. to noon Friday, April 11, at Zhong Shu Temple, 23845 Middlebelt. A ceremony and potluck lunch follows the class. Participants may bring a vege-

tarian dish to share. RSVP to michigantemple@yahoo.com. The Temple phone is 248-579-4791.

Eating gluten-free

Farmington Hills — Mark your calendar for Tri County Celiac Support Group's Southeast Michigan Gluten-Free

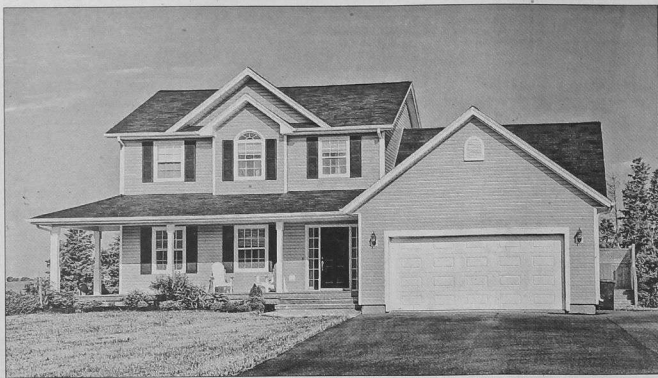
Food Fair, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at First Presbyterian Church, 26165 Farmington Road. The 13th annual fair will include free samples, shopping, door prizes, raffles and vendors selling gluten-free products. No charge for Support Group members; \$5 for nonmembers.

Visit www.tccsg.net for more information.

Fallen heroes

Livonia — Andiamo Restaurant will donate 25 percent of proceeds from its new "Chef's Signature" menu items to the Fallen Heroes Monument at Larry Nehasil Park. Wild

Mushroom Risotto and Surf and Turf featuring portabella mushrooms and Andiamo's signature zip sauce, are among the 19 new dishes on chef Brandon Schatko's dinner menu. The restaurant is located at 38703 Seven Mile, west of I-275. 734-953-3200.



Metro Detroit Realtors are pleased to see area home prices coming back up. GETTY IMAGES/STOCKPHOTO

GOOD NEWS: METRO DETROIT HOME PRICES SEE AN UPSWING

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Gary J. Reggish, broker/owner of Remerica United Realty of Novi, wasn't too surprised by a recent report on metro Detroit home prices rebounding.

"Good things are happening in Michigan," said Livonia resident Reggish. "It's all of metro Detroit."

Some housing markets are seeing jumps of 20 percent or more in median list prices, according to the website realtor.com.

Median list prices are up 7.57 percent over the last year, according to a report from realtor.com, which reflects October data for 146 metro markets.

"Monthly prices fell slightly in October (down 0.25 percent month-over-month), but remained resilient against the usual seasonal patterns of stabilizing inventory," realtor.com noted in its report.

Detroit has seen the largest year-over-year increase, with median asking prices rising 44 percent in the past year, according to a November 2013 report. Eighty-five percent of the 146 markets that realtor.com tracks reported year-over-year increases.

Realtor.com recently highlighted some of the hottest markets to buy, based on the largest year-over-year median list price gains from February 2013-14. These are the cities that top that list:

1 **Stockton, Calif.**, +38.9 percent year-over-year gain, median home price: \$248,600

2 **Las Vegas**, +26.9 percent, median home price: \$177,500

3 **Reno, Nev.**, +26.8 percent, median home price: \$259,900

4 **Detroit**, +26.3 percent, median home price: \$119,800

5 **Riverside-San Bernardino, Calif.**, +24.6 percent, median home price: \$292,800

6 **Orange County, Calif.**, +23.7 percent, median home price: \$599,900

7 **Fresno, Calif.**, +21.2 percent, median home price: \$229,000

Source: "Top 10 Markets for Increasing Median Home Prices," realtor.com® (March 21, 2014)

"We're resilient," said Reggish of Detroiters. "We were the first to lead the country out of this crisis."

Reggish now sees many more metro Detroiters returning to work, as well as a shortage of homes in inventory. "We're just in an awesome, awesome market right now. Every home is selling," he said.

He sees fewer bank-owned homes, more private property sales in his work. "They're selling for top dollar. Every house is selling and selling quickly," Reggish said. Even bank-owned homes in rougher shape and needing more work, if priced correctly, are low, and he encourages seller clients not to wait too long to put a home on the market.

"What we're experiencing now is a true real estate correction," he said. Prices will at some point level off as the market corrects.

Reggish joked that only the oft-quoted "polar vortex" kept few home shoppers at home. "We haven't missed a beat during these winter months," he said.

His work includes a "nice blend" of customers, from young buyers to empty nesters moving out to condos. There isn't just one sector, "which is what we want."

Reggish anticipates the federal government will raise interest rates on mortgages, and work with the industry to avoid another real estate bubble. "We are definitely near stabilization," he said.

He finds it's too early to say just what interest rates will be, but anticipates gradual climbing. Even 1 percent will make a big difference in the monthly payment for a \$200,000 home, he said.

"I am not surprised at all," the 15-year Realtor concluded of the recent report. "I have never been more proud of the state I live in. We are survivors."

Sharing the views of Reggish is Duane Marsh, CEO of the Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors, which is competing a move from Farmington to Southfield for its offices.

"The metro area of southeast Michigan continues to show great strength in the housing market," said Wisnom resident Marsh. "We anticipate that going forward for the next period of time."

Marsh and GMAR members and leadership have noticed local home prices on the upswing. "We've been seeing that all over the area," Marsh added.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

WiFi install: Check with lawyer first

Q: I live in a subdivision and our homeowner association owns the clubhouse. They are thinking of installing and providing free WiFi in the clubhouse. The board is wondering if they should require that users agree to a terms and conditions policy. Do you think that is necessary and what do you think about it?

Robert Meisner

Providing free WiFi?

A: The board, if the board is in control of the clubhouse because the association owns it, has the right to run the clubhouse in a reasonably prudent fashion. Providing WiFi is not, in my judgment, unreasonable, but it is important that those persons who agree to use the WiFi must comply with its terms and conditions and that there should be a terms and conditions policy just like the use of any other WiFi when you go into a hotel or other place of accommodation where WiFi is provided. You are best advised to tell the board that they need to get a policy drafted by a lawyer who understands the obligations imposed by the use of the WiFi.

Q: We are getting our tax assessment notice and I'm wondering whether it is worthwhile to pursue the matter as the increase was only several thousand dollars. What do you think?

A: There will always be a time limit and procedural requirement for you to follow in regard to tax appeals. The resulting increase may or may not be justifiable, and you should talk to a Realtor about the tax assessment and whether it is in excess of what it should be even though the median average of homes in the metropolitan Detroit area has increased approximately 17 percent over the last year or so. Each person must make their own evaluation with whatever assistance they can obtain in determining whether a tax appeal is appropriate. However, it doesn't hurt to learn about the procedure for appealing your assessment so that in the future, should it become necessary again to appeal, you are able to do so and the tax assessor is aware of your presence.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium," available for \$24.95, plus \$5.50 for shipping and handling. "Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com or BarnesandNoble.com. He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. It is available for \$9.95, plus \$2.00 for tax, shipping and handling. Call 248-644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column should not be construed as legal advice.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Short sales

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

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. each Thursday at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon. Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email jane.juanita@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Seminar each Tuesday, Thursday

A free seminar on government-insured reverse mortgages is offered by Colonial Mortgage Corp. at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday and at 2 p.m. each Thursday at various locations.

RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

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

BEVERLY HILLS
1961 Searley Rd \$449,000
18208 Buckingham Ave \$410,000
16253 Kirkshire Ave \$77,000
20675 W 13 Mile Rd \$189,000
BIRMINGHAM
852 Bird Ave \$585,000
359 S Southlawn Blvd \$248,000
1930 Washington Blvd \$335,000
1387 Webster St \$140,000
680 Willets St \$725,000
35300 Woodward Ave # 507 \$153,000
1159 Worthington Dr \$357,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS
1194 Rolling Hills Dr \$116,000
3781 Lane Lake Rd \$490,000
6384 Woodbank St \$215,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP
3665 Bradford Ct \$315,000
75 Devon Rd \$435,000
755 E Fox Hills Dr \$45,000
3681 Forest Hill Dr \$710,000
1979 E Ford Ridge Rd \$560,000
2276 Pine St \$610,000
2517 Rambling Way \$265,000

635 South Hills Rd \$330,000
6380 Sunningdale Dr \$83,700
883 TARTAN CT \$390,000
COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP
5441 Driftwood Dr \$343,000
6600 Ford Rd \$110,000
1555 Huron Springs Ln \$195,000
1129 Island Dr \$290,000
4483 Lynne Ln \$255,000
1311 Sleigh Rd \$163,000
2424 Solace Dr \$63,000
1583 Trace Hollow Dr \$25,000
FARMINGTON
29205 Chelsea Xing \$180,000
31711 Club House Ln \$217,000
32157 Cora Ave \$105,000
30004 De Dr St \$115,000
33266 Meadowlark Ln \$148,000
FARMINGTON HILLS
29305 Barnockburn St \$170,000
24800 Bunker Hill Dr \$220,000
29205 Chelsea Xing \$347,000
31711 Club House Ln \$217,000
32157 Cora Ave \$105,000
30004 De Dr St \$115,000
33266 Meadowlark Ln \$148,000
29203 Earth Ln \$101,000
36104 Fredericksburg Rd \$274,000
29319 Glenbrook St \$290,000
33039 Heathstone Rd \$147,000
39030 Lancaster Dr \$230,000
22820 Lisa St \$270,000

25553 Lynford St \$159,000
21133 Ontaga St \$90,000
27948 Quail Hollow Rd \$168,000
36531 Quakertown Ln \$162,000
29320 Regents Pointe \$130,000
21772 S Brandon St \$110,000
30304 Stratford Ct \$31,500
35680 Westbrook St \$234,000
29624 W 10 Mile Rd \$43,000
31993 W 12 Mile Rd Unit \$65,000
113 \$259,000
32641 W 13 Mile Rd \$145,000
27288 W 7th Dr \$37,000
MILFORD
321 Dorchester Way \$255,000
2678 E Maple Rd \$175,000
2822 Lone Tree Rd \$249,000
2322 Maple Ridge \$265,000
408 Mill Pond Ln \$265,000
1292 N Millford Rd \$206,000
750 S Duck Lake Rd \$265,000
1924 Senic Dr \$520,000
307 Yosemite Valley Dr \$292,000
1315 Yosemite Valley Dr \$278,000
NORTHVILLE
1118 Washington Cir \$150,000
NOVI
23912 Broadmoor Park \$500,000
16984 Niagara Ct \$560,000
31206 W Chicago St \$158,000
16862 Yorkshire St \$289,000
NORTHVILLE
18905 Edenderry St \$230,000
19525 Maxwell St \$359,000
16527 Mulberry Way \$359,000
16984 Niagara Ct \$560,000
49832 Parkside Dr \$430,000
39567 Village Run Dr \$285,000
PLYMOUTH
2229 Ball St \$240,000
500 Ford St \$67,000
40435 Greenbriar Ln \$225,000
44880 Grogg Ln \$177,000
48463 Meadows Dr \$380,000
51298 Plymouth Ridge Dr \$478,000
8918 Whittles Lake Dr \$227,000
REDFORD
9339 Beech Daly Rd \$83,000
11340 Beech Daly Rd \$37,000

23022 Gilbar St \$220,000
24624 Highlands Dr \$212,000
21156 Kingswood Blvd \$345,000
40440 Ladene Ln \$231,000
23410 Meadowbrook Rd \$196,000
23683 Meadowbrook Rd \$196,000
4689 Napias Dr \$339,000
24983 Portsmouth Ave \$319,000
SOUTH LYON
58566 Bridge House Ct \$86,000
52591 E Fremont Dr \$462,000
25116 Fremont Dr \$378,000
6122 Greenwood Dr \$65,000
59163 Peters Barn Dr \$363,000
58763 Swing Beam Ct \$114,000
301 Wellington Dr \$190,000
SOUTHFIELD
27800 Arlington Dr \$150,000
28201 Bell Rd \$100,000
20365 Briarwood Ct \$100,000
19215 Eldridge Ln \$52,000
1742 Gateway Cir \$58,000
16306 Harden Cir \$130,000
22865 Kenwood Cir \$60,000
15690 Royal Grand \$110,000
12971 Silver Spring St \$163,000
29112 Wellington Dr # 8 \$52,000

WHITE LAKE
8030 High Point Trl \$330,000
1255 Lake Jason Dr \$334,000
688 Mallack St \$79,000
8955 Van Gordon St \$126,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 2-6, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON
43044 Avon Rd \$209,000
45932 Bartlett Dr \$300,000
45771 Baywood Blvd \$260,000
2233 Brookhaven Rd \$205,000
5032 Colonial St \$298,000
878 Constitution St \$265,000
51247 Federal Blvd \$81,000
50216 Grant St \$271,000
41606 Haggerty Woods Ct \$164,000
6418 Harrow Ct \$320,000
468 Merimont Rd \$152,000
1614 Orchard Dr \$50,000
7928 Oxford Dr \$110,000

7942 Oxford Dr \$60,000
218 Patriot St \$117,000
49119 Riverwood Ct \$395,000
48919 Stanton Ct E \$195,000
GARFIELD CITY
5667 Gilman St \$90,000
5917 Gilman St \$67,000
117 Greenwood St \$105,000
LIVONIA
36910 Ann Arbor Trl \$133,000
38595 Camden St \$148,000
38509 Elsie St \$146,000
14244 Garden St \$146,000
18550 Cleveland St \$43,000
20649 Goff Ridge Cir \$199,000
36514 Joy Rd \$199,000
18383 Liverpool St \$195,000
18550 Cleveland St \$43,000
4833 Mayfield St \$125,000
14736 Melrose St \$105,000
19815 Norwich Rd \$283,000
29459 Oakley St \$125,000

19490 Saint Francis St \$98,000
31206 W Chicago St \$158,000
16862 Yorkshire St \$289,000
NORTHVILLE
18905 Edenderry St \$230,000
19525 Maxwell St \$359,000
16527 Mulberry Way \$359,000
16984 Niagara Ct \$560,000
49832 Parkside Dr \$430,000
39567 Village Run Dr \$285,000
PLYMOUTH
2229 Ball St \$240,000
500 Ford St \$67,000
40435 Greenbriar Ln \$225,000
44880 Grogg Ln \$177,000
48463 Meadows Dr \$380,000
51298 Plymouth Ridge Dr \$478,000
8918 Whittles Lake Dr \$227,000
REDFORD
9339 Beech Daly Rd \$83,000
11340 Beech Daly Rd \$37,000

12074 Columbia \$60,000
14151 Lucerne \$53,000
15874 MacArthur \$45,000
20524 Norborne \$33,000
14006 Royal Grand \$85,000
26941 W Davison \$47,000
WAYNE
40111 Milled St \$61,000
WESTLAND
30837 Beechnut St \$100,000
34732 Blackfoot St \$33,000
34732 Blackfoot St \$155,000
15690 Royal Grand \$85,000
8494 Haller St \$189,000
32288 Hazelwood St \$75,000
5788 Herbert St \$95,000
34461 Hivley St \$48,000
32723 Lone Pine Dr \$75,000
35208 Sheridan St \$50,000
2289 Steiber St \$18,000
27664 Trailbrooke Cir \$37,000

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or chert	1 The Naked	5 Oklahoma	9 Data
35 First space tab	2 Maja' artist	town	10 Stretchy fabric
36 Sooner than	3 Be a party to		11 Tescup handle
37 anon	4 By—of	6 Aught or	12 Cleopatra's
38 Shade	5 hard work	naught	sake
39 Spring	7 Toady's reply	8 Mollycoddle	19 Ottoman
40 perenniel	4 Striped equine		official

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22 Bakery output.	23 Prognostications
24 Yvette's date	25 Polite word
26 Part of TNT	28 Snoot
30 Resistance unit	31 Actor's prompt
32 Mammoth	Cave loc
37 Tribal healer	39 Colony member
41 Wiedersehen	44 Web pages
46 Mascara target	49 Big Dipper
50 bear	47 Woodworking tool
48 Debt securer	49 Yin complement
50 Str-lyr vessel	51 Disposed of
52 type of poem	53 Lincoln's st.

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4	5	6	9	1	2	7	8	3
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5	8	9	1	7	3	6	4	2
3	6	4	2	9	8	1	5	7

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