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SALINE
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CHIEFS' SEASON
SPORTS, B1

Canton Township's finances improve, officials weigh spending priorities

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton's financial position appears to have begun a gradual rebound, officials say, after years of employee concessions, spending cuts and two public safety tax hikes within four years.

"The bleeding has stopped," Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said. "We're starting to take steps forward."

Unpaid furlough days for employees are ending in 2015

after a four-year stretch, Finance Director Wendy Trumbull said, and officials are expected within the next few years to begin paying, however cautiously, for long-delayed projects.

Challenges remain

Canton still faces long-term challenges such as nearly \$100 million in legacy costs tied to health care and pensions, but concessions and long-range budget planning are expected to help. Moreover, officials are

optimistic they can return a sense of normalcy, albeit gradually, to a township that has weathered economic troubles.

"Canton is doing fine," Trumbull said, adding later, "We are getting some normalcy back. Canton is doing well."

Even with a worst-case scenario, Canton is expected to end 2014 with a \$7.4 million general fund balance, though the numbers are much smaller for the fire department fund, \$401,210, and the police fund, \$663,040.

Funds dip

Due to conservative budgeting, however, Trumbull said the final figures are expected to come in significantly higher – as much as \$500,000 more for the police fund, alone.

By the end of 2015, the general fund is expected to dip to \$6.1 million. The fire fund is projected to grow to \$1.1 million during the same period and the police fund to \$770,000 – again, based on worst-case scenarios.

Regardless, the outlook is far rosier than earlier projections of a potential deficit, largely due to a 1.5-mill public safety tax increase the township board approved in August.

"I think a lot of surrounding communities would be envious of us," Trumbull told the township board during a budget session earlier this month.

Supervisor Phil LaJoy has credited Canton's improved financial position to a concert-

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Gordie, a yellow Lab who has a knack for stealing food, is shown in a better-behaved moment with Bryn Birchler, Laurie Golden's daughter.

CANINE COMEUPPANCE

Gordie the dog's shame goes global

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Gordie, a friendly yellow Lab from Plymouth, saw his chance when owner Laurie Golden was getting ready for work.

He took her bagged lunch from a backpack, pulled her peanut butter and jelly sandwich out of a zipped bag, unwrapped her granola bar and confiscated her apple, savoring every bite before he was busted, empty wrappers strewn across the floor.

Gordie's behavior, certainly not his first petty theft, has landed him on the cover of an international dog-shaming calendar lovingly created by Pascale Lemire of Vancouver,

Canada, who has a naughty dachshund named Dasha.

Gordie has been shamed in a human conspiracy by Golden and Lemire, who has a popular blog and website, www.dogshaming.com, where readers from as far away as Italy, Brazil, Sweden, England and, yes, right here in Plymouth, Mich., shame their beloved dogs.

Golden, community relations department head for the Canton Public Library, shamed Gordie by placing a note next to him as he lay on the floor. "I took Mom's lunch out of her bag and ate it while she was in the shower," it read.

Gordie is good at what he does. He is, after all, named after Detroit Red Wings hockey legend Gordie Howe.

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PASCALE LEMIRE

Gordie, a Plymouth yellow Lab, appears on the left front of an international dog-shaming calendar.

Salvation Army store thief gets jail time

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Canton man was sentenced Thursday to 10 months in the Wayne County jail after police say he pulled a knife on workers during a theft inside The Salvation Army thrift store on Canton's north side.

Garrett Michael Nowak, 29, also was placed on probation for three years by Wayne County Circuit Judge

David Groner and given strict orders to receive inpatient substance abuse treatment, a court officer said.

Nowak's sentencing came after he pleaded guilty to a single charge of larceny from a person. In return, authorities agreed to dismiss a more seri-



Garrett M. Nowak

See JAIL, Page A2

Students, historians return to one-room schoolhouse

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Russell Pyle remembers the time his sister's coat stunk up the one-room Canton Center School.

She had fallen on winter ice on the family farm, not realizing she had gotten cow manure on her coat until she hung it up at school and the heat got to it. "The other students threw it outside," Pyle, 74, recalls.

Ed Wall of Plymouth said he attended the school during the late 1940s when he was in fifth

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FINANCES

Continued from Page A1

ed effort to forecast spending and revenue for multiple years, rather than focusing on a one-year blueprint.

McLaughlin said Canton expects a "pretty uniform across-the-board step up" next year in property values and tax revenues, though a 20-year-old law, Proposal A, will essentially limit new revenues to the cost of living.

A new spurt in hous-

ing and business growth should make a tangible difference, McLaughlin said, and houses on the market are selling at "a healthy rate." Strides also have made to fill vacant commercial and industrial buildings.

"We've been working hard for the last few years to market our business space," McLaughlin said, adding later, "It's not rocketing, but it's healthy."

Canton's financial efforts have achieved independent accolades, receiving for the 22nd consecutive year a certifi-

cate of achievement for excellence in financial reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association.

Cautious moves

Local officials say the Great Recession has spurred them to move cautiously.

That said, Canton is expected to move ahead within the next few years on some delayed expenses:

» Officials hope to fill as many as five vacant police officer positions to restore a community relations position and

launch initiatives to reduce crimes such as retail fraud. Public Safety Director Todd Mutchler also has a goal to reduce serious crimes by 40 percent within five years.

» Officials plan to buy two ambulances next year to replace vehicles "with significant maintenance issues," Mutchler said. Canton also hopes to hire three new firefighters next year, enough to add a fourth ambulance to life-saving efforts and reduce mutual aid help from other communities.

» Canton Leisure

Services has identified numerous projects for 2015, including \$125,000 to fix the aquatic filtration system at Summit on the Park and \$100,000 for two plow trucks. The following year's wish list involves a \$250,000 estimate to update the aquatic center and locker rooms.

"Our facilities are aging," CLS Director Debbie Bilbrey-Honso-wetz said, "and we know we're going to have to make some significant investments."

» Within the next two years, the Municipal

Services Department has set goals to repair the west parking lot of Summit on the Park and parking areas at Independence Park.

Officials also hope to continue extending the popular recreation trail system, though MSD Director Tim Faas said alternate funding such as grants will be sought.

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JAIL

Continued from Page A1

ous charge of armed robbery for an incident that occurred about 10 p.m. Sept. 16 as The Salvation Army store was closing.

Detective Sgt. Chad Baugh said Nowak was charged after workers inside the store called for help after tackling and restraining a man who wielded a knife after he was confronted for putting a coffee mug and two hats inside his clothing. Baugh has said no one was hurt during the incident.

Nowak's decision to plead guilty to the felony larceny charge averted a trial in Wayne County Circuit Court. He could have faced penalties ranging up to life in prison if he had been convicted of armed robbery.

Michigan Department of Corrections records indicate Nowak already had been placed on probation for three years in 2013 for larceny in a building. He had been ordered to avoid breaking any criminal laws, submit to alcohol and drug testing, seek outpatient substance abuse treatment, receive psychological evaluations and try to find a job.

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HISTORIANS

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and sixth grades.

"I still have some old Valentines from when we used to trade at school," he said.

Back in school

Pyle and Wall returned to their old school Wednesday night as a crowd celebrated the reopening of what has been the Canton Historical Museum since 1982. The 130-year-old brick building on Canton Center south of Cherry Hill closed nearly two years ago for structural repairs to the foundation.

A festive mood filled the museum as visitors marveled over a new exhibit, "Life Unplugged: Connecting Canton in the Past," that reveals how residents once lived. It includes an old U.S. post office window and mail slots containing replicas of old letters from by-gone days.

In one letter, teacher Rose Fulton asked a student, Elsa Utter, to accompany her to a musical concert in Plymouth. Liz Carlson, museum director, said the post office, originally from the town of Cadillac, harkened to the 1900 era when it could be found alongside an old general store.

Big deal

She pointed out letters and postcards, calling the latter "a big deal at the

turn of the century."

The new exhibit contains vintage typewriters, a telegraph, a hand-cranked wall phone, quill pens, a 1930s radio and, on one end of the museum, an old schoolroom with a black chalkboard, desks used by students and the teacher and weathered textbooks.

"I think it's amazing," said Joan Lager, who briefly attended the old Sheldon School on Michigan Avenue. "It's beautiful."

Canton Historical Society board member Sue Goodchild moved about the room handing out postcards depicting Canton's history.

"It's great that people can actually come here and see this," she said, handing a postcard to Wall, the former student, who attended the re-opening with wife Carol.

Log cabin

Across the room, 96-year-old Kelly Wheatley sat near the 1930s radio and talked with friends.

He lived most of his life in Canton and said he attended the old one-room Palmer School.

"I came here tonight with my lady friend," Bonnie Berg, he said.

Canton Center School actually opened in 1840 as a log cabin schoolhouse but burned in 1883 and was rebuilt the next year with bricks. It had its last class in 1962, becoming a historical museum 20 years later.

"Hopefully what we have done (to repair the foundation) will last another 130 years," Canton Historical Society President Bill Tesen said.

History alive

Canton's history is being kept alive by longtime historians and newcomers such as 21-year-old Jordan Taylor, who



PHOTOS BY DARRELL CLEM

Showing off the vintage post office is Liz Carlson, Canton Historical Museum director.

grew up in Canton and works as a supervisor at Greenfield Village. She took time Wednesday night to model the museum's latest donation, a 1920s beaver pelt fur coat.

Pyle, meanwhile, turning his attention away from his sister's stinky coat, recalled playing baseball outside the school and batting the ball as far as he could.

"You automatically got a home run if it went into the (Canton Center) road," he said.

Pyle reflected on a time he remembers fondly, a time before computers, smartphones and other gadgets.

"There's a part of me that really thinks we learned more back then," he said. "It was a good time. Life was a lot simpler then."

The museum's hours are 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays, 5-8 p.m. Thursdays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. Visits may be made by



Russell Pyle recalls attending school at the old Canton Center School.

appointment by calling 734-397-0088. The Canton Historical Society also welcomes new volunteers. More information is available at

www.cantonhistorical society.org.

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CANINE

Continued from Page A1

"We're a big hockey family," said Golden, who has three children, ages 18, 20 and 23, and a husband, John.

"Gordie (the dog) ate a hockey puck - chewed it up and basically ate it," Golden said. "He is fairly famous for some of the things he has eaten or chewed on. Most of them are edible. He ate an entire stick of Crisco. He ate a box of crayons, including most of the box. It was a 64-crayon pack, too. Just recently he ate a pound of paraf-

fin wax."

Gordie steals from the family table, kitchen counter, lots of places that are technically off limits.

"He's almost 11 years old. He didn't do this until he was about 7," Golden said. "My daughter (Bryn Birchler) made some chocolate chip cookies that were cooling on the table. Gordie ate like two dozen chocolate chip cookies."

He doesn't get sick, even when he's devouring something theoretically inedible. At 75 pounds, he's not overweight, thanks to daily walks, tug-of-war games and chase scenes around

the family house. Sometimes, Gordie makes healthy eating choices.

"He loves bananas. He eats them whole with the peel," Golden said. "He loves zucchini and potatoes and carrots and apples. He has eaten a whole bag of apples in one sitting."

Oh, and he dines on dog food, too. "He is not underfed," Golden said.

Lemire created her first calendar for this year, two for 2015, including a day-to-day calendar featuring Gordie, and she is working on more for 2016. She also has a dog-shaming book.

"Dog-shaming is a

worldwide phenomenon," she said.

Lemire's work can be found in some bookstores and online at www.amazon.com. It seems Gordie doesn't mind the attention.

"He has been shamed multiple times," Golden said, saying he is the family's only dog. "He's all we can handle."

As for his calendar appearance? No shame, really. "It's his moment of fame."

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Salt prices jump for Wayne County; AG investigating

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Salt prices for Wayne County and other communities are seeing increases this year, something some officials are questioning.

The Michigan Department of Transportation estimates average costs for agencies across the state maintaining roads shot up 46 percent from last year, going to an average of \$65.81 per ton. That's up from the average of \$44.99 per ton last year.

Cindy Dingell, the deputy chief operating officer at Wayne County, said the county is paying much more for salt through the MiDEAL consortium, which contains more than 1,000 governmental organizations across the state.

The pre-fill amount was \$74.42 a ton from one salt contractor, North

American Salt Co., and the seasonal fill price is from the same company is lower at \$58.95 a ton, something that took the county off guard, she said. The county is also receiving some seasonal salt from Detroit Salt Co. at \$47.01 a ton, the same business Livonia uses through its consortium with several communities in the Metro Detroit area.

"I would say the seasonal one we kind of expected that to jump," she said. "We were shocked at the early (fill price)."

The cost per ton with the seasonal rate from North American Salt last year was \$45.46, and Detroit Salt's price per ton last year was \$35.21 a ton.

Several agencies across the state, including Wayne County, the city of Dearborn and Missaukee County, have

lodged complaints with the state attorney general over possible price gouging, said spokeswoman Joy Yearout. The complaints from Wayne County came from state Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, Yearout said.

"We have received several inquiries about salt prices from cities, and we are reviewing the matter," she said. "We are looking into it right now."

Wayne County filled up its domes with roughly 33,000 tons of salt earlier this year, Dingell said. Wayne County maintains all roads in the county's townships, as well as several mile and main roads, which include Inkster, Middlebelt, Merriman, Farmington, Haggerty, Seven Mile, Six Mile and others. Livonia is responsible for subdivision roads, as well as Schoolcraft, New-



ROD SANFORD

Several agencies across the state, including Wayne County, the city of Dearborn and Missaukee County, have lodged complaints with the state attorney general over possible price gouging by salt companies.

burgh, Levan and Ann Arbor Trail.

Consortium contract

While some of the salt Wayne County purchased through the consortium is from the Detroit Salt Co., the county has no control over the contracts that come through the consortium because of the way the contract through MiDEAL works, Dingell said.

"We don't select who

gets awarded the contracts," she said. "We would love to get it (from Detroit Salt Co.)."

About 12,500 tons came from the Detroit Salt Co. for the county this year, compared to 87,000 from North American Salt, Dingell said.

Because of the vast difference in prices this year, Dingell said the county leadership could recommend the next leadership team look at

another option to purchase salt through for 2015.

"This is definitely something that has everybody's attention," she said.

MDOT and its contract agencies used more than 653,000 tons of salt across the state last year. Because of the unpredictable nature of the weather in the state, it's not easy to determine how much salt is needed for the upcoming winter, state officials say.

"It's impossible to predict how much salt we'll need to use for our highways this winter, but the higher prices make it more likely that salt will eat up a larger portion of our budget," said State Transportation Director Kirk Steudle in a press release. "If we use the same amount as last year, the total bill for salt could top \$40 million."

Museum reopens with Christmas exhibit

The Plymouth Historical Museum reopened Friday with its new special exhibit, "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

The exhibit features several popular Christmas stories and movies from the past two centuries, including the poem of the same name purportedly by Clement C. Moore, *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, *Polar Express*, *Elf*, *White Christmas* and *Christmas Vacation*.

Vignettes from *A Christmas Carol* give a glimpse of the world of Scrooge and Marley, a scene from *Elf* showcases Santa's workshop, and *Polar Express* is highlighted with the children on the back of the Polar Express train.

The museum's Main Street is decorated for the holidays and shop windows have vignettes from other holiday sto-



PLYMOUTH MUSEUM

The Plymouth Historical Museum's new Christmas exhibit features scenes from several popular Christmas stories and movies.

ries and movies. The exhibit will be open through Jan. 11.

Beginning Saturday, Nov. 29, Santa will visit the museum to meet good little girls and boys. Santa Claus will be at the museum every Saturday until Christmas, and will be at the museum 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, during the annual Craft Bazaar and Open House.

The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main St., just north of downtown Plymouth. Hours are 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students 6-17. Tours and groups can be accommodated by calling 734-455-8940.

For more information, visit www.plymouth-history.org.


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Canton-Northville team heads to Russia for robotics

With the help of a sponsorship from Cadillac, three high school students from Canton and Northville will leave Wednesday to represent the United States in the World Robot Olympiad to be held at the Olympic Village in Sochi, Russia, Nov. 21-23.

This is the first time the United States is participating in the WRO international competition that was founded in 2004. This year more than 20,000 competitors from elementary school through college in 50 countries used LEGO, Tetrix, and other kits to build autonomous robots that perform multiple tasks.

The United States program was coordinated by professor C.J. Chung of Lawrence Technological University, and the national finals were held at LTU on Sept. 27. Nine teams qualified to represent the United States, and six teams from Michigan are raising money to



World Robot Olympiad national champions in the Open Senior category are Charles Liu (from left) of Canton and James Xue and Christopher Geng, both of Northville. With them are Lawrence Technological University professor C.J. Chung, national director of WRO, and Thomas Goulding, chair of LTU's Department of Mathematics and Computer Science.

go to Russia.

Charles Liu, a junior at Salem High School, and Christo-

pher Geng and James Xue, juniors at Northville High School, competed as the Ro-

bocruisers S team and took first place in the Open Senior category competition.

Open Senior teams designed and built a conceptual model of a robotic system that can assist humankind in solving tasks in space. The Robocruisers S robotic model, "Space Solar Power (SSP) - Saddle the Sun, and Ride into the Future" - is a "space satellite" that would capture energy from the sun's rays and transfer the power down to Earth wirelessly.

Their educational robotics system was designed to raise awareness of energy and environmental challenges and encourage people to think of possible solutions.

"Through information gathering, hardware building and programming in developing the SSP demo model, our team experienced a valuable problem-solving process by learning how to choose a subject, make and execute a plan

through time management and effective team work, and present to the judges and the public," said team captain Liu, who has been involved in LTU's Robofest competition in which pre-college and college students build autonomous robots.

A major goal of both the WRO competition and Robofest is to provide students with a fun way to learn more about science, technology, engineering and math - the STEM subjects.

"WRO is an event that brings young people from all over the world together," said Chung, the founder and director of Robofest at LTU. "Teams of youngsters get the opportunity to learn more about STEM and develop their creative and problem-solving skills through various robotics challenges."

ON CAMPUS

Lawrence Tech

Eighth-grader **Evan Lenze** of Livonia and fifth-grader **Joshua Brauchler** of Canton finished second in the People's Choice Award at the Lawrence Technological University Halloween RoboParade held at Macomb Community College.

All the autonomous robot floats had to be programmed to use a light sensor to follow the parade route and to use an ultrasonic sensor to avoid hitting other robots.

Competing as the NCA Lights of the Northville Christian Assembly, Lenze and Brauchler modeled their robot float after a Ghost from the video game Minecraft. Instead of shooting fireballs, the float launched candy as it went around the parade route.

This was the ninth annual RoboParade organized by LTU's Robofest program, which promotes science, technology, engineering, and math - the STEM subjects - as well

as the arts and writing in fun and dynamic ways.

Saginaw Valley

Four students from the local area were among 922 graduates who earned degrees from Saginaw Valley State University during May 2014 graduation ceremonies.

Mitch Reinhart and **Andrew Tidwell**, both of Canton, and **Bill Kern** and **Jordan Liron**, both of Plymouth, were among the graduates.

Saginaw Valley State University is a comprehensive university with more than 90 programs of study for its more than 10,000 students.

Fort Lewis College

Several area residents received merit scholarships to attend Fort Lewis College for the fall 2014 semester. These merit scholarships are renewable for up to 120 credits if criteria are met.

Natalia DiIacovo of Plymouth earned the Continuing



Finishing second in the Halloween RoboParade People's Choice Award winners were Evan Lenze (center) and Joshua Brauchler. They were congratulated by LTU professor C.J. Chung and associate professor Chris Cartwright, organizers of the Halloween RoboParade.

Student Merit Scholarship and the FLC Achievers Tuition Scholarship. DiIacovo's major is Psychology.

Richard Thiele of Plymouth earned the Continuing Student Merit Scholarship. Thiele's major is History - Social Stud-

ies for Secondary Teachers option.

Fort Lewis College also offers several other scholarships, including grants, the Finish in Four! Scholarship, FLC Foundation scholarships, alumni scholarships, depart-

mental scholarships, Native American scholarships, and outside scholarships.

Emerson College

Mary Wildman of Canton has started at Emerson College as an undergraduate student in the Writing, Lit and Publishing program.

Located in Boston, Mass., Emerson College has 3,660 undergraduates and 829 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries.

Walsh College

Two Canton students made the Honors List at Walsh College for the 2014 summer semester.

The two from Canton were **Huma Kashif** and **Gregory Collins**.

Founded in 1922, Walsh College is a private, not for profit institution offering upper-division undergraduate and graduate business and technology degrees and certificate programs.

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Oral history project earns teacher national honor

A Wayne-Westland teacher will be heading to New York City next month to receive the 2014 National History Teacher of the Year award from HISTORY® and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

The award is just the latest in a string of honors award John Glenn High School history teacher Michele Anderson has received since starting her oral history project three years ago.

Using a 2012 grant from the Michigan Humanities Council Grant, Anderson launched the project, which had her students interviewing World War II veterans who were also treated to a USO-style dance in 2013. Last school year, her students worked with Korean War veterans. This year, they are interviewing Vietnam War veterans.

"Students get excited about history when somehow it becomes real to them," Anderson said. "Teachers have to help students make connections between what the student is learning and how that piece of history relates to something in their life. As teachers, we call it the 'aha' experience."

Anderson will receive the award and \$10,000 in a ceremony Dec. 9 at The Princeton Club. The award will be presented by historian Earl Lewis, former provost at Emory University and current president of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

The award is presented by HISTORY® and The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and highlights the crucial importance of history education by



FILE PHOTO
John Glenn High School history teacher Michele Anderson has been named the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History 2014 National History Teacher of the Year.

honoring exceptional American history teachers from elementary school through high school.

"Michele Anderson exemplifies the best in history education, and we are proud to help highlight her outstanding achievements," said Dr. Libby O'Connell, Chief Historian and SVP, Corporate Outreach for HISTORY®.

Selected for the National History Teacher of the Year Award from more than 1,000 nationwide nominees, Anderson also has drawn the attention and acclaim of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Library of Congress.

She has been VFW District 4 Teacher of the Year and in 2013 received the Michigan Historical Commission's

John B. Swainson Award for her efforts to preserve the memory of Michigan's defense workers and World War II veterans.

She also received the 2013 Annette and Jim McConnell History Educator Award for Excellence in Teaching History from the Michigan Council for History Education, and along with teacher Scott Cramer, the Voya Financial Unsung Hero Award.

"Honoring a great history teacher is one of the most rewarding things we do because in celebrating Michele Anderson, we honor all teachers who inspire our children to learn about the people and events that shaped our country," said Lesley S. Herrmann, executive direc-

tor of the Gilder Lehrman Institute.

Founded in 1994 by Richard Gilder and Lewis E. Lehrman, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History is a nonprofit organization devoted to the improvement of history education. The institute has developed an array of programs for schools, teachers and students, including a website that features more than 60,000 unique historical documents in the Gilder Lehrman Collection.

Each year the Institute offers support and resources to tens of thousands of teachers, and through them enhances the education of more than a million students.

By Sue Mason

Foundation taking grant applications to benefit community

The Canton Community Foundation announces that it will accept applications for grants to be distributed in February 2015.

The foundation will consider applications for grants that benefit the greater Canton and neighboring communities, encourages programs which are collaborative and comprehensive, and that focus on the prevention of problems.

Areas of interest are arts, education, health and human services, community development and environment.

For complete grant guidelines, potential applicants can see the Canton Community Foundation website (cantonfoundation.org).

The Canton Community Foundation raises funds for charitable grantmaking and scholarships in the greater Canton community. Its mission is to build trusted partnerships to connect local resources with community needs.

Applications will be accepted through Dec. 23, 2014. Application forms may be obtained at the Canton Community Foundation website, cantonfoundation.org, or by calling 734-495-1200.

For more information, contact Darice Schubatis at dschubatis@cantonfoundation.org or 734-495-1200.



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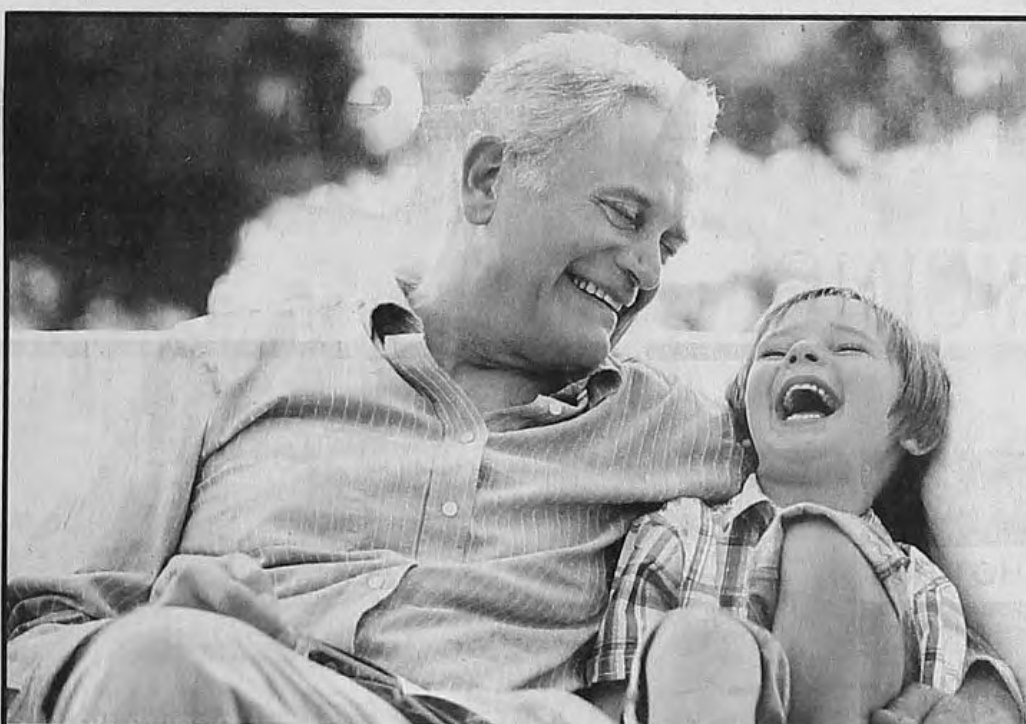
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Play's the thing: Wayne High lets audience decide outcome of 'Heirs'

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

One play and nine different endings.

It seems like a formidable task for students at Wayne Memorial High School, but director Kate Sullivan knows her cast is up to the challenge in staging *Murder's in the Heir* this weekend.

"I decided on this show after deciding on the spring production, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*," Sullivan said. "It has audience interaction and I wanted to continue audience interaction for the season. That's why I went with this production."

The murder mystery-comedy will be presented at 7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Nov. 20-22, in Stockmeyer Auditorium on the campus of Wayne Memorial High School at Glenwood and Fourth Street in Wayne.

While *Spelling Bee* has members of the audience go on stage and be a part of the contest, the ending of *Murder's in the Heir* is determined by a vote of the audience. After viewing Act I, the audience, during intermission, will decide by secret ballot who they think killed billionaire Simon Starkweather. Students won't find out what the consensus is until just before that start of Act II.

Like game of 'Clue'

It's much like a live version of the game *Clue*. Almost every character in the play has the weapon, opportunity and motive to commit the un-

IT'S SHOW TIME

What: *Murder's in the Heirs* by Billy St. John
When: 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 20-22

Where: Stockmeyer Auditorium at Wayne Memorial High School, 3001 Fourth St., Wayne
Tickets: \$8 for adults and \$5 for students, available at the door

seen murder.

"Every night the show will have a different ending based on the selection of the audience," Sullivan said. "Every evening we've been rehearsing a different character ending. It is a bit of a daunting task, but the cast is really excited. This keeps them on their toes. The script changes, and they have to be prepared to change."

Alex Sambone plays Simon Starkweather who summons his family and employees to announce the contents of his will. His lawyer, Lois Van-Zandt (Weronika Jaroszewicz) reveals that he has bequeathed vast fortunes to his many servants and four heirs. However, the will is due to expire at midnight when the fortunes diminish to \$50,000 and the rest of the fortune will be spent creating his clone.

While Sullivan is directing the actual play, Madeline Abicht is directing as a member of the cast. She will stop the acting on stage to talk to the audience about the production.

"I make comments and the cast starts getting angry with me," Abicht said. "It's a very different role. It felt very odd sitting out here (in the theater) and watching what's happening on stage."

Abicht also is one of four assistant directors



The billionaire's daughter, Fiona Starkweather (Hannah Hamilton), and his grandson, Jordan Starkweather (Jordan Khalaf), anticipate being in the money when the old guy kicks off.

who handle the day-to-day activities for Sullivan. She's in charge of attendance, keeping track of students who are late, tardy or with a teacher.

"I make sure they're focused, whether it's going over lines or doing scenes, so we put on the show we want to put on," she said.

Last year's Fiona in *Shrek*, Abicht credits Sullivan in with motivating her to extend her acting ability.

"She's helped me branch out and find myself on stage," she said. "I love theater and I was drawn back in to it with *Drowsy Chaperone*. That made me fall in love with theater again, and Mrs. Sullivan pushes and motivates me."

Other assistants

Also serving as assistant directors are Megan Keiper, who handles props and costumes and plays Minerva Walker, a member of the household staff; Jordan Khalaf, who's handling publicity and patrons and plays Starkweather's grandson Jordan; and Alicia Highland who handles contacts and tracks progress reports and grades. She also plays Starkweather's great-niece Paula Thompson, a Southern belle.

For Highland, her role is "exactly" what she wanted.

"I did a lot of research before the auditions, and I fell in love with the role," she said. "She's kind of sneaky and has a gun."

This is Keiper's third time as an assistant director. Her job is making a list of what's needed for the production, pulling what she can from the prop room and buying whatever else is needed.



Paula Thompson (Alicia Highland) isn't too sure what the changes to the will mean. In the background, Bensonhurst (Orlando Simpson) Miss Withers (Abigail Drake) and Kathy Collins (Tyler Markey) have their own questions.



Billionaire Simon Starkweather, played by Alex Sambone, has everyone in his family and staff in a tizzy when he announces a change in his will. The cast members are Hannah Hamilton, Jordan Khalaf, Alicia Highland, Jacob Clark, Orlando Simpson, Aliyyah Spencer, Megan Keiper, Hailey Hayward, Tyler Hamilton, Weronika Jaroszewicz, Abigail Drake, Kaitlyn Frawley, Tyler Markey, Jordan Kelly and Madeline Abicht.

She has been involved in the theater program at Wayne since her sophomore year and admits that it wasn't what she

had thought it would be.

"I always loved the theater world and finally got the nerve to do it as a sophomore," she said. "It was a very life-altering experience to be with people who are passionate about theater."

It's Khalaf's second time as an assistant director and his second time handling publicity

and lining up patrons for the show. With the play opening this weekend he has had the job of getting posters out in the community, announcing it.

"It's a relatively straight forward job, and I enjoy it," he said.

As for his role at Jacob Starkweather, he calls it "fun."

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6:45, 7:25, 9:15, 10:00

FRI/SAT LS 11:50

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6:35, 6:55, 9:00, 9:25

FRI/SAT LS 11:45

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11:00, 11:15, 2:30, 2:50, 6:05, 6:25,

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Though most physicians in this area have electronic medical records, a rheumatologist, or any specialist, must send information via regular mail or fax. Using electronic means such as e-mail or direct transmission from doctor to doctor remains a future goal. The main deterrent to electronic exchange of information is that each hospital, facility and physician office has its own computer system with no provision, to date, of commonality.

In addition, the Health Insurance Portability and Privacy Act (HIPPA), the federal legislation for protection for privacy in personal health matters, makes it impossible to transmit a consultation note via ordinary e-mail.

Calling a referring physician after seeing his or her patient is not practical. At the time the rheumatologist makes a call, the referring physician may be busy with patients or working through an emergency and may not be able to concentrate on the matter the rheumatologist wishes to bring up. Also, a letter has the advantage of clearly stating medications and their dosage, the providing exact results of laboratory tests, and laying out specific findings that led to a particular diagnosis. In contrast, recollecting a conversation hours or days later can be filled with errors and oversights. Therefore, despite sophisticated technologies and phones at hand, the best way to communicate between physicians is to write a letter headed: "I had the opportunity to see your patient....."

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Cadet Breck Waggoner of Canton kneels before the grave of a fallen soldier at the wreath-laying ceremony.



Cadet Jacobb Diebolt of Dearborn salutes the fallen soldiers at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly.

The Willow Run Composite Civil Air Patrol Squadron is looking for individuals to sponsor wreaths that will be placed on the graves in December as part of the annual Wreaths Across America.

With a mission of Remember, Honor, Teach, Wreaths Across America coordinates wreath laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as veterans' cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states, ceremonies at sea, and 24 national cemeteries on foreign soil. This year's ceremonies will take place on Saturday, Dec. 13, and the Willow Run Composite Squadron will be at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly to place wreaths on the graves.

Wreaths Across America has been one of the squadron's strongest fundraisers each year. Sponsoring a wreath is \$15 and can be in honor or in memory of someone dear or a simple donation. Consider sacrificing three or four lattes to purchase a wreath for those who sacrificed

their lives for your freedom.

Sponsoring a wreath is a small gift that has a great impact to remember our heroes, honor their sacrifice and teach future generations the price of our freedom.

Although WAA was founded in 2007, the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery began in 1992 when Morrill Worcester and Worcester Wreath Co. donated 5,000 wreaths. Since 1992, the wreath-laying ceremony has expanded across the 50 states and even overseas. Last year alone, 540,000 wreaths were placed in 908 participating locations.

WAA continues to actively live their mission by sponsoring wreath ceremonies to honor the men and women who have paid the ultimate price in securing our freedom.

Willow Run Composite Squadron is located at the historic Willow Run Airport. Cadet members come from the Plymouth-Canton area in the north down to the New Boston area to the south. It also

goes east to Grosse Ile and west to Ypsilanti.

Willow Run Composite Squadron lives by the Civil Air Patrol's mission to provide emergency services, such as search and rescue disaster relief, homeland security and other humanitarian missions. It is a cadet program designed for character development and leadership opportunities.

To learn more about the Willow Run Composite Squadron, visit www.willowrunsquadron.org or visit the national website at www.gocivilairpatrol.com.

Sponsoring a wreath is easy and can be done by following the QR Code or typing <http://goo.gl/8nyB3o> in the url space on your search engine. The code and link will send you directly to the Willow Run Composite Squadron's page to credit your local Civil Air Patrol.

All purchases made on or before Nov. 30 will go toward the 2014 wreaths. For more information, contact Richard J. Honiss, Major, CAP at rick.honiss@me.com.

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Griffin offers memorial service for those grieving

The folks at L.J. Griffin Funeral Home know the Christmas holidays can be tough for people who've lost loved ones, and for years the funeral home has hosted a memorial service to provide help with the grief.

That service takes place Thursday, Nov. 20, at 7 p.m. at L.J. Griffin's Canton location, 42600 Ford Road, west of Lilley.

"Our desire is to not only honor the loved ones that have gone before us, but to also help those who have suffered a loss and are coping with grief during the holiday season," David Griffin said.

To do that, Griffin has arranged for Karen Laing, executive director of

the New Hope Center for Grief in Northville, to lead attendees in a session to answer common questions:

- » Why is it important to plan for the holidays?
- » What are some ways others have handled the holidays to make them more tolerable?
- » What should I do about decorating, sending holiday greetings and the many other activities that are part of the holiday season?
- » How can I make the holidays special for small

children when I don't feel like celebrating?

The group will be led in spiritual reflections by Pastor Drex Morton and Fr. Jack Baker.

"This event is not just for the families serviced by a Griffin Funeral Home (there are locations in Westland, Livonia and Canton)," David Griffin said. "It's open to all families in the Canton community, as well as the surrounding areas."

Following the holiday service everyone will be welcome to stay and enjoy refreshments and mingle with others who are also grieving.

For more information, call 734-981-1700.



Laing

Wayne-Westland shares strategies for improved achievement

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

The Michigan Department of Education and Wayne County RESA have asked Wayne-Westland district officials to share what they've been doing to improve student achievement as it relates to the state's Top-to-Bottom ranking.

The district has shown "significant growth" in its standing, trimming the number of priority schools from four to one and focus schools from seven to three. According to School Superintendent Michele Harmala, the successful effort is related to collaboration and a narrower focus on strategies to improve achievement.

"The instructional staff has been phenomenal in coordinating the work," said Harmala, who added that the work

has been "made easier" with support from the Michigan Department of Education and Wayne County RESA.

And it is those two agencies that have asked the district to share what they are doing with other districts.

The Top-to-Bottom List is part of Michigan's school accountability system, which ranks schools on their student performance in mathematics, reading, writing, science and social studies and graduation rate data (for high schools). School performance components include student achievement, improvement and achievement gaps between the highest- and lowest-scoring 30 percent of students in each school.

Wayne-Westland's rankings reflect an increase in achievement scores on the fall 2013

state MEAP assessment, which gauged instruction for 2013-14. This year Hicks Elementary in Inkster is the district's only Priority school, while the Focus schools are Elliott and P.D. Graham elementaries and Stevenson Middle School.

Priority schools are ranked in the bottom 5 percent while focus schools have the largest gap of between 30 percent of their lowest achieving and 30 percent of their highest achieving students.

Hamilton Elementary moved out of the priority status two years ago and gained 23 percentage points in two years. The staff recently served on panel at a MDE priority school conference.

The Hicks Elementary staff has been asked to present at the Leader in Me Symposium in Livonia in March.



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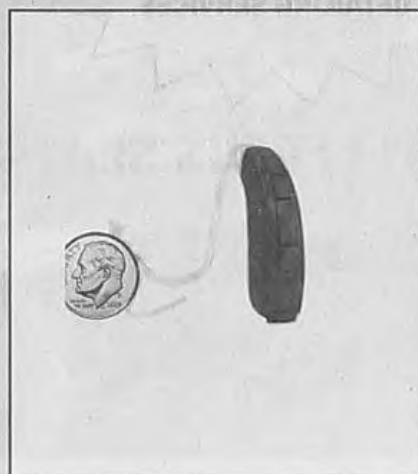
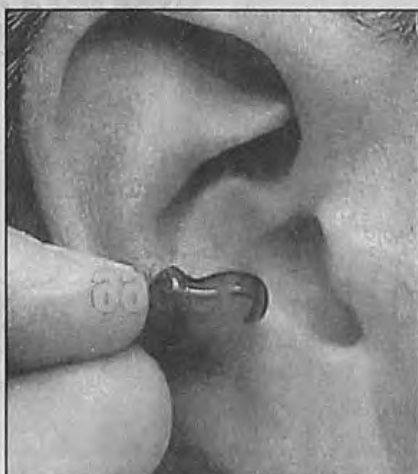
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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

VETERANS MEETING

Date/Time: Wednesday, Nov. 19, 1:30 p.m.
Location: VFW Post 696, 1426 S. Mill, Plymouth
Details: In order to increase public engagement, the Board of Managers, with responsibility for veterans homes in Grand Rapids and Marquette, meets in Plymouth. Both homes provide compassionate and quality care for members to achieve their highest potential of independence, self-worth, wellness and dignity in a long term care center. Generally, any military veteran eligible for VA health care or financial assistance for long-term care, who served for at least two years and did not receive a dishonorable discharge, may be admitted.
Contact: For more information, visit MichiganVeterans.com, email DMVA-Admissions@michigan.gov, or call 1-800-MICH-VET (1-800-642-4838).

PCA AUCTION

Date/Time: Friday, Nov. 21, 6 p.m.
Location: Butler Gymnasium, 43065 Joy Road in Canton
Details: Plymouth Christian Academy hosts its annual auc-

tion, themed "An Evening in Paris." The silent auction and catered dinner start at 6 p.m.; the live auction and entertainment starts at 8 p.m. Child care is available in a Fun Center set up in the church building starting at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person. Register online at plymouthchristian.org/paris.

Contact: For more information, call 734-459-3505.

HEISE HOURS

Date/Time: Friday, Nov. 21, 7:30-9 a.m.
Location: Panera Bread, 400 S. Main (at Ann Arbor Trail) in downtown Plymouth.

Details: State Rep. Kurt Heise hosts coffee hours to give residents a convenient opportunity to meet with him locally and discuss state or local issues. No appointment is necessary. Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office.

Contact: Residents are invited to call toll free 1-855-REPKURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

FOOD DRIVE

Date: Month of November

Location: Plymouth Comfort Keepers

Details: According to the Mayo Clinic and the American Dietetic Association, more than one in three seniors in the care of others is at risk for under- or malnutrition. The Plymouth office of Comfort Keepers will be conducting a food drive through November. Nonperishable food items can be dropped off at the Plymouth District Library (223 S. Main), the Plymouth Cultural Center (525 Farmer) and the Canton Community Foundation (50430 School House Road., Suite 200). The Senior Alliance and the Salvation Army of Plymouth will assist Comfort Keepers in distribution.

Contact: For more information, contact Comfort Keepers at 734-771-7404 or go to www.ComfortKeepers.com

ANXIETY WORKSHOP

Date/Time: Tuesday, Nov. 18, 6:30 p.m.

Location: New Morning School, 14501 Haggerty, Plymouth Township

Details: Local educational leader and psychologist Cheryl Blau makes a presentation on how to help children cope with



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Hearty thank you

Lori Morrison and her husband, Mike Paige, accept a "thank you" gift from Don Turner, owner of Mid-Michigan Meats (left) and Linda Robin, owner of Canton's Showroom of Elegance, at a business networking event Tuesday. The plaque and gifts were presented as a way of thanking Morrison, owner of Ribar Floral in Plymouth, and Paige for their many contributions to the community.

stress, acknowledging that, in today's fast-paced world, many children ages 2-18, struggle with stress, anger and/or anxiety. The 45-minute workshop will explore how stress, anger and anxiety are triggered in children and what parents can do to help their children cope.

Contact: To RSVP, and for more information, email nicole@new-morningschool.com

NEW SCHOOL MEETINGS

Dates/Times/Locations: Sunday, Nov. 23, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, 1-3 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 1, at the Plymouth Township offices, 9955 N. Haggerty, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Details: New School High, a community-based, teacher-led, self-managed, tuition-free public school academy opening in Plymouth in fall 2015, is hosting informational meetings. Interested families may also visit the website at newschool-high.org or the New School High Facebook page.

Contact: School leader Cyndi Burnstein at cburnstein@newschoolhigh.org.

TOASTMASTER ANNIVERSARY

Date/Time: Monday, Nov. 17, 6:45 p.m.

Location: St. Kenneth Church Conference Center, 14805 Hag-

gerty, Plymouth Township

Details: The public is invited to attend a 60th anniversary party hosted by members of the Motor City Speak Easy Toastmaster Club. The free event will feature a brief history of the club, "Flashback," presented by Allen Moore, a 31-year member, and a keynote address "Toastmasters Drives Me" by Liz Cezat, a seven-year member. There will be prizes, refreshments and networking. Guests can take part in a public-speaking exercise known as table topics.

Contact: For more information, visit the website mcspeakeasy-toastmastersclubs.org. For questions, call 734-604-2910 or 734-454-1778.

JAZZ @ THE ELKS

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

Location: Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Jazz @ The Elks happens the last Tuesday of each month. There is a \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres.

Contact: For more information, call 734-453-1780 or visit www.plymouthannarbor-elks325.com or email jazzat-theelks@gmail.com.

THANKSGIVING CONCERT

Date/Time: Sunday, Nov. 23, 4 p.m.

Location: First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial, Plymouth

Details: More than 100 voices will join in celebrating Thanksgiving with a music festival featuring choral anthems accompanied by hand bells, organ and piano, as well as audience sing-along of familiar Thanksgiving hymns. The combined adult choirs of Plymouth churches will present a Thanksgiving Choir Festival. Admission is free; an offering will be received to benefit the Salvation Army.

Contact: For more information, call 734-453-5280.

ANNUAL WCGH REUNION

Date/Time: Tuesday, Dec. 9, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Location: Hibachi Grill Supreme Buffet, 6539 North Wayne Road, Westland

Details: The 30th annual Wayne County General Hospital employees holiday reunion will be held in the party room of the Hibachi Grill Supreme. There is a large choice of food selections and a senior discount. All retirees and former employees are invited to attend. No reservations are needed. You can pay at the door.

Contact: For questions, call the restaurant at 734-729-5688.

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CITY OF PLYMOUTH
ORDINANCE NO. 2014-07

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 22, THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF REGULATING SMOKING LOUNGES.

Section 1 The City of Plymouth Ordains:
Chapter 22 in the Code of Ordinances of the City of Plymouth is hereby amended by adding the following described text revisions.

Section 2 Modify Chapter 22
CHAPTER 22 SMOKING LOUNGES

Section 1. Short Title:
This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as an amendment to Chapter 22- Smoking Lounges of the Code of the City of Plymouth

Section 2. Amendment
Chapter 22 of the City of Plymouth Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to add the following language and to complete any renumbering necessitated by the amendments:

Chapter 22 Article XI- Smoking Lounges
Definition

For purposes of this Chapter a Smoking Lounge shall be considered a Tobacco Specialty Retail Shop, Cigar Bar, Hookah Lounge and/or bar, any establishment where electronic devices are used in the delivery of concentrated nicotine liquid through vapor, and any other types of smoking facility.

Operational Requirements

- a. A Smoking Lounge must be approved by the State of Michigan Department of Community Health as a Tobacco Specialty Retail Store or cigar bar and possess a valid exemption of the State of Michigan smoking prohibition of Section 12603, Public Act 368 of 1978. Smoking lounges not possessing a valid state exemption as a tobacco specialty retail store or cigar bar are not permitted.
- b. Any tobacco specialty retail store or cigar bar must be located on premises that are physically separated from any areas of the same or adjacent establishments in which smoking is prohibited and where smoke does not infiltrate into those nonsmoking areas. Physically separated means an area that is enclosed on all sides by any combination of solid walls, windows, or doors that extend from the floor to the ceiling
- c. The ventilation system in the smoking lounge shall be, at a minimum, capable of preventing any smoke from migrating into any other portion of the building hosting the smoking lounge or into any other building or premises in the vicinity of the smoking lounge
- d. Operating Permits issued under this Chapter shall not be transferable except as provided herein. There shall be no transfer of any State of Michigan Exemption Permit under the Dr. Ron Davis Act of 2009 (MCL333.12601, et. Seq., as amended) from another jurisdiction into the City of Plymouth without the City Clerk's, Director of Public Safety's and Fire Marshall's approval of a smoker's lounge operating permit application for the prospective transferee. This approval or denial shall be based on the same procedure and terms as set forth in this Chapter
- e. Each operating permit issued under this Chapter is a separate and distinct license, and no person shall exercise any of the privileges granted under any license other than that which he/she holds. A separate operating permit shall be issued for each specific smoking lounge business within the City of Plymouth

Manager; Change of Manager

At least one registered manager who has been identified on the operating permit application and/or Smoking Lounge Manager Registration form shall be on premises at all times that the business is open. It shall be unlawful for any person not identified on the Smoker's Lounge License Operating Permit application to work as a manager of a smoking lounge business unless the proposed manager or operator has submitted a registration form with the individual's legal name and any aliases, home address, telephone numbers, date of birth, and driver's license number. All managers must be over the age of eighteen (18) years old. The licensee shall be responsible for notifying the City of Plymouth of any proposed change in management and insuring that the proposed new manager has obtained the required approval before working or serving as a manager of the licensed establishment.

Fee for Smoking Lounge Operating Permit and Manager Registration

A non-refundable fee for the Application of a Smoking Lounge Operating Permit and Smoking Lounge Manager Registration shall be set by resolution of the City Commission.

Hours of Operation

Hours of operation are limited to 10:00am to 12:00am.

Age Restrictions

No one shall be allowed on the premises of a smoking lounge business unless the individual is the age of eighteen (18) years or older.

Location

A Smoking Lounge Business may be allowed as a Special Use in the B-1, B-2, B-3 and ARC Zoning Districts. A Smoking Lounge Business shall not be located any nearer than 500 feet to any residential zoning district, school, religious institution, park, childcare facility, firearm dealer or business selling alcohol

A Smoking Lounge Business shall not be located any nearer than 1,320 feet (1/4 mile) to any other Smoking Lounges

Standards of Conduct

The following standards of conduct shall be adhered to by managers and employees of any smoking lounge business:

- 1- No manager, employee or representative of the licensee shall serve or engage in the sale of alcoholic beverages on the premises, including but not limited to: any spirituous, vinous, malt or fermented liquor, beverages, liquids or compounds
- 2- It shall be unlawful to permit the consumption of alcoholic beverages in any smoking lounge business. The licensee's manager and/or employees shall immediately remove any person who opens or consumes alcoholic beverages on the premises or parking areas of the smoking lounge business
- 3- It shall be unlawful to permit the use, sale or presence of controlled substances (as defined under MCL 333.7212, et. seq. of Public Health Code as amended, or a rule promulgated under the Act or Code) on the licensed premises. The manager and/or employees shall immediately remove any person possessing, distributing, selling consuming and/or using controlled substances on the licensed premises.
- 4- There shall be no live entertainment, dance floor or karaoke allowed in a Smoking Lounge Business
- 5- It is the duty of the licensee to ensure that at least one manager is on duty and on the premises at all times during the hours of operation (10:00am-12:00am)
- 6- It is the duty of the licensee and managers of the premises to ensure that any doors to public areas on the premises remain unlocked during business hours

Compliance with Laws

The business licensee, the manager and employees shall comply with all federal and state laws and the City of Plymouth Code of Ordinances, including, but not limited to, building and fire codes.

Right of Entry

The filing of an application for a smoker's lounge operating permit shall constitute consent of the applicant and licensee and his/her agents, managers and/or employees to permit the City's Police and Fire Department, Community Development Department or any other department or agent of the city to conduct routine inspections of any licensed smoker's lounge business during the hours the establishment is conducting business and during any time that employees or managers are on the premises. The City of Plymouth Police Department and Fire Services shall be allowed unannounced access to the smoking lounge premises to inspect for violation of this chapter.

Revocation and Suspension of a License

A) Any operating permit issued by the City may be immediately suspended or revoked by the City Manager, Director of Public Safety, Fire Marshall or Inspector, Building Official, or their designees for cause as herein defined. In either case, a hearing shall be scheduled to be held by the City Manager or the City Manager's designee. The hearing shall be held in accordance with one of the following provisions:

- 1) If there is no immediate threat to the public health, safety and welfare, the hearing shall be held to determine whether the operating permit should be suspended or revoked. The holder of the operating permit shall be notified of the time, date and place of the hearing and shall be notified of the reason or reasons for the proposed suspension or revocation. The operating permit holder shall be entitled to be represented by counsel, to submit evidence, to cross-examine testifying witnesses, and to make arguments concerning the factual and legal issues. The hearing officer or body shall render a written decision stating the reason for the decision.
- 2) If there is an immediate threat to the public health, safety or welfare, the operating permit may be suspended prior to the hearing. If a license or permit is suspended prior to the hearing, a hearing shall be commenced as soon as it is practical, but in no case more than ten days after suspension. The hearing shall be held to determine whether to terminate or extend the suspension or whether the suspension should be converted into a revocation of the operating permit. The holder of the operating permit shall be notified of the time, date and place of the hearing and shall be notified of the reason or reasons for the already-imposed suspension and for any contemplated future action. The operating permit holder shall be entitled to be represented by counsel, to submit evidence, to cross-examine testifying witnesses, and to make arguments on factual and legal issues. The hearing officer or body shall render a written decision stating the reasons for the decision.

B) In any hearing held pursuant to the provision of this article, the rules of evidence shall be followed as far as practicable, but a hearing officer or body may admit and give probative effect to evidence of a type commonly relied upon by reasonably prudent people in the conduct of their affairs. Irrelevant, immaterial or unduly repetitious evidence may be excluded. Notice may be taken of facts within the general knowledge of the community.

1) Any person dissatisfied with the decision of the City Manager or other appropriate hearing officer or body may appeal to the City Commission, provided that a written request for such appeal shall be filed within seven days of the date of the decision to be appealed. The City Commission shall schedule a hearing on the appeal within eight days of the receipt of the request for appeal by the City Clerk. The hearing shall be scheduled and held before the City Commission or a committee thereof, as the City Commission shall determine. The factual record made in the hearing below shall constitute the basic record for the appeal. The City Commission may, but need not, allow the presentation of additional evidence by a majority vote. Argument as to relevant factual and legal issues shall be permitted. The decision of the City Commission shall be by majority vote. The Commission may affirm, reverse or modify any action taken relative to a license.

Violations and Penalties

Any person, firm or corporations convicted of violating any provision of this Chapter shall be guilty of a civil infraction, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500 as well as the penalties provided herein.

Existing Smoking Lounge Operations

Any Smoking Lounge that was in existence at the time of the enactment of the 180 day moratorium (September 2, 2014), shall be required to abide by and comply with all federal and state laws, and City Ordinances but may continue to operate without having to comply with this ordinance so long as the Smoking Lounge maintains its current physical location, size, and ownership. In the event there is any change to the current physical location, size, or ownership, then the Smoking Lounge will immediately have to be in compliance with all of the requirements of this ordinance

Repeal

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

Severability Clause

Should any word, phrase, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance be held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provision of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3 Rights and Duties

Rights and Duties which have matured, penalties which have incurred, proceedings which have begun and prosecution for violations of law occurring before the effective date of this ordinance are not affected or abated by this ordinance.

Section 4 Validity

Should any section, clause or paragraph of this ordinance be declared by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the same will not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or part therefore, other than the part declared invalid.

Section 5 Ordinances Repealed

All other ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are to the extent of such inconsistencies hereby repealed.

Section 6 Effective Date

This ordinance shall become effective one day after publication.

Introduced: October 6, 2014
Enacted: October 20, 2014
Published: November 16, 2014
Effective: November 14, 2014

DANIEL DWYER
MAYOR

LINDA J. LANGMESSER
CITY CLERK

Published: November 16th, 2014

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ATTENTION VETERANS: The Truth About Accessing Benefits to Help Pay For Care At Home, In Assisted or Independent Living, or at a Nursing Home

When you fail to plan, you are risking outliving your hard-earned money.

When it comes to paying for care at home, in assisted or independent living, or at the nursing home, the real problem is simple: you are not being told the truth about how to access benefits to pay for that care. The internet, friends, neighbors – even the government shapes what we think we know when it comes to benefits such as Medicare, Medicaid and Veterans Improved Pension.

The reality is, though, that what I'm about to tell you is something that most attorneys don't know – not even traditional estate planning attorneys.

Almost anyone can access benefits to assist in paying for care – whether it is at home, in assisted or independent living, or at the nursing home – even if you think you have (or been told you have) "too much money."



The need for long term care is one of the biggest threats to your lifetime financial security. That being said, basic planning (your traditional estate planning) rarely (if ever) adequately addresses the need for care.

Proper planning is the key to success. But you have to be sure that you do it right, with the laws as they are today.

The thing is, in order to have planning done right, an attorney must know not only estate planning, tax and probate law (traditional estate planning) but they also need to know Medicare law, Medicaid law, Veteran's law, and special needs law. This requires a concentration in these areas of the law that most law offices simply don't have – but our office does.

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Veteran thanks Schoolcraft College for his education

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Lawrence Smith of Canton had his opportunity to say "thank you" on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, as the expanded Veterans Resource Center was dedicated at Schoolcraft College.

Smith is a 22-year U.S. Army veteran and Detroit police officer. He graduated from Schoolcraft with honors in 2012 with an associate's degree, and is finishing up his bachelor's degree in public safety administration with honors at Eastern Michigan University.

"Pam Paxton-Keehner, my counselor, was a great tool in getting me started," said Smith, 51, who'll graduate from EMU in December. "I was scared to go back to school. It was a great learning experience."

Smith urged other veterans to seek out Schoolcraft staffers' expertise and assistance: "They will help you through this process," he said.

Schoolcraft President Conway Jeffress told the audience Tuesday afternoon that space was a challenge in constructing the facility in the McDowell Center on the Livonia campus. Jeffress noted the *Star Trek* reference of "space, the final frontier," adding, "This is an expandable space."

Jeffress noted not all veterans are aware of their benefits, and that paperwork can be a challenge. "This is to help veterans get all that paperwork done," he said. Schoolcraft has some 220 veterans enrolled.

Jim Fausone, a college board member and attorney, also spoke at the ceremony. His wife, Carol Ann, is the first woman to become a brigadier general in the Michigan National Guard, and was also present.

"This is a rarity," Jim Fausone said. "I get to give the speech," he said, adding his wife would tell him later how he did.

Fausone noted the U.S. has some 22 million living veterans, including



PHOTOS BY JULIE BROWN

Schoolcraft graduate Lawrence Smith of Canton visits with Pam Paxton-Keehner, who coordinates the Veterans Resource Center at Schoolcraft. Smith on Veterans Day urged other military veterans to return to school as he did. He's finishing his bachelor's degree at Eastern Michigan University.



Conway Jeffress, Schoolcraft College president, thanks all who made the enhanced Veterans Resource Center possible.

some 2.4 million who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. He urged the audience to thank veterans for freedom to attend school, to assemble and to worship without fear.

Fausone also referenced the recent general election in the U.S. "We do it without violence," he said of voting. "We do it by casting our ballots."

Fausone urged veterans to use the discipline and skills acquired in the service to reach civilian goals. "We know you're not asking for charity,"

he said of benefits earned.

Fausone also lauded the family members of servicemen and women. As the ceremony ended, the doorway area upstairs in the McDowell (Room 240) had a ceremonial ribbon cutting, followed by informal tours. The center features several computers in the study area, as well as resources for veterans and an area to socialize and watch TV.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY DECEMBER 4, 2014 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, December 4, 2014 commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider:

1. Application 1521, 14387 Northville RD, R-2-A zoning district: is requesting one variance asking for Zoning Board of Appeals approval to keep 8-10 chickens on lot size (168 x 226) that backs to Hines Park and is owner occupied.
2. Application 1522, 14415 Sheldon RD, IND zoning district: is requesting four variances to construct a new commercial building on a site next to M-14; allowed maximum height is 40 feet. The variances requested:
 - Southeast corner of the building will be 42 feet in height; variance requested is 2 feet.
 - Northeast corner of the building will be 50 feet in height, variance requested is 10 feet.
 - Middle section of the building will be 42 feet in height, variance requested is 2 feet.
 - West elevation has an architectural element 42 feet in height, variance requested is 2 feet.

The meeting will be held at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

For further information contact Plymouth Township Building Department 734 354-3210.
Publish: November 16, 2014 Observer Newspaper

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Soon-to-be retiree asks: Should I sell or rent?

Q: Dear Rick: I will retire at the end of December. From a financial standpoint, I think I have everything in order. I plan to delay Social Security until I'm 66 and in the meantime I have enough in my IRA and my trust account to cover all my needs. My game plan is to move to Florida. I have no mortgage on my current home. I don't know if I should sell the home or lease it. Housing prices in Michigan should be going up the next few years, so why not wait to sell. What are your thoughts?



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

A: Congratulations on retiring and deciding to delay Social Security until you receive your full benefits. More people ought to do this in order to maximize their benefits.

In reviewing your situation, the first issue is whether real estate in Michigan will go up over the next few years. I am not sure if property values will go up. I could

make a good argument either way. Two years is a relatively short time period and anything can happen.

Also, don't forget that housing values are affected, both positively and negatively, by interest rates. Rising interest rates tend to negatively affect home values while falling rates can be a positive for home values.

In your situation, the main issue is whether you want to be a landlord. As far as I'm concerned, being a landlord is one of the most difficult jobs around – particularly, if

you only own one or two properties and you are an absentee landlord.

Whether you hire a management company or do it yourself, there are going to be challenges. Also keep in mind that professional property management is not cheap.

When people make the decision to become a landlord, they don't factor in some of the problems that can develop such as non-payment of rent or how to handle repairs and maintenance.

When you factor these issues into the equation you have to look at it two

different ways – from a financial standpoint and from a time and aggravation standpoint.

Owning property and renting can be a very lucrative business, particularly for someone who knows what they're doing. Notice I said business as opposed to an investment. There is a difference. In an investment, you can afford to be passive, however, you cannot be that way in a business. Therefore, if you plan to be a landlord, particularly, if you're not going to hire a management company, you must treat it as a business.

In your situation, my advice is to sell the property. Don't be an absentee landlord. When you look at the dollars and cents, you'll see that if you properly invest the money from the sale of your home, you'll do just as well as you would if you rented the property – without a lot of the aggravation.

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

Sweet talking: PCA sponsors gingerbread competition

Architecture, beauty and creativity are all woven together in one contest each year at the Plymouth Christian Academy Sugar & Spice Gingerbread Competition.

What started initially as an architectural lesson plan for the Plymouth Christian Academy students has blossomed into a community-wide contest.

"Building a gingerbread house embodies many skills – from architectural design and geometry to creative use of candy, nuts, and chocolate," said PCA secondary art instructor Susan Aitken. "And it is all packaged in a very traditional and fun project. Entries have included all sorts of structures – lighthouse, Victorian houses, Noah's ark, barber shop, and even a house from Dr. Seuss's Whoville."

For the second year, Plymouth Christian Academy is extending an invitation to the entire community, stu-



PLYMOUTH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Plymouth Christian Academy has opened its annual gingerbread competition to the community.

dents and adults, to join in the Sugar & Spice Gingerbread Competition. A local culinary arts specialist, Darren Vassel of Main Street Catering, will judge all submissions on Thursday, Dec. 11, in the Calvary Baptist Church lobby.

Entries will be accepted Wednesday evening, Dec. 10, 7-8:30 p.m., and Thursday, Dec. 11, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. All entries will be displayed at the PCA Christmas Fine & Performing Arts Festival on Friday, Dec. 13, begin-

ning at 6:30 p.m. Ribbons and prizes will be awarded at the end of the evening.

Anyone interested in submitting a gingerbread house creation to the eighth annual Sugar & Spice Gingerbread House Competition can visit the PCA Competitions webpage for registration information. Specific questions about this event can be answered by emailing saitken@plymouth-christian.org. All proceeds from this event benefits the PCA Fine & Performing Arts.

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Welcome Dr. Irby-Johnson

The St. Mary Mercy Medical Group would like to extend a warm welcome to Nijuanne Irby-Johnson, MD. She joins our medical group of over 25 primary care and specialty physicians as an internal medicine physician. She has more than 10 years of experience in adult primary care, preventative care and management of chronic disease.

Dr. Irby-Johnson received her medical degree from Wayne State University School of Medicine and is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

stmarymercy.org/smmm

Farmington Players stage 'Leading Ladies' Nov. 28-Dec. 20

The Farmington Players will present *Leading Ladies*, a farce — described as a cross between the hit film *Some Like It Hot* and Shakespeare's famous comedy *Twelfth Night*, Nov. 28-Dec. 20 at the Players Barn Theater, 32332 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

"*Leading Ladies* is about the crazy things we do for love," said director Tony Targan of West Bloomfield. "Despite our best (or worst) intentions, love can make us behave like fools."

The show opens Black Friday night. It's a perfect way for families to unwind from holiday shopping and laugh like mad at the antics on the stage, Targan added.

The comedy focuses on a pair of struggling

SHOW TIMES

- » 8 p.m., Friday Nov. 28, and Saturday, Nov. 29; 2 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 30
- » 8 p.m., Friday Dec. 5 Saturday, Dec. 6; 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 7
- » 8 p.m., Friday Dec. 12, and Dec. 13; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14
- » 8 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 18

Reserved seats are available at both www.farmington-players.org and the box office at 248-553-2955. Adults, \$16; students, \$2 off any performance; seniors, \$2 off any performance; Thrifty Thursday, \$2 off the adult price for all Thursday, Dec. 18; Group discount, \$2 off any show with 10 or more.

Shakespearean actors Leo Clark and Jack Gable who wind up dressing as women to try and steal the fortune of a dying millionaire. Their quest begins as they decide to impersonate her nephews and heirs "Max" and "Steve." When Clark and

Gable discover the nephews are actually nieces, they have no problem transforming to "Maxine" and "Stephanie."

"It's fun directing a fast-paced farce," Targan said. "It's like piecing together a rotating, three-dimensional jigsaw

puzzle."

The main two pieces of that puzzle include Keith Firstenberg of Livonia as Leo/Maxine and Lance Alan of Farmington Hills as Jack/Stephanie. As their characters press on in drag, they fall in love with real women and find themselves frequently switching between their identities as both men and women.

As Ken Ludwig (author of *Leading Ladies*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, and *Moon Over Buffalo*) has written, "There's a bit of the female in all men and a bit of the male in all females; it's just how we're made. To see it emerge full blown like that can be very funny and very joyous."

The fun only intensifies when the duo discovers that the dying heiress Florence Snider (Ellen Doman of West Bloomfield) is still clinging to life. Leo falls madly in love with Florence's niece Meg (Emilie Tole of Farmington) who's engaged to the local minister Duncan (Mike Gingerella of Royal Oak), while Jack meets his dream girl Audrey (Sarah Lovy of Berkley). Jim Sniderman of Commerce Township plays Doc, the cantankerous country doctor, and Daniel Tarjeft of Southfield plays his son Butch.

The magic of *Leading Ladies* lies in its bag of comedic tricks, including numerous doors, double entendres, letter mix-ups and of course, mistaken identities. Also, audiences can expect to hear fabulously funny lines and see phenomenal facial expressions. Lance Alan's physical humor as a seductive Stephanie is guaranteed to generate side-splitting laughter.

Targan admits it's refreshing to see how the actors keep their charac-



JAN CARTWRIGHT

Leo Clark, played by Keith Firstenberg of Livonia, and Jack Gable, played by Lance Allan of Farmington Hills, dress up as women in the farce, "Leading Ladies."

ters real despite the ridiculous situations they encounter.

Leading Ladies is sponsored by Cadillac Travel. Reserved seats are available at www.farmingtonplayers.org and at the box office, 248-553-2955.

The cast includes:
» Jack Gable: Lance Alan, Farmington Hills
» Florence Snider: Ellen Doman, West Bloomfield
» Leo Clark: Keith Firstenberg, Livonia
» Rev. Duncan Wooley: Mike Gingerella, Royal

Oak

» Audrey: Sarah Lovy, Berkley

» Doc Myers: Jim Sniderman, Commerce Township

» Butch Myers: Daniel Tarjeft, Southfield

» Meg Snider: Emilie Toth, Farmington

The production team includes: director Tony Targan, West Bloomfield; assistant director Jill Jones, Southfield; producer Amy Lauter, Farmington Hills; producer Tim Timmer, Wayne.

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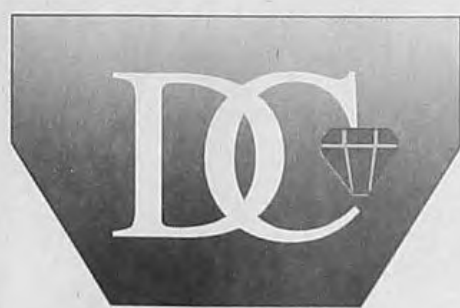
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FROZEN OUT



Racing toward the end zone for the Canton Chiefs is sophomore running back Marcus Sanders (No. 2). Trying in vain to catch him is Saline's Tyrone Miller.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's bid for Final Four ends in heartbreak as Saline prevails 42-35

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

On a night of myriad big gainers, the Canton Chiefs' bid to reach football's Final Four literally came inches short.

Host Saline, behind quarterback Josh Jackson's six touchdowns (four passing, two running), eked out a 42-35 victory Friday over the Chiefs on a frigid night at Saline High School.

Jackson brought enough heat for everybody else at the stadium, during a Division 1 regional final that was played with temperatures in the 20s and with a coating of snow on the turf.

After the Hornets (11-1) broke a 35-35 tie on Jackson's

18-yard keeper up the middle with 7:52 to go in the game, the Chiefs tried for what would have been a tying TD.

On fourth-down and inches from outside the Saline 20, sophomore running back Marcus Sanders was stopped just short of the first-down marker.

That enabled Jackson (26-32, 313 yards) time to essentially run out the clock and end the Chiefs' season on a heartbreaking note.

"We're so proud of these kids," Canton head coach Tim Baechler said. "We've had so many struggles with health issues, suspension issues and the kids kept coming back and coming back."

See REGIONAL, Page B4



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton senior running back Brian Newton (No. 22) outraces Saline's Cal Livesay (No. 58) for the Chiefs' first TD of the night. Trailing Newton is Canton quarterback Greg Williams (No. 7).

Palmer takes over girls hoop team

In-house promotion ensures smooth transition

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Kevin Palmer knows the game plan as far as Canton's varsity girls basketball program is concerned.

After working as an assistant coach in recent seasons for the varsity and junior varsity Chiefs teams, the 31-year-old Livonian is enthusiastic about following the footsteps of Bob Blohm and Brian Samulski.

Palmer last week was named interim head coach of the varsity squad, taking the reins from Samulski — who currently is interim athletic director at Salem.

"Obviously, it's a fantastic opportunity," Palmer said Friday. "Canton girls basketball is one of the, I think, elite girls basketball programs in the area. And Bob Blohm really kind of built the program and it's a credit to Bob and everything he was able to do to build this elite-level program."

"When Brian took over for him, Brian did just an amazing job continuing building the program and having continued success with a program."

Under Samulski's watch, the Chiefs made three Final Fours, including last season's loss to Bloomfield Hills Marian in the championship game.

"The three Final Fours that Brian went to over that five years, that's a phenomenal job coaching and a phenomenal job by our girls," Palmer said. "But it's definitely a daunting task trying to follow in those two's footsteps."

Helping Palmer out will be another one of Samulski's 2013-14 assistants, Lauren Delapaz. Moving up from freshman head coach to the JV level will be Rob Heitmeyer.

"Having three coaches in Rob, Lauren and myself that were with the team last year has been so huge in making the transition easy for the girls and not rocking the boat, changing the program," Palmer said. "They know us, they played for us and they understand the system and what we're trying to do."

See PALMER, Page B2

PCA foiled again by Lakers

For second straight year, Eagles lose in regional final to Our Lady of the Lakes

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The opportunity was there Thursday night for Plymouth Christian Academy to exact revenge against Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes, the team that in 2013 knocked the Eagles out in the Class D regional final.

It wasn't to be. Once again, the pesky Lakers denied the Eagles a chance to advance to the state quarterfinal — winning a see-saw, five-set match 3-2.

PCA (28-6-2) led 11-9 with sophomore standout Olivia Mady at the service stripe needing just four more points to close out the deciding game.

But the Lakers (26-21-5) came through with a defensive sideout. Then, senior libero Sarah Kawka reeled off five straight service points to close out the victory, 15-10.

Eagles head coach Katie Decker lamented the bitter conclusion to a sweet season.

"We kind of gave it to them, we had way too many errors at the end," Decker said. "In a

15-point game every single point matters so much because it's over so quickly."

"We were up, what 11-9, and then they went and scored the next six. You can't do that in a game like that. We just didn't control the run as well as we should have and as well as we normally do."

According to Lakers head coach Stephanie Swearingen, her team maintained composure when it was down in Game 5 with the season on the line.

"We really worked together," Swearingen said. "We had some tremendously scrappy plays, not letting the ball hit the ground, and I think our ball control in Game 5 was much

better.

"We were serving tough, they were on the fritz a little bit because of our tough serves and we were able to get a lot more consistent sets so our hitters could just attack."

Sophomore Lindsay Wightman (24 kills, 23 digs) and junior Courtney Wightman (23 kills, 27 digs) made life tough for PCA the entire night.

"They had some really great hitters hitting tonight and we just couldn't get the ball back over," PCA senior right-side hitter Danielle Witkowski said. "But overall we played an amazing game and I couldn't be prouder of my team."

See EAGLES, Page B3



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Serving during a recent game is Plymouth Christian senior Raina Postma. She and her Eagles teammates came up just short in their bid to advance to the Class D quarterfinals.

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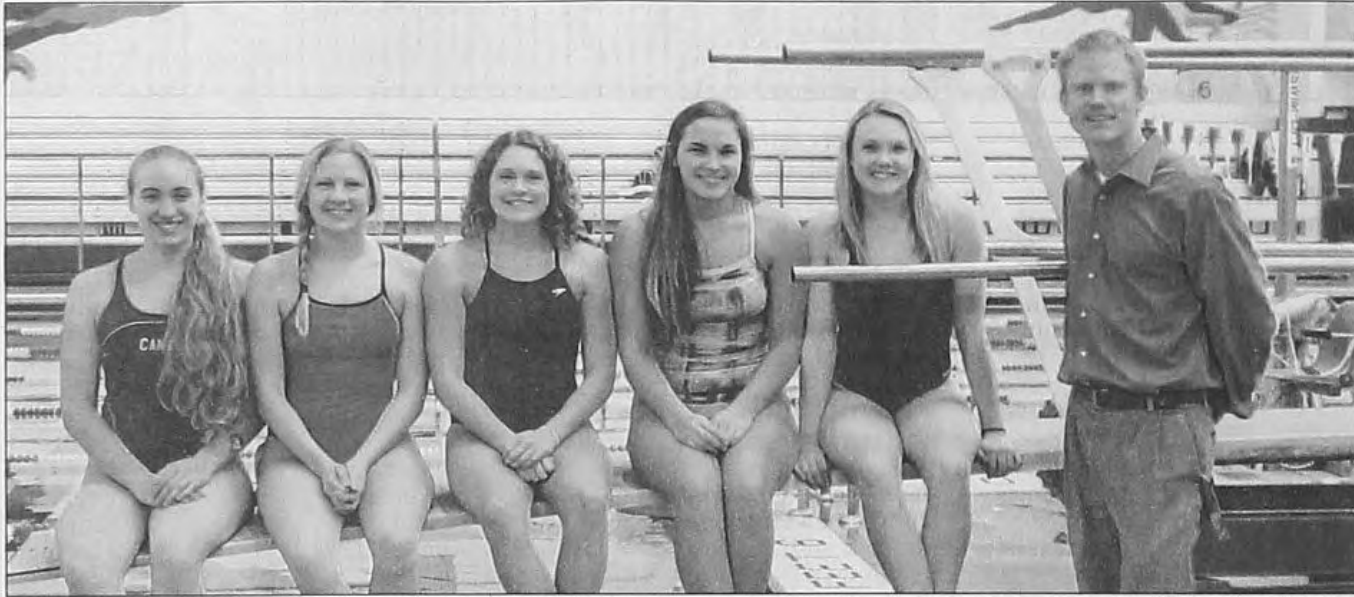
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On to finals at EMU!



Five members of Canton's varsity girls swimming and diving team will be competing next weekend at the Division 1 state finals at Eastern Michigan University. From left are junior Emily Downs, senior Claire Green, junior Emily Osika, senior Emily Hukan, senior Jocelyn Moraw and head coach Ed Weber. Downs qualified in the 200 medley relay. Green, a fourth-year state qualifier, made the cut in four events (100 breaststroke, 200 IM, 200 freestyle, 500 free) and will have to choose two to compete in at EMU. Osika qualified in the 100 butterfly and medley relay. Hukan earned state cuts in the 100 breast and medley relay. Moraw also will compete in the medley relay.

PALMER

Continued from Page B1

Blohm, meanwhile, is taking a break to enable the new regime time to gain traction.

"Bob's taking a step back so Lauren and I can get our feet in the sand and get things going the way we want to run it," Palmer said. "Having talked to Brian, Bob expressed interest in kind of coming back and helping out."

"But he wanted to give us a fair opportunity to have my voice. I'm going to be communicating with Bob and I think he's going to be coming back and helping out a little bit this year."

Helping with the on-court transition will be returning starters Natalie Winters and Alana Brown, who will be counted on to lead the 2014-15 Chiefs.

"We're returning two girls who started on our state runner-up team from last year," Palmer said. "And we have some girls who had varsity experience last year."

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

OCELOTS CRUNCH KELLOGG

Schoolcraft cagers parlay speed, aggressiveness into 86-57 win

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Anthony Wartley-Fritz did all the heavy lifting early on for Schoolcraft's men's basketball team Wednesday night against visiting Kellogg Community College.

Freshman forward and Canton alum Davon Taylor was watching closely, and he needed to pick up the slack during the second half after Wartley-Fritz found himself in foul trouble.

"He's a beast down there," said the 6-8 Taylor, who scored six points in the second half of the Ocelots' 86-57 win. "I'm

trying to learn from him and get better, just like him."

Wartley-Fritz scored nine points, all in the first half of the "Spirit Night" contest in Livonia. But six of those were scored in the opening minutes, when his team struggled to get going on offense.

"He (Wartley-Fritz) is a load inside and he did a very good job in the first half especially getting us going because we didn't have much else outside of him," Schoolcraft first-year head coach Abe Mashhour said. "He did a terrific job in the first half of just being strong and establishing his position."

"They did a couple things towards the latter part of the first half to take him away, to push him off the block. Which was smart on their part."

The Ocelots led 37-29 at halftime, but played a more well-rounded sec-

ond half — hitting just over 50 percent from the floor (23-45) and pounding the boards with regularity.

"We really didn't have a lot of energy to start the game," Mashhour said. "But we really picked it up in the second half, started playing with more intensity, especially on the defensive end."

"Obviously, if you looked at the stats, I'm sure we didn't shoot the ball very well. But we did get to the basket and defense honestly was the key to us in the second half getting back to get some easy baskets."

The Ocelots (3-1) featured a balanced attack. Leading with 16 points each were guards Aveon Simmons and DeShawndre Black (Westland John Glenn).

Contributing 15 points and 10 rebounds was guard Ja'Christian Biles, while guard Lito Booth

helped out with 14 points and eight boards.

Wartley-Fritz tallied five rebounds along with his nine points while Taylor tallied four rebounds and three steals.

Kellogg's Elijah Jackson and Mafiaian Joyner each scored 15.

Schoolcraft never trailed, starting with a steal and layup by Wartley-Fritz in the opening moments.

A wheelhouse slam by Biles made it 23-11 midway through the first half and he added another dunk with about 6:30 to go to open up a 30-15 advantage.

But the Bruins chipped away and trailed only 37-29 at the half following a layup by Joyner at the horn.

The Ocelots came out more focused for the second half, scoring the first five points and ramping it up on defense.

Schoolcraft's 11-0 run in the first 10 minutes of the half broke things open (57-38) and the Bruins never got closer than 16 points the rest of the night.

At the beginning of that 11-point stretch, Taylor dove to the floor to rip the ball away from



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Looking to muscle his way to the basket Wednesday night is Schoolcraft forward Anthony Wartley-Fritz (No. 24).

a Kellogg player — directly leading to Black's 3-ball from the left wing.

Black and Taylor then made back-to-back layups to pad the lead to 19

points.

Speed and aggressiveness keyed much of Schoolcraft's strong second half.

Simmons sliced through the paint for a nifty layup, followed by Booth taking it to the rim. That made it 69-49.

Taylor spun a perfect pass from the right side of the key to sophomore forward Nathan Kamal (Brighton) for a reverse layup, padding the Ocelots' advantage to 73-52 with five minutes remaining.

Treys by Biles and Marcus Williams further demonstrated Schoolcraft's offensive attack.

"That's one thing we're going to have to count on is our athleticism," Mashhour said. "Obviously, we're big inside, but we are very fast and we have to speed up the game and that's what we tried to do in the second half."

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Excellence is par for course with area's top golfers

FIRST TEAM
Sydney Murphy, senior, Plymouth: Murphy capped off a brilliant prep career for the Wildcats, leading the team to a fourth consecutive appearance in the Division 1 state finals.

Although Plymouth did not repeat as champions, it was still another outstanding season for Murphy and the Wildcats.

"Sydney has led our program to unparalleled heights during her career," coach Dan Young said. "She's been a solid rock and great competitor for our program and we will miss her a lot."

Murphy was part of two state championships along the way, as well as four consecutive KLAA South Division titles and three conference championships.

She averaged 38 for nine holes and 77.6 for 18-hole tournaments while winning four of the first five tournaments the Wildcats participated in.

Murphy, an all-conference selection, has committed to play golf at Ferris State University.

Erica Heath, senior, Mercy: Heath was named to the Division 1 all-state team following a successful senior season.

She led the Marlins to a sixth-place finish in this year's state meet.

Her 40.1 dual average included three sub-40 rounds of one-over-par 36, 37, and 39. Her 81.6 tournament average was highlighted by 75 in the Farmington Invitational and 79 in the Oakland County tournament.

Heath capped her high school career with a second-place 82 at the regional and an outstanding three-over par 74 to win the Catholic League championship.

"Erica is the rare four-year varsity starter," coach Vicky Kowalski said. "She went to the state final all four years. After going as an individual last year, Erica was determined to help the team achieve the goal of winning the regional and returning to the state final."

"She was a great team leader this season, and we wish her all the best as she continues competitive golf at the University of Detroit Mercy."

Katie Chipman, junior, Plymouth: Whether blasting shots off the tee or threading the

needle on chips and putts, Chipman continues to get it done in all phases of the game for the Wildcats.

Chipman had plenty of success, averaging 41 for nine holes and 82.1 for 18 while leading the Wildcats at the KLAA Association tournament with an 18-hole score of 83.

The junior followed that up with an 88 at the D1 regional, sparking Plymouth to the regional title.

"Katie has continued to improve every year," Young said. "She is one of the longest hitters out there and is becoming more and more consistent with her overall play."

Julia Shaw, junior, Mercy: Shaw's second season as a varsity starter was a great success and resulted in her being selected for a Division 1 all-state honorable mention.

She had a 43 dual-meet average, highlighted by scores of 38 and 39. In tournament play, her 11 rounds included six scores between 81 and 83. She averaged 83.8 in tournaments.

Shaw shot 81-82 in Traverse City to make the all-tournament team. She was third in the Catholic League championship with an 81, and she tied for second at the regional with an 82.

"Julia stayed below 90 all of her junior season," Kowalski said. "She is very focused during practice and in competition. Julia is a leader by example and I look forward to her senior year as a team captain. I know she will lead Mercy to top performances."

Alana Jones, freshman, NF-Harrison: Jones had an outstanding first year as a high school golfer, finishing with the second-best, all-time season average in the history of the program behind Sophie Kollin.

She averaged 40 in dual matches and 83.8 in tournaments. Her overall average was 41.3. She shot three sub-40 rounds.

Jones had a 79 in the Farmington Invite and 83 twice at Farmington Hills Golf Course (OAA White) and Pontiac Country Club (Oakland County).

"She has a ton of potential," coach Bruce Sutton said. "She just needs to get some length off the tee. That was the exact same thing when Sophie was a freshman and sophomore. She has accuracy — the same as Sophie."

"She's always thinking; she's always planning ahead, trying to adjust her game to whatever she needs to do to score. She didn't win any tournaments, but she matched up with some real good players."

"She's really young, only 14. As time goes on and she gets more experience, hopefully, she'll become a very good player. She's almost there as it is."

Caroline Bland, senior, Mercy: Bland had a breakthrough senior season and was a solid No. 3 player for the Marlins after two years on the 'B' varsity and one the JV.

Bland's 44.6 dual average was highlighted by 39 against Ladywood. Her 86.1 tournament average included an awesome three tournament run of 81 at Traverse City, 80 at Troy and 79 at Farmington.

She also finished fifth in the Catholic League championship meet with 84 and ninth in the Division 1 regional with 86.

"Caroline was focused on the golf course and a lot of fun off the course," Kowalski said. "She kept team spirits high and backed up her words of encouragement with great scores to help the team have a highly successful season."

"She was also a great team captain who kept team activities organized. Caroline is an awesome student-athlete who can play on a college team."

Lilly Blake, junior, Mercy: Blake, who was on the JV team the previous two seasons, was the biggest surprise for the Mercy varsity this year.

She worked diligently in tournaments over the summer and stepped into a starting

role, according to coach Vicky Kowalski. She averaged 45.6 in dual meets and 88.7 in tournaments.

Her season highlights included 40 against Ladywood and a career-low 78 at Birmingham CC. She also scored an eighth-place finish in the Division 1

regional at Dunham Hills with an 85.

"Lilly moved into the No. 4 spot on the team this season and solidified the Mercy lineup," Kowalski said. "She is an outstanding student-athlete, just below a 4.0. I look forward to having Lilly in a leadership role during her senior season."

SECOND TEAM
Alyce Krumm, senior, Canton: Krumm was a standout all season with a well-rounded game, in addition to providing essential leadership skills as team captain.

The fourth-year varsity golfer earned all-conference honors for the second season in a row, averaging 44.6 for nine holes and 92 for 18. She was dual match

medalist three times.

Other highlights included shooting an 86 at the KLAA Kensington Con-

ference meet, finishing with an 87 at the association meet and shooting 95 at the Division 1 regional.

"Alyce has a strong overall game," coach Tom Alles said. "She hits it long but also possesses an exceptional short game. Alyce is a very intelligent player and manages her game skillfully."

Krumm has committed to play golf for Northern Michigan University.

Alaina Strzalka, junior, Plymouth: An annual influx of talent continues to keep the Wildcats among the top teams in the state, and the performance turned in this season by Strzalka is another example.

The all-KLAA golfer averaged 46 for 9-hole matches and 89 for 18-hole tournaments.

"Alaina is getting better and better," Young said. "She has a strong work ethic and she is starting to learn how

to score consistently. "This season she came on strong with four scores in the 80s."

Darby Scott, sophomore, Salem: In just her second season playing competitive golf, Scott performed well enough to miss qualifying for the D1 state finals by four strokes.

Scott made the all-conference team, shot 86 at the KLAA Kensington Conference meet and tallied a 95 at the association tournament. She was Salem's medalist five times and the overall medalist once.

"Darby has not been playing long but she ... spends many hours practicing the game," coach Ryan Nimmerguth said. "Her score counted for us in every match except one this year and it counted in every tournament. That's lots of pressure knowing your score is

going to count every time you play."

Nimmerguth added that there is plenty of untapped potential.

"Darby is very driven and still has many goals she wants to accomplish in the future."

Elle Greenlee, sophomore, Farmington: Greenlee is a two-time state qualifier in Division 2. She averaged 46 in dual matches and 90.33 in tournaments, earning a place on the all-league team.

She was the medalist in the second OAA Blue Division tournament with an 88, and she had the lowest score for either team in five of Farmington's 10 matches.

"Elle has excellent practice habits," coach Mark Azeez said. "She

worked real hard last summer to improve her consistency. The results were great. I look forward to Elle being the captain of our team for the next two years."

Dana Iles, senior, NF-Harrison: A three-year varsity player and team captain this year, Iles averaged 46.6 in dual matches and 90.7 in tournaments. Her overall average was 45.7.

Iles shot 85 — her best tournament score — twice. She won the Think Pink Invite at Twin the first time and repeated it in the Farmington Invite at Glen Oaks. She also had 88 in the OAA tournament at Bald Mountain.

Coach Bruce Sutton had some helpful advice for Iles, an outstanding bowler, when she struggled with her putting.

"I told her to approach each one of these putts the same as she would on the bowling alley," he said. "She embraced that at the Think Pink Invitational. She was sinking putts of quite some distances."

"She seemed to really take off from that point. Her putting turned into being quite an asset for her and helped her in a lot of matches."

"She's a solid player. I counted on her last year and this year. She was a solid No. 2 on this team. I counted on her as a solid No. 4 last year, and she never let me down. Her score always counted."

Kendyl Kirkland, junior, Mercy: After one season of JV golf and one season on the 'B' varsity team, Kirkland moved into a starting position on the varsity this year.

She played a big role in Mercy repeating as Traverse City champion with 88 on the Wolverine and 87 on the Spruce Run courses at The

Grand Traverse Resort.

Kirkland's 45.6 dual average and 89.3 tournament average were highlighted by a 41 against Ladywood and a career-low 79 in the Farmington Invite at Glen Oaks Golf Course.

"We call Kendyl the walking rule book," Kowalski said. "She is a student of the game and

practices to improve every facet of scoring. There was significant improvement in

Kendyl's short game. We look forward to Kendyl being a team leader in her senior year."

Amy Vlachos, senior, Mercy: Vlachos stepped up to a leadership role as a captain and top-six golfer in her senior season, averaging 45.5 in dual meets and 91 in tournament average.

Season highlights included a 43 against Divine Child at the difficult Dearborn Country Club and a career-low 82 in the Seaholm tournament at the presti-

gious Birmingham Country Club.

Vlachos was named an academic all-Catholic golfer and an

all-state academic honorable mention.

"Amy is every coach's dream," Kowalski said. "She is an outstanding student-athlete. Amy is always positive. She encourages teammates and congratulates opponents on great shots."

"I'm glad Amy had the experience of playing in the big tournaments this season after two years on JV and one year as a 'B' varsity player."

COACH OF THE YEAR
Vicky Kowalski, Mercy: The Marlins won the Catholic League championship, a Division 1 regional and the Traverse City Invitational en route to another successful season. Mercy finished sixth in the state tournament.

The Marlins were runners-up in the Farmington Invite at Glen Oaks and the Seaholm Tournament at Birmingham CC, and they were third in the Northville Tournament at Hudson Mills.

Mercy scored below 340 six times was 7-2 in dual meets.

"This

year's team was a joy to coach in my 36th season of varsity golf," Kowalski said. "After not making it to the state final last year, this team was focused on that goal and won the regional. I will miss the seniors, but I look forward to another successful season next year."



Sydney Murphy
Plymouth



Katie Chipman
Plymouth



Erica Heath
Mercy



Julia Shaw
Mercy



Caroline Bland
Mercy



Alyce Krumm
Canton



Elle Greenlee
Farmington



Amy Vlachos,
Mercy



Dana Iles
NF-Harrison



Alaina Strzalka
Plymouth



Lilly Blake
Mercy



Alana Jones
NF-Harrison



V. Kowalski
Mercy

ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS GOLF

FIRST TEAM

Sydney Murphy, senior, Plymouth
 Erica Heath, senior, Mercy
 Katie Chipman, junior, Plymouth
 Julia Shaw, junior, Mercy
 Alana Jones, freshman, NF-Harrison
 Caroline Bland, senior, Mercy
 Lilly Blake, junior, Mercy

SECOND TEAM

Alyce Krumm, senior, Canton
 Alaina Strzalka, junior, Plymouth
 Darby Scott, sophomore, Salem
 Elle Greenlee, sophomore, Farmington
 Dana Iles, senior, NF-Harrison
 Kendyl Kirkland, junior, Mercy
 Amy Vlachos, senior, Mercy
COACH OF THE YEAR
 Vicky Kowalski, Farm. Hills Mercy

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Salem: Hope Warkoczski, Kiley Flynn, Keista Elder; Canton: Madelyn Mans, Meghan Meredith; Plymouth: Aniana Strzalka; Farmington: Eunice Yoon; Stevenson: Kristen Szabelski, Danielle Marzec, Madi Maurier, Megan Gronau; Franklin: Kendall Payne; Churchill: St. Alyssa Mazur, Kristin McLean, Marlin McGowan, Paige Peterson; Ladywood: Gabriella Scopone, Carley Hall.

EAGLES

Continued from Page B1

The dream ends

The loss ended the dream of playing in the Final Four at Kellogg Center in Battle Creek for PCA seniors Witkowski, Kelsey Williamson, Callie Morby, Raina Postma and Abby Wyman.

"It doesn't feel any better this year," said Decker, about her team falling to the same team at the same point of the postseason. "This year is definitely different from last year because the matchups were a lot different.

"On paper they were supposed to win and we came in knowing that we were looked at as the underdogs. While it's a game that I think we could have won, I have a lot of respect for them. We lost to a good team."

The Eagles opened up the night with a strong, 25-17 victory in Game 1 and went up 3-0 to start the second game with Wyman serving two aces among the three points.

PCA, however, could not build off that early momentum and lost 19-25 despite the Lakers giving away six points on bad serves.

Game 3 was one of serious momentum shifts, with the Eagles rallying from a late

deficit to earn a 25-21 win to go up 2-1 in games.

The house was rocking when PCA turned a three-point deficit into a 22-20 lead thanks to a five-point service run by sophomore Olivia Mady (seven kills, 15 digs).

Getting things rolling with a block was Witkowski and Mady's ace made it a 20-19 lead for the Lakers.

Sophomore Aliyah Pries (nine kills) spiked home the next two points with perfect sets from sophomore Jessica Paulson (29 assists) to put the Eagles ahead.

Paulson fed a pass to freshman outside hitter Grace Kellogg (10 kills, 18 digs) for the 25th point.

Hanging tough

But just like earlier in the match, the Lakers would not fold.

Early in Game 4, Lakers' freshman Tiffany Senerius served up four points (including two aces) to lift the visitors to a 5-0 lead.

PCA chipped away, but could not catch the Lakers the rest of the game — dropping a 17-25 decision to level the match at 2-all.

Just like in Tuesday's regional semifinal against Huron Valley Lutheran, the Eagles needed a fifth game.

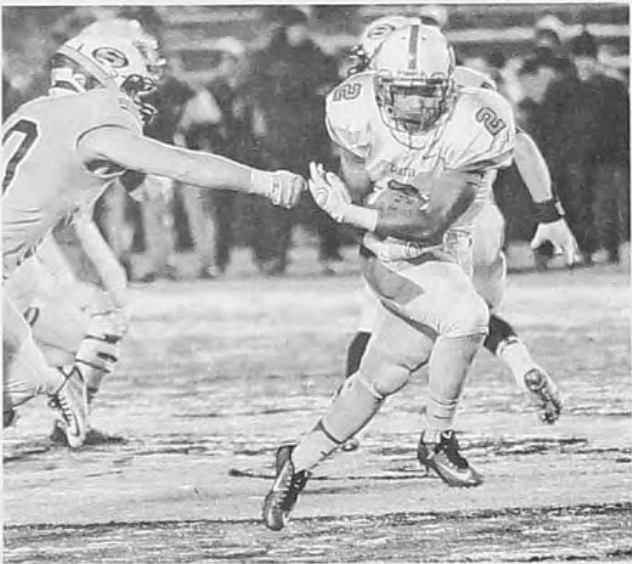
They broke out 2-0 on two points served by sophomore libero Divna Roi (19 digs), and

either led or were tied all the way until Kawka stepped up to the line to deal her crushing blow to the Eagles.

Yet Decker could not have anything but praise for her squad, even after witnessing the opposition celebrate on PCA's home floor.

"The first thing I said to the girls (after the game) is, this loss doesn't diminish our accomplishments because we accomplished so much this season," Decker stressed. "And we have so many young players that I would like to say the best is definitely yet to come."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Canton sophomore running back Marcus Sanders (No. 2) eludes Saline defender Chris Terech and chalks up another big gain.

REGIONAL

Continued from Page B1

"We kept improving every single week and lo and behold we're playing in the Elite Eight, just a couple plays away from being in the Final Four."

"It's one of the most satisfying seasons in my career, there's no question about that."

One of Canton's catalysts and team leaders, senior running back Chuck Turfe, gave kudos to the Hornets for playing tough during crunch time.

"I just got to give props to their team man," said Turfe, who ran for 49 yards in 13 carries and scored a touchdown. "They came out ready to play and there's no excuses."

"They came out playing, they executed, we just got beat by a great team."

The Chiefs were unstoppable on the ground to open up the game and led for most of the first half.

Getting things started on the opening drive was senior running back Brian Newton (17-111, one TD), who scored on a 33-yard burst through the right side of the line with 9:24 to play in the first.

Newton also had a 19-yard gain during that drive as the Chiefs had no trouble with their footing on the slick playing surface.

Saline came back with a 6-yard TD pass from Jackson to Chris Mercer, but the Chiefs missed out on a glorious opportunity to snuff out that drive.

That's because quarterback Trent Theisen (who played the second series for Saline) fumbled a reverse, but still managed to recover the ball.

Canton did stop that series with no damage and the Chiefs' offense answered with a scoring march of 64 yards in nine plays.

Sanders, who set a school rushing record the previous week against Livonia Churchill, bounced off a block to go 25 yards down to the Hornets 1-yard line.

Taking it in on the next play was Turfe, and Andrew Loehnis booted the extra point to put the Chiefs back in front 14-7.

Sanders strikes

The Chiefs' defense held to stop Saline's next series and senior quarterback Greg Williams (5-6, 63 yards) quickly led his team into the end zone to make it a 21-7 edge with 32 seconds left in the first.

Scoring on a 49-yard run was Sanders, who finished with 178 yards in 18 carries and tallied approximately 2,000 yards for the season.

Saline cut the deficit to 21-14 with 9:57 to go in the half, as Jackson found Kevin Gross for a 23-yard scoring toss.

Once again, the Chiefs got it back when Sanders scored on a 32-yard run, to briefly put Canton in front 28-14.

Saline's turn on the see-saw prompted another Jackson TD pass, an 8-yarder to Mercer with 2:05 left.

That led to the turning point of the night, a successful onside kick by the Hornets.

Instead of the Chiefs gaining possession with a chance to answer before the half, Saline got the ball near midfield.

Seven plays later, Jackson took it up the gut



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Slipping and sliding along the sidelines is Canton quarterback Greg Williams (No. 7).

for a 4-yard scoring plunge to make it 28-28 with 44 seconds left in the half.

"No," said Baechler, stressing the play wasn't a surprise. "We saw them do it at the exact same time against Monroe the week before."

"We knew it was coming. All our kids up there have very good hands, I wouldn't have changed that. We were ready. It just took a bad hop."

Canton tried to pull a similar surprise with an onside kick to open the second half, but the Hornets recovered instead.

Saline then needed to go just 49 yards to reach

the end zone and take the lead for the first time.

Jackson threaded three passes on the mark to Jeb Palka to move the chains inside the Canton 25.

After Canton's Jalen Cochran sacked Jackson for a 10-yard loss, the quarterback connected on a 34-yard touchdown pass to Cameron Cole to give the Hornets a 35-28 lead.

Drawing even

Williams led the Chiefs to the tying touchdown with 11:59 left in the fourth, finding tight end Nolan Gilo for a 15-yard toss.

But right back came Jackson and the Hornets, stinging the Canton defense with the winning TD.

Canton looked to get it right back, with Williams hitting Micah Rinke and Newton for gains of 17 and 15 yards, respectively.

The Chiefs' drive fizzled at that point, unable to get another first down. On fourth-and-inches, Sanders appeared to have the necessary yardage to keep the drive alive.

But officials did not agree and Saline got the ball back on downs, ultimately closing out the

game.

"We ran the ball well, I thought," Baechler said. "We just had a couple critical plays where we might have made some mistakes."

"... There were a couple critical calls on fourth downs. I don't regret the calls. If we execute, I think we make the plays. But they made just a few more plays than we did on both sides of the ball and there's your 7-point loss."

The regional title was the first in Saline history.

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CITY OF PLYMOUTH

LEGAL NOTICE

EXHIBIT A

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS AND ELECTORS

OF THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH

OF INTENT TO ISSUE BONDS

AND THE RIGHT OF REFERENDUM RELATING THERETO

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Plymouth, County of Wayne, State of Michigan (the "City"), intends to issue and sell its general obligation limited tax bonds pursuant to Act 34, Public Acts of Michigan, 2001, as amended, in an aggregate principal amount of not to exceed Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,500,000) for the purpose of paying all or part of the costs of: 1) acquiring and constructing water and sewer system improvements, together with related road resurfacing improvements; and 2) acquiring property and constructing parking improvements, together with all related demolition and site improvements.

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BOND DETAILS

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RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

THE BONDS WILL BE ISSUED WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE ELECTORS UNLESS A PETITION REQUESTING SUCH A VOTE SIGNED BY NOT LESS THAN 10% OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS RESIDING WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY IS FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK WITHIN FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. IF SUCH PETITION IS FILED, THE BONDS MAY NOT BE ISSUED WITHOUT AN APPROVING VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS RESIDING WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY VOTING THEREON.

THIS NOTICE is given pursuant to the requirements of Section 517, Act 34, Public Acts of Michigan, 2001, as amended.

Linda Langmesser
City Clerk, City of Plymouth

HOCKEY SHOWCASE

Future hockey stars on display at Compuware

Fans looking to discover the future stars of the Ontario Hockey League are in for a treat at Compuware Arena this weekend.

The High Performance Hockey League — in association with Compuware Arena — announces the "Border Battle" Midget Minor Hockey Showcase, with games from Friday through Sunday.

In the showcase, midget-minor teams of the High Performance Hockey League (Compuware, Chicago Mission, Team Illinois, Honeybaked and Little Caesars) take on Canadian rivals London Jr. Knights, Hamilton Jr. Bulldogs, Hamilton Huskies, Southern Tier Admirals, Toronto Marlies and Toronto Jr. Canadiens.

There is no charge for fans who want to watch the showcase.

Scouts from all 20 OHL teams — along with a healthy contingent of National Hockey League scouts — are expected to be in attendance.

In addition to the action on the ice, The OHL will be holding seminars and chat session for the players and their parents.

"The Ontario Hockey League is very pleased and excited to work closely with the HPHL on the inaugural Battle of the Border," said Joe Birch, OHL senior director of hockey development/special events.

"This exhibition weekend will provide all participating players the opportunity to play against teams that they may not see otherwise during a regular season."

"In addition, we are looking forward to hosting information seminars for all HPHL players and families as to provide them additional information regarding the opportunity that the OHL provides to players by way of student-athletes, player development and player environment."

In the middle of the tournament, the OHL's Plymouth Whalers host the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds 7 p.m. Saturday at Compuware. Tickets run \$12 and \$16 and can be purchased by calling (734) 453-8400.

"It will be a busy weekend, but a great hockey weekend," Compuware Arena Vice President and Manager Mike Henry said. "We're looking forward to it."



Sensky

Livonia Churchill grad pens mystery/romance novel

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

When she was a student at Churchill High School in Livonia, Tracy Gardner Beno loved to write short stories and read novels.

"It's funny, as an adult I always say I never considered being a writer. But as a teenager all I did was write tons of short stories. Being in the accelerated program (at school) I was exposed to mind-blowing, wonderful teachers who opened my mind to literature. There is a bigger picture, a bigger meaning to stories that resonate ... teachers helped me understand the importance of a good story."

Beno took those lessons to heart and years later, after marriage, two children, a move to Howell, and an ongoing successful career in nursing, she penned her first novel, a mystery/romance, *The Fall of Our Secrets*. The book, about two friends, both women, who reconnect 17 years after being separated by tragedy, was published in September by e-Lit Books. Beno will sign copies of her novel at 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21, at Barnes & Noble, 17111 Haggerty, Northville. Her appearance is coordinated with the Churchill High School Library book fair at the store. A percentage of sales Thursday, Nov. 20, at Barnes & Noble Northville will go toward purchase of new books for the library. Visit bn.com/bookfairs to shop online through Nov. 25 and benefit Churchill. Enter the book fair ID, 11288418 at checkout.

"I'm thrilled to be a part of it," Beno said. "It's a good way to get books into the Churchill library. If I can bring in some extra business, that would be great."

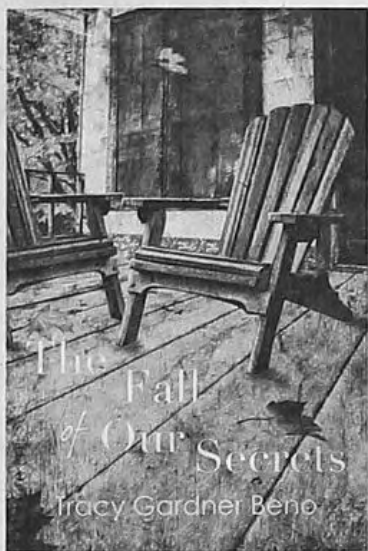
Beno wrote *The Fall of Our Secrets* over several years, putting it aside when she had completed 18 chapters.

"I was two-thirds of the way done, but I had no time. I got back into it two years later when a friend asked me to join a book club," she said. A club member wanted to read her manuscript but Beno declined.

"I said no, because it wasn't done. I had to re-read the whole thing. There was a lot of editing and revisions."

Mixed genre

She wrote to literary agents in hopes of attracting representation and ultimately a publisher, but found herself in "query hell," with lots of rejection letters.



Tracy Gardner Beno's first novel combines romance and mystery.

tion letters.

"Somehow I got the attention of an agent who liked the manuscript but felt she couldn't think of a good home for it in a major publishing company. Being a mixed genre slowed the process of getting published. It didn't fit neatly into a box."

Beno, who grew up reading Stephen King novels, didn't consider revamping the story into a romance — without its mystery plot — simply to move the publishing process along.

"I wouldn't change it. If I did I would have a mushy romance. I know that romance novels have a huge following, but some of it is so sugary sweet, over-the-top unrealistic. It's not how real life is."

Beno adds comedy or sarcasm to keep her characters from leaning toward the "sickeningly sweet."

Writing credits

After getting an article published in *Vérité*, an online quarterly magazine for women, Beno reached out again to the agent who liked her work, but couldn't find the right publishing house for it.

"She had started a small publishing house with her partner because they'd come across manuscripts they'd fall in love with but couldn't do anything with."

The Fall of Our Secrets was a perfect fit for their new, small publishing business. Beno was thrilled.

"Up to a year ago, I assumed it was just going to be a manuscript on my computer," she said, adding that her sister and mother, both Livonia residents, are "so excited" about



Tracy Gardner Beno is a 1988 Livonia Churchill High School graduate.

her book.

Beno also continues to write both fiction and nonfiction pieces for *Vérité*.

"I like both, and it has been a good exercise for me to write

short stories. It's a challenge. I haven't done it since I was a teen."

And her book club? Beno brought the finished product to the group just last month

where she got "good feedback" from her fellow readers.

Visit Beno's website at tracygardnerbeno.com. She's also on Facebook and Twitter.

Baby Grace arrives, making life seem fulfilled

Love. I never really understood the meaning. I've never felt a love like I feel now. There is no feeling in the world that compares to the love a parent has for their child.

My precious daughter, Grace Dorothy, was born on Oct. 25. My little angel took her time making her first appearance, and after being a week late, still took 48 hours after arriving at the hospital to be born. I never imagined what labor and delivery would really be like. I may have thought I knew what to expect, but actually my mind never got close to the reality I experienced. I was very lucky to have an amazing team of coaches, including my parents, my sister, and one of my best friends.

I ended up having a C-section after the first 47 hours in the hospital. I will never forget the rest of my life for the doctors saying "Uterus, bladder, BABY" and then hearing little Gracie's first cry. I cried too. My mom was able to hold Grace and bring her to me so I could see her, but it would be another hour until I could actually hold my baby and snuggle up with her. Once I finally did get to hold her, I had a real hard time letting her go. I wanted to just hold her for forever.

Grace's father was there too, and was very helpful, staying with me the next two



Sarah Davies

THEN THERE WERE TWO

nights in the hospital. I was not able to get up out of bed right away, so he had the lucky task of having to attend to me and to Grace. The hardest part about having a C-section is that you can't just get up and pick up your baby at any time, instead you have to ask someone to hand her to you. But I didn't hesitate when I wanted to hold her, and she was able to sleep right next to me so I could watch her at any moment.

Together at home

Grace and I came home from the hospital on the third day after her birth. We were lucky to have many visitors over the first two weeks, who were helpful while I was recovering. My other sister, who lives out of state, was able to come and stay with me for a week to help me out until I felt like I could move around a little more. Although it was a long road leading up to Grace's birth, and a long time in the hospital, at two weeks after her birth I am feeling remarkably well and looking forward to venturing out on our own soon.

Grace is a great baby. She sleeps well and soundly, and is



Grace Dorothy

up for a snuggle any time. She loves when I read to her, and she is working on tummy time and sitting alone in her Boppy. She tries to hold her bottle already, and although some people think I am making it up, she occasionally will take her pacifier out of her mouth and put it back in all by herself. She is smart, beautiful, and the love of my life. I wouldn't take back any moment of the nine

months of pregnancy, any second of the six days in the hospital, or any of the days spent recovering at home, because Grace is everything to me now.

It's amazing how quickly your life can change. Suddenly I feel so fulfilled in my life, and I wonder how I ever felt even close to that before. There always was something missing for me, always some-

thing else I was longing for. And now I know what it was — it was my little angel, Grace. The little girl I love more than anything in the world.

Sarah Davies of Livonia writes about the ups and downs of becoming a single mother. Contact her at sarahmarielavies@gmail.com.

SUBMITTED

REUNIONS

Send school reunion information to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.
LIVONIA STEVENSON

CLASS OF 1974

40-year reunion, planned by Linda Armstrong, Kim Geiger and Jack Karbowski, 7 p.m. to midnight Nov. 29, Corsi's Restaurant, 27910 Seven Mile, Livonia. Reservations and payment with Karbowski, 313-530-9634; karblitski@yahoo.com.
OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1975

Save the date, Saturday, July 25, 2015, at Embassy Suites Livonia, 19525 Victor Parkway, Livonia. Classmates may send their contact information to oak-park1975reunion@gmail.com, and to join the Reunion Facebook Page at https://www.facebook.com/events/810805715636204/.
ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

ALL CLASSES

Anyone with a connection to St. Michael's — graduates, attendees, participants in CYO, religious ed, Scouts — may attend the evening of food drink, music, and reminiscing, 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22, at the Monaghan Knights of Columbus Hall, 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia. A \$5 admission fee will cover pizza and pop. A cash bar also will be available. Attendees are encouraged to bring St. Michael's memorabilia. For an RSVP form, call 734-261-1455, Ext. 225, or see the parish website at www.livoniastmichael.org/alumni.

ANNIVERSARY



SUBMITTED

Edwin and Helen Taylor of Westland

CELEBRATING 67 YEARS

Edwin and Helen (Rossow) Taylor of Westland marked their 67th wedding anniversary on Nov. 15. They were married in 1947 at Salem United Church of Christ in Farmington. They are the parents of Peggy (Darrell) Knox of Brooklyn, Shelly

(Shawn) Gagnon of Northville and the late Randy Taylor. They have five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Edwin is a retired bricklayer and Helen is a retired business owner. Ed enjoys baseball and watching his grandchildren play sports; Helen likes to play bingo.

Honor the Memory and Celebrate the Life of passed loved ones by placing a Special Holiday Tribute. The Observer and Eccentric/Hometown Weekly Newspapers will be publishing a Special Tribute during the holidays. Here is the perfect opportunity to share your thoughts of loved ones who hold a special place in your hearts.

In Loving memory at the Holidays

Call us for our Special Holiday Rate

Publications **Sunday, December 14th through Thursday, December 25th** Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Deadline
For Sunday Publication/Friday 4 p.m. prior
For Thursday Publication/Tuesday 9:30 a.m. prior

Call **800-579-7355** Fax: 313-496-4968
email: oeobits@hometownlife.com

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
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Passages
Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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

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

[View Online www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

BOROFF, MICHAEL A. "MICK"
August 13, 1939 - November 01, 2014.

Michael A. Boroff, master gardener, hunter, soldier, handy man, and sweet tooth, passed away in his sleep in his Millersville, Maryland home as the autumn leaves fell. Mike loved and respected animals. He had a special kinship with nature, its rhythms, its colors and sounds. Growing up in Wayne, MI, he was always hunting or trapping or observing wildlife. Nature was simply a part of him. He was an active member of the Wayne High rifle team. Mike grew flowers and veggies competitively as a young man and won numerous trophies at the local flower and garden show. Later, he took gardening to extremes with his wife of nearly 50 years, Edna Jo (Sturtevant) Boroff. Flowers of every shape, color, and size adorn their yard. Somehow they also found time to produce and "grow" a son, Eric. Together they taught him about honest work, finding yourself, dry humor, and sacrifice. Mike graduated from the ROTC program at Eastern Michigan University and went on to a career in the US Army. He served two tours in Vietnam where he ran into Charlie, ate cobras, and blew things up. In 1985 he retired as a Major after 21 years of service. His son entered the army on the same day. He learned about fixing things around the house and on his truck. He enjoyed creating and building features that improved the landscape of his lot like timber and stone walls and terraces. Somehow he still found time to help handcraft glorious Pinewood Derby cars for his Cub Scout son. Mike especially enjoyed desserts. Cookies, pies, ice cream, cake...it all went down the hatch. And woe unto others who turned their back on dessert in Mike's presence. The spoon is quicker than the eye. He was the first to enter the door on Karle St. and head for the cookie jar. Everyone loved his mother's big sweet chocolate chip cookies. He never took less than two at a time. Mike was preceded in death by his parents, Basil F. and Evelyn B. Boroff of Karle St. and his brother Jack. Mike is survived by his wife Edna Jo, his son and daughter-in-law Eric and Susan of Millersville, his grandsons Benjamin and Nathaniel, FL, his brother Jerry of Fort Myers, FL, his sister Penny Coffey of Westland, MI, and a special sister-in-law, Barbara Fulkerson of Salem Township, MI. His niece Tammy Smith is still living in the homestead on Karle St. where Mike was born. Becky Stoliker of Westland and Scott Boroff of Forsyth, IL are among the many nieces and nephews who also survive him. In keeping with his straightforward take on life a private burial service will be held for family members at the Maryland Veterans Cemetery in Crownsville. http://memorialweb sites.legacy.com/MichaelBoroff/Homepage.aspx



EICKER, CARL WALTER

Age 92, passed away peacefully at his home in Shelburne Vermont on November 5, 2014, after a long and amazingly fulfilled life. Carl was born to Gus and Net Eicker in Brooklyn, NY, on December 19, 1921. He spent his youth in the East and earned his engineering degree from the University of Maryland. Following his service as a naval officer during WWII, he obtained an MBA from Boston University. Carl married the love of his life, the "queen of my song", Dorothy Staudt, 65 years ago in Akron, OH. After employment with Addressograph in West Springfield, MA, he worked as an engineer for Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, MI for more than two decades. He lived with Dorothy in the same house on Hupp Cross Rd. in Birmingham, MI for 45 years, where they lovingly raised their family surrounded by many close friends and great neighbors. During retirement, he remained active in the community and his church, and traveled widely. He spent the final six years of his life with Dorothy in Vermont. Carl never lost his love of the water. Whether Lake Cayuga, a Vermont river, or the Woodside pool, he was the first to swim. He body surfed in the Atlantic, sailed on Chesapeake Bay, and windsurfed on nearby lakes, at Cape Hatteras, and in the warm waters of Bonaire. He was even still water-skiing at age 85. Carl was blessed with a keen analytical mind. He was excellent at math, enjoyed challenging puzzles, and was an avid chess player his entire life. He was the poster child for all extroverts. He made friends wherever he went, and went out of his way to make everyone feel welcome, even being dubbed the "ambassador" of Shelburne Bay, his retirement community. He was the eternal optimist, with a great sense of humor, who enjoyed telling stories and jokes, reciting poetry and playing pranks on unsuspecting friends. Carl had a great love of music. He played the violin, but his greatest joy was singing. He had an astounding memory for lyrics and an amazing repertoire of songs. He often could be heard serenading residents and staff at Shelburne Bay, personnel at doctors' offices and the hospital, or anywhere else he could find an audience. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, of Shelburne; sister, Joan Whitwell of Williamsburg, VA; son, Steve Eicker and wife, Dorothy Ainsworth, of King Ferry, NY; daughters, Sally Wolfe of Lake Orion, MI, and Joan Eicker and Nancy Eicker of Richmond, VT; grandsons, Eric Wolfe and wife, Jessica, Brian Wolfe and wife, Jessica, Carl Wolfe and Rory Ulmer, great-grandchildren, Kadin, Reese and Skylar Wolfe. He was predeceased by his brother, Bob. Carl's family would like to thank his physician, Dr. Mark Levine, for his wonderful care. A memorial service to celebrate Carl's life will be held at a future date.

DIANA, MICHAEL
November 13, 2014, age 67, of Norvell Township, MI, formerly of Garden City, MI and Rochester, PA. Beloved husband of Debbie. Loving father of Michael (Katherine Kivela), Tony (Ashley) Diana, and the late Nick Diana. Proud grandfather of Nick, Ryley, and Kennedy. Uncle of Marisa (Greg) Wengryn and Kylee Turbush. Brother to Janet (Kirk) Turbush. Visitation Sunday 3-8 p.m. at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road, (between Sheldon and Beck), Plymouth, MI 48170. Memorial services may be made to the Michigan Humane Society or Salvation Army. To share a memory, please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com

VERMEULEN-SAJEWSKI
FUNERAL HOMES CREMATION SERVICES



HOUCHINS, CHARLES "BOB"

November 11, 2014, age 83. Survived by beloved wife Barbara of 59 years. Dearest father to Cathy (Matt) McCormick, Bob (Vivian), John, and David (Shelly) Houchins. Dear Grandfather to Matthew Gray, Blaine McCormick, Bobby and Sarah Houchins. Great-Grandfather to Audrey Houchins. Bob proudly served in the Air Force, retired from IBEW Local 58 Electrical Union, and was a Co-founder and member of Motor State Street Rods. The family ask for donations to Heart to Heart Hospice (Bingham Farms) or Michigan Parkinsons Foundation (Bingham Farms) in lieu of flowers. We will miss your kind, generous soul. We love you Dad.



JACKSON, THEODORE "TED"
Age 72, November 13, 2014, of Westland. Beloved husband of Sharon. Loving father of Wendy (John) Sutton, Dawn (Patrick) Bartrum, Deanna (Ron) King and Cindy (Frank) Ferrell. Dear brother of William (Mary) Jackman. Also survived by many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Funeral service Sunday at 4pm at the RG & GR Harris Funeral Home, 31551 Ford Rd., Garden City. Visitation Sunday from 12 noon until 4pm. Donations may be made to the Brain Injury Association of Michigan. Please share a memory of Ted at www.rgrharris.com.



KLINGBEIL, SUSAN WARNER SLOCUM

Died peacefully on October 21, 2014 in Mount Dora, Florida. Granddaughter of Michigan Governor (1906-1911) Fred Warner, she was born April 4, 1925 in Farmington, Michigan to Edessa (Warner) and William Slocum. She graduated from Kingswood Cranbrook School, Lasell College, and University of Michigan. She strongly believed the maxim "to whom much is given, much is expected". Throughout her life she was active within her community. She was active in Delta Gamma, Tau Beta, Junior League and Society of Colonial Dames of America. Early on she was an activist for the environment and participated in the first "Earth Day" held at the University of Michigan, Earth Fest '74, Concern - Detroit and the Bottle Bill. She served on the Boards of Friends School - Detroit and the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. For many years she was a member of the Board of Directors of her beloved Lasell College, which recognized her as an outstanding alumna, and named a building in her honor. She had a love of music and chaired the Young People's Concerts with the Detroit Symphony. She was one of three creators of the Arts to the Schools with the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Junior League. Susan Klingbeil was courageous and adventuresome, a woman before her time. With her husband Bill, she traveled the world, and became a semi-professional photographer, capturing candid photos of people wherever she traveled. In an era before most women worked outside the home, she developed her own business as a Leisure Planning Consultant. For over thirty years she matched children with summer activities all over the globe. She was affectionately known in Grosse Pointe as "The Camp Lady". She brought joy and sunshine to so many, but her greatest loves were her family and friends. She was a dedicated mother, grandmother and great-grandmother whose positive outlook and grace will continue to influence their lives. She is survived by her husband of 65 years, William Hayward Klingbeil, four children and their spouses, eight grandchildren and three great-grandsons. A Celebration of Sue's Life will be held at Sequanota Club Sunday, August 2, 2015. Memorial donations may be made to Friends of the Warner Mansion, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, MI 48335 or Little Traverse Conservancy - LTC@landtrust.org.


Paying tribute to the life of your loved one.

PEEVER, GEORGE ERIC
Age 78. Beloved husband of the late Barbara Warson. He was born April 26, 1936 in Cobden, Renfrew Co., Ontario Canada and passed away on November 13, 2014 in Livonia Michigan. He is survived by his son Derrick and granddaughter Fallon Peever (Ottawa, Ontario). Also surviving are his siblings, Jackie Daugherty (Gatineau, Quebec); Carl Peever (Cornwall, Ontario) and Lawrence Peever (Ottawa, Ontario). Visitation Monday 3-8 p.m. with Funeral Prayers Tuesday 11 a.m. at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., Garden City (between Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill). After the service, burial will take place at Mt. Hope Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, memorials suggested to the Alzheimer's Association. www.santeiufuneralhome.com.



PETRELLA, MARCIA M.

Age 78, November 8, 2014. Beloved wife of Ronald Petrella. Loving mother of Nancy Low, Sally (Paul Stark) and Judy Petrella. Loving grandmother to Christie and Ashley Low. Beloved sister of James (Carolyn) Roth. Born in Grand Rapids August 22, 1936. Graduated U of M and married Ronald Petrella 1958. Social worker at Children's Aid Society. Second career as an antique dealer. She enjoyed entertaining family and friends and will be greatly missed by all. Memorial Service Saturday, November 22, 11 a.m. First United Methodist Church of Birmingham. Memorial donations: www.alzinfo.org



STODDARD, THERESA JENNIFER

Age 43, of Venice, Florida, went to be with The Lord on Saturday, October 18. She passed peacefully in her sleep. Theresa was born November 25, 1970 in Gardens City, Michigan. She was a beloved wife, mother, daughter, sister, aunt, and friend. Theresa was a beautiful person, inside and out. She is survived by her husband, Brad Stoddard of Venice; daughter Shelby Stoddard of Venice; her father and mother Tim and Karen Zerndt of Nokomis, FL; three sisters, Tiffany Uppleger of Pinckney MI, Katie Poth of Simpsonville, South Carolina, and Kellie Zerndt of Nokomis, FL; several nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was the loving caretaker of her grandmother, Phyllis Keyes. Private services were held at 2 p.m., Saturday, October 25 at Farley Funeral Home in Venice. Contributions in memory of Theresa may be made to the Shiba Inu rescue of Florida, http://shibainurescueflorida.org/



URIBE, HELENE

The blessings of our mother's love are forever... Her love lives on in her wise words, in the ways she shaped who we are and in the beautiful memories that will always bless our hearts... Mom departed her earthly home to be with our Lord during the morning of Saturday, November 8, 2014. She was born in France on April 28, 1921 and grew up in the town of Sens until immigrating to the United States in 1947. Despite the many challenges life pushed across her pathway, she found time to care for our home, work, earn an advanced degree from Henry Ford Community College and raise us. She enjoyed her work as an Administrative Assistant in the Pharmacy Department at Mt. Carmel Mercy Hospital (Detroit Medical Center) and retired with many wonderful memories. She was preceded by her parents and brother and is survived by her sons: Jonathan, his wife Kristina; their children Sharon Price (her husband Matt), Justin and Kaitlyn Sullivan; great-grandchildren Gavin and Gage Price, Kaylee Rae-Marie Sullivan; and James, his wife Linda; their children Tatiana and Nicholas and close friends Jenny Deward and Barbara Boren. A member of the Red Hat Society who will be remembered for her wise counsel, willingness to impart the French culture upon the young and old; mom stressed the importance of making a difference in everything we do. A Mass celebrating her life will be said by Fr. Patrick J. Connell and Homilist Deacon Brian Carroll; at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, November 21 at Our Lady of La Sallette Catholic Church, 2600 Harvard Rd, Berkley, Michigan. Following the service, guests are invited to join us for brunch at Pasquales, 31555 Woodward in Royal Oak, Michigan. Memorial contributions may be made to the Michigan Humane Society.

May the memory of your loved one...

...bring you peace.



A loving tribute

Botsford Hospital's Mohs surgery treats common skin cancers

Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills has begun offering Mohs surgery, a new option for skin cancer treatment.

The Botsford Mohs Surgery Center, led by Brian Kopitzki, D.O., a board-certified dermatologist and fellowship-trained Mohs surgeon, is located in the Botsford Cancer Center, 27900 Grand River Ave., Suite 230, in Farmington Hills.

Mohs surgery is used mostly to treat the most common forms of skin cancer, basal and squamous cell carcinomas. The Mohs procedure removes a minimal amount of normal tissue, especially important in cosmetically sensitive areas



Brian Kopitzki, D.O., heads the Botsford Mohs Surgery Center.

such as the face.

Skin cancer is the most widespread form of all cancers in the U.S. and is on the rise.

This year, about two million Americans will be diagnosed. Seeking medical attention at the first suspicion of skin cancer is critical to successful treatment.

Kopitzki says the most common warning sign of skin cancer is a change on skin, typically a new growth, or a change in an existing growth or mole.

Patients that have tested positive for basal or squamous cell carcinoma may self-refer to the Botsford Mohs Surgery Center by calling 248-473-4828. Or they may be referred by their doctor. For a referral to a Botsford dermatologist, call 877-477-3621.

Study: Physical skills of patients decline long after stroke, heart attack

A University of Michigan study has found that individuals who survive heart attacks and stroke may experience a decline in physical abilities that steadily accelerates over time.

Researchers analyzed Medicare records from 2010 and from the Health and Retirement study, a national survey of older Americans funded by the National Institute on Aging and based at the U-M Institute for Social Research (ISR).

The study included 391 heart attack survivors and 370 stroke survivors.

The findings appear in *Circulation: Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes*.

"More people are surviving heart attack and stroke than ever before but the long-term consequences for survivors may be much greater than we thought," said lead author Deborah Levine, M.D., M.P.H., assistant professor of internal medicine at the U-M Medical

School and researcher in the VA Center for Clinical Management Research.

"We found that over time, survivors had increasing difficulty performing everyday tasks like walking, bathing, shopping and managing money and that these struggles got progressively worse every year following a heart attack or stroke."

Stroke survivors also appeared to be at a higher risk of depression and mental declines, including memory loss.

Over 10 years, heart attack survivors gained approximately 1.5 to 3.5 new limitations that interfere with their ability to perform daily tasks. Stroke survivors gained approximately 3.5 to 4.5 limitations.

The researchers also found that the risk of developing severe depressive symptoms were 20 percent greater for every new functional limitation gained after heart attack and 34 percent greater for

every new functional limitation gained after stroke.

"Our findings suggest that heart attack and stroke survivors should be screened and monitored for functional disability long after discharge from the hospital because patients may need additional help with activities of daily living over the years after heart attack and stroke," said senior author Theodore Iwashyna, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of internal medicine at the U-M Medical School and researcher in the Institute of Social Research and the VA Center for Clinical Management Research.

In 2010 in the U.S., 7.6 million individuals survived heart attacks and 6.8 million survived strokes. The rate is expected to increase by 25 percent over the next two decades, while the supply of caregivers for the elderly is expected to decline.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Upcoming

ACA learning session

Botsford Hospital presents a series of monthly learning sessions on the Affordable Care Act, 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, Dec. 10 and Jan. 7, 2015, at the hospital, 28050 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills. The ACA marketplace open enrollment period is Nov. 15-Feb. 15, 2015. The sessions, which are free, will help people learn about their options under the ACA; 248-442-1633

Baby basics

First-time parents, grandparents or caregivers can learn how to care for a newborn, 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2, at Botsford Hospital, 28050 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills. Topics will include bathing, feeding, developmental stages, immunization schedules, identifying illnesses, choosing a pediatrician, medications, childcare options, choosing a babysitter, safety-proofing the home and more. Register by calling 248-888-2500 or going online, http://www.botsford.org/medical_services/new_beginnings_maternity/classes/.

Diabetes management

Oakwood Healthcare will sponsor a free seminar on managing diabetes from 5-7 p.m. Nov. 26 at the Oakwood Physical Therapy and Wellness Center, 17101 Rotunda Drive in Dearborn. To register, visit Oakwood.org or call 800-543-9355.

Healthy eating

» Denise Cykiert, Botsford Hospital dietitian, teaches healthy, quick and easy recipes for crock-pot cookery 6-7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, at Busch's Fresh Food Market, 24445 Drake, Farmington Hills. Cost is \$5. Register by calling or visiting the Guest Service Counter at Busch's; 248-427-7400.

» St. John Providence Community Health also offers a free presentation on healthy holiday eating, 10:30-

11:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 17, in Fisher Auditorium at Providence Hospital, 16001 W. Nine Mile, Southfield. Register at 888-751-5465.

» St. Joseph Mercy Health Center, Canton and St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Livonia, kick off a series on senior health issues at 10:45 a.m. Monday, Nov. 17, at the Canton Club 55+ Senior Center, Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. The topic for November is Eating Healthy. Register by calling 734-394-5485.

Kidney Ball

The fundraiser for the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan includes cocktails at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at the MGM Grand in downtown Detroit. The event also will include silent and live auctions. Tickets are \$250. Visit nkfm.org/events or call 800-482-1455.

Kidney Smart classes

Participants will learn about how kidneys function, the causes of chronic kidney disease, how to manage related health conditions such as diabetes and hypertension, treatment choices and more. The 90-minute sessions are free.

» 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, and 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, at Westland Dialysis, 36533 Ford Road, Westland

» 3 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18 and Dec. 16, New Hope Church, 44815 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

To register and find more locations, visit www.kidneysmart.org or call Angela Humble, R.D., at 864-525-9599

Walk with a Doc

Ron Kuzdak, D.O., will talk about fitness, noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, at the Heritage Park Nature Center, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Walk with a Doc is held the third Thursday of the month. Register by calling 877-477-3621, option #1.



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A black and white photograph showing a woman in a lab coat sitting at a desk, working on a computer. She is looking at the monitor. In the background, another person is standing near a server rack. The room is filled with server equipment and cables.

lenges today's businesses face in harnessing the power of big data, seizing mobile opportunities and embracing a "bring your own device" approach. If you have relevant experience in any of these areas, make it known.

Expand your network

Professional networking, conducted both online and in person, can help you connect to relevant job opportunities faster. However, if your network consists primarily of your peers who are also looking for employment -- or aren't employed at firms that are expanding their IT teams -- you need to broaden your scope of contacts.

Reconnect with old business contacts, mentors, teachers or family friends who have some business clout. Take advantage of networking events and other activities offered by local business organizations or professional associations. Be active in online networks such as Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter -- just be sure to keep all content fresh and professional. Once you've expanded your network, focus primarily on cultivating contacts who can introduce you to influential and well-connected people at the companies you'd like to work for most.

Lastly, don't fail to consider the opportunities and connections that an interim work arrangement might yield. A specialized recruiter can assist you in finding temporary IT positions. Often, these engagements lead to full-time roles for talented workers. Working as an interim technology professional also can help you earn income -- and keep your skills sharp -- while you continue your search for full-time employment.

With more than 100 locations worldwide, Robert Half Technology is a leading provider of technology professionals for initiatives ranging from web development and multiplatform systems integration to network security and technical support. Robert Half Technology offers online job search services at www.rht.com, twitter.com

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Part time Wixom area. Strong PC & Excel skills and ability to multi-task. Email resume to admin@jerrybaker.com

APPLICANTS for Residential Cleaning Co. \$10/hr. + mileage & travel time. No nights/weekends. 734-812-5683

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BOOKKEEPER/ ACCOUNTANT
Farmington Hills based accounting firm. Must be experienced in small business accounting. 20-25 hrs/wk. Must know Quickbooks. Creative Solutions a plus. Pay based on experience. Email resume: jobssearch806@gmail.com

Boring Mill Operator & CNC Operator - 3 Axis
Experienced only. Benefits & Overtime! Start immediately. Livonia. Call: (734) 423-3920 or email: weitzto@yahoo.com

Laundry Mat Attendants
Part-time, will train, 8 Orchard Lake area, Farmington Hills. 245-349-2500 x319.

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Commercial Cleaner
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No experience necessary.
Paid training.
586-759-3700

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Pontiac location seeking a strong lead position with culinary & business experience to manage the day to day activities of an existing account - ability to supervise staff - cash handling experience - food ordering & inventory experience
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Ashley Distribution Services in Romulus, MI seeks:

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•Paid Vacation
•401K
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Class A CDL & at least 1 year current OTR exp. Clean MVR/PSR Reports. Call 1-800-837-2241 8AM to 4PM CST for info & app or email: jobs@ashleydistributionservices.com or www.ashleydistributionservices.com to apply under jobs.

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Energetic, outgoing, hard-working, full-time **Maintenance Tech.!!!**
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Help Wanted - Office Clerical

Assistant/Receptionist
Livonia mortgage lender needs part time receptionist/assistant processor. Must have some mortgage, real estate, or title company experience.
Fax or email resume to: 734-425-4520 jmcparland@colonial-mortgage-corp.com

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with experience in property management accounting including multi-family. See full details **CareerBuilder.com**
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Pediatric office in Livonia. Exp rec, approx 30 hrs/wk. **73**

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LIVONIA - 3 bdrm, brk., 1800
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FS Realty 734-421-8535

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be adored, glorified, loved and
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prayer will be answered. Publi-
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Buick

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2015 Lincoln MKZ is 'attracting next generation of luxury car buyers'

By Greg Mullin
Staff Writer

The 2015 Lincoln MKZ continues to represent the road ahead for the Lincoln Motor Co., said Steve Hunsinger, sales manager at Jack Demmer Lincoln in Dearborn.

"With its design, performance and technology, the MKZ is attracting the next generation of luxury car buyers," he said.

Those customers enjoy a wide range of standard features, plus three power train options:

The standard 2.0L EcoBoost I-4.

The available 3.7L Ti-VCT V6 engine.

The Lincoln MKZ Hybrid, which offers the third-generation 2.0L Atkinson-cycle I-4 gas engine.

The 2015 Lincoln MKZ competes head-to-head in the luxury mid-size sedan market with brands like the Acura TL, Cadillac CTS, Infiniti Q50 and Lexus ES 350, while the Lincoln MKZ Hybrid contends with vehicles like the Infiniti Q50 Hybrid and Lexus ES 300h.

"There are many standard features on the MKZ that aren't offered on many of the competitive models," Hunsinger said.

"One of the most intriguing features of the MKZ is the push-button transmission, which is on the dashboard, alleviating the center console shift and offering a more open feel to the cabin of the vehicle," Hunsinger said.

The 2015 MKZ incorporates the new Lincoln design language of "elegant simplicity."

Exterior design features include:

Adaptive LED auto

SAFETY FEATURES

Safety and security features abound in the MKZ. Among them are: AdvanceTrac electronic stability control. Driver and front-passenger knee airbags. Dual-stage driver and front-passenger airbags. Front-seat side airbags. Side-curtain airbags with roll-fold technology. Emergency trunk release. Inflatable rear safety belts (available as a free-standing option with select or reserve equipment groups). LATCH (Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children). Personal Safety System. Programmable MyKey. Perimeter alarm. Rear-door child-safety locks. Remote keyless entry system. SecuriLock passive anti-theft system. SOS post-crash alert system. SecuriCode invisible keypad. Tire pressure monitoring system. Traction control.

headlamps.

Auto high beams.

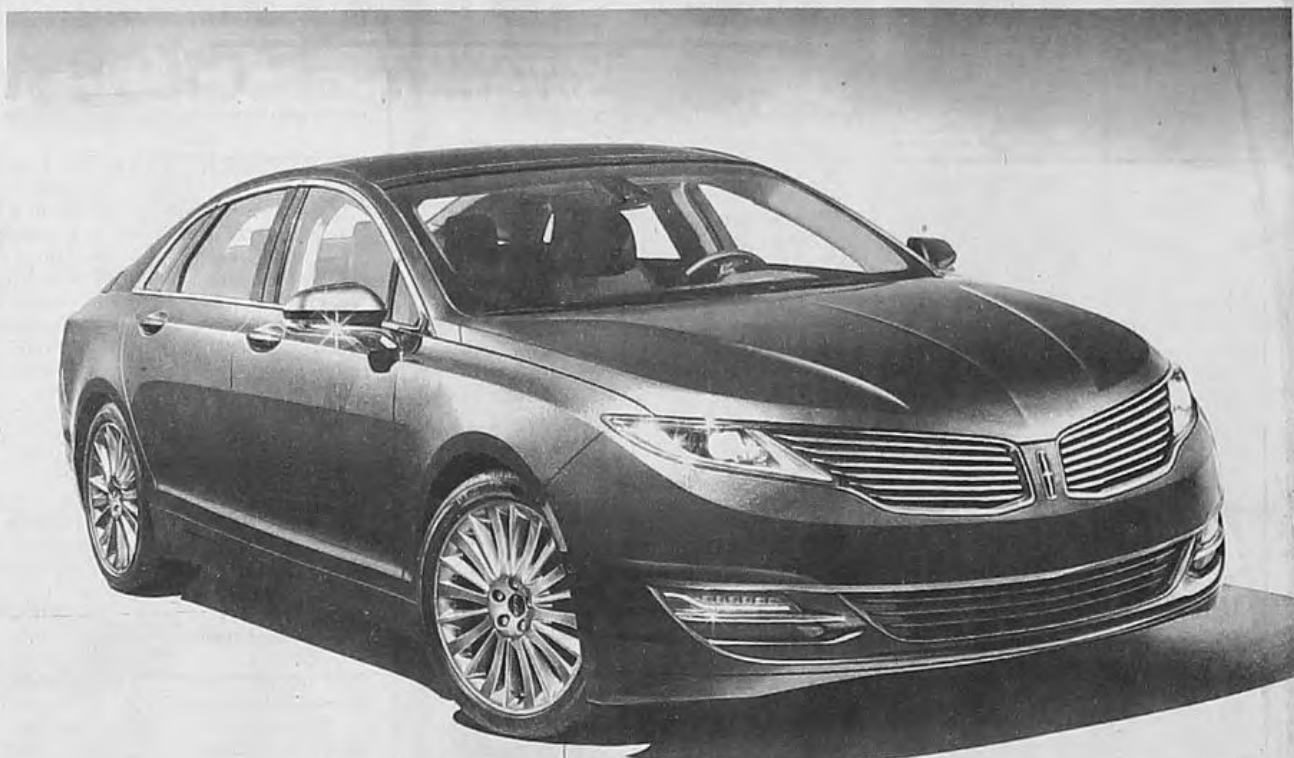
Body-color exterior door handles with chrome insert.

Configurable daytime running lamps (available with select and reserve equipment groups).

LED tail lamps and light-pipe driving lamps.

Split-wing grille with chrome surround.

Pedestal-mounted heated side-view mirrors with integrated turn signals, blind spot mirrors and security ap-



FORD MOTOR CO.

The 2015 MKZ incorporates the new Lincoln design language of "elegant simplicity."

proach lamps.

Power up/down deck lid (available).

Rectangular dual exhaust with bright tips.

Retractable panoramic roof.

Interior design features include:

10.1-inch LCD instrument cluster.

Ambient lighting — customers can choose from seven different colors (select equipment group).

Flow-through front console with storage bin, trinket tray and two cup holders.

Genuine wood appliques.

Illuminated scuff plates.

Premium leather seating surfaces (select and reserve equipment

groups).

"The luxury and elegant attributes of the MKZ have not gone unnoticed by today's luxury car buyers," Hunsinger said. "The MKZ has done very well with current Lincoln owners, but Lincoln is looking at the big picture of attracting the competitive buyers and converting them to Lincoln owners."

In fact, Lincoln predicts that 45 percent of sales will be to past or current Lincoln owners, while 55 percent of sales will come from "conquest" customers, Hunsinger said.

Jack Demmer Lincoln is ready to serve all customers.

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The 2015 Lincoln MKZ features a flow-through front console with storage bin, trinket tray and two cup holders and a 10.1-inch LCD instrument cluster.

professional sales staff, today has never been a better time to buy from Jack Demmer Lincoln," Hunsinger said. "From the moment a client enters Jack Demmer Lin-

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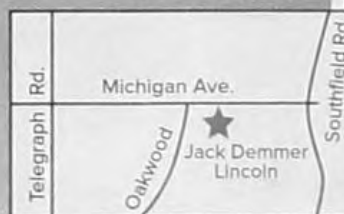
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 The logo for Michigan.com, featuring the word "michigan" in a lowercase, sans-serif font, with a small dot above the "i", and "com" in a smaller, lowercase, sans-serif font to its right. The logo is set against a dark, rounded rectangular background.

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