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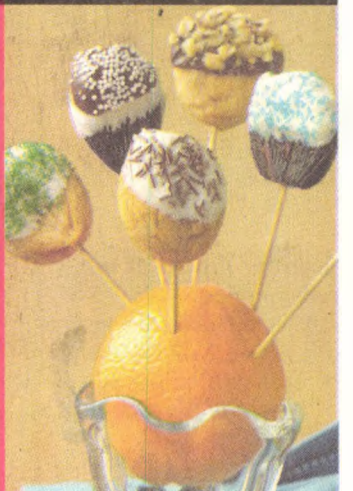
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Tailgate success

The first event aimed at reaching out to Plymouth-Canton alumni did well enough it left organizers eager for the next one.

The "Gathering @ the Gridiron" tailgate party Friday drew an estimated 400 peo-



David Sibbold, Plymouth High School Class of 1967, checks in with Steven Sneiderman at the 'Gathering @ the Gridiron' tailgate event Friday at Canton High School.

ple to the Canton High School parking lot before the Canton vs. Salem prep football game. The event, organized by the district's alumni committee, was the first event designed to bring alumni back into the fold.

"I thought it went very well," said Steven Sneiderman, president of the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education. "We had probably double the people we estimated we'd reach. We saw a lot of alumni come back. It really helped launch the outreach to our alumni."

Committee members hope the event will spur other successful alumni events.

"Our hope is this event will grow, and reunions will be planned around it," Sneiderman said.

Timebanking times

The Plymouth-Canton Citizens for Diversity and Inclusion has scheduled four informational meetings where people can sign up, ask questions or learn how they can help its planned Time Banking program.

Timebanking pools resources of disabled people, local businesses, at-risk youth, retirees, food pantries, religious leaders and others willing to give help to get it.

Timebanking community informational events are set for

• Saturday, Oct. 30, 9-11:30 a.m., at the Canton Big Boy, 45250 Ford Road.

• Monday, Nov. 1, 6:30-8 p.m., at Karma Coffee Shop, 3015 S.Wayne Road in Wayne.

• Wednesday, Nov. 3, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at Panera Bread, 400 S. Main, Plymouth.

More information is available via e-mail to PCCDI at plycandci@gmail.com.

Large crowd prompts chili plan review

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In the wake of a Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff earlier this month that drew what many agree was the largest crowd in its history, Plymouth officials are taking a closer look at how future chili festivals are planned, especially when it comes to security and crowd control.

Tens of thousands of people flooded downtown Plymouth throughout the course of the Oct. 10 festival, a major fund-raiser for Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County. The event, popular with motorcycle enthusiasts, also drew between 6,000 and 7,000 motorcycles, organizers say.

"It's just gotten so big and so popular that I think we need to take a fresh look at how it's managed," said Mayor Dan Dwyer.

Organizers say they don't have a problem with doing just that.

"We're willing to work with the city in whatever way we can," said Annette Horn, the president of the nonprofit Great Lakes Regional Chili Inc.

That the festival has become so popular is a good problem to have, Horn said.

Plymouth Police Chief Al Cox said that with downtown congested with pedestrians and parked motorcycles, he ordered the area closed to further motorcycle traffic at about 3 p.m. on festival day. (Downtown streets are always closed to cars and trucks for the entire event.)

Police sent the word out to volunteers working as street blockade captains at downtown ingress points, but some motorcyclists ignored



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The chili festival drew record crowds this year, prompting city officials to take a closer look at planning for the popular annual festival.

Please see **CHILI, A2**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Army Captain Renn Moon presents Sarah Galea with a game jacket. At right are Scott Hawkins and Tyler Lacy.

Uncle Sam taps marching band trio

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Scott Hawkins listened endlessly to his friend, Jeff Garcia, talking about the experience he had playing with the U.S. Army All-American Marching Band.

Now Hawkins and two of his fellow members of the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band are going to find out for themselves, having been chosen to be members of the same band, scheduled to perform Jan. 8 at halftime of the 2011 U.S. Army All-American Bowl in San Antonio, Texas.

Hawkins, fellow Salem High School

senior Tyler Lacy and Plymouth High School senior Sarah Galea got their official invitations Monday from the Army at a ceremony in the band room at Plymouth High School. The trio was among 14 P-CEP marchers nominated by director of bands David Armbruster, and they were among 125 musicians chosen nationwide.

"(Garcia) never stopped talking about it," Hawkins said with a smile. "I was excited (to hear he'd been picked). You're nervous until you actually hear it. There are a lot of talented people you're up against. I jumped for joy."

Musicians are chosen based on several steps in the audition process,

which included a couple of videos of each of them marching, a video of them playing their instrument and a one-minute interview tape.

The auditions were sent in in December, and the three were notified of their selection in September. The official invites came — along with jackets and hats — during a 30-minute press conference Monday.

"I was thrilled to get the (invitation)," said Galea, who plays the clarinet. "I'm always excited to meet new people, to make new friends and to learn from them."

Please see **BAND, A3**

Teachers push for new pact

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With no contract in hand and no negotiating dates in site, a couple of hundred Plymouth-Canton Community Schools teachers filled the meeting room Tuesday at the E.J. McClendon Education Center to voice their displeasure with the situation to the district's Board of Education.

Half-a-dozen teachers strode to the podium to urge the district to get back to the negotiating table and come up with what they called "a fair and equitable" agreement.

The district and its 1,100 teachers have yet to reach a new contract agreement. Teachers are working under the terms of their old agreement until a new deal can be reached. It was the second straight regular board meeting at which scores of teachers displayed their displeasure. A couple of weeks ago, they organized an informational picket in front of the McClendon building.

Hulsing Elementary teacher Joan Blackley noted the number of different "hats" teachers wear — caregiver, disciplinarian, mentor, cheerleader, coach — and told board members teachers "do this willingly."

"We want you to know this caring doesn't stop at the end of the day or in June," Blackley told the board at Tuesday's meeting, which saw an overflow crowd, some of which was forced to stand in the hallway. "We want to be recognized and valued for the caring professionals that we are. We're anxious to reach a fair and equitable agreement that recognizes

Please see **TEACHERS, A3**

Mother gets 10-year minimum sentence in baby's death

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Emily Portellos, who has already served two years in jail in the death of her infant daughter, was sentenced to at least an additional eight years.

A 30-year-old Plymouth Township woman, jailed two years ago when she was charged in the smothering death of her newborn daughter, was sentenced Wednesday to spend at least eight more years behind bars.

Emily Portellos, convicted of second-degree murder earlier this month by a Wayne County Circuit Court jury, was given a 10- to 20-year sentence by Judge Daniel Ryan. Her daughter, called Shannon by some in court Wednesday, was found dead in Portellos' bedroom on Oct.

15, 2008, after Portellos underwent emergency surgery following an unattended birth.

The judge also gave Portellos a sentence of just over seven years to 15 years on a first-degree child abuse conviction, but the sentences will run concurrently. Portellos has been in jail since her arrest nearly two years ago and will get credit for time served.

The defendant's family members, supporters and defense attorneys hugged each other and wiped away tears outside Ryan's courtroom

Please see **SENTENCE, A2**

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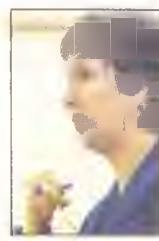
them and drove past barricades anyway, the chief said. That stopped when police officers were deployed to the barricades, Cox said. "It's one of the things that will be taken into account for next year as far as police needs," he said. In addition, a slow-speed motorcycle exhibition planned for Main Street between Wing and Ann Arbor Trail was canceled because of safety concerns on the congested street, which was used for motorcycle parking, Cox said.

As some motorcyclists left later on, some areas of downtown were reopened for limited motorcycle access, the chief said. Cox said the festival needs more volunteers. "It was the biggest that I've ever seen it. It was beyond our capacity this year," he said. Horn said there were about 80 volunteers working the street barricades and parking areas, and about 150 other volunteers. But she didn't disagree with the chief's assessment. "That's something we're going to look at," Horn said. "Obviously we need more, so we're going to have to start recruiting earlier."

Cox also said it's likely he'll have more police officers working the event in the future. With 15 officers on his force, Cox contracts with other local agencies, including the Michigan State Police and the Wayne County Sheriff's Department, to bring in extra law enforcement for the chili festival. There were 30 officers working the festival this year, he said, including some in civilian clothes. "If we were to experience again what we experienced this year, we would be bringing in more police. That's been decided already," Cox said. There were three motorcycles reported stolen from the festival area, but police say it is not uncommon for a motorcycle or two to be stolen during the event. There were no other reported major incidents. Great Lakes Regional Chili Inc. is ultimately billed for the festival's police presence. No bill has been received yet this year, Horn said, but in the past the security tab has been about \$5,000. Festival organizers plan to meet with city officials next week to discuss future festivals.

SENTENCE
FROM PAGE A1

after the sentencing. Attorney Gerald Evelyn said the defense team and family members have not yet decided whether to appeal. Attorney Demetra Christos, who had urged Ryan to depart from the sentencing guidelines for second-degree murder, a request Ryan denied, pleaded for a lighter sentence. Evelyn said the infant died of trauma from a difficult breech birth and the lack of medical care rather than from an intentional act. "We don't know what happened that day," he told Ryan. Evelyn said Portellos has a diagnosed learning disability and difficulty making decision under stress. Ryan acknowledged that factor as he passed sentence. Christos, who said she is a longtime family friend, called the baby's death "a very sad, sad, tragic accident." Also a Greek Orthodox, she accused Weingarden of trying to demonize the religion as intolerant and a "freakish cult." "Emily is not the first Greek girl to get pregnant and she won't be the last," Christos said. "We don't stone these



Weingarden

native Greek Orthodox community, of being an unwed mother. The defense, which sought to have Ryan follow the more lenient sentencing guidelines for manslaughter rather than for second-degree murder, a request Ryan denied, pleaded for a lighter sentence. Evelyn said the infant died of trauma from a difficult breech birth and the lack of medical care rather than from an intentional act. "We don't know what happened that day," he told Ryan. Evelyn said Portellos has a diagnosed learning disability and difficulty making decision under stress. Ryan acknowledged that factor as he passed sentence. Christos, who said she is a longtime family friend, called the baby's death "a very sad, sad, tragic accident." Also a Greek Orthodox, she accused Weingarden of trying to demonize the religion as intolerant and a "freakish cult." "Emily is not the first Greek girl to get pregnant and she won't be the last," Christos said. "We don't stone these

women." Weingarden responded later that she was insulted by being called unfair and prejudiced. Robert Murphy, the baby's father, and his mother, Marilyn Murphy, also argued for leniency. Robert Murphy described Portellos as loving and compassionate. "To claim that she is a murderer is absurd," he told Ryan. Marilyn Murphy said she regards Portellos as a daughter. "It will not serve her or us to give her 20 years," she said. Ryan said he had received hundreds of letters of support from Portellos' family members, friends and even strangers. He said that while he would adhere to sentencing guidelines for second-degree murder rather than manslaughter, he agreed that case justified a prison sentence of somewhat less than the minimum. Weingarden said she was disappointed with the sentence, and that appeared that Ryan didn't see the case the way the prosecution did. "It's all a matter of how the judge saw this case, and he has a lot of discretion when it comes to sentencing," she said.

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State House hopefuls share their views

Voters will have choices to make when they go to the polls to pick Michigan House of Representatives in both the 20th (Plymouth, Northville, Wayne and part of Canton) and the 21st (Canton) districts.

- In the 20th House District, Republican Kurt Heise of Plymouth Township survived a primary challenge to earn the nomination.

Heise is an attorney and the former director of the Wayne County Department of Environment. He'll face Democrat Joan Wadsworth, a long-time member of the Northville Board of Education. Wadsworth was unchallenged in the primary. The two are vying to replace two-term Rep. Marc Corriveau, the Northville Democrat who decided not

to seek re-election.

- In the 21st House District, incumbent Dian Slavens was unchallenged in the August primary in her bid for a second term. Republican Lori Levi, a small-business owner from Canton, beat political strategist and lobbyist Shannon Price in the primary.

20TH DISTRICT STATE HOUSE CANDIDATES

1. How would you balance the state's budget? Be specific. If you favor cuts, where and how much?

2. There remains a wide disparity in state funds allocated per pupil for school districts throughout the state. How would you address this concern? What is your recommendation? Be specific.

3. What are the top three ideas you would support to make Michigan's business climate more competitive?

4. Do you support multi-year budgeting? Why? Why not?



Kurt Heise

1. Michigan's top priority is job creation, and it's the private sector that creates jobs, not the government. We need to cut both taxes and spending to make Michigan competitive for job creators, small businesses, and entrepreneurs. I will work with Rick Snyder to reform and restructure Michigan government at all levels, consolidating departments, school districts and judicial districts, reducing employee overhead costs, and privatizing programs where needed. We will also benchmark ourselves against other states that are doing it better. I also support a true part-time legislature that would cut legislators' salaries in half.

2. This is largely due to the statewide impact of Proposal A on school funding levels and formulas. I don't intend to "tweak" Proposal A, or raise service or sales taxes as the Democrats have proposed previously. I work with school district leaders on a regular basis, and they have told me that they really need a reasonable and predictable funding stream from Lansing. Making education funding a priority, and two-year budgets, can help us reach this goal. School boards must also insist on leaner budgets, and reducing salaries and overhead.

3. Our top priority needs to be job creation, and it's the private sector that creates jobs, not the government. I will work with Rick Snyder to eliminate the Michigan Business Tax and develop a fair, simple, and competitive tax policy to support job creators in Michigan. We must also eliminate burdensome and duplicative regulations on our job creators and entrepreneurs. Michigan can also do much more to improve exports, and encourage new manufacturing jobs from around the world. The Detroit Regional Chamber, Michigan Chamber, Small Business Association of Michigan, and many others support my plan.

4. As an executive who has previously developed and managed multi-million dollar budgets in the public sector, I have consistently supported a two-year budget plan for Michigan. It is done already in Oakland County and other jurisdictions, and would give the Governor and Legislature more time to reform and reinvent Michigan government, while eliminating annual partisan budget battles. I have over 15 years of real-world experience, background, and vision to make this happen.



Joan Wadsworth

1. First, identify the investments which will make Michigan competitive in the long run. These priorities include: improving the business climate; improving education and infrastructure (not only roads and bridges, but improvements like modernizing the grid and R & D); and protecting our natural assets. Second, cut spending to balance the budget and support priorities. Areas to reduce: tax exemptions, which currently exceed \$30B; contracts with private vendors; and Corrections, where increasing efficiency and changing policies (like moving medically infirm inmates out of prisons) could save hundreds of millions of dollars.

2. We should begin with two changes: first, require the state to have the school budget completed on June 1st, eliminating months of uncertainty that have surrounded school budgets in recent years. Second, allow all districts to ask voters for additional support for their schools. Now, only a select number of districts are permitted to ask for general support. It seems fair to make this option available to all districts. This is not a long term solution and the state needs to develop a more equitable and stable source of funding for schools, likely to be built around the foundation grant concept.

3. Improve Michigan's business climate, especially for small businesses, by reducing and simplifying the MBT and streamlining regulations; build on our comparative advantages: Our expertise in engineering and manufacturing and growing number of entrepreneurs make Michigan ideal for new and green technologies. Our international crossings, world class airport, and potential as a transportation hub hold great promise. Focus on our great research universities: challenge them to turn research into jobs. Finally, our natural assets are second to none - protect them, invite tourists to enjoy them, and recognize their appeal to re-locating businesses; invest in education and infrastructure (including roads, bridges, public transportation, and R & D) which support long term innovation.

4. Multi-year budgeting is a good idea. The reality is that both the House and Senate Fiscal Agencies do a good job of projecting long term tax revenue and expenditures --- but elected officials tend to ignore those projections and focus on the immediate budget crises. A multi-year budget, if it's accompanied by a bipartisan commitment to a long term focus, could help us make better decisions for Michigan. Changing the state's fiscal year to July to June rather than October to September would also be helpful.

21ST DISTRICT STATE HOUSE CANDIDATES



Dian Slavens

1. We need a leaner, more efficient state government that doesn't waste our hard-earned tax dollars. I voted to streamline legislative operations to save nearly \$5 million a year, cut lawmakers' pay - including my own - by 10 percent, and dock their pay when they don't show up for work. I also championed a plan to eliminate lawmakers' taxpayer-funded lifetime health care, and I voluntarily gave up this overly generous perk for myself. We must reform state government so that it no longer balances the budget on the backs of our hard-working families.

2. As a mother whose three kids attended Plymouth-Canton Public Schools, I know how important it is that we invest in our children's education so they can succeed in life and in the 21st century workplace. That's why I voted against cuts to our schools. I worked across the aisle to pass the School Aid Budget by July 1 so that our schools could plan for the current school year. I also voted to use \$318 million in federal education funds available for Michigan schools to restore the \$154-per-pupil cut that my colleagues passed.

3. Remove government roadblocks to make it easier for our entrepreneurs and small businesses to set up shop, grow and create jobs for Michigan workers; relieve the tax burden on our small business owners and help attract new ones to our state; make sure our schools and teachers have the resources they need to prepare our kids to become the highly educated workforce that will attract new businesses to our state.

4. Yes. Having a budget in place that is focused on a longer period of time as opposed to temporary, piecemeal solutions will help us build a state government that is leaner and more effective. That's why I voted for a plan requiring the state's budget to be balanced by July 1. This plan would also dock lawmakers' pay for every day the budget remains unbalanced after the deadline. Our schools and our municipalities must be able to plan instead of being held hostage every year by Lansing's chaotic budget process.



Lori Levi

1. Balancing the budget requires a two-pronged approach: an increase in revenues and a decrease in spending. Creating a more business-friendly environment in Michigan will help to grow businesses and create jobs. Over the long-term, increased economic output from a broadened recovery will generate hundreds of millions in new tax revenue according to estimates from the Mackinac Center for Public Policy Research. To reduce spending we must prioritize spending in line with our Constitutionally-defined responsibilities, require departments to justify funding requests and stay within assigned budgets, consolidate services where applicable and eliminate any services that are duplicative or unnecessary.

2. Changes the Legislature made in FY 2007-08 to the formula for calculating the foundation allowance will continue to close the funding gap at an accelerated rate. Just as important are changes that can be made at the district level. One change is the consolidation or sharing of non-instructional services. Consolidation and sharing may be appropriate and cost effective in many instances but each district should be evaluated separately. I will only support an initiative that requires each school district to be examined and evaluated on its own merit before any determination is made regarding consolidation or sharing of services.

3. Repeal the MBT surcharge, reduce overlapping regulations and stop guidance directives from regulatory agencies that circumvent the legislature and eliminate industry-specific tax incentives. Government should not be in the business of picking winners and losers but should enact policies that support a level playing field for all industries.

4. Yes. Multi-year budgeting allows the state to project into the future both its anticipated needs and expected revenues so that we can plan earlier for potential shortfalls or extraordinary expenses. A zero based, two-year budgeting process where all departments and agencies must justify their budgets from the first tax dollar they receive encourages well-run, efficient departments and eliminates waste. I also support enacting an earlier deadline for passing the state budget. Schools in particular need to have their budgets in place months before the current October deadline for the state budget.

Plymouth-Canton Marching Band members Scott Hawkins, Sarah Galea and Tyler Lacy were chosen to join the 125-member U.S. Army All-American Marching Band.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

TEACHERS

FROM PAGE A1

the many hats a Plymouth-Canton teacher wears." While agreement has been reached on some language issues, the hangups are on compensation and benefits. Negotiations have been ongoing since spring; the sides last met in mid-September. The current agreement expired Aug. 31. Any new deal would be effective retroactive to Sept. 1.

While neither side would go into detail about specifics, representatives from both parties agreed the holdup, at the moment, is scheduling. Plymouth-Canton Education Association President Nancy Barrows and Ray Bihun, the district's executive director of human resources, both said Tuesday night the sides had exchanged proposed scheduling dates, though no agreement has been reached on exactly when negotiations would resume.

"I've said before, negotiations are a two-way street," said Bihun, who declined to talk about specific dates or issues.

Christine Rushlow, a special education teacher at Eriksson Elementary, told a story about how a Wayne County official lauded Plymouth-Canton's efforts at a recent meeting and said her heart "filled with pride" at listening to an outsider praise the district.

"Teachers at Plymouth-Canton are doing a reputable job ... we have the data to prove it," Rushlow said. "Why do we not have a contract?" Board President Steven Sneiderman said board members are equally anxious to strike a deal.

"We're looking forward to settling the contract, so we can get back to the work we need to do, and you can get back to the work you do, which is teaching our children," Sneiderman said.

BAND

FROM PAGE A1

Like his bandmates, Lacy, an alto-saxophonist, said he was surprised to be chosen.

"It doesn't seem like something that can happen to you," Lacy said. "It happens to other people. I was really surprised."

The Plymouth-Canton trio will join their All-American band team Jan. 4 in San Antonio. The team will rehearse for several days before their halftime performance in the Alamodome. The U.S. Army All-American Bowl showcases some of the top high school football players in the country.

Armbruster, Plymouth-Canton's director of bands, said the three P-CEP members are "excellent representatives" of the program to go to San Antonio. In addition to being leaders in the nationally acclaimed P-CEP Marching Band, all three musicians hold the principle chairs in their instruments in the Park's Wind Ensemble.

"They represent the finest we have at the Park," Armbruster said. "They're extremely dedicated, hard-working, all-around good students and musicians. The program we have sets kids up with a high level of expectation. They all have a love for the activity. It's a great way to represent the Park and the country as a whole."

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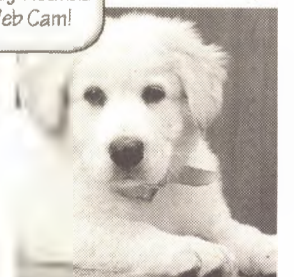


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The Old Village Haunted Halloween Block Party drew some 400 people, including all kinds of costumed customers.

Old Village haunts host 'fantastic' Halloween party

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Blessed with mild weather and the largest attendance in its history, Sunday's Old Village Haunted Halloween Block Party was a success, organizers say. "It was fantastic. It was amazing that we didn't get rained on," said Mark Oppat, a longtime Old Village resident and chairman of the association's block party committee, noting that other Old Village events this year experienced bad weather.

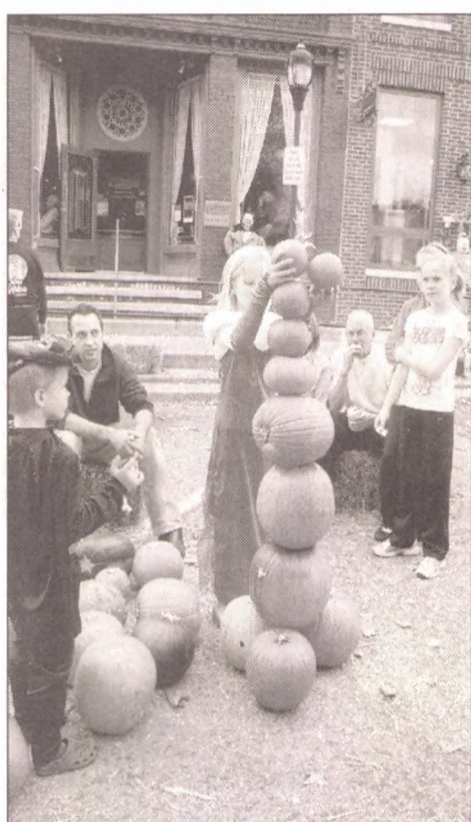
With a mock graveyard, a costume contest, trick-or-treating at neighborhood businesses and games like Tombstone Tipping (a beanbag toss) and the Pumpkin Tower of Death (pumpkin-stacking), the block party on Liberty Street attracted about 400 people, Oppat estimated.

The party also featured a visit from the Plymouth Fife & Drum Corps, teens who dress in Colonial garb and play traditional fife and drum music.

"All the events that we had this year were bigger than last year," he said. A thousand tickets, at \$1 each, were sold for games and rides on a miniature "train."

Event sponsors included the Community Federal Credit Union and the Liberty Street Brewing Co.

Oppat said the event raised about \$400 for the Old Village Association, which is planning to use it for beautification projects.



Pumpkin stacking was among the popular attractions for the youngsters at Sunday's Old Village Haunted Halloween Block Party.

"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

Cemetery Walk

Meet and greet some of the characters from Plymouth's past at Riverside Cemetery during the Plymouth Historical Museum's cemetery walk on Friday, Oct. 29.

The walks begin at both 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. from near the cemetery's mausoleum. Refreshments supplied by Suburban Harvest will be available at the cemetery following the walk. The cemetery is located on Plymouth Road between the Courthouse Grille and the 35th District Court Building.

Tickets are \$10 per person in advance or \$15 the day of. Visit www.plymouthhistory.org to purchase advance tickets and for more information.

Holocaust exhibit

During the month of October, the Plymouth Community Arts Council will exhibit special works by Ann Arbor artist Miriam Brysk entitled "Children of the Holocaust."

The exhibit will be available for viewing from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday at the Joanne Winkleman Hulce Center for the Arts, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth. The public is invited to attend a reception for the Artist on Sunday, Oct. 31 from 1-2:30 p.m.

At the end of 2007, Miriam Brysk published her memoir "Amidst the Shadows of Trees: A Holocaust Child's Survival in the Partisans". As she was writing her story, and feeling the pain and emotions of her childhood, she felt moved to consider the plights of those Jewish children who, unlike herself, did not survive. She felt a compelling drive to remember through art those children who perished, and to portray the nature of their disrupted lives during the Holocaust.

To preserve historic authenticity, each picture depicts a real child victim of the Holocaust, as well as the particular circumstances of his life and death. Each piece is named with the city the child is from and the likely place where he died. Children are portrayed from the major Jewish population centers, the major ghettos and camps, and the sites of killings by the

AROUND PLYMOUTH

Einsatzgruppen. Present-day memorials are also included, usually at the top of each piece. All the pieces in this series are 24" x 16", excluding the fringes which add about 36" to the length.

For more information, feel free to call the PCAC at (734) 416-4278.

Home party

Our Lady of Good Counsel will host a Home Party Extravaganza and Craft Show on Friday, Nov. 19, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Social Hall, below the church, which is located at 47650 N. Territorial in Plymouth Township, just west of Beck.

Food will be available for purchase and a raffle will be held. Admission is \$2 per person. All are welcome.

Vets event

Canton and Plymouth men, women and children are invited to the Veterans Day ceremony to be held at the Plymouth Veterans' Memorial Park, located on Main St. across from the city hall in downtown Plymouth, 11 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 11.

Veterans Day is set aside to honor all the men and women who have served in the United States military.

The event will be hosted by American Legion Post #391, American Legion Post #112, Vietnam Veterans of America #528 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars #6695.

Pom clinic

Youngsters ages 5-14 who would like to be a Junior Canton Chieftette can attend the Kids' PomPon Clinic sponsored by the Canton Varsity Chieftettes. Participants will learn pompon basics as well as a short dance routine. So come and join the fun.

The clinic takes place 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 13 at the Canton High School Gym in the Phase III building. Cost is \$45 per child, which includes a T-shirt, pom pons and a snack. Discounts for multiple siblings are \$76 for two family members and \$94 for three family members. Parents are invited to come see their daughters perform at noon on clinic day and all participants attending the clinic will be invited to perform at the Canton Varsity Basketball game on Dec. 7.

Same day registration is from 8:30-9 a.m. the morning

of the clinic. PRE-REGISTER by Nov. 12 and save \$5.

For more information contact Chieftette parents Nancy Rodgers at (734) 394-0699 or Karen Sundberg at (734) 394-1583 or e-mail pomclinic@cantonchieftettes.com.

Hats for homeless

The Plymouth Community United Way has a new clothing collection drive, "Hats for the Homeless," for the fall of 2010.

During the months of October and November, community residents can donate any new hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for all genders and sizes.

All donations can be dropped off to the Plymouth Community United Way located at 960 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 2 in Plymouth or arrangements can be made for items to be picked up.

For additional information, e-mail Krista Strobel at kstrobel@ameritech.net or call (734) 453-6879.

Grief workshop

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church is sponsoring a one-day grief workshop, "From Grief to New Hope," Nov. 6, from 9 a.m. to noon.

This free workshop is open to anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one. It will be presented by John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy. John is a published author of his own grief journey and a speaker with New Hope Center for Grief Support. Sandy is the Family Program coordinator at OLCG and also a speaker at New Hope.

This informational workshop will go into aspects of the grief journey and offer helpful coping ideas. Our Lady of Good Counsel is located at 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth, Michigan. The workshop will be in the lower level social hall.

For registration information call Deacon Don Leach at (734) 453-0326, Ext. 223.

Seeking vets

The American Legion Beasley-Zalesny Post 112, located at 344 Elizabeth St. in downtown Plymouth at the corner of Ann Arbor Trail, is seeking veterans from all wars.

The post meets 7 p.m., the third Monday of each month, September through June. The active post, along with its Womens Auxiliary, works a number of programs both in Plymouth and at the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor. The post's efforts are geared toward doing all they can to take care of needy veterans.

For more information please call Joe Burman at (734) 459-7324.

Host families

AYUSA International is a non-profit high school foreign exchange student organization which welcome teenagers from more than 65 countries worldwide and provides a host family placement and ongoing supervision for 5- and 10-month academic programs.

These young people look forward to a warm bond of friendship with host families and a rewarding cultural exchange. Host families are asked to provide meals and a bedroom either shared or private. Students pay for all other personal expenses while in the U.S.

For more information, call Sue McGrath, (313) 278-8424.

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PHOTOS BY DIANE HANSON

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band, including Alex Harden on trombone and Amanda Houghton playing baritone, put the last two minutes of their award-winning production, "The Source," on the field at Saturday's Michigan Invitational Tournament in Flint.

P-C marchers tops at Michigan Invite

BY DIANE HANSON
CORRESPONDENT

A few sprinkles didn't dampen the performance of the 215-member Plymouth-Canton Marching Band as they marched off with the Governor's Trophy for the highest score of the 17 competing bands at Flushing High School's Michigan Invitational Tournament Saturday in Atwood Stadium in Flint.

Their performance of this year's show, "The Source," also netted them the Flight I first-place trophy and caption awards for Best Marching and Best General Effect. Flights I through IV are determined by school enrollment, not band size, with the largest schools in Flight I.

"The band did very well Saturday. I am so proud of the kids," said Sheldon Frazier, director of the band. "I think Saturday was probably the best run so far of the season. They are progressing so well."

Jennifer Leseth, associate director of the band and color guard director concurred.

"I thought they did really good since we just put the new ending on this week," she said. "There are not any more big things to add - just filling in the details of what we already have there."

The closer, a little more than two minutes long, was performed for the first time on Saturday, putting the final performance touches on the intriguing, musical, marching production depicting the movement from darkness to the light of "The Source."

The hometown marchers wowed the crowd and took the top spot with a score of 84.80. Second place went to Lake Orion with a score of 83.38 and third went to L'Anse Creuse, 81.01, all in Flight I.

The 10-minute production involves a massive wardrobe change from the traditional grey uniforms, revealing



Choir members Christopher Bir, left, Kara Kavulich, Tyler Thomas, Kaela Green, Courtney Davis, and Brad Drozdowski surround Sarah Lentine on marimba. The 24-member choir adds a unique element to this year's award-winning PCMB production of "The Source."



Percussionists Tom Berry (left) and Austin Deljevich concentrate on musical performance during PCMB's highest-scoring performance of their show "The Source" at the Michigan Invitational in Flint Saturday.

bright yellow and white costumes beneath. The inclusion of a 24-member choir into the performance adds up to some unique musical and visual extras as well.

"I think it is really cool that we are doing all the changes and moods," said Canton junior tuba player, Rebecca Krupp. "The previous two shows I've been in: 'Kaleidoscope,' the whole show was light and 'Beneath the

Surface' was dark. This show, the beginning starts out dark and we shift to a lighter side."

Trombonist Brian Katamiasz, a Canton sophomore, noted that while there were things that still needed improvement, "When you take it each day, the show is just getting better and better," he said.

Daily practices and upcoming competitions, including the Lakeland Invitational Oct. 30, the Michigan Competing Band Association State Championships at Ford Field, Nov. 6, and the Bands of America National Championships at Indianapolis Lucas Oil Stadium, Nov. 11-13, will give them that opportunity for improvement.

"These next three weeks we will be refining the total production," said Frazier. "The designer of this year's beautiful show, Alan Spaeth, is coming in to work with the kids and staff to put together the final touches. Much will be added and refined. It's a very exciting time."

Foundation reschedules philanthropy summit

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A philanthropy summit intended to help nonprofit groups, professional advisors and charitable donors find their best options amid a rough-and-tumble economy has been rescheduled.

The second-annual summit sponsored by the Canton Community Foundation has been set for 8:30 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Nov. 10, in the Walnut Room of the township's Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, northwest of Canton Center and Palmer roads.

Foundation President Joan Noricks said the summit should help nonprofits and professional advisors learn how they can secure financial resources, increase endowment funds and connect charitable donors to organizations they

will feel good about supporting — all despite an ailing economy.

The summit is free, but officials have asked those who plan to attend to register by calling (734) 495-1200 or by sending an e-mail to info@cantonfoundation.org.

With more than two decades of experience, the Canton Community Foundation has touted its philanthropy summit as a way to continue broadening its efforts to serve the local community and usher in positive changes.

The philanthropy event follows other foundation efforts this year such as a veterans educational summit, ongoing scholarship programs and the formation of a community task to tackle the growing need for charity health care in Canton and other western Wayne County communities.

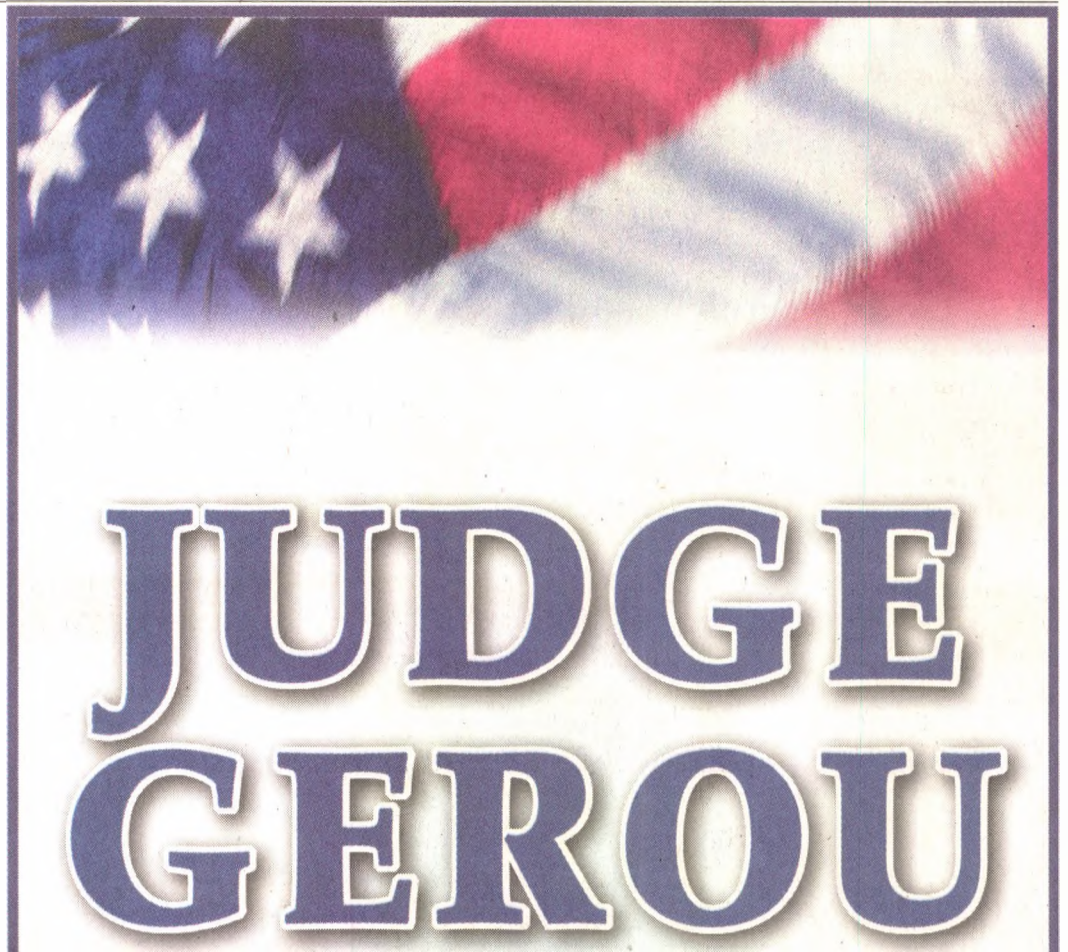
The philanthropy summit's

keynote speaker will be John Colina, president of the Southgate-based Colina Foundation, which last year gave more than \$118,000 to organizations that address children's needs such as food, camps and surviving domestic abuse.

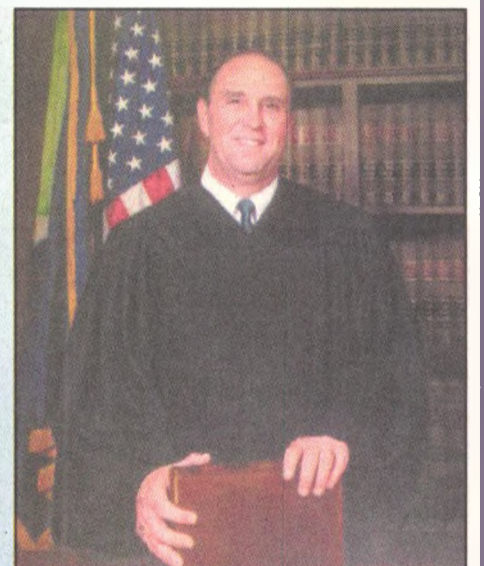
Nonprofit representatives will learn the tools and tips to grow their charitable organizations, while professional advisors will be given information to help clients with issues such as charitable estate planning, Noricks has said, adding that the foundation wants to be "the mediator to make those kinds of things happen."

Much more information about the Canton Community Foundation is available on its Web site, www.cantonfoundation.org.

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The scarecrow bride is sponsored by Bridal Couture of Plymouth.



PHOTOS BY ANN ESPINOZA

People come from throughout the area to see the scarecrows in Plymouth's Kellogg Park. Rick and Jennifer Kientz of White Lake take a photo of their son, Ryan, 5, and his grandma Barb Kientz of Plymouth.

Scarecrows continue to 'spook' Kellogg Park



The scary count, sponsored by Ross Anderson, DDS of Parkwood Orthodontic in Canton says: "I want to brace your face!"



Jacob Ryner, 1, of Plymouth is face to face with the scarecrow designed by the Plymouth Newcomers and Neighbors.



Andrew Ryner, 1, of Plymouth knows a family when he sees one. He is pointing to the scarecrow designed by the Wilczewski family.

Visitors have just a few more days to check out the popular "Scarecrows in the Park" exhibit in downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park. Sponsored annually by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, the exhibit drew more than two dozen scarecrows this year. The scarecrows are sponsored by businesses, civic organizations, scout group and even families, who deco-

rate them every year for display. The scarecrows are a popular downtown attraction. "People walk around and check them out, particularly families," said Wes Graff, executive director of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce. "When they're going out to get their ice cream or eat dinner or go to the movies, they wander through the park and look at them. They add some

character to the community." through Sunday's Halloween holiday. The scarecrows will be up



This Yoda scarecrow, sponsored by Elite Dance Force of Canton, has a message: "May the Dance Force be with you."



Sponsored by Jazzercise, this scarecrow encourages everyone to get up and move!



Sponsored by Mashike Chiropractic Wellness Center of Plymouth.



Show us your best Halloween photo, then make sure to vote online at hometownlife.com.

Shoplifter strikes 2 Plymouth merchants

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Police suspect the same woman in two cases of shoplifting in downtown Plymouth on the afternoon of Oct. 21.

In the first incident, at R.S.V.P., a stationery and gift store on Penniman, a pair of earrings was reported stolen. In the second, at That's Awesome, a similar shop around the corner on Main Street, a ring was apparently concealed but recovered in the store, police said.

Police Sgt. Jamie Grabowski, a detective, said a witness identified a suspect in a photo lineup on Tuesday and that police were pursuing charges.

Grabowski said the earrings were discovered missing from R.S.V.P. after a woman, who was browsing there and kept chatting and picking up merchandise, asked that they be set aside

for her.

When a description of the possible suspect was relayed to other downtown merchants after the theft was discovered, Grabowski said, an employee at That's Awesome realized the same woman had been in that store.

A wallet was discovered at That's Awesome, apparently left by a shopper, with a ring from the store in it, Grabowski said. Nothing else was found to be missing.

Grabowski said there was nearly a two-hour time gap between the incidents, and that it's possible other downtown businesses may have been victims of shoplifting that afternoon. He asked that merchants who suspect they may have had items stolen on Oct. 21 call him at (734) 453-1234, Ext. 272.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2405

Deadline nears to submit Halloween photo contest

More than 85 Halloween photos are posted online at hometownlife.com for readers to view and vote on. How about adding yours?

There's still time to enter the contest and win a prize. But hurry because you will want to give readers a chance to vote for your photo.

The top three vote-getters will win. First prize is two tickets (in a suite) to the Nov. 29 Carrie Underwood "Play On Tour" concert at the Palace with

special guests Sons of Sylvia and Billy Currington.

Second prize is two tickets to Rock of Ages Nov. 9. at the Fisher Theatre featuring Constantine Maroulis - the American Idol finalist who was nominated for a Tony Award for his starring role in the Broadway production.


Third prize is four movie passes to Emagine Theaters in Canton or Novi or the Palladium/Birmingham Theater in downtown Birmingham.

Readers can view the Reader Submitted Photo Gallery on the homepage and recommend your photo.

Be sure to include a first and last name and the town where you live. (Only contestants from Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne counties are eligible to win prizes, but anyone can recommend a photo.)

Those who share photos that receive the most "recommend" votes as of midnight, Oct. 31, win prizes and will be published in the Observer.

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Voters in Western Wayne County Beware

Democrats are Filling Mailboxes, Websites and Airwaves with False and Misleading Information

With no real agenda of their own, Democrats have engaged in a coordinated effort to deceive the voters in western Wayne County and fool them into voting for their candidates.

Voters have been inundated with flyers, TV and radio ads lying about Republican State Senate candidate Patrick Colbeck.

This is not a case of simply omitting facts or stretching the truth but actually making up charges that are patently false.

Following is a listing of the false or misleading information that is being spread by these political Pinocchios:



LIE #1 Patrick Colbeck would eliminate Social Security and Medicare

FALSE! He would not and could not as a State Senator. These are federal programs.



LIE #2 Patrick Colbeck would force seniors to buy private insurance.

FALSE! In fact, it is the Democratic Party in D.C. that is forcing citizens to buy private insurance via the provisions of the recently passed Health Care "Reform" Bill.



LIE #3 Patrick Colbeck would eliminate teachers' pensions.

FALSE! Patrick Colbeck never said that. Education is his #1 budget priority.



LIE #4 Patrick Colbeck has received checks from "Big Drug Companies" and will allow drug companies to harm people.

FALSE! Patrick Colbeck has worked for a wide variety of companies as a management consultant where he provided organizational services.



LIE #5 Patrick Colbeck is a "lapdog for special interests."

FALSE! Patrick Colbeck will work for the people of the 7th State Senate District. He will operate within a decision framework based on the Constitution, and consistent with the principles for governance established by our Founding Fathers. He has not accepted any campaign donations from any organization that has conflicting values with this framework.

Learn the facts. Visit www.FixingMichigan.com

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Brad Kadrich,
Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
Executive Editor
Grace Perry,
Director of Advertising

OUR VIEWS

State Senate Moderate is best in 7th

Voters in the 7th state Senate District, which encompasses Plymouth, Canton, Northville and several Downriver communities, have a number of solid choices when casting their ballots in the Nov. 2 general election.

It's possible, however, that none of the five — Republican Patrick Colbeck of Canton, Democrat Kathleen Law of Gibraltar, Libertarian Marlin Brandys of Plymouth Township or independents John Stewart or Plymouth Township and Michael Kheibari of Northville — completely represents the dynamic of the district.

But when narrowing down the choices, we lean toward Plymouth Township attorney **John Stewart**, who is the moderate in this field.

Stewart has proven he can work with Republicans and Democrats. Unlike the Republican and Democratic candidates in this race, Stewart doesn't overreach to the right or to the left. Michigan's new governor is going to need the support of lawmakers like Stewart who know and understand the art of compromise.

A self-described fiscal conservative, Stewart served the 20th House District for six years, including service on both the appropriations and higher education committees. He supports repeal of the Michigan Business Tax and abolishing personal property taxes. He supports consolidation of services used by school districts.

Stewart grew up Downriver and raised his family in Plymouth, so he's familiar with the district from end to end. His experience in Lansing might be of some comfort to voters who find the other candidates too partisan for the new Michigan.

Republican Patrick Colbeck, a management consultant, favors limited government and lowering the tax burden on businesses by eliminating the Michigan Business Tax and personal property taxes.

The Tea Party movement inspired Colbeck, of Canton, to get involved in running for office. Colbeck speaks a lot of "back office" improvements that can help government save money. We agree but believe he can be most effective at the local level and we encourage him to stay involved by seeking office in Canton Township.

No matter who wins in November, municipalities will be faced with some tough decisions and we believe Colbeck, a management consultant with an aerospace engineering background, can be most effective in his hometown.

Democrat Kathleen Law is smart and sincere. A research scientist, she has keen analytical skills that would serve her well in Lansing. For traditional Democrats, she is a solid choice.

Libertarian Marlin Brandys, a former Marine and martial arts instructor, has not mounted much of a campaign. He is relying on the Libertarian platform to attract voters disenchanted with the two major parties. And independent Michael Kheibari, a pharmaceutical manager from Northville, is a political newcomer who, like Colbeck, might be better off starting at the local government level.

For the 7th District, voters will be best served by moderate **John Stewart** on Nov. 2.

Vote no on state proposals on constitution, felons

Voters will be asked to decide two state proposals on the Nov. 2 ballot.

Proposal 2010-1 asks voters whether to convene a constitutional convention to re-write the state constitution. The current constitution is the fourth in state history. Voters overwhelmingly rejected proposals to rewrite it in 1978 and 1994. Voters should say no again and reject Proposal 2010-1.

The estimated \$45 million cost along with two years of political and economic uncertainty are not what Michigan needs at this time.

Changes can be made by the state Legislature and voters without a significant rewrite of the basic government document.

Proposal 2010-02 is a legislatively proposed constitutional amendment that would add a Section 8 to Article XI of the 1963 Michigan Constitution.

Michigan's Constitution currently forbids anyone convicted of a felony involving a breach of the public trust from serving in the Legislature for 20 years. The ballot proposal would add language to also put a 20-year ban on anyone convicted of a felony involving dishonesty, deceit, fraud or a breach of public trust while in office from seeking election or appointment to a position with authority over public assets.

The amendment on the Nov. 2 ballot was reported to have been drafted to preserve public trust in government.

Although the proposal sounds like a good idea, we agree with those who point to "the vagueness of some of the language."

A candidate's criminal record is generally an issue in any electoral contest and elected officials who appoint people with criminal records know they will be held accountable.

Vote No on Proposals 2010-1 and 2010-2 on Nov. 2.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Do you think the state should have a constitutional convention in order to rewrite the Michigan Constitution and reorganize government? This question will be on the ballot in November.

We asked this question outside the U.S. Postal Service station on Penniman in downtown Plymouth.



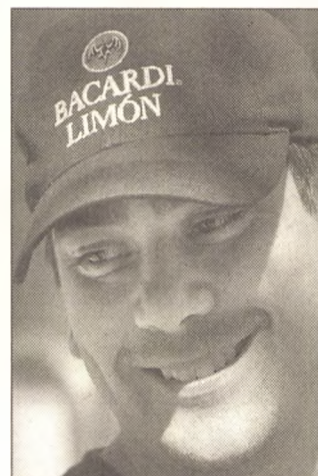
"I read about that but I'm not sure. ... They're saying it's going to cost \$40 million or something like that."

Brian Carney
Plymouth



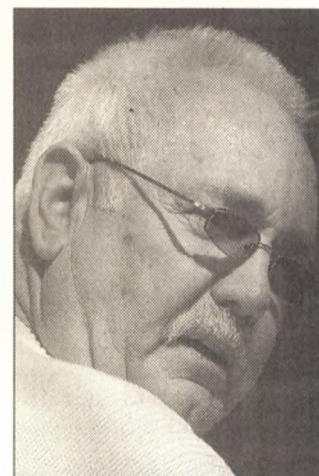
"I would think so, yeah. ... I think that a lot of things need to be taken care of, a lot of issues need to be addressed."

Mickey Arsneault
Livonia



"I'd like to see a three-party system. ... I haven't decided yet."

Ben Czap
Plymouth



"No. We're spending money for nothing."

Bob Kenyon
Plymouth

LETTERS

Colbeck the choice

In the upcoming all-important election, voters in the state Senate 7th District would do well to consider candidate Patrick Colbeck.

Besides his strong background as a small businessman who understands the negative effects a heavy-handed government has had on our state's economy, Patrick's greatest qualifications are his honesty and openness as a candidate.

Voters in the 7th District should do their own investigations of Patrick's plan for turning Michigan around, and not limit their inquiries to the distorted views seen in rival ads. Patrick Colbeck is a devoted family man and community leader. For example, Patrick volunteers as a board member in his local public school charter academy.

Voters in the 7th District have a great opportunity to move Michigan forward in next month's election by getting to know Patrick Colbeck. Learn more at his website: www.fixingmichigan.com.

Ted Lang
Plymouth

Supporting Colbeck

We have gotten to know Patrick Colbeck over the past couple of years. We have seen that Patrick is a hard-working, dedicated man with great integrity and faith. We are pleased that Patrick is running for state Senate in the 7th District.

In this time of negative campaigning, we truly appreciate that Patrick Colbeck has not lowered his campaign standards. He is running a positive campaign and is focused on what he will do to help fix Michigan. You can find out more at his website www.fixingmichigan.com.

Patrick Colbeck is not a special interest candidate, party insider or former legislator looking for another job. He is a businessman who lives, works and volunteers in his community and is running for state Senate to do what is right, not what is politically expedient. We are looking forward to a new voice in Lansing who will represent us!

We would encourage everyone to vote on Nov. 2 and help Michigan "Comeback with Colbeck."

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Kurt
Canton

Choice of words

I have received many mailings from and supporting Patrick Colbeck and calling Kathleen Law radical and extreme.

While Kathleen Law may or may not be radical and extreme, I find those choice of words very odd coming from a candidate who has direct links on his campaign website to groups who encourage the hatred of Muslims, deny climate change, compare

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats.

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

Read or comment online:
www.hometownlife.com

Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

President Obama to Hitler, do not believe President Obama's birth certificate is real, and consider evolution a myth.

Michael P. Bartnicki
Plymouth

Slavens supporter

I like many of the voters in our area will have our ballots marked with support for both Republicans and Democrats. We split-ticket voters know we in Michigan cannot afford to vote the party and not the best person for the job. It is for this reason that I write in support of Dian Slavens in her bid for re-election. she will be the first Democrat I vote for as state representative.

I supported Phil LaJoy in 2006, the first election after I turned 18, because of his vast knowledge on local government as well as when he ran for Canton Township supervisor in 2008. In 2008, while living in Livonia, I supported John Walsh, Republican, in his race for State House because of his work on education issues.

I very much like Lori Levi, Ms. Slavens' Republican opponent. She is someone who I would love to discuss policy and constitutional theory with but at this time lacks a basic understanding that government must work for the people and get the job done.

Ms. Slavens has shown time and time again that she is not there to represent her party but each and every one of us. She has rejected lifetime health care, red tape on small businesses and attempts to make our school systems insolvent. She more than any other public official I've encountered has listened, actually listened, to voters regardless of their party with her numerous constituent meetings. She has been a brilliant voice for our small businesses finding common sense solutions to get Michigan back to work.

It is for these reasons that I support Dian Slavens

to be our voice in the state House.

Christopher A. Wensley
Belleville

Support for Levi

In response to a hometown life article supporting and endorsing Dian Slavens as one who is responsible for constituent services and getting things done, I don't agree.

I sent a letter to Dian in October 2009 asking her to correct a problem with state funding for veteran organizations. These organizations provide guidance and support to all veterans with regard to negotiating the Veterans Administration system for claims and services. The process for obtaining state funding has changed and thus some veteran organizations have lost all funding, forcing them to reduce resources used to help veterans at a very critical time when many claims are taking up to five years to process.

Dian responded to my letter and said she would protect the funding for these veteran organizations going forward. I asked her for a progress report in February 2010 to find out if she had been able to resolve the problem, but I never got a response from her.

During the primary, I had the opportunity to talk with Lori Levi about this issue and we discussed my concerns. Lori immediately made contact with a resource familiar with the issue and put him in touch with me. Within two days, I had an answer as to what the issue was with regard to my concerns.

The next step is to make changes in the state law to correct this issue and Lori Levi is going to take up that challenge once she is elected. Lori Levi has assured me that she will personally make the issues facing our veterans a high priority. She also stated to me that our veterans, who have risked everything for our freedoms, should be cared for first with respect and honor, and also as a priority not an afterthought.

This week, Dian Slavens sent me a note providing a report that state funding for veterans had been maintained in the state budget, but this did not address the funding issue. A year later, I get a response and it doesn't address the problem. If that is what you call responsible, I am disappointed with your perception.

Lori Levi has focused on making customer satisfaction her priority in the business world and was very successful in this endeavor. I'm very confident, based on my experience, she will continue to exemplify this attribute as my next state representative. Please help me enable her to serve us veterans as we have served our country, by casting your vote for Lori Levi on Nov. 2.

Gerry Wright
Canton

OUR VIEWS

Vote yes on county parks millage

Wayne County is asking voters to renew, for another five years, a tax levy for parks that comes in at just under 0.25 (0.2459) of a mill.

Proposal P, the millage renewal, is projected to generate \$10.62 mil-

lion in 2011 to operate several parks and related facilities, including major improvements to Hines Park, Elizabeth Park, Chandler Park and Fort Wayne.

In addition, some 15 percent of the

millage has been rebated back for local park improvement projects.

It's a millage that western Wayne County residents can actually see and enjoy their tax dollars at work.

Vote Yes on Proposal P.

Spotlight Players tackle Neil Simon

Spotlight Players presents the humorous and poignant *Proposals*, a comedy about the gathering of the Hines family for one last time at their summer cabin in the Poconos in 1953 by legendary playwright Neil Simon, Nov. 12-14 and Nov. 19-21 at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

Recovering workaholic Burt, the Hines patriarch, longs to see the ex-wife he still loves. Daughter Josie has just broken her engagement with Ken because she years for Ray. And housekeeper Clemma, Burt's wise counselor, is dreading a visit from the husband that deserted her years before. Add in a visiting Miami gangster with a gift for mangling the English language and you've set the table for laughs, charm and love.

Director Jeff Croff describes it this way: "Proposals is a story about tying up loose ends at the end of summer," director Jeff Croff said. "Whether it's Josie resolving her relationships with her mother and fiancée, Burt finishing unsettled business with his ex-wife Annie or the maid Clemma facing a future that may or may not include her estranged, just returned husband, all of them are looking for a little end of summer magic to solve the big questions."

This is a black-box production in the Biltmore Studio within the Village Theater. Black Box or "in the round" performances are different than the traditional theater experience.

"Being performed in the round, this show eliminates the distance between audience and players," Croff said. "It becomes a much more intimate affair and makes the audience part of the joy and the sadness as the characters collide just a few steps away."

The cast features many actors from the local area, including:

- From Canton — Cynthia Lewandowski as Clemma Diggins, Robert Nelson as Burt Hines and Pat McKane as Lewis Barnett.
- From Westland — Jan Larente as Josie Hines and Gary Schulte as Vinnie Bavasi.
- From Livonia — Lunice Alagia Clay as Annie Robbins.
- From Northville — Castille Asmann as Sammie.



Cynthia Lewandowski (Clemma), Jan Larente (Josie) and Lunice Alagai Clay (Annie) ham it up for the cameras as they prepare for the Spotlight Players presentation of "Proposals."

Performances are 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 12 and Nov. 19; 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 13 and Nov. 20; and 2 p.m. Sunday Nov. 14 and Nov. 21. The Village Theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. TICKETS: Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors and students under 19. They're available by phone at the Village Theater Box Office at (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460; online at www.spotlightplayersmi.org; or in person at The Summit on the Park or at the door.

AROUND PLYMOUTH

PLAV recruiting

PLAV Post #166, located at 39375 Amrhein in Livonia (at the corner of Amrhein and Eckles) is seeking veteran members interested in joining a vibrant post, restructuring itself in the

21st century. The Post goal is to have a significant and meaningful impact within the veteran community.

The post meetings are the second Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m., with the exception of July and August, and a light lunch

with refreshments follows. Free beverages are provided throughout the meeting's. Those interested in additional information are welcome to call Roger L. Kehrier at (734) 453-2031 or stop in the night of a scheduled meeting.

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 - October 29, 2010
 - November 11, 2010
 - November 30, 2010

- Plymouth**
- November 3, 2010

HAP adds new workshop dates every day. Call for the latest workshop listing and to reserve your place: toll-free (800) 449-1515 or TDD (800) 956-4325. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.



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Workshops are for Medicare-eligible individuals who do not have benefits paid for by a former employer and who pay for their own health care coverage.

[†]Based on Medicare's Plan Quality and Performance Rating 2009 Survey conducted by the federal Medicare program (2008-2009). HAP Senior Plus (HMO), HAP Senior Plus (HMO-POS) and Alliance Medicare PPO are health plans with a Medicare contract. Alliance Medicare Rx (PDP) is a stand-alone Prescription Drug Plan with a Medicare contract. Alliance Medicare Rx (PDP), Alliance Medicare Supplement and Alliance Medicare PPO are products of Alliance Health and Life Insurance Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Health Alliance Plan. Alliance Medicare Supplement is not connected with or endorsed by the U.S. government or the federal Medicare program.

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Chiefs blank Huron in regional opener

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton's athletics program during the fall months isn't just about football.

The boys soccer team is enjoying quite a run itself, capturing a Division 1 district championship and now needing just one victory for a regional crown.

The No. 6-ranked Chiefs defeated Westland John Glenn 4-1 Saturday at Livonia Franklin to earn the district title.

Canton followed that up Tuesday night with a 1-0 triumph over Ann Arbor Huron in a regional semifinal held at Dearborn Edsel Ford.

The Chiefs (19-3-2) now will go up against Novi at 3 p.m. Saturday in the regional final. Canton played the Wildcats twice previously this season, earning 4-0 and 5-1 victories.

On Tuesday, senior goalkeeper Brandon Laabs made 15 stops — several of the spectacular variety — while sophomore Bobby Budlong delivered the only goal the Chiefs would need in the victory over the River Rats.

Budlong's team-leading 17th goal with just 3:18 to go in the first half stood up thanks to the efforts of Laabs and stellar defenders Kyle Krause, Connor Furgason, Tyler Wittingham, Neil Zech and Connor Shennan.

The Chiefs (19-3-2) now will go up against Novi at 3 p.m. Saturday in the regional final. Canton played the Wildcats twice previously this season, earning 4-0 and 5-1 victories.

Two teammates set up Budlong for the key goal. Junior Nathan Bergeson won a ball on the right side of the pitch, just outside the 18-yard box, and sent a feed to senior co-captain Phil Baciak in the middle of the box.

Baciak (who officially drew the lone assist) then threaded a pass to Budlong, who ripped a shot high into the Huron goal.

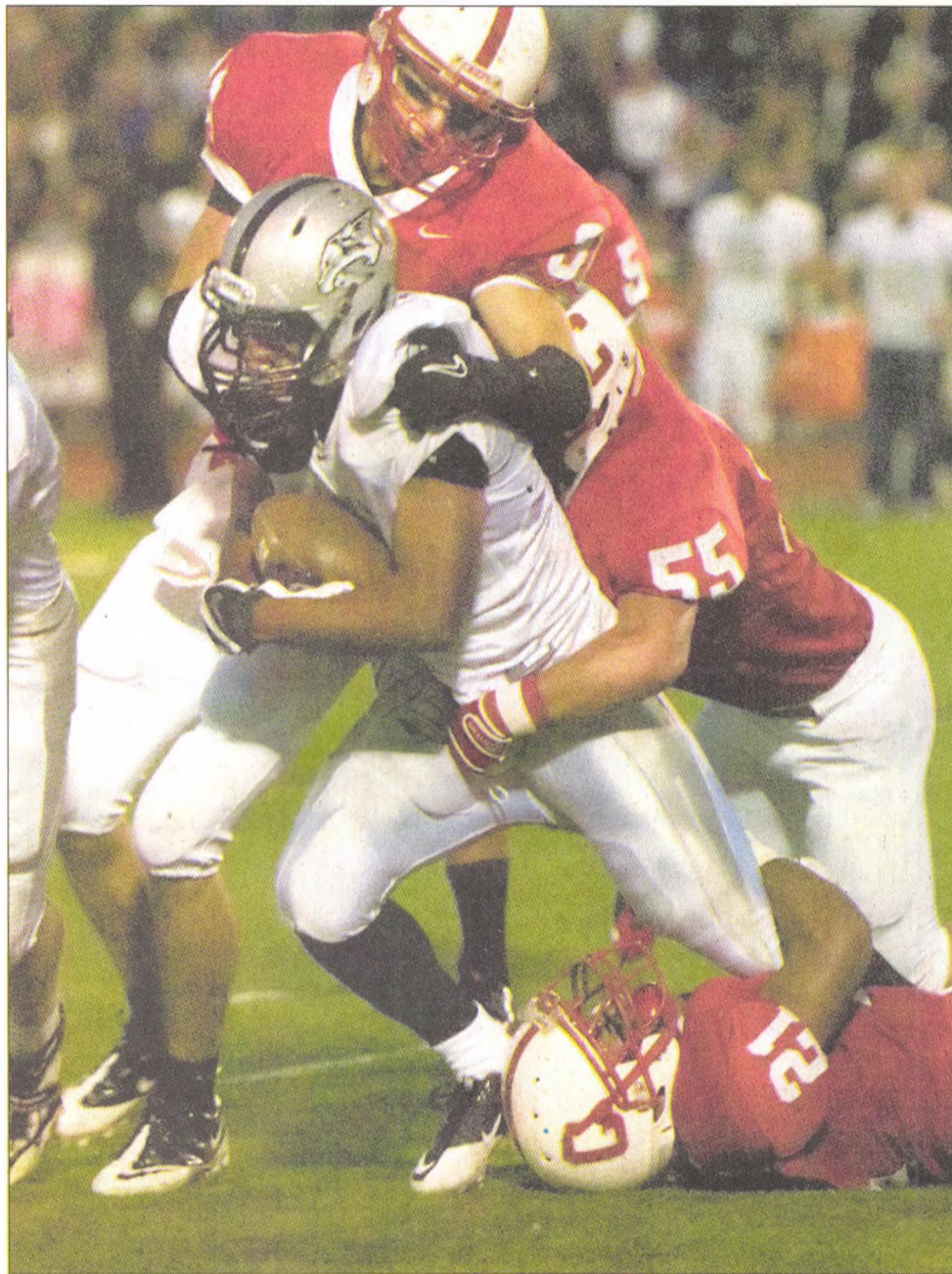
In the district final, Laabs and senior goalkeeper Garren Carr kept the Rockets (10-10-1) at bay other than a marker by Tyler Simpson before halftime to cut Canton's lead to 2-1.

By that time, Bergeson and senior Sean Balnaves had found the range for the Chiefs — with Balnaves chipping in the rebound of his own penalty kick with about three minutes left in the first half.

Canton then added goals by Furgason and Bergeson in the second half for some breathing room.

Budlong collected two assists for the Chiefs, while Furgason collected one.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Playoffs, here we come

Earlier this month, Canton and Plymouth battled each other in KLAAs South action. Here, Wildcats junior running back Donte Fox (No. 5) is surrounded by Canton's Jeff Straub (No. 31), Michael Sams (No. 55) and Zac Merillat (No. 21). This week, both teams open postseason play. On Friday night, Canton faces Ann Arbor Pioneer while Plymouth goes up against Saline on Saturday afternoon. Both contests will be at PCEP. For a look at how the Observer sports staff sees those games and other playoff openers, please turn to page B3.

SIDELINES

Blazers roll, 4-0

Junior Erin Cronyn scored two of her goals in the opening half en route to a hat trick Monday as host Livonia Ladywood cruised to a 4-0 girls field hockey win Monday at home over Grosse Pointe North.

The Division II Blazers, 11-1-3 overall, move into the quarterfinals of the state tournament 4:30 p.m. Wednesday at Dearborn Edsel Ford where they will face Division I foe Grosse Pointe South.

Sophomore Jaclyn Snyder tallied the Blazers' other goal off an assist from Briana Sultana.

Senior Devin McParlane assisted on two of Cronyn's goals while Kylie Birney had the other.

Ladywood junior goalie Mackenzie Holme did not have to make a save in posting the shutout.

Nicole Strickland had eight saves for the Norsemen, who wind up 2-13 overall.

Sherwood sets mark

Madonna University senior Sarah Sherwood (Salem) continues to rewrite the women's cross country record book as she broke her own school record by seven seconds, running the five kilometer course Saturday at Grand Rapids' Riverside Park in 18:23 to place ninth in a stacked field at the NAIA Great Lakes Challenge.

Sherwood set her new record less than a month after running 18:30 at the Lansing Invitational over the same 5-kilometer distance.

Junior Emily Bambach (Livonia Ladywood) ran a season-best 19:21, while classmate Cassie Yarnall crossed the line in 21:03.

MU now takes two weeks off before running in the 2010 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Championships on Saturday, Nov. 6, also at Riverside Park.

Schroeder saluted

For second time in her career, Kalamazoo College junior midfielder Julia Schroeder (Livonia) was named Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association Offensive Player of the Week in women's soccer.

Schroeder collected a goal and assist for the week in leading the Hornets to a split of its two MIAA games. She had an assist in a 4-1 loss to Alma, then scored a goal and controlled the midfield in a 3-0 victory over Trine. Schroeder is being honored as Player of the Week for the first time this season.

Jingle Bell 5K

The Arthritis Foundation's Jingle Bell 5- and 10-kilometer Run-Walk will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 at Northville Downs, located at 301 S. Center Street, Northville.

The \$25 Early Bird special includes timing chip and official T-shirt.

For more information, visit www.arthritis.org or contact Samantha Mertins at (248) 649-2491, Ext. 232; or e-mail smertins@arthritis.org.

Weekend tourneys keep teams sharp down the stretch

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Area volleyball teams were very busy last weekend, with more hits than misses.

At Saturday's KLAAs Kensington Conference meet, hosted by Novi, the host Wildcats fought past Livonia Churchill in three sets for the championship.

But Plymouth-Canton squads were very competitive, despite falling short of the ultimate prize. Salem's bid for hardware came up short as the Nicole Merget-led Rocks were knocked off 16-25, 26-28 by Novi in the semifinals.

Salem nearly forced Novi to a third set, but could not overcome a string of serve-receive errors and a 14-7 deficit, said head coach Amanda Nies.

"I called a timeout, mixed up some things and we managed to come back (tying it up 14-14)," Nies said. "... The rest of the match was neck and neck. We had a couple game points and we just couldn't finish.

"It was great to see the team come back and fight hard. We need to start off that way (because) it took us until the middle of Game 2 to wake up."

Salem started the tourney with a 27-29, 25-19, 15-12 victory over Canton.

"We came out slow in the first game against Canton," Nies said. "And then (we



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Among several stellar performers Saturday for Plymouth Christian's volleyball team was Amy Zinn, shown from a recent contest.

picked up the second game and came through in the end of the third game getting the last three points."

The Rocks followed up with pool play triumphs over Northville and Livonia Franklin before earning a 25-19, 25-15 win over South Lyon in the quarterfinals.

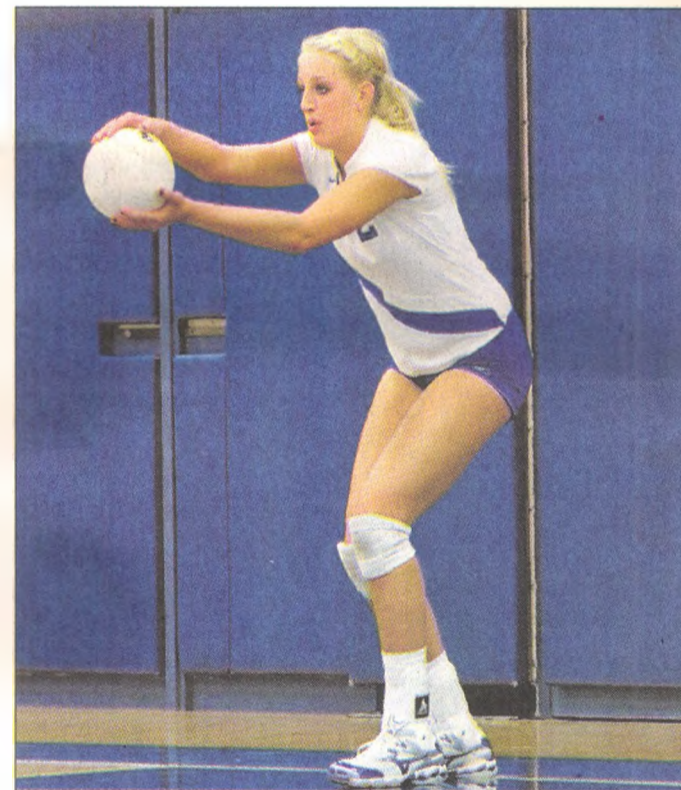
"We did a lot of great things defensively (against South

Lyon) and controlled the whole match," Nies said.

A LOT TO LIKE

Despite ending the tourney on a down note, the Salem coach called it a "great" and productive day.

"Everyone got to play a lot during pool play which is always a great thing for the girls," Nies said, "especially



JOHN KEMSKI

Salem senior Nicole Merget, shown here from earlier this season, was outstanding throughout Saturday's KLAAs meet.

being the last tournament before districts."

Senior middle blocker Merget "shined the whole day, she was outstanding," Nies said.

Merget tallied 60 kills along with 25 digs, 12 blocks and seven aces.

Other Salem standouts included Jillian Somerville (26 kills, six blocks), Abigail

Dworzanin (15 kills, five blocks, 13 digs) and Kerry MacDonald (74 assists, seven aces, 22 digs).

Nies pointed out clutch defense from players such as Alli Morrison (20 digs), Madeleine Vala (26 digs) and Lauren Aschermann, with a team-leading 33 digs.

Please see VOLLEYBALL, B4



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'Major' problem for Whalers, 5-0

The Mississauga St. Michael's Majors will be hosting the Canadian Hockey League's 2011 MasterCard Memorial Cup next May. Saturday at Compuware Arena, the Majors played like a team headed to that tournament with a 5-0 victory over the Plymouth Whalers.

The Majors (8-2-0-0) led 1-0 after one period of the Ontario Hockey League game, padded the lead to 2-0 after 40 minutes and pulled away with three unanswered goals in the third period.

Meanwhile, Plymouth (5-5-1-1) was frustrated all night by Mississauga goalie J.P. Anderson, who pitched a 32-save shutout. His best stop came in the first period, robbing Stefan Noesen's tip-in attempt from point-blank range. Had Noesen scored, it would have been a 1-1 tie.

Chris Doyle led the Majors attack with

a pair of goals. Adding single markers were Chicago-draft Rob Flick, veteran defenseman Marc Cantin and Carolina-draft Justin Shugg.

Flick scored on the game's first shot at 0:14 to give Mississauga a 1-0 lead, putting his shot from the right circle high past Plymouth goaltender Scott Wedgewood (21 saves). The Majors tallied the only goal of the second period on Doyle's point shot past the screened Wedgewood.

In the third, Shugg scored on the power play at 2:30, followed by markers from Cantin and Doyle at 6:24 and 14:43, respectively.

After two road games this week at Erie, the Whalers will return to Compuware for a 7 p.m. Saturday game against Sault Ste. Marie. The game will be broadcast over Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's WSDP-FM (88.1).



Plymouth forward Garrett Meurs slings the puck off the left post, the closest the Whalers would get to scoring against Mississauga goaltender J.P. Anderson (right) during Saturday night's 5-0 loss to the Majors at Compuware Arena.

Crusaders stop first-place Saints

Mustapha Olorunnimbe, a freshman from Lagos, Nigeria, scored a pair of goals Saturday as Madonna University upended Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference men's soccer leader Aquinas College, 3-1.

Senior Ogbemudia Ioyha also added a goal on a penalty for the visiting Crusaders, who improved to 7-5 overall and 3-2 in the WHAC.

Olorunnimbe, named WHAC Offensive Player of the Week, scored in the 10th and 59th minutes, while Heath Somers countered for the Saints (12-4, 3-1) in the 39th minute.

Freshman Max Washko (Livonia Churchill) set up Olorunnimbe's second goal on a corner kick.

MU goalkeeper Parker Laabs (Canton) made five saves en route to the win.

"Our backline was fantastic," MU first-year coach Eric Scott said. "Aquinas has a lot of creative players and they were all over us early in both halves. I thought we dealt with their pressure well and Parker made some big saves. Everyone was great today."

Madonna closes out the regular season 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Livonia Stevenson High School against WHAC foe Siena Heights.

Ocelots romp, 9-1

Tevin Wynter and Dane Laird each tallied their first goals of the season Sunday as host Schoolcraft College romped to a 9-1 triumph over Cuyahoga (Ohio) Community College.

Marco Lobo and Andrew Koet each scored twice for the Ocelots, who improved to 16-3-1 overall and 14-1-1 in NJCAA Region XII.

Other Schoolcraft goal scorers included Nate Sergison (Livonia Stevenson), Alex Tramel (Salem) and Joe Carver.

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PCA harriers fifth at conference meet

The Plymouth Christian Academy boys cross country team continues to rise. The Eagles finished fifth overall at the recent Michigan Independent Athletics Conference meet and featured sophomore Jimmy Parks, who placed fifth with a time of 18 minutes, :08.2 seconds.

Parks was named to the All-MIAC team as a result of his strong performance.

Team-wise, the Eagles tallied 119 points, trailing meet

champion Southfield Christian (39), Lutheran Westland (57), Oakland Christian (107) and Lutheran South (115).

Other PCA finishers, besides Parks, included sophomore Trevor Baloga (11th, 18:15.2), senior Robert Fergan (28th, 19:58.5), sophomore Jacob Nichols (40th, 20:43.0), sophomore Ian Rose (43rd, 20:54.8), sophomore Steven Zomermaand (45th, 21:05.7) and sophomore Nathan Harold (63rd, 23:02.4).

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Baseball player sought

The 13-Under Great Lakes Cardinals (formerly the Canton Cardinals) are looking for an experienced travel baseball player for the 2011 season.

The team competes in seven tournaments as well as league play, totaling more than 50 games for the season.

Those interested in playing should contact head coach Dan Hejka, Sr. via e-mail at cardscoach13@gmail.com.

Girls on the Run

Late registration is ongoing for Girls on the Run of Greater Detroit, an affiliate program of the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit. Girls on the Run is a life-changing, experiential learning program that uses running to educate and prepare girls for a lifetime of self-respect and healthy living.

During the 10-week season, girls in grades 3-8 meet twice a week with trained coaches who lead them through fun games, uplifting workouts, and themed discussions on topics like dealing with body image and the media, resisting peer-pressure, making healthy decisions, and contributing to their community.

The season concludes with all girls completing a service project in their communities and running or walking in a special, non-competitive 5k event for Girls on the Run participants and their families. The 20-lesson program costs \$105.00 and is open to all girls in eligible grades at participating schools.

Up to 15 girls will be accepted per team on a first-come, first-serve basis. Parents or guardians must be present in-person, may only register their own daughter(s), and should bring a form of payment.

Registration and health history forms are available at the Plymouth YMCA with additional signups now being accepted in person, by fax or by mail at the Plymouth YMCA. Registrations will not be accepted at schools or by

coaches. For more information, please contact the YMCA at 734-453-2904 or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

Veterans 5K run

The Veterans Day Rosedale Area Neighbors Red, White and Blue 5-kilometer run-walk and 1-mile fun run-walk will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 6 at Whitman Park (Mies Shelter), located off W. Chicago between Farmington and Merriman roads, in Livonia.

Check-in begins at 9 a.m. The event will benefit the Livonia Symphony Orchestra. The Boy Scouts will also be on hand for its annual Can-Do Drive.

The pre-race entry fee is \$15 (adult), \$10 (middle schools and high school), \$5 (younger) or \$40 (family).

Race day fees are \$20 (adult), \$15 (middle school and high school), \$10 (younger) and \$50 (family).

Long-sleeved T-shirts will go to the first 150 registrants. Pizza and pasta feast, along with prizes, follow afterwards at Rosedale Garden Presbyterian Church.

For more information, call (734) 261-8218.

YMCA youth programs

The Plymouth Family YMCA is offering a variety of youth instructional programs this fall, having the focus on fun, exercise and social interaction through sports instruction.

Programs — open to YMCA members and community members — include Parent/Child Soccer, Preschool and Youth Soccer, Preschool and Youth Basketball, Intro to Volleyball, Preschool T-ball, Tiny Tikes Sampler and Club Kickball. All will run until Oct. 25.

There will be morning and evening classes available. Ages vary by program but there is something for children ages 2-12. For more information, please contact the YMCA at 734-453-2904 or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

PREP GRID PICKS

Playoffs Week 1

Friday, Oct. 29

Birmingham Brother Rice (6-3) at Farmington Harrison (9-0), 7 p.m.
Carleton Airport (5-4) at Redford Thurston (7-2), 7 p.m.
Ann Arbor Pioneer (5-4) at Canton (9-0), 7 p.m.
Farmington (7-2) at Berkley (8-1), 7 p.m.
Livonia Franklin (7-2) at Northville (8-1), 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 30

Saline (6-3) at Plymouth (7-2), 1 p.m.

Last week

Overall

Brad Emons

Brother Rice
Thurston
Canton
Berkley
Franklin

Plymouth

7-5 (.583)

97-26 (.789)

Dan O'Meara

Harrison
Thurston
Canton
Farmington
Northville

Plymouth

11-1 (.917)

103-20 (.837)

Tim Smith

Harrison
Thurston
Canton
Farmington
Northville

Plymouth

11-1 (.917)

85-38 (.691)

Jim Toth

Harrison
Thurston
Canton
Berkley
Northville

Plymouth

11-1 (.917)

93-30 (.756)

Rocks swim past Howell

The Salem varsity girls swimming & diving team finished the Kensington Lakes Activities Association dual meet season on a winning note, defeating Howell 100-86 on Thursday.

Rocks head coach Chuck Olson praised the effort of his team and made special mention of four girls who collected state qualifying times, including Abby Aumiller, Jocey Lamoureux, Ashley Micek and Emily Nelson.

Following are Salem results from the Howell dual meet:

200 medley relay: 1st (Nelson, Micek, Lauren Seroka, Aumiller), 1:59.25; **200 free:** 1st, Julia Suriano, 2:01.39;

200 IM: 1st, Nelson, 2:22.02; 2nd, Claire Amin, 2:22.58; **50 free:** 1st, Aumiller, 26.49; **1-meter diving:** 3rd, Bridget Maul, 139.55 points; **100 fly:** 1st, Nelson, 1:05.52; **100 free:** 1st, Aumiller, 57.69; 3rd, Maggie Gorman, 58.50; **500 free:** 1st, Seroka, 5:27.05; 3rd, Irene Li, 5:43.15; **200 free relay:** 1st (Suriano, Gorman, Aumiller, Seroka), 1:46.07; **100 back:** 1st, Suriano, 1:04.11; 3rd, Maggie Sniedeman, 1:09.23; 4th, Jenny Schwank, 1:10.03; **100 breast:** 2nd, Micek, 1:15.92; 4th, Lamoureux, 1:19.89; **400 free relay:** 1st (Gorman, Seroka, Li, Suriano), 3:54.47; 3rd (Nelson, Kelley Zimmerman, Malissa Tabbey, Micek), 4:08.78.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

One of Salem's many impressive swimmers this season has been freshman Julia Suriano, shown competing in the 200 free earlier this month. She was part of four winning events last Thursday against Howell.

NOTICE OF SALE

MAYFLOWER TOWING

The following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction for cash to satisfy lien pursuant to F.S. 713.78 on November 4, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

5760 Belleville Rd.
Canton, MI 48187
734-397-3560

1994 Plymouth	Sundance	1P3AP28D8RN200725
1999 Ford	Ranger	1FTYR10V8XUA58046
1996 Ford	Econoline E250	1FTFE24Y6THA16491
1998 Honda	Shadow	JH2RC4460WM003249
	Trailer	Unknown

1179 Starkweather St.
Plymouth, MI 48170
734-459-0053

1999 Chevrolet	Venture	1GNDX03E2XD118789
1993 Ford	F150	1FTEF15Y0PLB22634
2002 Chevrolet	Prism	1Y1SK5283Z7412698
1993 Chevrolet	Vandura	1GBEG5255PF320172
1996 Pontiac	Grand Am SE	1G2NE52M1TC736263
1994 Ford	Explorer	1FMCU24X0RUB13078

Publish: October 28, 2010

OE08718018-24

WHY BE CATHOLIC?

The exciting monthly series of personal stories and testimonies continues with an outstanding roster of new speakers, sure to bring rewarding new insights to your own faith life.



Teresa Tomeo

Series Continues Wednesday, Nov. 3rd at 7 PM

TERESA TOMEO, best-selling author, media specialist, EWTN and WDEO Radio syndicated talk show host, will share the story of her rejection of the "fast lane" of TV news reporting to return to the Catholic faith of her childhood.

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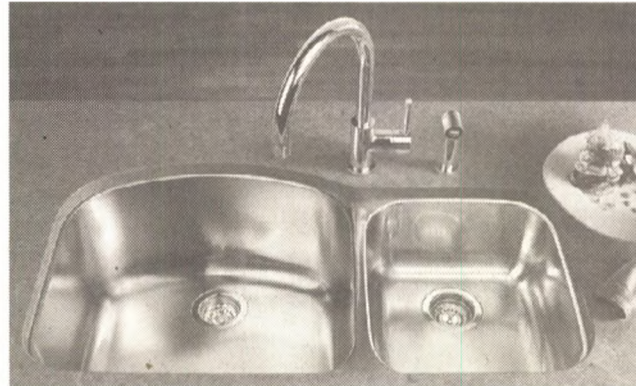
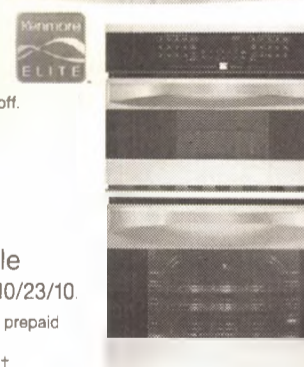
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Offer good thru 10/31/10. See below for details.††



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Sale must be completed by 11/13/10.

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See store for details. Offer ends 10/31/10.



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The Senior Alliance (TSA) is currently seeking bids for the services of a registered dietician with experience in reviewing menus against nutrition standards, reviewing nutritional education materials for compliance, conducting reviews of provider kitchens and policies, and providing education/training to staff and providers. If you are interested in bidding on the provision of these services, please submit a bid in the form of an hourly rate. Also include a description of the knowledge and experience you have related to the above tasks. Please include proof of being a registered dietician. We are especially interested in learning about any experience you have in working with older adults and community-based programs that serve older adults. Proposals due by 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2010. Questions contact 734.727.2031.

Publish: October 28 & November 4, 2010

CF08718025-2/2

MEDICARE OR MEDICARE/MEDICAID NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given that on November 19, 2010, the agreement between the Secretary of Health and Human Services and Sorrento Care Center in Detroit, MI as a skilled nursing facility in the Medicare program will be terminated.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has determined that Sorrento Care Center has failed to attain substantial compliance with the following participation requirement:

42 CFR 483.25(k) – Treatment/Care for Special Needs

The Medicare program will not make payment for skilled nursing facility services furnished to residents admitted to the facility on or after August 19, 2010. This date is due to a previously imposed denial of payment for new admissions. For Medicare residents admitted prior to August 19, 2010, payment may continue to be made for up to 30 days of covered services furnished on or after November 19, 2010.

In addition, Federal Financial Participation will not be available to the Michigan Department of Community Health for any Medicaid residents admitted to the facility on or after August 19, 2010. For Medicaid residents admitted prior to August 19, 2010, Federal Financial Participation may continue to be made to the Michigan Department of Community Health for up to 30 days of covered services to qualified residents furnished on or after November 19, 2010.

HEATHER A. LANG
Branch Manager
Long Term Care Certification & Enforcement Branch

Publish: October 28, 2010

OE08718071-2/5

P-C Steelers show mojo against Railsplitters

The Plymouth-Canton Steelers varsity squad played another tough, gritty game against the Lincoln Railsplitters last Saturday. As the final seconds ticked off the play clock, they found themselves on the winning side of a 36-25 score.

A strong Steeler offense was the name of the game, with excellent performances by Dakota Lynn (a beautiful TD run), lineman Joseph Campana (several key blocks at his TE position), Morgan Vetter (TD-springing block), Udayveer Singh (strong pass protection) and Christopher Vos (solid as a rock at center, snapping for four TDs).

On defense, Bradley Deeg was a force, repeatedly taking care of the Lincoln O-line.

The P-C Steelers JV squad totally annihilated the Railsplitters, 54-0. The offense was led by Vince VanDerRoest, who was absolutely relentless, making key blocks that led to scoring all game long. Nick Sater proved his agile prowess at tight end, catching a quick pass and scoring a sweet six-pointer. Benny Phillips debuted with a rushing TD.

The defense also was on a mission. Nathan Gozdor led the way with two quarterback sacks and several assists while Matthew Lessel broke up a couple of Railsplitter pass attempts, totally minimizing Lincoln's attempts to move the ball down the field.

Following suit, the freshmen squad won 30-0 to improve to a league-best 7-0 record. PCS dominated on both sides of the line of scrimmage.

On offense, quarterback Jake Cain's 13-yard TD strike to Billy Flohr set the tone. Chase Willis hauled in a PAT conversion pass and O-lineman Calvin Voss broke through the Railsplitters' defensive line time and time again. Benjamin Bennett handed the ball with ease, running for several first downs.

YOUTH FOOTBALL

Also, Lou Baechler dodged several defenders on a kick-off return, scoring a 25-yard touchdown as a result.

Parker Selby shined for the Steelers, playing hard-nosed defense all night long, and blocking a Railsplitter punt. PCS gave up just one first down, with notable efforts turned in by D-linemen Jackson King (2 sacks), James McCarthy and speedy Drew Poet. The latter's tackle for a loss on a fourth-and-one situation drew cheers.

Other highlights: Logan Walkley went over the 100-yard mark for the sixth consecutive game, scoring on runs of 42, 25, and 60 yards respectively. Darien Moore scored on a 3-yard run and also excelled at middle linebacker. Also visiting the end zone were Aidan Garbarino, Keagan Witezak, Mason Hackney (60-yard TD run) and Zach Kubacki (25-yard TD run).

STEELERS VS. RANGERS: The Steelers varsity homecoming game Oct. 16 against the Redford Rangers had all of the elements of a great game — cool fall weather, cheering fans and hard-nosed football under the lights.

The only thing missing was a much needed win for the Steelers, who unfortunately came up short, losing to the Rangers 26-25 in the final minutes of the game.

The Steelers played tough all night, with Devin Cameron leading the defense with a timely fumble recovery. Kevin Justice shined all night on both sides of the ball. He had a 60-yard chase-down to stop a Ranger TD and had an incredible 80-yard run for a touchdown.

Gregory Williams demonstrated strong QB play all night, connecting with several Steeler receivers, including Derek Young, who made a

great catch for a Steeler first down. Williams also played smart defensive ball, with a key interception at free safety.

The JV Steelers squad wowed the crowd with a great homecoming win, beating the Rangers 26-14. Offensively, the Steelers were untouchable. Benny Phillips was a key leader on the Steelers O-line, and Malcolm Young was a strong offensive threat to the Rangers, forcing them to deal with him play after play. Benny Kandah was on cue with his pulls, leading the Steeler RBs to help extend gains on their runs and Gary Jones played hard at offensive end, throwing a key block that led to a Steeler TD.

The Steelers came out just as strong defensively against the Rangers. Evan Sawes sent a "No Fear, No Quit" Steeler message to the Rangers with a huge QB sack early in the game, and Mason Kopchia demonstrated his prowess at LB, stopping the Rangers running backs in their tracks.

The P-C Steelers freshmen squad continues their domination of the WSJFL with another commanding performance at homecoming, shutting out the Rangers 38-0.

The offense was led by strong blocking from Mason Richard, which aided RB Ben Bennett in gaining tremendous rushing yards as well as his first touchdown for the Steelers. Meanwhile, Ben Wright had an awesome game on offense at RB for the Steelers, scoring his first Steeler TD and also catching an interception.

Danny Lanava played well on both sides of the ball, with hard tackling and also scoring an extra point to add to the Steelers' runaway lead. Jake Cain was tremendous on defense, intercepting the football as it bounced off a Ranger, and running it in for his first TD as a Steeler.



Terrific year for Titans

What a season it was for the Plymouth/Canton Titans, of the Michigan Youth Flag Football League. The Titans closed out the year winning their last six games to finish with a 6-1 record — the best in the Second Grade Shula Division. Congratulations to coaches Chris Godi, Paul Scott and the players for having such a successful season. Members of the Titans are as follows: (front row, from left) Keegan Kochanek, Eli Zarotney and Andrew Iaquianniello; (middle row, from left) Sammy Giordano, Lee Elliott Napthen, Owen Carapellotti and Nicholas Scott; (back row, from left) Coach Chris Godi, Joe Godi, Dario Toppi, Emmett Martin and Coach Paul Scott.

VOLLEYBALL

FROM PAGE B1

"Our defense was something that we moved a lot of people in to get better results," Nies said.

Also losing in the semifinals — only to Churchill — was Canton, with the Chiefs dropping a pair of 25-14 decisions.

But Canton did enjoy wins over Livonia Franklin (25-18, 25-16) and Westland John Glenn (25-13, 25-23).

Meanwhile, Plymouth's Wildcats weren't quite as successful as their Novi counterparts. But they still came in sixth, ultimately losing to Novi in the quarterfinals, 13-25, 16-25.

Plymouth (19-10-2) also fell to the tournament hosts

in pool play (25-22, 21-25, 8-15) but secured victories over Wayne Memorial (21-25, 25-12, 15-4) and Livonia Stevenson (28-30, 25-21, 15-11).

Among players coming through for coach Kelly McCausland were Kayla Bridge (26 kills, 51 digs), Dani Risi (29 kills), Alex Roberts (12 kills, nine blocks), Shayla Smalls (31 assists, 16 digs), Jess Scott (35 assists), Emilee Beyer (13 kills, six blocks) and Mariah Tesarz (55 digs).

PCA goes for the 'Gold'

Plymouth Christian will have its conference meet Thursday. But the Eagles enjoyed an excellent tune-up Saturday at the Ann Arbor Pioneer Tournament, advancing to the semifinals of the Gold Bracket before falling 25-18, 17-25, 7-15 to St. Mary

Catholic Central.

In pool play, PCA also lost to SMCC (14-25, 23-25) but collected wins over Lincoln (25-7, 25-18) and Chelsea (25-19, 25-21) and followed up in the quarters with a 27-25, 21-25, 18-16 win over Wyandotte.

Once again, Kristin Malcolm was outstanding for the Eagles (21-9-2 entering Tuesday's dual match at Allen Park Inter-City Baptist).

Malcolm sparked PCA with 45 kills, 10 blocks and 15 digs.

Other standouts included Folake Olojo (23 kills, 14 blocks), Amy Zinn (26 kills, 27 digs), Brianna Harris (83 assists) and Sarah Howard — who played her best of the season with aggressive hitting and blocking. She tallied 12 kills and five blocks.

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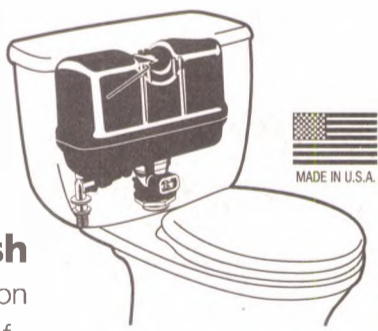
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THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS
Friday, Oct. 29
(Division 1-Region 2-District 1)
A.A. Pioneer vs. Canton
at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 30
(Division 1-Region 2-District 1)
Saline vs. Plymouth
at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, 1 p.m.
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Thursday, Oct. 28
MIAC Tourney at Mich. Elite, 4:30 p.m.
(KLAAs Crossovers)
W.L. Northern at Canton, 6:30 p.m.
Brighton at Salem, 6:30 p.m.
Hartland at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.
Milford at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.
W.L. Western at John Glenn, 6:30 p.m.
Wat. Kettering at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m.
Pinckney at Franklin, 6:30 p.m.
Waterford Mott at Wayne, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 30
Bedford Invitational, 8:30 a.m.

Andover Tournament, TBA.
BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY REGIONAL MEETS
Friday, Oct. 29
Division 1 at Huron Meadows, 4 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 30
Division 1, 4 at Willow Metropark, 10 a.m.
Division 3 at Linden High School, 10:05 a.m.
Division 2 at Lake Erie Metropark, 10:45 a.m.
GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING
Thursday, Oct. 28
Ladywood vs. Cranbrook-Kingswood at Livonia Comm. Rec. Center, 7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 29
KLAAs South Meet at Salem, 6 p.m.
KLAAs Central Meet at Novi, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 30
KLAAs South Meet at Salem, noon.
KLAAs Central Meet at Novi, noon.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL
Friday, Oct. 29
Concordia at Madonna, 7 p.m.

(MCCAA Quarterfinals at K'zoo Valley)
Schoolcraft vs. Muskegon CC, 4 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 30
MCCAA Tournament
at K'zoo Valley, 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER
Saturday, Oct. 30
Madonna vs. Siena Heights at Stevenson H.S., 2:30 p.m.
(Region XII Semifinals at Delta College)
Schoolcraft vs. Ancilla or Owens, 3 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER
Saturday, Oct. 30
Madonna vs. Siena Heights at Stevenson H.S., noon.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Thursday, Oct. 28
Plymouth at Niagara, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 30
Plymouth Whalers vs. Soo Greyhounds at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.
TBA — time to be announced.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Co-ed soccer leagues

YMCA Co-Ed Soccer leagues are forming for children ages 4-10 with sessions to Oct. 30. Fundamentals in a safe and fun environment will be the focus.

Planned are one practice and one game per week on Saturdays. The program cost is \$64 for program members or \$96 for community members.

Fall golf classes

Fall classes at Hickory Creek Golf Course are now accepting students to work with PGA professional Tami Bealert.

Among offerings: New to Golf (6-7 p.m. Tuesdays); Basic Golf Fitness (6-7 p.m.

Wednesdays); Golf Kinematics (7-8:30 p.m. Mondays) and — for kids — "Little Linksters" (ages 5-7) and "Junior Golfers" for ages 8-10.

To register, go to www.TrainwithTami.com or call Bealert at (734) 731-0238.

Hickory Creek is located just west of Canton, off of Ford-Napier roads.

Volleyball on tap

The YMCA Girls Volleyball leagues are forming for girls ages 9-12. The session will run until Oct. 29 and is a great opportunity for girls to learn the fundamental skills of volleyball in a safe and fun environment.

The program cost is \$71 for program members or \$103

for community members. Memberships are \$39 for individuals and \$59 for families.

All participants need a YMCA Youth Sports Reversible Jersey, \$15. Programs are filled on a first come-first serve basis, so hurry in. The registration deadline is September 13. For more information, please contact the YMCA at 734-453-2904 or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

Baseball coach wanted

University of Detroit Jesuit High School needs a varsity baseball coach for the 2011 season.

If interested, fax or e-mail U-D High athletic director at (313) 862-3299; mickey.barratt@uofjhsuit.org.

Madonna whips Siena Heights in three

The 21st-ranked Madonna University women's volleyball team overcame a tough first set to post a 25-22, 25-19, 25-18 win Tuesday at home over Siena Heights University.

The first-place Crusaders improved to 27-7 overall and 12-1 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference (tied with Indiana Tech), while the Saints fall to 7-23 and 2-11.

Junior Megan Fricke led the MU offensive attack with 14 kills, while Liz Dempsey (Livonia Franklin) and Karie Altman added 11 apiece.

Dempsey also led the Crusaders with 12 digs, her

12th double-double of the season, while setter Evia Prieditis handed out 36 assist-to-kills.

Lady Ocelots triumph

Schoolcraft College closed out the regular season Tuesday with a 25-23, 25-19, 25-16 MCCAAs Eastern Conference win over second-place Macomb CC.

The host Ocelots, who finished third, improved to 20-12 overall and 11-3 in the conference, while Macomb falls to 20-15 and 11-3.

Schoolcraft, the third seed in the East, opens MCCAAs Tournament play 4 p.m. Friday

at Kalamazoo Valley CC in a quarterfinal matchup with Muskegon CC (29-6, 11-3), the No. 2 seed out of the West.

MU second in Classic

Livonia Franklin's Liz Dempsey and Livonia Churchill's Anna Gatt earned all-tournament honors Saturday as host Madonna finished runner-up in the BLT Apparel and Sportswear Crusader Classic.

The Crusaders closed out the tourney with wins over Rochester college (25-9, 25-9, 25-16) and Bellevue (21-25, University) (25-17, 25-22, 25-22).

STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, October 28, 2010

hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Brad Kadrich

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8899

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Comment online at hometownlife.com

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Tourism scholarship

Lauren Vala of Plymouth has been awarded the 2010 ASTA Avis Budget Group Scholarship by Tourism Cares, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the travel experience for future generations. Each year, as part of the Tourism Cares Scholarship Program, the prestigious scholarships are presented to deserving travel, tourism and hospitality students from across the United States and Canada.

"Tourism Cares is proud to recognize Lauren by awarding this \$2,000 scholarship for her dedication to her higher education in the travel, tourism and hospitality industry," said Bruce Beckham, Executive Director of Tourism Cares. "Recipients of the scholarship have shown great interest in the industry and we are thrilled to assist them with pursuing their career goals."

Vala, a student at Purdue University, is pursuing an M.S. in Technology, with a concentration in Aerospace. She is expected to graduate in May 2011.

"This scholarship will be very beneficial and is much appreciated. It will allow me to focus on finishing my Master's degree and worry less about how it will be funded," Vala said.

Additional scholarships Vala has received include the Julie Swengel Graduate Scholarship in 2009 and 2010 and the Professional Women Controllers Scholarship in 2010.

Acupuncture arrives

Gerald's Salon in Plymouth is bringing the Mei Zen Acupuncture System to the Detroit area. An alternative to cosmetic surgery, face lifts and Botox treatments, Mei Zen Acupuncture is based on traditional Chinese Medicine and helps smooth deep facial lines, eliminate fine lines, fade age spots, tone facial muscles, improve elasticity and provide a more radiant overall appearance.

The relaxing and pain free Mei Zen procedure consists of 10 treatments that last about



VESSELIN GUEORGUIEV

Supplier achievement

Chrysler LLC recently presented Plymouth-based Freudenberg-NOK Group Partnership with a prestigious Supplier Achievement Award for its outstanding work on a complex water pump gasket solution for its new Pentastar engine. The Pentastar engine powers Chrysler's new 2011 flagship Jeep Grand Cherokee. Chrysler officials noted during an award presentation at the supplier's corporate headquarters in Plymouth that they recognize only a select few companies each year with an achievement award and the Freudenberg-NOK team provided unprecedented program collaboration and technical expertise. Marvin Washington, Chrysler senior purchasing manager-Chassis (from left) presents a Jeep Grand Cherokee Supplier Achievement Award plaque to James Clump, Gaskets account manager in Plymouth and Al Nadeau, Gaskets lead center manager at Freudenberg-NOK's Manchester, N.H., plant. They are displaying the award in front of the all-new 2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee on display at Freudenberg-NOK's recent customer appreciation event.

60 minutes each and are scheduled twice a week for five weeks. Acupuncturist Alan D. Dorfman, a retired physician, will offer the acupuncture services at Gerald's Salon by appointment. He believes this anti aging procedure is an excellent alternative to invasive surgical procedures and offers a safe alternative that also provides healthy side effects.

"Along with the visual changes my clients see after treatment, they are also reporting healthy side effects including, better quality of sleep, improved digestion and an overall sense of well being," Dorfman said. "This procedure can take 5-10 years off your face and is the ideal solution for men and women who want to look and feel younger."

Along with Cosmetic Acupuncture, Dr. Dorfman will also administer acupunc-

ture treatment for pain management, smoking cessation, infertility, weight loss and detoxification rehabilitation by appointment.

Gerald's Salon is located at 41012 Five Mile Road in Plymouth. For more information, call (734) 420-0111 or visit www.geraldssalon.com

Real Estate class

REMERICA HOMETOWN will soon begin presenting a pre-license training class for people who are out of a job or thinking about changing careers.

The Real Estate Professional Education Group, LLC, is located at 41025 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth. Prospective agents can call for a reservation or a private interview.

For more information, e-mail Judy Courtney at judy-courtney@remerica.com or call (734) 216-9559.

CHAMBER CHAT

Benefit concert

Yazaki North America, Inc., of Canton presents a concert to benefit the United Way 6-10 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 28, at the Plymouth Roc Bar, 1020 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

Three bands will be playing. Proceeds from 50/50 drawings and a portion of patrons' food and/or drink bill will go toward United Way of Southeast Michigan.

Health care presentation

The Canton Economic Development Office hosts a Health Care Reform Presentation for local businesses 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, at The Summit on the Park in Canton.

Admission is free. Topics include Health Insurance Reforms and Group Plan changes, Grandfathered Plan Concepts, Employer Obligations, Cafeteria Plan Changes and Long Term Care Insurance.

Auction excitement

It's time to go to the movies this year for the Chamber of Commerce's Annual Meeting, Dinner and Gala Auction, set for 6-11 p.m. Friday, Nov. 5, at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

Walk the red carpet with over 400 attendees and join the chamber for a star-studded night at a Hollywood style party with live and silent auctions and raffles. Tickets are \$75 and include food, drinks, and dancing.

New this year:

- Pay for your tickets prior to Oct. 15 and receive \$10 of free auction raffle tickets.

- Guests can dress in cocktail attire or come as their favorite movie character. There will be a costume contest with an "Oscarete" for the winner.

- New types of sponsorships are available that provide added recognition and include tickets to the event. Platinum table sponsorships are still \$975.

To RSVP or inquire about sponsorship opportunities, contact the Chamber at (734) 453-1540.

Candidate page

In an attempt to help voters and chamber members understand where candidates stand on important issues related to business, the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce has created a page on its website featuring the candidates running for the Michigan House 20th District and Michigan Senate 7th District.

Both of the seats are open contests this year. There are bios on the candidates along with



Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce board member Bill MacDonald won the Brew Your Own Bear at Liberty Brewing Co. in last year's live auction. This year's chamber auction is set for Nov. 5.

their answers to 5 key business questions and short videos they recorded for our YouTube channel. With jobs and the economy being the number one issue in this election, we wanted to provide a quick and succinct format for voters to be able to evaluate the candidate's positions regarding our economic future.

We hope this provides a useful tool and encourages our members to share the link with others. The page can be seen at http://www.plymouthmich.org/chamber/2010-Candidate-Forum_I103.html.

Make a Difference Day

The Plymouth Community United Way is looking for volunteers to help clean yards, flower beds, rake leaves and do fall cleaning for the senior citizens in the Plymouth/Canton Community on Saturday, Nov. 6.

To volunteer, contact Krista Strobel at kstrobel@ameritech.net or call (734) 453-6879, Ext. 6.

Old World Christmas Carols Show

The Plymouth Historical Museum presents an "Old World Christmas Carols Show," performed by Simply Dickens, on Friday, Nov. 12 at 7 p.m. The show highlights the carols that were well known long ago during the Christmas Season, but are rarely heard by modern ears, along with a few of the more familiar tunes. Tickets to the show are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door and can be purchased at the Plymouth Historical Museum or on the Museum's website www.plymouthhistory.org using PayPal. Museum doors will open at 6:00 p.m. and the show starts at 7:00 p.m. Come early to explore the Museum's new special exhibit "Santa Magic."

Co-Op's Project 100 wins CEU's best of show honor

By winning the "Best of Show" award in the 2010 Credit Union Executives Society Golden Mirror Awards, Co-op Services Credit Union has achieved something that has never been accomplished in the Credit Union industry.

Co-op Services popular Project 100 community initiative has taken the top honors in both major credit union industry award competitions. Earlier this year Co-op Services Credit Union also topped CUNA's Diamond Awards competition, winning the coveted "Competition's Best." In total, Project 100 has won 12 industry awards in 2010, making it the most awarded project in the 50 plus years of the credit union's existence.

"In the more than 15 years that these awards have been tracked, there has never been one project or even one credit union that has taken top honors in both competitions," said Greg Wohler, president of edge creative group, the agency that worked with Co-op Services Credit Union on Project 100. "We were so proud of the credit union and what they achieved. This is truly a big honor."

Originally developed in 2009, Project 100 (www.whatisproject100.com) was a community initiative whose primary goal was to encourage giving throughout southeast Michigan. The Project 100 team, made up of credit union employees, randomly distributed \$100 bills to 100 people over 100 days with no strings attached. Recipients could do whatever they liked with the money but were encouraged to think about how they could give in their communities.

Out of more than 1,000 entries in both competitions, Project 100 was selected



Displaying the numerous marketing awards for Co-op Services' Project 100 community initiative are marketing team members (bottom row) Kathy Hurt and Jeremy Cybulski and (top row, from left) Bryan Feldpausch, Marketing Director Lisa Fawcett, CUES President/CEO Fred Johnson, Co-op Services President/CEO Anthony Carnarvon, Beverly Outland and Jay Jackson.



Lisa Fawcett, marketing director of Co-op Services Credit Union, receives the prestigious 'Best of Show' market award from Fred Thompson, president and CEO of the Credit Union Executives Society.

to receive top honors in both. Earlier this year, the Credit Union was honored at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., where they picked up four awards, including the Competition Best, Diamond Award.

Then, several weeks ago, they were surprised by Fred Johnson, president of the Credit Union Executives Society (CUES), who traveled across the country to the credit union's headquarters in Livonia, to personally deliver their five Golden Mirror awards and the "Best of Show" award.

"In the midst of a severe economic environment, we were able to offer assistance through a program that not only received national recognition from our peers but made a real impact in our community," said Lisa Fawcett, marketing director at Co-op Services Credit Union. "It demonstrates that there is tremendous value in giving and encouraging others to do the same."

Co-op Services Credit Union is a full-service, non-profit, financial institution founded in 1954. For more information about Co-op Services, visit the credit union's website at www.cscu.org.

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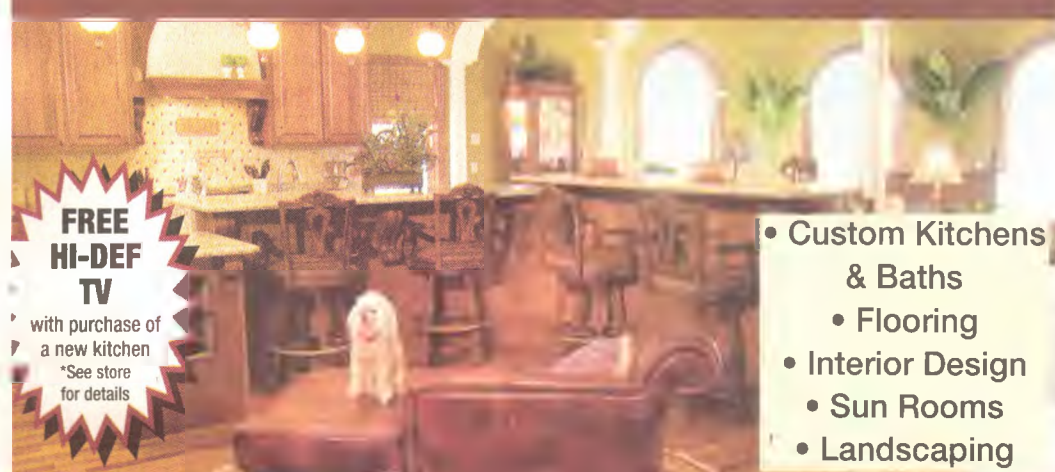
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RELIGION CALENDAR

OCT. 28-NOV. 3

Bazaar
Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 30
Location: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 35300 W. Eight Mile, Farmington
Details: Baked goods, Nisu, white elephant treasures, Christmas items and jewelry. Refreshments will be served by the choir for a fee. There will be a raffle at 1 p.m. Raffle tick-

ets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.
Contact: (248) 478-6520
Book sale
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Oct. 29-30 and 9 a.m.-noon, Sunday, Oct. 31
Location: St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia
Details: Annual used book sale, bake sale and boutique
Contact: Peg Besecker at perkypegb@aol.com or (734) 522-2826

A time to worship: Video, drama enhance informal praise service

BY SHARON DARGAY
 O&E STAFF WRITER

If you're looking for a "come as you are" worship service, you'll find it at 11:30 a.m. Sunday at Garden City Presbyterian Church. The 178-year-old church recently started a contemporary praise service, offering an alternative to its 9:30 traditional worship.

"We are hoping eventually to build attendance and provide a service that is interesting and attractive to people who might find traditional service less interesting or harder to relate to," said the Rev. Herschel Ele, pastor.

He said the praise gathering is similar to the church's more traditional 9:30 a.m. Sunday service, but "packaged a little different."

Ele hopes it will draw younger families and individuals who want a more contemporary service and informal setting.

"It uses a different style of music. It's upbeat, contemporary music. It's a shorter service," Ele said. "We frequently use either short drama or video clips to help explain and illustrate the message of scripture."

The traditional service uses the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, produced in the 1950s. A more contemporary translation is read during the praise service.

"It's more of a paraphrase of the scripture. Some people think it makes the language a lot cleaner."

He said the church hasn't offered it long enough to draw any conclusions about attendance at the service, although several "regular" church-goers have tried it out.



David Radcliffe, (left) Gail Smalley, Kimi Wilson, Carol Morgan, Michele Reska, and Debby Pothoff sing during a praise service at Garden City Presbyterian Church.

"If you just have one service you're basically saying to people, take it or leave it," he said. "This gives people two different worship options as far as time goes."

POPULAR CONCERTS

The church tried offering a Sunday evening service a few years ago. It didn't fly, although a Saturday evening concert series, "Saturday Night Light," did.

Although not a worship service, the concert offers a mix of Christian and secular performers, and has included Thornetta Davis, Men of Grace, Chuck Tocco, William Reynolds and the Tracy Kash Thomas

Quartet. The next performance, at 7 p.m. Nov. 13, will feature Sound of Reign, a trio with Detroit roots. Admission is free.

Ele said the church was renovated a few years ago and acquired a new sound system, digital keyboard and addition of multi-media screens.

"Now we're exploring what can be done with those things, both in the entertainment setting — which is what Saturday Night Light is — and in the non-traditional service. The two aren't really related to each other, although they are examples of the types of things the congregation

is open to experimenting with," Ele said, adding that participants can "come as you are" to the new praise service.

"Everyone is welcome. Enjoy the music. There's no pressure. Enjoy the sense of fellowship and leave encouraged by the message of hope and good news."

Garden City Presbyterian Church has approximately 150 members. For more information about the church, call (734) 421-7620 or visit www.gardencitypresbyterian.org.

The church is located at 1841 Middlebelt, a block south of Ford Road, in Garden City.

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BETTY L. HILZINGER

Greenville, Age 87, formerly of Berkeley and Holly, passed away late Friday evening, October 8, 2010 at Crystal Springs Peace Harbor in Grand Rapids. The daughter of Frank W. & Elsie M. (Hansen) Irons, she was born on Feb. 12, 1923 in Detroit and grew up in Berkeley, where her father was chief of police and later Oakland County sheriff. Following her graduation from Berkley High School, Betty completed her nurses training at Mt. Carmel and worked as a registered nurse. On April 21, 1945 she married Phillip G. Hilzinger and together they enjoyed 63 years of marriage. A devoted wife, mother, and grandmother, she had been a member of the Berkley Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. In retirement, she and Phillip made their home in Holly. She was preceded in death by her husband, Phillip G. Hilzinger; a son, Phillip G. Hilzinger, Jr.; a son-in-law, Jim Ford; a grandson, Joshua Hilzinger; and a brother, Jim Irons. Surviving are a daughter, Gail A. Ford of Greenville; a son, Robert F. & Kathy Hilzinger of Knoxville, Tennessee; five grandchildren, Jack Ford of Greenville, Erin & Sam Baldwin, Kami Ford, all of Grand Rapids, Nathanael Hilzinger, and Krista Hilzinger, both of Knoxville, Tennessee; and three great grandchildren, Jordan, Jenna, and Jake. Honoring her wishes, private family services will be held at Oakview Cemetery & Mausoleum in Royal Oak. Contributions in Betty's memory may be directed to the Michigan Special Olympics (www.somi.org) or to the charity of ones' choice. To send a message of sympathy to the family, please visit www.ChristiansenCares.com. Arrangements were entrusted to the Christiansen Funeral Home & Cremation Center, Greenville.

DOROTHY ANN DeLAURO

Oct. 23, 2010, age 87, of Novi and long time resident of Plymouth and Canton. Beloved wife of the late Joseph. Loving mother of Robert (Diane), Greg (Cheryl) and Kathleen (Jay) Kargula. Proud grandma of Lydia, Ashley, Joe and Kevin. Also survived by several nieces and nephews. Funeral Mass Wed. 10:30 AM at Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 N. Territorial Rd., Plymouth (at Beck). In state at church Wed. 10 AM. Visitation Tues. 1-4 PM and 6-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth (Btwn. Sheldon & Beck). Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Memorials may be made to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Vascular Research. To share a memory with the family, please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One

Parish invites veterans, military to Mass

St. Michael the Archangel Parish will present its annual Veteran's Day Mass Sunday, Nov. 7, at the church, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia. The church holds the special Mass

annually to thank veterans, reservists, and active military and their families for their service to the country.

A color guard and flag-raising ceremony at the flag pole in front of the church will be held at 11:45 a.m., fol-

lowed by the Mass at noon. An informal reception will follow. The service is open to the public. For more information, call the parish office at (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200, or see the parish Web site at www.livoniastmichael.org.

Your Invitation to Worship

<p>CATHOLIC</p> <p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tridentine Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200 Mass Schedule: Fri. 7:00 p.m. Sat. 11:00 a.m. Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. <small>OE08712203</small></p> <p>St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church St. Genevieve School - PreK-8 29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220 (East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries) MASS: Tues. 7 p, Wed., Thurs. 9 a. Sat. 4 p, Sun 11a</p> <p>St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church 32785 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 (between Merriman & Farmington Roads) MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a. Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a <small>OE08712204</small></p>	<p>UNITED METHODIST</p> <p>ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills www.orchardumc.org 248-626-3620</p> <p>Worship: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter <small>OE08712257</small></p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</p> <p>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs <small>OE08712298</small></p> <p>GREEK ORTHODOX</p> <p>NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI Sunday Services Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Rev. Fr. Demetrios Sean Govostes. Parish Office 734-420-0131 Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm www.nativitygochurch.org <small>OE08712299</small></p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</p> <p>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 www.christoursavior.org</p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional</p> <p>Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413</p> <p>Staffed Nursery Available</p> <p>Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeden 734-522-6830 <small>OE08712294</small></p> <p>Risen Christ Lutheran David W. Martin, Pastor 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1/2 mile N of Sheldon) (734) 453-5252 Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30 Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are. www.risenchrist.info <small>OE08712272</small></p>
<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196 <small>OE08712286</small></p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org <small>OE08712256</small></p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>WARD CHURCH 40000 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48168 248.374.7400 www.wardchurch.org</p> <p>Traditional Worship 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship 9:30 & 11 a.m.</p> <p>Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.</p> <p>The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM</p> <p>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</p> <p>ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360 WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org <small>OE08712291</small></p> <p>CONGREGATIONAL</p> <p>North Congregational Church 36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School Faith - Freedom-Fellowship Ministers Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron <small>OE08712402</small></p>	

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, October 28, 2010

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Saturday series brings family fun to the Penn

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Deb Madonna loves nothing better than to watch kids dance up a storm whether it's outdoors in Plymouth's Kellogg Park or inside at the Penn Theater.

"The second those performers start to tune up, those kids are up rocking and rolling. In school they have to sit still. But we want kids to remember going to the Penn. It's an experience of growing up in Plymouth," said Madonna, president of the Plymouth Community Arts Council (PCAC).

Youngsters will get a chance to show their dance moves in a series of four concerts co-sponsored by PCAC and the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society. Saturdays @ the Penn kicks off its third season at 11:30 a.m. Nov. 6 with performances by Harpbeat and the series emcee, Guy Louis.

On Dec. 4, Mr. Seley and the Troublemakers, will invite the audience to sing along to such songs as *Cupcakeasaurus* and *Eat your Books (Read your Vegetables)*.

Juggler Joel Tacey, members of the Celebration Youth Orchestra, directed by Nan Washburn, and members of the Plymouth Uptown Players will take to the stage on Feb. 5, 2011.

Cats and the Fiddler perform at the final show of the series on March 5, 2011.

The doors open at 11:05 a.m. and all performances start at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$5 per person. Tickets are available at the door or in advance by calling the PCAC at (734) 416-4278. The Wilcox Foundation, Signature Audio and Steve and Renee Alexandrowski help fund the series, enabling PCAC to keep ticket costs down.

The PCAC also presents family-friendly entertainment on Wednesdays during the summer in



Donna Novak of Harpbeat sings during a concert at Kellogg Park. She'll kick off the third season of Saturdays @ the Penn next month.



Saturdays @ the Penn kicks off its third season at 11:30 a.m. Nov. 6 with performances by Harpbeat (above) and the series emcee, Guy Louis (below).



really for the entire family, including grandparents, toddlers and everyone in between. Each show highlights really fine talent. In the past they've had everything from symphony musicians to dance teams to first-rate entertaining series."

Madonna said Louis is engaging, known for his ability to get his young audience up on their feet and moving to the music. She said all of the musicians booked to play the series deliver a quality family show.

"We've had a great reception. A lot of kids with special needs come in. My wish is to have more than 300 people there. It's a place families can go to have a good time."

Kellogg park. Madonna said the outdoor shows are aimed at youngsters age 7 and under. Saturdays @ the Penn also draws preteens. She estimated the summer concert crowd at about 1,500-2,500 per week. The Penn holds 400 individuals.

"It's a lot like Music in the Park, the kids get up there and have a good time," Madonna said, describing the scene at the Penn. "The performers bring the kids in. The park program is so big that you don't always get that

close to the performer. "It's a different dynamic at the Penn. The Penn is nice because you're indoors. Every performer I've talked to loves coming to Plymouth."

KUDOS TO THE COUNCIL

Two performers will play 45-minute sets each at the Saturday series.

Louis said he is delighted to emcee all of the performances this year.

"There are a couple of things that set the Penn Theatre series apart

from other children's shows. First off is that the folks at the Plymouth Arts Council are easily one of the best arts councils in the state, and work seemingly tirelessly to provide great programming for the families in Plymouth," Louis said. "Having been performing in Michigan for 25 years now, I say this from experience. Plymouth is fortunate to have this dedicated team."

"Another thing is that the programming is not only for children, its

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Four bands perform at debut of music video

BY SHARON DARGAY
OSE STAFF WRITER

Local rock band, Fifth Way will debut its first music video Friday, Nov. 5 at the Magic Bag Theater in Ferndale.

Produced by director, Sean Babas, the video features the band performing its song, *Stomping Ground*, along with an intricate story line.

"*Stomping Ground* is based around the idea of don't let anybody else hold you down. It's that type of theme," said guitarist Zak Stelmaszek of Canton. "Make life what you want it to be. Take the world as your stomping ground."

Doors open at 8 p.m. at the Magic Bag, located on Woodward, just north of Nine Mile in Ferndale. Tickets are \$8 and the show is aimed at ages 18 and over.

Frequency 54, Ghosts of August and Panic Trigger will open the show. Fifth Way will take the stage around midnight, opening with the new music video, followed by a 90-minute set of new music.

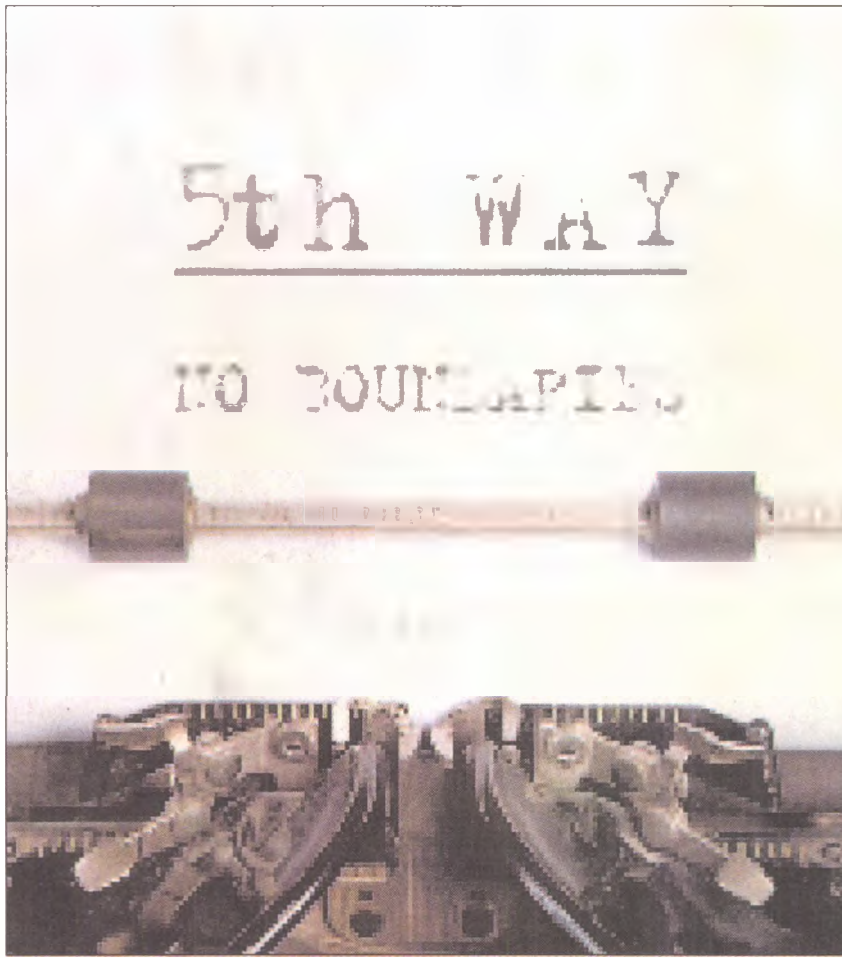
Stelmaszek said the live performance portions of the new video were shot at a studio in Farmington Hills.

"It has a circular eggshell background. We set up our equipment in there. The rest of it was done in Chicago, with the story line taking place. That's where the director lives."

He said the group isn't sure what story line runs through the video and that the director has to shoot one more scene before the piece is ready for viewing.

Fifth Way had some on-camera experience under its belt before it started shooting the music video. The band appeared in a video for Chevrolet's "Department 180" advertising campaign that was released last month on Chevrolet's YouTube channel. In the video, the band performs *I'm Rock & Roll* alongside the new Chevrolet Cruze.

"They wanted a loud rockin' band to show the quietness of the



Fifth Way's recent CD

interior of the car."

The video producer contacted the band after he received a recommendation from WDET's Ann Delisi. Fifth Way had performed an acoustic set on Delisi's Essential Music program.

"It was a very interesting experience, we set up the complete band in the middle of a test track and played our song while a vehicle fitted with several cameras drove circles around us," Stelmaszek said. "The point of the episode is to show how quiet the car is inside so we jammed while the engineers made the point from inside the car."

Other band members are Tim Gossman of Waterford, Adam

Trahan of Rochester Hills, Dave Reingardt of Fenton and Nicholas Cole-Klaes of Garden City.

The band's debut CD *No Boundaries* is available locally at Dearborn Music, Rock of Ages, Blues Airmen Guitar, Grooves Music and Brandon's School of Rock. The album can also be ordered directly from the Fifth Way Web site www.fifth-way.com or downloaded at www.itunes.com.

Advance tickets for the show are available now at the Magic Bag box office or online at Ticketmaster.com.

For more information about the show call (248) 544-3030 or visit www.themagicbag.com.

Get spooky with costume contest, cemetery walk

If you're looking for ways to celebrate Halloween, check out these events:

Successfully Single presents "A Spook-tacular Halloween Bash" 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Oct. 30, at the Radisson Hotel, 17123 North Laurel Park Drive, just east of I-275 and north of Six Mile, Livonia. Participants will dance to the *Monster Mash* and Top 40 Hits by DJ Pam Hornbeck. There will be lots of devilish tricks, delightful treats, fiendish finger foods, door prizes, raffle and more. Prizes will be given for best costumes.

Admission at the door is \$12 for members, \$15 for nonmembers. Cash bar. All ages and couples, as well as singles, are welcome. For more information, visit www.successfullysingle.org.

Put Fido in costume for The Howl-ween Pet Costume contest, 5-6 p.m., today, Thursday, Oct. 28, in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth. Contest entry is free. Registration is from 5-5:20 p.m.,

Meet and greet some of the characters from Plymouth's past at Riverside

Cemetery during the Plymouth Historical Museum's "Plymouth Characters" Cemetery Walk on Friday, Oct. 29. Hear the tales of Plymouth's ghosts, such as the spurned wife of Phil Markham, inventor of the Markham Air Rifle, E. J. Penniman, a banker and one of those present at the founding of the Republican Party in Jackson, and Civil War soldiers Willard Roe and Aiken Holloway. Walks begin at 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. near the cemetery's mausoleum. Refreshments will be available at the cemetery after the walk. Tickets are \$10 per person in advance or \$15 a the cemetery. They're available at www.plymouthhistory.org. Riverside Cemetery is on Plymouth Road between the Courthouse Grille and the 35th District Court Building.

Youngsters can show off their costumes as they follow a path 4-7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 29, through the Summit on the Park, 1150 Canton Center Road, in Canton. The suggested donation per resident family is \$5. For nonresidents it's \$10.

Shot for handmade gifts at annual art market

Northville Art House kicks off its 6th Annual Northville Holiday Art market with a reception 6-9 p.m., Friday, Nov. 5 at 215 W. Cady in downtown Northville.

Hand-crafted work in pottery, fiber, jewelry and painting will be for sale by local artists, including Dave Albrecht, Kim Beardon, George Bochnig, Phil and Mary Borkowski, Steve Fadie, Thomas Frank, Marilyn Grinnell, Mary Kernahan, Peggy Kerwan, Mary Keys, Deb Kolar, Galina Koriduzki, Lisa Kull, Christine Lagness, Liz Messer, Carla Morabito, Kathy Renberg, Jan Sadowski, Kathy Sandberg, Rene Schmitt, Kayann Schuck, Donna Weber, Katherine Wickersham, Julie Woodward, Shadia Zayed, Marga Zieger, and Lisa Zubal-Leggett.

The artists have been asked to supply unique items especially priced for holiday gift giving. Shoppers can browse the art and enjoy refreshments during the reception, which coincides with Northville's traditional First Friday art walk, and get an early start on holiday shopping.

The Holiday Art Market will continue through Dec. 11 with additional special activities held 6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3 during Northville's Candlelight Walk. Northville Art House will hold a raffle for several baskets of merchandise and coupons from local businesses currently on display.

Regular Art House hours for the Holiday Art Market are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. On First Fridays only in November and December hours are 1-9 p.m. For more information, call (248) 344-0497.

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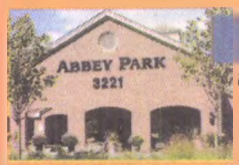
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festive, flavorful Figs

Tis the season for holiday parties — and that means serving something special to your guests. These festive recipes make the most of golden, slightly nutty-flavored Calimyrna figs and dark, sweet-tasting Mission figs. These appetizers are the perfect blend of sweet and savory that will give your guests something to celebrate. For more festive recipes, visit www.valleyfig.com.



Fudgy Fig No-Bake Brownie Bites



Figs and Bacon Cheddar Bites

Did You Know?

Whether you savor flavorful dried California figs as a snack or in your favorite recipes, figs are always rich in complex carbohydrates, a great source of dietary fiber and a wealth of essential minerals such as potassium, iron and calcium.



Fig Lollipops



CHILI-SPICED CEREAL & FIG SNACK MIX

Makes about 7 cups

1½ cups stemmed, chopped (¼ inch) Blue Ribbon Orchard Choice or Sun-Maid Dried California Figs

3 cups crisp cereal squares (mix equal amounts of rice, wheat and corn varieties)

1 cup small square cheese-flavored crackers

1 cup bite-size pretzels

1 cup Spanish red-skinned peanuts or other roasted nuts

Seasoning:

3 tablespoons vegetable oil

2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce

1 teaspoon chili powder

½ teaspoon seasoned salt

½ teaspoon ground cumin

½ teaspoon garlic or onion salt

½ teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional)

Preheat oven to 250°F.

Place figs in small bowl. In separate small bowl, stir together oil and remaining seasoning ingredients. Drizzle 2 teaspoons seasoning mixture over figs and toss to blend; set aside.

In large bowl, combine cereal, crackers, pretzels and nuts. Drizzle with remaining seasoning mixture. Toss to blend.

Spread on large baking sheet. Place in oven and roast for 1 hour, stirring every 20 minutes and adding figs during last 10 minutes. Spread mixture on paper towels to cool. Store in airtight container.

FUDGY FIG NO-BAKE BROWNIE BITES

Makes 24 brownies

1 package (9 ounces) Famous Chocolate Wafers

1 cup stemmed, finely chopped Blue Ribbon Orchard Choice® or Sun-Maid® Dried California Figs

½ cup chopped, toasted pecans or walnuts

3 tablespoons confectioners' (powdered) sugar

½ teaspoon salt

½ cup half and half

1 cup (6 ounces) semisweet or bittersweet chocolate morsels

½ teaspoon vanilla extract

Topping:

½ cup chopped figs or toasted nuts

Line 24 mini muffin pan cups with decorative paper or foil liners (or line an 8-inch square baking pan with foil or plastic wrap, extending up sides); set aside.

Whirl wafers in food processor (or place in sealable plastic bag and crush with rolling pin) to make fine crumbs. Place in large bowl.

Stir in figs, nuts, confectioners' sugar and salt. Pour half and half into microwave-safe bowl and heat on 100% power in microwave oven for 30 seconds or until boiling. (Or bring half and half to a boil in small saucepan over medium-high heat.)

Add chocolate morsels and set aside for 1 minute to soften. Stir until chocolate melts. Stir in vanilla. Pour over fig mixture and stir until blended. While warm, spoon brownie mixture into lined muffin cups or baking pan and press with back of oiled spoon to an even layer. Sprinkle with topping.

Chill 2 hours or until set. If using a square pan, cut into 24 brownies. Store in the refrigerator.

STORING AND USING FIGS

- Use a sharp knife or a pair of kitchen scissors to cut up figs. Run the knife under hot water when it gets sticky.
- Store figs in refrigerator after opening for up to six months.
- Mission and Calimyrna figs can be used interchangeably in most recipes.
- Figs are the perfect complement to all types of cheeses.
- Chop figs and add to cereals and side dishes for a hint of sweetness.

FIG LOLLIPOPS

Makes 12

12 large Blue Ribbon Orchard Choice or Sun-Maid Dried California Figs

¾ cup (about 4 ounces) semisweet chocolate, milk chocolate or white morsels

12 4-inch bamboo skewers

2 oranges or grapefruits

Sea salt, kosher salt, finely chopped toasted nuts and/or colored sugar sprinkles

With scissors or sharp knife, cut off fig stems and discard. Flatten each fig with palm of hand. Place one fig on each skewer to look like a lollipop.

Place oranges in small bowls to hold lollipops while chocolate cools. Microwave morsels in microwave-safe bowl on MEDIUM (50%) power for 1 to 2 minutes, stirring every 30 seconds, until melted and smooth.

Dip skewered figs, partially or completely, into melted chocolate. Sprinkle each with a pinch of salt, finely chopped nuts or sugar sprinkles, as desired. Poke skewers in oranges. Chill until set.

FIG AND BACON CHEDDAR BITES

Makes 20 appetizers

1 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese

2 ounces (¼ cup) cream cheese, softened

½ cup stemmed and chopped (¼-inch) Blue Ribbon Orchard Choice or Sun-Maid Dried California Figs

½ cup thinly sliced green onions

2 tablespoons dry sherry

½ cup cooked, chopped bacon

20 thin slices (cut diagonally) baguette

In small bowl, stir together cheddar and cream cheeses. Stir in figs, green onions and sherry. Can be prepared a day ahead and stored in a covered container in the refrigerator.

To serve, preheat oven to 375°F. Place baguette slices on large baking sheet. Place in oven for 4 to 5 minutes or until lightly toasted. Spread fig mixture on baguette slices. Top with bacon. Return to oven for 4 to 5 minutes or until cheese melts.

Roast, cook, fry apples into tasty side dishes

Apples are one of the most versatile foods, enhancing any meal from pancakes for breakfast and pork chops for dinner.

Michigan Apple Committee (MAC) offers several easy ways to use this delicious, healthy fruit in lunches and dinners for today's on-the-go family:

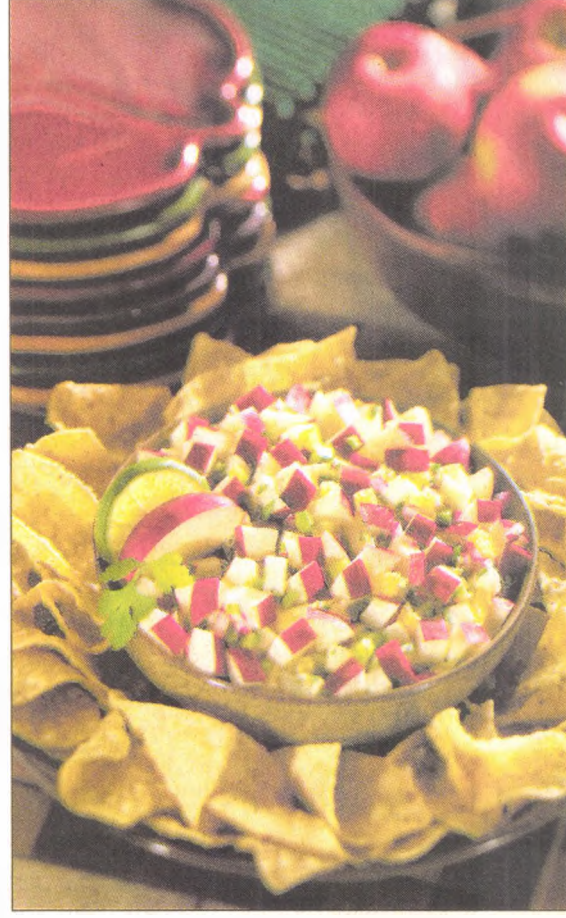
- For a super quick microwave applesauce — core and chop six Michigan apples into 1/2-inch chunks. Place apples in a microwavable bowl with 1/4 cup water. Cover and cook on high for 15 minutes. Stir and cook uncovered for approximately five more minutes. Mash apples and stir in 1-2 tablespoons sugar and a 1/2 teaspoon of cinnamon.

- Mix 1 16-ounce bag of prepared coleslaw mix with 1 large Michigan apple, cored and finely diced; 1/4 teaspoon of celery seed and 1/2 cup bottled low-fat coleslaw dressing.

- Toss Michigan apple slices into a crunchy salad of mixed greens. Top with low-fat balsamic vinaigrette dressing.

- For a quick ginger-apple sauce for pork or chicken, combine 1 cup apple cider with 1/2 cup reduced-sodium chicken broth in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil and simmer uncovered for approximately 15-20 minutes. Combine 4 tablespoons of cold water with 1 tablespoon of cornstarch. Slowly add mixture into broth using a whisk. Cook for two more minutes. Remove from heat and stir in 1 tablespoon of apple cider vinegar, 1 teaspoon of butter and 1/4 teaspoon of ground ginger.

Got more time to spend on food preparation? Try these side dish recipes from the Michigan Apple Committee:



Apple salsa

BLACK BEAN CAKES WITH APPLE SALSA

4 servings

Ingredients:
 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, drained
 1/2 cup dry bread crumbs
 2 eggs
 1/4 cup chopped onion
 1 garlic clove, minced
 2 tablespoons packaged taco seasoning
 1/2 cups peeled, shredded Michigan apples
 2 tablespoons chopped cilantro
 Vegetable cooking spray
Applesauce Salsa:
 1/2 cup Michigan applesauce
 1/4 cup salsa
 1/4 cup low-fat sour cream
 2 teaspoons chopped cilantro

Combine Applesauce Salsa ingredients and refrigerate.
 Using 1/2 cup measure, portion bean mixture into hot nonstick fry pan coated with cooking spray. Shape into patties. Cook over medium heat about 5 minutes per side or until golden brown and set. Repeat spraying pan, if necessary.
Variations: Substitute 1 cup finely chopped, drained, canned Michigan apple slices for fresh apples. Continue with above method.
Nutrition facts per serving of 2 Cakes and 1/2 cup Applesauce Salsa: 290 calories, 6 g fat, 112 mg cholesterol, 14 g protein, 48 g carbohydrates, 887 mg sodium, 7 g dietary fiber.
Suggested apple varieties: Empire, Gala, Golden Delicious, Ida Red, Jonagold, Jonathan Macintosh or Rome.

APPLES WITH ROASTED ROOT VEGETABLES

6-8 servings

Ingredients:
 3 cups peeled tart Michigan apples
 2 cups carrots, peeled, cut into 3/4 inch thick rounds
 1 medium onion, cut into wedges
 1 pound small redskin potatoes cut into quarters
 2 large yams, peeled and cut into 3/4 inch cubes
 2 cups parsnips, peeled and cut into 3/4 inch chunks
 2 teaspoons extra virgin olive oil
 Balsamic Thyme Vinaigrette:
 3 tablespoons white Balsamic vinegar
 1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme
 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
 3/4 teaspoon chopped fresh parsley
 Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Combine apples, carrots, onion, redskin potatoes, yams and parsnips in large bowl. Drizzle with

olive oil; season with salt and pepper and toss thoroughly to coat. Spread vegetables evenly on large baking sheet. Bake 20-25 minutes until vegetables are tender and beginning to caramelize. Remove from oven.
 While vegetables are roasting, whisk together vinaigrette ingredients. Set aside.
 To serve, transfer vegetables to serving platter and drizzle with Balsamic Thyme Vinaigrette. Season with salt and freshly ground pepper. Serve immediately.
Suggested apple varieties: Jonathan, Empire, Braeburn, McIntosh
Nutrition facts per serving: 375 calories, 5 g protein, 8 g fat, 1.1 g saturated fat, 77.16 g carbohydrate, 14 g fiber, and 253 mg sodium.

SWEET POLENTA WITH APPLES AND FRUIT

8 servings

5 cups Michigan apple cider or Michigan apple juice, divided
 1/2 cup granulated sugar
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 1 teaspoon apple pie spice
 1 cup polenta or yellow cornmeal
 1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar
 2 tablespoons cornstarch
 1/4 teaspoon ginger
 3 cup cubed, red Michigan apples
 1 cup cubed mango
 1/2 cup blueberries
 Vegetable cooking spray
 In 2-quart saucepan, combine 3 cups Michigan apple cider, granulated sugar, salt and apple pie spice. Stir in polenta. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture starts to boil. Reduce heat and continue simmering and stirring frequently for about 5 minutes or until very thick. Spread evenly in 13-inch by 9-inch by 2-inch pan coated

with cooking spray. Cool 30 minutes. Cover pan with plastic wrap and refrigerate about 2 hours or until thoroughly chilled and firm.
 Combine brown sugar, cornstarch and ginger in 2-quart saucepan. Gradually stir in the remaining 2 cups Michigan apple cider. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture boils. Continue cooking and stirring 2 minutes longer. Remove from heat. Cool slightly. Stir in Michigan apples, mango and blueberries.
 Cut polenta into 8 pieces. Cut each piece diagonally. In large nonstick fry pan, coated with cooking spray, cook polenta over medium heat, about 4 minutes each side or until golden brown. Serve hot polenta with warm apple mixture. Garnish with mint, if desired.
Nutrition facts per serving of 2 triangles of Polenta, 1/2 cup apple mixture: 290 calories, 1 g fat, 0 mg cholesterol, 2 g protein, 72 g carbohydrate, 85 mg sodium, 3 g dietary fiber.
Suggested Michigan Apple varieties to use: Empire, Gala, Ida Red, Jonagold, Jonathan, McIntosh, Red Delicious or Rome.

Shop to live choir music at Hiller's Markets

Local church, synagogue and school choirs will get a chance to perform holiday favorites and raise money Dec. 4 at Hiller's Markets.

Choirs will reserve a 30-minute time slot from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. to perform at a Hiller's store in Plymouth, Northville, Ann Arbor, Commerce Township or Union Lake. Shoppers will be able to make donations to the participating choirs at Hiller's registers. Hiller's Markets has pledged to match the donations during the "Sing for Your Supper" fund-raiser.

"There have been massive budget cuts to music programs in schools. This is a way we can help, and at the same time entertain customers as they shop," stated Justin Hiller, vice president of Hiller's Markets. "Hiller's mission is to strengthen our community and supporting music education is a vital part of that."

Choirs can sign up for Sing for your Supper, by e-mailing CKC Public Relations at info@ckcpublirelations.com with the choir's name, the name of the person submitting the information and contact information. All time slot reservations are taken on a first come, first served basis.

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