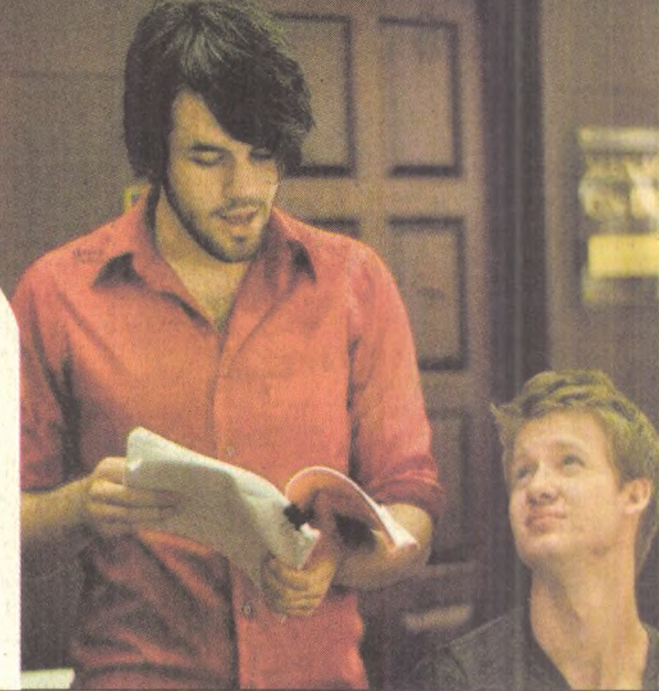




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SPORTS, B1

LOCAL PREP GRADS SPOOF VAMPIRE MOVIES
COMMUNITY LIFE, B5



SUNDAY
August 8, 2010

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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PIPELINE

What's growing in your garden?

Gardens are at their peak now, with tomatoes ripening, corn ready to pick and zucchini plants simply overflowing with tasty summer squash.

If you're harvesting a backyard vegetable garden or fruit trees this summer, share the bounty - in pictures and recipes - with Canton Observer readers. Send a photo of yourself in the garden and tell us how you prepare one of the vegetables or fruits you're growing. Send us a favorite recipe.

Sad passing

Marge Verduce, the only athletic department secretary Salem High School had ever known, died Aug. 1 after a battle with cancer.

Born Oct. 23, 1938, the 71-year-old Verduce had continued to serve while receiving treatment for her cancer.

She is survived by daughters Catherine Verduce and Marie (Steven) Franckowiak, son Michael Verduce and grandson Mark Franckowiak. Services were Friday at Northrop-Sassman Funeral Home in Northville.

Cards of sympathy can be sent to the Verduce's family at 41324 Windsor Court, Northville, MI 48167.

Mom 2 Mom

The Plymouth Salvation Army, which covers Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Belleville, hosts a Mom 2 Mom sale next month, and officials are looking for Moms who wish to sell their gently used baby and children's items by renting a table.

The sale is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11, during Plymouth's Fall Festival. Charge for table rental is \$20 for an eight-foot table, \$3 for extra space for a rack. Anyone interested in renting a table can print an application from the Salvation Army's website at www.mis-alplymouth.org.

For more information, call Cassie Hull at (734) 453-5464.

Book bag giveaway

Way of Life Christian Church sponsors its third annual "Back to School Book Bag Giveaway" 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 15, in the parking lot of the church, 9401 General Drive, Suite 100, between Lilley and Haggerty, south of Ann Arbor Road, in Plymouth Township.

Light refreshments, children's games and other "fun" activities are planned, church officials said. Parents must be present with their children to receive free school book bags with school supplies.

For more information, contact associate pastors Fred or Connie Williams via e-mail at fwret03@yahoo.com or by calling (734) 482-0068.

GOP takes aim at local seats

Stewart launches independent bid for state Senate

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Attorney John Stewart is staking out the middle ground in the battle to represent the 7th District in the Michigan Senate.

"People are tired of extremism. People are tired of partisanship," said Stewart on Friday. "I can bridge the partisan divide."

Stewart, 61, is an independent candidate for the state Senate in a district that includes the City of Plymouth, Canton and Plymouth townships and stretches from Northville to southwestern Wayne County and east to Grosse Ile. It's a three-way battle to replace term-limited Republican Sen. Bruce Patterson; engineer Patrick Colbeck of Canton won the Republican nomination on Tuesday; and Democrat Kathleen Law of Gibraltar, a former state representative, had no primary opposition.

Stewart has been a Republican and a Democrat, but independent is a label that Stewart wears most comfortably.

He was a Republican state House member for six years, through 2006, but more recently has been aligned with Democrats. He considered a bid for the state Senate as a Democrat, but decided against it when the Rep. Marc Corriveau, D-Northville, announced his candidacy in January. The two share a voter base,



Kurt Heise, speaking with voters arriving at Northville High School Tuesday, won the 20th House primary and will try to help Republicans reclaim the seat.

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Now that the primary election is over, state Republicans can turn their attention to November's general election, and the party has its eyes clearly on three local seats they feel they can reclaim.

Two of them - the 20th state House and the 7th state Senate - are open seats with no incumbents in the way. The third - the 21st House - is currently held by a Democrat who wrested it from Republican control two years ago.

The other seats don't come with that incumbent roadblock. In the 20th House District, which covers the Plymouths, Northville, Wayne and a sliver of the eastern portion of Canton, two-term incumbent Marc Corriveau, a Northville Democrat,

decided not to seek re-election to focus on a run at the 7th Senate seat being vacated by term-limited Sen. Bruce Patterson.

But Corriveau ultimately decided to pull out of that race, and now neither seat has an incumbent. The 20th House seat will go to either Plymouth Township attorney Kurt Heise, who easily won Tuesday's Republican primary, or Joan Wadsworth, another Northville Democrat who was unopposed Tuesday.

"It's important to get those (House) seats back and to keep that Senate seat," said Carl Berry, chairman of the Wayne 11th Republican Congressional District Committee. "It's always important to get the right people in office who pay attention to what the people have to say. We have to get Michigan back on

track. ... Anytime we've had good, qualified candidates running, the state party gets involved, and we've got good candidates now."

The race between Heise and Wadsworth could prove the area's most interesting. Heise is a former head of the environment department at Wayne County, where he worked well with Democratic county Executive Robert Ficano. He's also worked for several municipalities, worked on legislative issues and knows how Lansing works.

Wadsworth, Northville's Citizen of the Year in 2003, has served 16 years on the Northville school board, is a board member for the Northville Chamber of Commerce and has served on the city of Northville Downtown Development Authority,

Please see **ELECTION, A3**

Please see **STEWART, A2**



Plymouth attorney John Stewart, a former Republican state representative who switched to the Democratic party when he left office in 2006, is trying a run at the 7th Senate seat as an independent.

Some nibbles, but no offers, for downtown post office

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Landmark building for sale, 21,000 square feet. Exciting downtown location near park, restaurants, theater, coffee shops. Includes historic interior mural. Price: Negotiable.

That sums up the listing for the U.S. Postal Service station on Penniman in downtown Plymouth, formally known as the Pursell Station, which the Postal Service is hoping to sell as it consolidates operations in order to cut its budget. The building went on the market in June but remains open for postal customers.

"Had a lot of inquiries. No offers to date, but in today's economy, that's not a surprise," said Marla Larsen-Williams, a U.S.P.S. real estate spe-

cialist. "It's a great location and it's a nice, solid building in good shape."

The price is expected to be upwards of \$1 million.

While it is trying to unload the building, the U.S.P.S. plans to maintain a presence in downtown Plymouth for the foreseeable future. Either it will lease back space for its counter service from the new owner, or it will locate elsewhere downtown, said Larsen-Williams.

The counter space requires about 2,000 square feet; much of the space in the current building is no longer needed.

The building is listed with Studley Inc., a real estate firm with offices around the country. The U.S.P.S.,

Please see **POST OFFICE, A2**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Come and get it

Nick Hermann serves soft pretzels and queso to Timothy and Linda Sawyer of Redford Township during Wednesday's Old Village Restaurant Crawl in the Old Village section of Plymouth. Caesar salad, spinach artichoke dip, hot wings and garlic roasted chicken soup are also on the night's menu at Hermann's Old Towne Grill, one of half-a-dozen restaurants that took part. For the story and more photos, please see page A8.



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Canton takes second shot at road grant **STEWART**

FROM PAGE A1

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton officials are expected to know by mid-September if they will succeed in a second effort to secure as much as \$20.3 million in federal stimulus funds for a project to reshape the traffic-snarled I-275/Ford Road interchange.

Township officials have long said the project could ease traffic bottlenecks along bustling Ford Road, especially during peak,

rush-hour times when accidents are more likely to occur near crash-prone intersections such as Ford and Haggerty.

Already, Canton has submitted a preliminary, second-round application to the U.S. Department of Transportation as it competes with communities across the nation for a new share of \$600 million in TIGER — or Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery — grants, Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said.

Moreover, local officials face an Aug. 23 deadline to follow up the 54-question preliminary document with a formal application to the federal government, Faas said.

Canton lost out in February when federal officials awarded \$1.5 billion to first-round TIGER projects — a crushing blow township Supervisor Phil LaJoy called “extremely disappointing.”

Yet federal officials announced a new, \$600 million round in TIGER grants amid

hopes of spurring additional projects — and jobs — tied to road proposals that had merit, but missed out on funding.

However, it's possible that Canton, Wayne County and the state of Michigan could somehow have to find some matching money, such as nearly \$1.4 million in land costs, to help pay the tab for the I-275/Ford Road project, a thorny issue as all levels of government face worsening budget woes.

Stewart said, and would likely have split it.

When Corriveau dropped out of the Senate race in May, Stewart saw his chance. He and supporters collected 2,544 petition signatures — over 1,000 more than needed — to put him on the ballot as an independent.

Stewart says he's a known quantity, and from the mainstream. He's had the same office on Main Street in Plymouth for 26 years, and is a regular at Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth meetings and First Presbyterian Church services.

“I'm accessible. There's no mystery about John Stewart,” he said.

Stewart paints himself as fiscally responsible and touts his six years on the House appropriations committee as experience that will help him tackle the state's finances.

Abolishing the personal property tax, a tax on the value of business equipment from computers to heavy machinery, is toward the top of his list.

“You repeal the personal property tax, you attract high-tech businesses, you attract manufacturing jobs,” he said.

That would cut state revenue by about \$1.8 billion annually, in Stewart's estimation; to balance the budget, he favors consolidation in state government (state departments, for example, should not each have

their own personnel office, he said) and curbing Medicaid fraud, which, he said, is driving up costs.

Overall, Michigan needs tax reform, Stewart said, a view also shared by gubernatorial candidates Rick Snyder, the Republican, and Virg Bernero, the Democrat.

“I pledge no new taxes, but there's going to be a restructuring,” said Stewart. He is against a tax on services, and says the 22-percent surcharge on the Michigan Business Tax should be repealed.

On other issues, Stewart:

- Calls for stable funding of public education, and says he's worried that recent funding cuts are leading to larger class sizes.

- Favors consolidation of the services used by school districts, and of some school districts themselves, as ways to save money. “Overdue,” he said of the latter.

- Rejects further cuts in state revenue sharing to local units of government, which, he said, have led to the loss of 2,400 firefighter and some 2,000 police officer jobs statewide since 2001.

Stewart said his Downriver roots — he grew up in Wyandotte and two sisters were teachers in the area — and the fact that he collected petition signatures in that part of the district will help him win voters there.

Stewart and wife Beth have been married for 31 years and live in Plymouth Township. She is the executive director of the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society. They have two grown daughters, Laura Terrel and Sarah Stewart, both of whom live in Charlotte, N.C.

POST OFFICE

FROM PAGE A1

Larsen-Williams said, recently sold a historic post office in Birmingham for \$1.875 million to an investment group that plans to turn it into an office

building.

Larsen-Williams said the buyer of the Pursell station would be required to preserve some elements of the building because of its historic significance. The post office was built in the mid-1930s under a federal program designed to provide jobs during the Great

Depression.

The mural in the building's lobby, “Plymouth Trail,” will also be preserved, Larsen-Williams said. The mural was painted by Carlos Lopez, a local artist who taught at the University of Michigan.

The mural will remain U.S.P.S. property, Larsen-

Williams said, but could stay in place if an agreement can be reached with a new building owner. Or, it could be installed at a new downtown post office, if feasible and if the service counter is forced to move, she said. Or, she said, it could be moved to a local building — city hall, a library or a museum — that could properly display it.

“I have every intent to keep that mural in the community, because it is a part of the community's history,” she said.

The building is named for former U.S. Rep. Carl Pursell, a Republican who died last year. Larsen-Williams said the name will be maintained.

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ELECTION

FROM PAGE A1

the Northville Parks and Recreation Commission, the Friends of Northville District Library Board, the Northville Senior Citizens Council and the Northville Council of PTAs.

They'll be vying for a seat on which the Republicans had a stranglehold until Corriveau won it four years ago in a battle against Northville Township Supervisor Mark Abbo.

"The Republicans have always held that seat and would love to get it back," said Bill Ballenger, editor of *Inside Michigan Politics*. "Heise is a pretty strong candidate, but Wadsworth is going to be a pretty strong candidate as well. If it's a Republican year and Heise runs a tough campaign, he can win it back. But I wouldn't be surprised if (Wadsworth) kept it for the Democrats."

The 7th Senate seat is an open seat, and both parties want it (as does former state Rep. John Stewart, who is running as an independent). Republicans have controlled it for years — including the two Patterson terms — and are hoping Colbeck can help them keep it. Colbeck surprised more established Republicans Abe Munfakh, a three-time Plymouth Township trustee, and Deborah Whyman, a former state representative, by winning fairly easily in Tuesday's primary.

Early on in the campaign season, Democrats may have felt they had a chance to take it away by running Corriveau, who would have faced a tough primary against Gibraltar Democrat Kathleen Law, herself a former state representative. But Corriveau dropped out of the race right after the filing deadline, citing family reasons, leaving Law to await the Republican challenger.

That turned out to be Colbeck, who went out with "a positive message" and earned what he called a "We, the People" victory. He and Canton 21st House winner Lori Levi ran almost carbon-copy campaigns that included tons of door-to-door talks with

FACING OFF

Republicans hope to maintain control of the 7th Senate seat, and grab back the 20th House seat. Here's who's running:

20th House

Republican Candidate: Kurt Heise
Age: 44
Family: Wife Catherine; daughters Katie and Claire
Residence: Plymouth Township
Background: Attorney



Democrat Candidate: Joan Wadsworth
Age: 56
Family: Husband Steve Calkins; children Tim, Geoff, Virginia
Residence: Northville
Background: Northville school board member



7th Senate

Republican Candidate: Patrick Colbeck
Age: 44
Family: Wife Angie
Residence: Canton
Background: Self-employed management consultant



Democrat Candidate: Kathleen Law
Age: 64
Family: Husband Richard; one son, two grandsons
Residence: Gibraltar
Background: Former state representative



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Republicans are hoping to convince voters, like these casting primary ballots at West Middle School Tuesday, to bring back the 20th House seat and retain the 7th Senate seat.

voters, clean tactics and what most observers called "plain hard work."

"First off, they campaigned correctly, they worked hard, did a lot of door-to-door knocking," Berry said. "They did a ton of stuff and they were well-organized. They came out with conservative points of view. They worked hard. I was

very impressed."

After their primary victories, both Colbeck and Levi downplayed their connection to the Tea Party, but both have been active in and draw support from the movement. Levi has been present at multiple Tea Party events, and Colbeck announced his campaign during a Tax Day Tea Party event in Plymouth.

Their victories, according to Ballenger, show the Tea Party may be gaining some influence, but more victories are needed in order to make the party a force.

"There are potential Tea Party success stories around the state," Ballenger said. "They scored some victories in primaries, so now they can strut their stuff a little bit. But the bottom line is still — what are they going to do in November?"

"You have two races there in your own back yard (Levi and Colbeck) that are Exhibit A of Tea Party successes, but can they close the deal?"

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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

Bingo night

The Plymouth Community Council on Aging hosts Bingo on Thursday, Aug. 12 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

Admission is free to the event, which will feature prizes, gifts and refreshments compliments of the Oakmont Senior Living of Northville. Also on hand will be officials from Heartland Plymouth Court, who will give free blood pressure and sugar testing.

To RSVP and for more information, call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236.

Jazz @ the Elks

The Elks are adding a Sunday outdoor jazz concert to their August repertoire.

The concert, featuring a variety of jazz legends, Sunday, Aug. 22, 2-6 p.m. The lineup includes Ron Kischuk at 2 p.m., with the Tartarsauce

Traditional Jazz Band, Judie Cochill, vocalist. At 3 p.m., jazz legend George (Sax) Benson Quartette plays. The Sven Anderson Trio with vocalist Janet Tenaj appears at 4 p.m. and the concert wraps up at 5 p.m. with the John Trudell Quintette and a surprise vocalist.

This event takes place rain or shine on the grounds of the Plymouth Elks on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth just west of Haggerty. There is no cover charge, and food and refreshments will be available for purchase.

Then on Tuesday, Aug. 24, from 7-10:30 p.m., will be the ongoing Jazz @ The Elks event. Sven Anderson Trio will provide an evening of great jazz from Cole Porter to Salsa. There is no cover charge but donations are appreciated.

Plymouth Elks Lodge No. 1780 is located on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth near Haggerty. Call (734) 453-1780 for more information.

Corriveau coffee

State Rep. Marc Corriveau

will host a "coffee hour" 5:30-6:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 16, at Grecian Cafe Family Restaurant, 413 N. Main, in Plymouth.

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.

Orchestra auditions

The Celebration Youth Orchestras, a sponsored project of the Plymouth Symphony, will be holding auditions for the 2010-2011 season on Friday, Aug. 27, at Evola Music on Haggerty in Canton.

Under the direction of conductor Nan Washburn, the Celebration Youth Orchestras provide a unique, enriching and exciting musical experience for aspiring young players throughout southeast Michigan, especially in Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Novi, Belleville, and Westland.

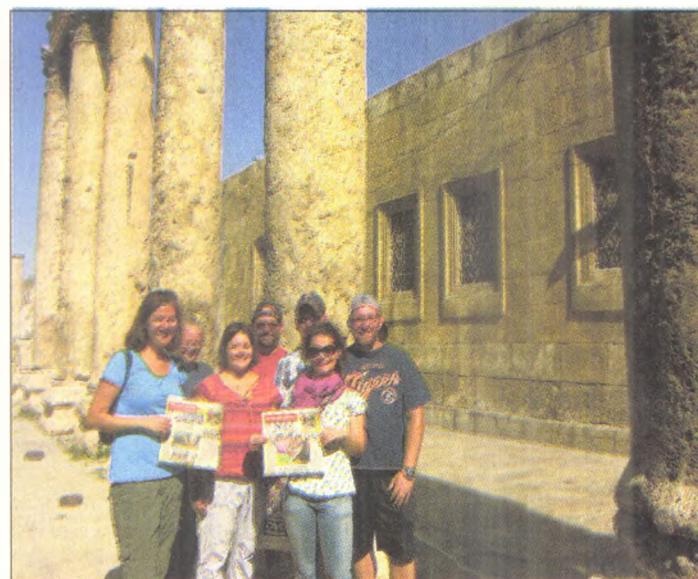
The CYO currently offers a full program of three orchestras and a flute choir, workshops and master classes with prominent guest soloists and composers, as well as yearly side-by-side performances with the professional musicians of the Plymouth Symphony and Orchestra Canton.

Anyone interested in auditioning should contact Jane Libbing at the Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestras office at (734) 451-2112 or e-mail her at jane@plymouthsymphony.org. Check out the CYO website at www.celebrationyouthorchestras.org.

Music classes

Harmony And Me hosts their annual Music Together classes to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society later this month.

Parents or caregivers attend class with their child (babies through kindergartners welcome). Classes are 100 percent donation to the LLS, and pre-registration is required on-line at www.HarmonyAndMeKids.com.



Wish you were here

A group from Oak Pointe Church took the Plymouth Observer to a children's camp in Amman, Jordan, to teach and show God's love. Pictured (from left) Eron Powers, Plymouth; Deb Stecher, Novi; Kristie Reeves, Novi; Ernie Minissale, Novi; Brian Izard, Northville; Shannon Hill, Plymouth; and Joe Snyder, Novi.

com (click on the "register" icon at top of home page). Participants can also call (248) 489-9330 and include desired day/time and name/ages of children attending.

Classes will be held at 541 N. Mill in Plymouth 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 14; 9:30, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 18; and 10:45 a.m. Friday, Aug. 20.

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.

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 *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

Fall Fest cars

The Plymouth Fall Festival car show will feature antique and classic cars from 1980 and older Sept. 11-12, with a Cruz Night Sept. 10, in downtown Plymouth.

Cost for pre-registration (before Sept. 10) is \$10 for one day, \$15 for both. Registration at the show costs \$15 for one day, \$20 for two. Registration forms can be found online at www.plymouthfallfestival.com. Mailed forms must be received by Sept. 8.

For more information on the show, call Chris Gurriere at (734) 756-7781.

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Barefoot touts 'avant garde' fifth season

Barefoot Productions announced its fifth-season schedule, opening October with the psychological thriller, *Mindgame*, by Anthony Horowitz. True to Barefoot's mission, company officials said this season's lineup offers unusual, but highly entertaining and intelligent shows.

Created in 2006 by Craig A. Hane, Barefoot Productions has become well-established in the Plymouth community and continues to enjoy a growing patron base. From its beginnings in the basement of the Plymouth Historical Museum, Barefoot Productions now calls the former Walker-Buzenberg Furniture Building home for the next five years, having recently announced a contractual agreement with the building's owner.

This comes on the heels of a generous matching grant from Plymouth's The Wilcox Foundation (which was awarded late last year and recently ended) which helped raised funding for the busy non-profit theatre.

"I knew we'd get to this point one day," said Hane, Barefoot's artistic director. "Entering our fifth season after one of our most successful year's to-date is a dream come true. We're a volunteer-driven organization and we're so passionate about what we do. It's this passion and commitment that shines through in each show we perform. I welcome it and that's why we've been so fortunate to have such a faithful following that continues to grow. We're dedicated to providing the community with fantastic live theatre and I can't wait to announce

our 25th season."

Barefoot Productions opens its fifth season with the fall production, *Mindgame*, a heart-stopping thriller that places the audience in the room with an escaped, cannibalistic serial killer. Playwright Horowitz is well-known as a screenplay writer, having penned Hannibal (sequel to *Silence of the Lambs*) and Hercule Poirot mysteries for A&E.

"*Mindgame* is unbelievable," said Hane. "I spent months researching similar plots and true crime stories to give this production the realistic edge it requires. Both the characters and the setting will be constantly evolving, featuring both optical and audible illusions."

Patrons are cautioned that certain scenes of graphic violence may be disturbing for younger audience members and sensitive adults. Auditions are August 16 and 17 for the three-person cast. The show runs Oct. 8-24.

Moving from mayhem to merriment, Barefoot Productions announces the return of *A Christmas Carol*, Dec. 10-11. A vital fund-raiser for the non-profit theatre, the performance features a cast of seven actors, portraying more than 40 characters in a narrative reading of the Charles Dickens' classic. The suggested donation is \$30 per person.

"I tailored this holiday story based on my tradition and education in adapting prose for theatrical presentations," explained Hane. "This will be staged in the way Dickens originally intended - almost as if the audience was being read a beloved bedtime story.

We're pleased to bring back this heartwarming performance based on its popularity last year and will again offer our patrons a sophisticated, elegant and entertaining evening, replete with community merchants presenting music, wine, desserts and teas."

In celebration of its fifth season and to round out the year, Barefoot debuts its "After Hours" Theatre, a selection of shorter plays that will lend itself to slightly more risqué subject matter than the main stage productions. Shows will vary and be peppered throughout the season, but may include such plays as *Midnight Catechism*, *Miss Margarita's Way* and *My First Time*, among others.

"We wanted to bring a little fun feel of New York to Plymouth," explained Hane. "An opportunity for adults to grab dinner, see a show and end it with a nightcap. The shows are well-known and award-winning."

All performances are held in the Walker-Buzenberg Building, 240 N. Main in Plymouth. Ticket prices for 2010/2011 are \$16 for general admission; \$14 for students and seniors, and \$14 for groups of 10 or more. Season tickets are available at \$42 per person for the three main stage shows (excluding *A Christmas Carol*). Individual tickets can be purchased online at www.just-gobarefoot.com by clicking on the Ticketeap link. Individual and group tickets can also be purchased by calling Barefoot Productions' box office at (734) 560-1493. The box office will also be open one hour prior to each performance.



Barefoot Productions announced its 2010-11 season, featuring (clockwise) the thriller, *Mindgame*; the holiday showcase, *A Christmas Carol*; the British farce *Black Comedy* and the comedy-drama, *Lips Together, Teeth Apart*.

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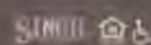
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GE, partners join forces, clean Rouge

Canton Leisure Services recently joined forces with more than 100 General Electric employees in an eco-challenge to clean up the Lower Rouge River Recreational Trail. The volunteers were part of an Information Management Leadership Program training bootcamp being held at GE's Advanced Manufacturing and Software Technology Center, a state-of-the-art IT and research facility in Van Buren Township. Falling in line with GE's strategy to give back to the communities where its employees live and work, GE volunteers planted 2,000 square feet of wetland vegetation, cleaned up hundreds of bags of litter and debris, and provided general habitat management along a three mile stretch of the Lower Rouge River Recreational Trail. "Volunteerism and giving back have always been promi-

nent parts of GE's culture," said Kim Bankston, HR leader for GE's Advanced Manufacturing and Software Technology Center. "We apply our spirit of innovation and dedication to address the challenges that affect our communities worldwide. Every year, GE volunteers contribute more than one million hours of service. From focusing on education and the environment to health care and local community development needs, GE volunteers are good people doing great things." The Lower Rouge River Recreational Trail marks one of three large group volunteer efforts coordinated by Canton Township employees this year. For more information on this special clean up project or to find out about additional volunteer opportunities available in Canton, contact the Canton Parks Division at (734) 394-5310 or visit www.cantonfun.com.

Borders launches book drive for needy kids

The Borders in Canton has launched a book drive as part of a chain-wide effort to increase literacy among kids. Through Aug. 30, store associates will encourage customers to donate enriching books including titles from the Junie B. Jones, Magic Tree House and Ramona and Beezus series, as well as a variety of picture books for very young readers. The store has partnered with Reach out and Read Michigan, who will receive and distribute the donated books to needy kids within the community. During the book drive it held last March, the store collected books and plush toys and provided them to The Ronald McDonald House. The company as a whole delivered more than 600,000 titles and 85,000 stuffed toys to kids in need nationwide.

Diaper drive

The Detroit Area Diaper

Bank, a nonprofit charity providing diapers for people in need in Southeast Michigan, launched its second annual Fall Diaper Drive. The Diaper Drive's goal is to collect 100,000 diapers (or the funds to buy them) by Thanksgiving 2010. No federal assistance programs pay for or provide diapers, not WIC, not Food Stamps or Medicare. Nonprofit organizations and state agencies working with families and individuals in crisis consistently list diapers as an ongoing and TOP need. An average infant uses up to 12 diapers per day, a toddler up to 8 per day. But in low-income households, a baby may be in a single diaper all day or longer, increasing the risk of health problems from skin disease to hepatitis. Parents who can't afford diapers can't leave their child at daycare to go to work or school. Some children with disabilities never outgrow the need for diapers and seniors who can't afford incontinence supplies often become homebound or end up in a nursing

NEWS BRIEFS

home. The Detroit Area Diaper Bank exists to address this largely unknown and chronically unmet need; the annual Fall Diaper Drive helps drive donations into the Diaper Bank so that it can fulfill more of its partner agencies' families' needs and be able to help through the holidays and start of the new year, a time when donations tend to slow down. "Our goal for the '100,000 by Thanksgiving' Diaper Drive is of course primarily to bring in resources that we can distribute to our partner agencies working with our neighbors in need," said Marybeth Levine, executive director and founder of the Detroit Area Diaper Bank. "But we also hope it helps to raise awareness about the diaper issue and engage the community in our mission. We are always in need of individuals, businesses, schools, community organizations and places of worship to run fund-raisers and diaper drives to support the Diaper Bank, whether it's before Thanksgiving or not. The diapers go out just as quickly as they come in, so we are looking for year-round partnerships and support to help us really make a difference with diapers." The Detroit Area Diaper Bank's mission is to raise awareness about the large hole in the "safety net" resulting in the unmet need for diapers in our community's most vulnerable populations — babies from low income households, the elderly, people with disabilities — and build a network to help meet it. For more information, visit www.detroitareadiaperbank.org.

Senior programs
The Plymouth Council on Aging together with the City of Plymouth Recreation Department will hold an introduction presentation to the new fall Senior Programs on Monday, Aug. 9, from 1:30-3 p.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. Programs that will be introduced included Chair Exercise, Wii Bowling, Wii Tennis and

information on the upcoming Shuffleboard. For more information or to RSVP call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236.

VA consultation
Are you entitled to federal benefits from the Veterans Administration? Are you applying for federal benefits from the VA? Are you fighting for an increase of benefits from the VA? If yes to any of the aforementioned questions, Project SALUTE from the University of Detroit Mercy has the answers. On Monday, Sept. 13, at 7:30 p.m., at PLAV Post #166, 39375 Amrhein (at the corner of Echols) in Livonia, free individual consultations will be provided along with a complete presentation of available disability and pension benefit matters. Please bring your DD-214 (discharge papers), recent rating decisions and any other documentation which will help attorneys understand and evaluate your current position.

Good Grief golf
The 12th annual "Good Grief" golf outing to benefit New Hope Center for Grief Support is presented by this year's Green Jacket Sponsor, Wynwood of Northville, Saturday, Sept. 12, at Tanglewood Golf Club in South Lyon, with a 10 a.m. shotgun start. The proceeds from this outing will benefit New Hope Center for Grief Support, a bereavement outreach center located in Northville. New Hope provides free grief support services and resources to men, women, teens, and children throughout southeastern Michigan. The cost for this four-person scramble, which includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, lunch, dinner, contests, and prizes, is \$125 per golfer. Dinner only is \$35 per person. For information about sponsorship opportunities or for registration information, contact Pattie Bingham at (248) 348.0115 and visit the website at www.newhopecenter.net.

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New county dog park gives pooches plenty of space

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

For Pat Gaden of Livonia, Jen Rogers of Romulus and Angie Whinnie of Redford, it was man's best friend that made them best friends. Standing Thursday morning in the new and improved Wayne County Dog Park in Westland, the three women recounted what they call a "good dog park story."

"We started bringing our dogs up here and we met," Whinnie said. "Now it's turned into a wonderful friendship — there's eight in the group and at least 10 dogs."

The women were among dog lovers who gathered with their pooches to watch as Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano cut the ceremonial leash to officially open the park, located at Hawthorne Ridge along Hines Drive west of Merriman in Westland. The dog park features two fenced enclosures — one for small, one for large breeds — plenty of shade trees, exercise equipment like a Hound Hoop, agility wall and wall jump. There's plenty of room for dogs to run and play with each other while their owners talk.

"I come here all the time. The dogs really like it, and this is much better than the old dog park," said Kim Dowdiat of Garden City, who was there with her three dogs: Mackenzie, a Hurricane Katrina survivor, Sadie and Hunter. "The old park was hidden, you had to go over a bridge and there were no shade trees."

Gaden, Rogers and Whinnie and the rest of their dog park friends also met at the old park. The group comes from all walks of life — from a machinist to a tenured professor at the University of Michigan-Dearborn — and most have huskies as pets. They have gone on hikes together, had dinners at each other's homes with their dogs present and even had birthday parties for their dogs.

When Rogers got married, she invited her dog park friends and had special favors so they knew where to sit for the reception — small dog dishes filled with dog food. "That shows just how much I like my dog park friends," she said.

"I've been teased over the years, but this has turned into a wonderful thing," Whinnie said. "We have a lot of fun. We never would have been friends if not for the dogs and the dog park," Gaden added.

Dogs of all shapes and sizes ran around the enclosures or played with other dogs. Others ambled about, and one even sprinted up and across on the picnic tables conveniently



Don Boshaw and son Blake of Livonia watch their dog, Lexus, hold a pose with a treat on his nose.

placed under the trees. Carol Clayton of Redford visits the dog park at least once a week with her dog Ella, who was hanging out with her "boyfriend," Oliver. "She was scared the first time, but the more I brought her, the more relaxed she became," Clayton said. "This is a much better park and closer to the road."

Dog owners pay a \$5 fee and provided proof of vaccinations and a current dog license to use the park. Access is by way of a keypad that unlocks the outer gate. An inner gate prevents dogs from getting out. "This is really good for her to socialize with other dogs," Clayton said. "We have a fenced in yard, but it's not as big as this."

Sue Ostrander of Livonia was riding her bike with her two Italian greyhounds, Daron and Luca, when she spotted the park. Her first time visiting, she was impressed. Ostrander uses her bike to exercise her dogs, who do lure racing at different metropolitan areas.

"They're either on (the go) or they're calm," she said. "They're a little tired because we've probably done four miles already. I do it to keep them in shape. It doesn't work with walking."

Standing in the midst of dogs who were running or chasing each other, Joanne Schwab bent her knees as two came careening toward her. "I've gotten bowled over by them a few times," she said. Schwab was there with her dog Dutch. A veteran of the old dog park, she describes the new setup as "wonderful."

"It's out in the open and it only costs \$5, you can't beat it," she said. "Most of the dogs and people are friendly. Usually, the older or smaller dogs go over there (to the small dog area)."

One of the small dogs enjoying the big dog area was a red miniature pinscher named Lexus. Don Boshaw of Livonia and his son

Blake sat in the shade as Lexus walked around the park, not in the least bothered by the larger dogs racing around her. "She's used to being around big dogs. We have a group in our neighborhood that walks around Churchill High School

and she's in with a couple great danes and other large dogs," Boshaw said.

People interested in more information about the dog park can call (734) 261-1990 or go online to www.waynecountyparks.org.

DOG PARK RULES

- Owners are the key to this park's success, and to the success of all future dog parks. They use the park at their own risk. Owners and handlers are responsible and liable for the actions and behaviors of their dogs at all times. A liability waiver and registration form must be filled out and signed prior to entering the dog park. These forms will be available from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays at Nankin Mills, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland.
- No children allowed unless accompanied by an adult. Children must be closely supervised by an adult and must behave appropriately: no running, shouting, chasing dogs, or petting other's dogs without the owner's permission.
 - Clean up and dispose of feces left by your dog.
 - Fill any holes your dog may dig.
 - Limit of two dogs per adult per visit.
 - Keys cannot be shared between pet owners.
 - Dogs must be leashed prior to entering and upon leaving the park. Owners must carry a leash for each dog.
 - Dogs must be licensed, vaccinated, healthy and parasite-free.
 - Keep your dogs in sight and never leave dogs in the park unattended.
 - Females in heat and puppies under 4 months of age are prohibited. Spayed/neutered animals are recommended.
 - No aggressive dogs allowed. Dogs with a known history of, or who exhibit, aggressive or dangerous behavior are prohibited. Immediately leash your dog and leave the park if aggressive behavior is observed.
 - Keep barking to a minimum.
 - No food of any kind is allowed within the fenced area.
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The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:

Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary
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Restaurant crawl brings hundreds to Old Village

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The population of Plymouth's Old Village swelled Wednesday evening as nearly 300 people hit local eating places to sample the fare during the neighborhood's annual restaurant crawl.

Five restaurants and the Liberty Street Brewing Co., a microbrewery and pub, were on the menu this year for an event that drew people from Plymouth and surrounding communities. Some 285 tickets for the crawl were sold, said Wes Graff, executive director of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, the event sponsor.

"Everyone did a really nice job," Graff said. "Lots of food out there for everyone."

"It was a great night," said Jay Lindsey, the co-owner, with brother Jeff, of Amici Italian Bistro.

Amici was the new kid on the block, having just opened last November. Amici was serving house salad, pasta with marinara or meat sauce, meatballs, pasta alfredo and cannolis.

Jeff Lindsey said the crawl was a good marketing tool, and estimated that 60 percent or more of the people who stopped by for it were first-timers there.

"It really helps us get that word-of-mouth," he said.

Denise Kobos of Livonia was so impressed with Amici, she said, she may use it for future catering needs.

Kobos had stopped at Liberty Street for samples of the four beers the microbrewery had ready for crawl participants: two light beers and two dark beers, including the Liberty One, which won first place this year and last year



Laura Rogers, a server at Crawford's Kitchen, entertains patrons with classical violin.



The Old Village Restaurant Crawl drew crowds to participating businesses.

crawl for many years. Station 885 likes to stay involved in the community, Zajac said, and the growth of events specific to Old Village seem to have accompanied the neighborhood's resurgence in recent years.

Graff said earlier crawls only attracted 125 or so people "In the last two years it sort of took off," Graff said.

The crawl participants at Station 885, Zajac said, were a mixture of regulars and newcomers — both good for marketing purposes.

"We kind of have a big rush in the beginning," he said, with about 60 people waiting outside for the 5:30 p.m. crawl start time.

Zajac, in a dining room for crawl participants, had set out pasta, salad, and pizza. "Everybody loves pizza," he said.

Also participating in the restaurant crawl were Hermann's Olde Town Grill, Plymouth Fish & Seafood and Crawford's Kitchen.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

at the World Expo of Beer in Frankenmuth.

"My last stop — and I'm stuffed," Kobos said. "Every place has been really good."

Matt Sawyer of Farmington was also at Liberty Street, with his parents, two brothers and their significant others. The crawl has become an annual family tradition, he said.

"They had a really good

selection of food," Sawyer said.

Like at Amici, most crawl visitors seemed to be first-timers at Liberty Street, said Joe Walters, the general manager and head brewer.

"It's kind of a good thing to get them to see Plymouth has a brewery," Walters said.

North on Starkweather, at Station 885, general manager Paul Zajac said the restaurant has been participating in the

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Be wary of tempting college scholarship offers

Q: Dear Rick: Our oldest daughter will be starting college in the fall. Over the last month or so, we have received a number of e-mails and phone calls regarding scholarships. The basic message of the offers is there are no fees involved and all you need to do is provide them with information and they will tell what scholarships you qualify for. I am leery of this; however, if there is no fee what's the harm? Do you agree with me or should I just ignore the solicitations?



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

thing for nothing. It seems that what the company is trying to do is to obtain a variety of sensitive financial information. Who knows what it can do with that information? Once scam artists get account numbers, credit card numbers and other pieces of financial information, there is no telling the damage it can cause.

Over the last decade, there has been a substantial increase in the number of frauds with regards to phony scholarships. These frauds are becoming more sophisticated, which means that consumers must be more

cautious than ever before.

Many of the scams regarding scholarships are similar to the one mentioned (attempting to obtain all sorts of sensitive financial information) to commit some sort of identify theft. Another approach used by some is to invite you to attend a free seminar. At the seminar, organizers implement a variety of high-pressure sales techniques to get you to pay substantial fees. The hook is the guarantee — if you pay the fee, you qualify for a scholarship.

There are many legitimate companies that can assist you with scholarships. However, avoid those which employ high-pressure sales tactics.

In these tough economic times, college costs have become more difficult to afford. Because of this, families are more at risk than ever to scholarship

and loan scams. These companies make use of the Internet and have become much more sophisticated. Before you provide sensitive financial information or fork over your hard-earned money, it is important to do your homework.

I recommend checking out the company through the Better Business Bureau and some other independent research. One website that offers a wealth of information regarding scholarships and financial assistance is www.findaid.org. This website allows you to do an incredible amount of research regarding financing a college education. In addition, the website has a scholarship search and lists numerous scholarships that are available. Many scholarships are not only need based, but also based

upon merit.

Some of these so-called scholarship search companies that charge exorbitant fees basically use this website as a resource.

The world of financing a college education is changing, just like everything else in our society. Just because something worked for a year or two ago does not mean it will necessarily work today. It is important that parents and students stay current on what is happening with financing an education.

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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Home ice advantage

Modano comes full circle, dons Red Wing jersey

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Despite being on the end of an illustrious NHL career, the Detroit Red Wings youth this 40-year-old Little Caesars youth product from Westland will be hot and ready for one more season.

Mike Modano, the latest Red Wing signee and the all-time leading American-born scorer in the NHL, was introduced Friday at Joe Louis Arena to a large media gathering.

Modano, who wore the No. 9 jersey during all of his 20 seasons with the Minnesota/Dallas Stars, donned his new Red Wing jersey for the first time.

"Where's our star?" Wings owner Mike Ilitch said as Modano walked up to the podium.

The Wings signed the unrestricted free agent to a one-year \$1.25 million contract where he is expected to center a line that includes Dan Cleary and Jiri Hudler.

"The opportunity to win is always



Gordie Howe's No. 9 is taken, so Westland native Mike Modano (center), the newest Red Wing for owner Mike Ilitch and general manager Ken Holland, will don No. 90 this season.

something you're chasing when you're older," Modano said. "Quite frankly, if I didn't have a chance to win I probably wouldn't have come. I was finished and retired. At this stage you want

to have fun, you want to win. The last few years were draining and we weren't as successful as we had hoped in Dallas.

"Obviously the opportunity to play

with world-class players and this team changed that. If Detroit didn't come calling, I'd be done. The experi-

Please see **MODANO, A3**

Derby's fence-clearing hit for Miracle League

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Much more than baseballs were elevated July 25 at the first annual Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Home Run Derby.

Also on the rise were awareness about the planned Miracle League of Plymouth baseball field for special needs children, and dollars to support the \$1.1 million project.

"I thought it went really well and we exceeded our expectations," said event co-chair Chris Kordick, a 2010 Salem grad who participated in the derby. "I just want to thank everybody for coming out and showing their support."

More than \$4,200 was generated at the event, held on the Salem baseball field and attended by 100-to-

200 fans, said Ted Barker, an event co-chair (as was his wife, Tonya) and member of the Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M.

As for the derby itself, there were 10 players on the 2010 varsity teams from Salem, Canton and Plymouth who participated in one division and another five batters in a separate contest for alums and coaches.

Victorious in walk-off fashion in the 2010 division was Canton's Joe Galanty, who with one out to go broke a tie with Salem's Ken Novak with a homer to left-center field.

"It was a nice blast, it was hit with authority," Barker said. "It was kind of cool. ... My man Novak, he kind of got through the round. There weren't a lot of home runs hit. But he and Galanty duked it out."

Please see **DERBY, A3**



JOHN KEMSKI

Salem's Ken Novak swings for the fences during the final round of the July 25 home run derby, a fund-raiser to generate dollars and promote awareness for the Miracle League of Plymouth project. Novak and Canton's Joe Galanty came down to the wire in the division for 2010 varsity players from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Pummill's summer play heats up

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Here's a quiz for all golfing enthusiasts: Who has recorded more tournament victories this summer, Tiger Woods or Ron Pummill?

If you answered Mr. Woods then guess again because it is indeed the young Pummill who holds the upper hand with three victories to his credit. Granted, it may not be on the same level of play as the World's No. 1 golfer faces week in and week out, but they are championships nonetheless and something Pummill can hang his hat on in his attempt to continue to improve his overall game.

"My goal was to at least win two of these tournaments, so to win three is pretty exciting," said Pummill, whose trio of victories, along with one second-place showing, have come during Carl's

Golf and Huron-Clinton Metropark Summer and Hometown-Clintons Metropark Golf Tournaments. "Winning these tournaments and the experience I gained last year playing in college (Schoolcraft) have helped me because now I know I can compete with the best players on the best courses. The way I hit the ball really hasn't changed much, I'm just playing with a lot more confidence now."

Pummill's impressive run began with a round of 69 he carded at Willow Metropark Golf Course July 14 against fellow 17- and 18-year-olds in the initial tournament he entered. Despite an inauspicious beginning — Pummill started the day with a double bogey — the former Garden City High standout found enough fairways and greens in regulation to record his first sub-70 round in tournament play.

As often is the case in golf, one day can

make a huge difference and that's what Pummill experienced 24 hours later when he teed it up at Huron Meadows Golf Course. A second round of sub-70 fell by the wayside early on, but Pummill managed to scratch and claw his way through to the finish where his 75 left him only one stroke from the lead.

Proving breaking 70 was no fluke, Pummill bettered his 69 by one stroke when he took top honors against a competitive field July 19 at Kensington Golf course.

"I hit almost every fairway and I birdied all four of the par 5s," Pummill said of that day's action.

Pummill's third win of the summer came shortly after when his 74 at Stone Creek Golf Course topped the field by one stroke.

"Once you start winning you start believing in yourself a lot more," said



Ron Pummill, a graduate of Garden City High School, proudly displays his three first-place medals racked up this summer during play in Carl's Golf and Huron-Clinton Metropark Summer Golf Tournaments.

Pummill, who has spent much of the past six Michigan summers employed at Westland Municipal. "My putting has always been the best part of my game, but I've worked hard practicing my putting and I made more four- and five-foot putts in these tournaments than I had before."

SIDELINES

O&E men's golf signup

Registration is still on for the Observer & Eccentric Open men's golf tournament.

The O&E Men's Open, a two-day, 36-hole medal event, will be Labor Day weekend, Sunday-Monday, Sept. 5-6 at Fox Creek and Whispering Willows courses, respectively.

Entries close at 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 28, and will be open to the first 120 golfers. The entry fee is \$95 (cart not included). There will be a Senior Division (50-and-over) with a maximum handicap of 20 (U.S.G.A. index required to participate). A total of \$2,500 in prizes, including money for the low and net scorers for each flight, will be offered.

For more information on both tours, call (248) 476-4493 or visit www.golflivonia.com.

Borsa places ninth

Philip Borsa of Redford earned a ninth-place finish Saturday in the FLW Bass Fishing League Michigan Co-Angler Division on the St. Clair River. Borsa's five-bass limit checked in at 15 pounds, 8 ounces.

The winning take of 18 pounds, 12 ounces was shared by Jay Ahonen of Ortonville and Adrian Arena of Vineland, N.J.

The next BFL Michigan Division tournament is slated for Saturday, Aug. 28, on the Detroit River in Trenton.

For more information on FLW Outdoors tournaments, call (270) 252-1000 or visit www.flwoutdoors.com.

Junior golf tourney

The Wolverine Sports and Conservation Club's third annual junior boys and girls golf tournament will be Aug. 21-22 at Livonia's Idyl Wyld Golf Course.

The free event is on a first-come, first-serve basis (limited to the first 144). Lunch and T-shirt included. Trophies will be awarded for each boys and girls division winners. Registration for ages 10-12 and 13-14 — a nine-hole event — is at 8 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 21. Tee times are at 8:30 a.m. Registration for ages 15-16 and 17-18 — an 18-hole event — is at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 22. Tee times are noon. Golfers can only register at www.wolverinesports.org. Call Bob Murray, (734) 751-4466.

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 hospital grounds, Five Mile and Levan. 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 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. offers music, games, food and health screenings. Register at Active.com or by visiting stmarymercy.org.

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More pool gold for Canton's Schmitt at California meet

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



Allison Schmitt

Canton High grad Allison Schmitt brought home another coveted title Wednesday as the 20-year-old captured the women's 200-meter freestyle at USA Swimming 2010 ConocoPhillips National Championships held in Irvine, Calif. The 2008 Beijing Olympics bronze medalist, now swimming for coach Bob Bowman at the North Baltimore Aquatics Club (Md.), was clocked in 1:56.84, but nearly two seconds off

her American record of 1:54.96 set at last year's nationals (July 29, 2009). Top-seeded Dana Volmer of California Aquatic was runner-up in 1:56.93. "I saw Dana up when I took a flip," said Schmitt, who trailed for nearly 150 meters. "I tried keep up with her, I was just going forward and put my head down. You just have to swim your own race

— so that's what I was doing. I saw her (Vollmer) right there (at the finish) and I knew it would come down close. I just put my head down, closed my eyes and touched the wall." By finishing one-two in the 400 freestyle, both swimmers will represent Team USA, Aug. 18-22, in the Mutual of Omaha Pan Pacific Championships, an event that will attract competitors from 20 different nations including Japan, Australia and Canada. That meet will determine Team USA spots for the 2011 FINA Worlds

in Shanghai, China. At last year's World Championships in Rome, Schmitt was a silver medalist in the 200 freestyle. "It's amazing," Schmitt said of her 200 freestyle win. "I'm really excited to go to Pan Pacs and represent the U.S." On Tuesday, Schmitt earned her first Pan Pacific team berth with a runner-up finish in the 400 freestyle. Katie Hoff, the American record holder, touched the wall first in with a time of 4:05.50 followed by Schmitt in 4:06.19. Chloe Sutton of Mission Viejo (Calif.) was a close third in 4:06.33. Schmitt, an NCAA All-American from the University of Georgia, finished ninth at the 2008 Summer Olympics in the 200 freestyle and won a bronze medal as part of the Americans' 4 x 200 freestyle relay team. The 20-year-old is a two-time NCAA champion in the 500 freestyle who helped the Bulldogs last spring to an SEC Championship and a fifth-place team finish in the NAAs.

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MU golfer Quitquit runner-up in Mich. public links event

Madonna University golfer Brett Quitquit continued what has been an amazing year last week with a runner-up finish in the 2010 Michigan Publicx State Match Play Championship at Bedford Valley Golf Course in Battle Creek. The State Match Play is one of the oldest continuous amateur tournaments conducted in the state. A 36-hole qualifier places contestants into 64-man flights based on score. Each player then competes in single elimination individual matches. The champions of each flight can play as many as six matches. Quitquit started his run on July 23-24, earning medalist honors after carding back-to-back qualifying rounds of 69 at Bedford Valley and Stonehedge Golf Club North. The tournament's top seed, Quitquit then moved onto single-elimination and defeated Chris Bailey 3-and-2. The Highland native from Milford High then faced off

with fellow MU senior-to-be Tommy Lucko (Livonia Churchill) and the two Crusaders duelled to an extra hole before Quitquit came out on top, 1-up. In the tournament's third round, Quitquit faced off with Scott Jaschuk and won 5-and-4 before a semifinal showdown with Plymouth's Bill Zylstra, winning 3-and-2 to advance into the championship match against No. 2 overall seed Russ Cunningham. The two finalists went head-to-head for 18 holes, but it was Cunningham who prevailed, 1-up. Quitquit's success last week comes on the heels of his 2009 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference individual title last fall as the Crusaders earned the program's first WHAC title and advanced to the 2010 NAIA National Championships. The MU junior continued his hot streak at NAAs, coming in second place nationally after four rounds of play at



Quitquit

TPC Deere Run in Silvis, Ill. By virtue of his second-place finish, Quitquit will receive an invite to the 2011 National Championships regardless if the MU squad qualifies or not. Quitquit placed in the top 20 in 13-of-14 events he played last season and posted seven top-five finishes and was named first-team All-WHAC. Lucko and Quitquit were two of the five Crusaders who advanced to the final 64 of the championship. Joining the duo were senior Jimmy Uelman (Royal Oak Dondoro), along with juniors Nick Sears (Flint Powers Catholic) and Ronnie Pollack, Jr. (Southgate Anderson).

Backstroker Douglas on the precipice after leg cramp

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Kayla Douglas believes there's a lesson to be learned in every race she swims. In Sunday's Girls Open 200-meter backstroke final at the Michigan Long Course State Championships held at the Holland Aquatics Center, the incoming senior at Livonia Franklin High School appeared to be a lock to advance to next week's USA Swimming Speedo Junior Nationals in Irvine, Calif. Douglas was comfortably ahead by 15 meters with less than 25 meters to go and was on target to break the cut of 2:20.99 in a meet hosted by Michigan Lakeshore Aquatics. Inexplicably, Douglas suffered a rare leg cramp and settled for second place in 2:25.69, while Melissa Scott of the Oakland Live Yers won the event in 2:23.2. (Douglas' previous best time was 2:22.23 on July 25 in a meet hosted by the Plymouth-Canton Cruisers.) That disappointment came after Douglas captured the 100 backstroke final on Saturday in 1:06.65, just missing the pool record of 1:06.43 set in 2001 by Amy McCullough, also of the Live Yers. "The best way to put it is that it will make me more hungry and more excited to train," Douglas said. "It's going to



Kayla Douglas

make me work twice as hard. Had I made it, I'd always be happy and I'd have nothing to work for. Maybe it's not so bad that I'm not completely satisfied. Everything happens for a reason." Kayla's mother Alicia, one of her biggest supporters, said "she never had a leg cramp before." "It was a heart-wrenching thing to watch, but there's a lesson to be learned out of everything," Alicia added. Kayla Douglas has made great strides since joining the Ann Arbor-based Club Wolverine 15 months ago. It's a club that has spawned several Olympians, most notably Michael Phelps. "The intensity is higher when it comes to training," said Kayla, who is coached by Bailey Weathers. "At my old

club I got a taste, but I really didn't know what it meant to work. The team is very close. We're a big-time family. We pull for each other because we all know what it means to suffer and all the pain it brings." At last year's MHSAA Division 1 state finals, Douglas was runner-up to Novi's Andrea VanderMey in the 100-yard backstroke (57.6). Douglas was also 15th in the 100 butterfly (1:00.23). She is currently taking two weeks off before starting with her high school practices on Aug. 23. "I'm running, biking, lifting weights — recovering — not too intense," Douglas said. Douglas is not sure whether she will continue workouts in the fall with Club Wolverine. She already has a U.S. Open Senior Nationals cut in the 200 backstroke along with qualifying times in both backstroke events for the USA Swimming Short Course Junior Nationals. Douglas, meanwhile, is attracting interest from several NCAA Division I schools. She plans to take all five official recruiting trips including a visit to Michigan. "Michigan is in my blood, but I also like Ohio State," Douglas said. "We'll see how the cards play out."

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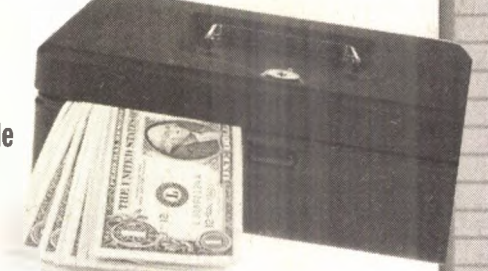
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MODANO

FROM PAGE A1

ences other players had here and talking to them, it just all added up.”
 Modano's roots run deep dating back to his youth hockey days in the Caesars organization – something the Wings owner hasn't forgotten. “I had him as an amateur,” Iltch said. “That was great. He won me my first Midget national championship (1985) and we went nuts. In all of America we were the best and that was a big thrill.”

Modano attended Livonia Franklin High School before going to the Prince Albert Raiders (Alberta, Canada) as a junior at age 16.

“The (Caesars) coach kept raving, ‘He's going to make the NHL, he's going to make the NHL,’” Iltch recalled. “I said, ‘OK, slow down, slow down.’”

At age 18, Modano was the first pick overall in the 1988 Entry Draft and went on to rack up 557 career goals and 802 assists while appearing in two Stanley Cup finals (winning in 1999).

“The other thing that's great is that we've only had (Lee) Norwood and one of the Hatchers (Kevin) – only two Detroit boys, or local boys,” Iltch said. “It couldn't have written a better script. He (Modano) starts here and ends up here. I think that's terrific. It's a big thrill for us. Mike has leadership abilities as we all know. He reminds me of Stevie (Yzerman) from the standpoint that you've never heard anything bad about him. Highly respected by everybody. He's a down-to-earth, sincere person – and a great hockey player, so I'm very, very happy as an owner to have Mike back and relish this year. I don't want to talk too much, but ‘Cuppy, Cuppy, Cuppy,’ I do feel it.”

NHL free agent negotiations got started July 1 and Modano came to Detroit shortly after and spent a day with the Red Wings brass. He and his parents, Michael and Karen, were guests in a suite at a Tigers game at Comerica Park.

“Mike was a handoff whenever we played the Dallas Stars,” Holland said. “So it's certainly an exciting day to bring Mike home. Mike was going to be an unrestricted free agent. We thought it was going to be the perfect fit to bring Mike back home. We've had a lot of success with older players playing real good hockey for us. We all thought it was a tremendous fit.”

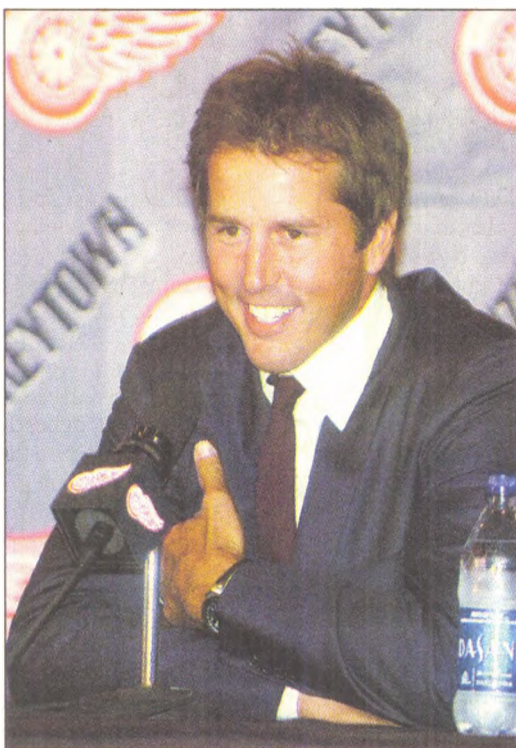
“To announce that Mike is going to be a Red Wing is a very, very exciting day for me and the franchise.”

Modano, who had 14 goals and 16 assists in his final season in Dallas, not only can help the Wings as a third-line center, but also on the power play. “Mike probably knows his role here is going to be a little bit different than it was in Dallas,” Holland said. “But I think we have a lot of different weapons in the locker room that on different nights can give us a chance to win. And Mike is going to be one of those guys.”

Modano included on his days as a youth, which included playing and practicing at Joe Louis Arena.

“I'd like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Iltch,” he said. “As a 10- and 11-year-old I started a foundation of hockey with them. I grew up watching Reed Larson, Dale McCourt and all those guys back in the day.”

The Stars have missed the playoffs the last



OBSERVER STAFF PHOTO

Westland native Mike Modano is excited about his opportunity to play at home for the Detroit Red Wings.

two seasons, so the chance to play with a contending team like the Wings was enticing.

“I thought I was emotionally and mentally finished with the game after last year,” Modano said. “I think the last little while in Dallas has taken a toll on me in those aspects.”

“Coming here to visit with these guys and talk to them certainly does get you excited about the opportunity you have here. The talent and the players they have here, and of course, the organization, the way they're operated. I'm just elated. I think it's exciting to come home. Obviously I'm probably going to be as nervous as I've been in years. The opportunity I have to play in front of my parents, and if this is obviously my last year playing, they have an opportunity to see a lot of games with a lot of friends and family locally. I'll have some high expectations, that's where the nervousness will come. Hopefully we can live up to the hype.”

Modano said his wife Mandy, along with his parents, were all supportive during the free agent process.

“I told my mom (Karen) in passing that Kenny Holland called and had ask me what I thought?” Modano recalled. “She said, ‘About what?’ I said, ‘About playing hockey in Detroit,’ and she was pretty shocked and ecstatic about it. She couldn't believe it. And they weren't going to believe it until they started watching it now.”

“I talked to my wife and she was excited. She's my number one fan and she encouraged and pushed me to keep playing.”

The Westland native believes he has come full circle.

“Having the Red Wings uniform on in a Pee Wee tournament in Quebec as a 9-year-old was the greatest thing in the world,” Modano said. “I also thought the Caesars jerseys, the blue and orange, were the best jerseys out there.”

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DERBY

FROM PAGE A1

Batters were given eight outs per round (as opposed to 10 in the MLB All-Star Derby). Galant and Novak got through the opening two rounds, but Kordick managed just one homer in the opening round.

“It was a bad day for me, I looped a lot of stuff in the air,” Kordick said.

Winning the alums/coaches division was Canton coach Mark Blomshield, with five fence-clearing shots. Also in that final was Salem alum Kyle Powell.

Other participants in the 2010 division (players who were on this year's varsity teams) included: Salem's Evan Gambino, Tate Thiesen, Devin Price, Brett Ramirez, Tommy Rodriguez; Canton's Kevin Delapaz and Plymouth's Erik Lee.

Going up against Blomshield and Powell in the alums/coaches division (just a two-round contest) were Salem alums Dave Loos and Heath Parling and Canton alum Adam Powers.

Doing the bulk of the batting practice pitching was Salem head coach Dale Rumberger.

BIGGER IN 2011

The derby — pushed back from July 24 to July 25 because of thunderstorms — lasted about two hours. But Barker and Kordick are looking at ways for the 2011 derby to exceed that.

Instead of eight outs per round, batters might be allowed 10 outs. Participants also could be automatically moved into the second round regardless of first-round results.

“I think we can give guys more opportunities to hit home runs,” Barker said. “We might extend the rounds a little bit. ... Next year, I think we'll go with 10 outs and carry everybody to the second round and do a cumulative (total), like the pros.”

That would allow more time for concessions sales and bidding on silent auction items,



JOHN KEMSKI

Canton head varsity baseball coach Mark Blomshield (foreground) shares kudos with other participants at the recent home run derby for the Miracle League of Plymouth. Blomshield won the alumni/coaches division after clubbing five homers.

Barker explained.

Meanwhile, Kordick said there is the possibility of expanding the derby to include other teams in the Kensington-Lakes Activities Association as well as Novi-Detroit Catholic Central. All three PCEP fields also could be included.

According to Kordick, who was instrumental in organizing the first derby along with Salem student Natalie Zavala (a 2010-11 senior), having the chance to suit up again and return to his home field was a great experience.

“The alumni, their willingness to come back was absolutely amazing,” Kordick said. “And it was fun being able to put the spikes on again, walk into the dugout and reconnect with something I thought I'd wouldn't have again for a while.”

Barker made sure to praise the efforts of Kordick and Zavala for showing an entrepreneurial vision and work ethic that helped “blow away” early projections for media attention and dollars raised.

“I am ecstatic (with the results) and hope to do it again,” Barker said.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

TRYOUTS

RU soccer tryouts

Redford Union High School will be conducting youth soccer tryouts Aug. 11-13 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at MacGowan Elementary, 18255 Kinloch.

For more information, contact coach Jim Gibbs at (313) 995-4235.

GC tennis tryouts

Tennis tryouts for the Garden City boys team this fall will be held at Garden City High School, 6500 Middlebelt, Wednesday, Aug. 11 at 9 a.m.

For more information call (734) 762-8350.

St. Fabian tryouts

Tryouts for St. Fabian's girls volleyball, boys soccer and coed cross country teams are scheduled for Aug. 11-12.

Volleyball tryouts will be held at Instant Replay, 24016 Haggerty Road, in Farmington Hills for fifth- and sixth-grade girls (7:30-9 p.m.) and seventh- and eighth-grade girls (6-7:30 p.m.).

Soccer tryouts will be conducted at Soccer/Soccer, located on the southwest corner of 12 Mile and Drake roads, for both fifth- and sixth-grade teams from 6-8 p.m.

Cross country tryouts will be held on the Oakland Community College grounds for those in grades five through eight at 6 p.m. both days.

For more information, contact Bob Abraham at (248) 207-7058 or Lee Suurmeyer at (248) 476-7615.

Chiefs baseball tryouts

Tryouts for the 2011 Motor City Chiefs under-9 baseball club will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 17, and 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 21 at UAW Local 735 Field, 48055 Michigan Avenue, Canton.

If unable to attend either tryout date, an evaluation can occur before Aug. 17.

For more information, call (734) 377-3123, or e-mail motorcitybaseball@gmail.com.



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Plymouth, Canton grads spoof on vampire movies in musical

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

'LOVE SUCKS: A VAMPIRE MUSICAL PARODY'

Find more in the *Twilight* vampire saga?

Tyler Dean does too. The 2010 Plymouth High School graduate pokes fun at the current trend in teen vampire romance books and films with an ambitious project — *Love Sucks: A Vampire Musical Parody* — that debuts Thursday, Aug. 19, on the Debois Little Theater stage in Canton High School.

"My friends and I joke about vampire books and movies a lot," said Dean, who began writing dialogue and song lyrics last year. "I had some material and thought about it one day."

As a high school senior, Dean had taken classes at Schoolcraft College and didn't get a chance to see his friends as much during school. Writing and producing a musical seemed like a perfect way to bring everyone together before heading off to college.

"This was something we could all work on and bring our friendship back together. I didn't think it would go anywhere," Dean said. "Getting the venue was a huge hurdle. Even going through the audition process ... I don't think it truly hit me yet that the thing was actually going up. The fact that we're in the rehearsal process horrifies me because I know it's happening. There's a lot of expectation riding on this. I'm mortified, but at the same time I'm loving it."

MAKING MELODIES

Dean finished the script in February, including song

What: Student-created and run musical spoof of the "Twilight" saga
When: 7 p.m., Aug. 19-21
Where: Debois Little Theater at Canton High School, 8415 Canton Center Road, Canton
Cost: \$10 at the door; for reservations call (734) 788-7949 from 5-8 p.m. week days and leave name, number of tickets needed, date preferred and contact information
Contact: www.facebook.com; search for "Love Sucks: A Vampire Musical Parody"
Cast: Tyler Dean, Olivia Rhoades, Molly Wallace, Rachel Palgut, Jack Gruszczynski, Roxana Gamble, Lynn Tofil, Becca Levergood, Meg Larsen, Connor Rhoades, Kyle Scanlon, all from Plymouth High; Francesco DiNicola, Kyla Westmoreland, Zack Smith, Jeffrey Selewski, all from Salem High; Michael Albert, Jon Peck, Cory Thomas, Jennifer McCray, all from Canton High; Mike Tooman from South Lyon; Dee Gross from Gabriel Richard, and Lori Cairo and Rachel Curtis
Crew: Katina Donoghue, Sarah Spencer, Geoff Landis, Julia Salata, Rachel Sandoffsky, Nathan Brown, Vicky Galanos, and Sam Phillips

lyrics, and began collaborating with music with a friend he'd made at Schoolcraft. Mike Tooman, a 2008 South Lyon High School graduate, plays keyboards and is lead singer in the band, Avienne. He writes original songs for the band, but penning musical theater-style tunes was a departure for the rock musician.

"Definitely it was a different kind of music," Tooman said. "We totally came from two different worlds when we started collaborating. He came from the theater world and I was coming from the background of music, more rock music than theater."

But the pairing worked. Dean would sing a stanza or two of a tune and Tooman would compose on keyboards.

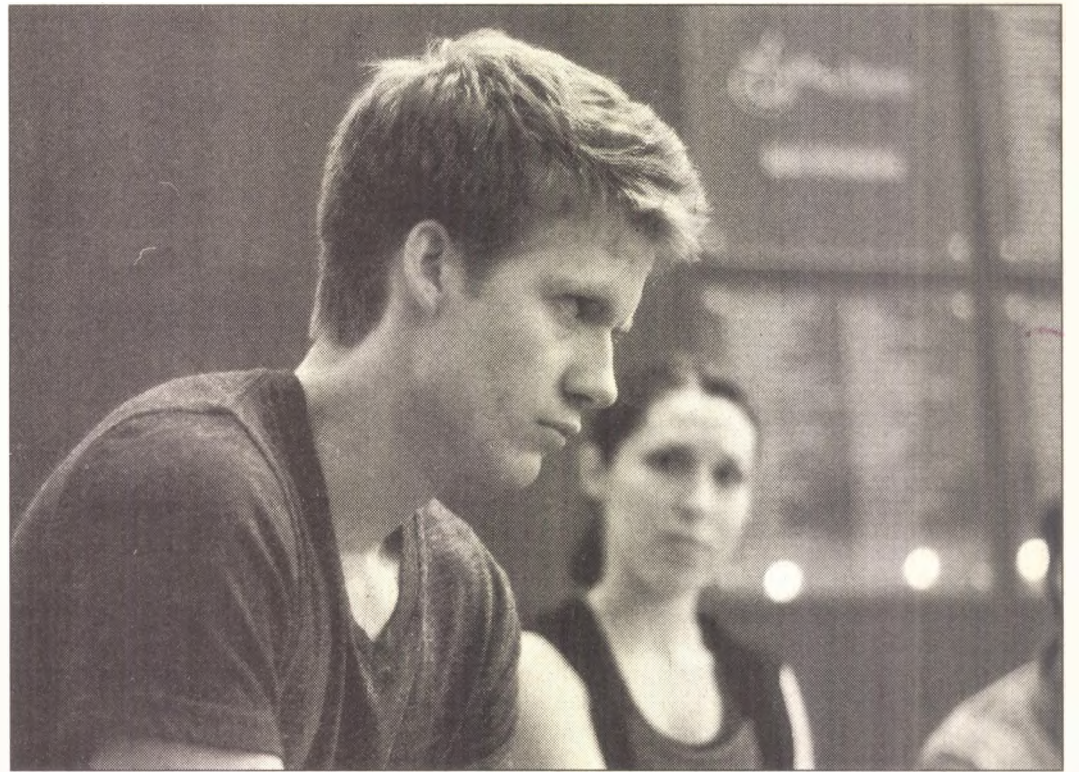
"We'd have vague ideas for melodies and then flesh them out until they became full songs," Tooman explained.

Cast members will sing about 20 songs, including *The New Dork in Sporks* and *Blood Drive Hand Jive*. The story parodies the *Twilight* book "pretty strongly," Dean said, borrowing from its plot and characters and then twisting the tale. *Twilight's* Bella and Edward become Annabella Song and Edmund Cromwell in Dean's skewed version.

"I wouldn't say people should come and expect to see 'Twilight the Musical.' While we strongly parody it, we take a ton of creative liberties," Dean said.

In one scene, for example, Edmund's father speaks at a class assembly during a blood drive at the school — "a vampire's worst nightmare" — and ends up singing the *Blood Drive Hand Jive*.

Tooman, who was involved with a few shows in high school, plays the father,



Tyler Dean (center) performs in a musical parody about vampires. He also wrote the script and song lyrics. Olivia Rhoades (background) plays his vampire sister, Allison.



Frankie DiNicola, (clockwise from left), Tyler Dean, Roxana Gamble, Michael Albert, Dee Gross and Olivia Rhoades, gather for rehearsal.

Carleton Cromwell. Dean, who has been accepted into the University of Michigan's theater program to study acting, plays Edmund Cromwell, the play's main vampire. Although Dean said he learned "a ton" about organizational skills and communication while producing and directing *Love Sucks*, his

heart is in acting, particularly comedy.

LENGTHY RESUME

He was in fifth grade when he performed in his first show through the Plymouth Arts Council. More than 20 shows with Forever After Productions in Canton followed over the next several

years. Dean performed at Plymouth High School his senior year and has worked as an extra in a few of the feature movies that have been filmed in Michigan.

He recently directed a Forever After Productions show at the Village Theater, but had never written, produced, directed and acted in a play until *Love Sucks*.

"It's hard to watch a scene and direct while being in it. But the cast is a group of all-stars. They know what they are doing, they have great voices and they are naturally hilarious," he said.

Tooman hopes it all adds up to a great experience for the audience, too.

"We're having fun with it. It's a parody. It's not very deep, but it has some really catchy songs and funny lines," Tooman said. "We really do want people to walk away just having enjoyed the time spent watching the show."

Free program focuses on feeding infants

When, where and how should parents start feeding a baby solids? Experts involved in Hiller's health new community outreach program will help parents navigate store shelves to find the appropriate cereals to give babies and the best fruits and vegetables to introduce — along with instruction on how to prepare them.

Also, prepared baby foods that can make life easier for new parents. The baby-focused food tour is at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 24, at the Hiller's Commerce Township location, 39950

W. 14 Mile. Dr. Daniel Schnaar, a pediatrician at Child Health Associates in Farmington Hills and Troy, and registered dietitian, Julie Feldman, who specializes in pediatrics, will be on-site to provide valuable dietary advice for feeding little ones.

"I think it's a great idea that Hiller's is having a baby foods tour. I can picture parents standing in front of the baby food aisle and being unsure what to reach for," Schnaar stated. "When babies start solid foods, it's a learning experience for both them and their parents. I'm happy to help parents have a healthy and devel-

opmentally appropriate approach to infant feeding."

Last month, Hiller's launched Hiller's Health Tours. The program is staffed by nutritionists, doctors, food specialists and other medical experts. It offers a series of free tours at various Hiller's locations to highlight the dietary needs — and foods to avoid — for people at different stages of life, or for those with various health conditions. Hiller's has stores in Plymouth, Berkley, Ann Arbor, Northville, Union Lake and West Bloomfield, in addition to Commerce Township.

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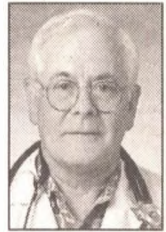
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Hot water, vinegar remove mineral buildup

Hi, folks, I'm back after a little medical problem that caused me to say hello to God. Thanks so much to all of you who called and wrote and please know that it was appreciated. I begin this column with an e-mail from Tom, who has a common problem:



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

"Hi Joe, when my 14-year-old washing machine is in the water discharge cycle or spin-dries cycle, there is a noticeable odor emitted by the discharge hose. There is no odor in the machine itself, either when dry or full of clothes. Likewise, there is no odor in the laundry tub into which the machine discharges. It's definitely coming from the discharge hose. I dumped a gallon and a half of bleach into the washer drum and ran the machine through a five-minute spin cycle (unfortunately, water also sprays into the machine during this cycle, which dilutes the bleach). This treatment eliminated the sewer-type odor for about two months, but it's back. Is there anything I can do to eliminate this? Thanks for any advice you can offer."

Well Tom, let me give you a remedy for odor problems in top load washing machines that I have prescribed for years. It is a good practice to perform this task at least once a year from the time you purchase a new washer. Fill the tub with the hottest water possible. Turn up the hot water heater if necessary or even boil some water in a pot and add it to the already filled tub. The hotter the water, the better it works. Add two gallons of vinegar and set the timer for 10-14 minutes of agitate cycle. Turn on the machine and let it agitate but stand by to shut it off when the agitate cycle is complete. You do not want to let any of the hot water and vinegar pump out of the washer. Now let the machine sit in the off position for the next 24 hours and then turn it on and let it go through the rest of the cycles. This cure has proven to be very effective in removing the mineral build-up that occurs in the outer tub of a washing machine.

MARKING CLOTHING

You may be asking what mineral deposit he is writing about. In the old days when I used to rebuild old washing machines and sell them to customers who couldn't afford a new one, I stripped every washer down to bare bolts. We

would clean the inside of the outer tub and use a small fireplace shovel to scrape out the layers of harden mineral deposits. There was so much of this mineral that in time it breaks off into chunks and begins to travel into the wash load leaving marks on your clean washed clothes. Many people go out and purchase a new washer thinking their transmission is leaking oil and putting marks on the clothes.

On the subject of odors let me inform you of an area seldom thought about by homeowners. It's the standpipe that the drain line from the washer goes into. If you don't have a laundry tub you have a standpipe. The drain hose fitting into this pipe must not fit tight. It must have some play or fit loosely or else the washing machine will act as a vacuum while it is operating and suck into the washer the odor that is in the household drain system. You can correct this by purchasing a little extension piece to match the necessary sizes. Once again, nice to be back. Enjoy each day. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600 and Sundays at 2 p.m. on WDTK 1400. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com



Gorgeous greyhound

Hello there, my name is Khloe. As you might already realize I'm a retired racing Greyhound in search of my very own family. I've been retired now about a month and while my foster family is wonderful and I'm loved, how wonderful would it be to have a family of my very own. I'm 3 and have a playful personality. I'm a red fawn color and I have eyes that will melt your heart. I love to be loved. If these things are characteristics you have been searching for in a companion pup, you might just be the family I've been waiting for. Please call Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption at (866) 438-4739 and check out our website at www.greyheart.org

Group seeks diapers for needy kids

The Detroit Area Diaper Bank, a nonprofit charity providing diapers for people in need in Southeast Michigan, has launched its second annual Fall Diaper Drive in hopes of collecting 100,000 diapers or the funds to buy them by Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25

No federal assistance programs pay for or provide diapers. Nonprofit organizations and state agencies working with families and individuals in crisis consistently list diapers as an ongoing and top need.

An average infant uses up to 12 diapers per day. Toddlers use up to eight per day, but

in low-income households, a baby may be in a single diaper all day or longer, increasing the risk of health problems from skin disease to hepatitis. Parents who can't afford diapers can't leave their child at day care to go to work or school. Some children with disabilities never outgrow the need for diapers and seniors who can't afford incontinence supplies often become homebound or end up in a nursing home.

The Detroit Area Diaper Bank exists to address this largely unknown and chronically unmet need.

"Our goal for the '100,000

by Thanksgiving' Diaper Drive is of course primarily to bring in resources that we can distribute to our partner agencies working with our neighbors in need. But we also hope it helps to raise awareness about the diaper issue and engage the community in our mission. We are always in need of individuals, businesses, schools, community organizations and places of worship to run fund-raisers and diaper drives to support the Diaper Bank, whether it's before Thanksgiving or not," stated Marybeth Levine, executive director and founder of the Detroit Area Diaper

An average infant uses up to 12 diapers per day. Toddlers use up to eight per day, but in low-income households, a baby may be in a single diaper all day or longer, increasing the risk of health problems from skin disease to hepatitis.

Bank. "The diapers go out just as quickly as they come in, so we are looking for year-round partnerships and support to help us really make a difference with diapers."

For more information on donating, visit www.detroitareadiaperbank.org.

Gardeners: Calling all green thumbs

It's time to stop and smell the flowers — and then photograph them.

We're looking for photos of local gardens, now at the height of their summer bloom, to run in an upcoming issue. Show us what you've toiled at all summer and share it with readers. E-mail a jpg of your garden or flowering land-

scape and include a garden tip. Send to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. For printed photos mail to her at *Observer Newspapers*, 615 Lafayette, level 2, Detroit, Michigan 48226. Don't forget to include your name, community and a contact phone number or e-mail address.

In a book club? Let us know about it!

Do you have a neighborhood book club you enjoy being a part of? Do you and your book club get together regularly to talk about what's new in books, pore over plots and characters, all the while enjoying each other's company?

Tell us about your book club and it may be featured in an upcoming edition of *Hometownlife Woman*. Photos with people and the club identified are also welcome at jcbrown@hometownlife.com (jpegs, please). For more, call presentation editor Julie Brown at (313) 222-6755.

Butterfly film scheduled for Aug. 18 in Westland

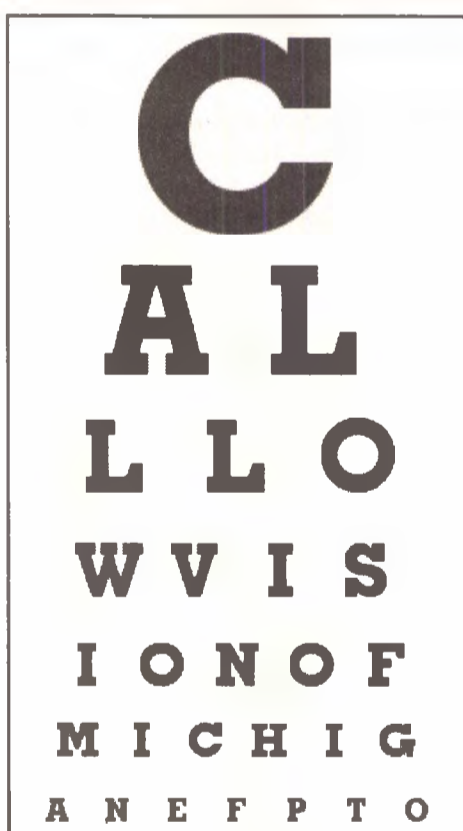
The Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association will show a film about backyard butterflies at its next meeting, 7 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 18, at Nankin Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland.

The event costs \$3 for nonmembers. Parking is available on Hines Drive or Ann Arbor Trail. SEMBA is dedicated to educating individuals about lepidoptera and their habitats, instilling and fostering a passion for nature in others

and establishing and preserving the environment for butterflies, skippers and moths.

For more information about the upcoming meeting, call (734) 326-0578 or visit www.semabutterfly.com.

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2nd Annual Fall Expo Senior Health & Living Expo

Friday, October 15, 2010 • 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oakland Community College – Orchard Ridge Campus 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Building H, Farmington Hills, MI

If your business or organization serves seniors, you'll want to be a part of this exciting event!



Your Exhibitor Package Includes:

Print Advertising

One-quarter page black and white ad or one full page ad (color option available) for your business will appear in the accompanying special section publishing Thursday, October 7, 2010, in the *Observer & Hometown Newspapers* and Sunday, October 10, 2010, in the *South Oakland* and *Birmingham Eccentric*.

Web Presence

The Senior Fall Expo special section will be featured on Hometownlife.com, which receives upwards of 1 million page views per month!

Exhibitor Listing

You'll be featured on the center spread of our special section plus newspaper promotion during September and October.

Expo table plus two chairs

Use your space for giveaways, food demonstrations and promotional materials. Electricity available on a first come, first served basis for an additional charge.

Food

Two complimentary boxed lunches for exhibitors.

Special Section Promotion

The Senior Health & Living Expo will be promoted in all of our trusted, local newspapers:

- Birmingham Eccentric
- Canton Observer
- Farmington Observer
- Garden City Observer
- Livonia Observer
- Milford Times
- Northville Record
- Novi News
- Plymouth Observer
- Redford Observer
- South Lyon Herald
- South Oakland Eccentric
- Berkley, Clawson, Ferndale, Huntington Woods, Royal Oak, Pleasant Ridge, Southfield
- Westland Observer

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For more information about this and to reserve your space, please contact:

Choya Jordan at 313-222-2414
fax 313-496-5305 • cbjordan@hometownlife.com

Cars wheeling into American Legion Post for summertime fun

BY JULIE BROWN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Paul Lemieux of Livonia and Dave Heckman of Farmington Hills were glad to talk Corvettes last Thursday evening at the American Legion Post 32.

The post on Newburgh in Livonia hosts Thursday evening car shows all summer, drawing some 50-100 cars each week. Thursday's beautiful weather brought out Lemieux with his 1959 white Corvette and Heckman with his 1960 black Corvette.

"Almost 80 years between the two of us," Heckman said of their ownership. "That's a lot of ownership." He's had his car nearly 40 years, and also has a 1979 Corvette. Lemieux's owned his Corvette since 1967.

"I like them because they're fiberglass," Heckman said. "You don't have to worry about rust."

The men said the restoration wasn't too labor-intensive, nor is maintenance. "You're only driving them four or five months a year, once or twice a week," Heckman said. His was a family car, a vacation car, and "now it's a hobby car."

Lemieux said, "You don't see cars like this anymore." They enjoy the weekly shows, which run 5 p.m. to dusk Thursdays May through the end of September.

Heckman's a Ford retiree, Lemieux a GM retiree. "The retirees have to get here to get the best spots," Heckman said. "We all want to get in a shady spot."

Nearby was Bob Lemon of Plymouth Township with his '65 Plymouth Satellite. He's owned it eight years, "but just finished it in January. It took a little while."

Lemon, who works for APAC Paper in Allen Park (near the "big tire"), noted some car owners lose interest and put cars up for sale before work's done. "It's tough. You have other things going on in your life."

His first car was similar to the burdandy Plymouth he has now in color.

Lemon was drafted, spent two years in the service and returned home to get married. "Life takes over," he said.

He'd restore another car, but not as extensively. "I would do another one. My wife would probably divorce me," he said with a smile.

He bought parts for his Plymouth on eBay: "I've got pieces on here from all over."

Doreen Linderman of Belleville, a Legion auxiliary member, said the car shows draw owners from as far as Milford, Brighton, Howell, Downriver and the east side.

Shows are presented free by the Legion post, Sons of the Legion and Legion Riders motorcycle riders, with auxiliary help. "Everybody pitches in," Linderman said.

Shows have been held about 10 years, and feature recorded 1950s tunes along with tasty food for sale. Thursday was Polish Night for the food, and each week there are hot dogs, hamburgers and sloppy joes.

"For the last three weeks, it's been pouring down rain," said Linderman, thrilled with the sunny skies. "We're looking pretty full tonight. We get a lot of motorcycles as well."

The shows are held "because it's fun," she said. "As you can see, there's an interest. It's great cars, good people. A lot of people meet up here every week."



Gerry Gerwatowski is a show winner July 29 with his GTO at the American Legion car show in Livonia.



A customized 'Bad Humor Ice Cream' truck was at the Thursday, July 29, car show at the American Legion Post 32 on Newburgh in Livonia.

It's all happening at the zoo

Detroit Zoo admission is only \$5 for all guests after 5 p.m. on Wednesdays in August. The zoo is open until 8 p.m. for the Wild Summer Nights concerts, which take place in the Main Picnic Grove from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Guests can enjoy the cooler evening temperatures and rock out to Gia Warner on Aug. 4, Mr. Seley and The Troublemakers on Aug. 11, Jill Jack on Aug. 18 and Jody Raffoul on Aug. 25.

The Detroit Zoological Society is a nonprofit organization that operates the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo. Situated on 125 acres of naturalistic exhibits, the Detroit Zoo is located

at the intersection of 10 Mile and Woodward Avenue, just off I-696, in Royal Oak. The Detroit Zoo is open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. April through Labor Day (with extended hours until 8 p.m. Wednesdays during July and August), 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. the day after Labor Day through October and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. November through March. Regular admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free. The Belle Isle Nature Zoo is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. year-round; admission is free. For more information, call (248) 541-5717 or visit www.detroitzoo.org.

STOW & GO SELF STORAGE AUCTION NOTICE

Pursuant to state law, Notice is hereby given that a public auction will be held at **STOW & GO SELF STORAGE**, 41999 ANN ARBOR ROAD, PLYMOUTH, MI on **August 21, 2010 at 10:00 am**, on past due tenants listed below. The entire contents of the following units will be auctioned and sold to the highest bidder on each individual unit. **CASH ONLY! DESCRIPTION IS BRIEF SUMMARY OF ITEMS, MAY OR MAY NOT CONTAIN MORE OR LESS ITEMS.**

Unit #339 - JAMES ALTER, P.O. BOX 512, DEARBORN HTS., MI 48127
Lumber, tape player, alarm clock, fax machine, misc. boxes, and other misc. items

Unit #004 - CHERYL HAUGHT, 796 ADAMS ST, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170
Extension Ladder, (2) carpet vacuums, and misc. boxes, and other misc. items

Unit #013 - JEREMY WALKER, 955 WASHTENAW, YPSILANTI, MI 48197
Punching bag, (full) mattress, stereo speakers, table and misc. boxes, misc. storage boxes, and other misc. items

Unit #B-18- JAQUITA GREEN, 42567 ARGYLE CIR BLDG #36, CANTON, MI 48187
Fishing pole, slot car set, toolbox, TV, (2) old bicycles, misc. storage boxes, and misc. boxes, and other misc. items

Unit #103 - CECIL WHITE, 8268 PARKSIDE, WESTLAND, MI 48185
1940'S Ford car, Carrier home air cond., Homelight gas water pump, xmas tree, tool bag, 2" fire hose, elect drain snake 25', large tent, engine hoist, garden swing, wood pillar box of cable, wheel measure, misc. boxes, and other misc. items

Unit #653 - ERIC BABLER, 9282 GENERAL DR STE #170, ST, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170
Extension Ladder, floor jack, tool box (3), ratchet strap, power sander, table saw, (3) drill motors, photo copier, pallet jack, scaffold, large super caulk gun, gas cans, (9) boxes of 30' metal channel, misc. lawn signs, misc. boxes and other misc. items.

Unit #437/ VILLA DE ROMA, PAUL PAPARELLI, 18769 GILL 438/423 - RD, LIVONIA, MI
Restaurant equipment, catering equipment, decorations (seasonal), canopies, misc. boxes, and other misc. items

SALE DATE IS AUGUST 21, 2010 AT 10:00 A.M.

Publish: August 5 & 8, 2010

OE0809313-2/75

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KIDS SUMMER MOVIES \$1 ALL SEATS
Mon - Fri at 10:00 am
8/8 - 8/13 HAPPY FEET (PG)
DCI 2010: BIG, LOUD & LIVE 7 THUR. 8/12 6:30 PM
30 CATS & DOGS: REVENGE OF KITTY GALORE (PG) \$2.50 PREMIUM PER 3D TICKET
11:00, 1:00, 3:05, 5:10, 7:15, 9:20
FRI/SAT LS 11:25
DINNER FOR SCHMUCKS (PG-13)
11:30, 2:00, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35
FRI/SAT LS 12:00
CHARLIE ST. CLOUD (PG-13)
12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45
FRI/SAT LS 11:55
RAMONA AND REEZUS (G)
FRI-WED 11:45, 2:05, 4:25, 6:45, 9:15
TH 11:45, 2:05
DESPICABLE ME (PG)
12:10, 2:25, 4:45, 6:55, 9:05
FRI/SAT LS 11:20
INCEPTION (PG-13) 11:40, 2:50, 6:20, 9:30
TOY STORY 3 (G) 11:15, 1:35, 4:10, 6:35, 9:00
FRI/SAT LS 11:20

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In the past two years, the newspaper business has faced unprecedented challenges, but make no mistake: newspaper media - print and digital - remains strong and will emerge from the current environment an even stronger multi-platform force.

104 Million

Number of adults who read a print newspaper every day, more than 115 million on Sunday. That's more than the Super Bowl (94 million), American Idol (23 million) or the average late local news (65 million.)

61%

18-24 year olds and 25-34 year olds who read a newspaper in an average week. 65% of everyone in those age groups read a newspaper or visited a newspaper website that week.

40%

Households with unique visitors to newspaper websites in an average month.

56%

According to Google, percentage of consumers that have researched or purchased products they saw in a newspaper.

52%

Percentage of people who are more likely to buy a product if it is seen in the paper.

TONS

Number of creative options for advertisers choosing to utilize the newspaper. From belly bands, polybags, post-it notes, scented ads, taste-it ads, glow-in-the-dark and temporary tattoos, as well as event and database marketing, behavioral targeting, e-mail blasts, e-newsletters and more.

MOST

Newspapers make a larger investment in journalism than any other medium. Most of the information you already read from "aggregators" and other media originated with newspapers. No amount of effort from local bloggers, non-profit news entities or TV news sources could match the depth and breadth of newspaper-produced content.

This is not a portrait of a dying industry. It's illustrative of transformation. Newspapers are reinventing themselves to focus on serving distinct audiences with a variety of products, and delivering those audiences effectively to advertisers across media channels.

For more on the power of newspaper media, visit newspapermedia.com.

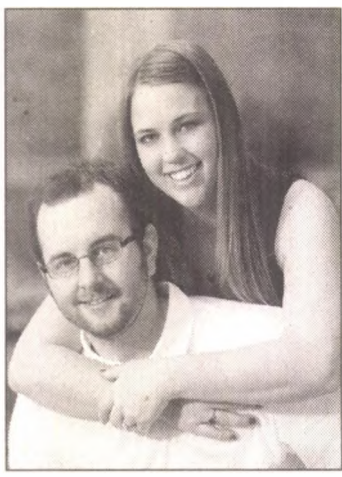


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MILESTONES



Anthony-Korona

ANTHONY-KORONA

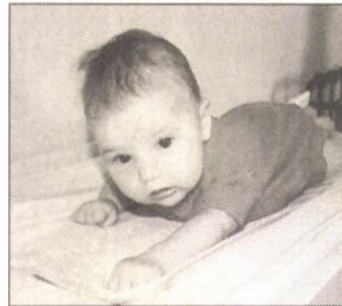
Dan and Nancy Anthony of Canton, announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Christine, to Matthew John Korona, son of Jim and Jean Korona also of Canton.



Kylie and Kenzie Mellis

TWINS BORN

Kylie Lynn Mellis and Kenzie Lauren Mellis were born July 8, 2010, in Hottel Hospital, Farmington Hills.



Flynn Martin Poullelaouen

FLYNN MARTIN POULELLOUEN

Flynn Martin Poullelaouen was born May 18, 2010, at EuroClinic, Bucharest, Romania.

WOMEN EARN MEDALS FROM SPECIAL OLYMPICS

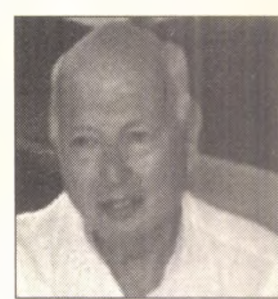
Two Canton women were among the top three winners in their competitive events last month at the 2010 Special Olympics USA National Games held in Lincoln, Neb.

ALBERT "AL" LEO LEONARD

Age 84, passed away August 4, 2010 in Tawas City, MI. Al was born October 12, 1925, in Corning, Arkansas, son of Betty and Willie Leonard.

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances
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RICHARD FINDLATER 1930-2010

Richard Findlater died at his home in Naples on Friday, July 30. He was a Renaissance man. His library reflected his interest in classical music, art, philosophy, history, photography, biophysics, luxury yachts, trains, and everything pertaining to the piano.



DELORES V. BEZIRIUM

Age 93 beloved mother of Sandra (deceased) Jerry Buehler and Karyn (David) Sager and Jim Bezirium died peacefully in her sleep July 31st, at Heartland Healthcare Center.

GENEVIEVE DRENNAN

Age 88, passed away peacefully among family on July 25, 2010. Longtime resident of Swanton, Oh, formerly of Plymouth and Kalamazoo, MI.

JACK D. PERRY

Age 60, passed away, July 31, 2010 at his home in the care of his loving family. Jack was a very generous and loving husband, father and grandfather.

MARION F. CABLE

Age 88, August 5, 2010 Beloved husband of Carol. Dear father of Edward, Delane, Daniel (Phyllis), Mary Gail, Henry (Elizabeth), Franklin, John (Kristin) and the late Nick.

MILDRED FREEMAN

Age 85. Long time resident of Livonia MI., passed away peacefully July 19th 2010 in Carlsbad CA. She is survived by her husband Donald and sons John of Albuquerque NM, and Alan of Irvine CA.



GRACE L. WAACK

Age 88, passed away peacefully on August 3, 2010. Spending her entire life in the Farmington/Livonia area, Mrs. Waack was retired from the Farmington school district.

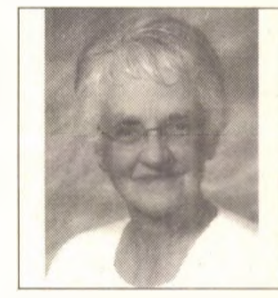
HELEN O. KEHOE, NEE EDWARDS

Of St Charles, MO formerly of Canton, MI, passed away peacefully July 21, 2010. Daughter of the late William J. and Martha E. Edwards, wife of the late Clifford M. Kehoe.



PATRICIA MAY SNYDER

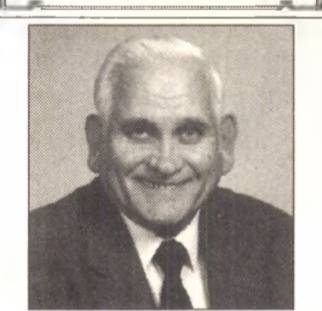
Age 80, of Tavares, FL, and formerly of Southfield, died Sunday, August 1, 2010 at the home of her daughter in Traverse City. Patricia was born on Sunday, August 18, 1929 to the late Charles and Virginia (Mulvey) Carney in Highland Park.



VIRGINIA D. FARMER

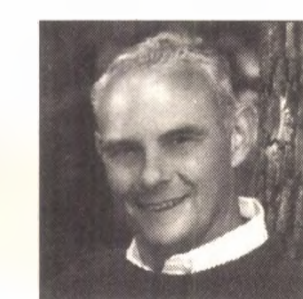
Age 80 of Westland, July 30, 2010. Loving wife of the late Thomas. Dear mother of Patricia (James) McCloud, Brenda (Randy) Cleveland, Thomas (Chris) Johnson. Also leaves 10 grandchildren, 1 sister Ruth Crain and 1 brother Merle Schrepfer.

Let others know... When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in Passages... a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.



ERIC ELWOOD CHILDS

March 26, 1920 ~ August 3, 2010 Died in his home in Plymouth, MI at the age of 90, surrounded by family. Eric was born in Jacksonburg KY.



HUGH LEROY MORRISON

Age 81 of Farmington Hills. Died August 3, 2010. Beloved husband of Naomi for 59 years. Loving father of Michael (Sara) Morrison, William (Karen) Morrison, and Karen Chiles.

IRIS V. MONTGOMERY

July 29, 2010 age 83 of Westland. Beloved wife of the late Donald. Dear mother of Donna Mae Swain, Kathryn Ann (the late Bill) Blair & Ginny Bradley.

ANNEMARIE LILLY VAN VOORHIS

April 2, 1932 - August 5, 2010. Loving wife of Tom Van Voorhis, mother of four, Oma to ten grandchildren.

ARTHUR J. TROMBLY

August 4, 2010 Age 95 of Southfield. Arthur grew up in Grosse Pointe Park and attended St. Ambrose Catholic School grade school and high school.

A.J. DESMOND SONS



MAJ. GEN. NAIFF H. KELEL

US ARMY (Ret.) August 5, 2010 Age 90 of Farmington Hills. Proud officer and veteran of the US Army, retiring in 1979 after 36 years of service.

A.J. DESMOND SONS



VIRING M. MOTTO

November 22, 1926 ~ August 1, 2010 Passed away at her home peacefully with her family at her side following an extended illness. She is survived by her loving husband Louis, 3 sons Jeffrey C. Motto, Michael J. (Mary) Motto, their children, Anthony L. and Christopher A. Motto, and Martin J. (Sherry) Motto, and their children Morgan M. and Mallory M. Motto.

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One

OBITUARY POLICY The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6.

HEALTH

Sunday, August 8, 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

American Cancer Society offers investment plans

The American Cancer Society offers a planned gifts program that can help the donor financially, while also benefitting the organization and its vision of a world with less cancer.

Many estate plans have been substantially weakened or rendered obsolete by the economic downturn. Planned gifts offer innovative ways to revise estate plans to ensure that all family members are treated fairly.

"The American Cancer Society has long been a sound, benevolent investment avenue for those interested in benefiting financially themselves while helping to save lives from cancer," stated Jo Strausz Rosen, American Cancer Society director of Planned Giving in Michigan. "With inflation at some of its lowest levels in more than a half century, planned giving can help donors secure retirement income and increase their purchasing power today."

Among the American Cancer Society planned giving products available to donors are charitable gift annuities; deferred, flexible charitable gift annuities; charitable remainder trusts; and charitable lead trusts. Certain business owners are able to take advantage of gift-purchase agreements.

ANNUITIES

A charitable gift annuity (CGA) is an option for retirement-age individuals who are looking for economic security. It offers higher rates than bank certificates of deposit or interest-bearing accounts; may be funded with stock or cash; qualifies for immediate income tax deduction and for possible estate tax savings; and provides regular non-declining payments for life, or for the life of the designated beneficiaries.

A deferred flexible charitable gift annuity (DFCGA) provides maximum retire-

ment benefits for mid-career adults whose employers have switched from defined benefit retirement plans to less costly alternatives, such as 401(k) defined contribution plans. While participants know how much they have contributed to their 401(k) plans, they will not be certain of their retirement income because of the unpredictable nature of stock market returns and bond interest rates. However, through a DFCGA retirement income may be accurately predicted, because payments are contractually guaranteed by the American Cancer Society. Annuitants may defer the payments as long as they wish, understanding that the longer they wait to receive payments, the larger the income will be. Multiple DFCGAs plans enable individuals to increase their retirement income incrementally to match their needs.

TRUSTS

Charitable remainder trusts allow donors to convert low-income assets into higher income streams, while they avoid capital gains taxes on the sale of the assets. Charitable lead trusts offer a vehicle for transferring estate tax-free assets to heirs.

For owners of closely held businesses, gift-purchase agreements enable them to address short- and long-term issues regarding transfer of ownership to children or key employees.

With careful planning, donors are empowered to recession-proof their retirement savings while benefitting the American Cancer Society.

"The American Cancer Society pledges its best in people and resources to work with investors' financial and legal advisors to research and structure planned gifts that fit each donor's objectives," Rosen stated.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

AUGUST

Sugar habit

Learn where sugar is hiding in your food and why it is a danger to you when too much is consumed, at a workshop, 6-8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 9, at Alfred Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Presented by Dr. Carol Ann Fischer. For more information call TLC Holistic Wellness at (734) 664-6310. Diabetes support Dawn Crane from the Michigan Department of Community Health will talk about "action planning" and setting goals, along with other strategies to stay on target, at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 11, in the hospital auditorium, at St. Mary Mercy, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. She will teach participants how to set small and achievable goals to help manage diabetes on a daily basis without feeling overwhelmed. The session is free. (734) 655-8950

Baby basics

St. Mary Mercy Hospital offers a combined class on the basics of infant care and breastfeeding, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 14, in Classrooms 1&2, at the hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Participants should bring a stuffed animal or doll to use during a demonstration on how to hold the baby when breastfeeding and their lunch. There will be a 45-minute lunch break. This class is open to anyone who cares for an infant. To register, call St. Mary Mercy Hospital's Marian Women's Center at (734) 655-1162. www.stmarymercy.org.

Blood drive

St. Mary Mercy Hospital and the American Red Cross are partnering in a blood drive campaign from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 19, in the hospital Auditorium. Donate blood and receive a free ice cream bar. Donors will be entered into a drawing for Cedar Point Tickets. Two tickets will be drawn for those who participate between 6 a.m. to noon and two tickets for those who participate from noon to 6 p.m. To schedule an appointment call (800) GIVE-LIFE

or visit redcrossblood.org. Walk-ins are accepted, but appointments are preferred. St. Mary Mercy Hospital is located at 36475 Five Mile, at Levan in Livonia.

ONGOING

Fitness classes

Exercise classes for men and women continue through April at the Metropolitan Seventh-Day Adventist School, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. Jeanie Weaver is a certified personal fitness trainer with 30 years of teaching/training experience. The sessions infuse Pilates, functional strength training, balance work, flexibility and motivational techniques in a 90-day fitness plan. Call (248) 446-9176 or (313) 300-0957. E-mail: jeanieweaver@charter.net.

Overeaters Anonymous

Meet 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Courtyard Room at Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads, Livonia; and 7 p.m. Sundays at the Marion Professional Building at St. Mary's Hospital, 14555 Levan at Five Mile, Livonia, in Classroom 1. Call (313) 387-9797. Anyone who wants to stop eating compulsively is welcome. For more Greater Detroit Overeaters Anonymous information, call (248) 559-7722 or visit www.aa.org.

Breast cancer support group

Meets 6:30-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Road), Livonia. Call (734) 655-1100, or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

Caregivers support group

St. John's Support Group for the Caregivers of Alzheimer's Patients or patients with other forms of dementia meet the first and third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care for your loved one will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426 for information. Authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

State offers free nicotine patches, gum, lozenges

The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) is encouraging smokers who want to quit cigarettes, cigars, pipes or chewing tobacco to take advantage of free nicotine replacement products by calling the Michigan Tobacco Quitline. The Quitline phone number is (800) QUIT-NOW (784-8669) and registration is available around the clock.

The program will provide a two-week supply of nicotine patches, gum or lozenges to all tobacco users who are age 18 and over and meet basic health requirements. The free program is available to all callers regardless of income or insurance status. The community health department also will continue to provide the same products to the uninsured on a regular basis. The nicotine patches, gum and lozenges are available now through Sept. 30 or while supplies last and are provided on a first come, first served basis.

To be eligible, callers must enroll in cessation services with the Michigan Tobacco Quitline at (800) QUIT NOW. When Michigan

residents enroll with the Quitline, they will receive a personal coach who will assist them in setting a quit date and making an individualized quit plan. The personal coach also will offer on-going support with up to five telephone coaching sessions around the caller's quit date.

"Callers using nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) along with support through a telephone-based service like (800) QUIT NOW can increase their chances of remaining smoke-free by 28 percent compared to quitting cold turkey," stated Dr. Greg Holzman, chief medical executive for the Michigan Department of Community Health.

"Providing access to free NRT during this promotion will greatly enhance MDCH's mission to take steps to prevent disease, promote wellness and improve quality of life."

The Michigan Tobacco Quitline has received nearly 34,000 requests for assistance since it was launched in October 2003. For more information visit www.michigan.gov/tobacco.

Arthritis Today
 JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY
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BURSAS
 A bursa is a sac that separates a tendon or muscle from underlying bone. The presence of the bursa allows that tendon or muscle to move without friction over the hard, bony surface...
 For reasons that are unclear, a bursa may become inflamed. The bursas where such irritation commonly occur are:
 The subdeltoid bursa in the shoulder
 The trochanteric bursa at the upper thigh
 The anserine bursa below the knee medially, and
 The fibular bursa below the knee laterally
 Another bursa, the olecranon bursa by the elbow, may enlarge with fluid, but it rarely is inflamed.
 Pain from bursitis is intermittent. For example, thigh discomfort caused by a trochanteric bursitis, may give a sharp pain when the person starts to walk, the pain will ease, but not disappear, as walking and movement continues. The trochanteric pain disappears on going to bed, but if the person turns at night onto the involved bursa, the resulting bursal pain will cause a rude awakening.
 Injection of steroid into the inflamed bursa is the treatment of choice. Over the counter remedies do not penetrate deep enough to stop inflammation, and medications by mouth may dull the pain, but despite being called anti-inflammatory drugs, are rarely able to stop the underlying irritation.
 A bursitis once resolved can return again. Physicians cannot recommend measures to prevent the problem, as the cause is not clear. However, it does appear that heavy people are more prone to bursitis than thin individuals.

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SECTION C (*)

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Sunday, August 8, 2010

How Your Job Search Is Like Selling a Home

Kaitlin Madden,
 CareerBuilder.com
 writer

You've lived in the same home for 10 years. It's comfortable and dependable, and the neighbors are great, but you're ready for a change. You know it's time to move on, but you're afraid your house won't sell in a market where buyers are super-selective and have tons of attractive housing options. Sound familiar? Selling a home in the current buyer's market is a lot like looking for a new job in an oversaturated applicant pool. It's risky, you may have to invest time and money and try some unconventional methods in order to get results, but that doesn't mean it's impossible. We've combined tips from MSN.com's real-estate guide with the advice of Joan Armon, a Chicago-area real-estate broker and certified home stager, to offer up these tips on selling a home in a buyer's market -- and how you can apply them to your job search.

Do your research
 Before you decide to sell your home, check out the housing market in your area. Are a lot of houses listed? What's the typical asking price for homes with features comparable

to yours? Is your area up and coming, or on the outs? Finding the answers to these questions will help in determining the price of your home and how long it will take to sell. How it applies to your job search: When starting a job search, it's important to get a sense of the market you'll be entering. Find out where the jobs in your industry are, in terms of both sector and geographic location. Have salaries in your field decreased since the start of the recession? Are job openings in your field being advertised? Conducting such research will help you decide where and how to target your job search. For example, if there aren't many job openings where you live, you may start thinking about a move to an area with greater opportunity.

Prepare to sell
 Before you put your home on the market, clean it from top to bottom, touch up the paint and make any repairs to restore functionality or visual appeal. Home improvement is important for two reasons: When you take pictures for the listing, your home will be in top shape, and if you happen to get buyer interest right away, the home will be ready to

show. Armon says that showing your home in top-notch condition is especially important in the current market, since buyers are prepared should interviews come up quickly. If your clothes are dated or no longer fit, buy new ones so you'll have plenty of time to your home from all the others on the market. It should focus on the features that make your home unique and appealing. For example, Armon says, "Highlight the location if it is close to schools or transportation. Also important are any improvements that have been done ... [for example] if the home has granite, stainless steel appliances, finished basement, crown molding or hardwood floors." This is also where your research comes in. If you found that a lot of young families have moved into your neighborhood recently, emphasize how great your school district is. How it applies to your job search: Just like a home listing, your resume should highlight your best features and what sets you apart from other applicants. Ask yourself, "What are my key selling points?" Do you have special training relating to your field? Did you start your last job as an hourly worker and leave as a manager? Have you worked at "name brand" company? If so, highlight these features on your resume.

Evaluate the offers
 In a buyer's market, sellers often go one of two ways. Some have a hard time accepting any offer because they can't let go of what their house used to be worth or what they paid for it a few years ago. Others believe they are lucky to even get an offer on their home, so they jump on the first offer they get, even if it is well below the asking price. In either situation, it's important to be realistic. Negotiation is key, Armon says. "Even the smallest counteroffer lets the buyer know that you are willing to work with them," she says. If months have gone by and no offers have been received, it may be time to re-evaluate your asking price. Is your home in the same price range as other homes on the market in your area? Have prices in your neighborhood dropped since the original listing? If your price is high or even in the same range as comparable homes in your area, you may consider dropping the price, even if it's only by a few thousand dollars. Often, though, if your home is reasonably priced and well-maintained, the only thing that will sell it is a little bit of patience, so be prepared to wait awhile. How it applies to your job search: Like home buyers, companies are watching their budgets. That means that even though you may have been worth X amount of dollars five years ago, your value may have depreciated. Make sure to evaluate any job offers in terms of today's market, not by what you used to make. That's not to say you should just blindly accept the first job that comes your way. If the salary is downright unlivable or the job isn't at all what you're looking for, you may want to consider declining the offer. Like a home, if you've been out on the job market for a few months and haven't gotten any interest, it may be time to re-evaluate. First, rethink your starting salary. You may be scaring away employers by putting out a number that is too high. Second, re-evaluate your search. Are you applying for the right jobs? Are you taking the time to put forth quality, targeted applications? If you believe your "asking price" is fair and you have a stellar resume, you may just have to be patient. In job searches and in selling a home, good things come to those who wait.



Kaitlin Madden is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and its job blog, "The Work Buzz." She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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