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2 a.m. Sunday, Mar. 13th forward **Daylight Saving Time**

Don't forget to turn your c ock ahead one hour at 2 a.m. on Sunday Mar. 13th

(or before you go to bed on Saturday, Mar. 12th.)

PIPELINE **Question of the week**

Now that the city of Plymouth has opted out of the Plymouth Community Fire Department, what should Plymouth Township officials do about fire services?

E-mail your opinions to bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Hip-hop fundraiser

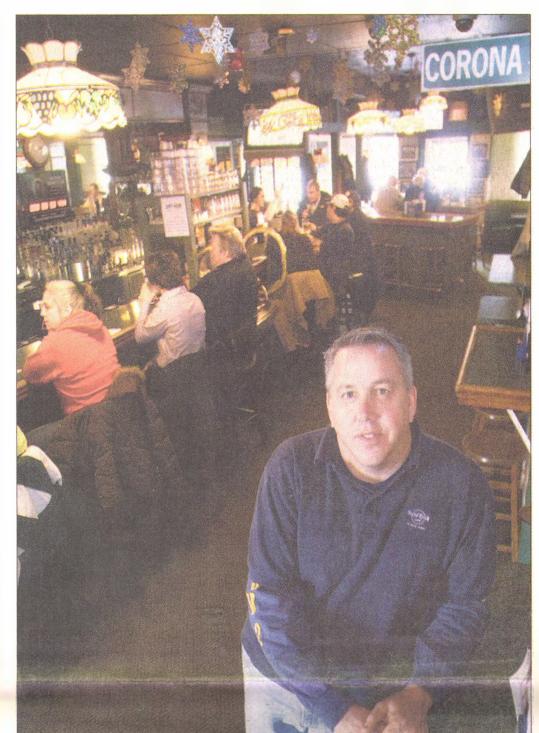
Metro Dance Co. is hosting a hip-hop benefit "Dance From the Heart" to raise funds for The Miracle League of Plymouth. The event is open for anyone ages 8 to adult, regardless of experience, and will be held 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 19, at Metro Dance Co. in Plymouth.

Registration for the event is under way. Hip-hop classes are \$15 per student with 100 percent of the proceeds donated to The Miracle League of Plymouth. Anyone interested in the event can contact Metro Dance Co. at (734) 207-8970 or by e-mail at info@ MetroDanceCompany.com.

"We wanted to hold this fundraiser because it directly benefits some very special children in our community," Metro Dance director Kristie Wyler said. "Our goal is to raise as much money as possible to help these children and their families enjoy good times together."

On board

Ptymouth resident Angela Cusmano is one of five new members added recently to the



Plants' investments in township indicate things are looking up

BY MATT JACHMAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Two Plymouth Township toolmaking companies are investing nearly \$5 million in new equipment, a move company representatives said Tuesday bodes well for manufacturing, particularly in the automotive industry.

DADCO Inc. and Moeller Manufacturing Inc., both located on Plymouth Oaks Boulevard, were awarded 12-year tax abatements Tuesday on machinery and other equipment currently being installed at their plants. DADCO is planning more than \$2.9 million in purchases, while Moeller is planning to spend more than \$1.9 million.

Both of the tax breaks, called industrial facilities exemption certificates, were approved Tuesday with unanimous votes by the township Board of Trustees.

ABATEMENT COSTS

Treasurer Ron Edwards said the abatements cut in half the personal property tax rate on the new investments, and when combined with another, smaller break awarded to a printing franchiser, will cost the township about \$30,000 over their lifespan.

"Starting last fall, things have gotten a little better," Mary Pew, the controller at DADCO, told the board. "We're very optimistic about the future.'

"We're growing nicely. The prospects look good," said Joe Baker, the chief financial officer at Moeller.

Moeller employs about 130 people and is planning to hire 10 more within two years, according to its application for the tax break. Baker said the company had to lay off employees during the recession, but has hired them all back.

DADCO employs about 100 people, and is planning to hire three more within two years, its application said. Its business picks up when automakers are "gearing up for new models and

Please see INVESTMENTS, A4

advisory board for The Salvation Army of Metro Detroit.

Cusmano was added along with retired radio legend Dick Purtan, Janet Hasson, Jack Aronson



Pettit. Cusmano is a partner and chief operating officer of Dahring Zewe and

Associates. Her investment expertise focuses on retirement planning for corporations and individuals. She and husband Dan live in Plymouth.

In 2009. The Salvation Army of Metro Detroit was involved in providing 3,181,865 million meals and 724,134 nights of shelter for the homeless. The Plymouth Salvation Army Corps serves Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Belleville.

Volunteer rakers

The Plymouth Community United Way is seeking volunteers for the spring "Rake-N-Go" event scheduled April 30.

Volunteers are invited to help clean yards and provide light labor for senior citizens in Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton.

The day of the event, volunteers will meet at The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps at 9451 S. Main Street at 8 a.m. to check in. The PCUW will supply a continental breakfast and yard waste bags, but volunteers are asked to bring rakes, garden tools, hedge trimmers and gloves.

To help out the day of the event, respond by April 16 to Krista at kstrobel@ameritech. net or call (734) 453-6879, Ext .6.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

John Doyle is a partner in Doyle's Tayern with sister Peggy and brother Brian.

Out of the rat race

Neighborhood tavern owner finds life after corporate

BY MATT JACHMAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The path to Doyle's Tavern runs through Florida, Hawaii, California and Michigan. John Doyle, a partner

in the eponymous bar and restaurant on Fralick near downtown Plymouth, was in restaurant management for other people for years, establishing eateries in several states for the Ritz-Carlton hotel chain, the Morton's of Chicago steakhouse folks and independent restaurateurs.

His home base with Ritz-Carlton was Naples, Fla., but Doyle's favorite corporate gig was in Hawaii, where he started a Ritz-Carlton restaurant and spent a full year running it. He also opened a restaurant at the former Ritz-Carlton in Dearborn in the late 1980s.

"I've been in food and beverages pretty much my whole life," said Doyle, who graduated from Central Michigan University with a degree in hospitality management.

Now, with his sister, Peggy, and their brother, Brian, as chef, Doyle runs Doyle's Tavern, which is marking its ninth anniversary - just in time for St. Patrick's Day,



The Penn Grill is one of many establishments where patrons will be able to celebrate St. Patrick's Day next week.

WEARIN' THE GREEN

Here are some other places in Plymouth and Plymouth Township one might visit on St. Patrick's Day:

- Sean O'Callaghan's, 821 Penniman. (734) 459-6666.
- · Liberty Street Brewing Co., 149 W. Liberty. (734) 207-9600.
- Box Bar, 777 W. Ann Arbor Trail. (734) 459-7390.
- Plymouth Pub, 1507 Ann Arbor Road West. (734) 453-5340.
- Bennigan's, 40441 Ann Arbor Road East. (734) 459-8907.
- Penn Bar & Grill, 820 Penniman. (734) 453-3570.
- Bode's Corned Beef House, 280 N. Main. (734) 453-1883

which is Thursday, March 17.

'GREAT LOCATION'

When they opened in 2002, the Doyles intended their place, formerly called the Side Street Pub, to be an old-school neighborhood bar,

Please see TAVERN, A3



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Board to meet on transition process

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Nearly six months after voting not to renew the contract of Supt. Dr. Craig Fiegel, the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education will meet to start the process to find his replacement.

Board members will meet with consultants from the Michigan Association of School Boards after their Tuesday, March 22, meeting to start fleshing out ideas of what their "ideal" candidate will look like, school board President John Jackson said. The regular meeting starts at 6 p.m.; the workshop will follow.

Fiegel's original three-year



expires June 30. The board voted on a controversial 4-3 ballot in September not to renew Fiegel's deal.

In November, members voted - on the same 4-3 ballot - to strip Fiegel of most of his duties and install Deputy Supt. Ken Jacobs as the district's chief operating officer.

But, to date, the board had done nothing to start the process of finding Fiegel's replacement. After being

Please see TRANSITION, A4

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

Call for artists

NZ

(P)

The Plymouth Community Arts Council announces its second annual open art exhibition, Pure Art of Michigan, to be held in April. Artists are invited to submit work that highlights the unique beauty of our state.

Works will be accepted in all media except sculpture. There will be a \$10 fee for up to two entries of reasonable size. Paintings must be framed and ready for hanging and clearly identified and priced on the back. Final selections will be made by the exhibition committee.

The drop off day for exhibit consideration is Monday, March 28, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pure Art of Michigan runs from April 1-30.

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is located at 774 N. Sheldon Rd. in Plymouth. For further information, contact Nancy Pilon at (734) 455-4681, (nanpilon@yahoo.com) or Tamara Trudelle at the PCAC at (734) 416-4278, tamara@plymoutharts.com.

Jazz @ the Elks

On Tuesday, March 22, Jazz @ The Elks presents the John Trudell Jazz Quartet with John on Trumpet and Flugelhorn, Ray Tini on Bass, Bill Cairo on Drums, and Chuck Shermatero on Keyboard.

The event takes place at the Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, just west of Haggerty in Plymouth. The concerts are from 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. and there is limited seating so come early for a good seat for a \$5 donation with complimentary hors d'oeuvres.

For more information, go to www.PlymouthElks1780.com or call (734) 453-1780.

Hip-hop fundraiser

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Registration for the event is underway. Hip hop classes are \$15 per student with 100 percent of the proceeds donated to The Miracle League of Plymouth. Anyone interested in the event can contact Metro Dance Company at (734) 207-8970 or by e-mail at info@MetroDanceCompany. com.

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AROUND PLYMOUTH

fundraiser because it directly benefits some very special children in our community," said Metro Dance director Kristie Wyler. "Our goal is to raise as much money as possible to help these children and their families enjoy good times together."

Appraisal clinic

The Plymouth Historical Museum hosts an antique appraisal clinic with Ernie DuMouchelle of **DuMouchelle Art Galleries** in Detroit on Wednesday, March 30, from noon to 6 p.m. Items to be appraised include antique furniture, art, and small objects. No jewelry please. Appraisals are by appointment only and time slots are filling up quickly. Oral evaluations will be provided for \$10 per item; written evaluations will be provided for \$15 per item.

Call for an appointment, (734) 455-8940. The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main St., just north of downtown Plymouth.

Sagear scholarship

The Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. is striving to recognize a Plymouth-Canton School district high school senior who has overcome adversity with its annual Sandra Sagear Rotary Scholarship.

Club officials are looking for students who have displayed courage, perseverance, spirit, and creativity in succeeding in achieving an education, despite a physical, mental or emotional barrier. They have also shown an appreciation of others and a commitment to their community. The recipient of this award will receive a scholarship.

The award is named after Sandra Sagear, a 1969 graduate of the original Plymouth High School who imagined and believed she could succeed as she lived everyday with Polio. To download an application, go to: http:// www.storytellerdesign.com/ Portals/4/2011Application-ScholarRotary.pdf



Barefoot Productions hosts auditions for 'Lips Together, Teeth Apart!' 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday.

Barefoot hosts auditions for next play

Barefoot Productions announces auditions for its production of the off-Broadway, award-winning hit, "Lips Together, Teeth Apart!" by Terrence McNally.

Auditions take place 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at Barefoot Productions Theatre, 240 N. Main in Plymouth (the old Walker-Buzenberg furniture store).

Barefoot officials are looking for two men and two men aged from their 30s to 50s. Actors should bring a resume and headshot, if available, as well as any schedule conflicts. Actors will do cold readings from the script. The play, to be directed by Barefoot founder Craig Hane, is about a gay community in Fire Island which provides an unlikely setting for two straight couples. Sally, married to Sam, a New Jersey contractor, has inherited the house from her brother, who died of AIDS.

Sam's hyperkinetic sister, Chloe, and her smug, aristocratic husband, John, have arrived for the Fourth of July weekend. Amidst the seemingly mundane activities, it becomes apparent that the two men despise each other because John has had an affair with Sally; Sally is panicked and melancholy because she is pregnant and fears miscarriage; and Chloe seems determined to drive them all mad with her incessant babble.

Through monologues unheard by others, the characters reveal a desperate sense of individual isolation. Hane called the play "a blend of searing drama and poignant comedy."

Barefoot Productions also seeks technical and front-ofhouse crew for this production.

For more information about these opportunities or about its audition process, contact Hane at (734) 582-9688 or visit www.justgobarefoot.com.

Band looking for new members

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band is looking for new members to join their ranks of marchers, color guard and percussionists for the

upcoming 2011 season. Throughout the 2011 season, the high school students will perform and compete in front of thousands of people and finish on the streets of New York City marching in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. The PCMB will be the first band from Michigan to participate in this historic and holiday tradition in the last 40-50 years.

Current PCMB members and staff will be hosting informational meetings in the upcoming months for students and parents interested in finding out more about the band program. The meetings will take place Wednesday, March 16; Tuesday, April 5; and Tuesday, May 17, at 7 p.m. in the Plymouth High School band room (near the big yellow semi-trailer).

Interested students only

need to attend one of the three meetings. Parents will learn about all the efforts being done to send these kids to New York with little or no money due to corporate sponsors and fundraising efforts.

Current eighth graders and other incoming student musicians and dancers interested in joining the PCMB are encouraged to attend one of these informational meetings. For more information, visit

For more information, visi www.pcmb.net.

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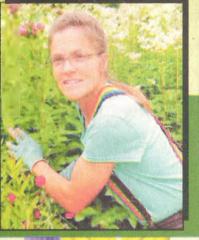
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LOCAL NEWS

Canton's annual Liberty Fest parade faces budget ax

BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Canton's Liberty Fest parade has become the latest casualty as local officials continue to swing a budget ax that already slashed employee wages and ushered in \$1.8 million in spending cuts across township departments.

Supervisor Phil LaJoy dropped the bombshell Tuesday night during a Canton Township Board of Trustees meeting, saying the community's milestone, 20th Liberty Fest will happen June 15-18 without the usual parade along Ford Road.

Abandoning the parade - a decision that appears likely to upset some residents - will save Canton an estimated \$10,000 as officials continue to chip away at a budget deficit that once threatened to swell to \$15 million by next year.

After Tuesday's meeting, Trustee John Anthony said the parade, while popular with many residents, involves a large commitment of time and expense for local police, firefighters and other employees.

The announcement signaled another reminder that Canton, after losing \$8.6 million in revenues since 2007, continues to face difficult budget

decisions even after securing employee concessions, slashing spending and imposing a 1.75-mill tax increase for police and fire services.

Canton Leisure Services Director Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz called the decision not to have a parade "very difficult" but added, "we are cognizant of our current economic challenges, and this is just one example of reducing a service when appropriate without negatively impacting Canton's identity."

Those involved in past parades are encouraged to contact event planners at (734) 394-5460 for information on alternate Liberty Fest group participation options.

In a welcome reprieve from festival budget-cutting, the township board approved a five-year agreement with Pennsylvania-based Zambelli Fireworks to continue providing the festival-crowning fireworks show that erupts over Heritage Park.

The fireworks show costs about \$25,000 a year, but officials say some of the expense will be paid with a 5-percent pay cut accepted this year by the seven-member township board.

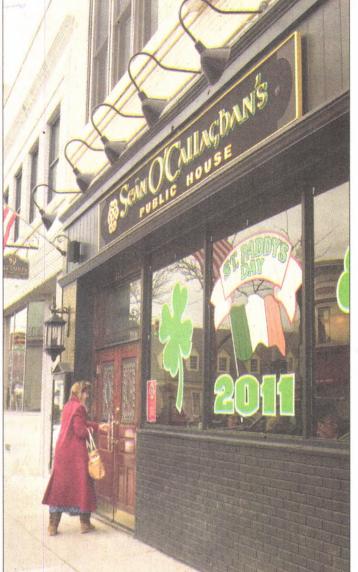
Zambelli – one of several companies that bid for the fireworks show

- was rated higher based on the number and size of fireworks shells set off during the show.

Trustee Todd Caccamo noted that an alternate company, Wolverine Fireworks Display Inc., could have saved the township about 7 percent - a savings he said was appealing on the surface. Yet, he voted alongside his colleagues because Zambelli offered a larger fireworks show that officials say residents have come to expect.

"It's a signature event for Canton," Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Sean O'Callaghan's in downtown Plymouth is ready for St. Patrick's Day.

FROM PAGE A1

John Doyle said.

"I think we hit it. I think we hit our goal," Doyle said in his bar on Tuesday. "We're not pretentious."

The place was formerly the Side Street Pub, which had been around for about 30 years. A death in the family had brought John Doyle back to Michigan, and when Side Street went up for sale, he jumped at the chance.

"I thought it was a great location," said Doyle, who grew up in Northville. "The foot traffic's awesome, the people are great, the small-town feel." Doyle also likes Plymouth's downtown events, which attract thousands of people during many weekends throughout the year.

Doyle's, which has patio seating in front (it'll be open on St. Paddy's Day if the weather cooperates), attracts a good crowd of regulars, but "there's always somebody new coming through the door" as well, said Doyle.

He described the menu as "bar food-plus": there are appetizers, burgers, salads, soups, sandwiches, pizzas and a selection of Mexican dishes on the regular menu. The daily specials, he said, are where the "plus" comes in; diners on Tuesday could order a chopped sirloin dinner, a Cajun chicken salad, or a plate of pork and vegetable potstickers.

GREEN DAY

Doyle's has a sizable beer menu, including, for those seeking Irish suds, Guinness, Harp and Smithwick's (pronounced "smiddicks"). On Ŝt. Patrick's Day, Brian Doyle will be cooking up traditional British Isles dishes for the day's specials - Irish stew, bangers and mash (a sausage and potatoes dish) and corned beef and cabbage.

Doyle's will also have a strolling trio — two bagpipers and a drummer — plus a solo bagpiper on hand during the late afternoon and early evening hours on St. Patrick's Day.

Doyle said his goal had long been to have his own place, even when he was in the corporate world. He said he's motivated by the freedom of having his own business, and that he's putting his corporate experience to work for himself.

Doyle's has a staff of 12 people, in addition to John, Peggy and Brian, and many of them come with years of experience. "They do an excellent job," John Doyle said.

Doyle's Tavern opens at 11 a.m. six days a week, and at noon on Sundays. Open until 1 a.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, until midnight other nights. Doyle's is at 860 Fralick; the phone number is (734) 207-9656.

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



Aaron Dworkin, founder and president of Sphinx, comes to the Plymouth **Community Arts Council March 15.**

Sphinx founder talks at art lunch

Aaron Dworkin, founder and president of Sphinx and a man of monumental achievements, is coming to the Plymouth **Community Arts Council** March 15.

A luncheon will be served at 11:30 a.m., with Dworkin's presentation to follow. Tickets are \$20, which includes a \$5 donation to the Sphinx Organization.

Sphinx Organization envisions a world in which classical music reflects cultural diversity and plays a role in the everyday lives of youth. The Sphinx Organization increases the participation of blacks and Latinos in classical music both in the concert hall as well as in the classroom.

In October 2008, the Sphinx Chamber Orchestra comprised of top alumni of the Sphinx Competition, embarked on its first-ever tour, which cul-

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often affect their physical

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minated in a Carnegie Hall Concert. On Feb. 19, the Sphinx Organization presented its 14th annual competition at Orchestra Hall.

As founder and president, Aaron Dworkin has been recognized and honored widely for his vision and success in achieving his goal. He is a MacArthur Fellow, Michiganian of the Year, People Magazine Hero, and one of Newsweek Magazine's People Who Make America Great. He has recently been nominated by President Obama to serve on the National Council for the Arts.

Seating for the presentation will be limited; call (734) 416-4278 or stop by the PCAC for tickets.

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is located at 774 N. Sheldon Road, just south of M-14, in Plymouth.

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CRIME WATCH

Snowblower swiped from open garage

A4

(P)

A homeowner on Amherst Court, near Beck Road and Ann Arbor Trail, reported the theft of a snowblower from his garage on Friday.

The Toro-brand snowblower was taken from the garage, which had been left open, between about 10 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Friday, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report.

The victim told police he had left his garage door open at about 10 a.m. in order to unload some items from a vehicle in his driveway. He left the garage unattended for a short time and returned to find the snowblower was gone.

The victim pointed out that a second snowblower and a power washer had not been taken, police said.

- By Matt Jachman

FIRE RUNS

The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the following runs during the period March 2-8:

• Tuesday, March 8 - Rescue runs on Heritage, on Beck and on Haggerty; residential rescue runs on Briarwood and on Princeton.



cue run on N. Main; • Sunday, March 6 - Vehicle accident with wash-down at Beck and N. Territorial: mutual aid run at 8 Mile and Beck; rescue runs on Northville Road, on Rocker, at Harvey and Linden, on Chestnut, on Haggerty, on Woodgrove, on Robinwood, on Nantucket and on S. Mill.

• Saturday, March 5 🚽

- Residential rescue runs on Eaton, on Starkweather, on Haggerty, on Sycamore, on Bellwood, on Greenview Place and on Ann Arbor Trail; special run at Main and Penniman.

• Friday, March 4 – Rescue runs on Plymouth Hollow, on Haggerty, on Greenview, on Russet, on Ann Arbor Trail, on Newport, on N. Holbrook, on Brentwood, on Sheridan, on Clemmons and on Oak.

• Wednesday, March 2 - Commercial rescue run on Beck; rescue runs on N. Mill, on Plymouth Road, at Ann Arbor Road and Massey, on Lilley, on Beck, on Pinetree and on S. Mill.



unemployment **Money Matters** numbers), we have a ways to

Rick Bloom go before the U.S. economy can match the incredible run of the stock market. However, I have no doubt that we will get there.

The stock market has had a substantial recovery from the financial crisis that the world experienced a few years ago. Unfortunately, according to numbers I've seen, individual investors have not recovered as well. Fear that gripped individual investors during the financial crisis resulted in many people letting emotions dictate their investment decisions, which is always a mistake.

I've said many times in the

past that free is my favorite word in the English dictionary. Unfortunately, in our world sometimes free means that there are conditions attached. That is why when there truly is something absolutely free that makes sense, it's something that should be talked about. I am referring to a free tax return preparation service that most people can use. For years, the Internal Revenue Service has had a program in conjunction with tax preparation software companies. This program allows individuals to go online and use free software to prepare and file a federal tax return. This is not a gimmick, it's real and it's truly free.

To take advantage of this free tax service your 2010 adjusted gross income must be less than \$58,000. That covers about 70 percent of the American public. If you meet this criterion, go to the IRS website at www.irs.gov, click on "free tax file," then follow the instructions.

You are not using IRS soft-

ware, rather, you can select software from a variety of well-known tax preparation companies. These companies provide software for free and there are no gimmicks. Obviously, these companies want to try to sell you other products, however, you are under no obligation. There is no pressure because you're doing everything online.

Don't be fooled by other free tax preparation offers. The offer I'm referring to is only available through the IRS website.

It's March, which means you don't have that much time left to complete your tax return. Therefore, as we still have some lousy weather left this winter, why not use this time to complete your return. Good luck!

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

Suspect arrested after cashier halts would-be robbery

unanimously approved a tax abatement for about \$468,000 in equipment being purchased by Allegra Network for its building on Galleon Drive.

Allegra is a franchiser of printing and graphics companies such as American Speedy **Printing Centers and Signs** Now, and employs about 45 people. The company plans to add 15 to 20 jobs within two years, its application for the tax break said.

The tax breaks are good tools for getting companies to invest in communities, Edwards said. He said Gov. Rick Snyder's proposal to take the power to grant such incentives away from local officials and give it to state legislators is the wrong approach.

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

Those decisions are crucial

have to decide if we want to use an interim superintendent or hire a new person."

BY MATT JACHMAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

was doing some research

this weekend and would

like to share the result. The

fond of – receiving something

The birthday I am talking

about is the bull market. It's

been two years now since the

rise. If you go back to the first

week of March 2009, the S&P

Dow Jones Industrial Average

was in the mid 6,000. Fast for-

ward to today, two years later,

and the Dow Jones Industrial

Average is over 12,200. We've

turnaround in the NASDAQ

market as well. The market's

performance over the last two

years has been nothing short

It would be nice if the U.S.

and world economies were

stock market. Unfortunately,

recovering as fast as the

of incredible.

also seen a similar, remarkable

the S&P 500 is over 1,300

500 was below 670 and the

stock market bottomed out

and started its remarkable

for free.

A quick-thinking cashier foiled a robbery Sunday at the Tim Horton's in Plymouth, and police arrested a suspect nearby a short time later.

Kent A. Middleton of Plymouth was charged Tuesday, in 35th District Court video arraignment, with armed robbery and assault with intent to rob. Middleton, 46, was also charged as a

habitual offender, which could increase the length of any prison sentence if he is convicted. Judge James Plakas set

a bond of \$750,000, and Middleton was being held Wednesday in the Wayne County Jail.

According to Lt. Jamie Grabowski, who is in charge of the Plymouth Police Department's detective bureau, the incident occurred just before 11 a.m. Sunday. A man walked into the Tim

Horton's, at Plymouth Road and Mill, and demanded money from the register, Grabowski said.

The man had his hands in his pockets, implying he was armed, the lieutenant said. But when the cashier set the cash drawer on the counter, he reached for it with both hands, and she quickly pulled it away, telling him to leave the store, Grabowski said.

The cashier called 9-1-1, reporting the would-be robber

was walking south on Mill, Grabowski said. Police were on the scene quickly and arrested Middleton, on outstanding warrants, at a nearby apartment complex, police said. No weapon was recovered.

Middleton confessed to the robbery while being interviewed by police, Grabowski said. A preliminary hearing in the case is scheduled for Friday, March 18, in district court.

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

Driver convicted in fatal I-275 collision

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Teri Gunn said she's seen many drunken driving cases where the driver gets nothing more than a slap on the wrist, so she could have been pardoned for worrying that might be what happened in the case of Robert Bojaj, the Farmington Hills man accused of killing Gunn's daughter, Shelby, in an Aug. 25 car crash on I-275 in Canton. She needn't have worried. On Monday, a Wayne County jury convicted Bojaj of second-degree murder and of operating under the influence of liquor causing death. Bojaj, 28, faces sentencing before Wayne County Circuit Judge David Allen at 9 a.m. Thursday, March 24. According to Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Athina Siringas, sentencing guidelines allow Allen to start with a

minimum of anywhere from 18.5 to 31 years; the maximum is life.

"I guess it was relief in one way," said Teri Gunn, who sat with husband Rob through the trial. "The weight is lifted, but the loss is still there. I feel like somebody's going to pay now. So many times in drunk driving cases the driver gets a slap

ing 25-year-old Shelby Gunn when he rear-ended her in a crash that ended after Bojaj reportedly reached speeds of nearly 100 mph on northbound I-275 in Canton around 1:30 a.m. Aug. 15.

Witnesses testified to the high-rate of speed at which Bojaj was allegedly traveling in the dark-colored Lexus he of the road sat the Dodge Intrepid, driven by Gunn, its rear end smashed and Gunn slumped over the wheel.

Defense attorney Paul Bernier said "it's way too early to talk about any appeal, because we have to deal with the sentencing hearing." But he said the incident carried a cost to every-

INVESTMENTS FROM PAGE A1

new products," Pew said. Both companies are looking for markets around the world, their representatives said.

"Everything we do now is with a global perspective," Pew said. Baker stressed that the environment remains very competitive.

BOARD APPROVAL

DADCO specializes in nitrogen gas spring technology, which is used in metal-forming and injection-molding operations. Moeller also makes nitrogen gas springs, plus metal punches and stamps and other manufacturing products. The township board also

FROM PAGE A1

elected board president in January, Jackson said he thought such decisions should wait until "things have stabilized" after a tumultuous few months for board members.

Apparently, that time has come. The MASB consultants are

being brought in, Jackson said, to help board members define the qualities they want to see in their next superintendent.

"They're going to help us decide the qualities and the competencies we want to look for," Jackson said. "We also

to the district because, in addition to replacing Fiegel, board members are going to have to replace several key administrators, including Jacobs, Dr. Cindy Swift, the assistant superintendent for instructional services, and human resources chief Ray Bihun.

Board members will have to decide if they want to replace those key administrators first, or bring in the new superintendent and let that person have a voice in hiring those replacements.

on the wrist. That didn't hap pen here, and my husband and I are grateful for that."

So is Siringas, who insisted all along her case warranted the second-degree murder charge. Siringas didn't want to discuss specific aspects of the case pending the sentencing hearing, but she acknowledged her delight with the verdict.

"We're absolutely satisfied with the jury's verdict," said Siringas. "From the beginning we believed this was a murder two, and we're satisfied the jury saw it the way we saw it." Bojaj was convicted of kill-

was driving. Testimony also indicated Bojaj had a bloodalcohol content more than

three times the legal limit. By the time police arrived at the scene, the Lexus was tangled in the guardrail cords in the median of I-275 just past Koppernick in Canton Township. On the right side

one involved.

"The case is a tragedy for everybody concerned," said Bernier. "Everybody involved in this case has lost something. It's a tragedy for the Gunn family, as well as for the Bojaj family."

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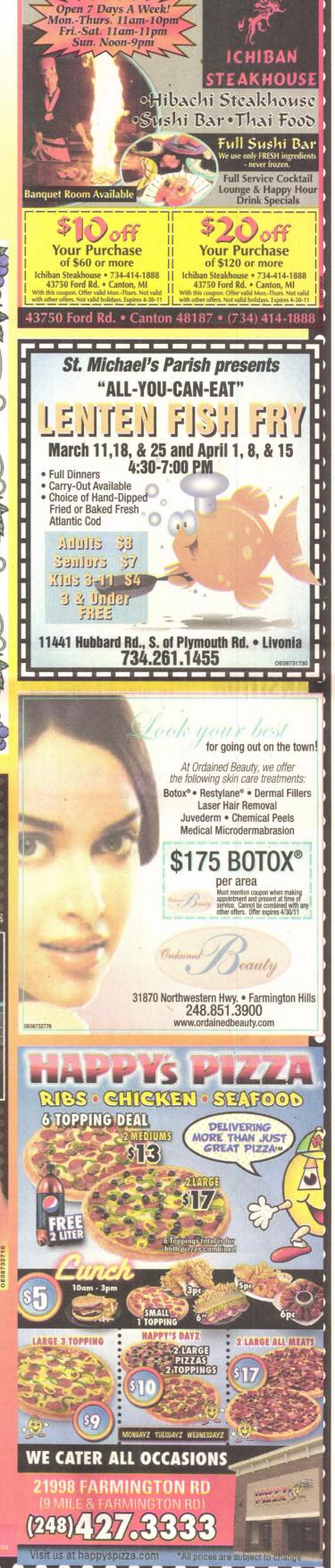
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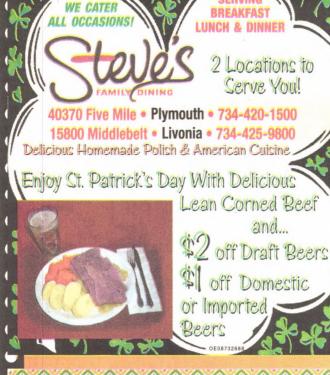
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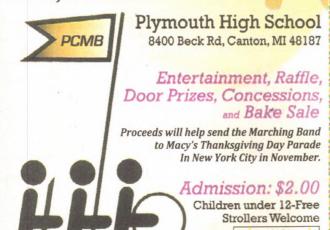




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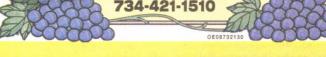
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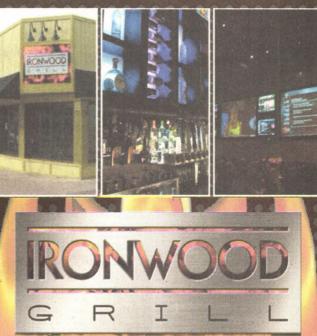
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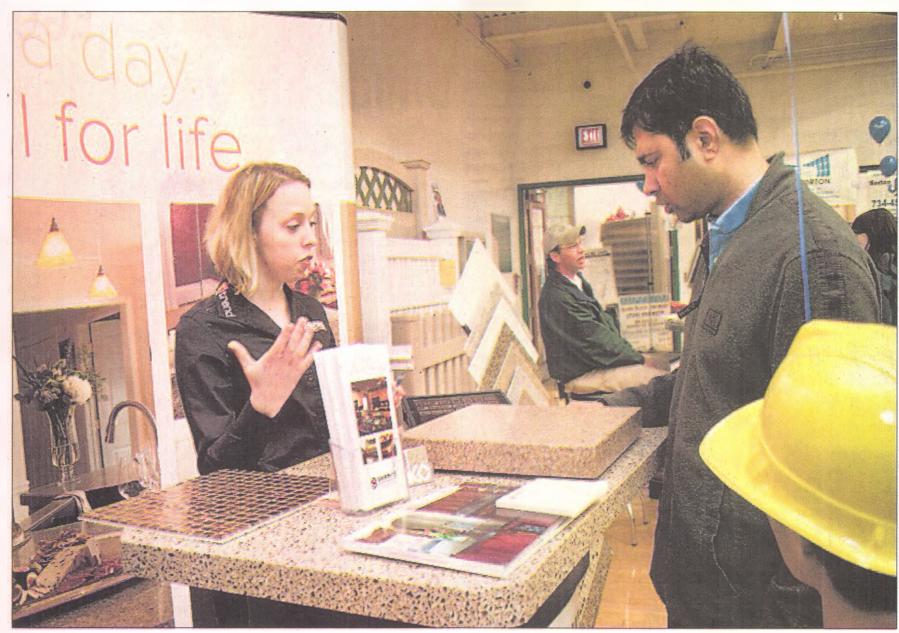


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A6

(CP)



Heather Warren of Granite Transformations for kitchens and baths talks with Pradeep Krishnan of Canton.



Home expo senses spring is coming

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

With spring approaching and people starting to think about home improvements, Mary and Joseph Doher of Redford made their way to the Canton Home Improvement Expo at the Summit on the Park Sunday to see if they could get a handle on what projects might cost.

They were joined by thousands of other people over the 10th annual two-day event,

events like Canton's are an ideal way to keep their names out there. The folks at Canton Construction know how word of mouth from events like this can eventually lead to increased customer traffic. Owner John Sarnecky tells the story of a bench his crew built for contest won by a local woman. The woman told Sarnecky the bench "comes up in every conversation."

"She loves (the bench)," said Sarnecky. "It comes up in conversation, and we get calls on



PHOTOS BY ANN ESPINOZA

Ken Bowerman from DTE Energy, and Micheal Hinz of Plymouth talk about energy efficient light bulbs.

which featured some 122 vendors for everything from roofing and landscaping to windows and energy-efficient systems.

"We came by to see what's up and get an idea how expensive things are these days," said Joseph Doher, who said he's thinking about a furnace, roof and windows. "I find (the expo) very informative. It gives me a chance to talk to several contractors and to get a ballpark number on how much money I'm going to need."

For contractors, home expo

it. Any little thing helps."

Renee DeVos of the Canton Township building department said the 10th expo drew some 3,000 people the first day (numbers weren't available for the second day) despite an approaching storm that hit Saturday afternoon.

"It's a popular show," DeVos said. "A lot of people in March are ready to do something. They come to get ideas, because they're ready to start again."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899 Angela Stambersky of Belleville getting information from Rolland Cement.



MICHELE AUSTIN

Scoop the Newshound hung out for a bit with some of the cast of the Spotlight on Youth production of Tom Sawyer, including (front, from left) Ashyln McCann, 12, Canton, Roman Bonacorsi, 9, Plymouth, Madison McCann, 9, Canton, and (back) Danielle Paul, 13, Plymouth, Clare Shortal, 15, Plymouth, Amelia Schmidt, 12, Plymouth, Barbara Bloom, the producer/director of Spotlight on Youth.



Jasmine Torres, 3, and sister Jessica, 8, get help form their Dad at the Kid's Corner hands-on project center, sponsored by Home Depot.



Canton building inspector Alex Mano answers questions about permits and inspections.



Three-year-old Akaash Vitla tries out a piano from Evola Music.



Jason Bruce of Livonia is the new director of operations for Velvet Peanut Butter, which is available in both smooth and crunchy. He said the feedback from customers at Busch's Market in Livonia, where this photo was taken, and other stores has all been positive. "When I'm stocking the stores, I get a lot of, 'Oh I remember that as a kid!" he said.

Velvet Peanut Butter spreads to some 500 grocery stores

BY KAREN SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Like many in Metro Detroit, Eric and Jason Bruce grew up eating Velvet Peanut Butter, made in Livonia for 30 years.

Then the company was sold in 1985 and after a series of acquisitions, the brand disappeared off store shelves.

"I thought that was criminal," said Eric, 44, adding that local brands are part of an area's identity

So Eric bought the recipe and the rights to the Velvet label and found a manufacturer in Georgia to make it. His wife Kim took it to the senior buyer at Hiller's Market, Larry Krispin.

Hiller's bought 1,300 jars, their entire inventory, and the peanut butter sold out in two weeks. That was in 2009.

Today, Velvet Peanut Butter is available in more than 500 Michigan grocery stores, including Kroger. Meijer, Hiller's, Spartan and Busch's. The business is doing well enough that Eric recently hired his brother Jason, 41, who lives in Livonia, as director of operations. Jason is overseeing the expansion and distribution of Velvet Peanut Butter.

work," wrote a customer from Rochester. "As we would approach the Velvet Peanut Butter facility (on Schoolcraft Road), mom would say, 'OK, roll the window down!' and I would crank the window down and inhale the wonderful aroma of roasting peanuts!"

Wrote a customer from Center Line whose grandparents served him Velvet peanut butter sandwiches every weekend for lunch, "It has brought back memories of simpler times and family long gone and I will be a customer as long as you make it."

Some of the e-mails come with suggestions of how to eat it - like with oatmeal or jalapenos.

WONDER BREAD

The Bruce boys, who grew up in Garden City, prefer Velvet Peanut Butter on white bread, preferably Wonder bread.

That's how they ate it in their school lunches - Eric with grape jelly, Jason just plain - and that's how they still eat it today.

unwilling to take any shortcuts to get there.

10 PERCENT TO CHARITY

For example, he won't reduce the amount of peanut butter in the jar from 18 ounces. That goes against his company's values. And he pledges to give 10 percent of the company's annual profits to charitable efforts. Last summer, Velvet donated 10 cases of peanut butter to Lighthouse of Oakland County to help feed kids from low-income families who normally get lunch for free at school.

The company now has five part-time employees, including Eric's wife, Kim. Jason also works as rink

manager and a Zamboni driver for the Livonia Hockey Association.

Eric and Kim moved to Atlanta in 1999 because of Eric's job, but they want to move back to the Detroit area to be near both their families. Eric and Jason's parents, Dominic and Claudia Bruce, are Livonia residents.

Brick by brick: LEGO fan builds his dream town

BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Steve Grant doesn't keep track of how many bricks he's used to build his city. He knows it's a lot, but it doesn't matter as he pursues his dream of creating a New York City-style of town made completely out of LEGOs.

"I've been building with LEGOs since I was a kid, but I got serious about it as a grownup in 2007," the Garden City resident said. "I used to build sets and stuff, now I build buildings.

Grant is a member of the Michigan LEGOs User Group, which meets the second Saturday of every other month at the Izakaya Sanpei Japanese restaurant in Canton. The 25 members from Redford, Garden City, Wayne, Livonia and Royal Oak and even as far away as Bay City come together to talk about displays and show off what they're working on.

They've done displays at the National Model Railroad Show at Cobo Hall — that was Grant's first ever show - at libraries in Livonia and at Brick Bashes, public handson LEGO Building exhibits like the one from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 19, at the Morris Lawrence Building on the campus of Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor.

For Grant, it was getting a computer that lead him to discover LUG and other adults who shared his love of building with LEGOs. The town he has been working on includes hotels, a McDonald's restaurant and even a town square filled with people walking and kids on skateboards. It's a work in progress, its expansion limited to the size of his basement.

"I'd like to have it get pretty big, but this is what I've come up with so far," Grant said about his display. "Eventually, I planned to get a bigger house



A member of the Michigan LEGO Users Group, Steve Grant has been building his own city one LEGO brick at a time in his basement of his Garden City home.

with a bigger basement. I have a small one right now and this has pretty much maxed it out."

BRICK BY BRICK

Grant's town is built on four 10-inch by 10-inch mounting plates attached to plywood. Built mostly of one- by twoinch bricks, he has come to realize that the brick is the thickness of plywood and by layering the latter, he'll be able to add such details as rivers and bridges.

Grant doesn't patterning buildings after existing structures, although some LUG members like Jim Garnett of Redford go online to research specific structures. Garrett recreated the Penobscott Building and the block it sits on in Detroit. Garrett's Penobscott Building stands a whopping 11 feet tall.

With LUGs around the world, the LEGO aficionados have found that the Internet's BrickLink.com is a place to find needed pieces rather than having to buy entire sets.

BrickLink bills itself as a venue for individuals and businesses from all around the world to buy and sell new, used and vintage LEGO through fixed price services. The site, created by the late Daniel Jezek, boasts 110,622,950 items in 3,741,078 lots in 4,726 stores as of Tuesday.

REALISTIC COLORS

The one-inch by two-inch brick is the piece Grant uses the most and he tries to use the more realistic colors. A standard white brick can be had for as little as 4 cents on BrickLink, but the rarer colored bricks like the sand red brick, which was only produced for one year, can cost more than \$1 each.

"BrickLink is like the eBay for LEGO users," Grant said. "My hobby wouldn't be possible without it. Before BrickLink, you had to buy the pieces you needed as part of packages."

Of course, there's also the LEGO store in Troy that, according to Grant, "is amazing."

"I love going there," he said. For the shows, members will move their LEGO projects on the road. Sometimes there's a "catastrophe," with pieces breaking apart. According to Grant, in the world of LEGO "nothing can be painted or glued."

People interested in getting more information about the Michigan LUG can stop by the Izakaya Sanpei Japanese restaurant at 43327 Joy Road, west of Lilley Road. For more information about the group, visit its website at www. michlug.org.

smason@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6751

EMOTIONAL CONNECTION

Eric, who has a master's degree in business administration from Eastern Michigan University and works in Atlanta in marketing for an ABC affiliate, said he expected the brand to do well, but he didn't expect the emotional connection people would have with it.

"Their grandma or their mom would serve it to them," he said, explaining the appeal of Velvet Peanut Butter, with its trademark boys, "Fresh," "Pure" and "Delicious."

Eric's favorite part of the business is getting e-mails from customers who are glad the product is available again.

"Velvet Peanut Butter takes me back to the late '60s when I rode with my mother in the car to pick my dad up from

When you bite into it, it actually feels like you're tasting a peanut, and that's the thing I like about it," Jason said.

Their kids love it. Eric's daughter, Emily, 4, screams for peanut butter as soon as she sees the jar. Jason's son, Benjamin, 9, won't let anyone he knows have any brand other than Velvet in their kitchen cupboard. "From the get-go, he's been my No. 1 supporter," Eric said.

Velvet Peanut Butter was started in 1937 in Detroit by an Eastern Market truck driver who saw used peanut butter making equipment advertised for sale. The boys on the jar were drawn in the likeness of his son.

Eric's goal is to preserve the Velvet brand so it never disappears from store shelves again, and for Velvet to become the No. 1 peanut butter sold.

He's got a long ways to go - Velvet is just starting to be sold in other states — but he's





Eric hopes to grow the Velvet company to a point where he can leave Atlanta and return to Michigan to run the company full-time. He said being in Georgia,

where peanuts are grown, put him in contact with the right people to help him revive the Velvet brand and start manufacturing it.

Now he hopes the brand he brought back to Michigan brings him back here as well.

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STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, March 10, 2011

hometownlife



RENA LAVERTY

Officials at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township want to get the venue more involved in the concert scene after Girl Talk sold out March 3.

Compuware Arena grows as year-round facility

When The Crofoot Ballroom and AEG Live promotions discovered that the Girl Talk concert - scheduled for March 3 at Royal Oak Music Theatre - outgrew the venue, they went looking for another place to hold the show.

They chose the 3,500seat Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township.

Although Compuware Arena is known as a sports venue, housing the Ontario Hockey League's Plymouth Whalers, the annual Michigan **Boys State High School** Hockey semi-final and finals, Compuware youth hockey and other sports events, the arena has forged a reputation as a 12-months-per-year entertainment venue, holding everything from college and high school graduations, trade shows, industrial seminars and full-arena radio programs.

The arena is also home to CJ's Brewing Company, a fullUniversity, it's 30 minutes from Wayne State and downtown Detroit, and it's an easy 45-minute drive from Michigan State. Not to mention the surrounding communities are packed with rabid music fans.

"We (the Crofoot) look forward to bringing more concerts to Compuware," McGowan added. "The facility is top notch."

In the aftermath of the success of Girl Talk, Compuware Arena manager Mike Henry is looking to expand into the concert business

"We're looking to book more shows," admitted Henry. "We hope Girl Talk is the start. We'd like people to see that we are a good venue and more acts start coming."

Not only was the arena sold out, but CJ's Brewing Company enjoyed an overflow night as well.

Not to be overlooked in the success of Girl Talk is the annual Michigan Boys High School Hockey Semi-Finals Finals going Thursday through Saturday. Compuware Arena has been hosting the state finals since 2003.

"We enjoy our relationship with Compuware Arena," said Randy Allen, Assistant Director of the Michigan High School Athletic Association. "There have been other facilities inquiring about (the availability of) this event, but we don't listen. Compuware Arena is a perfect fit for us. Right now, it's the perfect place, the perfect size - and more than anything else - the people make us feel welcome and go out of their way to make it work for us.

"When you do what I do for a living, the people with the facility that make you feel welcome and make it easy to be there is an important aspect of our tournament."

Division Two semi-final

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Brad Kadrich Voice Mail: (313) 222-8899 E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com Comment online at hometownlife.com

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Business news

Courtesy the folks at the Plymouth Downtown **Development Authority:**

• After a long period of being empty, Pat O'Neil has purchased the Draugelis & Ashton law offices building on Penniman as an investment. O'Neil said he plans to keep the building office space. The first and second floors are about 2,500-square-feet each. O'Neil said the 7-foot ceiling basement is finished and would be cheap office space or storage.

Interested parties can con-tact Terry Poli at (734) 620-6286.

• Hands on Leather is hosting a Brighton jewelry promotion through March 20. Receive the exclusively designed black-and-white scarf when you make a single Brighton purchase of \$100 or more-while supplies last. This beautiful 100% silk scarf is versatile and long enough to wear as a belt.

•The Cupcake Station, which now has more than 5,000 Facebook fans, gave away 150 free cupcakes Thursday to those who stopped in and said "5,000 fans.'

• Diva Day 2011 takes place April 2 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Retailers should let Teri Fry, teri@plymouthmich.org, at the Chamber know by March 18 if you plan to participate. She is ordering 500 boas this week and posters should be ready sometime next week.

• Charter One Bank in Downtown Plymouth will be featuring R.S.V.P. as their Local Business of the Month for the month of March. Stop into the branch anytime during the month of March to find out why Charter One Bank



All in the family

The Petersons of Plymouth, (from left) Cindy, Mark, Morgan and Miranda, made the Canton Home Expo a family affair over the weekend. The annual expo, held at The Summit on the Park in Canton, featured more than 120 vendors consulting on everything from landscaping and roofing to windows and green technology. Officials said some 3,000 people attended the first day.

thinks R.S.V.P. is so great and, while you're there, enter a drawing for a \$25 R.S.V.P. Gift Card. The winner will be chosen from all entries received at the end of the business day on Thursday, March 31.

• This month's monthly wine tasting dinner at Grape **Expectations Wine Bar is** Chilean wines. It's four courses and four wines for \$45 per person. Dinner is at 7 p.m. on March 15. For more information call the GE Wine Bar at (734) 455-WINE.

Dance reservations

Registration for the Metro Dance Company Summer 2011 dance season is now open. Classes available for all ages 2 ½ - adult and begin the week of July 11. Register in person, by phone at (734)

207-8970 or online at www. MetroDanceCompany.com.

Metro Dance Company is located in Plymouth on the corner of Mill (Lilley) and Ann Arbor Trail, just outside downtown Plymouth.

Career change?

Out of a job? Changing careers? Become a real estate agent and be ready for the upcoming real estate boom.

Remerica Hometown will be presenting a pre-license training class beginning soon by Real Estate Professional Education Group, LLC, at 41025 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

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service restaurant and hosts a three-screen drive-in during the summer months.

Moving Girl Talk to a venue that holds twice the attendance as the Royal Oak Music Theatre made sense to everyone involved. The concert - featuring disc jockey Greg Gillis - sold out at Compuware Arena, much to the delight of everyone involved.

"Compuware Arena is a perfect size for concerts, it has great acoustics, and a location that can't be beat," said Dan McGowan of the Crofoot. "It's 15 minutes from the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan

work of the Compuware Arena maintenance staff, who in the span of 48 hours, changed the arena from a hockey venue, to a concert hall and then back for a Plymouth Whalers game the next evening against the Saginaw Spirit. Two nights later, the Whalers hosted Windsor before a sellout crowd of 4,050.

The staff worked long and hard to clean up Compuware Arena for hockey the next evening. The only reminders of the Girl Talk show were some balloons hanging around in the rafters of the building.

Compuware Arena remains busy this week, with the

games will be played on Thursday at 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Division Three semi-final games will be played on Friday at noon and 2:30 p.m. Division One semi-final games will be played on Friday at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Championship Saturday features Division 2 at 10 a.m., Division 3 at 2 p.m. and Division 1 at 6 p.m.

Weekend passes for the entire event are available for \$25. Semi-Finals are available for \$6 per division. Championship games on Saturday are also available for \$7 per game.

CHAMBER CHAT

State of the Community

The popular annual State of the Community lunch, set for March 23, is an opportunity to join fellow business people and community leaders as we hear about what to expect from our community in the coming year. Change is a way of life for our local elected officials as governments reinvent themselves due to lower tax revenues and state budget cuts. We invite you to join us to hear how you will be affected by the changes coming and how to be part of a brighter future for our region.

Speakers include Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume, Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox, Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer and Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Superintendent Dr. Craig Fiegel.

The event runs noon to 1:30 p.m. and the cost to attend is \$20. The luncheon will be held at Plymouth Manor, located at 345 N. Main St. To attend this event, please contact the Chamber at (734)453-1540 or e-mail teri@plymouthmich.org.

Upcoming events

• Multimedia marketing – Many marketing campaigns hook potential customers with catchy slogans or pictures. While snappy text and design might make a customer take a second look, it does not always convert a customer lead into a sale. Print, radio, TV, direct mail and internet are all parts of a successful marketing campaign, but how you put it together dictates your success. This workshop will show you how to get the biggest impact with your target audience for the money spent.

This Business Development Series workshop is scheduled 8:30-9:30 a.m. March 22 at the

Chamber office (850 Ann Arbor Trail). To register for the workshop e-mail teri@plymouthmich.org or call (734) 453-1540.

• Business mixer - Breaking the Boundaries Business Mixer - March 24 – Join 300 other business people from Western Wayne County for one of the best networking events of the year in this region. The annual Western Suburban Area Council of Chamber's "Breaking the Boundaries" Business Mixer will be at Burton Manor on Thursday, March 24, from 5-7 p.m. The event is designed for networking, where business meets business across every border in the western suburbs. This year's event will include a presentation by Carol Kocan, a Dale Carnegie trainer, on "Networking and Working the Room" from 5-5:30 p.m.

The cost to attend is just \$10, which includes food, and there will be a cash bar. Due to the overwhelming popularity of this event there are no walk-ins allowed and everyone must be preregistered. To register for the event or to reserve exhibit space, e-mail the Chamber at teri@ plymouthmich.org or call (734) 453-1540.

National distinction

TDS Telecommunications Corp. was recognized as a J.D. Power 2011 Customer Service Champion, one of only 40 companies to have earned the distinction this year.

To qualify for inclusion on this elite list, companies must not only excel within their own industries, but also must stand out among leading brands in 20 major industries evaluated by J.D. Power.

Companies were identified based on customer feedback, opinions, and perceptions gathered primarily from J.D. Power s syndicated research as well as additional, supplemental research. To see the complete listings visit www. businesscenter.jdpower.com/news.

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Italian Sub

Sub

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EEF wines, dines at fundraiser

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Organizers of the **Educational Excellence** Foundation's wine tasting fund-raiser Friday were excited to see some 465 people crowd into the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College Friday, especially knowing they probably could have sold another 100 tickets.

That's what Carole Kody, the EEF's executive director, calls a successful event.

"It was very exciting," said Kody, EEF's director since 2000. "We couldn't have squeezed another person in there. It was wonderful."

The event, which featured food, drink (including wines from seven wineries) and entertainment provided by performing arts students from the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, marked the EEF's 25th anniversary. It was about business, too, so a power-point presentation about the EEF's mission played on half-a-dozen giant video screens.

"I hope people took the time to watch," said Kody. "It told about everything EEF does, what we're involved in, what we need help with."

Totals weren't yet available, but organizers estimated the event raised just under some \$10,000 for EEF. It was designed as a wine-tasting to draw a more rounded set of guests.

"The whole idea of doing a wine-tasting was to attract a



David Winter, of Plymouth Township, pours a glass of wine for Lori Ormsby of Redford Township while other wine pourers look on. Winter, a member of the Education Excellence Foundation Board, was among the sponsors of Friday's event at the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College.

wider audience than our usual set of parents, retired teachers or people who've been involved in some way with the district," Cody said. "We really wanted to broaden our audience to get our message out. I hope we managed to do that, because it's a good message. I hope people heard what we were trying to say, in addition to having a good time."

The event was sponsored by Neville Financial, Community Financial Credit Union, McCarthy-Smith and Mr. and Mrs. David Winter.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899 Community Relations staff.



Mark Fenwick of Canton puts a ticket in the raffle drawing. Looking on are Sharon Belobraidich, secretary of the EEF, and Shelley Enright of the PCEP





anistan

Carpet Event

receive up to



Lisa Fiegel, wife of Supt. Craig Fiegel, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Trustee Nancy Eggenberger and Joan Noricks, executive director of the Canton Community Foundation, attended Friday's wine tasting. The EEF provides supplemental funding for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.



Kim and Dan Brown of Farmington Hills attended the wine tasting.



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hometownlifemcom

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 Tough stretch School board must make hard choices

It's an important stretch for the Plymouth-Canton Community Board of Education.

On Wednesday, trustees continued the process of cutting some \$15 million out of the district's 2011-12 budget, meeting to talk about potential areas of cuts in the face of contract uncertainty and Michigan's continued financial instability.

That deficit was only going to be some \$12.9 million before Gov. Rick Snyder threatened a \$470 per-pupil cut to the state foundation grant. The governor's plan to "fix" Michigan throws a bit of a monkey wrench into the pocketbook for districts across the state, even those who have managed their money as well as Plymouth-Canton's board.

The first priority ought to be getting a fair and equitable contract for the district's 1,100 teachers. They deserve that. Then, trustees have to decide where cuts are going to be made and how best to keep those cuts out of the classroom.

The board isn't naive enough to believe that, after millions and millions of dollars worth of cuts over several years, they're going to be able to accomplish that goal totally. New President John Jackson, presiding over his first budget process, said Monday the financial picture is "obviously going to have some impact on the classroom. It's up to us to minimize that as much as we possibly can."

Perhaps as important as the budget decisions they'll have to make is the board's decision to begin the transition process to a new school superintendent, no matter how innocuous their first steps into this minefield are. The board was to meet Saturday to begin talking about, as Jackson said, the qualities and competencies of the person they'll hire to replace Craig Fiegel, whose contract expires in June and won't be renewed.

Jackson said among the possibilities to be discussed are whether the board wants to hire an interim superintendent or go right to a search process to find a permanent successor.

We renew our call for the latter. Next to getting a contract for their teachers, hiring Fiegel's replacement needs to be Job One for the Board of Education. An interim superintendent simply delays the inevitable. This is a decision the board must make; there's no sense having to make it twice.

There are a lot of leadership positions to be filled in the administrator either over the summer or, in come cases, shortly after the beginning of the 2011-12 school year. The new, permanent superintendent should be given the chance to bring in his or her own people. That wasn't a choice for Fiegel, who never totally clicked with his team. Bringing in the new superintendent to help with the hiring would be the best way to avoid some of those same missteps.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Has the increase in gasoline prices affected your driving habits, or do you think it will shortly?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"Probably shortly, but it hasn't right now." Tom Ditzhazy Plymouth Township



"A little bit, yeah. As it costs more, you've got to try and conserve more." Wayne Stamps Royal Oak



"I don't drive that much. I only buy gas about one time a month. ... It does bother me that the gas prices are so high." Leonard Weems

Plymouth Township



"I don't pay for my gas, so, no." Katy Russell Canton Township

LETTERS

Restoring the faith

On Feb. 22, I drove to Plymouth to do housesitting for relatives. As Michiganders, we had just recently been hit by yet another February snowstorm.

Upon turning into the subdivision, I hit a patch of ice, and ended up stuck in very deep snow. I tried and tried to get out of this rut, but was unable to. I parked the car, and walked over to the first house on the block (as I was still somewhat on Ann Arbor Trail). Upon walking to the door I noticed a large truck out front of the house. A very nice man opened the door, I explained my situation and he told me he would be out shortly to help, as he was on the telephone.

As I trudged back to my vehicle, to my delight I saw another gentleman pull up in a large truck, asking if I needed any help. Then I saw a man crossing the street with a shovel, again asking if I needed help. I was so relieved. As the man with the shovel (Patrick) started trying to remove as much snow as he could from under my car, the gentleman whose door I had knocked on came out and they assessed the situation letting the first angel (from Pinckney) get home to his family. Then they tried to see how they could best help me out of this snowbank. I have an older car that sits very low to the ground, and they could not find anywhere to attach the tow rope to. With plenty of prayer, my guardian angels hooked up the rope and began to pull me out of this dangerous situation. That is when I inquired to the man with the shovel, if I could have their names. He stated Patrick, and said that I was the fourth person that they had to dig out. He said the other man was Ryan, and they were happy to help. As Ryan pulled me out of the snowbank, he drove me up the street, turned right, went to the next block (which was where I was housesitting), turned the corner (where Wayne County was doing some plowing) and delivered me safely to my relatives' residence. He waited for me to park, would not accept any token of appreciation, assured me that he was happy to help me. Ryan indulged me in a hug as I tearfully thanked him for his generosity. I am so very thankful to those three angels, but especially to Ryan and Patrick (Restoration Station) for getting me out of harm's way, and being the consummate gentlemen in assisting me in my hour of need. I truly felt that the Observer needed to hear what wonderful people reside in and own businesses in Plymouth and how they made me feel safe, and cared for, in a potentially dangerous situation. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, you two true gentlemen, for taking the time to help, and restoring my faith in mankind! You are truly heroes.

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.

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at www.hometownlife.com.

Great addition

Congratulations on the great addition to your staff in the recent hiring of Ed Wright. In my opinion, Ed is the quintessential sports reporter in this area (second to none!) and I know that Ed will do an absolutely great job of covering sports for Redford and Garden City!

We have missed him (Canton Observer) and will miss him (Plymouth-Canton sports) incredibly, but we are thrilled for our friends "in the area." His professionalism, his knowledge of "the games" (all of them), his relational skills, his experience and expertise, his creativity, his journalistic abilities, and, most importantly, his passion will shine through in no time!

As I have experienced, "hiring the right people" is key to a successful organization AND as Bill Gates once said, "If we weren't still hiring great people, it would be easy to fall behind and become a mediocre company."

The new superintendent, whomever it turns out to be, deserves to start with his or her best foot forward.

Stay safe and sober

It may not be the busiest bar night of the year — that honor, if you could call it that, goes to Thanksgiving Eve — but St. Patrick's Day is right up there. You don't have to be Irish to celebrate the day, but you do need to do it in a way that keeps yourself and others safe.

St. Patrick's Day has become a popular night out to celebrate with friends and family. Unfortunately, due to the large volume of drunken drivers, the night out has also become very dangerous.

The statistic are sobering.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 37 percent of the drivers and motorcyclists involved in fatal crashes had a blood alcohol content (BAC) of .08 or above on St. Patrick's Day 2009. Additionally, there were 103 crash fatalities on St. Patrick's Day 2009 and out of that number, 47 people were killed in traffic crashes that involved at least one driver or motorcyclist with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher.

And you don't have to be "falling down drunk" to be too impaired to drive safely. Even a few drinks can impair driving and a buzzed driving crash has the same consequences as a drunken driving crash.

Driving a vehicle or riding a motorcycle while impaired is not worth the risk. The consequences are serious and real. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for driving while impaired can be significant.

Drunken driving violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver's license, higher insurance rates, and dozens of other unanticipated expenses ranging from attorney fees, court costs, car towing and repairs, and lost wages due to time off from work.

We all know the slogan, "Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk," and it's true not just St. Patrick's Day, but every day of the year. Go ahead and "Irish," but don't get lost in a sea of green beer. Make sure you have a game plan that includes getting home safely.

The folks at www.StopImpairedDriving.org recommend that if you plan on drinking alcohol, don't drive. Plan a safe way home before the festivities begin or designate a sober driver and leave your car keys at home.

Your Irish eyes can be smiling on St. Patrick's Day 2011, but don't let the haze of alcohol cloud your vision. Designate your sober driver before the St. Patrick's Day parties begin. Susie Travers Westland

Getting what you pay for

I was pleased that so many citizens and experienced firefighters voiced their concerns over stepping backwards in regard to our fire and emergency services here in Plymouth at Monday's city council meeting.

Unfortunately, it was a formality. For nearly an hour people shared their concerns, knowledge, understanding, and experiences with our current level of service and the new voluntary on-call delivery service that was UNANIMOUSLY approved. It was pointed out numerous times that response times are so important in both medical and fire emergencies.

It will be interesting to see how this new model handles a fire similar to that at Park Manor Apartments. Given the conditions that early morning, how long would it take for a truck to arrive on the scene and how many firefighters would arrive from literally miles away?

Some residents stated that they would be willing to pay more in taxes for the piece of mind and overall safety of the residence and visitors to our city. Many requested that the motion be tabled. I ask why wasn't the city residents given the opportunity to vote on a millage to pay for a full-time fire service? If clearly explained that the alternative to approving a millage would be the model approved on Monday evening, I believe that many residents would be willing to shoulder the cost. Spreading the estimated saving of \$400,000 over 4,200 households and businesses in perspective would not be a huge burden.

Like many residents I find this move troublesome. I'm afraid that over the life of this contract we will quickly forget the "savings" when we see peoples lives impacted in immeasurable and unmentionable ways. I'll sleep easy the next nine months knowing that quick, professional fire personal are truly only minutes away if needed.

You really do get what you pay for.

Tom Carr Plymouth

Meaning of freedom

I am a Vietnam veteran, I was away from my home, family and friends for 32 months, fighting to protect every American's freedom. I saw many brothers give the ultimate sacrifice for this right, but I must say hearing of the Supreme Court's ruling for an organization to be able to heckle a hero's funeral brought tears to my eyes.

I wonder what freedom means to these judges. I'm sure it's not the same as every American veteran or soldier.

Robert Denstedt Canton To borrow another quote as well as leadership/management principle (from Jim Collins in "Good To Great"), thanks for "putting the right people in the right seats" on the bus!

Though I still won't have the privilege of once again reading Ed's columns about student athletes in my specific community when I pick up my Observer from my porch each Thursday night and Sunday morning. I know a lot of parents and students "in the area" will be getting the best of the best! PLUS, I can always click on my "hometownlife" link and read his articles!

By the way, let's get that "Staff Directory" updated so your Redford and Garden City customers can know how to get in contact with their new "sports editor."

Looking forward to tomorrow night's Observer with great anticipation (even more than my daily USA Today and Detroit Free Press),

Kevin Winningham Iongtime subscriber raving fan of Canton Observer

Reject NEA cuts

The U.S. House of Representatives is on track to cut \$43 million from the National Endowment for the Arts' budget of \$167.5 million. That's a 26percent cut – the deepest in 16 years!

• Our senators should prevent these deep cuts from happening when they take up this legislation at the end of this month.

The arts mean jobs! According to Americans for the Arts, the nonprofit arts industry generates \$166.2 billion annually in economic activity, supports 5.7 million full-time equivalent jobs in the arts and related industries, and returns \$12.6 billion in federal income taxes. Measured against direct federal cultural spending of about \$1.4 billion, that's a return of nearly nine to one.

Federal funding for the arts leverages private funding. The NEA requires at least a one-to-one match of federal funds from all grant recipients – a match far exceeded by most grantees. On average, each NEA grant leverages at least seven dollars from other state, local, and private sources.

Private support cannot match the leveraging role of government cultural funding. Please take into consideration what this message means. Many kids find their niche in the arts and giving them an opportunity to succeed is really not a lot to ask.

> Heather Cornell Canton

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 10, 2011

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS

Hide & Seek

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NEWSPAPERS

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c/o: Michele Austin 41304 Concept Drive Plymouth, MI 48170

Deadline for submissions: 3/31/11

All entries need to be received by close of the business day on March 31st, for winners to be announced in the April Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

| | Youth Community: |
|-------|---|
| 1 | sommanity. |
| | I found Scoop on page(s) on date(s) |
| (| Parent's information to contact winning entry: Phone, email, home address) |
| - | |
| - | |
| _ | |

Lucky winners from last month's contest



Brandon Falk Age: 7 1/2 Milford

My dog Gabby guards our house and lets me lay on her when I am tired.



Maia Claiborne Age: 9 Livonia My dog Ginger makes me feel safe and plays hide n' seek with me.

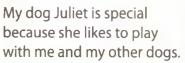


Joshua McKay Age: 10 Canton My dog Benjiman loves playing catch outside and greets me with a hug when I come home.



Natalie Aulicino Age: 10 South Lyon My dog Vasco is special because he is a hospital therapy dog.





Scoop, the newshound, will be offering contests on a monthly basis. Look for Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights page monthly in this newspaper!

A12 (WGcCP) Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 10, 2011

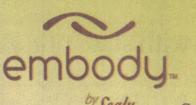
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P-C-S PENGUINS FALL IN DOUBLE OT - B2

SECTION B

WHALERS ROUT PLAYOFF PREVIEW PAGE B2

THURSDAY, March 10, 2011

Abro-cadabra

SPORTS

Canton wrestler finishes magical run with state title at Palace

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

A perfect showing at the Division 1 individual state wrestling finals aptly capped off Canton senior Anthony Abro's perfect season and brilliant high school career.

The 189-pounder won the state title with a 3-1 decision Saturday over Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's Miles Trealout at The Palace of Auburn Hills, before an enthusiastic throng of Canton supporters.

After finishing off Trealout, Abro let loose with happy emotion - a look of sheer exaltation on his face as he leaned back and looked toward the Palace rafters. It was a well-deserved celebration for finally having reached the pinnacle.

"That's when I knew I had the title, went undefeated and got all my goals accomplished," said Abro, describing his emotions at the moment of victory. "And that I really brought a title home to Canton. (There was) a lot of pressure off, it felt good."

NOTHING IN HIS WAY

And Abro had quite an impressive list

of goals that he reached.

In addition to the championship, the victory gave Abro a 60-0 record this season and 200 victories over his stellar four-year career with the Chiefs - including 11 in a row without a loss to Trealout.

With the win, Abro proved he wasn't about to let his title quest come up short.

"He was focused on what he wanted to accomplish and didn't let anyone or anything get in his way," said Canton head coach Cory Mancuso.

During the championship bout, Abro didn't really hear all of his fans going wild and chanting his name.

"Not really," said Abro, during a phone interview Tuesday. "I wasn't hearing anything on the mat, just kind of focusing on trying to score."

Abro did hear what Mancuso and other Canton coaches had to say to help make sure he wasn't too predictable against Trealout.

"Every time we wrestled I had to change things up to score my points or something, to win," Abro noted. "... They (coaches) really helped me a lot with that."

To that end, Saturday's matchup was different than the one on Feb. 19, when Abro defeated Trealout 5-3 at the D1 individual regional finals.

Meanwhile, Mancuso was more than proud about how the senior never wavered throughout the perfect season.

"I am just so proud and happy for Anthony," Mancuso said. "He showed to everyone that hard work always pays off. He was willing to do what most people are not and that's why he won."

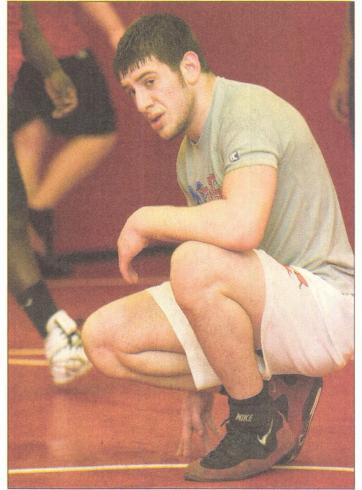
OTHER SUCCESSES

hometownlifemcom

Another Canton success story was freshman Ben Griffin, who finished in seventh place at 103 — ending an outstanding rookie year with a record of 57-3.

"To be a freshman and get a state medal is a great accomplishment," Mancuso said. "I know he is disappointed with a seventh place finish, but now he knows what needs to be done for him to take the next step to reaching his individual goals."

Please see ABRO, B2





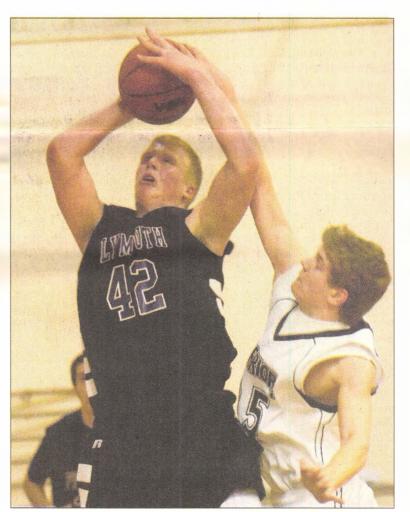
Shown taking a breather during a recent workout, all the sweat and toil paid off big-time for Canton 189-pounder Anthony Abro – who won the state title in his weight class Saturday at The Palace of Auburn Hills.



Eagles rise up after early woes

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

As Eric Jipping goes, so does Plymouth Christian Academy's varsity boys basketball team. The 6-5 junior center scored 25 points and tallied 10 rebounds Monday to help the Eagles overcome a sluggish start and grab a 59-54 win over Lutheran



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northville's Bryce Groshek takes on Salem's Grant Bettner during Monday's boys basketball district game. The Rocks held on for a 72-68 victory.

Rocks cool in crunch time

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Things got hot under the collar late during Monday's Class A boys basketball district quarterfinal between Salem and host Northville.

But in loud, enemy surroundings with Northville's faithful making plenty of noise trying to help the Mustangs stage a comeback - the Rocks stayed cool and secured a 72-68 victory.

Salem (14-7) hosted Novi-Detroit

Catholic Central Wednesday in a semifinal matchup that took place after this issue of the Observer went to press.

"Any time you got the lead and you're the hunted instead of the hunter, there is a little sense of urgency," veteran Salem head coach Bob Brodie said. "... You're going to break down once in a while against such pressure, they're a good defensive team. But we held our composure for the most part."

Please see ROCKS, B3

Westland in a Class D district quarterfinal at PCA.

"He's a big guy with good, quick feet and really great post moves inside," Eagles head coach Keith Anleitner said about Jipping. 'That was the difference.'

Lutheran Westland head coach Doug Haller said his team effectively defended Jipping for a while.

"I thought we took away at least his initial move to the basket," Haller said. "What hurt us was a few times he was able to get an

offensive rebound and a putback. "He's tough to stop, when you

get a kid that big (with) good hands and good feet."

REFUSING TO LOSE

Other factors included PCA's hustle after loose balls and penchant for clutch rebounds, as well as making eight straight free throws in the final minute to salt away the victory. Making four each during that span were junior guards Daniel Mullett (10 points, six assists) and Chris Scagnetti (five points).

"We probably would have gone to overtime if we didn't hit those free throws at the end," Anleitner said.

Jipping and the Eagles took a while to get going, as Lutheran Westland (3-18) jumped out to a Going up for a shot Monday is Plymouth Christian's Eric Jipping (No. 42), despite defensive pressure from Lutheran Westland's Micah Reum.

16-9 lead after one quarter. The Warriors paid extra attention to Jipping and also forced a spate of early PCA turnovers.

"We wanted to get the ball to Eric, but they were double- and triple-teaming him in the beginning," Anleitner said. "We could not complete passes to him."

The Warriors expanded that

edge to 28-14 with about three minutes left in the half, helped along by hot-shooting senior guard Marc Rosin (two treys in the second quarter). Rosin scored 17 first-half points, but cooled off to finish with 26.

PCA (5-14) subsequently turned

Please see EAGLES, B3



Canton senior Kayla Bridges works her way past Megan Schechtman (No. 15) of Ann Arbor Pioneer on Tuesday night.

Canton girls cagers ride huge lead to victory

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFE WRITER**

In the state tournament, all wins are equal.

That doesn't mean Canton's varsity girls basketball team is thrilled about how it played in Tuesday's 47-29 victory over Ann Arbor Pioneer in a Class A regional semifinal.

After the regional host Chiefs (22-2) had the game decided midway through the third

— with an insurm<mark>ountable 42-</mark>14 edge — some sloppy play crept in. That allowed Pioneer to finish the game outscoring Canton 15-5, including 9-1 in the fourth.

"You got to keep your focus and continue to concentrate and keep plugging away," Canton

GIRLS BASKETBALL REGIONALS

head coach Brian Samulski said. "With a senior-led group, I thought we came out and had a nice start to the third quarter.

"And then I thought we sort of lost some concentration as we went on. ... But for the most part, I thought we did OK."

The regional host Chiefs (22-2) broke out early against the Pioneers, going up 17-4 with about 2:30 remaining in the first quarter.

Canton's lead grew to 32-10 late in the first half, following a layup by junior point guard Robyn Mack and a triple by senior forward CarolAnn Sexauer (eight points).

It was 34-14 at halftime and the Chiefs racked up a string of easy buckets — two by senior forward Kari Schmitt (17 points, eight rebounds, six steals) - to go up 42-14.

Although Canton had the game won by that point, senior forward Kayla Bridges (11 points, six boards, two blocks) conceded that "our second half was really ugly. There are some things we need to work on. We got the win, but it definitely wasn't pretty."

Chipping in with seven points and five rebounds was senior forward Sara Schmitt.

For the Pioneers (16-3), Maya **Richmond and Emma Braun** tallied nine and eight points, respectively.

Now, Canton will welcome 18-5 Farmington Hills Mercy for Thursday's 7 p.m. regional final. The Marlins rolled to a 52-29 victory over Hartland (20-4) in

Tuesday's first game. Except for the second-half blip, Samulski said he was pleased with his team's performance and doesn't think there

will be any lingering worries. "We're going to have to continue to do what we're doing," Samulski said. "Defend, rebound and take care of the ball.

"Mercy's a good team, they won the Catholic League and they were impressive tonight. So we're going to have to come out focused and ready to go."

LOCAL SPORTS

BZ (CP) Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 10, 2011



WALT DMOCH

Plymouth Whalers goalie Matt Mahalak is in perfect position to make one of his 50 stops Saturday against Windsor. Here, he stymies Spitfires forward Kerby Rychel.

Whalers rout Spitfires in first-round preview

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Drop the puck for the OHL playoffs right now, because a first-round dandy is brewing between the Plymouth Whalers and Windsor.

The Whalers blitzed Spitfires emergency goaltender Michael Nishi for three quick goals en route to a 6-2 victory Saturday night before a standing room only crowd of 4,050 at Compuware Arena.

There were several fights, 84 penalty minutes and a total of five game misconducts doled out as the Western Conference rivals got after it in a big way.

Plymouth goalie Matt

OHL HOCKEY

posure."

ROUGH AND TUMBLE

It was a 4-1 Plymouth lead midway through the second period when a melee broke loose in Windsor's end. Plymouth forward Garrett Meurs was roughed up in the corner after he chased down a loose puck and several simultaneous fights ensued.

In fact two players from each side (Windsor's Craig Duininck and Nick Czinder; Plymouth's Beau Schmitz and Mitchell Heard) got into a pair of fights each before the alter-

(one goal, two assists) ripped a shot from inside the blue line, midway between the boards.

Both Livingston and forward Jamie Devane converged on the rebound and Devane knocked it in for his first of two in the game.

It was 3-0 with 7:51 to go thanks to a beautiful individual effort by Livingston. He walked the puck out of the left corner, skated in front of Nishi and slid the puck into the Windsor net for an unassisted goal, his 21st of the season.

"We just knew we had a big game playing Windsor here," Livingston said. "We just wanted to come out hard and I felt like I had a little extra

Double-OT defeat ices Penguins

BY TIM SMITH + **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Plymouth-Canton-Salem's Penguins nearly won the Division 2 state girls hockey title for the second consecutive season.

But with three key players out with injuries, the shorthanded squad could not keep it going long enough to get past Regina on Saturday in a double-overtime game.

"We simply ran out of steam," Penguins head coach Mary Beth Johnson said. "We were missing three senior players who not only would have helped offensively and defensively, but would have given us three complete lines to allow us to stay stronger longer."

Missing the game were Rhianna Fleisher, Marissa Sullivan and Mallory Rojo.

Meanwhile, Regina (which won the D2 regular season in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League) had a full bench and plenty of energy as the game continued. Regina goalie Kelsey Erne (22

saves) outdueled PCS sophomore netminder Cortny McAdoo (17 saves), who backstopped the Penguins to last year's title.

On the winning goal, at 3:38 of the second OT, the puck slithered out of a group of players to the left of McAdoo. It squirted to a wide-open player on the right side for a



The Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins score a goal against Detroit Country Day during the recent playoffs. Registering the tally was Rebecca Majszak (No. 12), with teammates Emily Bullock (No. 2), Amanda Heisler (No. 22) and Alissa Novak (No. 19, foreground) also shown. PCS won that game 5-1 only to fall Saturday in double overtime to Regina in the championship match.

GIRLS HOCKEY

slam-dunk.

Scoring the PCS goal was Rebecca Majszak on the power play, from Alissa Novak.

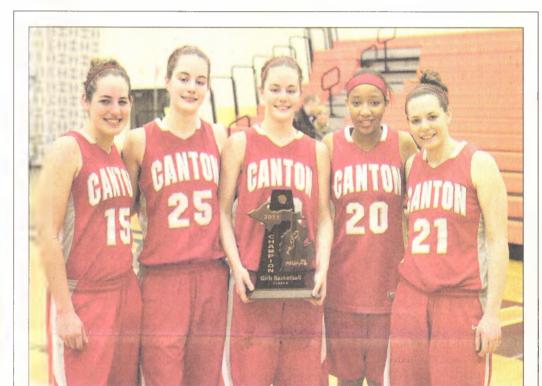
"Both teams had a few great opportunities, but both goalies were really playing well," Johnson said.

The Penguins (who finished 9-11), reached the D2 final thanks to a 5-1 victory Friday over Detroit Country Day.

Scoring the game's first four goals were the Penguins. They were tallied by Majszak (from Emily Bullock), Amanda Heisler (from Majszak), Bullock (from Novak and Jennifer Fedon) and Novak (unassisted in the third period).

Heisler later added her second of the game, from Sarah Coleman.

Stopping 23 shots for the victory was McAdoo, while PCS sent 32 shots toward the Country Day net.



Mahalak stopped 50 of 52 shots and four Whalers tallied multiple points - led by forward James Livingston's one goal and three assists.

"It's quite possible," said Livingston about a Plymouth-Windsor playoff pairing. "I mean with all the rough stuff it's like a playoff game already. We're happy with the matchup, whatever way we get it."

Plymouth improved to 35-22-1-4, good for 75 points and fourth place in the Western Conference. The win briefly put the Whalers one point ahead of fifth-place Windsor. (But Plymouth lost 4-1 Sunday at Sault Ste. Marie and the Spitfires won, to regain fourth.)

With just a handful of games left, the two teams are on a collision course for the playoffs. The fourth and fifth place teams in the conference will face each other in Round 1.

Plymouth recently clinched a playoff spot, which makes it 20 seasons in a row with the Whalers qualifying.

"This is our 20th straight year, and I'm pretty sure it's an OHL record," Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci said. "Our drafting's good and our owner (Peter Karmanos) gives us all the tools to go out and get good players."

In the final regular season game between the longtime rivals, there were plenty of messages delivered.

"We got up and they (Spitfires) started going after our guys and going after our goalie," Vellucci said. "That's kind of typical with them right now. When they're down they're going to go after you. But we got to show more com-

Griffin went 3-2 at The Palace,

Also earning All-State honors

over Caledonia's John Leark.

pound weight class.

finishing with a 10-0 major decision

among Plymouth-Canton Educational

Park wrestlers was Salem sophomore

Cody Korpus, eighth place in the 119-

Korpus (23-13 for the season)

FROM PAGE B1

cation ended. All were given game misconducts.

There was another scrum just before the period ended. Windsor forward Jake Carrick gave Mahalak a nudge while the play was going in the opposite direction, and everybody on the ice quickly retreated for another go-around.

Carrick was whistled for two roughing minors, a fighting major and a 10-minutes misconduct. Meanwhile, Plymouth defenseman Austin Levi (Farmington Hills) was thrown out.

The third period, which began with the Whalers up 6-1, was a relatively calm stanza with four minors and a power play goal by Windsor for the game's final marker.

Of course, the most important number of the night was six - as in the goals scored by the Whalers on just 30 shots against Nishi.

The recent callup from the Ontario Junior A Hockey League goalie was pressed into service because the expected starter, John Cullen, hurt his knee during warmups. Number one goalie Jack Campbell also was out, with the flu.

"We jumped on their young goalie early and that was key, we got up 3-0," Vellucci said.

STRONG FROM THE START

Livingston's on-a-tee feed to captain Schmitz resulted in a one-timer from the right circle that beat Nishi high on the glove side.

That power-play goal at 3:17 was followed by another with the extra man just over four minutes later.

Forward Robbie Czarnik

jump so I was glad to get a couple points and help out."

Plymouth killed off a 5-on-3 disadvantage for 1:07 early in the second period, further frustrating Windsor.

Then Czarnik broke in for an unassisted, shorthanded goal with 17:16 left in the second to make it 4-0. It was his 32nd marker.

The Spitfires finally got on the board at 5:36 when Zack Kassian knocked in the rebound of Alexander Khokhlachev's scoring bid.

GETTING IT BACK

But forward Tyler Brown — who last week signed an NHL entry level contract with Philadelphia — opened up a 5-1 Plymouth lead with 6:25 left.

Defenseman Dario Trutmann's slapper from the left circle was stopped, but the puck bounced into the slot. That's where Brown did a spinarama and ripped a shot past Nishi for his 25th goal of the season.

Finishing up the Whalers' offensive uprising was Devane, with his one-timer of a Czarnik pass cleanly beating Nishi at 17:09.

Windsor fired 20 shots at Mahalak in the second and another 23 in the third, but only had the Kassian goal and one by Tom Kuhnhacki in the final frame to show for it.

"I thought he (Mahalak) played really well, 50 saves," Vellucci said. "I know most of the shots were from outside, Windsor shoots from everywhere. But he made the big saves when he had to."

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ing hard during the off-season to get back there again."

THEY ALSO COMPETED

E di Li i

Among other PCEP wrestlers, Canton senior Ben Poirier lost 2-1 in overtime to Flint Carman-Ainsworth's Mark Byrd in the 285pound quarterfinals on Friday. Poirier concluded his final season

with the Chiefs with an outstanding record of 51-5.

Junior Zach Marsh opened up Thursday with a 12-7 decision over

BY BRAD EMONS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

More hardware

the contest against Novi.

Livonia Churchill just won't let the boys hockey season come to an end.

Jake Otto's dramatic goal with 4:51 remaining in the first overtime gave the Chargers a 4-3 victory over Ann Arbor Pioneer in the Division 1 regional final Saturday afternoon at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube.

The Chargers, who captured their first regional title since 2007, advanced to the Elite Eight Wednesday at the Ice Cube to face Orchard Lake St. Mary, which also advanced with a 9-3 win Saturday night over Northville.

Churchill, which improved to 15-10-2 overall, carried the play most of game as evidenced by a 40-25 shots-ongoal differential.

Otto's game-winner came as a result of a perfect carom off the boards following a shot from the left point by defenseman Cam Benson.

Ben Proben and Benson drew assists on the game-winner.

"Cam (Benson) shot it off the boards and I was waiting back-door for it," said Otto, a junior forward. "I was waiting to tap it in and go celebrate."

Churchill skates into Elite Eight

Canton's own 'Fab Five,' seniors (from left) Melanie Pickert, Kari Schmitt, Sara Schmitt (with trophy), Kayla

wearing No. 20 because she had to change her regular No. 33 jersey after sustaining a bloody mouth during

Bridges and CarolAnn Sexauer celebrate after winning the Class A districts last week. Bridges is shown

Pioneer junior goaltender Spencer Peck was rock-sold all afternoon, stopping 36 Churchill shots, many of which, were quality attempts.

"Their goalie was real good," Otto said. "You have to give them a lot of credit. We couldn't put it in, but we got it in overtime.

"It means a lot. Our regular season was up-and-down, and this just means the world now. We can do anything now. We're in the playoffs."

It was 1-1 after one period as Proben, a junior, scored for Churchill just 2:50 in the game off assists from Otto and Brad Milks.

Pioneer's Jaleel Rosemond answered with a power play goal with 11:09 of the same period on assists from Joseph Chronis and Nicholas Michos.

Churchill then dominated the second period, outshooting Pioneer 14-4, but fell behind 2-1 on Thomas Pokorney's goal at 5:25 from Branden Mackellar

Hudsonville's Carl Nystrom to reach

But Marsh was pinned in 5:16 by

Brian Gibbs of Temperance-Bedford

He then lost a consolation matchup

to Eddie Nuttall of Ypsilanti-Lincoln,

falling by a 3-1 score. That wrapped

Keith Tkac in 4:42 on Thursday and

Day 2 at 140.

in the quarterfinals.

20-9 for the season.

and Benjamin Silvers.

Proben's tap-in power play goal at 7:32 of the same period from Otto and Steve Klisz squared the game at 2-all.

With 9:02 remaining in the third period, Churchill defenseman Joe Williams ripped a shot from the left point and scored just under the crossbar from Milks and Proben to make it 3-2.

But Pioneer's Joshua Packard sent the game into overtime with just 8:33 to go with a backhand rebound attempt with Pokorney and Zachary Reinholdt assisting.

"We felt pretty good about the (offensive) looks we were getting," Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni said. "We knew their kid (Spencer Peck) was capable of keeping them in the game. Pioneer plays playoff hockey all season long, and they take advantage when they get stuff.

"It was a struggle, but we needed to see that for sure."

Churchill will be a heavy underdog Wednesday against St. Mary, but the Chargers don't seem to mind.

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Youssef lost his only consolation matchup to finish 46-13.

Breckenridge did earn a win over Ryan Howcroft of Rochester Adams in a consolation matchup but bowed out in his following bout to finish 35-13.

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lost via disqualification Friday. Meanwhile, Plymouth's Said Youssef (125) and Alec Breckenridge (130) lost their opening bouts Thursday.

up his season with a record of 43-10. Canton senior 171-pounder Braden Price went 0-2 at The Palace to finish Price was pinned by Brighton's

lost a 17-4 technical fall to Freddie Rodriguez of Grand Ledge on Friday to drop to the consolation bracket. He had pinned John Brown of Sterling Heights Stevenson in 1:35 on Thursday.

The Salem youngster also earned a 4-1 win over Farmington's Kevin Kennerly.

"Cody really turned things around at districts," Salem head coach Pete Israel said. "The state meet really motivated him at the end of the year. "... I look forward to Cody work-

JOHN KEMSKI

FROM PAGE B

*The Rocks led for much of the night, jumping out to leads of 11-9 after one quarter, 32-27 at halftime and 52-42 entering the fourth.

It was a 62-55 lead with 3:15 to play after 6-6 sophomore forward Chris Dierker (15 points, eight rebounds) drained a jumper.

Northville (11-10) chipped away and trailed 64-62 following two free throws by junior forward Brett MacDonald (12 points) with just 1:47 remaining in regulation.

Salem turned the ball over and the Mustangs had a chance to tie the score, only to miss the shot. Dierker grabbed the rebound and drew a foul in the process; he then hit two free throws to open up a 66-62 edge.

FINISHING THE JOB

The Mustangs got the ball back with about a minute left, still trailing by four. But they were tagged with an offensive foul to end that possession and a traveling violation stopped their next one.

Salem senior forward Ethan Walsh sank two free throws (he made all six foul shots over the final 3:45 and finished with 13 points) and 6-3 junior forward Tyler Stewart (15 points, six rebounds) made three more to pretty much wrap up the victory.

"We knew it was going to come down to the very end, so we knew we were going to have to knock down free throws," said the 6-3, 240-pound Walsh — a football player and no stranger to the kind of physical play he encountered in the paint. Walsh also pulled down six boards.

Concurring was Brodie, whose team hit 30 of 40 foul shots during the game. "We knocked down some free throws when we needed to at

the end."

According to Northville's third-year head coach Todd Sander, the late surge only was a reminder of what might have been had the Mustangs played stronger earlier in the contest. He lamented giving Salem 21 points in the second quarter.

"That's really when it got away from us," Sander said. "I thought they were scoring way too easily, I didn't think we were making them make difficult shots, they were getting layups or free throws.

But Sander did expect nothing less than the war that the game became at crunch time.

"Every time we play Salem it's a battle," Sander said. "It's close and whoever's ahead better be ready for a run.

"Tonight it was us trying to come from behind. ... I liked how our guys battled, I liked how we fought."

HANGING TOUGH

Brodie said it was key that his team got the job done in such a pressure-packed situation.

"That was big, because of late, we've lost some close games this season," Brodie emphasized. "... You kind of wonder about whether or not the kids can keep their composure in a big game like this, in the state tournament. I was proud of the way they reacted."

Salem's balanced attack was led by 6-5 senior forward Zinoviy Pelekh (17 points, seven boards).

Leading Northville in scoring was senior guard Bryce Groshek, who tallied 21 points in the final game of his prep career. When he left the game with eight seconds to go, the Northville fans gave him a nice ovation.

Senior forwards Levi Perry and Andrew Baldwin led the Mustangs with 11 and six rebounds, respectively.

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'Cats quickly out of state tourney



Plymouth's Jacob Morris (left) fires the ball off of Novi's Chris Milon to try to get an out-of-bounds call.

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The playoff run didn't last long for Plymouth's varsity boys basketball team.

But Wildcats' second-year head coach Mike Soukup wasn't about to let a 78-58 loss to Novi in Monday's Class A district quarterfinal dampen a pretty successful season.

"I'm thankful to my seniors," Soukup said. "I'm so proud of them and what they've accomplished this year as far as winning our first division crown

here at Plymouth.

"They started, hopefully, what will be a good tradition for us of winning basketball and tough-played basketball."

Those seniors Soukup referred to was the talented trio of guard Mike Nadratowski and forwards Brennen Beyer and Pat Salo. Nadratowski led the KLAA South champion Wildcats (14-7) with 19 points, while Beyer and Salo chipped in with 18 and 11 points, respectively. Samer Ozeir led Novi with 18 points, while Rob Laney

contributed 14. The district hosts improved to 18-3 with the victory, going into Wednesday's game against Canton (the Chiefs drew an opening bye).

-B3

(CP)

According to Soukup, Novi shot the basketball extremely well early on, enough to build what turned out to be an insurmountable lead.

"Every time we tried to make a run, they were able to counter with a good run of their own," Soukup said.

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Canton gymnasts headed for finals

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

On the heels of a nearrecord performance, Canton's girls gymnastics team is pumped up for this week's Division 1 and 2 state meet in Kenowa Hills.

Chiefs coach John Cunningham's team won last Saturday's MHSAA Region 3 meet with a tally of 146.925 points — just shy of the team record of 147.1 set in 2007.

Simultaneously taking place at Canton was the Michigan High School Gymnastics Coaches and Judges Association Division 3 championships, for those with event-qualifying scores but less than the four required to compete at regionals.

"With Robyn Piwowar back, ... and Ayana Lewis nearly back to speed, Canton became a monster," beamed Cunningham.

At the state team finals, set for Friday, the Chiefs are vying for their second runner-up finish in school history. Cunningham conceded first place to Grand Ledge, but his squad is in the mix for second along with Farmington, Troy Athens and Kenowa Hills.

Perhaps just as impressively, eight Canton gymnasts qualified for Saturday's individual state finals including senior Piwowar.

She had missed action due to illness and a school trip, but returned in a big way with a first-place showing on balance beam (9.5), finishing second on floor (9.65) and notching a third-place score of 36.375 for D1 all-around.

Also in the D1 meet, sophomore Alex Fideler registered second-place finishes on uneven parallel bars (8.95) and beam (9.325) and a third on floor with a tally of 9.6 points.

In the D2 competition, Lewis was lights out with firsts in four events (vault, 9.25; bars, 9.35; beam, 9.125; all-around, 36.925.

Leading other notable

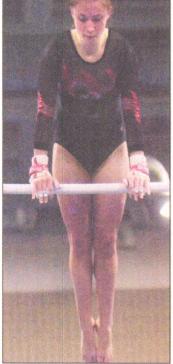
Canton D2 performers was freshman Melissa Green. She took second on vault (9.2) and all-around (36.5) while registering nines on floor (9.4, fourth) and beam (9.15, fifth).

Senior Kali Pierce chipped in with thirds on beam (8.925)and floor (9.3) while Nicole Lasecki qualified in three events, with her 9.25 on floor (sixth place) her best event. Lasecki also finished with 8.75 on vault (fifth) and 8.725 on beam (seventh).

Meanwhile, Canton freshman Erica Lucas "nailed her vault" with a 9.2 to grab second place and Brooke Granowicz placed second on beam (9.05) and ninth on floor (9.15).

In Region 3 team standings, Canton's 146.975 led a 10-team pack. In second was Grosse Pointe (138.575) followed by Salem (137.625), Livonia Blue (137.475) and Saline (136.700). Finishing seventh with 133.150 points was Plymouth.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

from a dual meet earlier this season, will represent the Chiefs both as an individual and with the team at this weekend's gymnastics finals.

FROM PAGE B1

things around. Baskets by Jipping and sophomore guard Mick Noel (nine points) jumpstarted a 10-0 run to close the half, cutting the gap to 28-24.

The Eagles didn't let intermission stop their momentum. They outscored the Warriors 11-2 over the first 3:30 of the third quarter, taking a 35-30 lead.

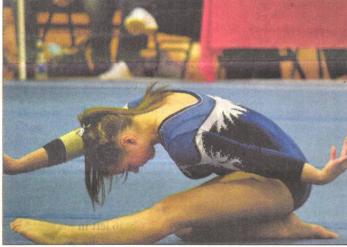


Rocks gymnasts are solid at regionals

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Move over Canton. You'll have company from The Park at this weekend's gymnastics

finals. The Salem Rocks also will



all season" and qualified in the D2 individual finals also made a big impact in how Salem performed at the regionals.

At the top of that list were Morgan Soper (sixth in vault with an 8 85) and Broc

Allgeyer (eighth on vault with

an 8.70).

Haller said a full-court press by PCA "forced us into a few turnovers that really took us out of our flow offensively."

Lutheran Westland didn't give up, however. Senior guard Kent Krzyske (eight points) hit a basket and a minute later the Warriors regained the lead at 36-35 (with 1:12 left in the third) following a triple and free throw by senior forward Micah Reum (12 points).

Jipping then drove to the bucket for a field goal, giving the Eagles a 37-36 edge after three.

HUSTLE POINTS

Defensive hustle by the Eagles helped the lead grow to 50-40 with about 3:30 to play.

Sophomore forward Drew Ibach (seven rebounds) assisted on junior guard Josh Middleton's bucket to open the fourth.

Ibach stole the ball near mid-court on the Warriors' next possession and that led to a layup by Jipping.

"(Those were) just hustle plays, diving for loose balls, trying to get into the passing lane," Anleitner said.

Besides Ibach, the coach added the names of Middleton and freshman Daniel Jipping (on JV most of the year) to his list of hard-working defenders.

The Eagles kept pouring it



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Trying to take the ball inside for Plymouth Christian Monday is Daniel Mullett (No. 10), although Matt Sylvester of Lutheran Westland is doing his best to thwart the attempt.

on and received some good fortune. Mullett's triple from the right flank bounced up off the rim, but came right back down through the cylinder.

Capping off a 36-12 surge that began in the second, sophomore forward Alex Huber (five points) and Jipping converted back-to-back field goals.

Although ultimately to no avail, Lutheran Westland fought back, forcing the Eagles into some miscues.

Reum cut the deficit to 53-51 with 26 seconds to go on a trey from the right wing and Rosin would add a triple 11 seconds later to make it 57-54.

Scagnetti made sure PCA's lead would not get any slimmer, hitting both foul shots to finish the victory.

Plymouth Christian will face Huron Valley Lutheran at 7 p.m. Wednesday in a district semifinal contest.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

GCYBSA signups

Greater Canton Youth **Baseball Softball Association** is holding its registration for spring programs for baseball and softball for ages 4-18 girls and boys.

Information and registration can be found at www.gcybsa. com. Registration is open until March 15. Programs include, small ball, T-ball, coach pitch, baseball, softball, competitive and travel leagues.

GCYBSA partners with Plymouth Township, Canton Township and Plymouth

Canton Community schools to provide developmental skill building baseball and softball leagues.

Track coach wanted

Livonia Clarenceville High School needs a boys varsity track coach for the 2011 season.

Applicants can mail a resume, letter of interest and references to: Kevin Murphy, athletic director, Clarenceville H.S., 20155 Middlebelt, Livonia, MI 48152. You can also e-mail KMurphy@clarenceville.k12.mi.us.

be in Kenowa Hills, securing a trip to the team finals with their third-place finish of 137.625 points at Saturday's MHSAA Region 3 meet hosted by the Chiefs.

According to one of Salem's coaches, Amy Driscoll, it will be the program's first time at the finals in a half-decade or so. The team will compete Friday, with several Salem gymnasts also taking part in Saturday's individual finals.

"We are very proud of the girls, turning out one of their best efforts on Saturday to finish third at the regional meet," Driscoll said.

Spearheading Salem were

Steelheaders meeting

The Metro-West Steelheaders monthly meeting will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 5 at the Livonia Senior Center, located at the southeast corner of Farmington and Five Mile roads.

Meetings are free and open to the public. No reservations needed.

Captain Jerry Lee will be

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surgeons.

Demonstrating her technique on floor exercise at the recent KLAA meet is Salem junior Nicole Jacobs, who was Division 2 conference champion in the event. Jacobs gualified for Saturday's individual finals and will compete with her teammates at Friday's team finals.

junior Nicole Jacobs and sophomore Ade Jepperson.

"Nicole qualified individually on all four events, winning the Division 2 floor exercise with a (personal best) 9.475,"

Driscoll noted. "Ade also took second-place honors on the uneven parallel bars (in D2) with a 8.95.'

Meanwhile "a strong freshman core, who have improved

SPORTS ROUNDUP

one of two featured speakers. He has over 30 years of fishing and guiding experience on the Great Lakes.

Among the topics include use of lead-core, rotators, cut bait, inline boards and the latest downrigger savvy. His presentation also includes tips and tactics to consistently boat limits of fish for his customers on a daily basis. Captain Chip Cartwright

will also unveil the latest from Wolverine Tackle, which produces the world famous Silver Streak lures.

For more information, call Jim Robertson at (734) 383-2790.

For girls only

Canton Arctic Edge Arena, at 46615 Michigan near Canton Center Drive, welcomes girls for some informal sticks and pucks, between 8-8:50 a.m. Saturdays.

The program carries the pointblank slogan "No Cuts! Boys!" and is just \$5 per participant.

Girls must bring their own equipment or use rental equipment available at Arctic Edge on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, call (734) 487-7777 or go to www. arcticarenas.com.



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season," Driscoll continued. She also saluted the contributions made by seniors Kristina Klusek, Amanda Rice, Alice Munday, juniors Brianna Cheesman, Hailee Lindberg and freshmen Maddie Burt, Paulette Martino and Nora Akcasu for the third-place team finish.

"Overall, we had 15 individuals qualify for the regional meet this year, which is an amazing number," Driscoll added.

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RELIGION

Mariners' Church service March 13 launches sailing season in region

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

Sailors from ships of all sizes will pray for a safe boating season Sunday at Mariners' Church in Detroit.

The 47th annual Blessing of the Fleet will be held at the 11 a.m. service, March 13 at the church, located at 170 E. Jefferson Ave., at the entrance to the Windsor Tunnel

The service is open to boaters and non-boaters alike. Participants may bring their burgees, colors, pennants and pennons to the church for the blessing.

Dr. Irene Tseng, a Livonia resident with a dental practice in Westland, has been a member of the church since infancy. She and her husband, Kenneth Morse, have attended many of the blessings, but this year they'll bring a flag to the ceremony.

"We have a small speed boat. We only just bought a flag last year," Tseng said. "We don't cruise the (Detroit) river. We go to Camp Michigania up north (Walloon Lake) and we sail at camp."

She said the flag likely will end up in the family's cottage rather than on the boat.

The couple's youngest of two daughters will serve as an acolyte on Sunday.

"It's a nice service and would be something different for someone visiting the church. They do special services every so often to acknowledge maritime groups. In the late fall there's a Great Lakes memorial service," she said.

"Mariners' is a very traditional service. They use an Anglican liturgy but it is an independent church. It does not belong to the Diocese of Michigan."

Tseng grew up

family tradition while completing a medical residency in Detroit.

bership as an adult because she enjoys the service with its beautiful music and traditional prayer book.

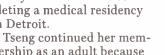
"It's something special. Even though it's very traditional it's not stodgy in any way. It's beautiful in its own way and I find a lot of comfort in that. I think people are comforted by what they

Mariners' Church, a national historic landmark, was founded in 1842 as a mission for sailors. During its early history it also served as a stop on the Underground Railroad and housed the Detroit post office, a bank and a grocery store. During the Great Depression it became a mission for home-

The church is the oldest structure on the Detroit Riverfront and was moved 880 feet east in 1954 to make way for a new civic center.

of those gems of the city," Tseng said. "Father (Richard) Ingalls, the minister there. is a torical information. They do give tours. Call ahead." at 8:30 a.m.

and 11 a.m. Free parking is available in the Ford



grew up with."

less women.

"It's one

wealth of his-Services are

Auditorium in Detroit. garage.



Honor guard members of the International Shipmasters' Association, Detroit Lodge No. 7, and military personnel assemble in the Mariners' Church sanctuary last year for the blessing of the fleet.



Kenneth Morse, Irene Tseng's husband, pilots their pontoon boat. The Livonia couple will get a flag blessed Sunday at the Blessing of the Fleet at Mariners' Church



aptain Edward J. Morris of the International Shipmasters' Association in Detroit tolls the bell in

western suburbs while also attending Mariners' Church. Her late mother started the

memory of mariners who died. Lt. Col. James B. Davis, Commander of the United States Army Corps of Engineers stands nearby at last year's blessing of the fleet.

Your Invitation to Worship PRESBYTERIAN **UNITED METHODIST** CATHOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD (U.S.A.)

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH ORCHARD **ROSEDALE GARDENS Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) UNITED METHODIST** 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 **Tridentine Latin Mass** 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) CHURCH vww.christoursavior.org St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 30450 Farmington Road · Farmington Hills Sunday Worship Sunday School/Bible Class 38100 Five Mile Road (734) 422-0494 www.orchardumc.org 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional 9:45 am Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200 SIIIS 248-626-3620 Mass Schedule: Fri. 7:00 p.m. Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am Early Childhood Center Fri. 7:00 p.m. Sat. 11:00 a.m. 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. First Staffed Nursery Available Phone 734-513-8413 Worship: First Sun. Masses 14 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Visit www.rosedalegardens.org 10:00 a.m. Christian Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeder For information about our many programs OE0872091 Education for all ages Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. 734-522-6830 Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter GREEK **Risen Christ Lutheran** David W. Martin, Pastor 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth a sile **ORTHODOX** OE08720908 (734) 453-5252 Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30 Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are **CHURCHES OF** 39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI Sunday Services www.risenchrist.info THE NAZARENE Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Rev. Fr. Demetrios Sean Govostec. Parish Office 734-420-0131 Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm **PLYMOUTH CHURCH** www.nativitygochurch.org **OF THE NAZARENE** LUTHERAN CHURCH 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. WISCONSIN SYNOD Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. PRESBYTERIAN **EVANGELICAL** ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, Fellowship Presbyterian Church LIVONIA (734) 261-1360 WARD CHURCH WORSHIP SERVICES Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulslivonia.org Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church , 40000 Six Mile Road 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org Northville, MI 48168 248.374.7400 www.wardchurch.org CONGREGATIONAL **Traditional Worship** For Information regarding this Directory, 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. North Congregational Church **Contemporary Worship** 36520 12 Mile Rd. 9:30 & 11 a.m. Farmington Hills please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, (bet. Drake & Halsted) Children's Programs available (248) 848-1750

Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM

at 9:30 & 11 a.m.

10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School

Faith - Freedom-Fellowship

Ministers

Rev. Mary E. Biedron

Dr. Mark P. Jensen

RELIGION CALENDAR

online at hometownlife.com

Send calendar items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Feel free to include relevant photos as attached jpgs. Or mail items to Sharon Dargay, The Observer, 615 Lafayette, level 2, Detroit, MI 48226.

MARCH 10-16

Learning Shabbat

Time/Date: 6 p.m. service, 7 p.m. congregational Shabbat dinner, Friday, March 11 and 9:30 a.m. service, with lunch and program following, Saturday, March 12 Location: Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield Details: Dr. Rebecca Schorsch, chair of the Bible Department at the Chicagoland Jewish High School in Deerfield, III., will teach about the role of women and gender in Jewish life and imagination. Schorsch will analyze the text Eishet Hayil (Woman of Valor; Proverbs chapter 31) in a study session called "Who is the Woman of Valor? A Study of a Friday Night Tradition." There is no charge for the after-dinner talk, and walkins are welcome. Reservations are required for the dinner by 4 p.m. March 9. Cost is \$20 for adults and \$8 for children, 6-12. On Saturday, Schorsch will lead a second study session, "God as Midwife and Women as Saviors: The Feminization of the Exodus." There is no charge for the Shabbat afternoon learning session, and walk-ins are welcome Contact: (248) 851-6880

Lenten series

Time/Date: 7-8 p.m. Sundays, beginning March 13

Location: The First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, located on the northwest corner of Farmington Road and 11 Mile

Details: The program, "What Matters Most"? is based on the highly acclaimed book "What's the Least I Can Believe and Still be a Christian? A Guide to What Matters Most" by Martin Thielen. Dessert will be served

Contact: (248) 474-6170 or visit www.farmington-pres.org for more information or to reserve baby-sitting

Why be Catholic

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, March 10

Location: St. Michael the Archangel church, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia Details: Sr. John Dominic Rasmussen talks about how God led her from unchurched, teenage basketball star to co-founder of the dynamic and growing community of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist and principal of Spiritus Sanctus Academy in Ann Arbor. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation Contact: (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200

a musical Purim Shpiel for community members of all ages based on the popular music from "Oklahoma," "Annie Get Your Gun" and "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers." Snacks and drinks will be available starting at 6 p.m. in the social hall. Drink tickets will be \$4 for beer and wine and \$5 for mixed drinks. Admission to the play is free Contact: (248) 737-8700

Widowed Friends

Time/Date: Check in at 2:15 p.m.; Mass starts at 2:30, Sunday, March 20 Location: St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley Road, just south of Cherry Hill, in Canton Details: Widowed Friends, a "peer" support group, sponsors a special Mass for widowed men and women Contact: Pat at (734) 895-6246

MARCH 24-30 Answer weekend

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Friday, March

25; 6:30 p.m. March 26 and 11 a.m. March 27 Location: Friday events at

Clarenceville Junior High, 20210 Middlebelt, Livonia and Saturday-Sunday events at Lighthouse Worship Center, 19827 Middlebelt, Livonia

Details: 12 teams in a 3 on 3 Basketball tournament with \$25.00 entry fee on Friday. Open to all boys and girls 17 and under. Co-ed teams are welcome. Cash prizes of \$100-\$300 will be awarded. Bands will perform and a drama is planned for Saturday; Shae Hughes a youth-orientated speaker, will minister to kids of all ages on Sunday. Immediately after the service, prizes for the basketball tournament will be awarded and a free lunch will be served Contact: Dan Tyson for details on the basketball tournament at (517) 281-8077; Pastor Chuck LaParr at (734) 546-2741 or the church office at (248) 476-7933 for other questions

MARCH 31-APRIL 6 Guest speaker

Time/Date: 8:45 a.m. gathering, 9:15 a.m. opening prayer, 12:45 p.m. dismissal, Thursday, March 31 Location: St. Fabian Church, 32200 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills Details: The Rev. Richard Fragomeni talks about the power of liturgy to transform lives. Cost is \$22 before March 17 and \$27 after. Includes brunch

Contact: John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491

New Life Community Church Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 am., Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville Contact: (734) 846-4615 **Nicole's Revival** Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Monday-Friday Location: YWCA Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand River, west of Beech Daly, Redford Details: KJV Scripture Reading, Communion and Prayer Contact: (313) 531-1234 **Our Lady of Loretto** Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Details: Scripture study Contact: (313) 534-9000 Ward Presbyterian

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Mondays Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville Details: Learner's Bible study is held

Contact: (248) 374-5920 Clothing bank

Canton Christian Fellowship

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., fourth Saturday and 5-6:30 p.m., second Wednesday

Location: 41711 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty

Details: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank offers free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need

Contact: (734) 404-2480, visit www. CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@ cantoncf.org

Food Bank

New Hope Church

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only Location: is 44815 Cherry Hill,

Canton Contact: Call pastor Ranay Brown

to schedule an appointment at (734) 270-2528.

Moms **Christ Our Savior Lutheran** Church

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., second Tuesday, MOPS; 7-8:30 p.m., first and third Thursday, MOPSnext. Both programs run through May Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners; MOPSnext supports mothers of school-aged children The theme will be "Momology The Art & Science of Mothering" for MOPS and "Boundaries" for MOPSnext

Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back of the church Details: Music, singing, prayer Contact: Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906

St. Michael Lutheran Church Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday Location: 7000 Sheldon, Canton Details: Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed Contact: (734) 459-3333 St. Michael the Archangel Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. Saturdays Location: In the church rectory conference room, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia Details: St. Monica's Prayer Group is open to all women who want to support one another in praying for their children, regardless of age Other prayer sessions: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. third Wednesday, includes par-

ish prayer and Eucharistic adoration, with Benediction service following Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200

Senior citizens **Riverside Park Church of God** Time/Date: 11:30 a.m., third

Thursdays Location: 11771 Newburgh, Livonia Details: Senior adults, age 50 and over, enjoy social interaction and food during time together

Contact: (734) 464-0990 Singles

First Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m.

social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program Location: 200 E. Main St., Northville Details: Single Place Ministry; cost

is \$5 **Contact**: (248) 349-0911 or visit

www.singleplace.org **Steve's Family Restaurant**

Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others who are ready to help cope or become involved in the other social activities offered by Widowed Friends.

Contact: (313) 534-0399 Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m., Sunday Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville Details: Single Point Ministries, for 30 and up, offers fellowship. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation Contact: (248) 374-5920

Song Circle Congregation Beth Ahm

Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m., every Shabbat Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Sing zemirot (traditional Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original Hebrew. Contact: (248) 737-1931 or e-mail nancyellen879@att.net.

Support

Apostolic Christian Church

Time/Date: 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily Location: 29667 Wentworth, Livonia Details: Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act Contact: (734) 261-9000; www. woodhaven-retirement.com **Detroit World Outreach** Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday Location: 23800 W. Chicago,

Redford; room 202 Details: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling

Contact: (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244





FLORENCE E. CLIXBY

Age 93, lifelong resident of Cånton, passed away on March 8, 2011. Only child of William and Annie Avery. Retired cafeteria worker for the Wayne School District. Beloved wife Ramona (George) Barnum, Thomas of the late Robert T. Loving mother of (Sharon), Charles (Donna), Betty Judith Cannon. Proud grandmother of James Thomas Cannon, Barbra A. (Brian) Reis and Lydia Hackett. Greatgrandmother of Heather and Sarah and their extended families. Preceded in death by her children William Clixby, Thomas Robert Clixby and Patricia Jo Ann Crossmyer and also by her granddaughter Karen Ann Cannon Mosby. Funeral service Friday 10:00am from the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home 280 South Main, Plymouth. Visitation Wednesday and Thursday from 4-8pm. Interment Sheldon Cemetery. Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society Society. or Michigan Humane Society. Share memories at:



DOROTHY M. KOLODZIEJCZAK Age 85, March 5, 2011. Beloved wife of the late Anthony for 54 years. Loving mother of Anthony (Sharon),



THOMAS PATRICK O'ROURKE

Age 75, died peacefully on March 7, 2011, with his family by his side. Visitation will be on Thursday, March 10 from 4-9 p.m. and Friday, March 11 from 2-9 p.m. at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main Street, Plymouth. Funeral mass will be at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, in

Widowed Friends

Time/Date: 5 p.m. social, 6 p.m. dinner, Friday, March 11 Location: American Polish Cultural Center, 2975 E. Maple, Troy Details: Widowed Friends, a peer group in the Archdiocese of Detroit, invites widowed individuals of all ages to a family-style Lenten dinner. Cost is \$14, payable in cash at the door. Bar drinks and desserts extra. Cards, games and conversation afterward

Contact: RSVP by March 9 to Mary Ann at (586) 939-5270 or Sally at (586) 575-9535

MARCH 17-23

Breakfast

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-noon, Sunday, March 20 Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland Details: All you can eat pancake and French toast breakfast includes pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, tea, coffee, milk and juice for \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, 2-10. Sponsored by: St. Theodore Men's Club

Contact: (734) 425-4421

CD signing Time/Date: 1-2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 19 Location: Rock of Ages, 31015 Ford Road, Garden City Details: Christian rock group, Stryper, signs their new release Contact: (734) 522-0351

Purim musical

1

Time/Date: 7 p.m., March 19 Location: Temple Shir Shalom, Dave & Joyce Sakwa Family Sanctuary, 3999 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield

Details: Jim Harper of Magic 105.1 will guest narrate "Blazing Sandals,"

Contact: Celia St. Charles at (248) 553-4610 or cstcharles@stfabian.org

ONGOING AWANA

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays Location: Faith Bible Church, 23414 **Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills** Details: AWANA program for children from kindergarten-fifth grade Contact: (248) 426-0096

Classes/study

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Time/Date: 7-8 p.m., second Monday

of the month Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh

roads, Livonia **Details**: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun. Contact: Pastor Scott Sessler at (734) 673-2485 or e-mail to pastorscott@emmanuel-livonia.org

Faith Bible Church

Time/Date: 9:45-10:45 a.m. Sundays through May 8

Location: 345415 Mile, Livonia Details: "Four Views of the End Times" adult study Also ongoing: "Life's Healing Choices" Study Group, 6 p.m., fourth Sunday through September is for men and women who want freedom from hurts, hang-ups and habits Contact: (734) 464-7990 Men's Bible study Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m. Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township Contact: Rebekah Creeden at 734) 524-0283 for MOPS and Susan Magner at (248) 478-3643 for MOPS Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., first and third Tuesdays

Location: 24800 West Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope Contact: Amy at (313) 937-3084 or Kristen at (734) 542-0767

Pet-friendly service

Time/Date: 1 p.m., Sunday Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service. All Creatures ULC describes the gathering as non-denominational and Christian. Water is available for dogs Contact: (313) 563-0162

Prayer

Nardin Park United Methodist Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday Location: 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills Details: Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud togeth-

er as well as responding to personal requests Contact: (248) 476-8860 St. Edith Church Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday





schrader-howell.com.

LAURA LEE CURTSINGER

Age 76. Born March 31, 1934 to Mary and Joseph Trappano. Survived by daughter Karen, son-in-law Paul, daughter-in-law Laura and grandson Dylan. Married to the late Gerald Eugene Curtsinger, had two children, the late Jerry Curtsinger and Karen Curtsinger. Devoted wife, mother and grandmother who always put family first. A vivacious woman with a great sense of humor, extremely independent, feisty and strong. Before leaving work to raise her children, Laura was a bookkeeper at a bank in downtown Detroit. Loved by all who knew her. Visitation will take place on Thursday, March 10, 2011 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Higgerson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville (734-697-9400). Funeral service will take place on Friday, March 11, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. at the funeral home. Interment will follow at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Detroit, Michigan. www.hnfhome.com

LYNN A. HALL

Age 55 of Plymouth, suddenly March 6, 2011. Loving wife of David. Beloved mother of Lisa (Darrin) Burek, Kristina and Amanda.Dear daughter of Janet (Gordon) Hodson and Angelo Calcaterra. Dear sister of David Calcaterra. Dear sister in law of Susan Hall. Dear daughter in law of Bill Hall. Visitation Wednesday 4-9 PM and Thursday 1-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Road, (btwn Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. In state Friday 10 AM until the 10:30 AM Funeral Mass at Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 North Territorial, (corner of Beck) Plymouth. Interment St. Hedwig Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Mercy High School, 29300 W Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336. To snare a memory please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

(Dennis) Grim, Patrick (Cary), and Michael (Cherie) Kolodziejczak. Cherished grandmother of 24; greatgrandmother of 18. Dorothy was preceded in death by her grandson, Jesse. A Funeral Service was held on Tuesday at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Downtown Farmington. www.thayer-rock.com

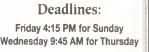


LORETTA N. KUDEK

March 6, 2011 of Westland, Michigan. Loving Wife of the late Ronald, Sr. Dear Mother of William Cecil Longerbeam (Theresa), Loretta Gale Armstrong (George), Lawrence Thomas Longerbeam (Patty), & Ronald Steven Kudek, Jr. (Shari). 11 Grandchildren & 4 Great Grandchildren. Visiting Friday 3-9pm. Funeral Services Saturday 10am at Harry J. Will Funeral Home 34567 Michigan Ave. Wayne, Michigan. Contributions to Shriners Hospital Appreciated.



The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)



Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.



OE08658429

Plymouth on Saturday, March 12 at 1:00 p.m; visitation will begin at 12:30. Thomas was the youngest of six children, born on February 22, 1936 to Mary and James O'Rourke. He was a student at both St. Cecilia School and Catholic Central before graduating from St. Cecilia in 1954. On May 3, 1974, Thomas married his love, Mary Ellen Daly. Together, they were tenderly devoted to their four children. Thomas Patrick, in true Irish form, enjoyed conversation and camaraderie as a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Gaelic League. Thomas is survived by his wife of 36 years, Mary Ellen O'Rourke (Daly); sister, Marge Gilboe; four children and their spouses, Katie and Scott Moore, Molly and Steve Guikema, Tom and Colleen O'Rourke, Erin and Justin Allen; and eight grandchildren, Ella, Aidan, Jack, Megan, Danny, Colleen, Maggie, and James Thomas (due July 2011). He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Mary O'Rourke; brother, James O'Rourke; sisters, Marie O'Rourke, Dorothy Rosso, and Jane Gallagher. Tom's warmth will forever shine on your windowpane, A rainbow is certain to follow this rain, The hand of this great man will always be near you, And fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.



JOSEPH W. WILLIS, Jr.

Age 90. March 6, 2011. Preceded in death by his beloved wife of 61 years, Louise Willis and his dear son, Joey Willis. Survived by loving daughter Cheryl (Sherry) and Ron Williams. Dearest grandfather of Joe "Buddy" Williams (fiancee Gerri McGow) and Cristin Williams (fiancee Steve Gnagey). Dear brother-in-law of Peggy Smith and Vera Weaver. Dear uncle to several nieces and nephews and great uncle of many. Dearest friend of co-caregiver Mike Camilleri. He was owner of C&J Fasteners for 35 years. Also he was a lifetime member of Lola Valley Lodge #583 and life-time member of Eastern Star Kindness Chapter #523. He enjoyed magic, playing cards and collecting many, many things including Santa Clauses and playing cards. Donations may be made to Angela Hospice. Funeral Services were held Wednesday at the Neely-Turowski Funeral Home 30200 Five Mile Rd. Interment Grand Lawn Cemetery. www.neely-turowski.com

ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, March 10, 2011

hometownlife

HAVE A STORY IDEA? Contact Editor Sharon Dargay Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883 E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com Comment online at hometownlife.com

Celebrate St. Paddy's Day with song, dance

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

B6

(*)

St. Patrick's Day is a family affair for Mick Gavin of Redford. The Redford resident and expert fiddler will perform with two sons and a daughter-in-law at the 26th annual St. Patrick's Day Irish Fest in Westland.

He'll also make sure the audience experiences a familyfriendly atmosphere.

"It's not a big booze-up," said Gavin, who claims too many St. Patrick's Day events focus too much on alcohol consumption. "It's cultural. You will see world class Irish musicians performing music that you will find only in Ireland. You will not find that authentic style of music any place else in Michigan unless it's someone on tour.

"We have from babies to 90year-olds. You don't have to be Irish to celebrate the patron saint of the country. We don't have a Mass or service but it's later in the afternoon and kids after school are welcome."

The festival will run from 3 p.m.-midnight Thursday, March 17 at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, east of Newburgh, Westland. Admission is \$10 for adults. Children attend for free.

The family-friendly atmosphere doesn't mean it will be a totally dry event.

"We'll have Guinness of course and Baileys Irish Cream, wine," Gavin said.

Hot dogs, corned beef, pizza and full corned beef dinners round out the menu.

MUSIC MENU

The musical fare will include local dancers as well as guest musician Sean Gavin, 24, Mick Gavin's son, who just returned from three years on

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Musicians will play authentic Irish party music, folk tunes and ballads at St. Patrick's Day Irish Fest in Westland. That's fiddler Mick Gavin of Redford at left, foreground.

the road, touring with Celtic Legends, an Irish music and dance production, plays whistle, flute and pipes. He's also a member of Nicgaviskey, and of the traditional Irish music ensemble Bua.

The show also will include Sean's brother, Michael on fiddle, guitar, banjo and vocals; Michael's wife, Colleen Gavin, an All-Ireland champion on flute, whistle and pipes; All-Ireland champions Kelsey Lutz on fiddle, Siobhan McKinney on harp, and Colleen Burke on harp; balladeer Eddie McGlinchey and

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5 schools to meet wrecking ball

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New president promises 'our'





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This offer expires 3-31-11 and is not valid for current subscribers.





Sean Gavin

Mick Gavin on fiddle.

"Sean was enthusiastic about music from day one. When he was 4 years old we'd have to hide our telephone calls about gigs because when he heard me talking on the phone he'd say he'd want to go."

His son was 4 years old when he began playing at house parties with other family members. Two years later he learned to play fiddle from a college student who was staying with the family. Another student taught him flute and work with the uilleann pipe soon followed.

"The uilleann pipe is a bagpipe. It's a Celtic cousin to the Scottish Highland pipes, but it's much quieter than the big pipes," Gavin said. "The Irish pipe is complicated. There's a bellows and an air bag. You pump the air into the bag with the bellows under one arm, the air bag in the other. Your two elbows work in coordination. The chanter reed is similar to an oboe reed."

the 26th annual St. Patrick's Day Irish Fest in Westland.

ONLY IRISH

Gavin tried to steer his son into classical as well as Irish music and enrolled him in one-on-one classes with a classical flute teacher when he was 12.

"One day I said Sean you're doing well. But the Irish folk music had taken root in him. He said, 'Dad, I don't want to be a classical flute player. I want to play Irish music.'"

Gavin said his son and many other young American Irish musicians today pursue the purest forms of Irish music and are "digging deep" into its history.

"They're singing songs in Gaelic."

Gavin, his family and other musicians will perform mostly upbeat party songs, favorite folk tunes and ballads during the show in Westland.

"Most of the people who come to us are family people. They bring their children. I think they like a mixture of music."





Ashlyn McCann (left) is Joe Harper, Brett Moore is Tom Sawyer and Connor Sherman is Billy Fisher in the Spotlight on Youth production of "Tom Sawyer" March 10-14 at the Village Theater in Canton.

Theater presents Mark Twain collection, story

Fans of Mark Twain and his work will get two reasons to celebrate this weekend.

Spotlight on Youth will present *Tom Sawyer* Thursday-Sunday March 10-13 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, in Canton.

A collection of Mark Twain memorabilia, owned by Bob Nelson, a Westland resident, also will be displayed in the art exhibition area of the theater during the run of the play.

"I began by buying three books at the Dawn Treader Book Shop in Ann Arbor, and things just snowballed from there. My collection currently includes 170 of these items and continues to grow," Nelson stated. "Part of the collection appeared in the companion book to the Mark Twain PBS documentary by Ken Burns. During the spring of 2005, a significant portion of the collection formed a feature museum exhibit."

The play is designed to appeal to all ages and offers action and adventure for young audience members, as well as a good story to keep adults interested. It runs about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours and has an intermission. It's the perfect length of time for small children who can't sit still long. The cast includes Brett Moore of Plymouth as Tom Sawyer and nearly 40 children from Canton, Plymouth, Belleville, Westland and other local communities.

Curtain is at 7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, and at 2 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets are \$13-\$15 each, available by calling 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, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton or one hour before show time at the theater.

Euchre tournament will award cash prizes

The Canton Lions Club will present the Southeast Michigan Euchre Tournament

March 10 and \$25 afterward. Walk-ins are welcome. nt The total of the antes colFree bar snacks and free pizza slices will be available during the tournament. The

Г

ART City Gallery

Time/Date: Through April 8; gallery hours are 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday Location: In the Costick Center at 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills Details: Work by Stephen Deeb,

head of the art department at North Farmington High School **Contact**: (248) 473-1856

Northville Art House

Time/Date: Through March 26. Hours are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday

Location: 215 W. Cady in downtown Northville

Details: Beyond The Blueprint: Architects' Other Art, showcases the works of Metro Detroit artistarchitects, including Dennis Michael Jones, a visual artist and educator in Plymouth who continues to balance his architectural work with his art

Contact: (248) 344-0497

Village Theater at Cherry Hill Time/Date: Through March 29; gallery hours are 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton Details: Pressed flower artwork of Shelley Xie, a self-taught artist and resident of Canton Contact: (734) 394-5300

COMEDY

Go Comedy! Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays Contact: (248) 327-0575; www. gocomedy.net

JD's House of Comedy

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www. ticketmaster.com

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays,

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local

GET OUT!



Canton concert

Jazz singer Kathy Kosins will perform Friday, March 18, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

April 2

Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle Time/Date: Sean Patton, March 10-12; Lowell Sanders, March 17-19; Erik Griffin, March 24-26; Lynne Koplitz, March 31-April 2 Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

CONCERTS

The Ark

Time/Date: Corey Harris and the Rasta Blues Experience, March 10: Theo Katzman, March 11; Ellen Jewell, March 12; Blackthorn fundraiser for the American Cancer Action Network, March 13; Peter Karp & Sue Foley as He Said, She Said, March 14; Abigail Stauffer, March 15; Richard Shindell, March 16; Sonya Kitchell, March 17; Scythian, March 18; The Victor Wooten Band & The Clarke Band, March 19; The California Guitar Trio & Fareen Hague, March 20; The Juliets; March 22; Po' Girl & Peter Mulvey, March 23; May Erlewine & Seth Bernard, March 24; The Spring Standards, March 25; NewFound Road, March 26; Madcat, Kane & Maxwell Street, March 27; Steve Poltz, March 28; Dala, March 30; Matt

Barn Theatre, 32332 12 Mile in Farmington Hills

Details: Blackthorn performs Celtic music; tickets are \$19 for adults and \$17 for seniors and students Contact: (248) 473-1848

Baseline Folk Society Time/Date: Third Saturday of the month

Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth Details: Eight "Open-Mic" performances plus a featured group perform. Sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m.; show starts at 7 p.m. Individual membership is \$25 and includes monthly concerts from September through May. Otherwise, admission to each concert is \$5 at the door. Family memberships are \$50 and include monthly concerts Contact: (248) 719-3464 or mjmmullen@yahoo.com

Chamber Music Society of Detroit

Time/Date: Pre-concert talk, 6:45 p.m., concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 26

Location: Seligman Performing Arts Center, located on the campus of Detroit Country Day School, 22305 W. 13 Mile, Beverly Hills

Details: This concert marks the debuts of both cellist Zuill Bailey and pianist Piers Lane in metro Detroit and on the Chamber Music Society of Detroit series. They'll play music by Mendelssohn, Schumann, Rachmaninoff and Roberto Sierra. Single tickets range from \$43-75; \$25 for students Contact: (248) 855-6070

Saturday, March 12 at the Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. with registration ending at 7 p.m. and games beginning at 7:15 p.m. The ante is \$20 if pre-registered by Thursday, lected will be split between the Canton Lions Club and winning players.

The group also plans to give away an additional \$1,900 in prizes through a raffle ticket sale and a free door prize drawing. cash bar will feature low prices for soft drinks, beer, wine and cocktails.

For more information call Linda Obrec at (734) 945-6685 or e-mail questions or new registrations to lionsclubeuchre@ vahoo.com. Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: LA Hardy, March 9-12; Mo Mandel, March 16-19; Mark Sweeney, March 23-26; Chili Challis, March 30Wertz, March 31

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor Contact: (734) 763-8587; www. theark.org

Barn Theatre

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. March 10-12 Location: Farmington Hills Players'



Call for Authors! The 2011 Michigan Spring Book Festival

is coming to Laurel Park Place Mall April 15th through 17th. Here is your opportunity to showcase your books and novels to thousands of shoppers and book lovers. Join us for this fun filled weekend of literature and prose. Workshops on publishing and marketing plus celebrity book signings and readings

Register for the 2011 Author Networking Summit. This event will bring best authors, publicists, motivational speakers & marketing specialists



together to share their skills and intellect to help you take your writing to the "next level." twenty informative sessions taught by ten literary professionals are scheduled for this weekend. Learn where the industry is heading and how E-Books are impacting the future.

Authors are given the opportunity to publicly address on our main stage, mall patrons and promote their writings.

Register before March 15th and be entered in the drawing for a "free" author table at our Cleveland, Nashville or Kingston, New York festival. Author applications for the Michigan Spring Book festival and the 2011 Author Networking Summit are available on our website. Download one today!

www.MichiganSpringBookFestival.info (313) 446-2262

hometownlife.com



THE ONE IMAX[®] 3D ADVENTURE

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DESTREEDS HONE

H GREEN DAN FOGLER ELISABETH HARNOIS MINUT BERNEN AND STERLING AND JOAN CUSACK JOHN POWELL MESSABETH BERKELEY BREATHED STELLS AND WELLS & WENDY WELLS ROBERT ZEMECKIS JACK RAPKE STEVE STARKEY STEVEN BOYD BRECH SIMON WELLS POBERT ZEMECKIS JACK RAPKE STEVE STARKEY STEVEN BOYD BRECH SIMON WELLS POBERT ZEMECKIS JACK RAPKE STEVE STARKEY MOVERBURHTAN DISTORY.COM/MORE NOOds Montas

IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D, FOLD) 3D AND IMAX 3D YOU COULD WIN THE ALL-NEW NISSAN QUEST IN THE MARS NEEDS MOMS" FAMILY QUEST SWEEPSTAKE OF to Disney.com/familyquest to enter now Discours and ordere enous 3/31/11 FOR FREE ENTRY. PRECORTAGE AND WHERE PROHIBITED MUST BE A LEGAL US READENT IS OF QUEER ENOUS 3/31/11 FOR FREE ENTRY. PRECORTAGE AND WHERE PROHIBITED MUST BE A LEGAL US READENT IS OF QUEER ENOUS 3/31/11 FOR FREE ENTRY. PRECORTAGE AND WHERE PROHIBITED MUST BE A LEGAL US READENT IS OF QUEER ENOUS 3/31/11 FOR FREE ENTRY. PRECORTAGE AND MARCH 11 IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3DTM, FOOL 30TM, IMAX 3D AND AT THEATRES EVERYWHERE

Check Local Listings or Text MARS with your ZIP CODE to 43KIX (43549)

Palace of Auburn Hills. Visit Disney-Onlice.com for show times and tickets

x

FOOD

hometownlife

Thursday, March 10, 2011

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883 E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com Comment online at hometownlife.com

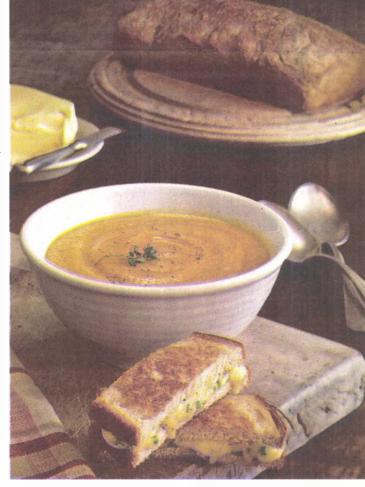


from IRISH pastures comes a pot of gold

es, there's a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. It's found in each blade of grass growing in Ireland's lush pastures. Small herds of cows graze freely, and the milk, rich in beta-carotene from the grass, produces butter and cheeses of an exceptionally golden hue. Thousands of years before the Irish discovered potatoes, dairy cows, milk and butter were being woven into the fabric of Irish society, according to the Cork Butter Museum in Cork City, Ireland. The Cork Butter Exchange, a market created by the merchants of Cork City in 1769, was in its time, the largest butter market in the world, exporting as far away as Europe and America.

Today, dairy products continue to play an important role in Irish cooking. Cooperatives of farmers, creameries and cheesemakers provide delicious Irish butter and cheeses throughout the U.S. under the Kerrygold label.

Here are some iconic recipes from some stars of Irish cooking, using Kerrygold cheeses and butter. To learn more about Kerrygold, and for where-to-buy information, visit www.kerrygold. com/usa.



BROWN SODA BREAD

Makes 2 loaves "This is an all-purpose and relatively olproof recipe based on several I collect

Dubliner Shepherd's Pie.

DUBLINER SHEPHERD'S PIE Makes 4 to 6 servings

"Our family loves a hearty shepherd's pie after long day working on the farm. Because our cows

ROASTED ROOT VEGETABLE SOUP

Serves 4 to 6

"You can substitute pumpkin, turnip or celeriac for the swede (rutabaga), or just use a mixture – this is a very flexible recipe."

- Neven Maguire, chef/owner of the renowned MacNean House and Restaurant in Blacklion, County Cavan, Ireland; popular TV cooking star and cookbook author

1 small swede (rutabaga) cut into cubes

- 2 carrots, cut into cubes
- 1 parsnip, cut into cubes
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 4 tablespoons (1/4 cup) Kerrygold Irish Butter
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 2 celery stalks, finely chopped
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme
- 1 quart (4 cups) vegetable stock

 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup single cream (or substitute half and half)

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Preheat oven to 400°F. Place swede, carrots and parsnip on baking sheet and drizzle with 2 tablespoons olive oil. Season generously and roast for 25 to 30 minutes until golden brown and tender, shaking baking sheet occasionally to ensure even cooking.

Meanwhile, heat remaining tablespoon olive oil and butter in large heavy-based pot, and add onion, celery, garlic and thyme. Cook for 4 to 5 minutes until softened but not browned, stirring occasionally.

Add roasted root vegetables to pan and then pour in stock. Bring gently to boil, then reduce heat, cover and simmer for 25 to 30 minutes until completely tender, stirring occasionally. Puree with a hand blender until completely smooth.

To serve, stir cream into soup. Gently heat through and season to taste, then ladle into warmed bowls.

Note: You don't have to add the cream if you're watching the calories, but you might need a little extra stock to thin the soup.

CHEESE TOASTIES

Serves 4 to 6

4 tablespoons (1/4 cup) Kerrygold Irish Butter

8 slices firm, country-style white bread

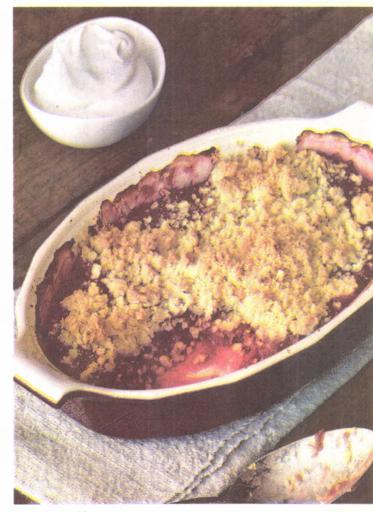
- 1 package (7 ounces) Kerrygold Dubliner Cheese, grated
- 1 tablespoon snipped fresh chives
- Salt and freshly ground black Pepper

Butter bread and arrange cheese over half of the slices, buttered side down. Sprinkle with chives and cover with remaining slices, buttered side up.

Preheat a griddle or large non-stick frying pan and cook sandwiches two at a time 2 minutes each side until golden brown and cheese has melted. Keep hot.

To serve, cut the cheese toasts into fingers.

Brown Soda Bread, Roasted Root Vegetable Soup and Cheese Toasties.



Rhubarb Crumble.

ed while researching 'The Country Cooking of Ireland."

- author Colman Andrews, whose Irish cookbook won the 2010 James Beard Foundation award for Best International Cookbook and Cookbook of the Year

3½ cups stone-ground whole wheat flour preferably Irish or Irish-style

1½ cups unbleached white flour, preferably Irish, or pastry flour, plus more for dusting

- ³/₄ teaspoon baking soda 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon softened Kerrygold Irish But-

ter, plus more for greasing

1³/₄ to 2 cups room-temperature Buttermilk

Preheat oven to 375°F. Mix wheat flour, white flour, baking soda and salt together in a medium bowl. Work butter into mixture with your fingers.

Form a well in the middle of flour mixture and pour buttermilk into the well. Form your hand into a rigid claw and stir dough slowly but steadily in a spiral motion, starting in the middle and working outwards. Dough should be soft but not too wet or sticky. (Start with $1^{3/_{+}}$ cups buttermilk, gradually adding, if necessary, to achieve the right consistency.)

Turn dough out onto a floured board. Flour your hands lightly, then shape dough into a flat rectangle about 2 inches high. Cut dough in half lengthwise with a wet knife, then gently push each half into a lightly greased glass or foil loaf pan. Bake for 50 to 60 minutes, or until the tops of the loaves are nicely browned.

Serve this bread with plenty of Kerrygold Irish Butter.

produce milk to make Kerrygold Dubliner Cheese, we like to add some shredded Dubliner to the potato crust."

- Donal Murphy, Kerrygold dairy farmer, Bandon, County Cork, Ireland

- Potato Topping:
- 1¹/₄ pounds russet potatoes, peeled and cubed

2 tablespoons Kerrygold Irish Butter

- ½ cup milk
- 1 cup shredded Kerrygold Dubliner Cheese
- ½ teaspoon salt
- Filling:
- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 2 tablespoons Kerrygold Irish Butter
- 1 medium onion, chopped

4 small carrots, peeled and sliced ¼-inch thick

- 2 tablespoons flour
- ¾ cup Guinness Stout
- ³/₄ cup beef stock
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup frozen peas, thawed

Preheat oven to 375°F and lightly butter an 11- x 7-inch baking dish. Cook potatoes in boiling water for 15 minutes or until very tender; drain well. Mash with butter and milk until smooth, then stir in cheese and salt and set aside.

Crumble beef into a medium skillet and cook until no longer pink; remove from skillet and set aside. In same skillet, melt butter. Add onion and carrots; cook for 10 minutes over medium heat to soften, stirring occasionally. Stir in flour and cook for 1 minute more.

Add Guinness, stock, thyme and salt; cook and stir until mixture is slightly thickened then stir in peas and cooked beef. Spoon into prepared baking dish then spread potato mixture over the top. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until top is lightly browned.

Serves 6

"Crumbles are the ultimate comfort food. Vary the fruit according to the season."

- Darina Allen, founder of the world-famous Ballymaloe Cookery School in Shanagarry, County Cork. Ireland

Filling:

- 1½ pounds rhubarb, cut in ½-inch slices
- ½ cup sugar
- Crumble:
- 4 tablespoons (1/4 cup) Kerrygold Irish Butter

4 ounces (scant 1 cup) white flour, preferably unbleached

¼ cup superfine sugar

Preheat oven to 350°F. In bowl, mix filling ingredients; turn into a 1-quart (4 cups) capacity pie dish.

Rub butter into flour just until mix-

ture resembles coarse breadcrumbs, then stir in sugar.

Sprinkle this mixture over rhubarb in the pie dish. Bake for 30 to 45 minutes until topping is cooked and golden. Serve with whipped cream and soft brown sugar, or try stirring a little Amaretto into your cream.

Recipe adapted from the "Ballymaloe Cookery Course Book" published by Kyle Cathie.

- Courtesy Family Features

RHUBARB CRUMBLE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE EMPLOYMENT APARTMENTS AUTOS **Contact Us** REAL ESTATE CLASSIFIED DEADLINES: PHONE: (800) 579-SELL (7355) FAX: (313)496-4968 SUNDAY EDITION, 4:30 P.M. FRIDAY E-MAIL: oeads@hometownlife.com THURSDAY EDITION, 4:30 P.M. TUESDAY BILLING QUESTIONS? (313) 222-8748 Julie Brown, editor . (313) 222-6755 hometownlife PAGE B9 (*) Thursday, March 10, 2011 HOME DELIVERY: (866) 887-2737 fe.com

Red Cross: Be prepared for a power outage

Preparing for a power outage is important any time of year, but especially in colder weather. The American Red Cross Southeastern Michigan Chapter offers these tips on preparing for a power outage.

To help preserve your good, keep the following supplies in your home:

One or more coolers - inexpensive Styrofoam coolers work well.

•Ice — Surrounding your food with ice in a cooler or in the refrigerator will keep food colder for a longer period of time during a prolonged power outage.

•A digital quick-response thermometer — With these thermometers you can quickly check the internal temperatures of food to ensure they are cold enough to use safely.

The American Red Cross recommends you put together an emergency preparedness kit with these supplies in case of a prolonged or widespread power outage.

•Water - one gallon per person, per day (three-day supply for evacuation, two-weekly supply for home).

•Food - nonperishable, easy-toprepare items (three-day supply for evacuation, two-week supply for home)

•Flashlight – Do not use candles during a power outage due to the extreme risk of fire.

•Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible).

•Extra batteries.

•First aid kit.

•Medications (seven-day supply) and medical items.

•Multipurpose tool.

•Sanitation and personal hygiene items

 Copies of personal documents (medication list and pertinent medical information, deed/lease to home, birth certificates, insurance policies).

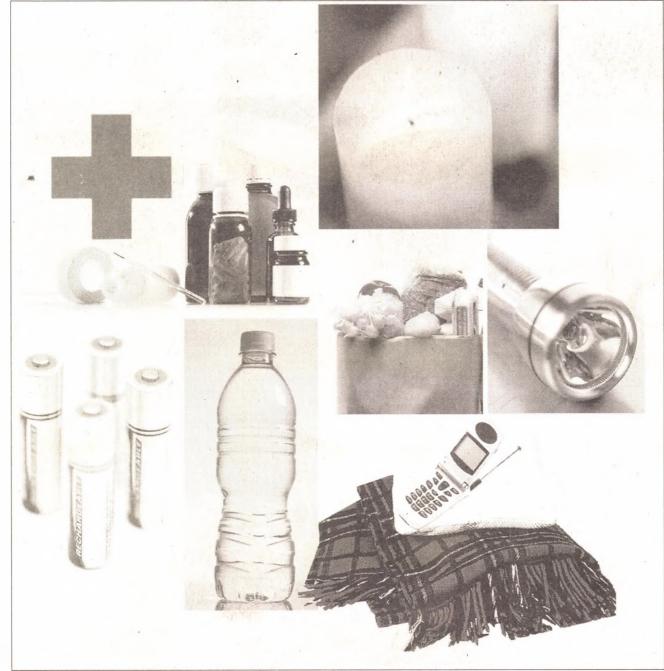
•Cell phone with chargers.

•Family and emergency contact information.

•Extra cash.

•If someone in your home is dependent on electric-powered, life-sustaining equipment, remember to include backup power in your evacuation plan.

•Keep a noncordless telephone in your home. It is likely to work even



An unopened refrigerator will keep foods cold for about four hours.

Then use food from the freezer. A full freezer will keep the temperature for about 48 hours (24 hours if it is half full) if the door remains closed. Use your nonperishable foods and

If it looks like the power outage will

continue beyond a day, prepare a cool-

staples after using food from the

electrical equipment, including sensitive electronics.

Turn off or disconnect any appliances (like stoves), equipment or electronics you were using when the power went out. When power comes back on, surges or spikes can damage equipment.

Leave one light turned on so you'll know when the power comes back on. Eliminate unnecessary travel, especially by car. Traffic lights will be out and roads will be congested.

power directly to the outlets on the generator. Do not connect a portable generator to a home's electrical system.

If you are considering getting a generator, get advice from a professional, such as an electrician. Make sure that the generator you buy is rated for the power that you think you will need.

Be well aware of insurance needs

Q: Does the Michigan Condominium Act have any requirements for insurance in the documents?

A: Although the statute does not specifically require any insurance, the bylaws certainly should and can



maintain provisions for insuring the association and/or owners against risks affecting the project. It is generally recommended

Robert Meisner

by our firm that the association have the best directors and officers liability insurance as well as, of course, liability insurance covering all potential exposure to the association. It is also important that you retain a knowledgeable community association insurance agent to help you with your insurance needs. Q: Before hiring a contractor to do any work at a community association's facilities, why should the association make sure that the contractor is covered by an insurance policy that also protects the association?

A: It is not uncommon for property to be damaged or someone to be injured during installation or renovation of projects. Such damage or injury could result in a lawsuit not only against the contractor, but against the association, board of directors and manager. To protect themselves against any lawsuit, a manager should be sure to get a copy of the contractor's insurance policy before work starts.

when the power is out. •Keep your car's gas tank full.

FOOD SAFETY

prices

2442 Amber Dr 6949 Bunkerhill Ln

439 Filmore St

Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible. First use perishable food from the refrigerator.

These are the area residential real estate clos-

ings recorded the week of Nov. 22-24, 2010, at

the Wayne County Register of Deeds office.

Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales

Canton

er with ice for your freezer items. Keep food in a dry, cool spot and keep it covered at all times.

ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

2272 Hogan Way 425 N Corrine Blvd

1856 Wentworth Ct

18014 Country Club Dr

37505 Newburgh Park Cir

37569 Newburgh Park Cir

33668 Hathaway St

20401 Milburn St

16812 Woodside St

50115 Teton Ridge Rd

2208 Sudbury Way

\$160,000 \$195,000

\$255,000

51084 Sleepy Hollow Ln

refrigerator and freezer.

Turn off and unplug all unnecessary

Livonia

Northville

SAFE GENERATOR USE

45995 Tournament Dr

44420 Charnwood Dr

40867 Newport Dr

1199 S Sheldon Rd

11783 Sycamore Dr

9180 Centralia

26029 Elsinore 18822 Garfield

10306 N Canton Center Rd

570 Blunk St

616 Jener Pl

When using a portable generator, connect the equipment you want to

Plymouth

Redford

\$712,000

\$288.000

\$239,000

\$186.000

\$238,000

\$67,000

\$28,000

\$60,000

\$70,000

\$226.000

\$145,000 \$75,000 \$95,000

\$240,000

\$225,000

\$226,000

\$45,000

\$17,000

\$115,000

\$190,000

\$165,000

\$330,000

\$375,000

\$65,000

\$70,000

19961 Kinloch

24946 N Sylbert Di

24830 Ross Dr

11436 Seminole

2089 Second St

8290 Gray St

421 Dover Crescent Ct

35807 Somerset St

407 Summerfield Dr

16012 Sumner

Additional information on power outage safety can be found on the local Red Cross website, semredcross. org, including what to do when power comes back on. Throwing out unsafe food and avoiding carbon monoxide dangers are both key.

Westland

\$47,000

\$45,000 \$62,000

\$60,000

\$15,000

\$66,000

\$95,000

\$235,000

\$79.000

\$155,000

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates. com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 22-24, 2010, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

| Beverly Hills | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 21671 Meadow Ln | \$250,000 | | | | | | | | |
| Bingham Farms | | | | | | | | | |
| 32425 Bingham Rd | \$1,425,000 | | | | | | | | |
| Birmingham | | | | | | | | | |
| 1504 Birmingham Blvd | \$185,000 | | | | | | | | |
| 2493 Buckingham Ave | \$232,000 | | | | | | | | |
| 1653 Taunton Rd | \$155,000 | | | | | | | | |
| Bloomfield Hills | | | | | | | | | |
| 2230 Cameo Lake Ct | \$180,000 | | | | | | | | |
| 25 Martell Dr | \$530,000 | | | | | | | | |
| 2835 S Woodward Ave #D-2 | \$53,000 | | | | | | | | |

| Bloomfield Townshi | p |
|-------------------------|---|
| 354 Dalebrook Ln | |
| 5007 Echo Rd | |
| 892 Foxhail Rd | |
| 777 Kensington Ln | |
| 1351 Kirkway Rd | |
| 2755 Lamplighter Ln | |
| 3707 Lincoln Rd | |
| 4731 Pickering Rd | |
| 4113 Telegraph Rd | |
| 1050 Trailwood Path # A | |
| Commerce Townshi | р |
| 5573 Leafwood Ct | |
| 4969 Parkgate Dr | |
| 5615 Plantation Dr | |
| Farmington | |
| 36228 Smithfield Rd | |
| Farmington Hills | |
| 29208 Augusta | |

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

\$141,000

\$135,000 \$130,000

\$230,000

\$245,000

\$190,000

\$45,000

\$155,000

\$100.000

\$160,000

\$607,000

\$280,000 39172 Kennedy Dr 25345 Lyncastle St 21615 Mayfield St 23604 N Stockton Ave \$249,000 32044 Olde Franklin Dr \$140,000 28855 Rockledge Dr \$650,000 37764 Stableview Dr 32035 Tareyton St 32111 W 12 Mile Rd # 4A \$138,000 28426 W Eight Mile Rd 31719 Wayburn St \$25,000 \$69,000 30263 Westfield St Milford \$320,000 2323 Charms Rd Novi \$335,000 41959 Aspen Dr 41467 Burroughs Ave 22549 Cranbrooke Dr \$155,000 22681 Heatherwoode

39580 Kartar Ln

| 24489 Olde Orchard St 20887 Veranda Dr | \$37,000 \$400.000 |
|---|-----------------------|
| South Lyon | \$400,000 |
| 61141 Fairland Dr | \$87,000 |
| 24320 Heatherwood Dr | \$140,000 |
| 622 Maple Dr | \$155,000 |
| Southfield | |
| 27450 Arlington Dr | \$145,000 |
| 21405 Constitution St | \$94,000 |
| 29760 Farmbrook Villa Ln | \$34,000 |
| 26780 Franklin Pointe Dr | \$43,000 |
| 29750 Guy St | \$49,000 |
| 29894 Marshall St | \$75,000 |
| 20110 Rodeo Ct | \$63,000 |
| 25516 Saint James | \$44,000 |
| 30216 Vernon Dr | \$278,000 |
| 30550 Woodstock St | \$94,000 |
| White Lake | |
| 821 Round Lake Rd | \$77,000 |
| | |

Investors

The Real Estate Investor Association of Wayne County holds monthly meetings the first Tuesday of each month at the Holiday Inn, 17201 Northline Road, Southgate. Entrance fee is \$20 for nonmembers to be applied to annual membership. For information, call (313) 819-0919 or visit www.reiawaynecounty.org.

Oakland Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland will meet 5:30/9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 10, at Club Venetian, 29310 John R, north of 12 Mile in Madison Heights. Greg Pinneo will speak on how to capitalize on current economic conditions using private and seller financing. He has been a real estate entrepreneur for 33 years. Seminar free to members,

\$20 nonmembers. Pinneo will also be teaching a one-day seminar on Saturday, March 12. Call (800) 747 6742. (www.REIAofOakland.com)

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

\$303,000

Career Seminar

Keller Williams Realty will offer a Real Estate Career Seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 17, at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. Those attending will learn about the \$50,000 income guarantee and the free prelicensing course.

For information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

Real Estate Sales and Appraising

Learn about a career in residential real estate. Attend a free one-hour seminar, or shadow a top agent to get an inside feel of the business. Seminars are at noon or 6 p.m. Wednesdays.

To reserve a spot, contact Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation. Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

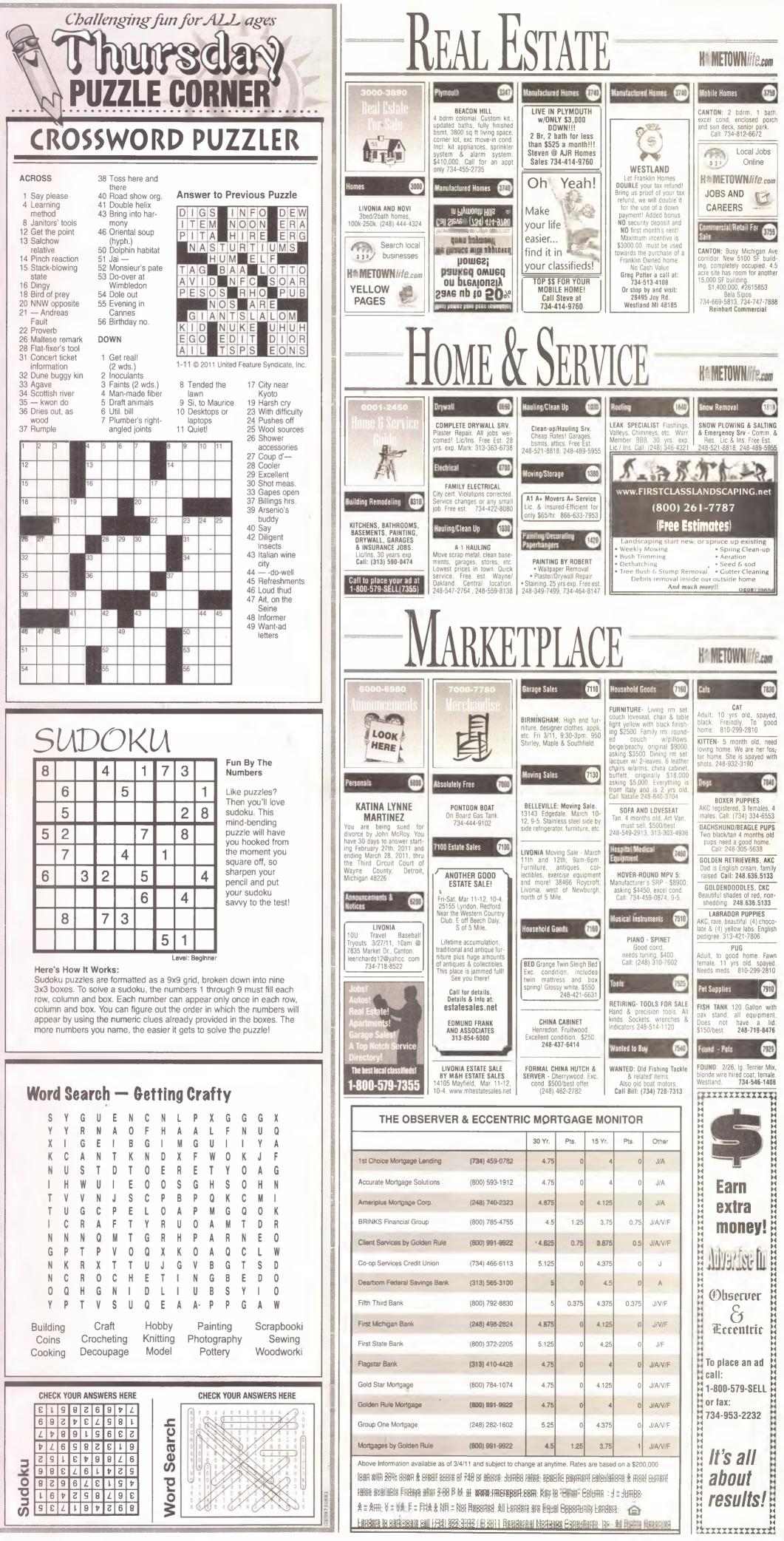
Free Foreclosure Tours

Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. Email Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.



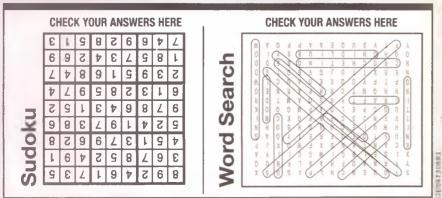
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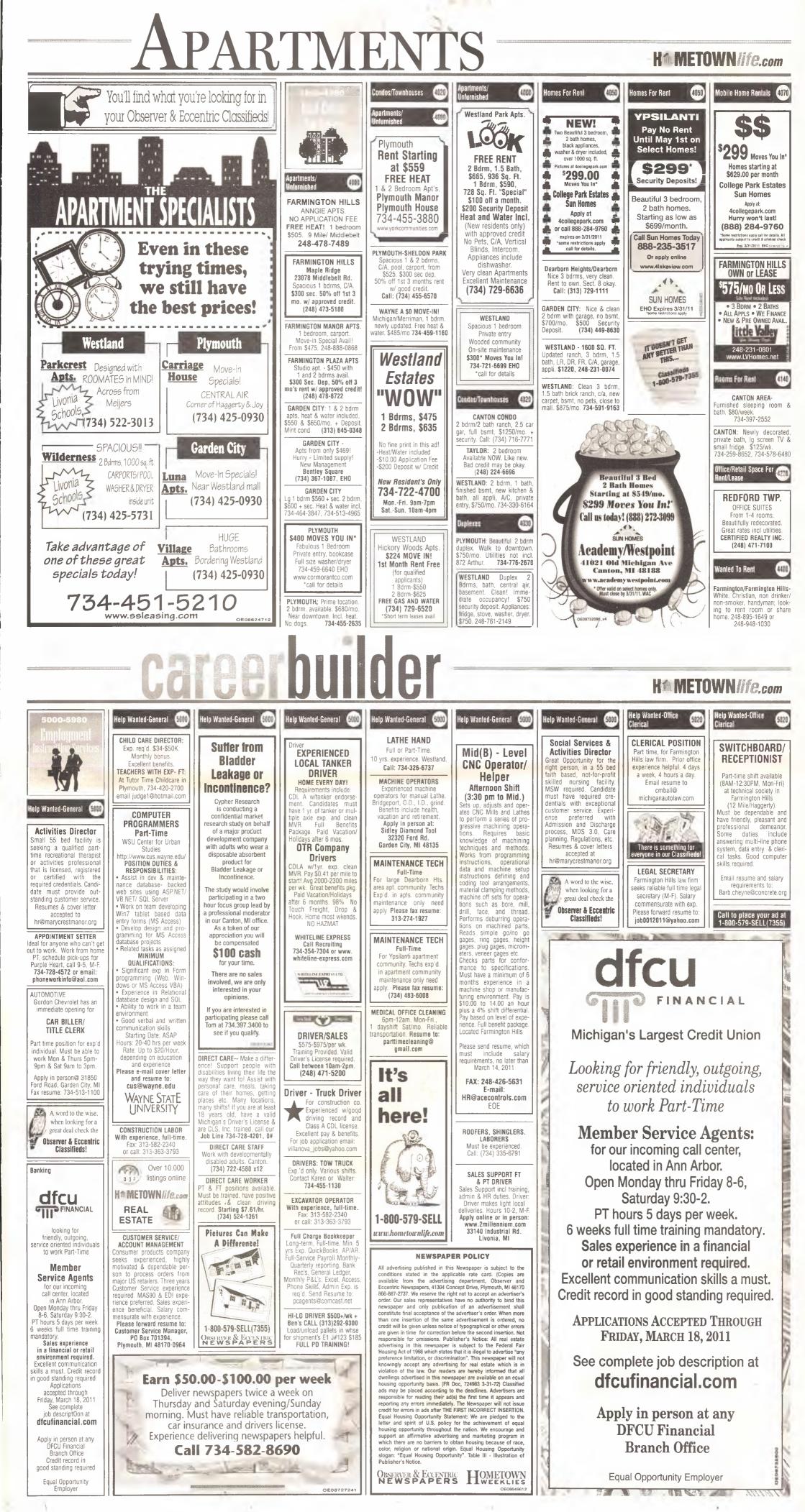


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