

ROLLER ROOKIES

FIRST YEAR SKATERS HEADED TO NATIONALS

SPORTS, B1

SUMMER BEACH READS

COMMUNITY LIFE, B5



SUNDAY

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PIPELINE

Board spot

Schoolcraft College trustees have chosen James G. Fausone to fill a vacancy on the Board of Trustees. He will be sworn in at the regular board meeting Aug. 25 and will serve until the next regular board election in November, at which time the seat will be up for election.

Fausone, a Canton resident, is an attorney and partner in



Fausone

the Fausone Bohn, LLP law firm in Northville. He holds a juris doctorate from Gonzaga University School of

Law and two bachelor's degrees, in environmental engineering and oceanography, from the University of Michigan.

The Board of Trustees received four applications for the vacant position previously held by Dr. Philip N. Cascade. Interviews with the four candidates took place last week, after which the board met July 12 to select Fausone.

Voter guides

Non-partisan Voters Guides prepared by the League of Women Voters for the candidates running for state, county and local elections Aug. 3 are now available on the League's website, www.lwvnmw.org.

In this primary election, voters can vote in only one party's primary - either Republican or Democratic. A ballot will be invalidated if the voter crosses over from one party to another. In a primary election, voters cannot split their ticket for partisan offices.

The League of Women Voters is a source of non-partisan candidate information, and the Voter Guide provides an easy vehicle for the voters to compare the candidates before the Aug. 3 election.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. It never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

Donations accepted

Medical expenses for Dawn Hengesbaugh, the Canton Township woman who remains hospitalized due to injuries suffered in a Jan. 29 traffic crash in Plymouth Township, have so far been covered through automobile insurance, according to her husband, Larry Hengesbaugh.

But the family is accepting donations to cover other expenses. Checks, written to Dawn Hengesbaugh, can be sent to her at PNC Bank, 7219 N. Canton Center Road, Canton MI 48187.

Dawn Hengesbaugh, 41, was in a coma for several weeks after the crash. She is paralyzed below the waist and suffers from memory and speech problems. Her family isn't sure when she will be able to leave St. Joseph Mercy Hospital and anticipates she will need long-term care.

Still standing



Community outreach (above), both regionally and internationally, has become an important part of the mission at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, which celebrates its 175th anniversary today (Sunday). First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth (top) was rebuilt in 1946 after a fire destroyed the church the year before. The only things left standing after the fire: A Bible and the lectern on which it rested.

First Presbyterian grows by changing with the times

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Leora Norgrove grew up a Presbyterian in Erie, Mich., a town she said "was a Catholic town" and one in which her small church often had to share a minister.

So it only seemed natural Norgrove would gravitate to a Presbyterian church when she moved to Plymouth, and that's exactly what she did when she wound up joining First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth in 1939.

Today, at 94, Norgrove is the church's longest-tenured member.

"I've been a Presbyterian all my life," said Norgrove, who lived in the same house in Old Village (then called Lower Town) for more than 60 years. "I was baptized Lutheran because my parents were Lutheran, and when we wanted to go to Sunday school we had to go into Erie to go with our friends."

Norgrove isn't sure if she'll be in attendance today (Sunday) when First Presbyterian celebrates its 175th anniversary, but she's pleased to still be a member of a church she says has grown with the times.

"It's more modern now," said Norgrove, whose husband was born and raised in Plymouth. "It's more for young people now. It's very youth-oriented. Other churches are

HITTING A LANDMARK

What: First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth
Where: 701 Church, Plymouth (across from Central Middle School)

Organized: February 1833, established in 1835

First building: Built in 1846

Changes: Destroyed by fire in 1936, rebuilt in 1946, chapel added in 1955, educational wing added in 2002

Minister: First minister was A.M. McJunkin; current minister, Dr. James Skimmings

Congregation: Some 1,200 members

Phone: (734) 453-6464

falling away, but (First Presbyterian) has been able to keep its attendance because it has a broad program for youth and attracts youth from other churches."

First Presbyterian first assembled in February 1833 and organized two years later under its first minister, the Rev. A.M. McJunkin, from which date the anniversary falls. Church officials built the original building in 1846. Ninety years later, the church was destroyed by a fire. According to information

Please see **CHURCH, A3**

'Scream 4' reverberates in Plymouth

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth has joined the roster of communities playing host to the cast and crew of *Scream 4*, which is currently being filmed in the Detroit area.

Shooting is planned for Monday and Tuesday in downtown Plymouth, including at a parking lot on Ann Arbor Trail next to the Box Bar, where the facade of a police station was being constructed last week.

Scream 4, which is scheduled for an April 2011 release, is the latest in the *Scream* series of satirical slasher movies directed by Wes Craven, 70, a legend in the horror genre. The cast includes Courtney Cox and her real-life husband, David Arquette, plus Neve Campbell, Rory Culkin and Hayden Panettiere. Kevin Williamson is the screenwriter.

Plymouth will represent the fictional California town of Woodsboro in some of the movie's exterior shots, publicist Liz Biber said. Other local communities where shooting has taken place or is planned include Livonia, Northville, Ann Arbor and Dearborn.

The original *Scream* debuted in 1996 and the first three movies in the series have earned close to \$300 million in the U.S., Biber said.

Filming this week, weather permitting, is expected to begin early on both Monday and Tuesday and continue into the evening.

Scream 4 is the fourth major film production to visit the Plymouth area in recent months. A street in Plymouth Township provided a set for the filming of *Salvation Boulevard*, starring Pierce Brosnan, in May. The cast and crew of the family drama *Trust*, directed by David Schwimmer (he played Ross on the television sitcom *Friends*), filmed scenes in Plymouth in November and December, and scenes for the comedy *Cedar Rapids*, starring John C. Reilly and Anne Heche, were shot at the Plymouth Roc (formerly Boulders) in December.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Set construction next to the Box Bar in downtown Plymouth is for filming of *Scream 4*.

LET US SEE

Filming on the movie 'Scream 4' is expected to take place Monday and Tuesday in downtown Plymouth. Stars such as 'Friends' alum Courtney Cox, Neve Campbell and David Arquette, Cox's real-life husband, may be found in the downtown area, where the set of a fictional police station was built near the Box Bar.

If you see a star or - even better - snap a picture with any of the stars, let us know about it. Send photos to bkadrich@hometownlife.com.
• Traffic flow, and parking on some downtown streets may be affected during the production, according to the Downtown Development Authority. Main between Ann Arbor Trail and Penniman, Union and Deer streets between Roe and Maple and Penniman between Main and Union, could all be affected at times.

Blitz set for annual school supplies drive

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Officials at the Plymouth Salvation Army helped more than 300 students during last year's Back to School Blitz, the SA program designed to help get needy kids ready for school.

Still, corps officials are certain the need is even greater this year, but worry some people won't seek assistance because of a perceived stigma involved with asking for help. They're hoping such families will overcome that fear and come in for help.

"There are people in need, but there's definitely a hesitation," said Laurie Aren, the Plymouth Salvation Army's director of Family and Community Ministries. "I know there

are people who need assistance who aren't comfortable calling for help. But if we can help them with back-to-school items, that in turn helps them stretch their dollars into other areas of their budgets."

Families will get the chance to take advantage of the program after the Salvation Army hosts its two collection dates next month. Supplies will be collected from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 18, at the Walgreen's on Belleville Road in Belleville, then again two days later from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 20, at the Plymouth Salvation Army parking lot on Main Street, just south of Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

Distribution takes place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and again 5-7 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 25, at the corps headquarters.

Items being collected include backpacks with school supplies appropriate to grade, including paper, pencils, pens, highlighters, notebooks, binders, folders, rulers, glue sticks, scissors, erasers, pencils boxes, etc.

Corps officials also have some 300 Payless gift cards worth \$25 (the shoe store offers a 25-percent discount to the program).

According to Aren, some 90 percent of the materials are donated by the public - "We are so blessed with a generous community," she said - or are purchased with monetary gifts donated by the public. Salvation Army officials identify some needy families and they work with officials in both

the Van Buren and Plymouth-Canton school districts to identify others.

"Things are still bad here in Michigan and, while we're looking at an affluent community in Plymouth and Canton, we're still finding a lot of families are struggling to provide basics like food and clothing, so things like school supplies get pushed aside," said Frank Ruggirello, director of community relations for PCCS. "These are the things the Salvation Army focuses on so that, in a confidential way, they help kids get what they need, and we certainly appreciate that."

For more information on the Back to School Blitz, call the Plymouth Salvation Army at (734) 453-5464.

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

Class reunions

The Plymouth High School Class of 1970 holds its 30-year reunion Saturday, Sept. 11, at the Plymouth Elks Club. Cost is \$25 per person.

For more information visit www.plymouthclassof1970.com or Cathwage@med.umich.edu or call Cathy Wagenschutz at (734) 453-7939.

The Plymouth High School Class of 1955 holds its reunion 5-11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18, at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, in Plymouth.

Cost is \$45 per person. For more information, contact Terry West at twest@rose-moving.com or call (248) 473-8988.

Lotus exhibit

Lotus Arts Gallery announced the opening of a new exhibition, Paint it Bold,

which will be on display at the gallery through Friday, Aug. 13.

The Paint it Bold exhibit is a small group show featuring the work of artists Peggy Kerwan (mixed media), David Austin (acrylic/canvas), Diane Whitehead (acrylic & graphite/wood, watercolor & graphite/paper), Jeri Fellwock (acrylic/canvas or paper, mixed media) and Jeanne Poulet (acrylic/canvas).

Lotus Arts Gallery is located at 995 West Ann Arbor Trail (corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Harvey Street) in downtown Plymouth. The public is welcome to view the exhibit during gallery hours between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. There is no fee.

For more information, contact the gallery toll free at (888) 889-4ART or at (734) 453-5400.

Fall Fest crafts

The Plymouth Fall Festival is accepting applications for the Craft Show, which takes

place during the Fall Festival Sept. 10-12.

The show will be on Union Street north of Ann Arbor Trail; 10-foot-by-10-foot spaces will cost \$75 per day or \$200 for the weekend. The jewelry vendor application deadline has passed. All other vendors are awarded spots on a first come-basis.

Applications can be downloaded at www.plymouthfall-festival.com or for more information call or e-mail Colleen Brown at (734) 455-1614 or cbrown57@comcast.net.

Golf outing

The City of Plymouth Recreation Department is holding a golf outing Aug. 12 at the Inn at St. John's, and golfers are needed.

The cost is \$125 per person or \$500 for a foursome. It is a 9:30 a.m. shotgun start and all the proceeds go to recreation programs, supplies, equipment, and facility improvements.

For more information or to sign up go to ci.plymouth.mi.us/index.aspx?nid=1111, or call the Recreation Department at (734) 455-6620.

mi.us/index.aspx?nid=1111, or call the Recreation Department at (734) 455-6620.

Matinee series

Community Financial Credit Union, Packaging Corporation of America and the Plymouth District Library sponsor the Summer Cinema Matinee Series at the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth throughout the summer.

The schedule of movies includes "Herbie Goes to Monte Carlo," July 22; "Back to the Future," July 29; "The Wizard of Oz," Aug. 5; "American Tail 2: Fievel Goes West," Aug. 12; "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World," Aug. 19; and "Muppet Treasure Island," Aug. 26.

Shows are at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.; the box office opens a half-hour before each showing. All seats \$3. The Penn Theatre is located at 760 Penniman in downtown Plymouth.

For more information, call (734) 453-0870 or visit www.penntheatre.com

Jazz at the Elks

Plymouth Elks Lodge No. 1780 presents "Jazz @ The Elks" with the Sven Anderson Trio on Tuesday, July 27, from 7-10:30 p.m.

Sven Anderson will be on piano and John Barron on bass with other musicians joining in. Don't miss an evening of great jazz from Cole Porter to Salsa in a beautiful club setting.

There is no cover charge but donations are appreciated. The Plymouth Elks Lodge No. 1780 is located on Ann Arbor Road, west of Haggerty, in Plymouth. Call (734) 453-1780 for more information.

Pottery painting

New Hope Center for Grief Support, in cooperation with the Plymouth Community United Way, is offering an evening at Creatopia in downtown Plymouth July 27.

This event is for parents with children who are interested in painting a pottery piece in memory of someone who has died. Dinner will be at Subway (next to Creatopia) starting at 6:15 p.m. After



Rockette golf

The Salem High School Pom-Pon team hosts its 10th annual golf fund-raiser Aug. 8 at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center. The 18-hole outing will be held on the Golden Fox course and includes a \$10,000 hole-in-one contest, prizes for closest to the pin, longest drive, first place for men, women and mixed teams, skins and door prizes. Hot dogs and chips will be served at the turn. The cost for entering the tournament is \$100 per golfer, which includes \$15 in gift coupons to local businesses and a buffet dinner with open bar. Other attractions of the day are a fabulous performance by the Salem Rockettes Dance team, a silent auction with many exciting lots, such as an airplane ride over the Plymouth-Canton area and a raffle for a 42-inch Plasma TV. Hole sponsorships are available for \$125. To register call Manny Colon at (734) 981-6645.

some brief instructions, painting will begin at 7 p.m. and will conclude at 8:30.

The event is free, but space is limited. Call New Hope at (248) 348-0115 to register.

Art, theater camps

Summer Art Camps are in full swing at the Plymouth Community Arts Council! Half-day camps for ages 5-12 are offered in a wide variety of themes, ranging from the traditional favorites; Drawing, Painting, Pottery and Performing Arts to some new camps, including Diva Art, Camp Earth, Construction-Destruction Art and Musical Theater. Also new this year are the Littlest Artist Studio and the Celebration Art Camp, intended for the 4½ - 6 year old first time camper.

Camps are offered either in morning or afternoon sessions. For families looking for an all day camp, lunch care is available between the two sessions. Prices vary for PCAC members and non-members. For specific dates, times and prices of the camps, or to register for any of the camps, please visit the Plymouth Community Arts website: www.plymou-arts.com

tharts.com or call (734) 416-4278.

Evoking summer

The Plymouth Community Arts Council's new exhibit, which began July 6, is a celebration of summer and its many pleasures, featuring Ypsilanti artist Bill Knudstrup, who spent his childhood on the beaches and dunes of Lake Michigan's eastern shore.

The memories of that experience are the impetus behind "Children of Summer." The subject matter of the work plays on timeless memories. Knudstrup has a Fine Arts degree from the University of Michigan and has had many solo and group shows in the area.

The exhibit runs through Aug. 5 and can be viewed Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The public is invited to an Ice Cream Social on Friday, July 23 from 6-8 p.m. to meet the artist and celebrate summer. The Plymouth Community Arts Council is located at 774 N. Sheldon Rd. at Junction in Plymouth. Contact the PCAC at (734) 416-4278.

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Ryan O'Shaughnessy stands in the wreckage of a willow tree that came crashing down in the back yard of the family's Plymouth Township home during thunderstorms Thursday night. The tree narrowly missed the home; no one was hurt.

Some in city, township lose power from storm

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

About 400 DTE Energy electrical customers remained without power in Plymouth Township and Plymouth Friday afternoon following a storm Thursday evening that knocked out service to more than 100,000 in the Detroit area.

No serious injuries due to the storm were reported in the Plymouth area.

The storm, which brought down tree branches, took down about 1,000 DTE power lines in southeastern Michigan, said company spokesman Len Singer, and caused a number of lightning strikes.

Most of the power, including to customers in the Plymouth area, was expected to be restored by late Friday night, but some restoration work may continue during the weekend, Singer said.

In Plymouth Township, in the area of Glenview Drive and Ann Arbor Trail, high winds brought down a branch from a large willow tree in the back yard of John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy. There was

minor damage.

"We lost a bird bath, but that was about it," John O'Shaughnessy said. "Just missed the deck."

He estimated the branch was about 4 feet in diameter and took up an area in the back yard of about 30 feet by 40 feet. "It's a branch, but it's a branch the size of most trees," he said.

But there was little other storm damage nearby, O'Shaughnessy said.

In the city of Plymouth, a power pole caught fire on Virginia Street and an electrical line came down in Old Village, leaving parts of the neighborhood without electricity, said City Manager Paul Sincock. The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the fire.

John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy were on the golf course at The Inn at St. John's when the storm hit.

"We just saw this (bank) of black clouds rolling in, and we just barely got off the course," John O'Shaughnessy said. They took refuge at the nearby Rusty Bucket for dinner.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2045

CHURCH

FROM PAGE A1

on the church's website, the only things left standing after the fire were the Bible, and the lectern on which it stood.

The new building was erected a year later and stands today on Church Street, just off of Main, across from Central Middle School. A chapel was added in 1955, and a 10,000-square-foot educational wing was added in September 2002.

And while the building has undergone occasional change, so has the church itself. The congregation — more than 1,200 people are members — has gotten younger, and the mission has evolved to include much more outreach.

Those shifts, according to the church's current senior minister, are at least partially responsible for the church's stability.

"We've adjusted to the times," said Dr. James Skimmins, who joined the church in 1994. "We're still fairly traditional, but we've tried to adjust to what's happening in the area. As one of our young people put it, we value tradition without valuing traditionalism."

The church has adjusted its programs to attract a younger congregation. Bringing in younger families with new programs, Skimmins said, "meets their needs."

The church has also in recent years focused on its outreach, not only locally, but regionally and internationally. The church's youth team spent a week at the Second Mile Center in Detroit, and the church has cultivated a partnership with a church in the Republic of Malawi in southeast Africa. First Presbyterian members have traveled to Malawi to help dig wells and provide fresh water



A men's Bible Study group gathered at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, circa early 1900s.

to residents, and the church last month hosted a Malawi delegation on a reciprocal visit.

"Mission outreach has been a big thrust for us the last six or seven years," Skimmins said. "It's very much a two-way thing, and over the next 10 years we hope to build a strong partnership."

The church began preparations for its landmark birthday last fall, putting together a 2010 calendar with pictures old and new in church lore. In January, the congregation opened a time capsule that had been buried at the 150th anniversary celebration.

In April, the church's anniversary committee — with a great deal of help from the folks at Plymouth Nursery

— planted a royal red maple tree.

And in December, new items will be added to the time capsule, which will be buried to await the 200th anniversary. It's the kind of camaraderie, the kind of togetherness, that keeps people coming back to the church.

"I like the fellowship, the traditional worship services, the beautiful sanctuary and the people," said Mary Heid, who chaired the church's 175th Anniversary Committee and was raised Presbyterian. "The church changes, it keeps up with the things that are going on in the world. As the congregation changes, the church evolves."

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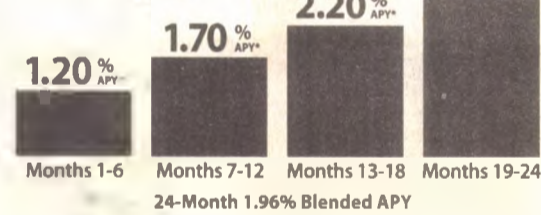


Plymouth Nursery landscape manager Jim Bradley (in the green shirt) and crew member Kyle Steiner planted a royal red Norway maple, donated by the nursery, as part of First Presbyterian Church's recognition of its 175th anniversary.

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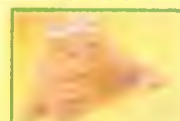
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— 20 Years Experience —

Plymouth resident wins video contest at PAH-Fest

It's a story about a love lost, but not forgotten. It's about the time they first met and their first date together, and the wedding, too. It's a lifetime of memories. All told in a six minute film.

This story, titled "Unforgotten Love," was selected as the winner of this year's Mobiflicks video contest during PAH-Fest Motown at Madonna University. Written by Adam Woloszyk of Plymouth, the movie was filmed, edited, and produced by him and his crew in just five days as part of the festival.

Created by Christopher Coppola, PAH-Fest (Project Accessible Hollywood) is an entirely free, digital media festival that travels to cities throughout the U.S. and internationally, engaging everyday people in the art of movie-making and digital storytelling. The Detroit version of the festival, PAH-Fest Motown, is in its fourth year and was hosted again by Madonna University.

Woloszyk and his team, dubbed "Team BCA," where among four metro-Detroit teams selected to participate in the video shooting competition. The teams were



Adam Woloszyk of Plymouth sets up a scene for his movie, 'Unforgotten Love.' The six-minute movie was selected as the winner of this year's PAH-Fest Mobiflicks contest.

given a video camera, some sound and lighting gear, a professional coach, and a week to shoot, edit, and produce a six minute film. In the end, the teams were judged partly by industry professionals and partly through online votes.

"I was very happy we won," Woloszyk said. "Our coach (Tom Durant) was instrumental in finding the right shots and giving us good tips. We had some good actors and great support from Madonna University

and the folks at PAH-Fest. It was stressful, I have to admit, but we learned so much in such a short time and we really had fun."

Team BCA included Walid Jaward, director of photography; Cynthia Hinojosa and Will Piper, producers; Christine Dixon and Stuart Hart, composers.

Since the team members had little or no experience shooting a film, they had to learn a lot on the fly.

And that's the point of PAH-Fest, said Christopher Coppola.

"This festival is about everyday people getting excited about telling their stories," Coppola said. "Everyone has a story to tell and I want to give them a chance to be heard; show people how easy it can be to get your message out, and hopefully get people really communicating with one another."

The film was shot in various locations around Plymouth, as part of PAH-Fest's goal is to get people to use their hometowns and lives as inspiration.

To watch the Mobiflicks entries, visit: <http://www.pahnation.org>, click on theater, then PAH-Fest Motown.



This month's production of 'High School Musical' at the Village Theater in Canton features (back, from left) Michael Barbour of Ann Arbor, Courtney Davis of Canton, Katie Farmer of Canton and Andrew Buckshaw of Canton, along with (bottom) Avery Ash of Canton and Justin Morley of Plymouth.

Theater brings 'Musical' to stage

Forever After Productions brings the Disney Channel's hit musical, *High School Musical*, to life on stage at the Village Theater later this month, featuring actors from Canton, Plymouth and other surrounding communities.

Officials said the production not only provides live summer entertainment for the whole family but it offers local 10- to 19-year-olds the opportunity to perform during the summer vacation. In addition to Plymouth and Canton, some 50 local youth from Ann Arbor, Detroit, Madison Heights, New Boston, Northville, Roseville, South Lyon, Westland and Ypsilanti are involved on stage in the cast and behind the scenes as theater technicians.

The production hits the stage July 29-30 at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.; July 31 at 2 and 7 p.m. and Aug. 1 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15, \$12 for groups of 15 or more and \$8 for the 10:30 a.m. shows July 29-30. Director Greg Wiklanski,

who hails from Windsor, Ontario, is a professional actor and director with extensive touring and cruise ship experience. Debby Ash of Canton is the choreographer, assisted by Olivia Rhoades of Plymouth.

Officials said the 1 hour, 45 minute show is appropriate for all ages and starts on the front steps of East High on the first day after winter break. The original version of *High School Musical* was a Disney Channel made-for-TV-movie.

In addition to this production, there are numerous summer theater camps being produced by Forever After Productions at the Village Theater. For more information, visit www.ForeverAfterProductions.com and click on Theater Summer Camps.

For tickets and additional information on this and other youth opportunities visit www.ForeverAfterProductions.com or call (734) 453-0088. The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton.

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NEWS BRIEFS

CCF approves grant

The Canton Community Foundation Board of Directors approved a grant to the Open Door Food Pantry to purchase a new walk-in cooler. The \$6,500 grant award comes from the CCF Community Fund and the Jim and Linda Demmer Donor Advised Fund.

The Open Door Ministry is in the food distribution network of Gleaners Community Food Bank and Forgotten Harvest, as well as community donations. The Canton-based food pantry feeds people from the western Wayne County area and Ypsilanti, distributing nearly 700,000 pounds of food so far this year.

On weekly average, officials said, more than 400 families received food equating 36,663 people to date. There has been a 42-percent increase in numbers of families requesting food in 2010 over 2009.

Steve and Jackie Darr, volunteer coordinators of the pantry, said the new cooler "triples the fresh fruit and vegetable capacity, just in time for the increased demand."

"Our guests are eager to take these nutritious items home to their families," Steve Darr said. "Approximately 6,000 pounds of food is placed in the new cooler each week; without this cooler we could not keep this amount of food fresh each week."

CCF takes the big-picture view of tough challenges and responds to community needs and leverages resources to create lasting change.

"This grant represents the Canton Community Foundation's recognition of the hardships many local residents are enduring and our efforts to alleviate some of the difficulties," said Joan Noricks, president of the foundation. "Open Door does an excellent job at distributing food to the hungry in an efficient and compassionate manner with the ultimate goal to enable families to provide food for themselves."

For more information about the Canton Community Foundation's work and mission, check the foundation's website at www.canton-foundation.org or call (734) 495-1200.

Patriotic Girl Scouts

The Girl Scout pledge "to serve... my country" sends a select group of patriotic teens to Mackinac Island each summer, to serve on the Governor's Honor Guard, as Mackinac Island Honor Scouts.

Four girls from Plymouth - Avery Messina, Christina Christenson, Brenna Wayne and Madeline Stowe, from Cadette Troop 40196 - will be serving as Mackinac Island Honor Scouts this summer. They will conduct flag ceremonies, guide tourists around Fort Mackinac and perform service projects with 54 others from the Ann Arbor Region of Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan.

MIHS Patrol 7901 has been serving as the Governor's Honor Guard since 1974, when local Girl Scouts (from what was then Huron Valley Girl Scout Council) petitioned the wife of then-Gov. William Milliken to allow girls to serve on



West Middle School student Avery Messina won the honor of firing the historic cannon each morning and evening during Patrol 7901's week on Mackinac Island.

the island, just as Boy Scouts had been doing since 1929 (President Gerald Ford was one of the early Eagle Scouts who served as a Mackinac Island Honor Scout.)

Messina, who will be a seventh grader at West Middle School, won the honor of firing the historic cannon each morning and evening during Patrol 7901's week on the island.

"The patrol leaders have told us to expect to do a lot of work," Messina said. "That's OK, I am not afraid of hard work. We have to be in good physical condition and we have to stand at guard positions every day, answering questions about the island's history."

The girls practice flag etiquette and marching. They learn about the history of the island and Fort Mackinac. The honor guard is responsible for raising and lowering the 20' by 36' U.S. flag in formal ceremonies each morning and evening, complete with cannon and trumpet salutes. They perform community service projects, such as cleaning and painting benches, clearing trails, and cleaning cemetery headstones.

Several times a year, members of Troop 40196, which is led by Messina's mother, Christine Messina, and Karen Stowe, mother of Madeline Stowe, get up at 5 a.m. to travel to Detroit, where they give out food on "PB & J Saturdays," coordinated through Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth.

Thirteen Girl Scout and Boy Scout groups (also including Troop 609 from the Saginaw Region of Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan) saw through the summer. Patrol 7901 will be on the island the last week of August through Labor Day.



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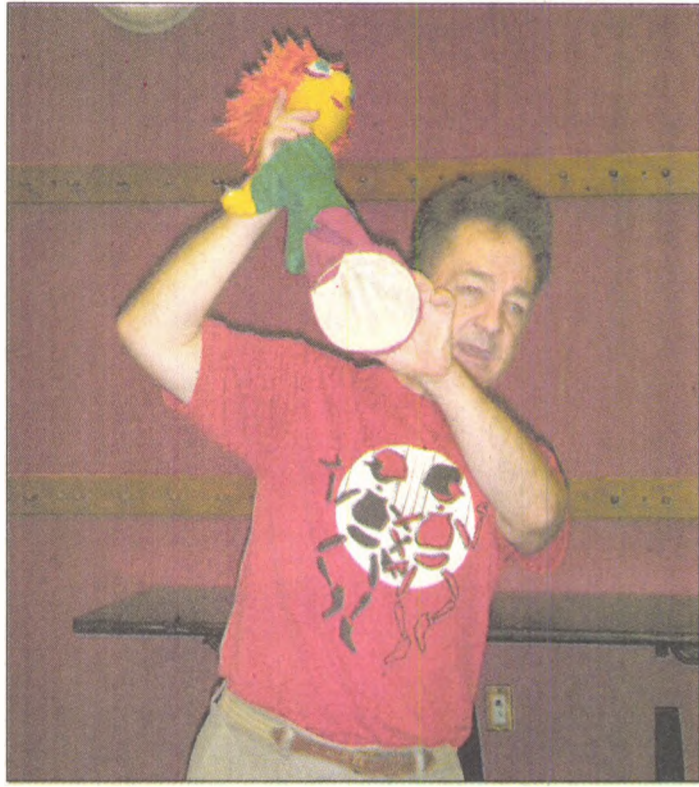
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Puppet master brings 'fun' show to library



Puppeteer Rob Papineau provided a detailed explanation about the workings of the puppets, stage and props during an appearance at the Plymouth District Library.

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Nick Lewandowski, 6, of Canton was glad to visit the Plymouth District Library recently.

"Do we spend a lot of time at the library in the summer?" asked Nick's mom, Teresa Lewandowski. "Yes, we do."

They were among nearly 100 kids and 56 adults waiting for the Pippin Puppets show to begin. Rob Papineau of Livonia, who's worked with puppets professionally almost 40 years, kept the kids engaged in a lively, interactive show.

Nick was "looking for books." He likes to visit the library in summer, "so you don't forget stuff."

Papineau told his audience, "Almost every day I go someplace and do the puppet show. We'll just let the puppets do the show themselves and I will watch."

The youngsters chimed in that puppets don't work by themselves, so Papineau got to work. His story was of the



More than 100 children showed up for the puppet show at the Plymouth District Library.

Grumblefrog Magic School.

"It's old and dusty, but we love it," said the Headmaster character, describing a school magic contest at Grumblefrog.

Professor Boo explained scary magic. "Would you like to learn something scary right now?" The boy puppet, Teazleberry, won the school contest by creating a best friend.

"You know, everybody needs a best friend and you made one," the Headmaster said. Papineau makes all his own

puppets, and took lots of time to explain how they work. He first became interested in puppetry as a boy.

"It's the best job ever," said Papineau, who has a son, 26, an animation artist in Pittsburgh. "I love my work."

His shows don't have a big message. "I'm just trying to impart a lot of fun," he said. Any message deals with self-worth, he said. He'd come up with the show idea before Harry Potter became the rage.

The summer reading pro-

gram for preschoolers and elementary-age youngsters has drawn some 1,600 this year, said Carol Champagne, youth coordinator at the Plymouth library. "It's the highest we've ever had," she said, adding there are also programs for older students and adults.

You can go to the library on Main in downtown Plymouth and register for summer reading through the end of July. "We still have a lot of really nice programs coming," Champagne said.

Call the Plymouth library at (734) 453-0750, press 5, for the youth department. The website is www.plymouthlibrary.org.

The Canton Public Library, on Canton Center Road south of Cherry Hill, is also offering summer reading programs for all ages. Registration in Canton continues through Aug. 11 and can be done online at www.cantonpl.org or at the library in person at any reference desk. Call (734) 397-0999 for details.

Canton has 1,835 children in preschool through fourth grade participating this summer.

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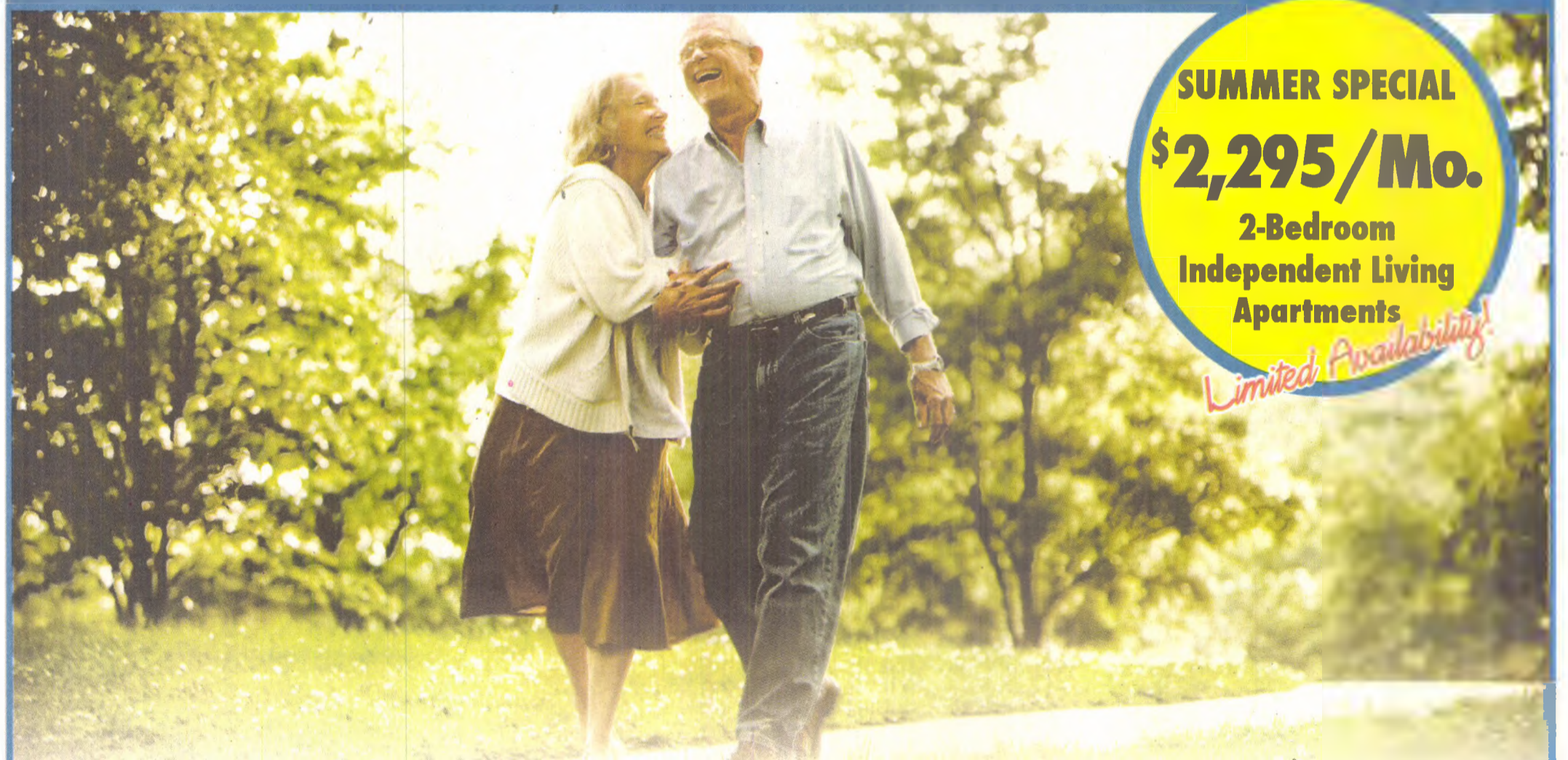
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Long way: Women from Northern Ireland glad to visit, work

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If your business takes you to International Minute Press or Travel Leaders in Plymouth anytime soon, you may just hear a distinctive Irish accent to go with that friendly service.

Two young women from the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland are in town this summer with Project Children, organizer of their seven-week internships. Orla Clarke, 22, and Lauren Donnelly, 21, are both in communications, advertising and marketing, Clarke a recent graduate and Donnelly in her third year.

"It's designed to promote peace between Catholic and Protestant young people," Clarke said of Project Children, which also has a component for younger children. Both she and Donnelly are Catholic. In their age group, around 40 interns are working, many in New York

and New Jersey.

Clarke and Donnelly arrived last month and told their story at an early meeting of the Plymouth A.M. Rotary. Rotarian Tim Higgins owns International Minute Press in Plymouth, with wife Kittie serving as Michigan coordinator for Project Children.

Kate Rosevear, also a Rotarian and past club president, owns Travel Leaders travel agency, where Donnelly is working this summer. The young women are staying in Northville with the Higgins family.

The U.S. isn't totally new to the two from Northern Ireland. Clarke has a best friend, Carla, who lives in Northern Ireland but with much family on Long Island in New York.

Clarke visited them in 2007. "I've wanted to go back ever since," she said.

They'll return to Northern Ireland in August. Donnelly's grandfather lived in

California so she's visited there.

"Never the East Coast, no, never," Donnelly said.

Donnelly will go home to Belfast in August for nine days, back to California just for fun, including Los Angeles and San Diego. They may do Las Vegas, "possibly Miami and New York. I'm not sure yet."

They haven't seen too much of Michigan just yet but like it. Both were scared of the early morning Tuesday, June 22, storms, not common in Northern Ireland.

Clarke, who will seek long-term work in her native country, likes the green here, aided by a wet spring. "It's lovely," she said, noting she's more accustomed to American cities. "We love the heat."

They'll join the local Gaelic football team and plan to play.

"Yeah, I love it," Donnelly agreed with her friend of Michigan's beauty.



Lauren Donnelly (left) and Orla Clarke of the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland have summer internships at Plymouth businesses through Project Children.

jbrown@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899

W-W uses online auction to sell old equipment

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools is using a 21st century technique to dispose of unwanted equipment and supplies — an online auction.

The school board last week approved a recommendation from Angela Black, supervisor of business and purchasing, to hire Hoff Hilk Auction Services to handle the Internet sale of the equipment that was used to teach the computer aided manufacturing/machining at William D. Ford Career Technical Center, as well as obsolete equipment from other programs.

"We are recommending Hoff Hilk, which utilizes an Internet-based auction approach which will provide maximum exposure and sales value," Black said. "To advertise the auction, Hoff Hilk will send e-mail correspondence to 250,000 to 300,000 e-mail addresses."

According to Deputy Supt. Gary Martin, the sale is a result in a shift in students' instructional needs, especially at the Career Technical Center. The CAMM equipment is no longer needed because the program has been cancelled due to low enrollment.

He added that using Hoff Hilk "is the best and most cost-effective way" of disposing of the unwanted equipment.

"An online auction is much more 21st century," Martin said. "It's very difficult to estimate what the auction will raise. We could have a wide range of buyers. The net proceeds could be \$100,000 to \$135,000. It could be very significant, but we just don't know."

The district will pay a 6-percent commission on the sale, which is 4 percent less than the firm's standard fee of 10 percent, according to Black. It also will pay up to \$11,500 to prepare for the auction — repairing, cleaning and videotaping of the equipment.

As part of the agreement, Hoff Hilk will hold an onsite preview in advance of the auction, planned for Aug. 3-17 on the Hoff Hilk website. It also collect the proceeds from the sale, coordinate and oversee the removal of the equipment and provide a sales report and payment within 30 days of the close of the auction.

"We'll set minimum bids, but we will consider lower bids, if the situation arises," Martin said.

Supt. Greg Baracy told the board that the equipment is very specialized and includes such things as lathes and multi-positional tools.

The money raised through the sale will be put in the district's General Fund and be used to purchase equipment and supplies for the instructional program.



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Family prays sale helps with medical bills

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

John Weaver has had kidney trouble since he was 4 years old, but never anything quite like this.

Weaver, now 46, has so many stones in his right kidney, his mother said doctors are considering taking it out in an effort to save his left kidney which, she said, is also starting to show signs of disease.

His mother, Beverly, is out of work due to medical problems of her own: She's got chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

that has left her unable to work.

And, with no health insurance and Medicaid (Weaver said) unwilling to help cover her son's medical issues, the bills are starting to mount, adding up to more than \$20,000.

"We have to do something," Beverly Weaver said. "His medical bills are outrageous." The "something" Beverly Weaver decided to do is an estate sale of sorts she'll hold July 31 at the Livonia Elks Lodge in Livonia. The Weavers are gathering up nearly every-

HOPING IT HELPS
What: Weaver family 'estate' sale
When: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, July 31
Where: Livonia Elks Lodge, 31117 Plymouth Road, just east of Merriman
Why: The family is selling most of its household possessions to try to whittle down a mountain of medical bills. Sale will include household goods, Christmas decorations, kids' items, clothing, jewelry, all at what Beverly Weaver said would be "great prices."

thing they own - "We have to keep some of the basics," Beverly Weaver said - and selling them at estate-sale prices in an effort to raise some capital to help with the mountain of bills.

For sale will be a host of household-style items, including Christmas ornaments, clothing, household goods, a small TV, brand-new linens,

kids' stuff and collectibles.

She's also got a 14-diamond ring she said has been appraised between \$1,500 and \$1,800.

"What else can I do?" she said of selling most of her possessions. "I have no other way of coming up with money. I know I'm not going to come up with that kind of money (more

than \$20,000). I'm just hoping to make enough to clear some of the smaller bills out of the way so I can focus on the larger ones."

Weaver said she's been disabled since 2002, laid up by her COPD, fibromyalgia and other medical problems that have made it difficult for her to get around and even breathe. Her son was struck by a car when he was 4 - his right kidney, she said, never grew properly - and has had problems ever since. Doctors, she said, started surgery on him when he was 12, but had to delay it because his blood pressure dropped.

Unable to work - except for brief stints doing odd jobs such as delivering pizza

when his health allows - John Weaver and his mother are hoping the sale will help.

"It's everything we've accumulated and collected," Beverly Weaver said. "Most of it is new, and a lot of it still has the tags on it."

For the July 31 sale, Weaver said her niece is helping her set up the booth, and her family, she said, has been very supportive, as have several churches in the area. With Social Security her only income, Weaver said it's been a struggle.

"My family ...," she said, choking back emotion. "I owe them so much. Them and the churches have gotten us through the last year."

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How to pay when home equity line is cancelled?

Q: Dear Rick: A few months ago, I contracted to do some home improvement work. I had to put one-third down and the remaining two-thirds were going to be paid when the job was done. The job is almost done and this is where my problem develops. I was going to pay for the improvements through my home equity loan. I made the down payment with the home equity loan. However, I received a letter from my bank stating my home equity line of credit was cancelled. I am outraged at my bank. Do I have any recourse against my bank? How do I pay the remainder of what I owe (about \$15,000)? I have attached a list of my assets and hopefully you can help me decide how I should



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

pay for the improvements. I did not want to finance the improvements using my 401(k) plan.

A: The home equity line of credit documents that you signed probably give the bank the right to revoke your line of credit. This is something many banks are doing for a number of reasons. They are doing it because housing values have dropped dramatically and there is not as much equity in homes as in the past and, with the sluggish economy, banks are more hesitant to make loans to individuals.

However, just because your bank doesn't want to issue you a line of credit doesn't mean you can't try another bank. We live in a competitive society and you may find that just because one bank doesn't want your business, there are others that do.

If you can't get a home

equity line of credit, how do you pay for the improvements? After reviewing your assets, I recommend cashing out your certificate of deposit (CD). The CD is paying 2 percent. Even if you were able to get a home equity loan, the after tax cost would be more than the 2-percent.

I am generally not in favor of borrowing from 401(k) plans. The general misconception is you are paying interest to yourself, so it's like free money. However, that is not the case. Keep in mind that the interest you pay into your 401(k) plan is not tax-deductible and when the money is eventually withdrawn from the IRA, the interest that you paid will be taxed to you. Since the interest you pay is not deductible and you're putting in post-tax money, the effect is that you will be double taxed on it.

There are other disadvantages to borrowing from a 401(k). Some plans provide that if you have an outstanding loan, you can no longer make new contributions. This could

reduce the amount you're saving for retirement and potentially prevent you from taking advantage of the company match.

Another potential disadvantage is if you decide to change jobs and you have an outstanding loan, it may be due immediately. Therefore, if you do not pay the loan at that point in time, there could be some adverse tax consequences. Other than in cases of emergency, I believe 401(k) money is sacred; do not like to touch it except for retirement and other extraordinary situations.

For those doing home improvements, the main issue is how to pay for them. Don't let the contractor dictate how you pay for the home improvements. You need to decide based upon what's good for you and only you.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

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THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE (PG) 11:30, 1:55, 4:20, 7:00, 9:25
FR/SAT/LS 11:50
DESPIicable ME (PG) 12:00, 2:15, 4:40, 6:50, 9:05
FR/SAT/LS 11:10
PREDATORS (R) 11:55, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40
FR/SAT/LS 12:00
THE LAST AIRBENDER (PG) 11:50, 2:10, 4:25, 6:45, 9:10
FR/SAT/LS 11:30
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: ECLIPSE (PG-13) 11:00, 1:40, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
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FR/SAT/LS 11:20

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'Hey, bro, how's it going?'

Separated by adoption, brothers get second chance to build lives together

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

David Kirk isn't the kind of guy who signs on the dotted line without reading the fine print.

But that's the dilemma he faced June 24 as he stood in the Park and Ride at Silver Lake Road in Fenton. The only way he could find out the name of a sibling who wanted to contact him was sign a document, most of which was covered by the hands of confidential intermediary Mimi Mazzara.

Two days earlier, Kirk had received a private and confidential letter from the courts, alerting him to the fact that a sibling was looking for him. He called Mazzara the next day and agreed to meet her in Fenton.

"I couldn't see it until I signed it and I never sign anything without reading it, but I went ahead and signed it," Kirk said. "I knew I had an older brother, but I had nothing to go on to find him. I had no names."

More than 2,000 miles away in Casper, Wyo., Robert Staffig-Piotter was waiting and hoping Kirk would sign the paper so he could finally see the brother who he remembered would throw toys at him at night and laugh, the brother he had been looking for since he was 15 years old.

"He had to approve it; if he didn't, the search was over," Piotter said. "I got a call from Mimi and she asked if I wanted to talk to my brother. I said yes and she said, 'I got him right here, he signed the paper.'"

The first words Kirk heard from his long lost brother were, "Hey, bro, how's it going?"

'COOL BEANS'

Sitting at a table in the Westland Big Boy Restaurant at Wayne Road and Hunter, the two brothers had smiles that stretched from ear to ear. Two weeks after making the connection, they had spent most of the Fourth of July catching up on the 43 years they'd been apart. They had discovered a lot they had in common, from each having a brother named Mark to their favorite saying, "cool beans."

Kirk, who grew up in Westland, admitted that it had yet to sink in. Signing that paper had taken him from knowing he had three blood relatives — his three daughters — to six, including three half-brothers.

"If someone had said two weeks ago I'd be sitting here talking to my brother, I would have bought him a drink," Kirk said. "This has been more than wonderful."

"It's so nice to have a happy ending for us," added Piotter, who drove 19 hours from Casper with a stop in Davenport, Iowa, to meet the younger brother he knew as Don David. "It's been just so cool. We've spent the last three



Robert Staffig-Piotter (left) and David Kirk spent their Fourth of July catching up on the what's happened in the 43 years since they were separated by adoption. Kirk signed a document on June 24 that opened the door for the two brothers to be together again.

days catching up."

It is no coincidence that they were in western Wayne County. A lot of their early life is connected to Garden City. Their mother, Darlene Diane Staffig, had grown up in Garden City and attended Garden City High School. Their Aunt Shelly had lived in Westland before moving to Redford recently and had kept her maiden name listed in the phone book in hopes Piotter would find her.

Ironically, while Piotter grew up on a farm in the Thumb area, Kirk grew up in Westland less than a mile from Aunt Shelly and graduated from John Glenn High School in 1983. And his grandparents lived in Garden City.

"We've come full circle," said Piotter who is writing a book, *Fate Awaits*, a fictional story based on his life and his search for his biological family.

LOOKING FOR HIS FAMILY

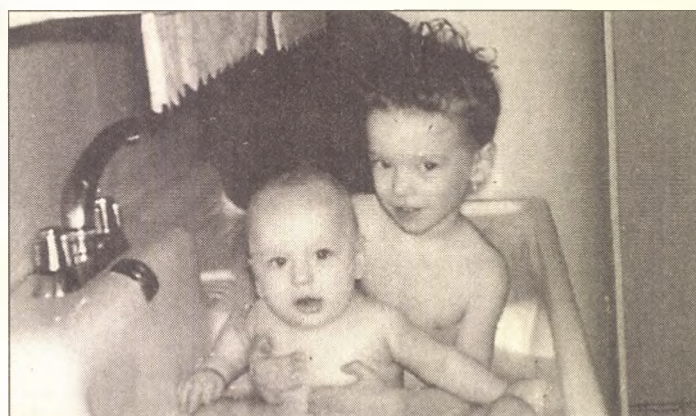
Piotter began searching for his biological family when he was about 15. His adoptive parents were always open about the adoption and gave him what information they had, "which was very little." He contacted the adoption agency, Lutheran Child and Family Services of Detroit, but was "stonewalled by sealed records."

In 1982, he moved west with friends and ended up in Wyoming. During a return visit to Michigan in 1984 to see family and friends, he went through his folks' paperwork and found information that led him to the last foster care family who cared for him.

They provided him with information about his baptism and a kindergarten picture with his birth name on the back of it. He uncovered his mother's and father's names. Through a baptismal certificate from St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church in Plymouth, he was able to hook up with his godmother, Diane Paquin, who provided him with baby photos of himself and his mother. He eventually found his mother, who died in of cancer in 2006.

Piotter also got information on his brother's last name from his biological mother. He

started searching the Internet and found Kirk's half-brother living in North Carolina and talked to him. According to Piotter, his mother married Don Corman, but they divorced, prompting her to put the two boys up for adoption



Robert Staffig-Piotter believes his brother, whom he calls Don David, was about a year old when this photo was taken of them.

in 1967.

"I meet her. She couldn't handle the past, but I got the ghost out of the closet," he said. "The marriage didn't pan out and she couldn't care for us. We weren't placed together. The neglect was enough that they decided to separate us to give us one-on-one."

Kirk wasn't as lucky in his search. He knew he had an older brother, but with no names, he was stymied.

"It's bothered me my whole life. I've wanted to look like someone; it's an identity thing," he said. "I'd been searching, but I had no other data than a brother three years older than me. I contacted the agency and got the same non-identifying letter about my parents and nothing on him."

"People would tell me you look like so and so, and I'd go up and talk to them to see if we might be related," he

added.

Kirk was worried that his older brother might have spent his childhood growing up in the system. That question has been answered. They both know they were raised by families that loved them.

Piotter is back in Wyoming, and Kirk is back working at his computer job in Ann Arbor. They plan to get together again in December, when Piotter will return with his wife Vivian, who stayed in Wyoming to be with her daughter, who was due to deliver their first grandchild. It will be a family reunion that will include Kirk's wife Darcelle and their children.

"We've been given a second chance to build a life as brothers, but there will be no throwing toys at me," Piotter said. "I never gave up and other people looking for their relatives shouldn't either. It can happen. It happened for us, and it's been amazing."

"I'm along for the ride and I'm loving it," Kirk added.

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Rolling rookies

First-year skaters win medals, friendships

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's the middle of summer, a time of year when pre-teen girls usually go to the pool or shopping mall with friends.

But there are five girls who'd rather spend hours going around in circles on the smooth surface at Canton's Skatin' Station II — practicing their favorite time in the world.

Under the tutelage of veteran coach Vicki Hudson, the artistic skating club members beat the odds by qualifying for the 2010 USA Roller Sports Figure Skating National Championships in just their first year of competition in the sport.

"I was really happy to make it to nationals," 10-year-old Anna Hanson of Canton said, "because it's unheard of for beginners at their first regional meet to get to nationals, so I was really proud."

Hanson, four of her roller-skating friends, their families and coach Hudson will travel later this week to Lincoln, Neb., for the July 24-25 competition. They will take part in the 9-10 and 11-12 age brackets.

Also headed for nationals are Canton's Shelby Vassel (a gold-medal winner in figures at regionals) and Darrien Fordham, Plymouth's Rachel Bakewell and Westland's Ashlyn Nordquist.

They qualified for nationals June 26-30 at the Great Lakes Figure Skating Regional in West Chester, Ohio.

Hudson said all of the girls qualified in figures (the event where skaters gracefully follow a series of circles emblazoned on the rink), with Vassel and Fordham also making it in the dance category.

"I'm just so excited," Vassel said during a break from working with her coach. "I've only been I made first place in figures and that was a surprise to me."

WHAT THEY SAID

Following are some of the thoughts of Skatin' Station II artistic skating club members who will compete July 24-25 at the 2010 USA Roller Sports Figure Skating National Championships to be held in Lincoln, Neb.:

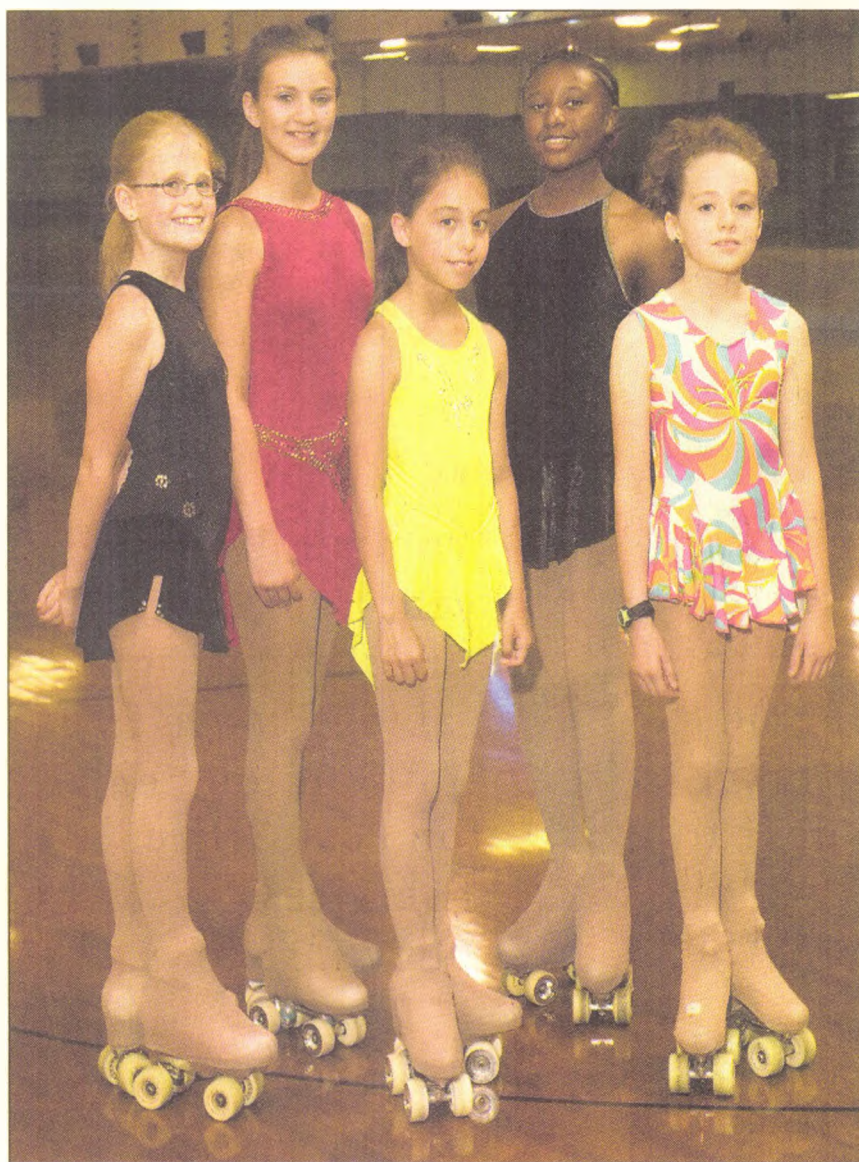
Rachel Bakewell of Plymouth: "I'm really proud of it and I can't wait to go."

Darrien Fordham of Canton: "I'm learning you really need to focus to get a good score in competitions and I'm learning friendship."

Anna Hanson of Canton: "I like roller skating because of kind of challenges me to be my best. And I just have lots of fun when I'm skating."

Ashlyn Nordquist of Westland: "I think I've gotten better since the beginning when I started. (coach Vicki Hudson) helps us get better."

Shelby Vassel of Canton: "The competitions are fun and so is coming here all the time. I love skating."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The smiles say it all, as Skatin' Station II artistic skating club members (from left) Anna Hanson, Shelby Vassel, Ashlyn Nordquist, Darrien Fordham and Rachel Bakewell qualified for nationals in their first year of competition in the sport.

the nationals is no joke.

"You have to practice a lot. I practice three days a week," Vassel said. "I work on figures and dance, mostly. The hardest part is trying not to be nervous during the competitions and to stay strong."

According to Hudson, team members come to Skatin' Station II several times a week throughout the year, coming straight from school. The practice session usually includes three or four sessions weekly.

"It's very monotonous, the training and listening to me all the time,"

Hudson said. "But most people that start skating can be very good — if they want to be."

Their ascent in their initial year of competitive skating is plenty indication they do.

Christine Hanson, Anna's mom, said the girls put the time in and glean whatever useful instruction they can from their coach.

"Vicki's a wonderful coach," Hanson said. "They just come here and skate. Putting the time in is important."

Please see **NATIONALS, B2**

SIDELINES

SC athletes honored

Ten student athletes from Schoolcraft College are among the more than 1,300 student athletes nationwide to be recognized by the National Junior College Athletic Association for excellence in the classroom as well as on the playing field.

Those NJCAA Distinguished Academic All-American honorees from Schoolcraft include: Emily Bronkema, 3.84, volleyball; Jennifer Brunink, 3.80, volleyball; Taylor Seroke, 3.85, women's bowling; and Nicole Trivax, 3.94, women's soccer.

Gaining Academic All-American distinction were Blake Furnari (3.60, men's bowling), Michele Heikkinen (3.60, women's bowling), Jordan Kerr (3.73, volleyball), Kirstin Kirk (3.72, volleyball), Brittany Pickett (3.76, women's soccer) and Jamie Wick (3.63, women's cross country).

Award winners were required to achieve a 3.8 or better grade point average on a 4.0 scale to earn Distinguished Academic All-American honors and between 3.6-3.79 for Academic All-American honors.

Ace shooter

Russ Baumann of Livonia recorded his first hole-in-one at the age of 74 July 14 when he used a 9-wood to ace the 149-yard 16th hole at Moose Ridge Golf Course in South Lyon.

Baumann shot 105 for his 18 holes of play.

Fall ball signup

Registration is continuing for returning teams looking to participate in the Redford Leisure Services fall softball leagues. Registration for new teams wanting to sign up will begin Monday, Aug. 9.

All teams are guaranteed a 12-game (doubleheader) schedule. Fees are \$350 per team, plus all umpires will collect \$14 per team at the field before the start of each game. A new ball will be needed to supply a new ball before each game. Games begin the week of Aug. 30.

For more information, contact Redford Leisure Services at (313) 387-2650.

Tryouts

The Motor City Riversharks will host tryouts in mid-August for its competitive in-season baseball program of the Kensington Valley Baseball and Softball Association. Players from Canton, Plymouth and surrounding areas are welcome to participate.

Tryouts are slated from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 14 and Sunday, Aug. 15, followed by a 2-to-4 p.m. tryout on Friday, Aug. 20. All three tryouts will take place at the UAW Local 735, located at 48055 Michigan Ave. in Canton.

Players must be willing to commit to 40-to-50 games including weekends and tournaments, with the schedule running from April through July of 2011.

To pre-register or have questions answered, contact coach Bill Boyd — 734-718-7782; motorcityriversharks@gmail.com. Players do not have to attend all three tryout dates.

Please see **BOOK, B2**

'A Bitter Cup of Coffee'

Book details how former players were denied MLB pensions

BY DAN O'NEARA
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Al Moran played his last Major League baseball game 45 years ago, but he's still ready to go to bat today for former players like himself.

The Farmington Hills resident is among hundreds of men who were denied a pension and benefits, because their stay in the big leagues was too short.

Their story is told in Doug Gladstone's new book: 'A Bitter Cup of Coffee — How MLB and The Players Association Threw 874 Retirees a Curve.'

The book title derives from the fact the men were in the majors long enough to have a cup of coffee, which is sports jargon for a short stay.

Livonia-based attorney Jim Acho represented Moran and the other ex-players with less than four years of service in an unsuccessful 2003 class-action suit.

The suit issue and focus of

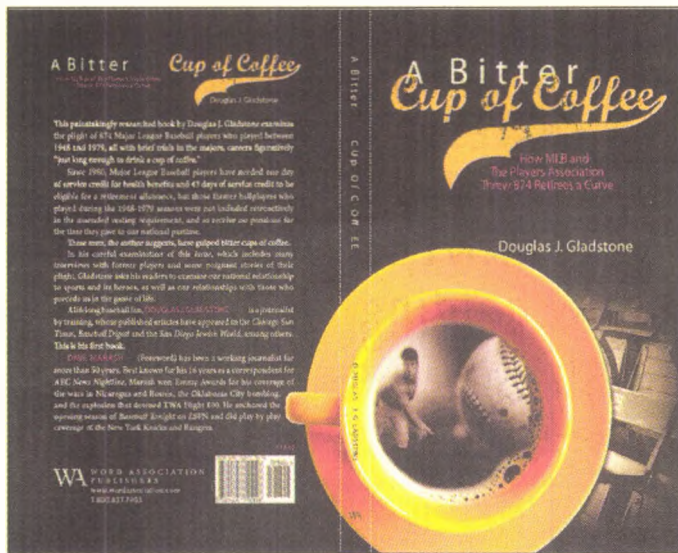


JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Al Moran, a resident of Farmington Hills, played his last Major League baseball game 45 years ago. He remains active in off the field affairs dealing with former Major League players.

Gladstone's book deals with a 1980 change in the MLB Players Association pension agreement.

Prior to that, players had to be in the majors four years



A new book entitled 'A Bitter Cup of Coffee — How MLB and The Players Association Threw 874 Retirees a Curve,' focuses on past and present pension agreements between Major League Baseball and the MLB Players Association.

to qualify. Players since then have needed one day of service for health insurance and 45 days on a MLB roster to get a pension.

Moran, a former shortstop who played less than three

full seasons with the Mets and Red Sox, and the others in his situation were never included retroactively.

Moran, 71, assisted Acho in building the case, serving as a class representative in the

Midwest, gathering information and fielding phone calls from former players.

When he left baseball in the mid-1960s, finishing with the then-Yankees farm team in Toledo, Moran went to work as a carpenter, doing construction work.

"I was pretty fortunate; I got a nice pension for that," Moran said, adding he's motivated by principle and for the sake of his former colleagues. "Like I told Doug in the book, I don't care if I got a penny."

"We've got homeless guys, guys in real bad shape. They keep promising us something, but we don't know if we'll ever get it. They say they'll do something at the winter meetings, but who knows?"

When work began on the lawsuit, there were nearly 1,500 former players who played between 1947 and 1979, from the time the first players union was organized and the change in vesting requirement.

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Victory's in the Cards

The Canton Cardinals 11U travel baseball team recently went 3-0 to win the 2010 Frankenmuth tournament. Getting the squad started was a come-from-behind 7-6 victory against Huron Valley with a two-out hit by Collin Werner winning the contest. The Cardinals won their final two games of the tournament more convincingly by beating the host Frankenmuth team 12-1 before overcoming rain delays to beat a very good Saginaw River Dogs team, 5-1. Offensive heroes were many, including Phil Lessnau, Jimmy Walkinshaw, Jason Arnold, Evan Voyles, Noah Spencer and Cody Zidzik, all with multiple hits. Strong pitching from Spencer, Arnold, Justin Goethe, and Mitchell King and solid defense from Goethe, Luke Hirshman, Zidzik, Werner and Voyles were instrumental in the tourney title. Pictured are the victorious Cards: (front row, from left) Luke Hirshman, Evan Voyles, Jimmy Walkinshaw, Cody Zidzik; (middle row, from left) Noah Spencer, Mitchell King, Justin Goethe, Phil Lessnau, Jason Arnold, Collin Werner; (back row, from left) coaches Mark Werner, Rob Hirshman, Doug Spencer and Alan Zidzik.

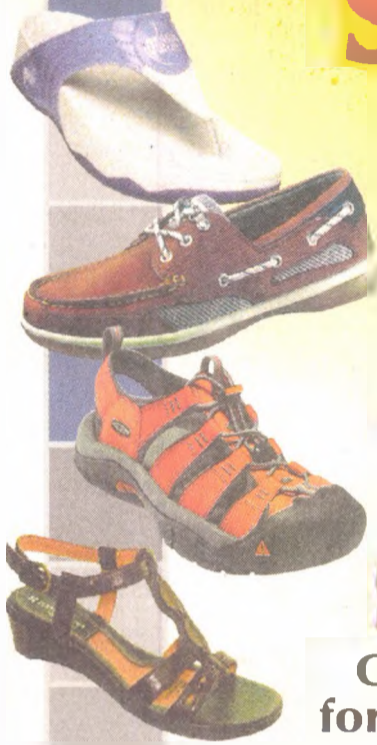


Big fish

The GCYAA Marlins girls softball team, comprised of players ages 11-13, completed a perfect 15-0 season by not only claiming the top spot in regular season play, but also emerging as champions in tournament action. Coached by Jim Gains, Sunday Gains and Brian Gidley, team members included Alyssa Smith, Rhiannon Stevens, Chloe Trigg, Heather Gains, Mariah Loschiavo, Hannah Udell, Melissa Beier, Jessica Pate, Rosie Muscat, Katie Thorn and Chelsea Dviekan.

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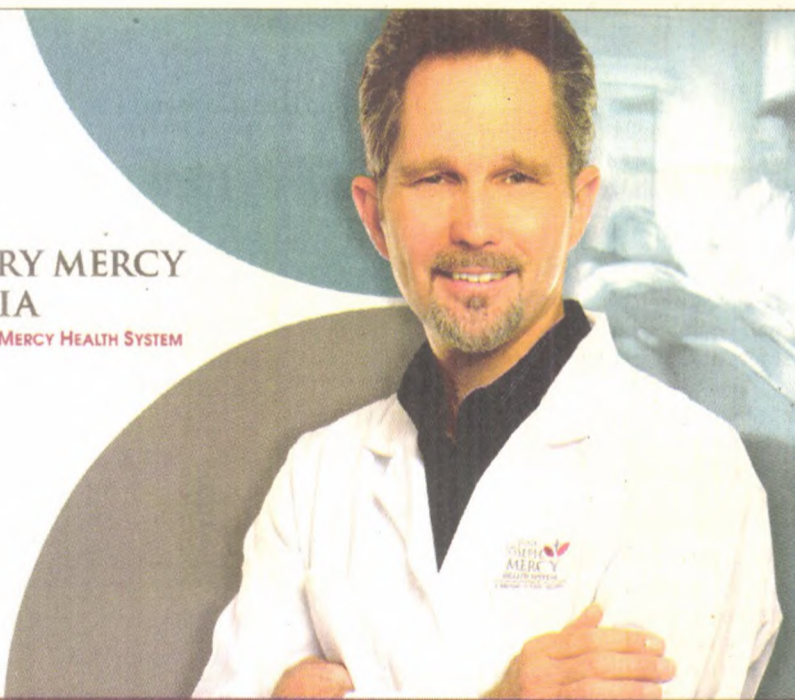
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SPORTS ROUNDUP

Tee time for ladies

Here's a unique opportunity for the women golfers out there. Hickory Creek PGA professional Tami Bealert is hosting "Margaritas on the Range," a ladies golf night out set from 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, July 19, at Tanglewood Driving Range (53503 10 Mile Road) in South Lyon.

The event is open to the first 20 ladies age 21 and older who sign up by going to www.ewgamd.com or calling either (734) 731-0238 or (248) 486-3355.

Bealert will provide personal instruction in an informal setting. For \$25, each guest will receive a medium basket of range balls, golf tips from Bealert, one margarita and homemade chips and salsa.

Hickory Creek Golf Course, where Bealert also holds regular instructional events, is located at 3625 Napier Road just west of Canton off of Ford Road.

Wayne-Westland soccer

Registration for the fall 2010 Wayne-Westland Soccer League (ages 4-19) will be held through Friday, July 30.

There will also be a co-ed adult league offered this fall.

For registration information, call (734) 467-5260, or visit www.wslsoccer.com.

Summer track meets

Dearborn Divine Child High School will stage a series of youth and adult summer track meets each Wednesday, July 21 and 28.

Field events start at 5:30 p.m. followed by running events at 6 p.m. The cost is \$4 per athlete.

Age groups include: Sub-Bantam (born 2002); Bantam (2000-01); Midget (1998-99); Youth (1996-97); Intermediate (1994-95); Young (1992-93); Open (ages 19-29); Sub-Masters (30-39); Masters (40-49, 50-59, 60-69 and 70-and-up).

For more information, call Randy Williams at (313) 283-4618; or e-mail maddogssports@aol.com.

Pride needs coaches

The Plymouth-Canton Pride is taking coaching applications for all ages for the 2010-11 fast-pitch season.

Experienced coaches are needed for 10-, 12-, 14-, 16- and 18-and-under teams with an emphasis on college exposure.

Those interested can e-mail a resume to: j4olszewski@sbcglobal.net. Applications are also online at www.eteamz.com/PCPride. You can also send a resume to: Jon Olszewski, 48465 Antique Road, Canton, MI 48187.

For more information, call (313) 570-0800.

Baseball tryouts

The Canton Motor City Giants 9U and 10U travel baseball teams are hosting tryouts on Aug. 20, 21 and 28 at 48055 Michigan Avenue in Canton. Please email giantsbaseball@wowway.com or madtyreag@wowway.com for details.

Franklin needs coaches

Livonia Franklin is seeking a freshman girls volleyball and freshman girls competitive cheer coach for the 2010-11 seasons.

For more information, call Franklin athletic director Ron Hammye at (734) 744-2889.

Tryouts for Riversharks

The Motor City Riversharks will host tryouts in mid-August for its competitive travel baseball program of the Kensington Valley Baseball and Softball Association. Players from Canton, Plymouth and surrounding areas are welcome to participate.

Tryouts are slated from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 14 and Sunday, Aug. 15, followed by a 2-to-4 p.m. tryout on Friday, Aug. 20. All three tryouts will take place at the UAW Local 735, located at 48055 Michigan Ave. in Canton.

Players must be willing to commit to 40-to-50 games including weekends and tournaments, with the schedule running from April through July of 2011.

To pre-register or have questions answered, contact coach Bill Boyd — 734-718-7782; motorcityriversharks@gmail.com. Players do not have to attend all three tryout dates.

St. Mary Mercy 5K

Registration is on for the fourth annual St. Mary Mercy Hospital Embrace Life 5-kilometer run-walk for Cancer on Sunday, Sept. 12.

The race begins at 9 a.m. on the St. Mary Mercy Hospital grounds, located at Five Mile and Levan roads.

The cost is \$22 for runners-walkers who register on or before Sept. 3 (race T-shirt guaranteed). It's \$27 for those signing up after Sept. 3.

Awards will go to the first-, second- and third-place overall male and female finishers in each age group of the 5K.

Following the 5K, a Community Open House will from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. offering music, games, food and health information and screenings. You can register online at Active.com or by visiting stmarymercy.org.



Check it out

In May, the Plymouth and Salem baseball programs combined efforts for a 'Strike Out Prostate Cancer' fundraiser, with proceeds from varsity, junior varsity and freshman teams going to the Prostate Cancer Foundation. Approximately \$2,000 was raised that weekend and the check was presented between games of a June 15 twinbill between Salem and Adrian — whose coach, Greg Jackson, is a prostate cancer survivor. Pictured are (from left) Salem head baseball coach Dale Rumberger, event spokeswoman Audrey Rodriguez, Jackson and Plymouth assistant coach John Schneider. The Salem Baseball Dugout Club and Plymouth Baseball Boosters co-organized the benefit, part of a statewide effort all spring by the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association and Prostate Cancer Foundation.

Michigan Rams outthit by Pride

Pitching has been at the forefront of the Michigan Rams' success on the baseball diamond all season. But that area of the game took a backseat Wednesday evening as the 22-and-under Pride pounded out 13 hits against three Rams pitchers in scoring a 9-5 victory in Michigan Collegiate Baseball League action at Bicentennial Park.

The Rams, who fell to 20-7-1 on the year, were quick to open the scoring by pushing across a single run in the top of the first inning. However, the Pride (15-11) came roaring back by roughing up Rams starter Joe Posler for three runs in the bottom of the frame.

The margin stood that way until the fourth when the Pride picked up a run off reliever Alex Pierce. They would add five more in the fifth to

take a commanding 9-1 lead. The Rams made the final score a little more respectable by scoring two runs in each of the sixth and seventh frames.

Aaron Cieslak was the top hitter for the Rams, clubbing three of the team's eight hits. He scored two runs and drove in one.

John DiLaura and Evan Piechota each picked up a hit and knocked in two runs and Brett Mazmanian finished 2-for-3 at the plate with one run scored.

Billy Hardin paced the heavy-hitting Pride attack with four hits. He also drove in three runs.

Kyle Vesej, Jason Potts and Justin Root all collected two hits and combined to score four runs.

Advertisement for 'Guide to Employment' featuring various job listings such as Caregiver, CNC Operator, Gravel Train Driver, Paralegals, Plumbers, Production Help, and more. Includes contact information for careers@hometownlife.com and phone number 1-800-579-7355.

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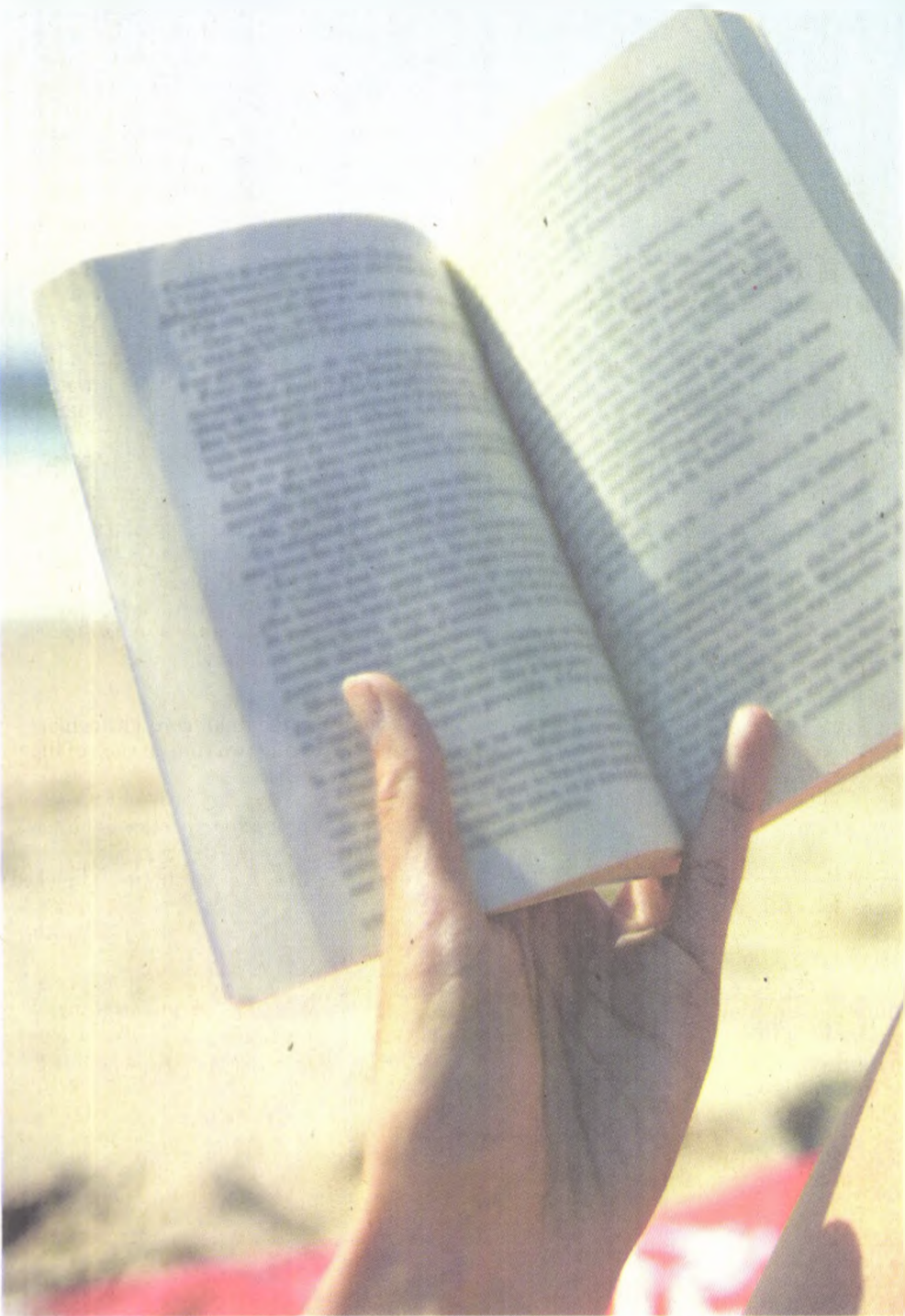
Sunday, July 18, 2010

hometownlife  .com



BECOME A FAN TODAY

Summer beach reads



Traditional books or E-books ... the plot thickens

BY SALLY RUMMEL
CORRESPONDENT

When you're thinking about which books to throw in your beach bag for a summer getaway, your "stack" might be as small as one of today's E-reader devices — which can hold more electronic books, magazines and newspapers than you could ever read, let alone carry to the beach.

"People are definitely beginning to use more downloadable E-books than ever before, and today's libraries are making these available to patrons for free through a variety of new tech services," said Laurie Golden, marketing and communications specialist for the Canton Public Library.

While traditional books comprise the greatest majority of books "checked out" through metro Detroit area libraries, E-book technology definitely is catching on, and people like Golden see it as a trend for the future — and the future is now.

"You can even download our E-books or audio books from here if you're a library cardholder, without ever stepping into the library to borrow or return them," said Golden. "The 'book' will actually 'disappear' from the screen after three weeks."

People also can borrow regular audio-books on CDs, so they can listen to books while they're driving or sitting on the beach. Another option are "play away" books that are pre-loaded onto an MP3 device. "All the patron needs is a set of standard play headphones and he or she can 'read' a variety of titles for free," said Golden.

Many people already have their own

E-book readers, such as a Sony E-reader, that is able to take free downloads, in comparison to other E-readers like the Amazon Kindle, Barnes & Noble Nook or Apple iPad. These proprietary products can take a limited number of free downloaded titles, but mostly can download titles for a nominal fee from their own "store."

The benefit of these E-readers is the sophistication of the technology, which enables people to adjust the print size, brightness of the page, and turn pages one at a time or a group of pages — just like a book.

CAREFUL HANDLING

Another huge benefit is portability, but the E-book's downside is its sensitivity to sand and water. "I definitely would not take an E-reader to the beach or near water," said Melissa Bliss, owner of Paperbacks & Things in Westland.

Bliss uses an E-reader for researching books or for convenience when traveling, but said she wouldn't use it where it could be easily damaged. "It's one thing to accidentally wreck a \$7.99 paperback if you're out on or near the water, but it's an entirely different thing to lose a \$300 E-reader. Electronics are too sensitive to sand and water. You're much better off to bring a bag of inexpensive books to the beach."

She and her customers are anticipating the release of Janet Evanovich's paperback, *Fingerlickin' Fifteen* and her new hardcover book, *Sizzling Sixteen*. Another favorite

Please see **BOOKS, B6**

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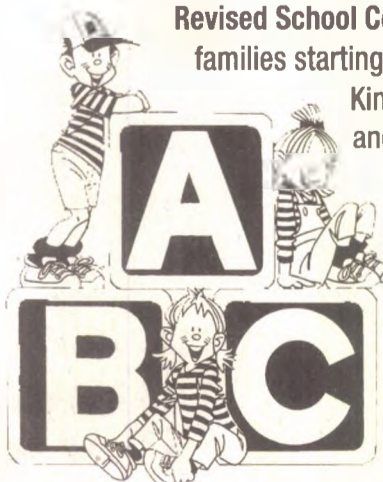
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In the event student enrollment applications exceed available space, a random selection drawing will be administered on August 16 starting at 6:30pm at 9101 Hillcrest, Livonia, MI 48150. The random selection drawing, in accordance with the Michigan Revised School Code and the chartering contract provisions with Livonia Public Schools, will be conducted under the direction of a third party administrator not affiliated with JASSEM. If required, the third party administrator will be a representative from Plante Moran, PLLC.

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IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Summer recitals

Enjoy free concerts this week at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia.

The Ambassador Chamber Players and students from the Schoolcraft Summer Piano Concerto Camp will perform works of Beethoven, Haydn, Mozart and Schumann at 7 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, July 20-22, in the Forum Building Recital Hall.

A concert, featuring Alicia Doudna on violin and Julia Siciliano on piano, also is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, July 26 in the recital hall. For more informa-

tion call the Schoolcraft Music Office at (734) 462-4403.

Learn about butterflies

The Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association will present "Exploring the Lifecycles and Host Plants of Blues, Coppers, and Hairstreak Butterflies," at 7 p.m., Wednesday, July 21, at Nankin Mills, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland.

Parking is available on Hines Dr. or Ann Arbor Trail. The cost is \$3 for non-members. (734) 326-0578 or www.sembabutterfly.com.

BOOKS

FROM PAGE B5

beach read for this summer is Rachel Gibson's *Nothing But Trouble* and books by historical romance novelist Lisa Kleypas, including *Married by Morning* and *Love in the Afternoon*.

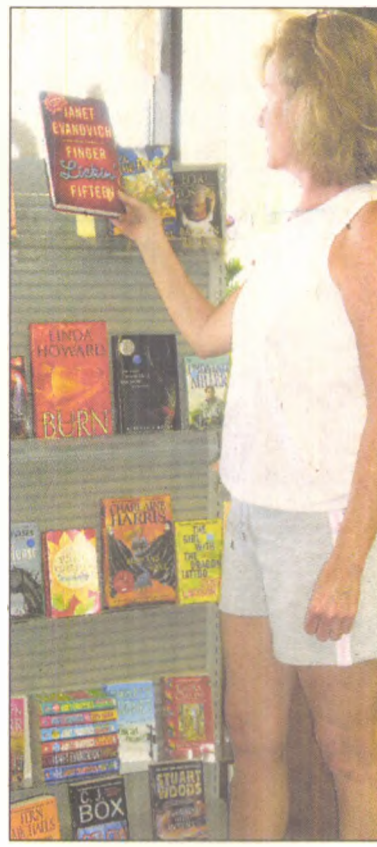
For most readers, it's not the medium that's the most important — it's still the story. A good "beach book" is engaging and a quick enough read that you can finish most of it on the beach before your sunscreen wears off, according to veteran summer readers. "Most people read for pleasure in the summer," admitted Golden.

RELAX AND READ

At Read It Again Books in Novi, owner Mary Mansour sees a whole different group of customers during the summer than those she sees all winter. "People really want to wind down and slow down on vacation in the summer," Mansour said. "They want to take a pile of books with them so they have something fun to do while they're relaxing."

She and her staff already are anticipating *Finding Perfect*, a light-hearted book by Susan Mallery that will be released next month. The author's *Almost Perfect* hit bookstore shelves in June and *Chasing Perfect* was published in April.

"The timing of these books for pleasure reading in the summer is



"Finger Lickin' Fifteen," a novel in the Janet Evanovich series about fictional bounty hunter Stephanie Plum, is a favorite beach read.

"just perfect," Mansour said.

Other favorite authors for summer reading are Janet Evanovich, Robyn Carr and "The Virgin River Series" with her newest book, *A Summer in Sonoma* released last month. "Anything by Debbie

Comparing E-readers: Which one to buy?

It is literally impossible to compare the dozens of E-reader devices available today, partly because the category constantly changes as models are improved and new styles added.

Also known as E-book readers, these are hand-held portable devices designed to read electronic books, magazines, periodicals and newspapers, hence the E-reader name.

However, these four are seen as the leading E-readers as of June 2010, according to several sources, including ereaderbooks.com:

• Sony Daily Edition: Priced at \$399, it weighs under 13 ounces and has a 7.1-inch grayscale screen. Battery life is up to seven days with 3G wireless connection on. It has expandable storage, a virtual keyboard and has no browser.

• Amazon Kindle: Priced from \$259 for the Kindle 2 to \$489 for the new Kindle DX, it weighs about 19 ounces and has a 9.7-inch grayscale screen. Battery life is up to seven days with 3G

wireless connection on. It has expandable storage and a keyboard and features 400,000 books and 130,000 newspapers with a browser.

• Barnes & Noble Nook: Priced at \$259, it weighs 12 ounces and has a 7.7- by 4.9-inch grayscale screen for reading, but color for navigating. Battery life is 10 days with 3G wireless connection on. It has expandable storage, a virtual keyboard and offers 350,000 books for sale, 30 newspapers plus 1 million Google Books, without a browser.

• Apple iPad: Priced from \$499 to \$829 depending on features added, the iPad is more than just an E-reader, but it's the one all others are being compared with. It weighs 1.5 pounds and has a 9.7-inch color screen. Battery life is 11 hours with 3G wireless connection on.

It has expandable storage, a touch screen keyboard and offers 500,000 books and several hundred newspapers, including Apple's Safari browser.

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SHOULDER-HAND

Nature acts in curious ways, and human bones and joints are no exception. An arthritic condition exists called shoulder-hand syndrome, in which the shoulder becomes stiff and immovable and the hand becomes swollen and painful. What is curious is that the rest of the arm, including the elbow joint, is completely normal.

Shoulder-hand syndrome most often occurs in people who are diabetic though the degree of diabetic control and the type of diabetes, that is whether the person needs insulin or not, does not matter. Mild diabetes may experience the condition as well as those individuals who are uncontrolled.

Physicians do not know the underlying cause for Shoulder-hand syndrome, particularly why the elbow is spared. Present theories focus on the blood supply to the shoulder and hand and that nervous system control of the blood vessels to these areas is impaired. However, that explanation alone does not explain why the elbow is not involved.

Since doctors are unsure of the underlying cause of Shoulder-hand syndrome, the treatment is uncertain. The usual approach is to prescribe high doses of oral steroids such as 60 mgm a day of prednisone. However, if the patient is a diabetic this regimen is not practical since prednisone can raise blood sugar to a dangerous level even with diabetic treatment.

An alternative is injection of cortisone into the involved shoulder and hand joint. This procedure may not resolve the pain and swelling, but often brings discomfort to a level the patient can accept.

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RELIGION CALENDAR

Religion calendar items appear on Thursdays on a space available basis. To submit an item, e-mail sdargay@hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Attn: Sharon Dargay. Item must include the venue address and phone number and any admission costs for events. Items must be submitted at least a week in advance of publication. Feel free to send a related photo in jpg form.

JULY 18-21

Cherry Hill Seventh day Adventist
Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 p.m., July 19-23
Location: 33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City
Details: Raindrops to Rainbows, a free Vacation Bible School for children in preschool through age 13, will include a science lab, puppet show, weather station, Bible Stories, crafts and snacks
Contact: (734) 524-0880; www.CherryHillFellowship.com
Livonia Church of Christ
Time/Date: Deadline for contributing books is July 18
Location: 15431 Merriman, Livonia
Details: The church is conducting a used books drive for Gods Helping Hands, an organization in Rochester that helps needy families with clothes and food. It's accepting trade paperbacks, hardcover fiction and non-fiction, movie DVD's and books on CD (must contain artwork and case), gently used children's books, textbooks (copyright 1998 or newer) mass market paperbacks (copyright 2004 or newer). No dirty, moldy, water-damaged books, books with excessive highlighting or writing, pages missing, excessive damage to cover, or encyclopedias or magazines will be accepted. Place donations under the awning. These donated items will be traded to Tithingbooks.com for food for needy families.
Contact: (734) 427-8743
St. Paul's Presbyterian
Time/Date: 9:30 a.m.-noon, July 19-23
Location: 27475 Five Mile Road, one block west of Inkster Road, Livonia
Details: Creation Celebration Vacation Bible School is aimed at children, age 3, through those entering fifth grade and will include music, recreation, snack and story time. The service project will consist of collecting items for the Michigan Humane Society. Program fee is \$5
Contact: Call (734) 422-1470, ext. 17 or e-mail to christianeducator@sppc-

email.org

JULY 22-28

Bell Creek Church
Time/Date: 9:30 a.m.-noon, July 26-29
Location: 9101 Hillcrest, Livonia
Details: Vacation Bible School; free for kids entering kindergarten through 5th grade
Contact: www.bellcreek.org or (734) 367-4632
Berean Bible Church
Time/Date: 9 a.m. -noon, July 26-30
Location: 35375 Ann Arbor Trail, between Wayne and Newburgh, Livonia
Details: Free Vacation Bible School "High Seas Adventure" is open to all kids age 4 through completed 5th grade. Each day includes singing, crafts, games, snacks and Bible stories. Register at www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/berean-biblechurch
Contact: Carrie Bulbuk at (734) 266-0311 or e-mail to davidbulbuk@att.net
Christ Our Savior Lutheran
Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m. July 26-29
Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Soccer mini-camp for boys and girls, 5-12, of any skill level. Learn and develop the proper skills and knowledge of the game. Fee of \$10 per student includes instruction, snacks, and soccer ball to take home. Students may bring their own soccer ball or shin guards if desired. Items are not required to enroll.
Contact: Linda Hollman, outreach director, at (734) 522-6830; FAX: (734) 522-5949; register at christoursavior.org
Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit
Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., July 25
Location: 9083 Newburgh, Livonia
Details: Annual Mass in the Grass service, followed by cake and beverages in celebration of the Rev. Wayne Knockel's 10th anniversary of ordination.
Contact: Arlene Williams at (734) 422-7106
Faith Community Wesleyan
Time/Date: 6-8:30 p.m., July 26-30
Location: 14560 Merriman, Livonia
Details: High Seas Adventure Vacation Bible School for first through sixth grade students; free
Contact: (734) 466-8694
Living Peace Church
Time/Date: Noon-2 p.m., Sunday, July 25
Location: Freedom Park, located at

the southwest corner of Sheldon and Palmer, in Canton
Details: The church invites Canton area residents to a picnic. Church members want to meet residents and hear their concerns and ideas for the Canton community. Food available free of charge. Children's activities will be provided. Additional picnics scheduled Aug. 22 and Sept. 5. Living Peace Church will begin meeting for worship Sept. 12 at Field Elementary, 1000 S. Haggerty, in Canton.
Contact: (734) 233-1466 or e-mail to livingpeacechurch@yahoo.com

JULY 29-AUG. 4

Bethany West
Time/Date: 8-11 p.m., Friday, July 30; arrive at the restaurant by 7 p.m.
Location: Portofino's, 3455 Biddle Wyandotte
Details: Join Bethany Suburban West and Bethany South Downriver for a "Moon Light Cruise" on the Detroit River, starting at Portofino's. Tickets are \$30. Bethany provides spiritual, social, and educational assistance to divorced, separated and singles of all faiths through peer-to-peer ministry. It is a non-profit volunteer organization, and is part of the ministry of the Family Life Office of the Archdiocese Of Detroit
Contact: Pat at (313) 769-5818 or Judy at (313) 389-4730
Lola Park Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 6-8 p.m., Aug. 1-5
Location: 14750 Kinloch, Redford
Details: Vacation Bible School for ages 3 through adult, featuring lessons, crafts, singing and snacks
Contact: (313) 532-8655 or (734) 968-3523; lolaparklutheran.com
Newburg United Methodist
Time/Date: 9:30 a.m.-noon, Aug. 2-5
Location: 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia
Details: "Campground of Miracles" Vacation Bible School for kids, 4-11. They'll explore their faith, enjoy summer activities such as sandcastle building, cooking over a campfire and fishing, make crafts and learn about the miracles of Jesus. \$10 per child
Contact: (734) 422-0149
Our Lady of Loretto
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Aug. 1
Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford
Details: Coffee house for teens
Contact: (313) 534-9000



Ready for adoption

Howdy, the name is Star. The name sounds a bit girly, but I assure you I'm a fun kinda guy. I love attention but I'm not a pushy sort of pup. I have a beautiful shiny black coat with a little gray on my muzzle. Personally, I think it adds to the manly look. I'm 6 years young and everyone who meets me says what a Great Boy I am. So I guess that's gotta tell ya something. If you would like to meet me and chat about how I could enhance your life, please call Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption at (866) 438-4739 and check out our Website at www.greyheart.org for another handsome photo of me.

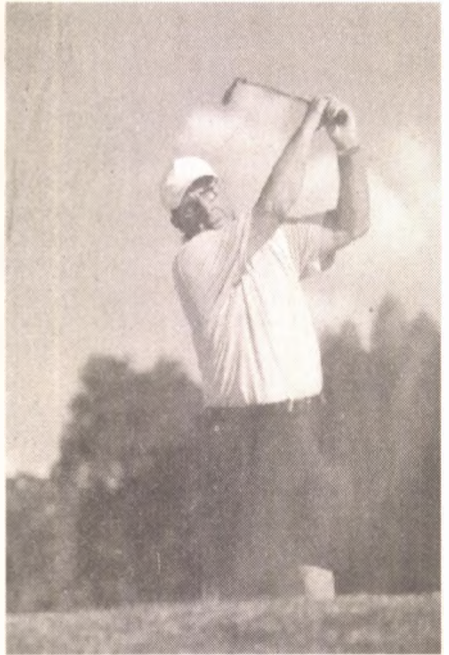
Advertisement for Michigan Connections Academy. Includes text: '96% of Parents Say Students Are Satisfied', 'It's Amazing what the right learning environment can do for Self-esteem.', 'We'll bring out the best in your child.', 'Attend a free information session. Wednesday, August 4, 6:30 PM'. Also features a computer monitor displaying the Michigan Connections Academy logo.

Don't Let Back Pain Or Sciatica Ruin Your Life

You've got too many dreams left undone. Too many special moments waiting to be experienced. Life is too short to let pain slow you down.

Yet, for many, severe back pain and sciatica puts a halt to any enjoyment in life.

Maybe you can't play golf like you used to. Or you're not able to enjoy that cruise like you should.



Many former back pain sufferers are now playing golf after using this natural treatment.

Sciatica and back pain are NOT "just a part of life" and something you have to live with. In fact, many former back pain sufferers are now pain free after using a new drugless, painless treatment. This new therapy is called non-surgical disc decompression, and it is helping to keep people from having to 'go under the knife'.

The conditions this amazing treatment has proven successful are:

- Herniated discs
• Degenerative disc disease

- Back pain
• Sciatica
• Facet syndromes

Medical Proof This Treatment Works

While non-surgical spinal decompression is a rather new treatment, there's plenty of research to back up its claims. Here's just a handful of scientific studies...

"We thus submit that decompression therapy should be considered first, before the patient undergoes a surgical procedure which permanently alters the anatomy and function of the affected lumbar spine segment." - Journal Of Neuroscience Research

"86% of the 219 patients who completed the therapy reported immediate resolution of symptoms" - Orthopedic Technology Review

"vertebral axial [spinal] decompression was successful in 71% of the 778 cases" - Journal of Neurological Research

"good to excellent" relief in 86% patients with Herniated discs" - The American Journal of Pain Management

"decompression therapy reported a 76.5% with complete remission and 19.6% with partial remission of pain and disability" - Rio Grande Hospital, Department of Neurosurgery

As you can see, spinal decompression has a high success rate with helping disc herniations and back pain.

What this means for you is that in just a matter of weeks, you could be back on the golf course, enjoying your love life, or traveling again.

Until July 28, 2010 you can get everything for only \$49.

It's time for you to find out if spinal decompression will be your back pain and sciatica solution.

My name is Dr. Greg Kramer, owner of Advanced Spinal Fitness. I understand what it feels like to live in pain, because I see it every day.

I've seen hundreds of people with disc herniations, back problems and sciatica, who were once told surgery was the only option, leave the office pain free.

For 10 days only, I'm running a very special offer where you can find out if you are a candidate for spinal decompression.

What does this offer include?

Everything I normally do in my new patient evaluation. You'll get...

- An in-depth consultation about your health and well-being where I will listen...really listen...to the details of your case.
• A complete neuromuscular examination, full set of specialized x-rays, review of your MRI, and a thorough analysis of your findings so we can design your plan to being pain free.
• You'll get to see everything first hand and find out if this amazing treatment will be your back pain and sciatica solution, like it has been for so many other patients.

And the best part about it is...

No Dangerous Drugs, No Invasive Procedures, And No Painful Exercises.

Spinal decompression treatments are very gentle. In fact, every once in awhile I even catch a patient sleeping during sessions.

You'll simply lie on your back and then a specialized belt is gently put around your waist. We'll set the machine to focus on your problem area - then the advanced computer system will do the rest.

The normal price for this type of evaluation, including x-rays, is \$250 so you're saving a considerable amount by taking me up on this offer.

Call today and we can get you scheduled for your consultation, exam and x-rays as soon as there's an opening.

Our office is located on the corner of Eight Mile and Farmington, just a few minutes from you. When you call, tell the receptionist you'd like to come in for the Spinal Decompression Evaluation so she

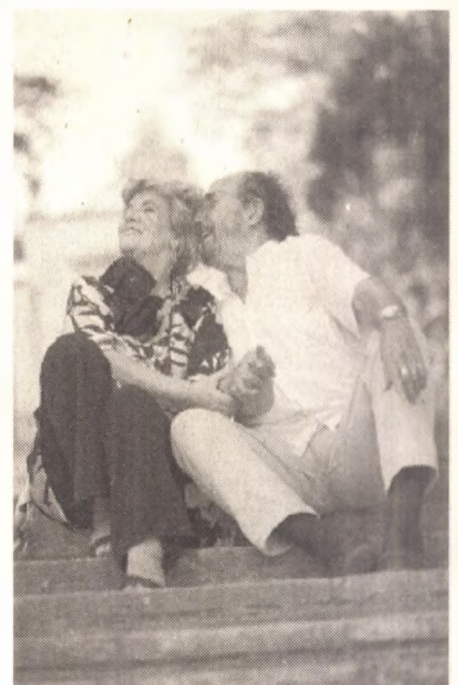
can get you on the schedule and make sure you receive proper credit for this special offer. Phone 248-615-1533.

Sincerely, Dr. Greg Kramer

P.S. What Will Your Pain Feel Like One Month From Today?

One of the biggest myths about pain is that it goes away all by itself, without any treatment.

A May 1998 study in the British Medical Journal proved this myth false, showing that 75% of back pain sufferers who do nothing about it will have either pain or disability 12 months later.



Enjoy life again without sciatica, disc herniations, or back pain.

If you've been having pain for awhile, it's probably not going to get better on its own.

Life's too short to live in pain like this. Call today and soon I'll be giving you the green light to have fun again. Phone 248-615-1533.

HEALTH

Sunday, July 18, 2010

hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

Study looks at aspirin and the elderly

In an effort to extend the length of a disability-free life for older adults, researchers from Wayne State University are partnering with colleagues from across the U.S. and Australia in the largest international trial ever sponsored by the National Institute on Aging of the National Institutes of Health.

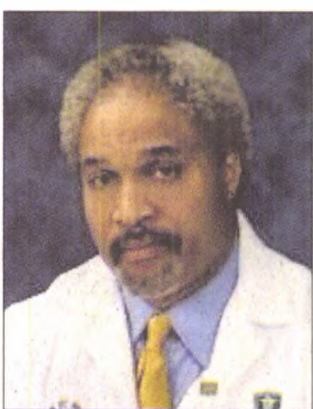
The research study, "Aspirin in Reducing Events in the Elderly," (ASPREE), aims to assess whether aspirin can not only prolong life but help provide a life free of physical disability and/or dementia for healthy older people.

"ASPREE is the largest study of its kind, and its sheer size and scope will enable investigators and society to learn a great deal about whether aspirin can help older adults 70 years and older live longer, healthier lives," said Dr. John Flack, professor of Medicine and Physiology, and chair of Internal Medicine at Wayne State University, and site investigator for the study.

In addition to Flack, Peter Lichtenberg, director of the Institute of Gerontology at WSU, will work with the ASPREE study team on community outreach and recruitment efforts.

Although it is known that aspirin prevents heart attacks and strokes in people with established heart disease, the role of aspirin in people without a history of cardiovascular disease is less certain.

"In the U.S., Australia and elsewhere, people are living longer, so identifying treat-



Flack

ments to prolong life free of physical disability and memory problems is increasingly important," said ASPREE investigator Dr. Anne Murray, epidemiologist and geriatrician and associate professor of medicine and geriatrics at the University of Minnesota. "Aspirin is a potentially useful drug, as it is cheap and widely available."

BENEFITS AND RISKS

To date, very little information is available about the overall effects of aspirin in older adults because most trials focus on middle-aged people. The ASPREE study, for the first time, will determine whether the potential benefits of low-dose aspirin outweigh the risks specifically for people age 70 and over.

"Because of its proven effectiveness in preventing second events, many doctors have also prescribed aspirin to prevent heart attacks and strokes in otherwise healthy people," said John McNeil, head of the Monash School of Public Health and Preventative Medicine

in Australia and also a principal investigator for ASPREE.

"However, in the last couple of years, serious doubts have been raised about the evidence supporting this practice and, as a result, editorials in major medical journals have called for this question to be settled."

ENROLLMENT NUMBERS

The ASPREE study will enroll 6,500 healthy individuals age 70 and over in the U.S. and another 12,500 in Australia. Six hundred participants will be sought by Wayne State University. All eligible participants will be randomly assigned to take either low-dose aspirin or a placebo daily for about five years.

Patients will receive initial measurements on specific health markers as well as functional and cognitive ability, and changes in these will be monitored throughout the study.

"What we learn from the ASPREE study extends far beyond the effects of aspirin," said Dr. Flack. "The scope of the study includes other clinical measurements and assessments that could impact and transform the way clinicians medically treat the elderly in their everyday care."

ASPREE is being conducted in clinics and universities in select cities in Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Texas. For more information visit www.ASPREE.org.

Upcoming walks aid programs for mental health, bleeding disorders

NAMI WALKS

The National Alliance on Mental Illness, (NAMI) is gearing up for a family event and walk on Saturday, Sept. 25, at Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, in Farmington Hills.

The event is designed to raise money for and the mental health services it provides to families across the state. All the funds collected by walkers will be used to fund NAMI programs in Michigan. Registration for the 5K walk will begin at 9 a.m., with the walk running from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

For more information or to register visit namimi.org or call (800) 331.4264.



HEMOPHILIA FOUNDATION

Registration is being accepted now for the Walkin' on the Wild Side fundraiser to benefit the Hemophilia

Foundations programs and services for individuals with bleeding disorders. The walk will start at 8:45 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 29, at the Detroit Zoo, located on Ten Mile (1-696 service drive) and Woodward in Royal Oak. On-site registration will begin at 7:45 a.m.

The Foundation aims to raise \$100,000.

A registration fee of \$15 per person includes all-day admis-

sion to the zoo, refreshments and a Walk T-shirt. Children under 2 are free.

For every contribution of \$100, the individual donor's name will be put in a drawing for a 50-inch plasma television, an Apple iPad, and an Amazon Kindle. Winners will be drawn immediately after the Walk ends at 10:30 a.m. on the Grassy Knoll at the Detroit Zoo.

Donate to your favorite team captain, walker or directly to the Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan. Donate online or mail donations to the Foundation by Wednesday, Aug. 25. Donations made after that date will not be included.

Register at www.hfmich.org or contact Dawn Evans at (800) 482-3041 or dawn@hfmich.org.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

JULY

Comedy for a Cause

The Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan offers a night of comedy, Wednesday, July 28, at Joey's Comedy Club in Livonia. Tickets for the event are \$15, with \$10 of that amount benefiting the organization. Seating will begin at 7:30 p.m. and the show will start at 8 p.m. To buy tickets, call Dawn at the Foundation at (800) 482-3041.

Free concert

The Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan is offering free concerts at rallies for its upcoming "Walkin' on the Wildside" fund-raising walk. Steel Traxx will perform at 6 p.m., July 28 at Booth Park in Birmingham. A concert also will be held at 6:30 p.m., July 27 at the Corner Brewery in Ypsilanti. The Foundation will provide free pop and pizza at each event. RSVP at (800) 482-3041.

Caregiver class

Learn the skills necessary to care for a child with diabetes, 1-4 p.m. July 29, at the Danto Auditorium, in the Cardiovascular

Center at the University of Michigan Medical Center, located at Fuller and East Medical Center Drive, in Ann Arbor. The Pediatric Endocrinology Department at the University of Michigan is offering a class for grandparents, teachers, baby sitters, step-parents, and others interested in learning about how to care for a child with diabetes. The cost is \$15 per person and covers the handouts that will be given at class and light refreshments. Call (734) 764-5175 with questions. Make checks payable to the University of Michigan and send it to Pediatric Endocrinology, Attn: Caregiver Class, 1500 E. Medical Center Drive, D1205 MPB, SPC 5718, Ann Arbor, MI 48109.

Physical Therapy

Find out how physical therapy can help relieve back, knee and shoulder pain while keeping joints and muscles strong and healthy, at a free community seminar presented by Beaumont Hospital. The one-hour seminar will be led by a Beaumont physical therapist and a Beaumont doctor. The program is scheduled for 2-3 p.m., July 29 and 6-7 p.m., Aug. 2, at the hospital, located on Woodward Ave., and 13 Mile in Royal Oak. Register at (800) 663-7377.

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