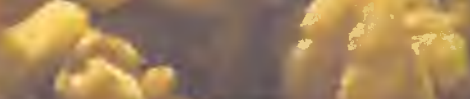


# RARE CHANCE

HIGH SCHOOL PLAYERS TAKE ON U.S. WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM, B1

# SUPERFOOD: WALNUTS MORE THAN A SNACK



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THURSDAY April 14, 2011

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Volume 124 Number 69

\$1.00

# PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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## PIPELINE

### Clubhouse fundraiser

On Friday, April 29, Friends of The Miracle League of Plymouth host "MLP Clubhouse," a fundraising event to celebrate the groundbreaking of a new, specially designed baseball field that will accommodate children with emotional and physical needs who would otherwise be prevented from playing baseball.

The event, located in the tented area behind E.G. Nick's immediately following the groundbreaking ceremonies at the Cultural Center, will feature a live auction, strolling buffet dinner and live music from local favorites Steve King and the Dittillies.

Limited V.I.P. tables and general tickets are still available, and proceeds from the event will go toward further construction, maintenance and ongoing operations for the Miracle League.

Tickets are expected to sell out; organizers urge those who are interested in attending to purchase tickets by going to <http://www.miracleleagueplymouth.org> or e-mail [miracleleague6354@gmail.com](mailto:miracleleague6354@gmail.com).

### Bollywood concert

Members of the Michigan Philharmonic (formerly the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra), under the direction of Nan Washburn and with Indian percussionists and soloists, perform the music of the Indian film industry known as "Bollywood" 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 6, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

The high-energy, multimedia performance is the culminating event of Canton Culture Week, May 1-6, sponsored by the Canton Commission for Cultural, Arts and Heritage celebrating the arts and diversity of the Canton community.

Tickets are \$25 and include a pre-concert reception at 6:30 p.m. sponsored by the Partnership for the Arts & Humanities for the Arts & Plymouth restaurant Station 885.

For tickets and information for the Bollywood concert, call (734) 451-2112 or online [www.michiganphil.org](http://www.michiganphil.org).

### Observer online

Have you checked out our newly redesigned website? It's chock full of local news from the Plymouth community and is updated often. There are several cool features at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com) that allow

you browse through the latest news and features from your neighboring communities, too; allow you to chime in with your opinion on our stories, editorials and letters to the editor; check out our amazing photo galleries and videos that are captured daily by our reporters and photographers.

Readers can also find garage sale listings with a map! - each week from Wednesday through Sunday.

So, bookmark [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com) to be sure you're always in-the-know in your hometown. You can also find us on Facebook by searching "Hometownlife."

## KNITTING CIRCLE



Alison Andrews uses a circle loom to make a hat. Club members Tori Galindo and Coriana Ayler work on their projects, too. The girls are part of The Knitting Club at Bird Elementary School, which meets every Friday in the library. For more on the club, please see page A8.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Ready for its closeup

Will Plymouth's role in 'Scream 4' be seen on the screen?

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Hollywood fever returns to Plymouth on Friday when *Scream 4*, the latest in the series of spooky slasher movies, opens at area theaters.

Parts of the movie, which stars Courteney Cox, David Arquette, Neve Campbell, Emma Roberts and Hayden Panettiere, were filmed in downtown Plymouth last July, and some businesses, plus Kellogg Park, are likely to be recognizable if those scenes didn't end up, as they say, on the cutting-room floor.

"My daughter was one of the extras, so it'll be interesting to see if she made it to the big screen," said Chip Falcusan, the owner of the Box Bar and Grill on Ann Arbor Trail.

Jansan Falcusan, a student at the University of New Hampshire, played a passing pedestrian during filming, working a long day for multiple retakes of some shots, her father said.

"They got to see (the stars) at a distance, but they didn't really interact with them," Falcusan said.

Falcusan's bar, and the parking lot next door, were also on display during filming, the lot dressed up with a facade that



Courteney Cox grabbed some lunch and took phone call during Kellogg Park filming of *Scream 4*, which opens Friday.

Please see 'SCREAM 4,' A3

## District offers teachers early severance

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With the elimination of some 80 teacher positions among the budget proposals being considered by the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education, district administrators are again offering an early severance incentive.

Hoping to attract between 40-80 teachers, the incentive offers a \$15,000 lump-sum payment to eligible teachers who choose to resign by the end of the school year.

District officials reached the agreement during recently completed contract talks with the Plymouth-Canton Education Association.

According to human resources chief Ray Bihun, teachers must resign at the end of the 2010-11 school year and be at the top step of their respective salary schedule, or be employed in either the Starkweather Alternative Education program or the English Language Learning program with 15 years of service, to be eligible.

Employees who are less

than full time would be eligible for a pro-rated package.

Full participation would save the district some \$1 million.

The school board Tuesday passed the plan 6-1, with Trustee Nancy Eggenberger casting the lone nay vote.

"I just didn't think the savings we would get were what we were looking for," Eggenberger said.

Teachers have until May 6 to apply for the program; they can revoke their request until May 13.

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# Citizens group floats tax for fire department

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The fate of the Plymouth Community Fire Department remains uncertain, but a citizens group fighting further personnel cuts in the department is talking about a tax increase to support it.

Members of the Plymouth Township Citizens Action Group, which advocates for firefighters whose jobs would be threatened by a department reorganization, on Tuesday floated the idea of putting a millage question to voters later this year. Appearing at Tuesday's Board of Trustees meeting, they also presented the results of a poll that showed substantial support for a tax increase.

Board members accepted packets summarizing the poll's findings from Steve Mitchell of Mitchell Research, but didn't allow Mitchell to make a full presentation.

"This was the first time we've seen it or heard it," said Supervisor Richard Reaume, who questioned the poll's results.

Reaume said Clerk Joe Bridgman was researching how a millage question could be placed on the ballot through a citizens-initiated petition drive. Bridgman could not be reached Wednesday.

"I think that's the ultimate solution," said firefighter Greg Mangan of a tax increase. Along with contract concessions by the firefighters, and bringing in additional revenue by transporting more patients to hospitals during medical emergencies (the majority of transports are done by the private Huron Valley Ambulance), new tax money could be used to close the fire department's budget gap, Mangan said.

Township officials remain skeptical, however.

"I don't know what sentiment is out there for a millage increase," Reaume said. The supervisor said he's heard department advocates call for one, but added, "I hear a lot of other people tell me the opposite."

Township officials say they need to restructure the fire department because of a projected \$1.3 million budget deficit next year. The city of Plymouth, which currently contributes nearly \$1 million annually toward the \$4 million department, is leaving the shared department after this year in favor with a new arrangement with the Northville Fire Department, and will be taking its contribution with it.

Township officials are considering a "hybrid" department of full- and part-time firefighters, plus a contract with Huron Valley Ambulance to provide guaranteed around-the-clock emergency medical response and patient transport. Partnerships with neighboring communities, such as Northville Township, are also being discussed.

Reaume said he'd like to have a new plan in place within the next two months in order to have time to implement it.

"Come Dec. 31, if you're still in the same spot, you're standing still," he said.

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# Local judge tabbed as association president

Judge Annette Jurkiewicz Berry, a Plymouth resident for nearly 13 years, was elected by her colleagues to serve as the 84th president of the Michigan Judges Association. The Michigan Judges Association is composed of nearly 300 trial and appellate judges who serve in the Michigan Judiciary.

Berry is an adjunct professor at the Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan, Wayne County, in November 2000. She is currently serving in her second term and assigned to the Criminal Division. She began her legal career as an Assistant Attorney General with the Office of the Michigan Attorney General.

During her career with the Department of Attorney General, Berry served as legal counsel for the Department of Licensing and Regulation, Department of Education, Department of Consumer and Industry Affairs/Insurance and Banking Division, and the Department of Secretary of State.

For nearly eight years, she



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Judge Annette Berry of Plymouth was elected president of the Michigan Judges Association.

served as a prosecutor in the Criminal Division, specializing in white collar, economic and conspiracy crimes and served as Chief Prosecutor for all gaming prosecutions arising out of Detroit casinos.

She has served as a member of the MJA Executive Board of Directors for seven years having served as Chairperson of the Corrections Committee for five years. In addition, Berry serves on the Michigan Judicial

Conference, State Bar of Michigan, as an ABA Delegate for MJA, Committee member on the State Bar of Michigan Jury Instructions, Standard Criminal Committee and Chair of the Michigan Court Forms Committee, Circuit and District Section, State Court Administrator Office (SCAO).

Berry is a graduate professor at the University of Michigan-Dearborn and the Ave Maria School of Law, Naples Florida. She is active in numerous professional and civic organizations and has received numerous awards and recognitions. She recently was named the 2010 Recipient of the ADC "Guardian of Justice Award," and has been recognized by the Boy Scouts of America with the "Outstanding Leader in Scouting" Award on behalf of the Great Lakes Council in Detroit.

Berry is a graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn and received her Juris Doctorate from Michigan State University Law School, formerly the Detroit College of Law.

## AROUND PLYMOUTH

"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

### Miller Woods tours

**Date/Time:** Sunday, April 17; Saturday, April 23; Sunday, May 1  
**Details:** The Friends of Miller Woods will be offering tours of Miller Woods this spring to view the native spring wildflowers. The tours are free; all tours leave every 30 minutes, and are available between 2-4 p.m. No dogs are allowed in the nature preserve.

**Contact:** For more information on Miller Woods, visit millerwoods.com.

### Faerie Garden

**Time/Date:** 2-4 p.m. Sunday, May 1  
**Location:** Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main, Plymouth  
**Details:** Learn how to create your own Faerie Garden during an afternoon tea. Northville resident Suemarie Klimek will explain faerie garden design, and you'll have a chance to win the garden used in the demonstration. The presentation will follow a Victorian-style tea complete with scones, tea sandwiches, and other fare. Tickets for the Faerie Garden Tea are \$20 for Plymouth Historical Society members and \$25 for non-members if purchased by April 20 (add \$5 after that date). Get them at the museum during open hours or on the website at <http://www.plymouthhistory.org/Events.html> using PayPal.

**Contact:** For further information, call 734-455-8940.

### Run for Hope

**Time/Date:** 8 a.m. Saturday, May 14  
**Location:** Maybury State Park, 20145 Beck, in Northville  
**Details:** The fifth annual Run for Hope is a 5K run/walk presented by Northville Roadrunners to benefit New Hope Center for Grief Support. Fitness expert Peter Nielsen will be

in attendance. Pre-register online by May 2 at [www.firstgiving.com/newhopecenter](http://www.firstgiving.com/newhopecenter). Registration forms and more information are available at [www.newhopecenter.net](http://www.newhopecenter.net). Registration the day of the event is at 8 a.m. Cost is \$25 for people 16 and over and \$15 for children 8-15 who register by May 2. After May 2, and day of the race add \$5. Children under 8 are free.

**Contact:** New Hope Center, (248) 348-0115

### Jazz @ the Elks

**Date/Time:** April 26, 7-10:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road

**Details:** Naima Shambourger will be doing Vocals with Sven Anderson on Keyboard, Marion Hayden on Bass and George Davidson on Drums. There is limited seating, a \$5 donation is requested and complementary hors d'oeuvres are served.

**Contact:** For more information, call (734) 453-1780 or visit [www.PlymouthElks1780.com](http://www.PlymouthElks1780.com)

### 'Mind Your Manners'

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 14

**Location:** Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main, Plymouth

**Details:** The museum will host a free lecture by Glenna Jo Christen, "Mind Your Manners," a discussion of Civil War-era etiquette. Soon after starting in Civil War reenacting in 1983, Christen has been giving presentations and conducting workshops on a variety of topics around the U.S. and Canada since the early 1990s. As part of her ongoing research, she has included original etiquette books among her various antique collections. This is a free lecture, open to the public.

**Contact:** For more information, call (734) 455-8940 or visit [www.plymouthhistory.org](http://www.plymouthhistory.org).

# Marching band boosters in running for 'Sweet' donation

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth Canton Music Boosters, the support group for the high school marching at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, was the only area organization to finish in the top 15 during the first phase of "Sweet 15," a Bank of

Ann Arbor online fundraiser.

The Boosters, with 6,389 votes, finished second to the Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association. That means it's guaranteed a share of up to \$75,000 Bank of Ann Arbor has pledged toward the campaign, designed to mark its 15th anniversary. The bank has a branch on Ann Arbor

Road in Plymouth Township.

The Boosters' standing after the second phase of the competition, which begins Friday and runs for 15 weeks, will determine its share of the bank's donation.

During the second phase, Bank of Ann Arbor will place \$5.15 in its Sweet 15 fund for every online vote, until a maximum of \$75,000 is reached (this mechanism was incorrectly described in a story on the fundraiser in Sunday's *Plymouth Observer*).

Votes can be cast for particular organizations after "liking" Bank of Ann Arbor on Facebook; participants are limited to one vote a day.

The field of organizations that will share in Bank of Ann Arbor's donation was narrowed to 15, from more than 400, during the first phase of the fundraiser, which ended Tuesday. When votes are tallied at the end of the second phase, each organization's total will determine its share of up to \$75,000.

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# Hospice volunteer finds 'gift' in service to the dying

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A nurse's thoughtless remark decades ago prompted Marie Beaghan toward a career of care and compassion.

Though retired — Beaghan became a nurse herself, and later raised five children — it's a career she's continued for the last 24 years as a volunteer at Angela Hospice in Livonia.

Beaghan, of Plymouth Township, has logged nearly 5,000 hours at Angela, where she visits patients, turns them and rubs their backs, helps them brush their teeth and make phone calls and generally keeps them comfortable. She also mentors new patient care volunteers during their training, which lasts for eight weeks.

It's not easy building relationships with people who are in the final stage of their lives, helping them come to terms with death and listening to stories they may not even have shared with their families. But Beaghan says she's devoted to the work, and that its rewards outweigh what she gives.

"It's very difficult," Beaghan said at Angela Hospice Tuesday during National Volunteer Week, which runs through Saturday. "The way I cope with it is, I have helped them deal with the last days of their lives."

It's even tougher, she added, when the dying person is a young parent, she said — or a child. "I don't do well dealing with the young children," she said.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Marie Beaghan has logged nearly 5,000 hours volunteering at Angela Hospice.

## EARLY MOTIVATION

One nurse's comment during a time of grieving in her own family, when she was about 9 years old, deeply affected Beaghan.

Her maternal grandfather, a man with whom she'd shared many good times, was seriously ill, and had asked for a drink of water with a nurse and young Marie's father in the room. She later heard her father tell her mother the story, and she remembers the scene vividly.

"He doesn't need a drink of water. He's dying," the nurse said.

As a girl, she reacted strongly to the nurse's "cruel" words, she said.

"Right then and there, I decided I was going to be a nurse," she said. "It upset me."

Beaghan became a nurse, working at area hospitals and doing private-duty nursing, working part time after having children and eventually quitting to raise her family.

She had volunteered at Hospice of Southeastern Michigan before joining Angela. An Angela Hospice volunteer since 1987 — she started out doing home visits, before the hospice run by the

Felician Sisters had an in-patient facility — her nursing skills gave her an advantage.

Injuries suffered in a traffic accident nearly three years ago limited her ability to be involved in some aspects of hand-on patient care, but she likes being there for the patients. That she can do such work, she said, is a "gift" from God.

For some patients, without family or other visitors, "it's just somebody to hold their hand so they don't die by themselves," Beaghan said.

## 'YOU CRY WITH THEM'

She gets to know patients' family members, too. "You cry with them sometimes," she said.

Beaghan knows what grieving families are going through, having lost her husband, Dan, who had been an Internal

Revenue Service agent, eight years ago.

Dan Beaghan benefited from hospice care during his last days, and had previously been an Angela Hospice volunteer for years, shoveling snow, visiting male patients and setting up the altar for Mass.

"Now we have a lot of men volunteers, which is fantastic," Beaghan said.

Hospice care relies heavily on volunteers, said Robert Alexander, Angela Hospice's business development manager, and volunteers there are treated like staff members. In addition to patient care, volunteers provide other support for the hospice, such as doing clerical work or planning events.

"We always have as many volunteers as we want," Alexander said.

The hospice sponsored a banquet Tuesday evening for its more than 400

volunteers.

## ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

Beaghan also used to manage the first-aid station for the Wayne County Special Olympics, another task she found rewarding. At the same time, her husband ran the Special Olympics' wheelchair games. Participants got to know her, she said, and would stop by the aid station just to visit.

After about eight years, she had to give up that assignment. "I couldn't run out on the field any more with those kids," she said.

Alexander said he finds that many Angela volunteers donate their time to more than one organization.

"It's the cloth they're cut from, I think," he said.

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

## 'SCREAM 4'

FROM PAGE A1

made it look like the police station in the movie's fictional setting of Woodsboro, Calif.

"I'm anxious to see what the police station looks like in the movie," Falcusan said.

The Box should be recognizable, he said; one scene had some of the major stars walking in front of it. But

Two days of filming in Plymouth drew large crowds downtown, with some admittedly star-gazing and trying to snap photographs of the major actors. The closed set included Kellogg Park, and one scene included Panettiere at the

park's fountain.

"I imagine it'll create some interest in the whole downtown area," Falcusan said of *Scream 4*'s release.

*Scream 4*, directed by horror film legend Wes Craven, also filmed at locations in Livonia, Dearborn and downtown Northville.

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# Local woman a hit with first pitch

## CRIME WATCH

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's not Laurie Golden's fault the Detroit Tigers lost 9-5 Sunday to the Kansas City Royals.

She only threw the first, ceremonial pitch, before the teams took the field at Comerica Park.

Even though the Tigers lost, Golden — a Plymouth resident and the Canton Public Library's marketing and communications manager — felt like a winner on this warm, sunny, spring day.

"I'm a huge baseball fan," she said. "For me this was really cool because I've been a Tigers fan since I was a tiny kid."

Golden and her husband, John Birchler, even had their first date at a Tigers game.

Golden was chosen to throw the first pitch as a volunteer for the operations board of the Little Caesars Amateur Hockey League — sponsored by the same pizza company owner, the Ilitch family, that owns the Tigers.

It's the largest amateur youth hockey league in North America with over 650 teams, and its players, coaches and board representatives get invited twice a year to a Tigers game.

"They honored our league that day, and I was there to help with the kids," Golden said.

She was drafted for the ceremonial pitch she threw to Tigers relief pitcher Robbie



Detroit Tigers pitcher Robbie Weinhardt signs the baseball after catching Laurie Golden's first pitch at Sunday's game against the Kansas City Royals.

Weinhardt, who came to Detroit from the Toledo Mud Hens and who played during part of Sunday's game.

How'd Golden's pitch go? "It was a tiny bit short, but it was right down the middle," she said. "It might have hit the plate."

She had been tutored on her two-seam fastball grip by sons Zane Birchler, a Henry Ford Community College

sophomore who's on the baseball team, and Vaughn Birchler, a Canton High School junior who plays varsity baseball.

"I had some coaching from them," Golden said.

Her sons and her daughter Bryn Birchler, a Canton High freshman who plays softball, joined her on the Comerica Park field.

"That was so much fun,"

Golden said.

Never did she dream she would ever throw the first pitch at a Tigers game, even if her love of baseball perhaps rivals her history as a hockey mom, coach and player.

And, she got to keep the baseball she pitched.

"Robbie Weinhardt autographed it for me," she said.

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

## Eatery vandals

Police were called to the scene of a vandalism at Zack's of Plymouth, a restaurant on Main Street at Ann Arbor Road, early Friday.

A restaurant employee told police that the driver of a pickup truck, while heading north on Main, had driven onto the lawn and into a curbside mailbox, then back onto the road, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report. The incident occurred shortly after 2 a.m.

The truck, described as a dark blue Ford F-150 with tan on the bottom, went over the mailbox, the witness said; police said the mailbox pole was pulled from the ground.

There was no description of the truck's driver, who continued east on Ann Arbor Road, according to the witness. The responding officer, coming from the area of Ann Arbor Road and Haggerty, reported seeing no such pickup as he headed toward Zack's.

## Van theft try

Someone tried to take a 1998 Dodge Ram van from outside an apartment on Newport Drive, in the area of Joy Road and Haggerty, late on April 6 or early the next day.

A window on a passenger door had been broken, a police report said, and the steering column had been damaged. There was nothing missing from the van.

The incident occurred between just before midnight on April 6 and about 7:30 a.m. the next day, police said.

## Vandalism

A township man's pickup truck was "keyed," or deliberately scratched, on both sides and on the hood early on April 6.

The 2007 Ford F-150 was parked outside a house on Morrison, in the area of Ann Arbor Road and Mill Street, when the vandalism occurred, police said.

The incident occurred between shortly after midnight and about 8 a.m., the victim told police.

## Funny money

Two counterfeit \$20 bills surfaced March 29 at the McDonald's restaurant on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

Police Lt. Jamie Grabowski said both fake bills were from the same register. Employees provided a general description of a man who had used one of the bills, but couldn't describe who had used the other, he said.

Grabowski was contacting the U.S. Secret Service, which typically handles counterfeit cases, about the bills.

Counterfeit money has recently been used in Livonia and in Westland, Grabowski said, and investigators were looking for a link between the cases.

- By Matt Jachman

Boom chick-a-lucka, Boom chick-a-lucka

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# STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, April 14, 2011

hometownlife.com

## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Brad Kadrich

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8899

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

## IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



The staff at Scores Haircuts for Men bring their family friendly, sports theme concept to Plymouth.

## Plymouth shop brings hair care to men of all ages

**Observer:** Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature?

**Scores:** The owners of Scores Northville and Livonia are now bringing their family friendly, sports theme concept to Plymouth.

**Observer:** What makes your business unique?

**Scores:** Scores offers extra value to your hair cutting experience with free shampoo, free hot lather neck shave with hot towel, free beverages, and free wi-fi.

**Observer:** How has it changed since it opened?

**Scores:** Our location has been a fixture in downtown Plymouth since 1900. It has evolved from a horse renting facility to a barber shop and now Scores Haircuts for Men.

**Observer:** How has the recent economy affected your business?

**Scores:** We want to bring an interesting, professional and relaxing environment to Plymouth. A place that will give you a great haircut and the extra value that you deserve and keeps you coming back time after time.

**Observer:** What's in store for the future of your business?

**Scores:** We hope to remain in the community for years to come and continue our



The building now occupied by Scores Haircuts for Men has been a fixture in downtown Plymouth since 1900, evolving from a horse renting facility to a barber shop and now Scores Haircuts for Men.

### SCORES HAIRCUTS

**Business name:** Scores Haircuts for Men

**Business address:** 550 S. Main, Plymouth

**Your name and title:** Monica Coppola, manager

**Business opened:** April 13, 2011

**Number of employees:** 4

**Your business specialty:** Haircuts for men of all ages, children to seniors

**Hours:** 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday

**Business phone | Website:** (734) 414-9744 | www.scoreshaircuts.com

success as a very customer-oriented barbershop. We know as a consumer you have options and we are willing to

work for your loyalty to our business. Bring this article in and receive \$4 off your next haircut.

## CHAMBER CHAT

### Extreme After Hours

The Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce team up for "Extreme After Hours," a networking event from 5-7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 28, at the Plymouth Roc, 1020 Ann Arbor Road (at the corner of Harvey) in Plymouth.

There is no cost to attend the event, which features two chambers in one great evening. Host for the evening is the Plymouth ROC who will provide hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. There will be door prize drawings and you can join us any time throughout the evening.

Contact [teri@plymouthmich.org](mailto:teri@plymouthmich.org) or call (734) 453-1540 for reservations.

### Showcase Plymouth

The Chamber of Commerce is now taking reservations for exhibit space at the Showcase and Taste of Plymouth, set for 5-7:30 p.m. Monday, May 23, at the Inn at St. John's.

This year the event will be held in the Main Ball Room and adjoining Garden Room to provide more space for exhibitors and attendees. With space going quickly, you need to reserve your space as soon as possible to ensure you can be an exhibitor.

Last year the event was bigger than ever with 830 attendees and 90 exhibitors.

Showcase and Taste of Plymouth was created to celebrate the Plymouth Community's businesses, restaurants, and the people who live here.

Exhibit space is only \$110 and \$135 and includes a 6' x 3' skirted table. This is a great opportunity to market your business

to residents and local businesses. If you are interested in exhibiting, please contact the Chamber at [teri@plymouthmich.org](mailto:teri@plymouthmich.org) or call (734) 453-1540. Cancellations must be received by May 17.

The major sponsors for this event are Hines Park Lincoln and Community Financial.

### Trap and skeet

Canton Chamber of Commerce members interested in shooting sports are welcome to the Western Wayne County Conservation Association 2-5:45 p.m. Thursday, April 28, for trap and skeet shooting. Please RSVP by Tuesday, April 26. This event is a great opportunity for camaraderie among local business people who enjoy shooting sports.

Cost is \$10 per line for 25 shots, includes ammunition. The WCCA is located at 6700 Napier in Plymouth.

The club's pistol and archery ranges will also be open. While you are not required to pay in advance, we do need to provide the club with a count of how many shooters will attend and we ask that you RSVP to the Plymouth Chamber at [wes@plymouthmich.org](mailto:wes@plymouthmich.org) or call (734) 453-1540.

### Lawrence Tech camps

This summer Lawrence Technological University will hold a dozen enrichment summer camps to introduce high school students to topics that could lead to a college major or a career. The camps are designed for high school sophomores, juniors and seniors interested in technology, science and design. For information and the registration form, contact Lisa Kujawa at [kujawa@ltu.edu](mailto:kujawa@ltu.edu) or go to [ltu.edu/community\\_k12/summer\\_camps.asp](http://ltu.edu/community_k12/summer_camps.asp). The registration deadline is June 1.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Salon collaboration

Plymouth's Salon Awesome and Canton's The Makeup Loft have announced a new collaboration. Under the new partnership, The Makeup Loft has set up a satellite shop at Salon Awesome's sister store, That's Awesome, to provide on-site makeup services.

"We are looking forward to our collaboration with The Makeup Loft. It was the perfect opportunity for two Michigan-based businesses to support each other's talents," said Rachelle Dempster, Salon Awesome and That's Awesome owner.

In the past, That's Awesome - which also sells cosmetics - provided limited appointment-based makeup lessons and makeovers but the new partnership will allow us to provide both our client-bases with enriched and expanded service options, added Dempster.

Salon Awesome has been a mainstay in downtown Plymouth for the past eight years, providing their clients with full-service hair, nail and waxing options. Dempster opened That's Awesome a few years later to provide a one-stop shopping experience for those searching for unique fashion accessory and home furnishing finds.

The Makeup Loft specializes in all levels of makeup artistry. Their head makeup artist and owner Janelle Thomason was recently named among the "Best of Weddings" by The Knot Magazine. One of Thomason's clients is Miss USA Rima Fakih and she has also worked with Kim Kardashian's makeup artist.

To schedule appointments, call Salon Awesome (734-927-0800) or the Makeup Loft (734-891-7962). That's Awesome is located at 294 S. Main Street - next door to Salon Awesome (290 S. Main) in downtown Plymouth. Normal hours of operation at Salon Awesome are: Tuesday-Thursday 10 a.m.-9 p.m. and Friday & Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information on available services visit [www.salonawesomeplymouth.com](http://www.salonawesomeplymouth.com).

### 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.

Call today for a reservation or a private inter-



Plymouth's Salon Awesome and Canton's The Makeup Loft have announced a new collaboration.

view. Call Judy at (734) 459-6222 or e-mail [judycourtney@remerica.com](mailto:judycourtney@remerica.com).

### Business news

Courtesy the folks at the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority:

- Sweet Afton Tea Room and Forest Computer Solutions have teamed up to offer a series of computer classes for senior (55+) adults. Bring your own laptop to class or use one of ours at 831 Penniman in Plymouth.

For more information, call (734) 455-1453.

### Dance reservations

Registration for the Metro Dance Company Summer 2011 dance season is now open. Classes available for all ages 2½ - adult and begin the week of July 11. Register in person, by phone at (734) 207-8970 or online at [www.MetroDanceCompany.com](http://www.MetroDanceCompany.com).

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

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\*REMOTE DONATION LOCATIONS ARE ONLY ON APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup>

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# Calley pitches Snyder's message to area citizens

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley didn't stray from Gov. Rick Snyder's message during a speech to the Canton Economic Club Monday.

Calley received a warm welcome at the Summit. After his speech, he was approached by local resident Phyllis Hampton, who told him, "I think you're on the right track."

### VITAL NEEDS

Calley touted a new bridge to Canada, two miles south of the Ambassador Bridge, as vital to boosting Michigan exports. He said he is hopeful the state can seek bids next year from the private sector to design and build the estimated \$950 million bridge, finance it and operate it, with Canada shelling out money for a new interchange on the U.S. side.

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, addressing a Canton crowd Monday afternoon, championed a new bridge to Canada, a controversial pension tax, state budget-cutting measures and less business taxes and regulations as critical to reinventing Michigan and creating jobs.

Calley didn't stray from the message Gov. Rick Snyder has pitched since he began leading an economically wounded state clamoring for jobs and a more promising future. Even though some polls have indicated Snyder's approval rating has dipped, Calley said it's imperative to stay the course rather than bow to political pressure and protests in Lansing.

"We decided to disregard the political ramifications of fixing these problems and go ahead and do it anyway," Calley told nearly 100 people during a Canton Economic Club luncheon at Summit on the Park.

"There will be protests. There's only one way to avoid protests — and that's to do nothing," he said later. "We're also not willing to govern thinking toward the next election."

Calley said Canada receives some 60 percent of Michigan's exports.

"If we're going to operate the state like a business," he said, "it's time we start thinking of who our customers are."

After his speech, Calley said the bridge construction would create 10,000 jobs. Moreover, he said one in eight jobs in southeast Michigan are dependent on trade with Canada.

Calley bemoaned statistics indicating Michigan has amassed nearly \$50 billion in debt, saying the state has to stop borrowing its future and trim spending. He said Snyder proposed slashing most government departments by 5 percent, though some sectors, such as higher education, fared even worse.

Calley said critical areas such as Medicaid, early childhood education and mental health services were mostly spared, though he said Michigan, despite opposition, should join other states in taxing pensions and ushering in what he called a more equitable system.

"Think opportunity for the next generation," Calley said.

### CAN'T IGNORE

By 2032, he said, retirees are expected to account for 20 percent of

the population, and he said pension-taxing revenues can't be ignored.

In a compromise announced after Calley's speech, retirees who will be at least 67 come Jan. 1 would continue to be exempt from pension taxes, while people 60-66 would keep a smaller exemption but pay some taxes. Pensions would be taxable for younger retirees.

Calley also sounded a familiar theme of eliminating the Michigan Business Tax for small businesses, saying they also pay an individual income tax.

"Double-taxing the home team is a bad strategy," he said.

Calley called for easing certain business regulations he said have made it difficult to compete. He cited what he considers overly burdensome licensing rules for day care, saying "neighbors can be good neighbors without interference from the state."

He also hailed an end to item-pricing in places such as grocery stores, saying the measure should reduce what consumers pay.

### SHARED SACRIFICE

Calley acknowledged that some changes proposed by Snyder's administration are painful and require

shared sacrifice, yet he said the goal is to boost the state's image and create jobs.

"We've had our heads down for a long time in the state of Michigan," he said.

On a personal note, Calley, 34, became Michigan's second youngest lieutenant governor. Only former Lt. Gov. John Swainson in 1959 was younger. Before his speech Monday, Calley was greeted by township officials who, hopeful of eventually snagging a larger share of state-shared revenue, schooled him on how Canton has adopted "best practices" and shared services with other communities.

Calley also saw a video filmed last year in Canton by *Inside Business Report*, a national show hosted by actor-politician Fred Thompson to showcase communities that have shown economic success.

Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy, who formerly served in the state House with Calley, welcomed his visit.

"I think it will be good for Canton," LaJoy said. "He has been 'Cantonized.'"

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

# Mom, daughter set their sights on Britain's royal wedding

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



Olivia Wofford

Christine Wofford said, smiling Thursday as she and her daughter sat in their Canton living room and talked of their trip. Two large, yellow, plastic letters — "W" for William and "K" for Kate — sat propped on the couch, adorned by small U.S. flags.

Christine Wofford has been a longtime fan of the royal family and movies made about the British aristocracy, and her daughter shares her interests.

A return letter Christine Wofford received from St. James's Palace didn't bring any promises the pair would get into the wedding, and Olivia Wofford hasn't yet gotten a response to a letter she sent to the younger Prince Harry.

But, don't count this Wofford family out. They've managed up-close encounters with a pope, a princess, a duchess and Hollywood royalty George Clooney.

### FIRST COMMUNION

When she was 7 years old, Olivia Wofford received her first communion from Pope John Paul II at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome after her

mother, a devout Catholic, arranged it through Detroit-area priests.

"When Olivia was born, I thought that was going to be my goal," Christine Wofford said.

Olivia Wofford recalled being "a little overwhelmed by the crowd" as her mother snapped pictures of her with the pope. "I was kind of young to know what was really going on."

They returned for Pope John Paul II's funeral — Olivia Wofford was attending Divine Child High School when he died — and they also attended Mass with Pope Benedict XVI in 2008 at Yankee Stadium in New York.

When Olivia Wofford was in

fourth grade, she gave an arrangement of flowers to Princess Caroline of Monaco, who had come to Detroit for a performance by the Monaco ballet.

"I called their PR (public relations) guy to say Olivia would like to present flowers to her, and they let her do it," Christine Wofford said.

### OFF TO LONDON

But now, Prince William's wedding to Kate Middleton is the focus for Christine Wofford, a Wayne County accounting employee, and her daughter, who has a marketing assistant job after she graduated last May from Grand

Valley State University with a degree in marketing and international business.

Although Christine Wofford's return letter from St. James's Palace was noncommittal about entry to the royal wedding, "I was thrilled to get that," she said.

She also sent an e-mail to Westminster Abbey but hasn't yet gotten a reply.

Olivia Wofford, meanwhile, said she would be thrilled to get a reply to her letter to Prince Harry.

"It would be nice to meet him," she said. "Meeting anybody in the royal family would be an honor."

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# Spinning yarn



Madeline Gutta, Sarah Fugate and Nour Kazbour work on their knitting.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Knitting circle weaves bond of friendship

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When Bird Elementary School parapro Julie Sheehan invited her daughter to make a presentation on colonial life, during which she used a spinning wheel, she had no idea the kind of spark she was setting off.

For some of the fifth-graders in the school, though, that's exactly what happened. Now, a group of them — "The Knitting Club" — meets every Friday in the school library to knit hats, scarves, and other crafts to benefit premature infants at the NICU at Beaumont Hospital.

To 11-year-old Nour Kazbour, it was like a previously closed door had finally opened. "I'd tried knitting in the past, but it didn't work out," said Nour, a fifth-grader from Plymouth. "When I found out Mrs. Sheehan was big on it, I thought I could learn from her."

The group has been a happy place for fifth-grader Allison Andrews, as well. Born in 2000 15 weeks premature with Cerebral Palsy, Allison took to the knitting group like a fish to water. Because she's wheelchair-bound, Allison has a tough time getting out for recess during the winter.



Bird Elementary parapro Julie Sheehan works with student Nour Kazbour.

She's made a lot of friends spinning yarn. "Some of us were friends before we started the club, and some of us are starting to have more friends," Allison said. "Normally, you wouldn't learn that much about knit-

ting, but we've learned how to do a lot. I think it's quite interesting."

It also pleases Allison to know the club, which started out making hats for their American Girl dolls and graduated to

working for charity, is donating the hats to Beaumont, and particularly the NICU. Allison was born at Beaumont and spent a lot of time in that unit.

"We decided to start making baby hats because the babies at the hospital should get something nice," Allison said. "Now, when they come home, they have a nice hat."

The group has spawned a sub-group of knitters who have sort of "graduate" to using a loom. The loom is perfect, the knitters say, for making the baby hats. The "Loom-A-Tics" were born.

"In the beginning, I was really bad knitting with the needles," said Sarah Fugate, a 10-year-old from Plymouth who founded the Loom-A-Tics. "I went and asked Mrs. Sheehan what I could do, and she showed me the loom."

The girls have even moved on from just being an in-school club to hanging out a little outside the classroom.

"It's been fun for Allison, in particular, and it has sort of blossomed to where they might go to a movie or hang out," Sheehan said. "It'll be nice when they move to middle school next year and they have each other there."

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



Madeline Gutta checks the length of her scarf.



Aarti Ajmani makes sure the number of stitches is correct.



Emma Reeves looks over the finished hats and scarves.



Lily Griffiths begins a scarf.



# Bishop brings message of peace, justice to Canton

BY JULIE BROWN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Bishop Thomas Gumbleton is no advocate of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Gumbleton, 81, spoke Tuesday evening at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church in Canton, after celebrating Mass.

"Our task in this world is to transform this world," said Gumbleton, a bishop for nearly 43 years and a priest for nearly 55 years.

Gumbleton, who does extensive traveling to Haiti, noted that country has been poor and exploited for many years before the 2010 earthquake. Free trade pacts of the 1980s destroyed Haiti's farm economy, he told his audience, sending farmers to live in Port au Prince, Haiti's crowded capital.

Gumbleton described how Haiti must now import much more rice, as well as building materials, than it did before free trade pacts. His Canton appearance was presented by the church's Justice and Peace Committee.

The bishop's talk focused on globalization and the poor. He described a Catholic parish in Port au Prince, which now serves some 3,000 kids a hot meal daily, up from about 800 before the quake. Gumbleton and others have also established a medical clinic in Haiti. He welcomes donations by check payable to FONKOZE USA, Kay Lasante in the memo line, and sent to Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, 4800 Grand River Ave., Detroit, MI 48208. For Haiti updates, see www.bishopgumbleton.org.

Gumbleton based part of his talk on a book by a former elected Haiti president, the Rev. Jean-Bertrand Aristide, *Eyes of the Heart*. Aristide was a parish priest in Port au



PHOTO BY KIRSTE MOLINE  
Bishop Thomas Gumbleton (right) visits with the Rev. Pat Casey, pastor of St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church in Canton.

Prince at the time of its writing.

## GAP GROWING

Gumbleton described the last 30-40 years in which rich people and nations have gotten richer at the poor's expense. "It continues to grow ever wider, that gap," he said.

The three richest people in the world have more assets than the 48 poorest countries, "which is 25 percent of the world's countries. The poor are being robbed," Gumbleton said.

He blamed the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

He blasted General Electric for paying no taxes on profits over \$14 billion. "They didn't pay a penny," he said. "We don't get away with that, no taxes."

Gumbleton said there are 45 million people in the U.S. living below poverty, and that one in four children goes to bed hungry at times.

"We have a very extensive body of social teaching," the bishop said, noting modern teaching's at least 100 years old. He cited Pope Paul VI's 1967 encyclical after a heart-wrenching trip to Calcutta, India, to see slums.

"You could tell he was just overwhelmed by it," Gumbleton said. "He just stands there and weeps. He just felt so helpless."

The encyclical that fol-

lowed emphasized God made the world for all people who deserve such things as food, education, health and care. Those rights supersede private property and commerce, the pontiff wrote.

Gumbleton talked briefly about the work of Mother Teresa and her fellow nuns in Calcutta, tending those dying in gutters covered with their own excrement.

"Obviously that's wrong, that's evil and that has to be changed," he said.

## VISIT WELCOMED

Nancy Blasch of Superior Township heads the Peace and Justice Committee at St. Thomas a'Becket. "I thought it was great," Blasch said afterward. "He does a lot, he knows a lot. He knows it firsthand and that's why he can tell us about it."

Parish priest the Rev. Pat Casey was honored to celebrate Mass with Gumbleton Tuesday.

"Oh, I love having Bishop Gumbleton here," Casey said. "He's always an inspiration and challenges us."

Manny Colon of Canton was lector for the Tuesday Mass. "Usually I'm the lector at every Tuesday Mass just about," Colon said. "It was an honor, of course, for Bishop Gumbleton."

The longtime peace and human rights advocate was with Colon, who works in circulation for the Detroit Media Partnership, during the 1995 newspaper strike. "He was out there on the picket lines with us," Colon said. "He encouraged us to be peaceful. I think he's great because he's a man of peace and justice."

Gumbleton was pleased to be asked to come to the Canton church and meet parishioners. "Hard to believe," he said of his long tenure as a priest and bishop. "I don't feel like it."

jbrown@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6755

# Monitoring spending helps save for retirement

BY RICK BLOOM  
GUEST COLUMNIST

I recently saw a new survey that deals with retirement

for the baby boomer generation. The baby boomer generation, born between 1946 and 1964 and nearly 80 million strong, are now beginning to turn 65. The generation, which changed all the rules in America, is now facing retirement and the results of the poll show there are problems on the horizon.

According to the poll, 24 percent of baby boomers say they have no retirement savings other than their home. In addition, of the individuals who have saved something for retirement, on average they have about \$100,000 in savings and only one in 10 have put away the at least one-half million dollars needed for their retirement. The bottom line, the results of the survey clearly show that the baby boomer generation will face some extraordinary problems in the extra future.

When you read that 44 percent of the members of the baby boomer generation have little or no faith that they will have the money necessary to retire,



**Money Matters**  
Rick Bloom

the question I have is why they aren't doing something now to correct the problem?

The results of this survey should not surprise many people. There have been many surveys and polls done in the past that show the same thing, that people are not saving nearly enough for their retirement. Yet they are not doing anything to correct the problem. We need to look at our situation and ask the question: What can I do to assure myself a quality of life in retirement?

Just as state and federal governments have to tighten their belts and reduce spending, you and I need to do the same thing. For the baby boomer generation, one of the best things to better improve retirement is to get expenses under control now. There is no time to delay. Look for opportunities to reduce your cost of living.

The best way to start the process is to analyze where your money is going today. It is so important to do a cash flow statement, a listing of what's coming into the family and what's going out. It is what's going out that you and I need to focus on. That may not be able to control our income but we can control our expenses.

Every family situation is different. Therefore, it's hard to tell exactly how to reduce expenses. However, there are some general themes. Too many Americans are still paying excessive rates

of interest on charge cards and other types of debt. Reducing debt and refinancing under low interest rates are both options to explore. It's amazing that I see people with money in the bank getting virtually no interest and, at the same time they have substantial charge card balances with 18.5 percent interest. It makes sense to use the savings to pay off the charge cards.

When people start looking at expenses they find ways of reducing their cost of living while not affecting their quality of life. However, sometimes people do have to reduce their lifestyle in order to protect their future. Whether that's keeping your car longer before you get a new one, or not going out to eat as much, the bottom line is the baby boomer generation needs to face the reality of what happens if the money runs out.

We live in the greatest country in the world. However, America is not a great place if you're old and poor. Don't delay, start getting a hold of your expenses today, and don't forget to take the money that you're saving and begin an investment program.

Good luck!

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit his Web site at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).

# Folk society set for April concert

The BaseLine Folk Society will bring its April coffee-house-style concert to the Plymouth Community Arts Council on Saturday.

BaseLine, which is in its second season in Plymouth, is a group of musicians and fans dedicated to preserving and performing traditional acoustic and folk music. Concerts are at 7 p.m. on the third Saturday of each month from September through May.

This Saturday's guest host

is Jeff London. The Pairadocs trio, known for their covers of songs by Peter, Paul and Mary, the Beatles and Paul Simon, will be the featured act.

There were also be an open-microphone segment of the concert, with up to eight people or groups performing two songs each. Signup for the open-mic spots is between 6:15 p.m. and 6:45 p.m.; if more than eight performers or

groups show up, a lottery will be held to determine who gets to play.

Concert admission is \$5 a person. Refreshments will be served.

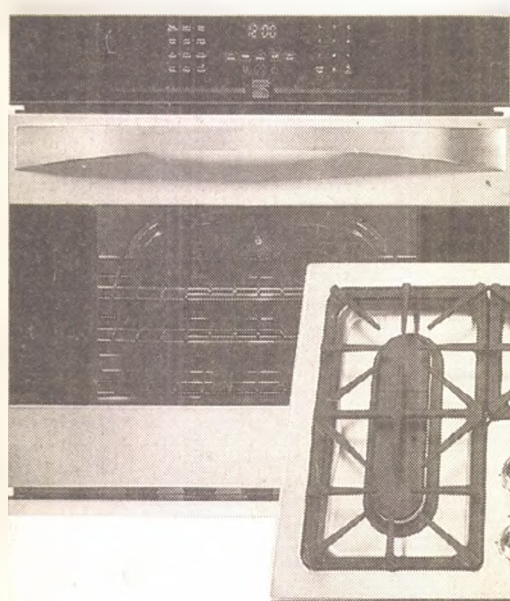
The Plymouth Community Arts Council building is at 774 North Sheldon, at Junction, south of M-14, Plymouth. For more information, call BaseLine founder Mike Mullen at (248) 347-6881.

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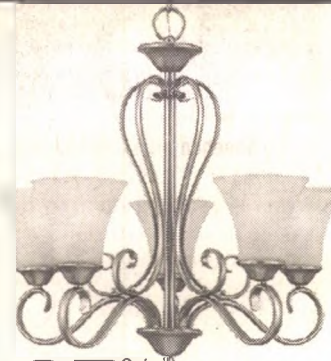
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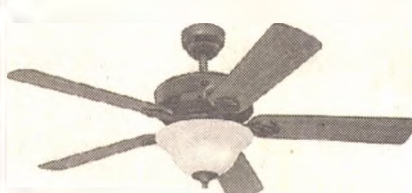
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## OUR VIEWS

# Filter the rhetoric Take a rational look at teachers

In the attack mentality that seems to be gripping this nation these days, teachers have become villains.

They are portrayed as greedy minions of the National — or here — the Michigan Education Association — which itself is seen as some sort of evil empire. They are inflexible drains on the revenue streams solely interested in shielding their incompetent members from righteous condemnation and pay cuts.

They are denounced for being overpaid and ineffective as America drifts lower among the nations of the world in terms of educational standards.

Sorting out the absurd rhetoric from the kernels of truth isn't easy, especially now as our nation takes a schizophrenic approach to education. We hear that education is the savior of our state, if not the nation, then proceed to slash funding for it. We decry our declining level of education among nations of the world, then saddle the system with absurdities as the Michigan Educational Assessment Program and even No Child Left Behind, which may have had good intentions at one time but have since been reduced to tools of coercion that have forced schools to "teach to the test" at the expense of real academics.

And they have given the perennial critics of the schools and teachers valuable weapons to decry our failures in the classroom, such as they are.

Teachers bear the brunt of the criticism, and no doubt they should share some of the blame for the academic mess we are in. Getting rid of a bad teacher is incredibly hard, thanks to tenure.

And yes, they are costly. So are police officers and firefighters and the other public service sector employees we regard as underpinnings of our society.

The fact is they all perform a valuable service, perhaps more valuable than we appreciate.

What brings this to mind now is the upcoming Academic All-Star selection the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* runs annually highlighting the best and brightest local students.

One section of the nomination form asks the students to name the teachers who have had the most influence on them. The responses are encouraging. The students consistently cite teachers for their support and skills in directing their studies and even their futures. Only parents have a greater influence on the young people of our country.

Our country as a whole needs to re-evaluate our educational system and determine just what does it mean to us and what value we are willing to place in it. Its failures are not just the fault of teachers or administrators. It is the product of all of us.

## Another good winter for city road crews

Now that it looks like spring might actually be here to stay — and Mother Nature has put away the snow clouds for good — it's safe to recognize the City of Plymouth's Department of Municipal Services for the work staffers do keeping city streets clear and safe.

Snowstorm after snowstorm, drivers making their way into the city are frustrated by the conditions of the roads in surrounding communities, then happily surprised by the condition of roads within the city limits.

Plymouth's road crews — manned by only nine full-time and four part-time employees — respond quickly and effectively to make sure city streets are as clear as possible. All the budget adjustments and downsizing the city has done over the years have not affected the efficiency of this unit.

They don't appear to let other challenges slow them down. A couple of times this year they had to deal with not only the snow storms, but also water main breaks, sometimes back-to-back. There was also the time when Wayne County crews didn't get to the Sheldon-Ann Arbor Trail area — for which the county is responsible for plowing — and City Manager Paul Sincock sent his own troops out there to avert a potentially serious safety hazard.

What's the secret to the department's success? Teamwork, according to Sincock. And he's right; it's a team effort, and Plymouth's MSD has a great team.

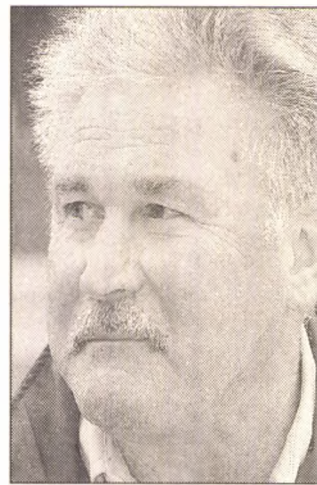
It's a "damned if you do, damned if you don't" kind of job. Don't do it, and everybody complains. Do it well, and people simply go about their business and don't even notice.

But people should notice a job that well done, and take the time to say, "Thank you."

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### What do you think of the military intervention in Libya, the no-fly zone?

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



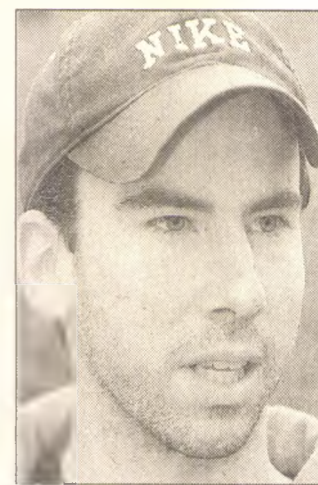
"I don't care for it. I don't think we should be sticking our nose in business like that."

**Russell Scott**  
Northville Township



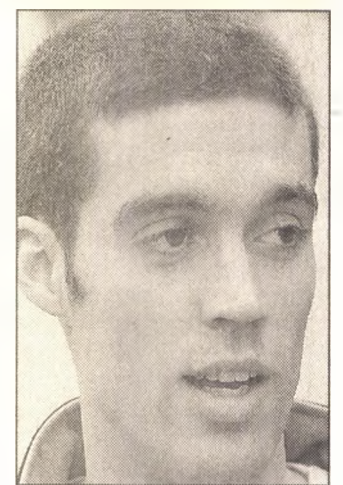
"I really don't know enough about it. ... I like President Obama, so I'll go with his judgment. ... I'll have to trust him on this."

**Judy Dignett**  
Plymouth



"I think it's a little out of our reach. I think it's another thing of us policing the world."

**Jason Fleming**  
Westland



"I like that it's very minimal, I suppose. ... I suppose that I prefer that we are taking a stand for democracy instead of protecting oil interests."

**Mark O'Neill**  
Canton Township

## LETTERS

### Setting record straight

I attended a coffee hour with state Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, and one of the big concerns addressed was that of school funding and the cuts Gov. Snyder is proposing.

Plymouth-Canton school board member Steven Sneiderman spoke briefly on the financial circumstances of the district, and answered a few questions. However, I believe in not answering my question completely or correctly it may have misled the people who were in attendance.

I had asked why the board had not requested an across-the-board percentage pay cut from all employees, from the superintendent down to the lowest position which would seem to be the fairest way to ask employees to make financial concessions to the district i.e. an equal percentage based on what they earn. He said he couldn't get into all the details, but that bargaining groups had made various concessions as it pertained to their membership.

He also said the superintendent either "did" or "offered" to return 4 percent of his salary, which he quoted at approximately \$190,000 (I apologize for not remembering his exact words, however, I could find nothing on the district website to confirm this).

I responded that the \$190,000 was nowhere near the superintendent's total compensation, which I said was nearly \$300,000, which he corrected me by saying "Oh, it's not that much, it's more like \$240,000, but I'm not really sure." Well, Mr. Sneiderman, we were both wrong. The superintendent's total compensation based on the reported W2 wages of 2009, which can be found on the district's website (pccs.k12.mi.us) was wages of \$231,058.06, retirement contribution of \$34,658.76, insurance contribution of \$16,952.12, FICA/Medicare contribution of \$9,971.94, Board Paid Annuity of \$17,550.00 — for a grand total compensation of \$310,190.88.

As an astute board member, Mr. Sneiderman, I would have thought you would know the correct dollar value of the superintendent's total compensation or at least come closer in your assumption rather than put a number out there that was more than \$70,000 short of the actual cost and could very well confuse the public.

Wages and benefits account for the largest piece of the budget pie, so it would seem logical that this is where substantial cuts must be made. As I looked over the district website at the 2009 Salary and Benefits of administrators alone, 10% of only their base salary which totals \$4,927,523.60, would equate to \$492,752.36 ... nearly a half a million dollars that could go back to the district fund. I think if they had done so, as a good faith gesture, I'm quite confident the rest of the district's employees would be agreeable to follow suit.

Laying off individual teachers/staff members and increasing class size hardly seems a beneficial move for the district to take. An across-the-board percentage pay cut for all employees might very well keep the status quo of current employees needed to service the district properly, and the medicine an ailing district needs at this time.

**Sonia S. Culver**  
Canton

### Creative options needed

It is truly unfortunate that the PCCS board has decided that compromising their product

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

(education) provided to their consumers (students) is the only option that was considered. Increased class sizes as well as the elimination of programs that have helped the PCCS graduates excel does not appear to be the solution of conscience. This is one of the few industries that can dilute the quality of their product in the interest of survival and not tank in the process. Manufacturers certainly couldn't do this, nor could the service industries, either. Who wants to go to a hospital that has less nurses or physicians? It's too bad that the students and parents within the PCCS district need do so.

The equation may be simple: less income for the district equals less expenditures. In such a situation, wage and benefit concessions seem to be a necessity. Nowhere in the PCCS board's proposal did one see revised, competitive health care contracting to parallel that of the private sector. Nowhere did we see a proposal of co-worker solidarity in wage concessions to help save the jobs of their friends. These topics are unspoken entities so as not to inflame the union representatives.

Unless action is taken to preserve current class size and programs, PCCS will likely see an exodus of children to charter, parochial as well as neighboring school districts. One only need look at Detroit to realize that the same can happen in our community as well.

The voters of the PCCS district should demand that the PCCS board review more creative options to keep the District viable, not just financially balanced. We need to show our future leaders (the students) that they are the most important part of the equation.

**Richard Schubatis**  
Plymouth

### Giving equally

I attended a coffee to hear Sen. Patrick Colbeck and what he was doing in Lansing. People in the group quickly turned the discussion to how much money/benefits teachers are being asked to give up under the governor's budget.

I was overwhelmed by the number and rancor of how the group treated the senator. I spoke up to explain how every private sector citizen/business had given up pay/benefits and employment. I was quickly scoffed at as a "know nothing" about the problem. The group was particularly angry about tax cuts for corporations. As a reminder; it is corporations and

businesses full of working people that create the need for schools and teachers. The priority in this state is to create jobs which create revenue to provide for the schools.

I would like teachers to be part of the solution of the problems in this state. And, it is time to run schools like a business; a business which produces the best and brightest students and; the best paid teachers because of it. We need to work with the senator and the governor; these men have great business sense and are trying to right this sinking ship.

As a part of that we all need to give equally. For any group to say "everyone but us" isn't a good place to start.

**Andrew Brandt**  
Canton

### Assault on facts

Recent debate over the budget is merely the opening salvo of a broader struggle that may change forever the America many of us know and love. While seeing the Obama administration compromise and agree to the largest cut of an annual budget in history, the Tea Party-pushed Republicans and our own Congressman McCotter disingenuously whined that the most ever is not enough and that the .008 percent of the budget that would fund the non-abortion part of Planned Parenthood may well be the force driving us toward insolvency.

As the debt ceiling deadline approaches and the Ryan budget becomes the central issue in politics, remember that those who claim to be the adults are neither honest nor serious brokers. We as a nation are not on the brink of bankruptcy as the Republicans would have us believe. Bond markets are stable and interest rates remain at historic lows so no run to divest ownership of American debt is looming. And, contrary to Republican claims reducing the deficit will no more increase employment than did the tax cuts for the wealthy that commenced early in the Bush II era. History demonstrates this so we shouldn't fall for it.

What are the real deficit drivers that less than serious conservatives fail to include in policy proposals, things that would make a real difference quickly rather than delaying a balanced budget until 2063 so that the wealthy can first be serviced? Tax cuts to the wealthy that have pushed taxation on the top few percent to historic lows contribute \$70 billion annually. Subsidies to oil companies also contribute several billions to annual unnecessary spending. The defense department chews up 45 percent of the annual discretionary budget but will escape much serious scrutiny under the Ryan proposal. Since we spend more than the next 10 nations on defense combined, can or should we continue to spend at this level? Rising health care expenses that continued improvements on the Affordable Health Care Act would remedy, may be the most powerful of the deficit drivers but conservatives like Ryan and McCotter have voted for repeal rather than offering realistic improvements.

Citizens beware of the coming assault on the facts and on common sense. Our problems can be managed without throwing out the baby with the bath water as conservatives would have you believe.

**Mitch Smith**  
Canton



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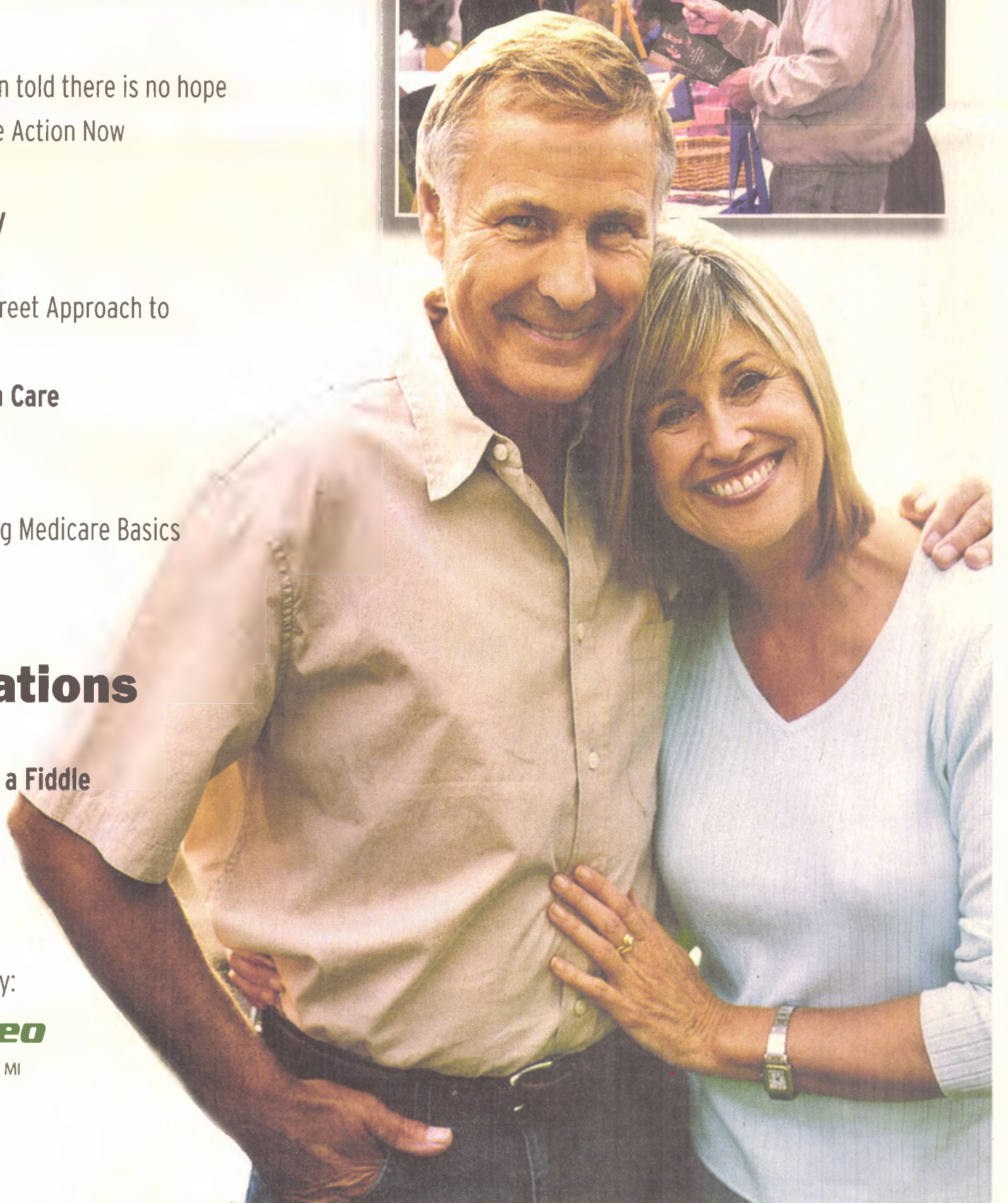
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# Annual K-12 art show puts talent on display

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Teachers throughout the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools were given advance notice of just how many pieces of art each grade-level was allotted for the third annual K-12 Student Art Show Saturday at Plymouth High School.

Those recommendations went unheeded, and an enthusiastic crowd of some 4,200 people filed through the exhibits, listening to the music of Plymouth-Canton musicians, tasting the delicacies of the district's culinary students and, best of all, looking at some 2,000 exhibits.

"It was great," said Tim Schoenherr, the district's director of visual and performing arts. "We told the teachers they had a limited number (of exhibits), but they sort of went crazy. They really got into it."

By just about any number, officials counted the show a success. Admission was technically free, though a \$1 donation was suggested. Visitors contributed some \$3,000 in donations.

Faculty members contributed their own works of art for the Silent Auction, and that raised some \$600.

More kids than in the first two years were recognized (the full list of winners can be found on the district's website at [www.pccs.k12.mi.us](http://www.pccs.k12.mi.us)) by a panel of celebrity judges that included Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano, State Rep. Kurt Heise, State Rep. Dian Slavens and her husband, Wayne County Judge Mark Slavens.

Board of Education trustee Steven Sneiderman sang the show's praises at Tuesday's board meeting.

"Our whole arts team, from every aspect, put a lot of heart and soul into it," Sneiderman said. "Our kids just do a great job."



The P-CEP String Quartet entertains the crowd at the art show.



Jonathon Marceau, a freshman at P-CEP, designed and crafted a necklace of stainless steel, glass and polished rock.



Hulsing Elementary fifth-graders taught by Chuck Huhta took a judge's choice award for their Klingit Totem Pole. Jill McEwen is their art teacher.



Ipsbister first grader Nicholas Mahy is pretty proud of his painting, titled "House."

Schoenherr said the event proved once again to be a great community event.

"So many kids are involved, and we get great community

support," Schoenherr said. "It's a high-impact event. Parents will typically make a beeline toward their own kids' work, but when they see the K-12 display, they're blown away. You get to see some incredible talent."

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Austin Sartorius (No. 10) of Salem and Ypsilanti Lincoln player Cory Bastian put the squeeze on U.S. women's national team player Kendall Coyne (No. 26) Monday at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube. Watching are Brianna Decker (No. 14) and Hilary Knight (No. 21).

PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI

## Trio to lead Rocks

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

### SOFTBALL PREVIEW

Salem's Big Three will go a long way in determining how its varsity softball team fares in 2011.

Longtime head coach Bonnie Southerland thinks the world of the trio — seniors and fourth-year players Heidi Schmidt, Kelli Janiczek and Lizzy Mazorowicz.

"Those three are for sure the glue that keeps this team together," Southerland said. "These three players know what it takes to be on a winning team and have proven themselves to be three of the best players in the league (KLAA)."

Schmidt, who will play Division I softball in 2012 at Eastern Michigan University, probably will be Salem's No. 1 pitcher. She also is described by Southerland as "by far one of the best athletes I've coached."

Janiczek and Mazorowicz are co-captains who will play in the infield. The former will split time between catcher and first base, while the latter is set for second base.

"Kelli is in her second year as a captain and continues to be a leader on the field and behind the plate as well," Southerland said. "She has the experience and knowledge to catch all four of our

pitchers this season."

In addition to Schmidt, the Rocks have junior Alyssa Meagher and freshmen Kristine Zink and Emily Marcero who can pitch when needed.

"Alyssa has worked extremely hard in the off-season to improve her game and mix up her pitches," Southerland said.

As for Mazorowicz, she has improved her quickness and range to field grounders "and will take away most hits the right side," while remaining a "huge threat" at the plate.

### PLENTY OF OPTIONS

Junior catcher, shortstop and third baseman Alexis Powell is another key returnee. She will bring her power bat to the cleanup spot.

"She's one of the best hitters in the league," Southerland said.

Available for first base and to help fill in the designated hitter spot is junior Jennifer First, "a lefty who has a strong arm and powerful bat."

Second-year varsity player Brianna Berberet is another versatile junior. She is a contact hitter who is vying for the third base spot.

Also in the mix for the hot

Please see **SOFTBALL, B3**

# Global warmups

Prep icers get rare chance to take on U.S. women's hockey team

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



Coach Paul Fassbender and players watch Monday's action at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube.

Talk about a perfect hockey scenario. The 2011 U.S. women's national hockey team needed a fast-paced tuneup before leaving this week for the International Ice Hockey Federation World Women's Championships in Switzerland.

And a squad of current and recent high school varsity players — most coming from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park teams — couldn't wait to oblige.

In a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, the boys suited up Monday for the second of two up-tempo, no-body-checking practice games against the U.S. women's team at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube.

Although the boys lost 6-2 (following a 4-3 defeat April 6), it was something they'll never forget.

### NOTHING BUT SMILES

"I thought it was fun and I thought they had a blast," said now-former Plymouth coach Paul Fassbender, who oversaw the exhibitions. "They were all happy in there (locker room), so it was good for them. It's something they'll

never get to do again, probably."

Goal scorers for the boys were Canton's AJ Rosales in the first period (from Salem's Austin Sartorius) and Salem's Ryan Quigley (from high school teammate Michael Manser) during a 10-minute four-on-four overtime period.

"We were on the power play and we started cycling it," Rosales said, "and Sartorius made a good pass in front and I put it in."

Quigley finished the game's scoring. He took a feed from Manser, broke in on the left wing and went top shelf against U.S. goalie Jessie Vetter (the third used by coach Katey Stone in the contest).

The rapid pace amazed prep players such as Salem's Mark McGee and Plymouth's Zach Gambrell.

### 'SHOCKING' PACE

"It's really fast-paced, they're really good at passing and you just got to always have your head on a swivel and know what's going on," McGee said. "It's kind of different that you can't (body) check or anything like that. But it's a lot faster paced than I'm used to."

Please see **HOCKEY, B2**



Back for her fourth season on the Salem varsity softball team is Heidi Schmidt (foreground), shown in this 2010 game sliding into third base against Plymouth.

# Chiefs boast deep roster

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

### BOYS TRACK PREVIEW

Canton's varsity boys track and field team features plenty of numbers across the board.

And head coach Bob Richardson can't wait to roll the dice to see how it all plays out in the 2011 season.

"We have 100 kids on the varsity," said Richardson, starting his 23rd season at the helm of the Chiefs' boys squad. "And the competition is stiff."

Richardson noted that there are talented people "in every event," but whether they succeed or fail will have a lot to do with their desire to work hard.

"What I tell them is, just commit to us," he said. "We'll get you there, but you have to be here every day."

There are many athletes on the team who were part of the 2010 squad, which went 2-5 overall but improved as the year progressed.

Richardson said the Chiefs finished sixth out of 12 teams at the Kensington Lakes Activities Association meet in 2010. Then they took third out of 17 at the Division 1 regionals. Nine kids went to the state meet and school records were set.

He sees no reason why that trend of late success can't carry over into this season.

The Chiefs already are off to a good start, finishing third out of 12 teams at Saturday's Pioneer Indoor Invitational at Eastern Michigan University's Bowen Fieldhouse with 63 points.

They followed up with Tuesday's 95-42 victory over Livonia Churchill, where they swept the four relays.

"I don't remember the last time we won all four relays," Richardson said.

Another test will be Thursday, at the annual city meet at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

### LEADING THE CHARGE

Leadership is one of the reasons why Richardson likes the chances of the 2011 Chiefs.

There are six senior captains, including Ben Spreitzer, Austin Golles, Nick Alaniva, Keegan Sullivan, Sapan Patel and Alex Marsh.

A deep coaching staff with assistants Paul Bedford, Matti Kilpelainen, Joe Zugay, Xavier Clais, Josh Hurst, Nick Norville and Paul Rakovitis is another key aspect of the team, he emphasized.

On Saturday, Alaniva set a person-

"We have 100 kids on the varsity. And competition is stiff."

BOB RICHARDSON, Canton coach

al best in the pole vault with a mark of 14 feet, 1 inch, good for first place.

He also placed second in the long jump (20-3) and joined sophomores Scott Piwowar, Colby Morris and Tony Daniels to finish fourth in the 800-meter relay (1:39.4).

"We had a big day out of Spreitzer, who scored in three events," Richardson said. "And Austin Golles had a big day for us. ... Scott Piwowar and Nick Alaniva also did a good job."

Junior distance runner Miles Felton took second in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 4:32.7, while the 1,600-meter relay team of sophomore Charlie Steslick, Spreitzer, Golles and Piwowar took second with a time of 3:41.2.

Following is a breakdown at how the Chiefs will look by category:

- Throwers: Ben Poirier, senior; Marty Brudzinski, senior;
- High jump/long jump: Matt Schacht, junior; Zach Smilo, junior;
- Pole vault: Ryan Kilgore, junior; Mitch Nickert, junior; Alex Nickert, senior;

Please see **TRACK, B3**

# Home-grown talent propels MU

### COLLEGE BASEBALL

Despite a depleted pitching staff and down to seven healthy arms, Madonna University team finds itself in good position in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference race — thanks to contributions from several Canton and Plymouth natives.

On Sunday, the Crusaders improved to 25-10 overall and 13-1 in the WHAC by sweeping a twinbill on Saturday from visiting Indiana Tech at Ilitch Ballpark, 7-4 and 9-6.

Senior second baseman Jeff Bultinck continued his hot hitting going 3-for-3 with an RBI to pace the Crusaders in the opener.

Steve Pelletier added two hits, including a homer and two RBIs, while Brad Lineberry (Plymouth) and Mike Gansser also contributed two hits apiece as MU broke a 4-4 deadlock with a run in the sixth and two in the seventh.

Middle reliever Erik Wright (Canton) got his first win and Travis Schuba picked up his fourth save.

MU completed the sweep as Matt Kay (Canton) belted his seventh homer of the season, a three-run blast.

Pelletier added two hits, including his third of the year to go along with four RBIs.

The Crusaders used four pitchers with reliever Logan Ryan going three innings. He allowed one earned run on one hit.

Wright, who picked up his first save, went the final 2½ innings allowing just one hit and one walk in

holding Tech scoreless.

### MADONNA 1-7, INDIANA TECH 0-4:

Jeremy Gooding's first-game gem propelled the Crusaders (23-10, 11-1) to a sweep Saturday against the Warriors (21-13, 4-4) at Ilitch Ballpark. Gooding allowed five hits, walked two and struck out 10.

Senior catcher Tarik Khasawneh (Canton) went 2-for-2 and drove in Dan Harder with the game-winning run in the bottom of the seventh.

Steve Pelletier belted his first homer of the year, while Jeff Bultinck, Matt Kay, Brad Lineberry, and Victor Barron also had an RBI each.

Brandon Alger (3-2), who allowed just five hits and two walks over 6½ innings, took the loss for the Warriors.

In the nightcap, MU scored three times in the top of the eighth inning to beat Tech, 7-4.

Lefty Tom Hansen, who gave up three runs (all unearned) on five hits in six innings, got the victory to improve to 5-2. Reliever Andy Omilian gave up just one earned run in three innings to pick up his first save.

Steve Pelletier belted his first homer of the year, while Jeff Bultinck, Matt Kay, Brad Lineberry, and Victor Barron also had an RBI each.

Third baseman Reinardo Scott went 2-for-3 with two RBIs for the Warriors.



# Owen Sound nears second-round sweep of Whalers

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Everything seemed to be pointing toward the Plymouth Whalers evening up their OHL Western Conference semifinal series with Owen Sound on Saturday night.

Forward Stefan Noesen scored at 17:02 of the second period to give Plymouth a 2-0 lead before nearly 3,000 fans at Compuware Arena.

Moments later, teammate Robbie Czarnik made a bid for the Whalers' third goal of Game 2.

But Czarnik rang the puck off the goal post, and the loud sound must have awakened the visiting team because within a couple minutes the game suddenly was 2-2.

If that wasn't enough, Owen Sound winger Roman Berdnikov capitalized

on a defensive breakdown early in the third period for the tie-breaking tally and it held up for a 3-2 win — despite late Plymouth pressure.

"We weren't getting the bounces we needed," said Plymouth forward Tyler Brown, whose bid to make it 3-3 in the third period hit more iron. "But we didn't play well enough to get the bounces that we wanted. So hopefully it's a different story in Game 3."

(The Whalers then lost Monday's Game 3 in Owen Sound by a 4-1 score, and faced elimination Wednesday night in Game 4 at Compuware. Go to [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com) for late results.)

Brown said the team, although disappointed in Saturday's outcome, will look to draw on the recent experience of defeating Kitchener on the road in Game 7 of the first round.

"Some of the guys were talking about that in the dressing room," Brown added. "We didn't play with the urgency we had to, like we did in Game 7 against Kitchener."

Still, for most of the first two periods, the Whalers were in front — even though they had long stretches in the middle frame where they could not clear their zone.

Plymouth opened the scoring at 13:51 of the first period when a wrist shot by defenseman Colin MacDonald beat screened Attack goalie Scott Stajcer (29 saves).

Whalers goalie Scott Wedgewood (28 saves) subsequently held the fort to protect the slim lead for a long stretch.

he jammed his own rebound past Stajcer, and Czarnik's near-miss.

Given a reprieve, the Attack raced down the ice and Andrew Shaw cashed in a rebound to make it 2-1 at the 18-minute mark (58 seconds after Noesen scored).

Owen Sound struck again at 18:52 when a perfect crease-crossing pass by Matt Petgrave was tapped in at the right post by Liam Heelis.

The Attack finally took the lead at 4:31 of the third period. Garrett Wilson passed the puck from the left corner in front of Plymouth's net, where wide-open Berdnikov had no problem finishing the scoring play.

From that point on, the Whalers turned up the juice and came close several times to getting the equalizer, but the damage had been done.

Czarnik wired a shot that missed

the cage and, with about seven minutes to go, Brown hit the crossbar.

Unfortunately for coach Mike Vellucci's team, there would be no dramatic Compuware comeback this time around.

According to Brown, who entered the game leading the OHL in playoff scoring with 14 points, the Whalers didn't deserve one.

"We weren't getting pucks out," Brown said. "... it's something we definitely got to work on."

"We were lazy on pucks, we got outworked and it came down to effort and the effort wasn't there tonight. But it will be a different story in Game 3."

If it isn't, Plymouth's season will be all but over.

**TURN OF EVENTS**  
Then came Noesen's goal, where



## Undefeated!

The Bulls finished 12-0 to win the Plymouth Canton Community Education Basketball 5th/6th grade league. After going 8-0 during the regular season, the squad won all four games in a hard-fought title tournament. Pictured with their championship trophies are: (front row, from left) Matthew Pelukas, Matt Rockafellow, Andy Lentine, Ben Ludtke, and Rami Alawadi; (back row, from left) coach Brian Ludtke, Mark Perego, Noah Brenny, Jason Arnold, Chase Nealey and Derek Goderis. Not pictured is coach Jeff Arnold.

# Salem banking on tennis veterans

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With plenty of experience, the 2011 Salem varsity girls tennis team is expected to be another strong squad.

Rocks head coach Lin Ware said this year's team could repeat what the 2010 squad did, finishing 7-2 in the ultra-tough KLA Central Division. Following wins over Livonia Ladybirds and Plymouth, the Rocks did take a 9-0 loss at the hands of division rival Northville.

According to Ware, a "very strong and experienced"

singles lineup will be Salem's strength.

"Anna Norman claimed the No. 1 spot moving up from No. 2 last year," she said. "Ashley Walker played her way from doubles into the No. 2 (singles) position and Morgan Spencer and Kerry MacDonald both return to their positions from last year where they were very successful."

Norman and Spencer are juniors, while MacDonald is a senior and Walker a sophomore.

In the doubles lineup, the only varsity returnees are seniors Mallory Rojo and

Emily Simmons.

The top doubles unit includes Rojo and junior Sarah Bellaire, while No. 2 doubles includes Simmons and senior Emily Borkowicz.

Remaining tandems are as follows: No. 3, senior Lynne Krutty and junior Narges Pourmandi; No. 4, juniors Sushmitha Diraviam and Megan Barry; No. 5, senior Courtney Godfrey and junior Monica Topolovec.

"The doubles teams are proving themselves" already this season, Ware noted.

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# Ref makes once-in-lifetime call

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Janine Martinez plays women's hockey and is a referee for various youth leagues in Oberverland.

But the 39-year-old Livonia resident looked like a kid in a candy store after officiating a game featuring the U.S. women's national team.

"Oh, my gosh," Martinez said. "As soon as I got the e-mail, I was stoked and figured I'd never have the opportunity to (again) be on the same ice as the women's Olympic team."

That e-mail came from USA Hockey's director of officials, who wanted to know if Martinez was available to help officiate Monday's game at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube.

The women (who would compete in the Olympics if this were an Olympic year) faced a squad of players culled mostly from boys prep teams.

Most of that could compare with just one day at the Ice Cube.

"They're quick, they're real fast," Martinez said. "They got speed, excellent skills, it's amazing what they can do on ice. You appreciate it much more when you're on the ice with them, because you appreciate their speed."

From an official's standpoint, she said the speed of the game wasn't a hindrance to



JOHN KEMSKI

During Monday's scrimmage game between high school players and the U.S. women's national team, on-ice official Janine Martinez of Livonia gets set to drop the puck between 2010 Plymouth grad Pat Smiatacz and forward Kelli Stack (No. 16). Watching the faceoff are Monique Lamoureux-Kolls (No. 7, left) and Salem's Ryan Quigley (No. 7, right).

ers at least 30 years old) and girls nationals for 12U, 14U, 16U and 19U leagues.

None of that could compare with just one day at the Ice Cube.

"They're quick, they're real fast," Martinez said. "They got speed, excellent skills, it's amazing what they can do on ice. You appreciate it much more when you're on the ice with them, because you appreciate their speed."

From an official's standpoint, she said the speed of the game wasn't a hindrance to

her ability to keep up with the play.

"Because it's a fast pace, you have to react," she said. "It's a little bit easier to react the faster they go."

She then smiled once more about what she had just been a part of.

"To have them fly by you and just watching their puck-handling skills, it's amazing," Martinez said. "And they constantly keep moving their feet and never stop skating."

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## HOCKEY

FROM PAGE B1

McGee — who scored twice in the first contest — added that the games will help when he graduates and moves on either to play on a junior or college team.

"It's almost like to see what it takes to get to that level," he said. "How much quicker everything is, how much less time you have to make decisions."

Gambrell said it was "really fun, competitive" to face the U.S. women, who would be competing in the Olympics if this were an Olympic year.

And he'll leave the scrimmages with a newfound respect for them.

"They're really fast, that's what's shocking us," he said. "They're just amazingly fast."

It was by design that there was no letup from the U.S. women, according to Stone.

"That's the point, be consistent," Stone said. "You can't take a shift off, you've got to keep playing no matter who you're playing against. That's the way our team plays."

Both scrimmages book-ended two U.S.-Canada exhibitions, which the teams split.

"These guys are a great match," said Stone, who whittled 30 college and minor professional players down to the final 21-player roster following a week-long training camp.

"It's quick, it's physical, you've got to be on your toes and the goaltending's good."

"If we want to be successful, we have to work for everything we are going to get and they make us work, and that's what is so great about it."

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**UNFORGETTABLE FUN**

Stone said the games were scheduled following similar games at a December training camp in Minnesota because "the tempo and pace" of contests against high school boys teams was a good fit.

After Ann Arbor high school



JOHN KEMSKI

Plymouth's Cody Staub goes head-to-head against defenseman Caitlyn Cahow of the U.S. women's national team.

teams did not show enough interest in putting a squad together, Fassbender (who is an employee at the Ice Cube) received a surprise e-mail from the U.S. women's director asking if he'd step in.

He sprung into action, contacting other Park coaches Jeremy Majszak (Canton) and Ryan Ossenmacher (Salem), who in turn got in touch with their players.

Other districts in the area were invited to send players, including Howell, Saline and schools from Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti.

Players from the Park didn't waste a second to sign up.

"My coach (Fassbender) just asked me and it sounded fun, so I thought I'd do it," Gambrell said.

Also thrilled with the invitation were parents such as Marilyn Smiatacz, who had two sons on the team (2010 Plymouth grad Pat and Sean).

"It's just awesome," she said. "They'll never experience this ever again, to play against the

women's national hockey team.

"They're leaving for Switzerland (Tuesday) to go and play in worlds, so this would be an Olympic team if we were in the Olympics this year."

P-CEP players who participated included Plymouth's Gambrell, Pat Smiatacz (1 assist April 6), Sean Smiatacz (1 assist April 6), Cody Staub, Cameron Nadell and Ryan Brown (1 goal April 6); Canton's Rosales (1 goal Monday) and Jimmy LaFontaine; and Salem's McGee, Sartorius (1 assist April 6 in addition to his goal Monday) and Manser (1 assist Monday).

**Note:** On Tuesday, Fassbender announced that he resigned his position as Plymouth's head coach. He works at the Ice Cube in Ann Arbor and said he wanted to find a coaching job closer to the rink. He is an Ypsilanti resident.

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# Canton bests Salem in first match

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When the Canton and Salem varsity girls lacrosse teams met up on April 6, not only was it the first time in history that the squads faced each other.

It also gave Canton assistant coach (and 2006 Salem grad) Lauren Medley the chance to coach against her dad — Salem head coach Dave Medley.

"It was a great feeling to be a former player and now be on the sidelines coaching the team," Lauren Medley said. "I knew that my dad would have his girls ready."

The Chiefs were victorious, however, earning a 7-3 win at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park on a miserably night weather-wise.

According to Canton head coach Dave Bower, the Chiefs "played a strong game despite horrific weather conditions that cancelled every other high school sporting event in the area."

"The girls did an excellent

## GIRLS LACROSSE

job passing the ball up the field, despite the cold, wet conditions."

Spearheading Canton's offense were Stephanie Bower (three goals) and Annelise Neirmann (two goals), with Lauren Allard and Jordan Richter also scoring. Julia Beard added an assist.

Co-captains Allard and Sarah Coleman made a number of smart plays to help the Chiefs.

Bower added that defenders Laura Murphy, CJ Saylor, Rebecca Majszak and Kristin Lebeson worked well as a unit, allowing just nine shots on goal.

The Chiefs also won with freshman Melissa Neal in goal. She was called up from the junior varsity because of an injury to Becky Lough and played well, making six saves.

"For the returning girls, this was the first time they went up against former teammates from last season's (now-defunct) United team," Bower

added. Dave Medley, meanwhile, said his young Salem team "moved the ball well, fought hard for ground balls and never gave up," although inexperience did result in some miscues.

Sophomore Shannon Fitzpatrick tallied her first varsity goal and Lexi O'Connor added two more for the Rocks.

On defense, he lauded the efforts of Kate Meagher, Breanne Beaver and goaltender Meaghan Eldridge, who teamed up to "keep us in the game."

Canton's Bower tipped his cap to Eldridge, saying she "played an especially strong game, coming up with a number of big saves to keep Salem in the game."

Next up for Salem are games Wednesday at Northville and Friday at South Lyon.

Canton will have another campus rivalry game, taking on Plymouth 8 p.m. Friday at P-CEP.

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## TRACK

FROM PAGE B1

- Middle distances: Patel, Tyler Winningham, junior;
- Sprinters: Kevin Buford, junior; Josh Nolen, senior; Ryan Jones, junior; Piwowar, Morris, Daniels, Avery Sims, sophomore; Ryan Darish, sophomore.

**Wildcats also at EMU**

Although the flu bug kept many varsity runners home Saturday, several Plymouth Wildcats had solid perfor-

freshman;

- Distance runners: Felton, Bradon Conley, junior; Sean Krolicki, junior; Sullivan, Alex Krul, senior; Jeff Molchan, junior; Zach Cox, junior; Kurt Kowalski, junior;
- Hurdlers: Spreitzer, Mitch Pepper, junior; Drake Hogan, sophomore; Davon Hill, sophomore; Jamal Dixon,

mance at the Pioneer Indoor Invites at EMU.

Plymouth head coach Jon Mikosz said junior William Askew II finished third in the 60-meter dash with a time of 7.33 seconds.

Taking fourth in the 800 run was senior Stephen Balaze (2:09.01), while senior Andy Bihn's mark of 12 feet even earned him fourth in the pole vault.

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## PREP TRACK AND FIELD RESULTS

### BOYS DUAL MEET RESULTS

#### CANTON 95

#### LIVONIA CHURCHILL 42

#### April 12 at Canton

**Shot put:** 1. Padgett (LC), 46 feet, 1.25 inches; 2. Alex Marsh (C), 45-15; 3. Marty (C), 42-2.75.

**Discus:** 1. Atkins (LC), 127-3; 2. Hall (LC), 125-3; 3. Ben Poirier (C), 117-11.

**High jump:** 1. (3-way tie) Ben Spreitzer (C), Matt Schacht (C), Zach Smilo (C), 5-8.

**Long jump:** 1. Nick Aloniva (C), 19-11; 2. Rayford (LC), 18-2; 3. Jamal Dixon (C), 18-0.

**Pole vault:** 1. Alaniva (C), 13-0; 2. Rayford (LC), 13-0; 3. Rytarsky (LC), 11-0.

**100-meter hurdles:** 1. Spreitzer (C), 15.5; 2. Jefferson (LC), 17.6; 3. Zoltowski (LC), 17.7.

**300 hurdles:** 1. Spreitzer (C), 43-0; 2. Zoltowski (LC), 46-5; 3. Szuba (LC), 47-0.

**100 dash:** 1. Ryan Jones (C), 11.2; 2. Kevin Buford (C), 11.3; 3. Charlie Steslick (C), 11.7.

**200:** 1. Buford (C), 23.2; 2. Alaniva (C), 23.5; 3. Colby Morris (C), 23.8.

**400:** 1. Buford (C), 52.8; 2. Sapan Patel (C), 55.3; 3. Steslick (C), 55.4.

**800:** 1. Wise (LC), 2-09.7; 2. Tyler Winningham (C), 2-10.8; 3. Hage (LC), 2-12.5.

**1,600:** 1. Miles Felton (C), 4-43.7; 2. Wise (LC), 4-47.0; 3. Bradon Conley (C), 4-55.5.

**3,200:** 1. Windle (LC), 10-33.4; 2. Conley (C), 10-35.9; 3. Jeff Molchan (C), 10-44.1.

**400 relay:** 1. Canton (Josh Nolen, Alaniva, Morris, Jones), 45.9; 2. Churchill, 49.1; 3.00 relay: 1. Canton (Nolen, Patel, Morris, Buford), 1:36.9; 2. Churchill, 1:40.3; 3. Plymouth (Felton, Keegan Sullivan, Tony Daniels, Steslick), 3:44.8; 2. Churchill, 3:47.9; 3. Plymouth (Felton, Shean Krolicki, Andrew Stephens, Austin Golles), 8:47.1; 2. Churchill, 8:47.9.

**Dual meet records:** Canton, 2-0 KLAAS South Division; Churchill, 1-1 KLAAS South.

#### LIVONIA FRANKLIN 84

#### PLYMOUTH 53

#### April 11 at Franklin

**Shot put:** 1. Adam Clay (LF), 51 feet, 6 inches; 2. Jay Woolfork (LF), 47.7; 3. Alex Forde (LF), 38-9.

**Discus:** 1. Woolfork (LF), 117-2; 2. Clay (LF), 115-5; 3. Harrington (P), 92-7.

**High jump:** 1. Smith (P), 5-6; 2. (tie) Woolfork (LF) and Tom Brokaw (LF), 5-3 each.

### LONG JUMP

1. Bihn (P), 18-11.5; 2. Jordan Alexander (LF), 18-8.

**Pole vault:** 1. Bihn (P), 11-6; 2. Chad Chisholm (LF), 11-6; 3. Zuzo (P), 11-0.

**110-meter hurdles:** 1. Brokaw (LF), 16.76; 2. Edgerton (P), 17.62; 3. Chisholm (LF), 18.48.

**300 hurdles:** 1. Andrew Crechiolo (LF), 45.44; 2. Brokaw (LF), 45.73; 3. Chisholm (LF), 46.04.

**100 dash:** 1. William Askew (P), 11.49; 2. Ryan Hurt (LF), 11.7; 3. Alex Perelli (LF), 11.75.

**200:** 1. Askew (P), 22.66; 2. Perelli (LF), 24.43; 3. Pinard (LF), 25.12.

**400:** 1. Askew (P), 52.19; 2. Dave Koponen (LF), 54.26; 3. Gutowski (LF), 54.68.

**800:** 1. Rogowski (P), 2-08.55; 2. Balaze (P), 2-10.16; 3. Gabe Edwards (LF), 2-10.76.

**1,600:** 1. Austin Jones (LF), 4-42.93; 2. Eiben (P), 4-45.0; 3. Dalton (P), 4-59.06.

**3,200:** 1. Derek Gielarowski (P), 10-28.1; 2. Jones (LF), 10-47.22; 3. Cardenas (P), 10-49.63.

**400 relay:** 1. Franklin (Perelli, Jake Pinard, Cameron Pogorel, Hurt), 45.76; 2. Plymouth, 48.4; 3.00 relay: 1. Franklin (Gutowski, Pinard, Woolfork, Hurt), 1:34.12; 2. Plymouth, 1:40.7; 1,600 relay: 1. Franklin (Hurt, Gutowski, Crechiolo, Koponen), 3:45.37; 2. Plymouth, 3:59.28; 3,200 relay: 1. Franklin (Bobby Wilson, Jones, Edwards, Koponen), 8:30.89; 2. Plymouth, 8:35.14.

**Dual meet records:** Franklin, 2-0 overall, 2-0 KLAAS South Division; Plymouth, 0-2 overall, 0-2 KLAAS South.

### GIRLS DUAL MEET RESULTS

#### LIVONIA CHURCHILL 78

#### CANTON 59

#### April 12 at Canton

**Shot put:** 1. Mahogany Miller (LC), 33 feet, 1.5 inches; 2. Megan Ling (LC), 28.5; 3. Allison Murray (LC), 27-8.75.

**Discus:** 1. Emily Norscia (LC), 99-8; 2. Ling (LC), 87-5; 3. Lobb (Canton), 75-10.

**High jump:** 1. Senclair McDonnell (LC), 5-2; 2. Lipa (Canton), 5-0; 3. Ashley Cochran (LC), 4-6.

**100-meter hurdles:** 1. Clark (Canton), 15-5; 2. Lu (Canton), 15-3.5; 3. Leah Heinzelman (LC), 15-0.

**Pole vault:** 1. Long (Canton), 8-9; 2. Lindsey Kreutzman (LC), 8-3; 3. Amanda Fox (LC), 6-3.

**100-meter hurdles:** 1. Dayna Esper (LC), 16.9; 2. Williams (Canton), 17.97; 3. Sharon McCall (LC), 18.12.

**300 hurdles:** 1. Molly Jarvis (LC), 49.85; 2. Williams (Canton), 50.81; 3. Milad (Canton), 52.16.

**Dual meet records:** Franklin, 2-0 overall, 2-0 KLAAS South.

### GIRLS DUAL MEET RESULTS

#### LIVONIA FRANKLIN 68

#### PLYMOUTH 69

#### April 12 at Franklin

**Shot put:** 1. Nicole Price (LF), 30 feet, 2 inches; 1. Plymouth, 89-9.5; 2. Price, 84.6.5; 3. Grace Modes (LF), 73-3; **high jump:** 1. Kelly O'Brien (LF), 4-10; 2. Pia Klein (LF), 4-10; **100-meter hurdles:** 1. Klein (LF), 17-5.5 (breaks own school record); **pole vault:** 1. Meghan Lark (LF), 9-6; **100-meter hurdles:** 1. Jen Mueller (LF), 16.7; 2. O'Brien (LF), 17.3; **300 hurdles:** 1. Klein (LF), 49.0; 2. O'Brien (LF), 50.4; **100 dash:** 1. Maddie Lewis (P), 12.8; 2. Klein (LF), 13.4; 3. Natalie Modes (P), 14.1; **200:** 1. Anderson (P), 27.0; 400: 1. Lewis (P), 1:00.0; **800:** 1. Megan McMorrow (LF), 2:27.0; 3. Megan Wickens (P), 2:35.0; **1,600:** 1. McPherson (LF), 5:23.5; **3,200:** 1. McPherson (LF), 11:56.6; **400 relay:** 1. Franklin (Madison Agnew, Mueller, N. Modes, Kathryn Chinavare), 53.3; **800 relay:** 1. Plymouth, 1:56.5; **1,600 relay:** 1. Plymouth, 4:23.6; **3,200 relay:** 1. Plymouth, 10:15.0.

**Dual meet records:** Franklin, 2-0 overall, 1-1 KLAAS South Division; Plymouth, 1-1 overall, 1-1 KLAAS South.

# Blazers blitz Wildcats for road win

Hat tricks by Livonia Ladywood seniors Alexa Burns and Erin Barnes cost Plymouth, as the visiting Blazers won 14-8 in Saturday's non-division girls lacrosse matchup.

Burns also collected five assists, while senior Niki Jacobs and junior Emma Ellswood each added two goals.

Other Ladywood goal scorers included junior Kylie Birney, junior Mary Maslak, senior Courtney Smith and junior Alyssa Day.

Katie Hill and Taylor Birman led Plymouth with three and two goals, respectively.

Junior goalie Rana Freij had 20 saves for the Blazers, while Plymouth's Sarah Misser had eight.

**SALEM 9, REGINA 8:** The visiting Rocks responded to their April 6 loss to Canton with this resounding victory Friday.

Freshman Rose Krasofsky came off the bench for a six-goal performance to pace the Rocks.

Three of Krasofsky's goals came in the final two minutes of the game, including the game-winner with 47 seconds to play.

Regina then made a bid to force overtime, but Salem goalie Meaghan Eldridge made her last of 12 stops to ensure the win.

Helping the offense were Lexie O'Connor's two goals and one by Breanne Beaver.



JOHN KEMSKI

Livonia Ladywood's Courtney Smith (left) tries to maneuver past Plymouth defender Jill Sparschu (11) during Saturday's non-division girls lacrosse match.

## Boys lacrosse

**CANTON 15, SALEM 12:** In a seesaw varsity Monday, the Chiefs' varsity boys lacrosse team parlayed Matt Rodgers' five goals and three assists and four goals from Trevor Moore into a victory.

Contributing three goals for the Chiefs was Tim

Popp, with Jordan Smith (one goal, nine ground balls) and goalie Collin Smith (13 saves) also helping the cause.

Canton head coach Kevin Riley said it was a hard-fought matchup between campus rivals, but his team took too many penalties that led to Salem scoring chances.

## SOFTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

corner is sophomore returnee Megan Johnson.

Salem's outfield figures to be solid with returning sophomores Katy Meade and Lexi Epley.

"Both Meade and Epley have improved their batting and I expect them to produce more runs," the coach said.

Salem will plug in utility players such as sophomore Elliott Mitchell and freshman

Maddison Koval.

"(Mitchem) covers a lot of ground and has a strong bat," the coach said. "Right now I can put Elliott on either side of the infield."

Meanwhile, Zink and Marcero also can play outfield when not pitching.

### THEY'RE READY

After a 10-8 record in 2010 (4-6 in the KLAAS Central), the Rocks opened the season Wednesday with a doubleheader against South Lyon.

They won't play again until April 25, when they play

Farmington. In the meantime, the team embarks on its annual spring training trip.

"I still think we have one of the hardest divisions, but I am confident these young ladies are up for the challenge," Southerland said.

A promising group of pitchers is one of the reasons she thinks the Rocks will be heard from this season.

"We have more depth than we've had in years," she added. "And the pitching will certainly keep this team at the top."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

# Plymouth Christian batters spark sweep

Plymouth Christian continued playing torrid early season baseball.

PCA hosted Summit Academy of Romulus on Monday and came away with a wild, 13-10 victory to improve to 4-0.

Pitcher Matt Dodson earned his second win of the young season, going 6 1/3 innings.

The Eagles built a 13-4 lead entering the fifth, but the visitors combined some hits with sloppy PCA defense to get back into the game.

Top hitters included Daniel Slater (3-for-3, double, two

RBI), Jon Slater (2-for-4) and Matt Hagelin (double).

Coach Joe Bottorff said the highlight of the day was back-to-back home runs on consecutive pitches in the fifth by Caleb York and Dillon Rahill.

On Saturday, PCA downed visiting South Lake 10-9 and 11-2.

In Game 1, Daniel Jipping went 3-for-4 while Dodson, John Slater and Rahill each had a single and double and at least two RBI.

Eagles pitcher Daniel Slater cruised in the nightcap, striking out eight before giving way to Dodson for a 1-2-3 seventh.

Jipping pitched a hot bat, going 3-for-4 with a double, and drove in two. Dodson (2-for-5) and York (2-for-3, three RBI) chipped in.

**CANTON 5-5, GROSSE POINTE NORTH 1-2:** On Saturday, the Chiefs improved to 4-0 with this doubleheader sweep.

In Game 1, pitcher Ryan Bazner went five innings, striking out nine and earning the victory.

Canton's second win of the twinbill featured solid pitching from Jason Lynch, who worked two innings of relief.

## YMCA spring leagues

The YMCA spring soccer and girls volleyball leagues are now forming.

The soccer leagues are for children ages 4-10 and will run from April 11 through June 11. There will be one practice and one game per week, on Saturdays.

Volleyball is for girls ages 9-10 and 11-12, also to run from April 11 through June 11. There will be one practice and one game per week, on Friday evenings.

Both the soccer and volleyball leagues are filled on a first-come, first-served basis and the registration deadline is April 1. For more information about these leagues, or other YMCA programs, go to [www.ymcadetroit.org](http://www.ymcadetroit.org) or call the office at (734) 453-2904.

## Captain's Corner

If you know of a senior varsity captain at Canton, Plymouth, Salem or Plymouth Christian who is worthy of recognition, please submit candidates for "Captain's Corner" to Observer sports editor Tim Smith, [tsmith@hometownlife.com](mailto:tsmith@hometownlife.com).

## Father's Day Run

The Plymouth YMCA Fathers Day Run has again been recognized as a quality physical activity by the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness.

This year's run, by the way, is set to begin at 7:30 a.m.

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

Sunday, June 19 in downtown Plymouth.

The Governor's Council endorses local, regional and state events to acknowledge an organization's ability to plan and carry out a quality event that significantly contributes to the health and well-being of Michigan residents. The Fathers Day Run exemplifies this core value and is endorsed by the Governor's Council.

"By endorsing local events all across the state, we hope to bring attention to the importance of physical activity and encourage our citizens to take responsibility for their health," said Marilyn Lieber, president and CEO of the council. "These local events can have a tremendous impact on health care costs that present a significant challenge for our state's economy."

For more information about the Governor's Council endorsement program, go to [www.michiganfitness.org](http://www.michiganfitness.org). For more info on the Fathers Day Run, contact [cmorency@ymcetrodetroit.org](mailto:cmorency@ymcetrodetroit.org).

## Combine training

Combine training for high school football to prepare for the 2011 season takes place on Sundays at the Auburn Hills Sports Dome.

Players will be taught drills and techniques used to prepare college seniors for the NFL Combine and use SPARQ, Michigan Preps and

NUC testing protocols.

To register, visit [www.coach-jacksonspeed.com](http://www.coach-jacksonspeed.com), or call coach Jaime Jackson at (248) 535-7404.

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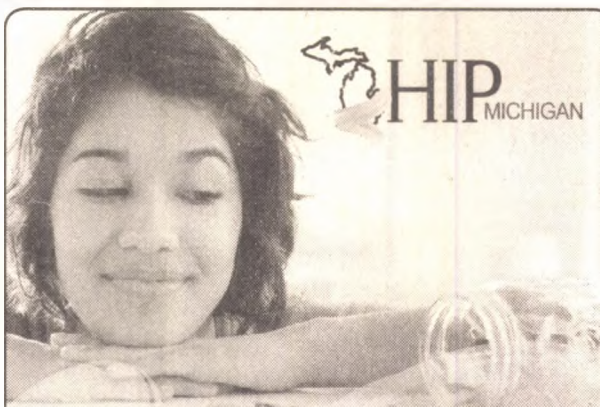
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OE0865491

## BARBARA LEWIS

Age 76, of Belleville, died Thursday, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor. She was born May 10, 1934 in PA, daughter of the late Dean Luther Kaylor & Dorothea Eleanor (Nagle) Hildebrand. Preceded in death by husband James F. Lewis, also daughter Carolyn Lynn Kissau. Survived by daughter Linda Cox of Canton, 3 grandchildren Jennifer (Philip) Denbo, Bradley Tait and Shannon Kissau, 2 great-grandchildren Dylan Dunlop and Lukas Denbo, 2 sisters Sandra (Charles) Rowlett-Wayne and Sharon Brokenshire, both of Belleville, also two nieces, a nephew, and many great-nieces & nephews. Visitation was held at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. A Memorial Service was held at Connection Church, Canton. [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com)

## ROBERT EDWARD SINCLAIR

Age 64, of Big Rapids, passed away Saturday, April 9, 2011 at Spectrum Health Butterworth. He was born September 19, 1946 in Providence, Rhode Island, the son of Robert and Jessie Anne (LaLonde) Sinclair, and was raised in Garden City, MI. Following his graduation from Garden City High School in 1964, Bob was a musician in the U. S. Navy. After being honorably discharged, Bob earned his B.S. Degree in Education from Eastern Michigan University, and his Master of Education degree from Ohio University. He worked at SUNY College in Brockport, NY as Director of Intramural Sports, until moving to Big Rapids in 1995, where he was Director of Student Recreation at Ferris State University until retiring in February, 2008. Bob was a member of the Mid-Michigan Officials Association, and for many years officiated high school football and softball games. He was active in the Big Rapids Rotary Club, and in 2009 began the Rotary program to provide Thanksgiving meals for area needy families. Bob was also a champion skeet shooter, and enjoyed deer hunting. On October 10, 2008, he married Sandy Jacobsen, who survives. Also surviving are two step-sons, Eric (Amy) Jacobsen of Kirkwood, PA, Pete (Brandy) Jacobsen of Fairbanks, AK; two grandchildren, Avery and Evelyn; his brother Daniel (Karen) of Wayne; four sisters, Peggy (Jim) Burklow of Garden City, Kathi Sinclair (Steve Platt) of Carson City, NV, Eileen White of Warren, and Linda Sinclair of Garden City; dear friends Mike Haas, Ed and Bonnie Dorman, Bob and Bonnie Meadows, Marty Kelley, Donna and Norm Lytle, and Barb and Jim Dyer; and several nieces and nephews. Bob was preceded in death by his parents, his brother-in-law Noel White, and dear friend Dan Kelley. Memorial services for Bob will be 11:00 a.m., Saturday, April 23, 2011 at the Mohnke Funeral Home in Big Rapids, with friend Ed Dorman officiating. Following cremation, burial will be in the Cadillac Memorial Gardens West in Garden City later this Spring. Memorial contributions can be made in his name to the Rotary Club in Big Rapids, MI to help continue community projects. Contributions can be left at the funeral home or mailed directly to the Big Rapids Rotary Club at PO Box 521, Big Rapids, MI 49307. Bob's family will greet friends at the funeral home after 10:00 a.m. on Saturday until time of services. Share a memory or express condolences at: [www.mohnkefuneralhome.com](http://www.mohnkefuneralhome.com)

## SHANE STORM

Age 24, of Belleville, died Friday at Oakwood Annapolis, Wayne. He was born May 18, 1986 in Garden City, son of David Stephenson Storm & Esther Marie Degillio. Shane spent many days at Childrens Hospital, Detroit and taught staff how to treat Juvenile Diabetes and give Insulin. Throughout his life, Shane kept a positive attitude and was a happy person who will be missed greatly. Survived by his companion Opal Allen, daughter Julianna Esperanza Storm, and a son on-the-way Shane Teddy Marshall Storm, all of Belleville, his mother Esther Degillio of Garden City, father Dave Storm of Riverview, step-father Harold Eugene "Bud" James of Romulus, grandfather Fred Degillio of Garden City, grandparents Florence & Emil Dragosits of Romulus, a brother Jacob Degillio, step-sister Lynn (Chris) Howe, step-brother Harold Eugene James, Jr., step-nephew Cody Howe, also numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Preceded in death by his grandmother Esperanza Degillio, also his dog Buster. Visitation 1-4PM & 6-8PM Wednesday at Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. Prayers 10:15AM Thursday, April 14, 2011 at the funeral home, processing to St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville for an 11AM Funeral Mass. Memorials to Children's Hospital, Detroit would be appreciated. [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com)



RUTH A. VENTURA

Age 95, April 12, 2011. Beloved wife of the late Peter A. Ventura. Loving mother of Peter H. (Cindi) Ventura, Ruth J. (Jim) Frazier and David A. Ventura. Dear grandmother of Jeffrey and Heather, Madison and Olivia, Michelle and Melissa and Alexander and Philip. Proud great grandmother of Marc, John, Adam, Ella, Laiken, Gralon, Maya and Isaac. Ruth is also survived by her loving caregivers, Carole Chmelak and Denise DiBiase. A Funeral Service will be held at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Friday at 10 AM. Visitation will be held on Thursday from 1 - 9 PM. Memorial contributions may be directed to Angela Hospice. Please share a memory at [www.rgrharris.com](http://www.rgrharris.com).

## ALBERT V. PAGNANI

Age 95, of Farmington, MI. Passed away April 8, 2011. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI.

## OBITUARY POLICY

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

### Deadlines:

Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday  
Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

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

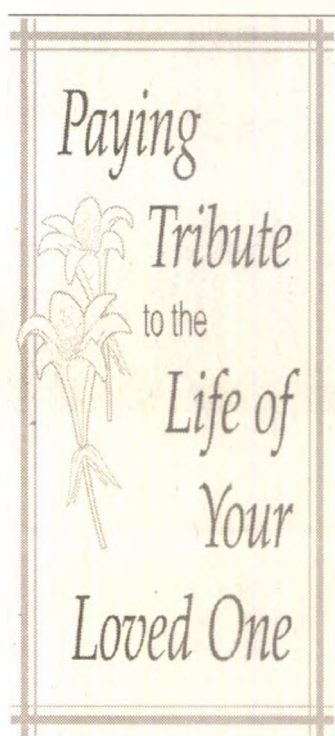
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OE0865429



MARK W. VECELLIO

43, of Livonia, died suddenly April 7, 2011. Mark is the devoted and cherished husband of over 10 years to Lisa; beloved father of Alison; and the dearest son of Joanne and the late Roger (d. 1993). In addition to his father, Mark was preceded in death by his sister, Cynthia, in 2004. Funeral Mass was Wednesday, April 13th at St. Edith Catholic Church, Livonia. Visitation was held at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Prayer Service was Tuesday 7:00 PM. Interment Holy Sepulchre, Southfield. Memorial tributes suggested to American Heart Association., [americanheart.org](http://americanheart.org). [heeney-sundquist.com](http://heeney-sundquist.com)



## Musician to highlight Prayer Breakfast

BY JULIE BROWN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Worship and music go together, and Matthew Landry is pleased to perform at the Livonia Prayer Breakfast.

Landry, a December 2010 University of Michigan graduate, is teaching elementary music in Van Buren Public Schools as a substitute while looking for a permanent post. Landry, 22, is also assistant conductor of instrumental music at Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville Township.

He will perform *Beautiful Colorado* by Joseph DeLuca and *It Is Well With My Soul*, arranged by Brent Olstad, at the May 12 event.

"The first is obviously secular, but is a beautiful piece that highlights the instrumentalist's technique as well," said Jerry Smith, a member of the Prayer Breakfast committee who plans music for the event.

"The second is an arrangement of the gospel hymn written by Horatio Spafford when he lost his daughters in a shipwreck — a very moving story."

"I am very excited about Matt sharing his musical talent with us at the breakfast."

Smith said he sought out Landry "because of his reputation, not only as a fantastic musician, but as a strong believer whose faith is very evident in his lifestyle."

Landry is a member of The Akropolis Reed Quintet, a new take on the traditional woodwind quintet, incorporating saxophone and bass clarinet to add a new timbre to the chamber music world.

Akropolis was formed at the University of Michigan in 2009. Its goal is to commission new works and help to establish the reed quintet as a canonized part of the chamber music world.

Landry will perform as a soloist for the Prayer Breakfast. "I have three members of my quintet in China with the University of Michigan Symphony Band," he said. A similar U-M band went to the Soviet Union 50 years ago, and the current China visit is to mark that anniversary.

"We've had a lot of great work with churches in the past. Unfortunately, we're just not available. I wasn't going to tell them not to go to China." Musicians had to be U-M students to go, so graduate Landry's no longer eligible.

Landry, who lives in Ann Arbor, grew up in Livonia. He commutes to Ward Presbyterian in Northville Township.



Musician Matthew Landry, a recent University of Michigan graduate, will perform on piano Thursday, May 12, at the Livonia Prayer Breakfast.

"If I'm not conducting than I'm playing saxophone or the piano." Landry lived in New Orleans before his family moved to Livonia. "Music's everywhere down there." At age 5-6, he started piano, and began saxophone study in eighth grade.

His parents, Scott and Marlene Landry of Livonia, "definitely fostered in me how much I love it today. I think my No. 1 supporter has always been my parents. They're the best. Never told me I couldn't do anything I wanted to."

Akropolis performs at U-M and throughout the Midwest, was a featured performer on the university's collage concert in January 2010 and 2011 and was a semifinalist at the Plowman International Chamber Music Competition in March 2010. The quintet finished in the top six of the 2010 Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition.

Landry played tuba with the Plymouth Symphony for several years and has performed frequently on clarinet and saxophone with the Plymouth Symphony, Orchestra Canton and Dearborn Symphony. He can also be heard on two U-M Symphony Band records.

Landry enjoys writing, reading essays, playing Chopin, running despite bad knees (he jokes about running more when he gets lost — often — in Ann Arbor), and trying to emulate the Southern cooking of his parents.

The 37th annual Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast will be held 7-8:45 a.m. Thursday, May 12, in St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman, Livonia. The theme is "Weathering the Storms of Life," with keynote speaker Chuck Gaidica, meteorologist for WDIV Channel 4. For ticket information, visit: <http://livoniaprayerbreakfast.org/ticket-information/>

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OE0867194



# ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, April 14, 2011

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## Livonia club encourages all members to exhibit their art

BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Sherry Eid's first place winner in the annual Artifacts Art Club exhibit in Livonia keeps viewers guessing — Is it a painting or pencil sketch? Is it an ocean wave or stampede of horses?

Take a closer look and you'll notice it's a bit of both.

"As a child I always liked to read Greek myths," said Eid, president of the art club and a Livonia resident. "I remembered there was the one about the horses coming from a wave. All of a sudden I'm seeing horses. I decided to picture them."

She sketched four horses into the ocean waves that make up the subject of the piece, and used both colored pencil and solvents to give the work a fluid appearance.

"That makes the pigment dissolve. Then you take a brush and it's almost like painting."

In addition to first place for "Metamorphoses," Eid won third place for her colored pencil drawing, "Red-Tailed Hawk." Second place went to Roberta McDonnell of Livonia for "Juvy Woodstork" and Lorelei Christy of Farmington Hills, earned a fourth place for "Les Sucettes."

Merit Awards went to Jim Goodman for "Pals," Christine Pegg for "Look," Mary Kehoe for "Field of Amaryllis," and Eid for "Kuna Indian."

### INDEPENDENT JUDGE

Tim Marsh, who creates nature paintings in oil, judged the 42 art works in the show, which runs this month at Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive.

"We have just one show a year," said Eid, who joined the club after taking art classes with Dave Messing, a former art store owner in Livonia.

Messing started Artifacts Art Club in 1986 as a way for artists of all skill levels to meet, mingle and learn together. The group meets at 7:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month, September-October and February-May, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile. Meetings often include a hands-on workshop, demonstration or guest speaker. Next month, Norma Gray will show techniques in acrylic painting.

"That's the advantage of being small. You can join in," Eid said, adding that the group numbers about 25 artists.

### EVERYONE EXHIBITS

"One of our members lives in Cadillac but he drives down to bring his pictures



Sherry Eid used solvents on her pencil drawing, "Metamorphoses" giving it a fluid, paint-like quality.

to the show. What's nice about our group is we're a small group and we feel every member should have a chance to show their work. There's no jurying. Everyone can put their work on the wall. And what's nice is there's almost 100 percent participation."

Eid, who teaches colored pencil art at Schoolcraft College, said she is thrilled when judges select her work for a prize or honorable mention.

"It's a thrill just to get into a show. Some of them, when you consider the talent

there and how many people have entered, you've just got to pat yourself on the back for even getting in. Last year at the Livonia Fine Arts exhibit I entered four pieces. They rejected three and the one that got in won a prize."

She said prize money helps pay for the entry fee.

Interested in joining Artifacts Art Club? Simply drop by a meeting. Annual dues are \$20. Send checks, payable to the Artifacts Art Club, to Connie Goodman, 9622 Sarasota, Redford, MI 48239.



Rusty Frentner shows his painting, "Over the River," which won first place in the Farmington Art Foundation's spring show.

## Check out art shows in Plymouth, Farmington Hills

Winners in the annual Farmington Art Foundation's spring exhibit will accept their awards during a reception, Thursday, April 14 at the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills.

Rusty Frentner won first place for his piece, "Over the River," and second place for "Pretty in Pink." Billie Swelstad took a third place award for "Flower Market" and Fran Seilkay won fourth place for "Cheryl."

The reception will start at 6 p.m. and artists will be honored at 6:30 p.m.

The exhibit and sale runs 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 14; 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Friday, April 15 and 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, April 16.

"The Farmington Arts Foundation has an annual art show each year in conjunction with the 'Art After Dark' wine tasting and party sponsored by Whole Foods," said FAF publicity chair Linda Shewbridge. "Also, the Farmington Public Schools will have the elementary, middle school and senior high school students art work on exhibit. The Senior Group of artists who take classes at

the Costick Center will also have their work on display."

Art After Dark starts at 7 p.m. Friday, April 15 at the Costick Center. Tickets are \$20 in advance, and \$25 at the door. They're available online at [recreg.fhgov.com](http://recreg.fhgov.com) or can be ordered by phone at (248) 473-1848.

The event pairs a wine tasting of more than 30 varieties of wine, with the exhibit and live jazz.

Lotus Arts Gallery in Plymouth also features artists from throughout southeastern Michigan this month at its 4th Annual Local Artist Exhibit.

The show includes works by Namrata Bajaj, Richard Emrich, Kim Ensch, Patrice Erickson, Patricia Izzo, Vic Leo, Nancy Paton, Rose Paulus, Ron Rolling, Wendy Soots, and Priyank Vora.

Contemporary glass, watercolor paintings, oil paintings, pen and ink, photography, lithography, and experimental media are on display. The gallery is open 11 a.m.-6 p.m. through April 30, at 995 W. Ann Arbor Trail. (734) 453-5400.

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**Yaldo Eye Center**

## Exhibit celebrates Glass Month at Village Theater

Artists from the Furnace Design Studio and The Glass Academy of Dearborn are showing their works through April 29 at the Gallery@VT, located in The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

The exhibit celebrates Glass Month in Michigan and shows glass in many forms — from objects and vessels to its use in mixed media.

Artists at the Furnace Design Studio combine silica and heat, powdered pigments, metal dusts and added color to create pieces of exquisite beauty.

The Furnace Design Studio is the collaboration of internationally-acclaimed glass artists, Chris Nordin and Michelle Plucinsky. This Dearborn-based glass studio is known for custom commission and site-specific installations for homes, commercial spaces and hospitality interiors. The artists also are known for their classic Venetian-style craftsmanship, modern flair and versatility in creating signature molten glass pieces that range in style from organic and minimalist pieces to works with elaborate detail. The Furnace

Design Studio shares a 14,000 square foot working studio with The Glass Academy.

Works are on display 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday at the theater gallery, located at 50400 Cherry Hill, in Canton. The gallery also is open during public performances at the theater and by appointment. For more information about this latest exhibition in the Gallery@VT, call (734) 394-5300 or visit [cantonvillagetheater.com](http://cantonvillagetheater.com). For more information about The Glass Academy visit [www.glassacademy.com](http://www.glassacademy.com).

*In Loving Memory*

**Remember the mother you have lost by placing a Special Remembrance Tribute.**

The Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weekly Newspapers will be publishing a special "In Remembrance" page for Mother's Day 2011. Here's the perfect opportunity to honor the memory and celebrate the life of your beloved mother who holds a special place in your heart.

Prices start at **\$15.00** for a photo "In Remembrance" ad

**Publication Dates:**  
Thursday, May 5th...in the Hometown Weekly Newspapers  
Sunday, May 8th...in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

**Deadline for both issues: Thursday, April 28th**  
Please specify in which group of newspapers you would like your "In Remembrance" to appear:

**Group 1: Observer & Eccentric Newspapers** serving the Canton, Farmington, Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth, Redford, Westland, Birmingham, Royal Oak, Clawson, Berkley, Ferndale, Huntington Woods, Pleasant Ridge and Southfield communities.  
**Group 2: Hometown Weekly Newspapers** serving the Milford, Northville, Novi and South Lyon communities.

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Music by, MARY RODGERS  
Lyrics by, MARSHALL BARER  
Book by, JAY THOMPSON, DEAN FULLER, and MARSHALL BARER

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April 9 - 2:00pm & 8:00pm  
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[www.SpotlightPlayersMi.org](http://www.SpotlightPlayersMi.org)

**LOCATION**  
The Village Theater at Cherry Hill  
50400 Cherry Hill Road  
Canton, MI 48187



# See Grammy-nominated musician in Livonia

Trumpeter Wayne Bergeron will perform at Schoolcraft College's "Up Jumped Spring" concert, 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 18, in the VisTaTech Center. The concert will also feature performances by the college's Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Improvisation Combo, and Synthesizer Ensemble. "We are thrilled to have such a talent like Mr. Bergeron come to our campus," said Riccardo Selva, director of jazz studies, the Jazz Ensemble and the Jazz Improvisation Combo. "Our students are very excited to have this opportunity to play with one of the best jazz musicians of our time."

Bergeron is one of the most active trumpeter players in the world, busy with studio dates, international touring, jazz concerts, guest soloist appearances and clinics. In 1986, Bergeron landed the lead trumpet position with the Maynard Ferguson Band. As a sideman, Bergeron's list of CD credits reads like a who's who in contemporary jazz and pop, running the stylistic gamut from Ray Charles to Green Day, Beyoncé to Michael Buble, Josh Groban to Natalie Cole and more. Bergeron also has worked on more than 300 television and motion picture soundtracks including recent hits like *South Park*, *Toy Story 3*, and *Despicable Me*.

After being behind the scenes for so many years, Bergeron stepped out on his own with his first solo effort, *You Call This a Living?*, which earned him a Grammy nomination in 2004 and received rave reviews from fans and press worldwide. Bergeron's latest recording is *Plays Well with Others*.

Bergeron is also a National Artist for the Yamaha Corporation of America and is co-designer of the YTR-8335LA trumpet and YFH-8315G Flugelhorn.

In addition to the concert on April 18, he will conduct a special artist clinic at 2 p.m. with students in the college's credit and continuing education music programs.

"The clinic will take our program and our students to the next level," Selva said.



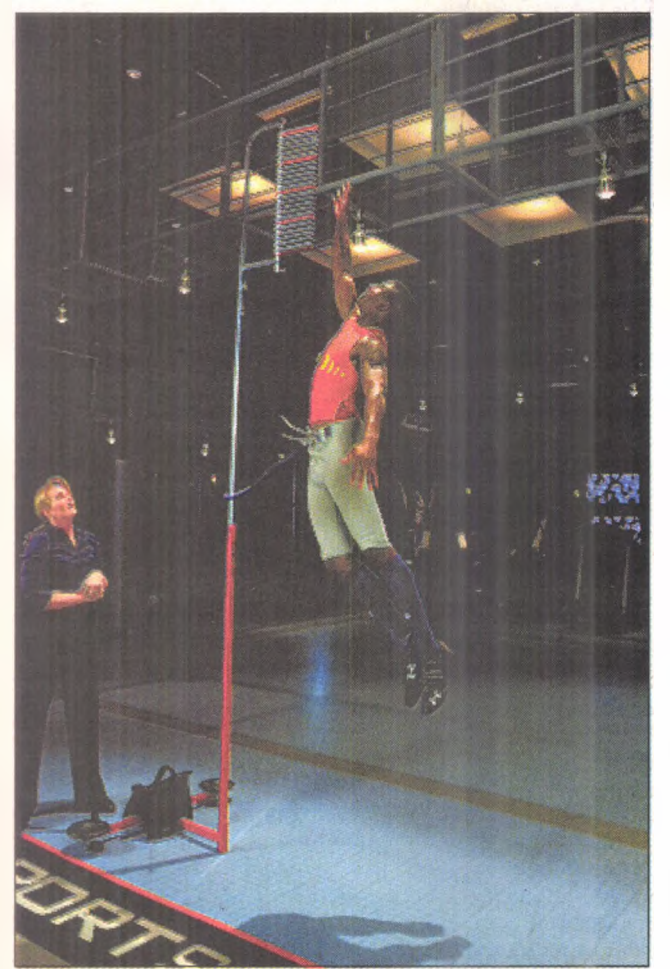
Wayne Bergeron will perform April 18 at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

The clinic will be held in the Presentation Room of the VisTaTech Center and is open to the public.

"We feel this is not only a great opportunity for the public to see a great jazz musician like Wayne Bergeron, but to also see him in action with our students," said Cheryl Hawkins, dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences. "It is going to be a great experience for everyone."

Tickets for the concert are \$15 for general admission, \$10 for students (with identification) and seniors, and \$5 for children under 12. They're available at [www.scbxoffice.com](http://www.scbxoffice.com) or at the Schoolcraft College Bookstore. For more information call (734) 462-4403.

Schoolcraft College is located on Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile in Livonia.



## Nominated for Emmys

Titus Young performs a vertical leap test using what are commonly known as slap sticks during "Sport Science" the television series that features Cynthia Bir (left) a Wayne State University professor of biomedical engineering. The show was nominated for two awards at the 32nd annual Sports Emmys, which will be held Monday, May 2 in New York. The "Sport Science" team is nominated for Outstanding Graphic Design and Outstanding New Approaches - Sports Programming - Short Format. The show's first two seasons earned a total of six nominations and three wins at the Sports Emmys. The series uncovers sports' biggest myths and mysteries by using cutting-edge technology to measure momentum, friction and the laws of gravity. Bir, who is the show's lead scientist, helps viewers understand the internal and external forces sustained and generated by the body during high-level athletic activities. The show airs in short segments at various times on ESPN.

The Michigan Philharmonic, formerly the Plymouth Symphony, performs the music of the Indian film industry with guest artists. This year's "Bollywood" show is set for May 6 at the Village Theatre in Canton.



## ART

### City Gallery

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, April 14, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, April 15 and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 16

**Location:** In the Costick Center at 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Farmington Art Foundation holds its Spring Exhibit and Sale. Opening reception, 6 p.m., followed by awards at 6:30 p.m., April 14

**Contact:** (248) 473-1856

### Northville Art House

**Time/Date:** Entry deadline April 27 for June 3-25 exhibit

**Location:** 215 W. Cady, Northville

**Details:** Call for entries into its "West of Center" all media show. Entry fee is \$25 for up to three entries. Check the Web site for entry form and guidelines

**Contact:** [www.northvillearts.com](http://www.northvillearts.com); (248) 344-0497

## COMEDY

### Go Comedy!

**Time/Date:** Various show times

**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](http://www.gocomedy.net)

### JD's House of Comedy

**Time/Date:** Various show times

**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](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

### Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Mondays,

open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays

**Location:** 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

**Details:** Floyd J. Phillips, April 13-16; Mark Poolos, April 20-23; Claude Stewart, April 27-30; Mike Green, May 4-7; Rob Little, May 11-14

**Benefit event:** "Comedy for a Cause," runs 8-10 p.m. Monday, April 19 to benefit the Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County's scholarship fund. The event features nine female comedians. Tickets are \$15 each, with a \$5 minimum food and drink order required at the show; (735) 464-3728 or [www.zonta15.org](http://www.zonta15.org)

**Contact:** (734) 261-0555, [www.kickerscomplex.com](http://www.kickerscomplex.com)

## GET OUT!



See "Tarzan's Secret Treasure" and "Tarzan's New York Adventure" on the big screen April 29-30 at the Redford Theatre.



Shape note singer, Tim Eriksen, will perform April 16 at Trinity House Theatre in Livonia.



Angie Stone will perform April 23 at Music Hall in downtown Detroit.

### Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

**Time/Date:** Michael Somerville, April 14-16; T.J. Miller, April 21-23; Don Friesen, April 28-30; Kathleen Madigan, May 5-7; John Pinette, May 12-14

**Location:** 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

**Contact:** (248) 542-9900, [www.comedycastle.com](http://www.comedycastle.com)

## CONCERTS

### The Ark

**Time/Date:** Breathe Owl Breathe & The Photographers, April 14; The Johnny Clegg Band, April 15; Anais Mitchell, April 16; Shape Note Singing, April 17; Peter Yarrow, April 17; Candy Kane, April 19; The Guggenheim Grotto, April 20; Crooked Still & Mike & Ruthy, April 21; The Paper Raincoat, April 22; Brian Vander Ark, April 23; Old Sledge, April 26; William Fitzsimmons & Slow Runner, April 27; Colin Hay & Chris Trapper, April 28-29; Uncle Bonsai, April 30; A Night of Ann Arbor's Best!, May 1; David Roth & Anne Hills, May 2; For Pete's Sake: A Birthday Tribute to Pete Seeger, May 3; Marshall Cranshaw & Freedy Johnston, May 4; Natalia Zukerman, May 5

**Location:** 316 South Main, Ann Arbor

**Contact:** (734) 763-8587; [www.theark.org](http://www.theark.org)

### 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. Sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m.; show starts at 7 p.m. Open mic performers may sing two songs. If more than eight performers sign up, a lottery will be held for the eight spots. 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. The next concert, April 16, features Pairadocs Trio, a group known for their renditions of PP&M, Paul Simon and the Beatles.

**Contact:** (248) 719-3464 or [mjmmullen@yahoo.com](mailto:mjmmullen@yahoo.com)

### Jazz @ The Elks

**Time/Date:** 7-10:30 p.m., every fourth Tuesday

**Location:** Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

**Details:** Jazz musicians perform; no cover, but donations accepted. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres. Naima Shambourger will sing, Sven Anderson will play keyboard, Marion Hayden will be on bass and George Davidson on drums at the next concert on April 26

**Contact:** (734) 453-1780 [www.PlymouthElks1780.com](http://www.PlymouthElks1780.com)

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# FOOD

Thursday, April 14, 2011

hometownlife.com

## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

## Use walnuts in recipes, as a snack or topping

If you're looking for an easy-to-eat snack food that packs in protein, or a tasty ingredient that adds fiber to your diet, consider walnuts.

Walnuts are unique among nuts because they contain the highest amount of alpha-linolenic acid (ALA), the plant-based omega-3 essential fatty acid, required by the human body. In addition to essential ALA/omega-3 fatty acids, walnuts rank high in antioxidants and offer a convenient source of protein (4 grams) and fiber (2 grams). Walnuts are also a good source of magnesium (44.79 mg/ounce) and phosphorus (98.09 mg/ounce) — both important minerals involved in the body's processes and necessary for achieving optimal wellness.

It's no wonder walnuts are included on numerous "superfood" lists. They've also earned the first approved health claim by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration for a whole food.

To get more walnuts into your diet, try these fast, easy ideas from the California Walnut Board:

- In a smoothie! Cherries, skim milk, cinnamon, Greek yogurt, brown sugar ... a cherry crumb pie without the quill!
- Chicken breads coated with Dijon mustard, then dredged with fresh breadcrumbs mixed with chopped walnuts and parsley. Sauté in a mixture of butter and oil
- Spread cream cheese on a bagel, top with walnuts that have been chopped and toasted. Sprinkle with cinnamon if desired
- Throw some in a macaroni salad.

All recipes courtesy of Mollie Katzen for the California Walnut Board.

### SPINACH LASAGNA WITH WALNUT PESTO

This easy version of lasagna uses the rich taste of spinach and pesto instead of a heavy Bolognese sauce.

- 2 pounds fresh spinach, washed (or 2 10-ounce packages fresh baby spinach leaves, or 2
- 10-ounce packages frozen, chopped spinach, defrosted)
- 2 pounds nonfat ricotta cheese or nonfat cottage cheese
- 1 cup Walnut Pesto (recipe follows)
- 4 large cloves garlic, minced
- ½ teaspoon salt
- Freshly ground black pepper to taste
- ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- ½ cup minced walnuts, lightly toasted
- 1 24-ounce jar low-sugar tomato sauce (or about 2½ cups of your favorite sauce)
- 16 fresh, uncooked green (spinach) lasagna noodles or, if using dried, 16 no-boil noodles
- ½ pound low-fat mozzarella cheese, grated

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Lightly oil a 9- by 13-inch baking pan. If using fresh spinach, chop it fine. If using frozen, chopped spinach, make sure it thoroughly defrosted and squeeze out all the excess water.

Place the ricotta or cottage cheese in a large bowl. Stir in the spinach, pesto, garlic, salt, pepper, half the Parmesan and the walnuts. Mix well. Spread half the tomato sauce in the bottom of the pan. Place a layer of uncooked noodles over the sauce. Spoon about ½ of the ricotta or cottage filling in dabs over the noodles (you can spread it a little, but not too much) and sprinkle with ½ of the grated mozzarella. Follow with the another layer of sauce, then noodles, followed by another ½ of the filling, and another ½ of the mozzarella. Repeat one more time, and then finish up with a final layer of noodles. You will have some Parmesan left over.

If you are using fresh noodles, bake uncovered. If you are using dried noodles, cover the pan tightly with foil.

Bake for 50 minutes, uncovering the pan (if applicable) during the last 15 minutes, during which time you can sprinkle on the reserved Parmesan. (In the case of the uncovered pan, if the top of the lasagna becomes as brown as you like it before the full baking time is up, cover loosely with foil and continue baking, so it won't get too dark.) Remove from the oven and let rest for about 10 minutes before serving.

Serves 8

### WALNUT PESTO

- 3 packed cups fresh basil leaves
- 3 large cloves garlic
- ½ cup lightly toasted walnuts
- ½ cup extra virgin olive oil
- ½ cup grated Parmesan
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Optional: additional extra virgin olive oil (for storage)

Place the basil leaves and garlic in a food processor or blender, and mix well.

Add the walnuts, and continue to blend until the nuts are finely ground.

Keep the machine running as you drizzle in the olive oil. When you have a smooth paste, transfer to a bowl, and stir in the Parmesan. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

If you are not going to use the pesto right away, place in a container that has a tight-fitting lid. Smooth out the top surface of the pesto, and pour on enough olive oil to cover it completely. This creates an air-proof seal that helps preserve it well. Cover tightly and store in the refrigerator.

Yield: 1 cup.

Nutrition information per lasagna serving: 560 calories, 24g total fat, 6g saturated fat, 9g monounsaturated fat, 6g polyunsaturated fat, 0g trans fat, 34mg cholesterol, 583mg sodium, 54g total carbohydrate, 12g dietary fiber, 38g protein.



Spring Couscous with Green Onions, Walnuts & Peas

# Superfood



Spinach Lasagna with Walnut Pesto

### SWEET-SOUR STIR-FRY WITH WALNUTS

Stir-fry is all about very high heat and cooking things quickly in a specific order so that it all ends up at just the right degree of doneness at the same time. First, have all of your ingredients prepped and close at hand. Second, read the recipe carefully and really get it in your head before you start. The idea is that once you start cooking, it's continuous—you should never have to stop to search for something or read about what to do next. Once the cutting is done, the actual cooking time is just a matter of minutes.

A nice, large wok and a metal wok spatula are best for stir-frying, but a large skillet and a serving spoon will work well, too. You can substitute cooked chicken breast, cut into thin strips for the tofu if you wish. Save some rice before you begin, so it's ready at the same time as the stir-fry.

- The Glaze:
  - ½ cup orange juice (from 1 medium orange)
  - 2 tablespoons cider vinegar
  - 1 tablespoon soy sauce
  - 1 tablespoon brown sugar or honey
  - 1 tablespoon minced fresh ginger
  - 2 teaspoons minced garlic (2 good-sized cloves)
  - 1 teaspoon toasted sesame oil
  - ½ teaspoon red pepper flakes
  - 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- The Stir-Fry:
  - 2 tablespoons canola oil
  - 1 medium onion, cut into large (1½-inch) squares
  - ¾ teaspoon salt
  - 2 medium carrots, sliced on the diagonal (¼-inch thick)
  - ½ a medium head cauliflower, in 1-inch florets (about 3 cups)
  - ½ a medium head broccoli, chopped (about 3 cups)
  - About 15 mushrooms — stems trimmed, wiped clean, and quartered
  - 1 pound very firm tofu, cut into ¾-inch cubes
  - 2 small zucchini (one yellow, one green), chopped or diced
  - 1 medium red bell pepper, cut into 1-inch squares
  - ½ cups lightly toasted walnut pieces
  - Green onions, thinly sliced, for garnish
  - Orange zest, for garnish

Combine all the glaze ingredients (except the cornstarch) in a liquid measuring cup with the oil, and whisk until blended. Place the cornstarch in a small bowl, and drizzle in about ¼ cup of the glaze, whisking constantly until the cornstarch is dissolved. The mixture will be cloudy. Pour this solution back into the measuring cup, whisking it in. Set aside, leaving the whisk in the cup.

Have all the vegetables and the tofu cut and in bowls or containers near the stove. Place a wok or large, deep skillet over medium heat and wait about a minute. Pour in 1 tablespoon of the oil, and swirl to coat the pan (or just push the oil around with a wok spatula or serving spoon). Turn the heat to high, add the onion and ½ teaspoon of the salt, and stir-fry for 1 minute. Add the other tablespoon of oil, plus the carrot, cauliflower, and broccoli — and another ½ teaspoon of the salt. Keep the heat high and the vegetables moving, and stir-fry for approximately 2 minutes, or until the broccoli turns bright green and shiny.

Add the mushrooms and tofu or chicken and the remaining ¼ teaspoon of salt. Keep the heat high, and continue to stir-fry for another minute, mixing all the vegetables up from the bottom of the pan. Add the zucchini and bell pepper, and cook one more minute.

Whisk the glaze to reincorporate the cornstarch (it will have settled to the bottom) then quickly pour the whole cupful into the wok or skillet. Cook and stir for just about a minute more, adding in the walnuts at the very last second. The glaze will coat everything and thicken a little. Serve immediately, over rice.

Makes 4 servings. Nutrition information per serving: 454 calories, 22g protein, 28g carbohydrate, 8g fiber, 32g total fat, 3g saturated fat, 7g monounsaturated fat, 20g polyunsaturated fat, 0mg cholesterol, 455mg sodium



Sweet-Sour Stir-Fry with Walnuts

### WALNUT BUTTER-RHUBARB-GOAT CHEESE CROSTINI

A blissful appetizer for an early spring party! You can make both the Walnut Butter and Rhubarb Sauce several days ahead of time. Store in the refrigerator until use. Assemble the crostini just before serving. If you can't find rhubarb you can use your favorite recipe of cranberry sauce.

- 1 fresh high-quality baguette (unseeded; not sourdough)
- 3 ounces very fresh goat cheese
- Honey to taste (optional)
- Walnut Butter (recipe follows)
- Rhubarb Sauce (recipe follows)

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Cut the baguette on the diagonal into 1½-inch slices, and spread them in a single layer on a baking tray. Bake in the center of the oven until lightly toasted. Cool just slightly.

In a small bowl, mash the goat cheese until spread-ably soft, and sweeten (slightly) to taste, if desired, with a little honey.

To serve: Spread each little toast with a little goat cheese, keeping the layer even so the other toppings won't fall off. Add a little Walnut Butter, pushing it down with the back of a spoon. Top each piece with a small spoonful of Rhubarb Sauce. Arrange on an attractive platter and serve to your delighted guests. Yield: 8 to 10 appetizer servings.

### WALNUT BUTTER

- 2 cups very fresh walnuts
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons walnut or vegetable oil
- Optional: A little honey and a little cinnamon

Soak walnuts overnight. Drain; discard water and then toast them, spread out in a single layer on a tray, in a toaster oven or oven at 250 degrees for about 20 minutes, or until aromatic. Don't let them get dark. Cool, then transfer to the small work bowl of a food processor and grind as far as you can before adding salt and as much oil as needed to bind it together. If you like add small touches of honey and/or cinnamon to taste. Yield: about 1 cup

### RHUBARB SAUCE

- 2 heaping cups chopped rhubarb (fresh or frozen)
- 2 tablespoons agave nectar
- Small pinch of salt

Place the rhubarb in a medium-small saucepan, cover, and cook over medium-low heat (nothing added!) for about 10 minutes, or until "saucy." Remove from heat, and stir in agave and salt. Let cool to room temperature. Yield: About ½ cups

Variation: If you can't find rhubarb you can substitute the tart-sweetness of cranberries.



Walnut Butter-Rhubarb-Goat Cheese Crostini







# career builder

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Help Wanted-General 5000

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(734) 427-8367</p> <p><b>TOWN CAR 2002</b> White, 59K. \$10,495</p> <p><b>BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500</b></p> <p><b>Mercury</b> (8600)</p> <p>GRAND MARQUIS 2010 LS Leather, loaded, 10K. \$19,495</p> <p><b>NORTH BROTHERS-TROY 248-643-6600</b></p>	<p><b>Mercury</b> (8600)</p> <p>GRAND MARQUIS LS 2003 Warranty, Premium, power, alloys. \$7999</p> <p><b>METROPOLITAN LINCOLN MERCURY (888) 808-9161</b></p> <p>GRAND MARQUIS LS 2006 Certified warranty, only 29K miles, rear quality-clean car! \$13,981</p> <p><b>METROPOLITAN LINCOLN MERCURY (888) 808-9161</b></p> <p>MILAN 2008 Certified warranty, moon &amp; tune package, Sirius/XM. \$15,895</p> <p><b>METROPOLITAN LINCOLN MERCURY (888) 808-9161</b></p> <p>MILAN PREMIER 2006 V6, 33K miles, leather, CD, standard power items. \$11,900. 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# OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

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**Welcome  
Boys and Girls!  
Celebrate Earth Day!  
Friday, April 22, 2011**

## Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights!

**Hey kids!**

### How do you celebrate Earth Day?

What kinds of things do you do for the Earth every day? Write an essay, no more than 150 words, on what you do for the Earth? Do you plant trees? Do you recycle? Scoop will pick 5 random winners.

**Winners will receive 2 Glow in the Dark Mini Golf passes to the Novi Putting Edge!**



**Win Fun Prizes!**

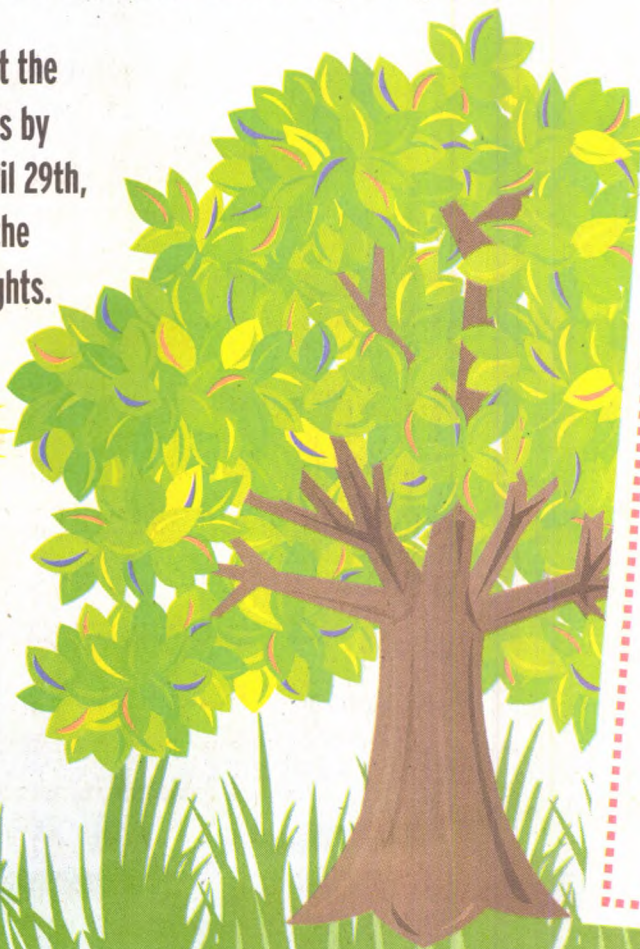
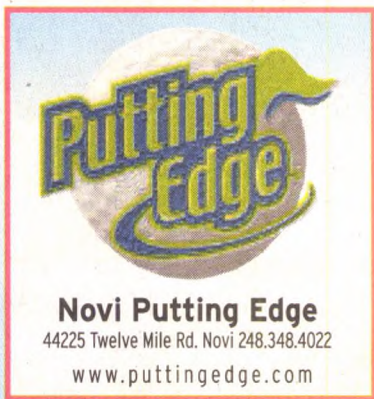
Send your essay **PLUS** your photo for the Earth Day Contest to:

**Scoop the Newshound**  
c/o: Michele Austin  
41304 Concept Drive  
Plymouth, MI 48170

**Deadline for submissions: 4/29/11**

All entries need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers by close of the business day on April 29th, for winners to be announced in the May's Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

**Prizes sponsored by:**



### Earth Day Contest

Youth Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Community: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's information to contact winning entry:  
(Phone, email, home address) \_\_\_\_\_

Selected winners will have their name, age, hometown and photo in the next Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

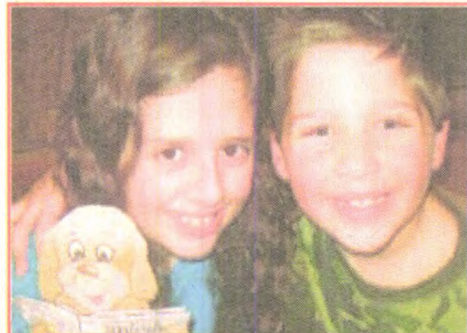
### Lucky winners from last month's contest



Molly Berry  
Age: 6  
Northville



Parker Howard  
Age: 5  
Garden City



Merida Roperti Age: 9 Livonia  
Maverick Roperti Age: 7 Livonia



Eden Messner  
Age: 11  
Garden City



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