3RD ANNUAL BUY MICHIGAN FESTIVAL SPECIAL SECTION

**SUNDAY** 

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**NURSING SHORTAGE** OPENS OPPORTUNITIES CLASSIFIED - SECTION C

## PLYMOUTH hometownlife fit com A GANNETT COMPANY

LOCAL MAN STARS IN MICHIGAN-MADE FILM

#### **PIPELINE**

#### Wish you were here

Going on vacation? Take the Plymouth Observer along, and then let us know about it.

Send us your vacation photos, with the Plymouth Observer clearly visible in the photo, and we'll be happy to print them. Just e-mail the photo, along with names of the folks in the photo and a few details about your vacation, to Observer editor Brad Kadrich at bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

#### **Grammy winner**

As one of her songs - "Are You Ready To Have Some Fun?" - asks, audiences should be when Grammy Award winner (for "Best Musical Recording for Children") Barbara Bailey Hutchison comes to Kellogg Park in Plymouth.



**Bailey Hutchinson** 

The family concert is presented by the Plymouth Community Arts Council, and begins at noon Wednesday, Aug 10 Hutchison has released 18 CDs, eight of them featuring children's music, and three of those were nominated for Grammy Awards.

Other highlights of her resume include three concerts at the White House, and the many jingles she has sung for McDonald's, Hallmark Cards, Heinz and many others. A national magazine poll voted her "Best Solo Act," "Best Acoustic Act" and "Best Female

Bailey Hutchinson will be available following the concert to talk with the audience, give hugs and sign CDs.

#### Pet adoption

Wags to Whiskers Pet Supplies hosts Pet Adoption Saturdays all summer long at its store, located at 44707 Five Mile (in the Busch's Market shopping center).

They will have adoptable kittens and dogs from the Humane Society of Huron Valley from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Saturday.

For more information, call (734) 453-3884.

#### Back to scratch

The Cupcake Station has entered a "Get Back to Scratch" contest, which lets its friends, fans and customers vote for a signature item.

Cupcake Station fans can vote daily to help the Cupcake Station win a new mixer for the head pastry chef. The store is offering buy-one-getone cupcakes for each time you vote and bring in your "Thanks for Voting" page at any location (limit one free cupcake per vote, per day).

The contest ends Aug. 21. Winners will be announced Sept. 6. Go to www.getbacktoscratch.com/directory/profile/ ?id=214 to see a signature item.

## Ex-lacrosse coach avoids prison after plea deal

BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

A Canton man who formerly coached the Plymouth High School girls lacrosse team was sentenced Friday to five years probation for using the Internet to distribute child sexually abusive material to a law enforcement officer who, authorities say, was posing as a 14year-old girl.

Stephen J. Nyquist, 64, said nothing as he faced sentencing by Wayne County Circuit Judge James Chylinski, who accepted a plea agreement that prohibits Nyquist from using any device to access the Internet and forbids him to have unsupervised contact with any minor.

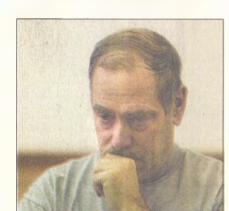
Nyquist, a divorced grandfather, also will be subject to random searches of his home, and Chylinski ordered him to register as a sex offender, receive counseling and pay \$600 toward the costs of the investigation against him. Moreover, authorities will keep his computer and electronic evidence they seized from his home.

Chylinski accepted a plea agreement worked out by prosecuting and defense attorneys for Nyquist, described by his attorney, John McWilliams, as having "an oth-

erwise spotless and clean record" other than his plea in June to one count of using the Internet to communicate with another to commit a crime and one count of distributing

child sexually abusive material. Nyquist, already released on bond, walked from court a free man Friday, avoiding what could have been a 10-year prison term. After the sentencing, McWilliams described Nyquist as remorseful for actions that included sharing child pornographic images obtained by a Wisconsin undercover officer, who contacted the Michigan Internet

Please see NYQUIST, A3



Stephen Nyquist, pictured her during an earlier court hearing, was sentenced Friday on child pornography charges.



Gerald Szostak and his restored 1926 Willys Knight, which was made in Toledo, will be at Sunday's Concours d'Elegance at the Inn at St. John's in Plymouth Township. The show, making its debut at St. John's, features hundreds of rare, antique and luxury cars.

## Concours d'Elegance local debut culminates with vintage car exhibit

BY MATT JACHMAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

More than a year of planning comes together today when the Concours d'Elegance of America, an exhibit of more than 300 classic, rare and antique cars, makes its Plymouth Township

debut at the Inn at St. John's. The show, on the 27-hole golf course at the former seminary, has its roots in the exhibitions of luxury automobiles in early 20th Century Europe. Translated from the French, Concours d'Elegance means "competition of elegance."

The Concours d'Elegance is open to the public; generaladmission tickets are \$25 each and available at the gate. General-admission parking is at the ACH plant on Sheldon Road at M-14, and a shuttle service will take visitors

DETAILS

When: Sunday, July 31 Where: inn at St. John's Tickets: \$25 each (available at

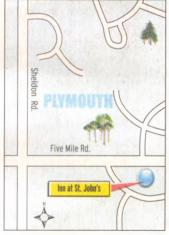
Parking: ACH plant on Sheldon Road at M-14 - a shuttle service will take visitors between there at the St. John's grounds

More info: www.concoursusa.org

between there at the St. John's grounds. The Concours is coming

to St. John's after 32 years at Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester. Organizers say the new venue provides more space to socialize and display

There are more than two dozen exhibit classes for the 2011 Concours, including the Gas Light era (1900-14), two



classes for Duesenbergs, one for Auburns and Cords, 100 years of Chevrolet, 125 years of Mercedes-Benz, the color and chrome of the 1950s, and

The city of Plymouth is ready for an influx of Concours visi-

Please see CONCOURS, A3

#### service merger 1 with Livonia Livonia Public Schools for BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER a takeover of that district's food services operation. The Two years ago, the Livonia board is expected Plymouth-Canton to pass a similar resolution Community Schools admin-Monday. istration's decision to sever a Hennessey said the dis-20-year tie with Sodexo and tricts began exploring new options after Gov. Rick bring its food services operation inside the district drew a Snyder made consolidation

District eyes food

That controversy is long gone in the wake of the food services program's success not only in bringing nutritional quality to the menu, but also in financial terms.

lot of criticism.

Now, Kristen Hennessey and her food services staff are taking their show on the road.

The district's Board of Education recently approved a resolution allowing interim Supt. Dr. Jeremy Hughes to negotiate with officials at

of services one of the prerequisites for earning extra per-student funding. The former director in Livonia had moved on, and officials in Plymouth-Canton and Livonia opened a dialogue.

"They were looking for ideas, and weren't sure what direction they wanted to go," Hennessey said. "We stepped up and said, 'We'd love to talk to you about it.' It's a great win-win for both

Please see MERGER, A3



Under a proposed two-year deal with Livonia Public Schools, Plymouth-Canton would take over the management of LPS food service operations.





Home Delivery: (866) 887-2737 Return Address: 41304 Concept Dr. Plymouth MI 48170

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 31, 2011

Plymouth residents Nicolette Romans and Brett LeBlanc attended the Champion for the Kids Gala and Golf Tournament at the Townsend Hotel and Oakland Hills Country Club to benefit Yatooma's Foundation for the Kids.

## Gala, golf outing raise \$33K for foundation

BY JULIE YOLLES CORRESPONDENT

The sixth annual Champion for the Kids Gala and Golf Tournament was a twoday fundraiser benefitting Yatooma's Foundation for the Kids. Held at the Townsend Hotel and Oakland Hills Country Club, this year's event raised close to \$300,000, which will help fund expenses of children who have lost one or both parents.

Bloomfield Hills resident Norman Yatooma founded the charity after his father. Manuel Yatooma, was killed 18 years ago. More than 225 supporters came together to honor Yatooma's memory and help

provide resources for grieving children.

News/Talk 760 WJR's Paul W. Smith is one such supporter. Smith received the Champion for the Kids Award for his dedication to Yatooma's Foundation for the Kids.

"Paul W. Smith has been a fervent supporter and promoter of our Foundation's work each and every year since our launch," said Norman Yatooma. "His dedication is second-to-none. Paul is always ready and willing to give of his time and talents.

To find out more about Yatooma's Foundation for the Kids, go to www.forthekidsdonation.org or call (888) 987-

"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

Cars and bikes

Date/Time: Saturday, Aug. 13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Location: 39375 Amrhein Road (at the southeastern corner of Amrhein and Eckles, Livonia Details: P.L.A.V. Post #166 hosts the fourth annual Car and Bike Show. Whereas an unknown number of motorcycles will be on display it is anticipated that upwards of 400 "muscle cars" will be present. Both motorcycles and automobiles can be viewed and photographed for free. There is no admission fee. Refreshments will be available, for a donation, with

serve and protect our freedoms. Kidz Kamp

Date/Time: Aug. 18-19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Location: Mill Race Village in

all proceeds going to those who

Northville **Details**: New Hope Center for Grief Support, a Christian-based

bereavement outreach center, offers its "KIDZ KAMP" for grieving children. The camp will offer many fun activities for children of all faiths between the ages of 4 and 12 including music, crafts, artwork, a scavenger hunt and memorial activities. Lunch will be provided both days. The camp is free, but space is limited. Contact: Call New Hope at (248)

Rockettes golf Date/Time: Aug. 7

348-0115.

#### AROUND PLYMOUTH

Location: Fox Hills Golf Club. Plymouth

Details: The Salem High School Pom Pon team's 11th annual golf fundraiser includes a \$10,000 hole-in-one contest, prizes for closest to the pin, longest drive. first place for men and mixed teams, skins and door prizes. Golfers receive donuts/bagels for breakfast, a hot dog lunch at the turn, and a buffet dinner including a 2 hour open bar. Cost is \$100 per golfer.

Contact: To register contact Coreen at coreen29@wowway.

Tile workshop

Date/Time: Aug. 8, 11, 15, 18 and 25, 6:30-9 p.m.

Location: Village Potters Guild studio, 340 N. Main in Plymouth. **Details**: The Village Potters Guild, the creators of the tile mural at the Plymouth Township Hall, is offering a Tile Making Workshop. Instruction in relief tiles and carved tiles from plaster casts will be emphasized during the first classes. Modern, free-form tiles and glazing will be covered in the remaining sessions. Class size is limited. The cost is \$85.

Contact: Visit www.villagepottersquild.org or call (734) 207-8807. **Grief Support** 

Date/Time: Oct. 5, 12, 19 and 26, from 7-9 p.m. Location: Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 N. Territorial,

Plymouth

Details: Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Parish in Plymouth is sponsoring "Grieving with Great Hope," a four-week grief sup-

port series for Catholics who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Speakers will include Fr. John Riccardo from OLGC as well as John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry. The workshop will offer spiritual hope, practical guidance, fellowship with other grievers as well as time for private reflection and prayer. Contact: For more information visit www.goodmourningministry. net or call the OLGC Parish Office at (734) 453-0326.

Crafters wanted Date/Time: Oct. 15 Location: West Middle School in

Plymouth **Details**: Organizers of the Delta Kappa Gamma Craft Fair at West Middle School are looking for crafters. Proceeds go for scholarships for future educators from the Plymouth/Canton high schools. The fair general draws some 1,500 customers and features food and drawings. Contact: Judy, (734) 347-1001

or Alice (248) 348-5561 or dachrenko@hotmail.com

Grief support Date/Time: 1st and 3rd Tuesday monthly, 6-7:30 p.m. Location: Compassionate Care Hospice, 5730 Lilley, Suite A,

Canton

**Details**: Compassionate Care Hospice conducts an ongoing grief support group, The Grief Journey, for anyone grieving the loss of a loved one. The goal of the group is to provide support and education on the grief process. There is no

Contact: Ann Christensen,

Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator, (888)

983-9050. Good Grief golf Date/Time: Saturday, Sept. 10, 10

Location: Tanglewood Golf Club in South Lyon

Details: The 13th Annual" Good Grief" Golf Outing will benefit New Hope Center for Grief Support, a bereavement outreach center located in Northville. New Hope provides free grief support services and resources to men, women, teens, and children throughout southeastern Michigan. The cost for this four-person scramble, which includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, lunch, dinner, contests, and prizes, is \$115 per golfer prior to Aug. 1 and \$125 after Aug. 1. Dinner only is \$35 per person. Contact: Pattie Bingham, (248)

Spanish camp

Date/Time: Aug. 1-5 Location: Praise Baptist Church. 45000 N. Territorial, Plymouth Details: Join Bilingual Fun for an interactive and educational day camp for preschool- through fifth-grade students. Kids will learn Spanish through interactive games, crafts, thematic presentations, music and more.

348-0115; www.newhopecenter.net.

Contact: (877) 686-7399 or e-mail info@bilingualfun.com.

Farm exhibit

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays; 2-5 p.m. Thursdays; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays, through November **Location**: Canton Historical Museum, corner of Canton Center and Heritage Park Drive in Canton **Details**: Ever wondered what living in Canton back in the 1800s was like and who lived and worked on the land many now call home? Bring the whole family to experience the Canton Historical Museum's highly anticipated new exhibit, "Whose Farm Do You Live On." Learn the history of this thriving farming community from the 1800s and well into the 1900s before its transformation by land developers in the 1930s. Find out who originally purchased the land and the names of families who lived there. View tools used by these families for farming, personal care, cooking, play and education.

Contact: For additional information, visit www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org or call (734) 397-0088.

Hospice support Date/Time: 1st and 3rd Tuesday, 6-7:30 p.m.

**Location**: Compassionate Care Hospice, 5730 Lilley, Ste. A, Canton **Details**: Compassionate Care Hospice conducts an ongoing grief support group; The Grief Journey, for anyone grieving the loss of a loved one. The goal of the group is to provide support and education on the grief process. There is

Contact: For information, contact Ann Christensen, (888) 983-9050.

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Resident Dorothy Perry and her children Dana, Tom, and Julie

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## New fire department plan could cut pay, avoid layoffs

BY MATT JACHMAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Layoffs in the Plymouth Community Fire Department, previously seen as almost inevitable once the city of Plymouth leaves the shared department, may be avoided if firefighters are willing to cut their work hours - and their pay.

Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume said Friday that the latest offer to the unionized firefighters is that they work 12-hour shifts instead of the current 24-hour shifts. That would mean a reduction in firefighters' work week by 25 percent - from 56 hours to 42 hours - and a commensurate cut in pay. The township is looking to cut \$1.3 million from the \$4 million annual fire

"If they can go to 12-hour shifts, I think we can work with them so there will be no layoffs," Reaume said.

The township would also eliminate firefighter overtime and may look to hire part-time firefighters to help fill scheduling gaps, Reaume said.

#### **'WILLING TO TAKE A LOOK'**

"We are willing to take a look at it," said Lt. Rick Tefend, president of Local 1496 of the International Association of Firefighters. "That's all I can say at this point."

But Tefend blasted the plan as a pay cut that firefighters may not be able to afford.

"That's a little steep as far as a salary decrease" and "an unfair thing to ask when they're out spending money buying new golf carts," Tefend said. The township is refurbishing Hilltop Golf Course after changing the management structure there; the former management company took the course equipment it owned.

Reaume said he understands pay is the sticking point.'

"Each of the firefighters will make less money, so therein lies the problem," he said. But if firefighters are unwilling to budge, Reaume said, there will be layoffs.

The 21 firefighters have been working without a contract for over a year as the union and the township have argued about ways to cut costs and increase revenue.

Township officials have cited falling property tax revenue and cuts in state aid as reasons cuts are needed. Other unionized township employees, including police officers and clerical workers, have taken concessions, and three firefighters were laid off in January 2010 after the township and Local 1496 failed to agree on a concession package.

#### **CITY REVENUE LOST**

Plymouth officials' decision late last year to withdraw from the department after 2011 compounds the problem, as the city provided about \$1 million a year to the department, which was formed in the mid-1990s. Plymouth is partnering with the Northville Fire Department, and Plymouth officials are in the midst of buying equipment and adding space at City Hall that will be used as a city fire station.

PCFD firefighters have offered concessions that both sides agreed would save about \$300,000 a year, but township officials say, with the loss of revenue from the city, that's not enough.

Tefend said concessions are still on the table: a less-expensive healthinsurance plan, 20-percent costsharing by firefighters on insurance premiums, and a smaller pay cut.

"They're not willing to talk about it at all," he said.

Firefighters have long been pushing to be allowed do to more transporting to hospitals of patients in

medical emergencies, saying that would bring the township revenue in the form of transport fees. The department currently does some hospital runs, but the majority are handled by Huron Valley Ambulance, which charges patients.

Tefend said even with the loss of Plymouth from the PCFD's coverage area, at least \$500,000 a year could be generated by patient transports. But Reaume said the additional hospital runs would take too many firefighters out of the community for too long, and has questioned how much revenue would be generated.

Pay for the 22 unionized PCFD firefighters in 2010, based on a 56-hour week, ranged from nearly \$73,000 to just over \$101,000, including overtime, holiday pay and other allowances.

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department budget.

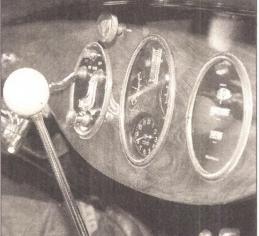
FROM PAGE A1

tors with a free shuttle service to St. John's. The shuttle will run 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. today (Sunday, July 31) between the Station 885 restaurant in the Old Village neighborhood, the Ironwood Grill downtown, the Hilton Garden Inn on Sheldon Road, and St. John's. The Downtown Development Authority and the Old Village Association, along with several businesses, are sponsoring the shuttle.

Sunday's Concours display is the culmination of several days of Concours events, including a motoring tour for exhibitors, an auction of vintage cars, a gala dinner and a display of automobile-themed art.

For more information, visit the Concours website, www.concoursusa.org.

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



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gerald Szostak completely restored the 1926 Willys Knight he's owned for about a dozen years, right down to replating trim pieces on dashboard indicators.

## FROM PAGE A1

Crimes Against Children Task Force.

Authorities said they didn't know of any direct sexual contact between Nyquist and minors, but McWilliams said the case should send a strong message about online activ-

"If anyone has by accident or design anything that resembles anything like this, they had better be aware that police agencies have the ability to look into your computer — and if they see something that is inappropriate,

they can go to a judge, get a warrant and the next thing you know your house gets searched and you get arrested," McWilliams said.

McWilliams said he appreciated what he called a "generous" plea agreement for Nyquist - a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, a U.S. Army unit commander in Vietnam and a Ford Motor Co. retiree.

Nyquist formerly coached the Plymouth-Canton-Salem high school unified girls lacrosse team. Before his arrest in March, he had just one practice as coach of the Plymouth High team. He also formerly supervised the **Community Education Girls** 

Basketball League for girls in grades 3-8 — a position he had held since 2007, authori-

During Nyquist's school involvement, McWilliams said, "There was never a hint or indication of improper contact or behavior on his part" with those he coached.

Michigan State Police Detective Lt. Thomas Kish has said some of the computer images Nyquist had were of children known to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. However, authorities said they didn't know of any images of local children.

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

districts from a consolidation standpoint."

#### **SHARING COSTS**

If the arrangement is approved, she said, it will be the largest such collaboration in the state, topping the arrangement between Grand Rapids and East Grand Rapids.

In the arrangement, the two districts would split Hennessey's salary, and the districts would benefit from the collaboration by combining purchases, including food, equipment and supplies

Lisa Abbey, director of business services for Livonia Public Schools, said Livonia currently has a vacancy in that position. "They would provide management; we would retain our food service employees," she said.

Abbey said she believes Plymouth-Canton would offer healthier and tastier food, get students through lines more quickly and increase participation by 20 percent, which would generate more revenue in the food services budget.

She said even though the districts are similar in size, 10,000 students purchase lunch at Plymouth-Canton schools compared with 4,000 at Livonia schools.

#### TOP CUISINE

In Plymouth-Canton, the high school cafeterias are like mall food courts with six options, including Mexican and Asian cuisine, premade salads and wraps and hamburgers. The elementary schools have carts with a wide selection of vegetables including chickpeas, said Nick Armelagos, Livonia's administrator of finance, who visited the Plymouth-Canton pro-

Livonia's current lunch program meets all federal and nutritional requirements and offers fresh food and vegetables, Abbey said. But the Plymouth-Canton program offers students more choices.

That's what Hennessey's program has done in Plymouth-

Canton, where Dodson Elementary earned the Healthier US School Challenge Bronze Award. Dodson became one of what USDA officials said is a "small but growing number of Michigan schools" to achieve the challenge, a national initiative to promote healthier school meals, physical activity and fitness opportunities and nutrition education.

Dodson is the third elementary school in the state to achieve Bronze level status. Next year, Hennessey said, she hopes to have all 16 of the district's elementary schools at the same level. Hennessey will spend a lot of time in Livonia to start the year, with her assistant, Patty Russo, helping out in Plymouth-Canton. Livonia officials will have to hire an assistant

"I'm very confident we can run both programs, (although) the first couple of months are going to be hectic," Hennessey said. "We've got some good processes in place here that I can replicate there. I'm really anxious to get to know their staff, because then you get to know their capabilities.

Livonia's \$3.5 million food services budget is self-supporting and has a surplus of \$50,000 to \$150,000 each year, Abbey said. If the program were to generate additional revenue, some costs currently in the general fund could be absorbed by the food services budget, she said.

LPS Trustee Gregory Oke said the state has been pushing for school districts to share services in order to cut costs. "I think this is something that would reflect well on our districts," he said.

With the excitement of this potential two-year deal still resonating, Hennessey acknowledged a feeling of vindication over the decision to bring food services in-house.

"Absolutely it does," Hennessey said. "It shows if you start to think outside the box, you can be really innovative and do some things."

Observer staff writer Karen Smith contributed to this story.

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

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## EDUCATION

Sunday, July 31, 2011

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## PHOTO GALLERIES hometownlife in com

## Teacher chosen for technology flair

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Last year, students in Kristi Berry's fifth-grade class at Miller Elementary School wrote science fiction plays and then, using green screen Berry bought at IKEA, turned those plays into science fiction mov-

That penchant for using technology to help her students find innovative ways to learn, landed Berry, about to start her sixth year in the Plymouth-Canton district after teaching in Livonia, a spot in YouTube's first-ever Teacher's Studio in Seattle, Wash.

Berry was one of 16 teachers from across the country chosen to participate in the Teacher's Studio, which featured instruction from a variety of education and technology experts such as James Sanders, Ramsey Musallam, Jim Sill, among others, about how they can incorporate video into their classrooms.

"I can share ideas like that with the other people (at the conference) and they can share their ideas," said Berry, who will be a YouTube ambassador after completing the studio. "It gets the students more motivated than just writing an essay or whatever. If they know they're going to make a movie they're more interested."

It's the kind of thing Berry and some 49 other teachers from around the world will talk about at the Google workshop. From that group, 16 teachers — including Berry — were chosen to take part in the YouTube Teachers Studio. According to Will Houghteling, YouTube's marketing lead, teachers taking



Miller Elementary School teacher Kristi Berry takes part in the Teachers Studio during her trip to Seattle. Berry will bring back lessons learned about technology in the classroom back to her Plymouth-Canton peers.

part in the first-ever studio will learn how to incorporate YouTube into their curriculum.

Houghteling said YouTube officials noticed Berry's use of technology in her application to the Google seminar, and subsequent application for the Teachers Academy.

"Kristi really stood out as somebody who already has a passion for incorporating technology in her classroom," Houghteling said. "She seemed like somebody who could be a great evangelist."

The pilot program with its small number of teachers will allow them to see what does and doesn't resonate with this group, and what they might want to take back to their classrooms, Houghteling said.

"It allows teachers to connect with students who learn in many different ways," Houghteling said of technology such as YouTube. "Not all students learn well being lectured at. Some students are visual learners. If they can watch a three-minute video of a science experiment that happened in another classroom,

they retain more information."
Berry agrees. Of course, this is a woman who had her students appear out of the crowd and bust out a flash mob at Plymouth's Green Street Fair last month. The kids came out of the crowd and started dancing to choreography created by one of the students.

"It was a big hit," Berry said. Berry got in touch with other teachers — some from as far away as Prague, Canada and Taiwan — before heading to Seattle. She's looking forward to coming home with even more ideas how to incorporate technology in her classroom.

"Kids today go home and they're inundated with technology, and then they come to school and, unless there's a lot of technology in the classroom, we're not teaching them in the modes they're used to learning from at home," Berry said. "I'm looking forward to getting ideas from Google. I use Google a lot in my classroom. I'm looking forward to learning from Google."

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

#### ON CAMPUS

#### **Emory University**

•Belle Sobolewski of Canton is attending the Emory University Pre-College Program in Atlanta, Ga., this summer. The program gives collegebound junior and senior high school students a glimpse of academic and residential life at a university.

• Shankar Ramamurthy of Canton received a doctor of law from the School of Law of Emory University in Atlanta, Ga., at its 166th commencement ceremony.

#### Savannah College

Local residents have been named to the dean's list at the Savannah College of Art and Design for spring quarter 2011. Full-time undergraduate students who earn a grade point average of 3.5 or above for the quarter receive recognition on the dean's list.

• Colin Beney of Canton is seeking a bachelor of fine arts degree in industrial design.

 Kory Dondzila of Canton is seeking a bachelor of fine arts degree in animation.

The Savannah College of Art and Design is a private, nonprofit, accredited institution conferring bachelor's and master's degrees.

#### University of Toledo

Julie Miller, a doctor of pharmacy major and a resident of Canton, was among nearly 800 students from The University of Toledo who made the spring 2011 President's List. The list recognizes full-time undergraduates who earn a 4.0 GPA for the semester.

#### Spring Arbor

Spring Arbor University announced students from the area who are on the Spring 2011 Academic Honors List. The Academic Honors List recognizes full-time students who have received a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for the semester. Part-time students must receive a 3.7 GPA for the semester and carry a cumulative 3.7 GPA.

Spring Arbor University is a private, four-year Christian liberal arts university located eight miles west of Jackson, Mich. With total enrollment around 4,200, the University is affiliated with the Free Methodist Church of North America and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Students honored include:
• Jenni Natkin of Canton, a freshman majoring in special education. She's the daughter of Robert Natkin and Susan

Teasdal.

• Katelyn Rosevear of Canton, a freshman majoring in elementary education. She's the daughter of Allen and Janet Rosevear.

 Lauren Craig of Canton, a sophomore majoring in social work. She's the daughter of Brad and Jan Craig.

• Kayla Davis of Canton, a freshman majoring in elementary education. She's the daughter of Charles and Michelle

• Alexander Rahill of Canton, a freshman majoring in pastoral ministry. He's the son of Alexander and Marcie Rahill.

#### Hillsdale College

Nick Plescia received his bachelor of arts degree in political science, cum laude, plus a minor in economics, from Hillsdale College.

Plescia will continue his education at the George Mason University School of Public Policy in the fall.

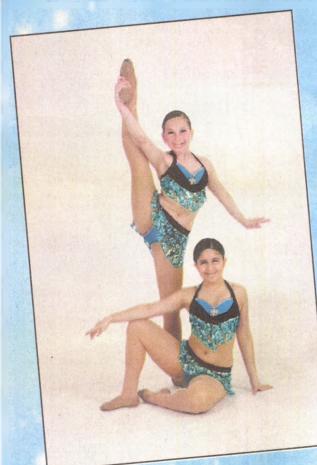
He is the son of Frank and Carly Plescia of Canton, and a 2007 graduate of Plymouth High School.



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## Old Village gallery dedicated to Michigan art

BY MATT JACHMAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

At the Red Twig Gallery, art is a Michigan thing.

Heather Doughty, a Plymouth artist, opened the gallery nearly two years ago on the first floor of a house in the Old Village neighborhood. With the poor economy at the time hitting Michigan, and its artists, especially hard, Doughty wanted to give the state's artists another venue for displaying and selling their

"If we don't look out for each other, who will?" said Doughty during a gallery tour on Thursday.

A painter with oil and watercolor paints who also does block printing and assemblage - making threedimensional displays from found objects - Doughty had used the space as her studio before opening the Red Twig. She continues to paint there, once in a while, in a corner set up with an easel and a collection of paints.

The Red Twig currently features works by more than 20 artists from around the state, many from the Detroit area. Doughty didn't know many of them when she started out.

"I knew they were out there, and I knew if there was a showcase, they would find me," she said.

They did. The Red Twig has paintings, assemblage, handmade jewelry, photographs, prints, tiles, ceramics and steampunk — jewelry and tchotchke made from a combination of new and old materials.

"I think we've packed a lot into a small space," Doughty

Much of the art has a Michigan theme, too: there are travel-poster-inspired lithographs touting attractions like the Mackinac Bridge and the Pictured Rocks, prints of plants and wildlife found in the state, Michigan-shaped designs on ceramic tiles, pho-



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Heather Doughty is owner of Red Twig Gallery in Old Village.

tographs of waterfalls in the state (and several neighboring states), and scenes from Plymouth itself.

They tend to have a love of Michigan, too," Doughty said of the artists. "I think it all flows together."

Artists represented include Marie Rust, a printmaker and photographer from Pinckney; Petrus Martens, a lithographer from Lansing; Leif Sporck, a tilemaker from the Leelanau Peninsula; Doughty herself; and her sister Cathy Doughty, a jewelrymaker.

Doughty used artistic flair and an eye for diamonds in the rough to decorate the Red Twig; there are antique typewriters sitting about, old radio cabinets

and old television sets (from when radios and TVs were fine furniture) used as display tables, and ceiling tiles sculpted with modeling clay to depict vintage icons such as an old rotary phone, and the Evans bicycle and Alter car, both made in Plymouth years ago.

"It's just more interesting when there are other things to look at," and it's satisfying to save and reuse vintage items that could otherwise be thrown out, Doughty said.

Doughty said the Red Twig — named for the red twig dogwood on the property, with branches that turn a vibrant hue in fall and winter — is a good fit for Old Village.

"We like the mix of residen-



The Red Twig gallery has art work made by Michigan residents. Many of the works also have a Michigan theme.

tial and business," she said. "We think that is a good setting for the art."

The Red Twig Gallery is at 796 N. Mill The phone number is (734) 737-0810; the website is www.theredtwig.com. Summer hours are 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday or by appointment.

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Red Twig owner Heather Doughty has a space set up in one corner of the gallery where she paints.



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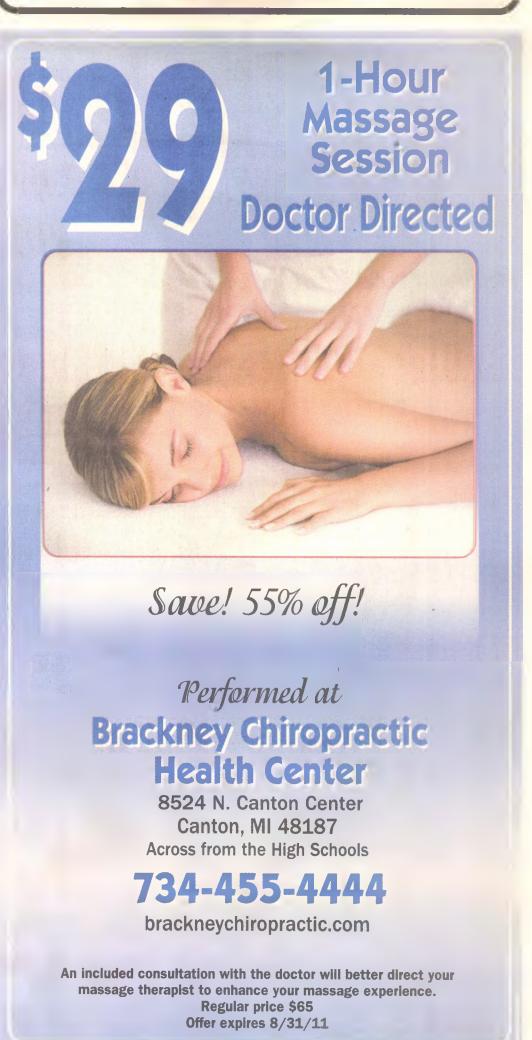


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## Pottery painting helps kids deal with grief

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 31, 2011

Dallas Teddy has experienced a lot of loss in her short life. Teddy, a 17-year-old from Livonia, has lost both of her grandmothers and three friends, the last less than a year ago.

Seeking help with her grief, Teddy, the daughter of Bruce and Tracy Teddy, turned to the New Hope Center for Grief Support in Northville. That's the group with which she took part in an evening of art at downtown Plymouth's Creatopia Tuesday. Nearly two dozen youngsters, all of them in the same boat as Teddy, spent a couple of hours creating art and painting pottery in memory of loved ones they've lost.

"I think it's calming, I like painting," said Dallas Teddy, who had to manage the paint brush with a cast on her left hand. "The group is helpful because I realize there are other people who have lost someone. They know how I feel."

That sense of unity is a key



Dallas Teddy of Livonia works around a cast on her left hand to paint a piece of pottery during New Hope Center's art event at downtown Plymouth's Creatopia Tuesday.

component to the work done at New Hope Center, a grief support center designed to help people work through their grief over the loss of a loved one. Elaine Dzwonkowski, New Hope's KIDZ group coor-

dinator, said art therapy is a good outlet for kids who've suffered a loss.

She especially likes it when the children pick a piece of art that would have had meaning to the loved one. She cited one

young girl who chose a jewelry box with a rose on top of it because her mother's favorite flower was a rose. She said it's also good when a parent gets involved in the activity.

"Art therapy is a good thing,"



Brittany and Ashley Jones paint a couple of large mugs during the art event sponsored by New Hope Center at downtown Plymouth's Creatopia Tuesday night. The sisters lost their father exactly a year ago.

Dzwonkowski said. "Parents working with a child on something like this is very soothing. That's what we're looking for.'

Karen Jones attended the Creatopia even with her daughters, Brittany and Ashley, in memory of their father, Jeff, who died exactly a year prior. After his untimely death, Karen Jones said she sought help at Ward Church in Northville, while her daughters attended group sessions at Church of the Nazarene. Both programs were

sponsored by New Hope. She said the art project not only brought some solace into their lives, but also gave the

day something other than solemn meaning.

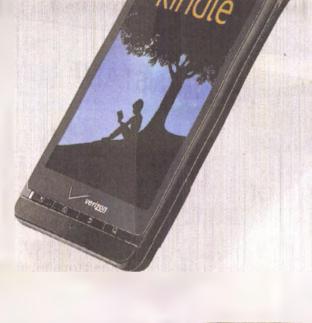
"I thought it would be nice to come on this day," Karen Jones said. "I didn't want it to

be a sad day only.' Tracy Bruce said the art therapy, and the group therapy, has helped her daughter cope with all the loss by showing her how many other people have had loss, and how they're dealing with it.

"There are so many kids who don't know what to do" with their grief, Tracy Teddy said. "The group is nice because they teach the kids grief isn't something that comes naturally. It's been good for (Dallas)."



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## Residents, business owners tolerating reconstruction of Sheldon Center

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Working inside a small shopping plaza near a major road construction project, Cottage Inn Pizza owner Vishal Goel longs for the day when crumbling, car-jarring Sheldon Center will be fixed.

Goel's business has slowed somewhat since construction crews closed a stretch of the troubled road between Canton Center and Amy Lane for the first phase of rebuilding and widening it from two lanes to

"We're smack dab in the middle of it," he said. "It's affecting my business a little bit, and some of my customers are not happy about it because it's kind of a mess."

Yet he has kept his eye on the prize, awaiting the day he can drive along Sheldon Center in his small Nissan without worrying he might destroy his tires.

"That street was a mess," Goel said, "and I'm glad they're fixing it.'

Canton officials expected business owners and residents to have love-hate feelings toward a project to reconstruct a one-mile stretch of Sheldon Center, where it curves off of Canton Center and becomes Sheldon Road until it reaches the project-ending Joy Road

Workers and residents have had to find alternate routes amid the first-phase closure, and more traffic-snarling headaches await them as construction crews continue the project northward toward Gallimore Elementary School and beyond.

This inconvenience, too, shall pass as construction workers — potentially by vear's end — finish rebuilding and widening one of Canton's worst roads. Just as last year's road project along Canton Center between Cherry Hill



Leroy Wells and Michael McNutt, employees of the Wayne County Road Commission's field services, on the site of the Sheldon Center project.

and Palmer finally gave way to a smooth ride, Sheldon Center/ Sheldon's fix will follow.

Bill Serchak, township engineer, has heard encouraging news from the Sheldon Center project's general contractor, Florence Cement Co., though any road project predictions are certainly weather-contingent best guesses.

"They have indicated they are hoping to start paving (between Canton Center and Amy Lane) in about two to three weeks and putting in the five lanes," Serchak said.

That would complete the bulk of the first phase, except for some touchups. Even with the southern leg of Sheldon Center closed, Serchak said motorists have been able to use other routes to get to businesses and subdivisions.

Township officials have indicated the project potentially could be finished by year's end — depending on Mother Nature — despite earlier projections of a two-year timeline.

"We're pleased with how it has progressed, especially considering the significant rain we had in June," not long after the project began, Serchak said.

The project was estimated at \$5.2 million — most of it from federal dollars — but officials expect the final price tag will be lower.

Officials anticipated some grumbling from residents and business owners, even though those same people are eager for a better road.

"We're not receiving a large volume of complaints," Serchak said. "People have redirected themselves around the project area. We're glad they've been able to find their way around."

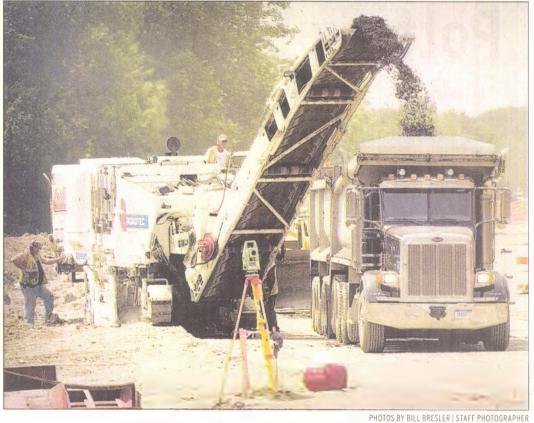
The project will bring more than just a smoother road. Consider:

• The small east-west connector that runs between Sheldon Center and Sheldon will be widened from two lanes to three to accommodate a new traffic configuration.

· A small north-south stretch of Sheldon, just south of where Sheldon meets Sheldon Center, will be removed and turned into green space, and traffic on northbound Sheldon will be routed a little sooner over to Sheldon Center.

• A traffic light near Gallimore Elementary will be relocated further south to Sheldon Center and the eastwest connector, providing what school officials say will be much-needed relief from school-zone traffic congestion.

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Crews grind up the old road surface along the southern leg of the Sheldon Center project. Local officials are hopeful paving of the initial phase could begin within weeks.

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## 14 area gas stations offer FuelCall assistance

A full list of gas stations offering fuel assistance for the disabled can be found on the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America Pump Guide website at www.pumpguide.com. Gas stations offering FuelCall assistance include:

#### Garden City

• BP, 32889 Warren Road, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; call (734) 762-490

#### Westland

- Sunoco, 8405 N. Inkster Road, available 24 hours a day seven days a week; call (734)
- Marathon, 37401 Joy
- Marathon, 37368 Ford, 6 a.m. to midnight seven days a

See story, page A9.

- week; call (734) 728-4265 • Marathon, 32919 Cherry Hill, Westland
- Marathon, 29424 Ann Arbor Trail
- Sunoco, 31215 Warren Road; call (734) 522-0606
- Cascardo Oil Co., 42438 Warren Road, 5 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Friday and 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; call (734) 459-4437

#### Redford

• Marathon, 14301 Telegraph, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Saturday; call (313) 538-1555

#### Farmington

• Marathon, 32340 Grand River, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week; call (313) 731-

#### Southfield

- USA Speed Stop, 24960 Telegraph, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; call (248) 357-3221
- Southfield Fuel Stop, 26450 Lasher, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday; call (248) 356-7009

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• Sovels Service Station, 41425 W. 10 Mile, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday; call (248) 348-7337

## **County Commission adds** Facebook to web presence

It has become a whole lot easier to follow the happenings of the Wayne County Commission. Thanks to a restructuring of the

Commission's webpage that will provide viewers an easier navigation trail, along with regular posts to its Facebook page, visitors to both sites will now find greater accessibility to the important issues, views and events circulating throughout Wayne County, according to Commission Chairman Gary Woronchak, D-

By bookmarking the Commission's website at www.waynecounty.com/commission/, visitors will find a more user-friendly system in gaining access to all 15 Commission districts and receive updated information released by the respective County Commissioners.

In addition, the website offers information dealing with the Commission's eight standing committees, four special committees, various department's ranging from the Commission Clerk's office to Fiscal Agency, newsletters and a list of recent news releases and resources.

The Commission's informational Facebook page is available at www.facebook.com/#!/ WayneCountyCommission, or by simply searching for Wayne County Commission on Facebook. It is a great source for sharing event information, ceremonial tributes and accomplishments by Commission personnel, Woronchak said.

"Commissioners know how important it really is to connect with their constituents, and with the popularity of Facebook and the changes made to the county website, we are now able to do that better than ever," said Woronchak. "There has been a concerted effort within the commission to deliver current information to residents in a manner that is easily accessible

"I would encourage Facebook users to visit the Wayne County Commission page and click 'like' to keep informed on Commission activities," he added.



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Michael Harris reaches out to push the FuelCall button, alerting the attendant that he needs assistance in getting gas for his car.

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BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

Getting gas has gotten a little bit easier for disabled motorists in western Wavne County with the addition of FuelCall buttons at a gas station at Warren Road and Venoy in Garden City.

The BP station is the 10th such facility to install FuelCall buttons at two of its pumps. The FuelCall button allows disabled drivers to notify the attendant that they need refueling assistance.

"We've been active in getting the buttons installed in gas stations since 2008. Our goal is to see one at every gas station in the area," said Michael Harris, executive director of Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Harris calls the FuelCall button "a quality of life item" because it provides a "bit of independence" for the disabled. Instead of needing a passenger who can get out and pump gas, they need only pull into a

station with FuelCall, pull up to a designated pump and push a button, alerting the attendant that they need assistance.

A sign on a post above the pump lets drivers know the times and days the services is available, as well as a number to call for information. At the BP in Garden City, the button also is available to parents who don't want to leave children unattended in their vehicles.

Fueling assistance is required under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and there are ADA incentives of up to 50-percent to get gas stations to install the buttons. The setup costs about \$1,200, which is reduced by half.

"It helps pay for itself with the increase business it generates plus the goodwill it generates," Harris said. "A lot of times it's a matter of educating the gas station owner. There's a company, Inclusion Solutions out of Chicago, which is working with BP. We're hoping to get

BP and Marathon to install FuelCall in all of their gas stations in the United States."

Harris also is hoping to get the Kroger Fuel Centers and Meijer gas stations to install FuelCall.

"We're always working on something to try and introduce new people to the service," he said. "Î'd like to see Meijer have it, but we haven't been successful. Meijer will provide the service, but you have to beep the horn or call them. With this, you push a button and a little jingle goes off and lets them know you need assistance."

The MPVA-sponsored pumpguide.com website provides an online directory of gas stations willing to provide assistance for the disabled. While there's at least 1,000 stations listed. for most, "there's no way to contact them unless you honk the horn or call them ahead of time," Harris said.

As for promoting the FuelCall locations, Harris said the best form of adver-



FuelCall's big blue button shows that the services is for the disabled and parents with small children.

tising is word of mouth. "No matter where the service is, it's going to catch on," he said.

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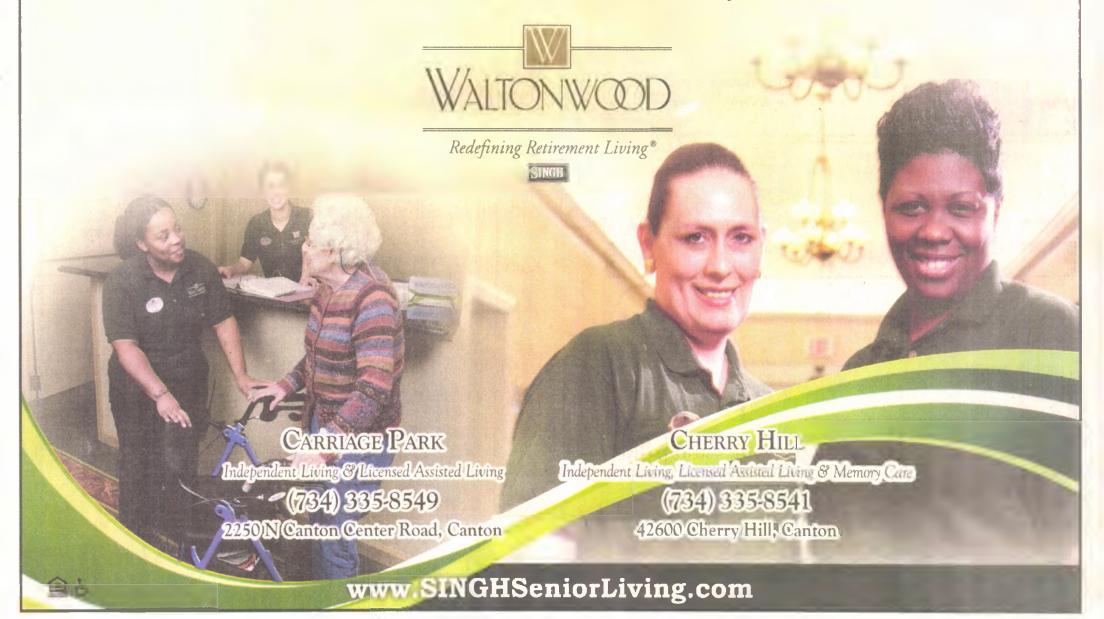
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## Meet the Ritchie Boys

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 31, 2011

#### Exhibit tells little-known story of WWII heroes

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

"Greetings from Camp Ritchie" postcards show a picturesque, almost resort-like campus where certainly any member of the military would want to train.

But it wasn't just for any serviceman or woman. It was a place for specific soldiers with specific characteristics and skills that would be critical in fighting World War II.

Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains in Maryland, Camp Ritchie - named after Maryland Gov. Albert Ritchie, who served from 1920-1935 – was an intelligence camp where psychological warfare tactics were taught.

Those who received the special training became known as the Ritchie Boys and were selected for knowing the German language, culture and the German mentality. Most of them were Jewish boys who had immigrated to the U.S., including Guy Stern, who came to the United States from Hildensheim, Germany, when he was 15 years old.

Soldiers took classes in German Army organization, Morse Code, studied The Order of Battle of the German Army and more.

Stern said the book was invaluable.

"We could look up commanders, signal calls, so we could overwhelm them with our knowledge," he said.

They did field exercises, role playing, close combat training and document reading.

Their newfound skills, knowledge and tactics became their fierce weapons.

"Everyone at Camp Ritchie felt it was their war," said Stern. "And they had to be a part of it."

They knew they would be deployed.

Some were shipped to Africa, some to Italy and others to England.

Stern remembers arriving at Lygon Arms in Broadway, England. The Army headquarters was at a British boarding school, where plans were made for the invasion.

"I was very scared," said Stern, who was 21 years old at the time. "All of us were scared. I was a former German Jewish national."

Stern's unit soon found itself on a loaded landing craft, making its way across the English Channel, to Saint Mere Eglise in Normandy, France.

#### STORY COMES TO LIFE

Stern told the story of the Ritchie Boys this week as he walked through a new exhibit, "Secret Heroes: The Ritchie Boys," at the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills.

Stern, curator, was instrumental, along with HMC executive director Stephen Goldman, in establishing the



Si Lewen's sketch pad is filled with images from the field during his tenure as a Ritchie Boy during World War H.

exhibit, which will be there until February. It will then travel to the Army History Museum at Fort Bragg, N.C.

#### **DIGGING IN**

Stern had written about his experiences and the work of the Ritchie Boys years ago, but that was the extent of it.

He told Goldman about the Ritchie Boys and Goldman soon named him curator of what would be the first exhibit in the new gallery at the cen-

Goldman said the gallery will house traveling exhibits, so people can have different experiences when they visit the center.

"It gives people a reason to come back," he said.

Stern started delved into his research.

"Many people started helping me and we started investigating," he said.

They went to the National Archives, the Library of Congress and four or five other archives, seeking information and documentation relating to the Ritchie Boys and their work.

They located 50 of the Ritchie Boys. As the exhibit came together and plans were made for a reunion, which occurred last weekend, many of the Ritchie Boys said they couldn't travel to Michigan, from points all around the

country, for health and other personal reasons. Fourteen said they could come to Michigan; 12 actually attend-

"I was real excited about meeting the boys," said Goldman of the reunion.

The exhibit and the reunion were a result of a lot of work by many, said Stern.

"It was such a team effort," said Stern. "Everybody in this organization pitched in."

#### **NINE PROFILES**

The exhibit is divided into four sections, which follow nine of the Ritchie Boys through the events, from recruitment to training, to combat, to post-war civilian

Fred Howard is one of them. "He was my closest friend," said Stern, pointing to a photo and narrative on the wall. "We formed sort of a two-man team - people said it was like 'good cop, bad cop."

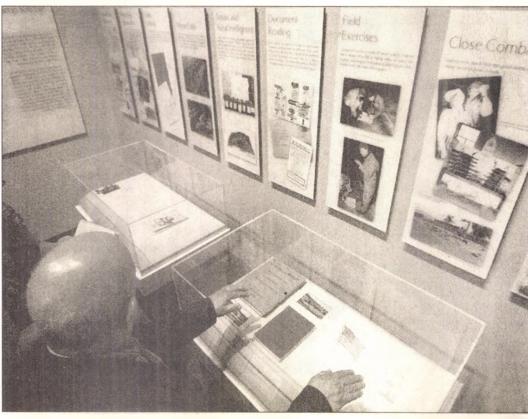
Stern was known to disguise himself as a Russian commissar, complete with a uniform adorned with medals. Fred Howard worked with him on this particular tactic.

"If a prisoner refused to give information, (Howard) would say, 'I have to turn you over to the liaison from the Russian Army," said Stern, noting that usually worked.

Other tactics involved



brought to them in the field



Guy Stern explains the various training topics that were covered at Camp Ritchie.

"becoming a buddy" to a prisresistance. oner to gain his trust.

"If we talked about soccer for 15 minutes, then I disappeared as an American, then I could get the information I wanted from him," said Stern.

Overwhelming the enemy with knowledge was another tactic used by the Ritchie Boys in getting valuable information from the enemy. A third tactic involved good old-fashioned bribery — they would give the prisoners something they wanted, like food and cigarettes, in exchange for information.

A fourth tactic was playing on their fears, said Stern.

They used mobile broadcast units at the German lines to shout propaganda and they distributed leaflets containing propaganda to weaken the

Stern recalls that Corporal Walter Midener single-handedly got 340 German soldiers to surrender to him.

"He was so persuasive," said Stern. "He got the silver medal for this.'

The exhibit documents the post-war lives of the nine profiled Ritchie Boys. We split apart into all sorts

of professions," said Stern, who was most recently a German professor at Wayne State University.

#### REUNION

Seeing some of the Ritchie Boys last weekend was a thrill

"In a way, it's so emotionally charged, because you saw the people who marched with you; the people who took the same

chances and took on the same tasks," he said. "Also remarkable was that so many young people were here at the reunion - they learned things about their forefathers that they didn't know before. It was a discovery of their own heritage."

And, that's not the only good thing that's come from the exhibit, hopes Stern. "I think the legacy of not

only the Ritchie Boys, but the time we were active, we had a nation united in a common effort and we worked together," said Stern, who is 89 and lives in West Bloomfield. "I wish for my country that the same commonality and effort will prevail in the future. Our nation can be great if we stand together."

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Info: Call (248) 553-2400 or visit www.holocaustcenter.org

Exhibit sponsors: American House Senior Living Communities, The Detroit Jewish News and Ernest Wachtel (Ritchie Boy) and family (daughters Mindy Silverberg, Cheryl Friedman and Terry Lebewohl).

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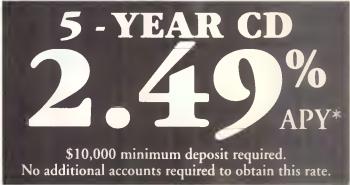
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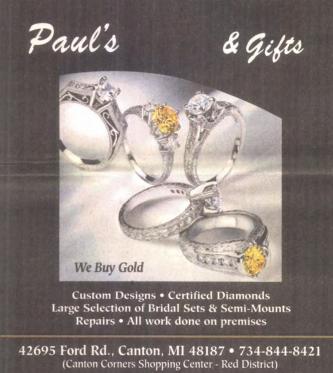
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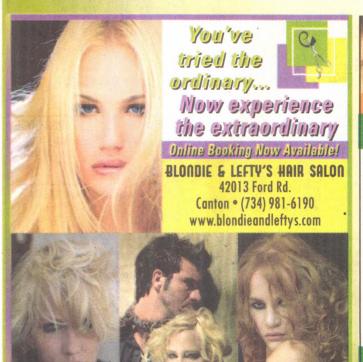
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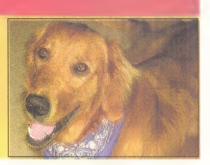
## SPORTS

**SUNDAY, July 31, 2011** 

hometownlife (m) com

INSIDE

DOGS FOR A CAUSE



## Heavy pedal

Triathlon in Big Apple on horizon for Plymouth couple

#### THE DIETER FILE

**Who:** Bill Dieter, 40 and Maria Dieter, 43, of Plymouth.

What: Both are veteran triathletes who will be among 3,000 athletes worldwide to compete Sunday, Aug. 7, at the 11th annual Nautica New York City Triathlon.

About the race: Participants will swim 1.5 kilometers, bike 40 kilometers (24.85 miles) and run 10 kilometers (6.2 miles). It is the only Olympic-distance triathlon in New York City.

Careers: Bill went to the University of Michigan-Dearborn, and is a mechanical engineer at BASF in Wyandotte. Maria is a Wayne State University grad who earned an MBA and works as a project planner with Ford in Dearborn.

Other: The Dieters, who do not have children, also ran the Boston Marathon. They have two dogs, both rescued from the Michigan Humane Society. Scout is a lab terrier mix while Kona is a shepherd mix.

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth triathletes Bill and Maria Dieter had a marathon courtship — literally.

And now the Dieters, who are about to celebrate their first wedding anniversary, are days away from taking the plunge in an entirely different way.

On Sunday, Aug. 7, they both will swim in the Hudson River, bike along the Henry Hudson Parkway and run through Central Park as part of the 11th annual Nautica New York City Triathlon.

"It's going to be an awesome race," said Maria, 43, who has been active on the triathlon circuit since 1999.

She ran for a number of years, but got bored quickly, something rectified by the three-sport triathlons.

"When you get tired of one and you just want a little break, it's time to start focusing a little bit more on the other sports," Maria said.



JOHN KEMSKI

Maria and Bill Dieter of Plymouth enjoy riding their bikes both along neighborhood streets (above) and at triathlons such as next weekend's in New York City.

Her husband, 40-year-old Bill Dieter, is a veteran marathoner who still loves to run.

But he branched off into tris in 2001. Now he wants to compete in a triathlon in all 50 states. That's quite a statement from somebody who a couple of decades ago merely watched the events on TV from his living room.

"I guess in my 20s I was too busy hanging out with my buddies, too busy playing softball and golfing," Bill said during an interview with the couple in their treadmillladen home. "There's always been an interest, but I never took the time and dedicated my time to training for one, and actually doing one.

"But after my first one in 2001 (at Clark Lake near Jackson) I was hooked."

Seven years later, it happened again for Bill, when he met his future wife — who actually had him beat as far as experience in triathlons.

as experience in triathlons.
And now, there's no doubt
the Dieters continue to put a
unique spin on their "quality

A mutual friend through Bill's job set them up in August 2008 and their first date, appropriately, was to go on a bike ride along Hines Drive from Nankin Mills in Westland.

#### NO TIME TO WASTE

She already was planning to put some miles on her triathlon bike anyway, so why not invite him to tag along?

"I'm not giving up a training date for some random dude,"

Please see COUPLE, B3

#### **SIDELINES**

#### Shaw signs deal

Former Livonia Clarenceville High standout and Penn State linebacker Tim Shaw signed a one-year contract Friday with the Tennessee Titans of the National Football League.

The 6-foot-1, 236-pound Shaw, an unrestricted free agent, confirmed the signing Thursday night with the Observer and inked the deal on Friday, according to his agent Shawn Smith of XAM Sports.

Shaw, a standout on special teams, appeared in all 16 games last season with the Titans making 21 solo tackles and adding eight assists.

In 2009, Shaw was credited with a Chicago Bears franchiserecord 30 special teams tackles and his 20 "press box" special teams stops led the NFL.

Shaw was a fifth-round pick of the Carolina Panthers in 2007 where he appeared in 14 games before making three appearances in 2008 with the Jacksonville Jaguars.

He has a total of 70 career tackles in 48 games with two forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries.

#### Paciero named

Former Livonia Churchill High and Schoolcraft College volleyball player Christine Paciero was recently named the 11th head coach in school history at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside.

Paciero most recently coached at Dominican University (III.) where she posted a three-year record of 63-28, including Northern Athletic Conference title and NCAA Division III tournament berth in 2010.

Paciero is a former assistant at Wayne State University and Cedarburg (Wis.) High School. She played on Schoolcraft's 1988 NJCAA National Championship team and helped Florida Southern to an NCAA Division II Final Four berth.

#### Cole nets honor

Allegheny College (Pa.) freshman Patrick Cole (Livonia) was listed 22nd in the final 2010-11 Campbell/ITA Regional College men's tennis rankings in the NCAA Division III Central Region by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association.

The University of Detroit Jesuit
High grad finished 18-4 in singles
en route to North Coast Athletic
Conference first-team honors,
just the third player in program
history to earn that honor.

He was also named NCAC Newcomer of the Year and NCAC Player of the Week twice..

#### MU soccer recruits

Madonna University men's soccer coach Eric Scott announced the signing of two more recruits last week from nearby Schoolcraft

Also in the fold is Farmington Hills Harrison grad Dane Laird and Royston, England native Joe Carver (Meridian School).

Carver had seven career goals and 13 assists, while Laird added nine goals and eight assists for the two-time Michigan Community College Athletic Association champions who helped the Ocelots to a 2009 NJCAA National tournament berth.

## Harrison-MSU grid pipeline still flowing

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Aaron Burbridge will continue the tradition of Farmington Hills Harrison football players going to Michigan State.

The 6-foot-2, 185-pound wide receiver and defensive back for the defending Division 2

state champion Hawks hopes to follow in the footsteps at MSU of ex-Harrison players like Bob

players like Bob Wasczenski, John Miller,

Mill Coleman, Drew Stanton (Detroit Lions), Agim Shabaj and Mark Dell (recently signed as free agent by the Denver Broncos).

Burbridge, listed as a four-star recruit by Rivals. com, made a nonbinding verbal commitment to MSU after receiving offers from Michigan, Notre Dame, Ohio State and Illinois among others.

"A lot of people from Harrison have been successful in their careers at 'State' and have gone on to the next level, which I want to do, too," said Burbridge, who had 36 receptions for 720 yards and two touchdowns as a junior for the 14-0 Hawks. "I've always been a Michigan State fan."

Burbridge is the third Harrison player to verbally commit to a Big Ten school as tight end Devin Funchess and defensive end Mario Ojemudia are headed to rival Michigan.

"I didn't want to go too far away from home and they're looking for wide receivers, which was another big reason so I'll be able to come in a play a lot as a freshman," said Burbridge, who scored two TDs in last year's 38-28 state championship win over Lowell at Ford Field.

Burbridge also returns kicks and punts, and plays in the secondary where he recorded five interceptions (two returned for TDs) to go along with 13 deflections and 24 stops.

"He's the first kid we've ever had here where Alabama called," Harrison coach John Herrington said. "USC, Nebraska ... all the big schools were there, but his main interest was Michigan State and Michigan."

Burbridge said he vis-

Please see **GRID**, **B3** 

## Poise pays off for Shepler



OBSERVER STAFF PHOTO

Jordyn Shepler, who will be a senior at Churchill, shot a 77 to lead all girls players Wednesday in the Motor City Junior Golf Championship held at Whispering Willows.

Motor City Junior boys results, B2

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

OBSERVER STAFF WRITE

It's all upstairs for Jordyn Shepler.

The incoming senior at Livonia Churchill High kept her emotions in check Wednesday and fired an impressive 18-hole total of 77 to lead all girls in the 2011 Motor City Junior Golf Championships held at Whispering Willows Golf Course.

"I'm getting more consistent," said Shepler, a first-team All-Observer pick during school season for the Chargers. "I just have to remind myself to keep my mind in control after bad shots."

Shepler who continued the Girls 15 17 and division by 16

Shepler, who captured the Girls 15-17 age division by 16 strokes, hit very few bad ones and nearly matched her personal tournament best of 76.

She was also able to overcome her disappointment when she shot 89-86-175 and failed to qualify for match play at the 33rd Golf Association of Michigan Girls Junior Amateur held June 27-30 at Michigan State University's Forest Akers G.C.

"I was putting well, good off the tees, good all-around," Shepler said her game on Wednesday. "I've been playing pretty consistent. I can always be better, but I'm getting there."

During three events on the Top 50 Junior Tour, Shepler said her scores ranged in the "80s and 81s." She also won a Players Championship at Whispering Willows, a course she is totally all too familiar with and works for during the summer months.

With the help of her high school coach and Whispering Willows pro Paul Worley, along with swing coach Dave Van Loozen of Edgewood Country Club, Shepler hopes to land a college scholarship someplace next year.

And she'll also hone her game next week at MSUs golf

And she II also hone her game next week at MSU's golf camp before the prep season begins.

Meanwhile, Imani Gunn and Kayla Whatley shot 93 and

97, respectively, to finish second and third in the Girls 15-17.

Detroit's Erica Heath won the Girls 13-14 title with the second best overall score of the day with a 91.

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## **loanou bests teammate Proben in Motor City playoff**

BY BRAD EMONS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

Andrew Ioanou didn't bring the cake or the candles, but threw himself quite a birthday party Wednesday at Whispering Willows Golf Course.

The senior-to-be at Livonia Churchill High won a two-hole playoff over close friend and teammate Ben Proben to capture the Boys 16-17 age division at the Motor City Junior Golf

Championship.
Ioanou and Proben each shot 75s, while another Churchill player, Cory Dare, took third overall just one shot off the pace with a

Both Ioanou and Proben bogeyed the No. 10 hole, but Ioanou took the title with a par on No. 11 followed by another bogey by Proben, who was a first-team All-Observer pick this year for the Chargers.

"It was a good 17th, I guess I had luck on my side," Ioanou said. "He (Ben) is a good player. He congratulated me. We're pretty close. He and his brother Nick (who shot 81) I've known since we were five or six."

Whispering Willows is also Churchill's home course during the boys golf season.

Ioanou, who also plays on the Top 50 Junior Tour, has won two tourneys each this year at Livonia courses Fox Creek and Whispering

"It was tough and windy," said Ioanou, who once shot a 70 during a practice round at Whispering Willows. "We were hitting straight into the wind. My short game was pretty good, but I did not do anything else well. I was just scrambling.

Ioanou, however, has been pleased overall with his summer

"I'm hitting more fairways and greens, I'm getting better," he said.

Meanwhile, Edgar Lewis IV, who resides in Heightstown, N.J., but spends his summer in Livonia, shot an impressive 76 to run away with the Boys 14-15 title.

Lewis defeated runner-ups Austin Harris and Ryan Riva by nine strokes.

#### **JUNIOR GOLF RESULTS**

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 31, 2011

**2011 MOTOR CITY** JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP July 27 at Whispering Willows G.C. AGE-GROUP RESULTS

AGE-GROUP RESULTS
Boys 16-17: 1. Andrew loanou, 75 (won 2-hole playoff); 2. Ben Proben, 75; 3. Cory Dare, 76; 4. (tie) Michael Wilson and Dante Cicchelli, 80 each; 6. (tie) Nick Proben and Michael Wilson and Control Wilson Nick Massa, 81 each; 8. Craig Whatley, 82; 9. Connor Murphy, 83; 10. Dominic DiLisi, 85; 11. Ryan Linn, 87; 12. David Nietzke, 88; 13. (tie) Nick Kruczynski and Justin Legel, 90 each; 15.

Alex Watson, 98. **Boys 14-15:** 1. Edgar Lewis IV, 76; 2. (tie) Austin Harris and Ryan Riva, 85 each; 4. (tie) Austin Halls allu Ryali Riva, 65 each; 4. (10)
Brent Perry and Jason Wysocki, 89 each; 6.
Matthew Flood, 92; 7. (tie) Liam McGuire and
Luke Green, 99 each; 9. (tie) Jason Linn and
Noah Pappalardo, 100 each; 11. Ryan Gliwa,
101; 12. Vincent Petro, 113; 13. Jack Pierson, 115;
14. Jacob Lynch, 123; 15. Jeff Flannigan, 134.

Bout 12:13: 1. Sashith Mammad, 92; 2. Joo

Boys 12-13: 1. Saahith Mammadi, 92; 2. Joe Murzyn, 96; 3. Alex Westphal, 105; 4. Kevin Conn, 111; 5. Brent Wilkerson, 113; 6. Nicklas Beers, 133; 7. Michael Dubuc, 153.

Girls 15-17: 1. Jordyn Shepler, 77; 2. Imani Gunn, 93; 3. Kayla Wheatley, 97; 4. (tie) Laura Shureb and Elise Kendra, 107 each; 6. Olivia Asta, 110; 7. Kathleen Karzewski, 117; 8.

Olivia Asta, 110; 7. Kathleen Karzewski, 117; 8. Christina Briden, 119; 9. Natalie Boziomowski, 120; 10. Kelly Hernandez, 124.

Girls 13-14: 1. Erica Heath, 91 each; 2. Caroline Bland and Mary Peltz, 107 each.

CLOSEST-TO-THE-PIN

Boys 16-17: Cicchelli, 4 feet, 1 inch; Girls
15-17: Shepler, 15-6; Boys 14-15: Pappalardo, 8-8; Boys 12-13: Murzyn, 35-0.

LONGEST DRIVE

Boys 16-17: Linn; Girls 15-17: Karcewski; Boys 14-15: Wysocki; Girls 13-14: Bland; Boys 14-13: Murmadi

Boys 12-13: Mummadi.

"It was a real good round, one of the best of the year" said Lewis, who plans to try out his freshman year for his Heightstown High team (located near Princeton). "I can hit well off the tee. The key is playing it smart, play it safe, not try and push your clubs, and stay within yourself."

Lewis' round was highlighted by a pair of par saves from off the green using his sand wedge.

"My chipping saved me," said Lewis, who also dabbles in basketball. "Both were on the back nine. One was on par-5, No. 16 and other was the No. 14, par-4."

Lewis, who has won both a two-man best ball and two-man scramble at Whispering Willows, plans to return next summer to compete on the Meijer Junior

Meanwhile, Farmington Hills' Saahith Mummadi shot a 92 to seize the Boys 12-13 title, four shots ahead of Joey Murzyn.

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Canton's Justin Legel taps in a putt during Wednesday's Motor City Junior Golf Championship held at Whispering Willows.

## String of aces at Fox Hills

Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center in Plymouth has had its share of hole-in-ones this summer on the venue's various golf courses.

Last week, it was announced that Todd Erickson sank an ace on the 147-yard 14th hole at the Golden Fox. Erickson used a Rescue

club to hit the Callaway ball down the fairway and into the cup.

But his was just the latest in a string of perfect tee shots.

Following is a rundown of the accomplishments: • On July 15, Westland's Cliff

Englehart, 41, used a pitching wedge to ace the 124-yard 5th hole at the Woodlands. • On July 6, Canton's Jim

Gagleard, 55, aced the No. 1 hole (105 yards) at the Strategic Fox. He used a 9 iron. • On July 5, Troy's Jim

Lveck, 37, used an 8 iron to ace the 144-yard 5th hole at the Woodlands. There were two other aces

on July 5. Steven Matranga, 37, of Ypsilanti, sank a hole-in-one on the 2nd hole of the Lakes course — a 173-yard shot. He used a 1 wood.

• Also July 5, 68-year-old Kurt Hardenburg of Plymouth aced the 171-yard 17th hole at Strategic Fox. He used a 5 wood.

• On June 29, West Bloomfield's Joe Muraviglia, 62, shot a hole-in-one on the 5th hole at the Woodlands. He used an 8 iron to sink the 128-

• On June 25, 11-year-old Donny Borgula of Plymouth sank a hole-in-one on the 91yard 8th hole at the Strategic

• On June 21, Eileen McHenry, 64, of Pentwater aced the No. 6 hole (99 yards) at Fox Classic - Hills. She used a Nike 8 iron.



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#### Hawks honored

In addition to the annual parade and other activities during Founders Festival weekend in downtown Farmington July 16, the community paid tribute to the state football champions from Harrison High School. The Hawks won their 13th state title last November in the Division 2 final. Representing the Hawks were senior captains (left to right) Steve Slobin, Derek Head and Tommy Vento. Shouts of "Go Hawks" were heard as the players marched in the parade. Slobin and Head will play college ball at Siena Heights, Vento at Michigan State.



Tops in 'the Burgh'

The Motor City Madness 12U Red softball team recently won all eight games at the Battle of the Burgh July 8-10 in Pittsburgh, Pa. to capture the title in their division. The Madness defeated the Silver Creek (Pa.) Starz in the championship game. Head coach Scott Ampe and five players are from Canton or Plymouth. Pictured in the front row (from left) are Alivia Cragg (Canton), Kaitlyn Wolschlager (Walled Lake), Emma Nowak (Plymouth). In the middle row (from left) are Sydney San Juan (Novi), Madyson Ampe (Canton), Emma Clark (Canton), Mckenzi McKnight (Novi), Nicole Ireland (Novi), Aziza Afzal (Canton), Shirley Hao (Novi) and coach Holly Ireland. In the back row (from left) are coach Adam Sam Juan and head coach Scott Ampe, of Canton.



Getting in bike rides is part of the training Plymouth's Bill and Maria Dieter do to prepare for triathlons. It is also what they did on their first date three years ago, after having been set up on a blind date.

Maria joked recently.

Obviously, the couple hit it off immediately, so much that besides signing up together to compete at various triathlons and marathons, they married Aug. 14, 2010 — two years to the day of that first blind date.

August certainly is their month to shine: Their wedding date also was a year after they competed in their first Ironman triathlon in Louisville, Ky.

"A week or two after we met, she said, 'You need to sign up for an Ironman,'" Bill recalled. "Which wasn't until a year after

"So this was a long-term commitment we're already setting us up for," he said with

Maria described the Ironman as a longer triathlon, with a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and 26.2-mile run.

There actually are four different distances for triathlons, however, and next week's is composed of a 1.5-mile swim, 40-kilometer bike ride (just less than 25 miles) and 6.2mile run.

Meanwhile, Bill and Maria rode their bikes side-by-side and chatted as they pedaled down Hines Drive on that first date. They instantly connected.

"It just clicked, it really did," said Maria, adding that their common interest didn't hurt matters any. "We were in triathlons, I had done a little bit more (triathlons than Bill). He was a big marathoner. I ran, but not

to the extent he did." Staying with the August-is-a-big-month theme, the Dieters next Sunday will be among 3,000 athletes taking on The Big Apple, having been selected through a lottery process.

#### **GOING FOR IT**

"I've always wanted to do that one, but I never got around to it," Maria said. "Ford used to be the major sponsor, too, and since I worked at Ford I thought that would be a great one. And then every year it was just filling up, you could never get into it. So I kept blowing it off.

"But this year, well Bill's aunt lives in Manhattan. So we thought let's try to get in and if we get in great, we could go to New York and spend the week there.'

They actually signed up as a two-person group. "We got the e-mail that we were selected and we were really excited about it,"

After swimming in the Hudson, they'll bike the Henry Hudson Parkway and wrap things up with a 10-kilometer run in Central

Park, which ends at Tavern on the Green. "These are cool ones that are unique that you don't get to do every day," Maria said.

They'll travel to New York City a few days before the race and will stay at the Manhattan apartment of his aunt's friends (who are vacationing this summer in the Hamptons).

'Even if you drive down Hines, you see people on bikes like ours all the time. It's not unusual. They're cruising on their aerobars.'

MARIA DIETER

Although their focus will be on gearing up for the Nautica event - which entails scoping out the three-pronged course to ensure they can make seamless transitions from water-to-land — they'll squeeze in some sight-seeing and visits with his aunt, who also lives on Manhattan.

"We try to combine races with vacations,"

The night before the triathlon, the Dieters will probably have some pizza (Bill's pre-race staple) and pasta (Maria's dining choice).

#### STILL A BUZZ

When they return to Michigan, they'll give detailed reports to their friends at Northville's Wolverine Sports Club. Bill and Maria are part of a bike-riding club there.

"I think the biking groups are a lot of fun," she said. "If you did it by yourself, it would be tough. But when we go out in the evening, maybe on a day like today where it's hot, you don't feel like it.

"But you know your friends are meeting somewhere and you want to join them for a bike ride it's a lot easier to get out. ... We've met a lot of great friends.

As for pre-triathlon training, the Dieters ride their bikes to Kensington and back, swim at Lifetime Fitness Center in Canton or Island Lake and run neighborhood streets and Hines Drive.

Sometimes, when training around the house, they bring along their two dogs rescued from the Michigan Humane Society. Scout is a lab terrier mix, while Kona is a shepherd mix.

Maria doesn't always leave home to get in her daily exercise, however. She has a treadmill in the breezeway and she trains on that while watching TV or listening to the radio.

"I love running on it, year round if I could," she said. "Bill runs outside year round, it doesn't matter what the weather is, how bad it's snowing, windy, cold, rainy, dark. That's

The buzz of competing with peers on the tri circuit definitely is.

That goes for Bill, too. He said camaraderie is one of the big draws of going around to various triathlons. Next up is one in South Carolina.

"It's friendly competition," he said. "You're not ticked off at the guy that runs past you. You congratulate each other at the end. It's really nice that way."

Also nice for the Dieters is knowing they aren't alone in their passion for getting off the couch and springing into action.

"Even if you drive down Hines, you see people on bikes like ours all the time," Maria said. "It's not unusual. They're cruising on their aerobars."

Just like the day they met, too.

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#### SWIMMING

## Schmitt grabs gold at FINA Worlds

Canton's Allison Schmitt is continuing her penchant for coming up big under the brightest lights.

The 21-yearold Schmitt was a member of the United States women's gold-medalwinning 800-meter freestyle relay **Allison Schmitt** Thursday night at the FINA World Aquatic

Championships in Shanghai,

China. Schmitt, a Canton High School alum entering her senior year at the University of Georgia, anchored the Team USA relay team that finished first with a time of 7-minutes,

46.14-seconds — edging second-place Australia (7:47.42) and third-place China (7:47.66).

Also on the USA relay team were lead-off swimmer Melissa Franklin, Dagny Knutson and Kathryn Hoff. Schmitt swam 1:56.49 in her

"The other three girls did a great job," said Schmitt, on the Georgia Sports Communications Web site. "They put us there. Diving in last, I knew I had to keep it controlled and bring it home."

Meanwhile, Schmitt finished sixth on Wednesday in the 200-meter freestyle with a time of 1:56.98.

Setting a new world record in that event with a time of 1:55.58 was Italy's Federica

Schmitt, a 2008 Olympian and member of the North Baltimore Aquatic Club, added to the many awards she has earned throughout her career.

At the 2009 FINA World Championships, she earned silver medals in the 200 free and 800 freestyle relay.

Also that year, she claimed her first NCAA title in the 500 free and set new American records in the 200 and 400 free events at the 2009 MOO Duel in the Pool.

Last year, the native of Pittsburgh, Pa. grabbed first in the 200 free at the CP National Championships.

While at Canton, she won the school's female athlete of the year in 2007 and 2008 and set records in nine events.



Members of the 13-and-under Cobras, a Westland Youth Athletic Association All-Star team which recently reached the Pony League Zone semifinals in Evansville, Ind.

## Westland Cobras cap stellar season

BY BRAD EMONS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

The 13-and-under Cobras provided a ray of sunshine amidst a number of dark clouds that have hovered over Westland Youth Athletic Association during the past

The Westland Pony League All-Stars came away with a state championship on July 16 and reached the semifinals of the Zone tournament the next weekend before losing to Davenport (Ia.), 9-2.

"To have this success as an underdog has been a big shot in the arm to our organization," Cobras manager Greg Hovermale said. "We were definitely an underdog and exceeded expectations.'

A preliminary examination for a former WYAA president charged with embezzling over \$20,000 from the group has been adjourned until Aug. 22 in 18th District Court.

The Cobras began their tournament quest at Grand Ledge's Deagle Middle School by defeating Lakeland, 16-1, and Dearborn, 12-1.

In the state finals, Jon Hovermale (Westland) threw a complete game in a 7-2 win over host Grand Ledge.

Catcher Colin Savage (Canton) was the team's top hitter and Bragg Eastin (Westland) belted a solo homer in the victory to send the Cobras to Evansville, Ind. for the Zone tournament. "The kids showed they could

play great baseball," Hovermale said. "We beat the host team and Grand Ledge has a storied history in Pony. And we did it as the least experienced team." On July 20, Gabe McBay

(Canton) delivered a pair of key hits and Tyler Byers (Canton) tied the game with a 2-run single as the Cobras rallied for a 11-9 victory over host Evansville. In the second game, Byers

threw just 65 pitches in five innings as the Cobras mercied Kankakee (Ill.), 14-4, to clinch their pool.

That was followed by a 6-

3 setback to Southeast (Ill.) in pool play and a 9-2 loss in the elimination round to Davenport, a game where the Cobras were unable overcome four errors and deficits of 5-0 and 6-2.

Hovermale, however, came on in relief to 1-hit the Iowans over the final four innings, but it wasn't enough.

Rounding out the Cobras' squad, sponsored by Savage Tree Service, includes Dalton Crane, Logan Wilt, Stephen Heganauer, Brandon Rager, Joe Chinavare and Nate Binkiewicz, all of Westland; along with Griffith Shiminski of Canton and Noah Billingsley of Livonia.

Assistant coaches included Chuck McBay, Jason Eastin and Vince Shiminski.

"Back in February we didn't even know if we had enough money to conduct business,' Hovermale said. "To overcome our financial difficulties has been extremely gratifying.'

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## FROM PAGE B1

ited MSU just on Wednesday before making his verbal commitment after meeting with senior wide receiver B.J. Cunningham and receivers coach Terrence Samuel.

"He's a player with tremendous explosion who can close on the ball in a hurry," Herrington said. "We timed him electronically in the 40 (yard dash) and he's run a

4.37, which is the fastest we've ever had anybody run. He's around a 4.4. He's got great athletic ability and he's tough. He's got all the qualities."

Herrington said Burbridge has some work to do in the classroom before he'll be able to sign an NCAA letter-ofintent early next year.

"I just finished summer school, and did well, and I'll be taking the ACT in September," Burbridge said. Meanwhile, Burbridge said

he has been focusing on his

footwork and route running during the summer in preparation for the upcoming season. The Hawks open Saturday,

Aug. 27 against Detroit Cass Tech at Eastern Michigan University's Rynearson Stadium. "We want to defend our state

championship, but we'll have a target on our backs so we'll have to play hard if we want to have another 14-0 season," Burbridge said.

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#### **Red Sox**

The Greater Canton Youth Baseball Softball Association 11U Red Sox competitive baseball team finished second July 16-17 at the Canton Flying High in July tournament, following a first-place finish June 25-26 at the North Farmington-West Bloomfield Panther Summer Classic. Members of the Red Sox include the following: (front row, from left) Jack McCarthy, Ryan Lambrix, Luke Hindt, Andrew Putlock, Ryan Fulyater and Sawyer Hindt; (middle row, from left) Vinnie Jean, Chase Nealey, Alex Nealey, Alex Howie, Derek Goderis, Jake Semik, Max Korff; (back row, from left) coaches Blair Hindt, Mark Goderis and Clifton Nealey.



#### Jays win Showdown

The Livonia Junior Athletic League Blue Jays recently captured the 12-and-under Livonia Summer Showdown at Bicentennial Park with a 3-1 victory over the Lakes Area Mud Dawgs. Members of the Blue Jays, who finished 4-1 in tournament play, include (front row, from left): Gage Tyrrell, Jake Giacobbi, Keegan Flaherty, Brenden Kelly, Jeremy Haist; (second row, from left): David Brackett, Riley Flaherty, Howie Whitaker, Zack Spence, Brian Martin, Devin Visnaw; (back row, from left) assistant coach Paul Giacobbi, head coach Mike Flaherty and assistant coach Howard Whitaker.

## HEALTH

Sunday, July 31, 2011

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#### HAVE A STORY IDEA?

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

## Dogs for a cause

## Canton canine event boosts Cancer Society

**BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER** 

Kathie McFry of Canton describes herself as a "walking ray of hope.

"Part of the reason I am that, I attribute to my dog," said McFry, who was diagnosed with stage four anal cancer two years ago. "He has been wonderful for me. He needs to be walked every day, so that keeps me moving. He's a good hugger and occasionally a comedian. He has been a wonderful caregiver for me and helped me along with this journey."

McFry wanted to recognize her Golden Retriever, Bo, and other dogs that lift their human companion's spirits as they face cancer and other illnesses. A participant in Canton's Relay for Life, she also wanted to "give back" by helping the American Cancer Society. She will combine both concepts in Bark for Life, a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society that also celebrates dogs, Saturday, Aug. 6, at Heritage Park, in Canton.

This dog lover's event will include a walk, dog games such as a canine version of musical chairs, contests, information about cancer prevention, kids' activities, food, dog demonstrations, doggy massage, vendors and more.

"I'm just beaming that we were able to put this together. It's my way of giving back and being able to extend Relay for Life. We're hoping this will take off and become a big event. It's going to be a lot of fun and a lot of laughs," she said.

#### PET PRESCRIPTION

Amanda Rasnake of Plymouth,



Kathie McFry hopes to raise awareness and funds for the American Cancer Society through Bark for Life on Aug. 6 at Heritage Park in Canton. McFry says her dog, Bo, a Golden retriever, has been a support to her as she battles

McFry's daughter, is among the volunteers helping with Bark for Life. She's both the mission chair — making sure cancer prevention materials are available — and the dog games coordinator. Rasnake, a registered nurse who works in rheumatology research at the University of Michigan, also will offer a few facts and figures about

"Having a pet can improve your mood. I found data from a study that found that people who were living with a chronic illness were less likely to report the symptoms of depression when they own a pet," said Rasnake, who has a 12year-old son and three cats. "Pets

provide social support because

having a pet can open your

the health benefits of owning a

network of friends and acquaintances. Pets also provide the gift of unconditional love. They can be there in ways for you that people can't. They offer love and companionship, enjoy comfortable silences, keep secrets and are excellent snugglers."

Rasnake found studies showing that pets can lower blood pres-

#### **BENEFITS, RISKS**

She said the potential health risks of pairing a dog or cat with a patient that has a weakened immune system, appears to be minimal as long as the pet is healthy and behaves appropri-

"Hand washing is key for people with compromised immune



Ron and Kathie McFry of Canton brought "Bo" into their family approximately two years ago, not long before Kathy was diagnosed with cancer.

#### **BARK FOR LIFE**

When: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday Aug. 6

Where: Heritage Park, located on Canton Center south of Cherry Hill,

Why: To raise awareness and funds for the American Cancer Society and to pay tribute to dogs for their ability to raise the spirits of their human companions and love them unconditionally

**Details**: Registration and silent auction from 9 a.m. to noon, Hastings Street Rhythm and Blues, 9:15 a.m., opening ceremony with Kathie McFry, Angela Gallegos of the American Cancer Society, cancer survivor Lauren Pollock, and blessing of the dogs, 10 a.m. survivor kick-off lap, 10:15 a.m., contest judging, 10:45 a.m.; Blue Surf Band, 11:45 a.m. Event includes face painting, dog games, demonstrations, kids' activities, dog contests, food and vendors

Registration fee: \$20 for the first dog, \$5 for each additional dog in advance; \$25 for first dog, \$5 for each additional dog on event day **Contact**: www.relayforlife.org/canton or e-mail to bflcanton@gmail.com

systems. More human illness results from human to human contact rather than animal to human contact," she said. "Of course involving your physician and veterinarian will be the best

choice so you can make your own decision."

While in nursing school Rasnake encountered many therapy animals in pediatric wards and geriatric facilities.

Bo is training to become a therapy dog, passed his therapy test and has two more on-site observations he must ace before McFry can take him into hospitals where she hopes to give hope and support to other cancer patients.

"I think that's part of the reason I'm still here. I'm supposed to do this work. We think Bo was heaven sent," McFry said. "We (she and husband, Ron) had been empty nesters for 10 years. I kept watching those cute commercials on TV with puppies. One day we said that's it.'

They brought Bo into their lives a few months before McFry was diagnosed. After 10 months of chemotherapy, the cancer was in remission, but reappeared in her liver two months ago. She is undergoing a second round of chemo, but says Bo helps to mitigate the side effects of the drugs.

"As far as I'm concerned, (pet ownership) should be a part of the prescription."

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## COMMUNITY LIFE

Sunday, July 31, 2011

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## Farmington Hills man takes a lead role in film about saint's sister

**BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER** 

When tickets for the film Leonie!, went on sale at **Emagine Theatre in Novi last** month, the buying frenzy that followed seemed more typical of a Harry Potter flick, not a movie about five nuns, a saint's sister and their loving parents.

The Michigan-made production not only sold out its debut screening, two added premiere day shows sold out and as of last week seats at a fourth screening on Monday, Aug. 1, were filling up fast.

Executive producer Barbara Middleton isn't surprised.

"What people are looking for today is not violence and sex. It's not magic. It's solid teachings and an example of someone living a good life who, with all their struggles, reaches their goal," Middleton

The film tells the story of Leonie Martin, one of five daughters - and the sister of St. Therese of Lisieux - growing up in a middle class family in late 19th century France. As a child Leonie endured chronic illnesses and learning disabilities, posing a challenge for her parents as they dealt with their daughter's emotional extremes and stubbornness. Like her sisters, who entered the Carmelite monastery, Leonie felt she had a calling to a religious vocation. She was rejected by the Carmelites, the Poor Clares and initially, the Visitation Sisters, an order which she eventually joined and spent the rest of her life.

"My admiration for her is how she persevered," said Middleton, who presents Catholic conferences through the Holy Trinity Apostolate, based in Sterling Heights. "She kept trying and trying. She



Carrie Kot and Jeff Barron play Zelie and Louis Martin, the parents of Leonie. Barron, a Farmington Hills resident, has five daughters like Louis did.

didn't give up. She had bouts of anger and learning disabilities. She's an inspiration. How she persevered touched my

#### FIRST FILM ROLE

Jeff Barron of Farmington Hills, who portrayed Louis Martin, also found inspiration in his role.

"He was extraordinary. His wife died when the kids were young and he took on the role of raising those five girls by himself," Barron said. "He was a man of great principal. He had his own business, but he never worked on Sundays because of his faith and belief that it is the Lord's day.

"He was concerned about the girls and their well being. He was so focused on their needs he curtailed his business to take care of his daughters and make sure they were growing up in the faith."

Like Louis Martin, Barron and his wife, Peggy, have five daughters. They range in age from 9-21. When his friend, Joe Robert

Maher, the film's writer and director, asked him to consider portraying Louis Martin, Barron, 49, quickly said yes. "I asked what's the part. He

said the father of five girls. I said I think I can do that."

Barron, who works in marketing for a family business,

has portrayed the apostle Peter and Pontius Pilate in Our Lady of Sorrows' annual Living Stations of the Cross. The life-long Catholic will walk the red carpet with his family at the movie premiere on Monday. He'll see himself on the big screen for the first

"The whole experience was wonderful, watching how they make a movie, meeting other actors and actresses and getting to know them," he said. "It was a great experience. The people involved in the Leonie! film were in it for the right reasons, not for financial gain. It was from the heart and that was what was beautiful."



Jeff Barron of Farmington Hills awaits make-up during the filming of

#### CATHOLIC ACTORS

Middleton and Maher found most of their 87 cast members from parishes throughout southeastern Michigan. Word of mouth helped round up crew and shooting locations.

"The whole production is a miracle," Middleton said. "One person would tell another person who would tell another person. Everyone came forward when needed."

Many of Barron's scenes were shot in a private home in Romeo that doubled as the Martin's estate in Alencon, France. The crew also filmed in a historic school on the property of Warren Woods Tower High School, the Monastery of St. Therese in Clinton Township, St. Mary's of Redford Parish in Detroit and the Visitation Sisters' monastery in Toledo, Ohio. Middleton said visitors generally are not allowed inside the cloistered monastery

enclosure, but Holy Trinity Productions was granted access for filming.

Middleton is searching for a distributor for Leonie! and is contemplating her next film about "the snowshoe priest," Bishop Frederick Baraga, who founded five missions in the early 1800s in the Upper Peninsula.

Barron said he'd enjoy acting in another Holy Trinity Productions film.

"Never in a million years did I think I'd be in a film, let alone something shown in a major theater," he said. "God is so good and he is able to do things we don't think are possible."

Tickets are \$10, available at www.emagine-entertainment.com. The 7 p.m., 7:15 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. shows are sold out. Some seats may be available for the screening at 7:40 p.m.

The Emagine Theatre is located at 44425 W. 12 Mile, in the Fountain Walk complex in Novi.

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear themself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if



an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law

attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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Mary Rose Maher (left) plays Leonie and Paige Pilarski is the kind nun, Sister Jeanne Marguerite, who helps her to endure a difficult life.

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#### Museum in Plymouth seeks bazaar entrants

The Plymouth Historical Museum is accepting applications for its annual craft bazaar that will be held from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10 at the museum, located at 155 S. Main, Plymouth.

Applicants submit three-four photos of their craft items for this juried show. Judges will choose no more than five crafters per category. Table rentals are \$30 each. Space is tight, so venders must limit their display area to the size of the table or an equivalent space.

The Museum will offer free admission that day for both patrons and craft bazaar shoppers. Crafters are requested to donate an item for the Museum's raffle.

Applications are available online at http://tinyurl.com/ 44phr8c.

Crafters that are not accepted for the bazaar will receive a full refund of their table rental fee. The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, one block north of downtown Plymouth.

#### Belleville High School Class of 1971

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 31, 2011

Planning 40th reunion in 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail BHS.1971@yahoo. com. If on Facebook join the group by searching BHS reunion 1971 40th sign up site; also on CLASSMATES/REUNIONS.

#### Dearborn Fordson Class of 1954

A 57-year reunion luncheon is planned for Oct. 6 at the Stitt American Legion Hall, Post 232 in Dearborn Heights. For more information call Nancy Barlow Gaspar at (313) 581-6623 or e-mail to Pat Gaston Chiesa at patc629@aol.com.

#### Class of 1971

The 40th reunion is planned for Saturday, Aug. 6, 2011 at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Tickets are on sale now for \$52 per person for dinner and open bar. Send a check payable to Fordson '71 Reunion to 16124 Golfview, Livonia, MI 48154. For more information go to Facebook, Classmates.com or the Web page at Fordson71Reunion.com.

#### **Dearborn High School**

Class of 1976

35th reunion, Saturday Aug. 13. For details visit http://www.dhs1976.myevent.com.

#### **Dearborn Heights Robichaud** Class of 1961

50th class reunion Sept. 24, 2011 at the Dearborn Hills Golf Course. All classes are welcome as Robichaud High School also celebrates its 50th anniversary. Contact Bill Haskin at billsmustangs@ msn.com; (734)595-4927 or Nancy at wolonl@aol. com; (248) 529-6461.

#### **Detroit Cody** Class of 1961

50th reunion Aug. 27, 2011, at Hellenic Banquet Center, Westland. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail codycomet61@gmail.com. Or call Connie Callear Majeske at (734) 425-7094 or Bernie Lekki Grudzien at (734) 522-3167.

#### 50s and 60s

Free picnic, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 21 at Nankin Mills Pavilion, Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive. Classmates.com will have information and photos from past picnics. Questions? Call Jerry Marszalek at (313) 532-0134 or e-mail to Jmarsares@sbcglobalnet or Phil Varilone at (313) 562-3579 or e-mail to pvarilone@wowway.com

#### **Detroit Henry Ford** Class of 1971

The 40th reunion, with a "Back to the Bahamas" theme, is scheduled for Aug. 20, at Bahama Breeze Restaurant, 19600 Haggerty, Livonia. The organizers are trying to reach approximately 1,000 graduates from the January and June classes, as well as any other alumni interested in attending the event. Tickets are \$50. Call Barb Blum Douglas at (313) 804-1282, or Marilyn Ogilvy Twa at (616) 802-0305, or e-mail to hfhs1971reunion@yahoo.com.

#### **Detroit Mackenzie** June Class of 1961

50th reunion will be Saturday, Oct. 29, 2011. For more information e-mail Ivanerian@msn.com or phone Joanne (Poloway) Glance at (734) 878-6543.

#### Class of 1962

Planning class reunion in 2012. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail the committee at mackenzie1962@gmail.com.

#### **Detroit Northwestern** Class of 1950-51

Three-day event, Aug. 12-14. Anyone interested may contact Marlene Oleson Hanna at (313) 937-8233. Class of 1971

Celebration Weekend is Friday-Sunday, Aug. 19-21 and will include a meet and greet, class legacy dinner dance and a picnic. A fundraiser, "Bringing Back to the 70s" will be held 7 p.m.-midnight, Saturday. June 25 at Bert's, located in the Eastern Market in Detroit. A portion of the proceeds from the events will be donated to Sickle Cell Anemia, Inc., Michigan Chapter. For more information, call (734) 326-1488 or e-mail to dnshs40th71@yahoo.com

#### Farmington High School

#### Class of 1961

A 50-year reunion of the Farmington High School Class of 1961 is set for 7 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 20, 2011 at the Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel at 21111 Haggerty Road, Novi. The party dinner buffet is \$48.75 per person. There will be a 9-hole golf outing at Fox Creek Golf Course, 36000 Seven Mile Road in Livonia at 10:30 a.m. the day of the reunion. Contact Phil "Jim" Newberg via e-mail at pruddyduck1@ sbcglobal.net or call (830) 620-5734; local contact is Louise Giles (248) 224-3369.

#### Ferndale High School

#### Class of 1961

4:10-4:25 p.m., Friday, Sept. 9, gathering time at the high school, followed by dinner at 6 p.m. at Rosie O'Grady's, 279 W. Nine Mile, Ferndale. The reunion continues at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at Somerset Inn, 2601 W. Big Beaver, Troy, with a social hour, followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Weekend concludes with a final farewell and snack 12:30-1 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 11, at Dugan's 31501 Woodward Avenue, Royal Oak. Bill Stenbak at (231) 544-6522.

#### Garden City East & West Classes of 1966-67

A casual, joint reunion is planned for Oct. 8. The organizing committee needs addresses of class members. Call Dale Bowes (Whiting) '66W at (734) 427-7148, Carol Gantt Fenner '67W at (734) 326-8467, Karen Colvard (Domanski) '66E at (734) 427-7012, Cheryl Gibbs '67E at (734) 340-9916/(313) 670-2402, or e-mail Dennis Russell at russ027@ comcast.net.

#### **Garden City High School** Class of 1986

25-year reunion, Saturday, Oct. 15. E-mail Trish First (Patty Buggy) for more information at pm2b2005@ yahoo.com or contact Kristy Hickson (Roberts) on

#### facebook. **Garden City West**

#### Class of 1981

30-year reunion, 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Oct. 22, at the Hellenic Cultural Center, Livonia. \$45 per person; \$90 per couple. Payment must be received by Sept. 1. No tickets will be sold at the door. Send a check or money order made payable to GC West Class of 1981, 32511 Windsor, Garden City, MI 48135.

#### Questions? Call Erin (734) 751-2424. Ladywood High School

#### Class of 1961

**REUNION CALENDAR** 

Planning a 50th reunion in 2011. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail sandymacg@aol. com or call Sandy Phillips O'Leary (734) 453-0783 and leave a message if voice mail picks up.

#### Livonia Bentley Class of 1961

Holding a 50th class reunion Sept. 16-17. To register, call Donald Bruner, (734) 524-0979 or e-mail dbruner@twmi.rr.com.

#### Class of 1981

30th reunion planned for Aug. 6, at One Under Banquet Facility 35789 Five Mile, Livonia. Visit http://www.freewebs.com/bentley81 for more

#### Livonia Franklin Class of 1966

45th high school reunion, Oct. 8 at Laurel Park Marriott. Seeking classmates and contact info. E-mail contact info to Larry Ruzsas at Lruzsas187264mi@comcast.net or call him at (810) 599-3509.

#### **Plymouth High School** Classes of 1951-52

Planned for Aug. 19-21. Just show up for gatherings at 6 p.m. Aug. 19 at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth and 6 p.m. Aug. 20 at the Box Bar Restaurant in downtown Plymouth. Bring a dish to pass and a large bottle of pop for the picnic at noon, Aug. 21 at the #1 pavilion in Plymouth Township Park, 46640 Ann Arbor Trail. For more information call Ron Beaver at (734) 397-9357. Bea Gray at (734) 453-6613 or Dick Nelson at (734) 453-

#### Classes of 1965-66

6 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 24, at the Plymouth Cultural Center, behind the "old" high school. Attire is "whatever makes you feel good." Cost is \$35 per person and includes dinner, live music, cash bar and hors d' geuvres. Tour of old high school will run 10-11 a.m. Saturday. Make checks payable to PHS Class Reunion '65 & '66 and sent to Doug Jaskirny, 47237 Hunters Park Drive, Plymouth, Mi 48170 for the class of 1965. Class of 1966 members send to Donna (Cook) Marshall 1337 S. Harvey, Plymouth, Mi. 48170. Class of 1981

#### 30-year class reunion, 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6, at the Rock Bar & Grill, 844 Penniman, Plymouth. Tickets are \$25 per person or \$45 per couple and include appetizers, one drink and cake. Make checks payable to Kallie Michels/Canton-1981 and send them to her at 48714 Pine Hill, Plymouth, MI

48170. Questions? E-mail to Kallie@umich.edu.

#### **Redford Union** Class of 1971

6:30-11:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 27, at Plymouth Elks Lodge, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Tickets purchased before July 31 are \$38. Tickets after that date are \$48. Look for Redford Union Class of 1971 on Facebook or e-mail to RUHS71@yahoo.com

#### Class of 1962 Looking for classmates for 50th class reunion on

Oct. 13, 2012

#### E-mail Linda (Horning) Tracy at lindatracy100@ gmail.com or call her at (231) 882-7268 or e-mail Madeline Rice at paddlinmadeline@gmail.com.

#### Royal Oak High School Class of 1951

A 60th reunion is planned for Sept. 14 at the Oxford Inn, 1214 Main, Royal Oak. The event will start with a social gathering at 4 p.m., followed by dinner at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$30 per person. For more information and for reservation forms contact Fred Locke and Katy Marsh, 5464 Lakeshore, Fort Gratiot, MI 48059; (810) 385-3253; fjlocke@aol.com

#### Salem Canton **Class of 1991**

7 p.m.-midnight, Friday, Aug. 12, at The Summit Banquet Center in Canton; includes open bar, banquet-style dinner, photo DVD and memory book. Additional events are Plymouth Pub Crawl, Saturday, Aug. 13 and Family Picnic at Plymouth Township Park, Sunday, Aug. 14. www.canton-1991salem.com

#### St. Alphonsus Class of 1971

40th class reunion, 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23, at Liberty Street Brewing, 149 Liberty, Plymouth and 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Sept. 24, Holiday Inn and Conference Center, 17123 Laurel Park Drive North, Livonia. The gathering on Saturday costs \$60 per person. For more information call Martle Zawacki McClain at martanmc@aol.com (734) 453-4946

#### St. Mary of Redford **Class of 1971**

6 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Sept. 10 at Monaghan K of C Hall, 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia; \$40 per person or \$75 per couple. Make your reservation check payable to and mail to: Peter Noble, 12001 Market Street #443, Reston, VA 20190. For more information, e-mail to barkerwa@aol.com

#### Southfield High School **Class of 1981**

The 30th reunion is planned for 7 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 6, at Doc's Sport Retreat in Livonia. Tickets are \$20 per person for appetizers. There will be a cash bar. The group is looking for classmates. For more information go to Facebook Southfield High Class of 1981 or e-mail Terri Jarvi O'Brien at terri@streetmktq.com.

#### Wayne Memorial High School

#### Class of 1962 Looking for classmates for 50th class reunion

on May 19, 2012. E-mail to Judy (Ramsey) Oleson at joleson@sbcglobal.net or call her at (586) 268-1663 or e-mail to Kathy (Quinn) Hayes at bustchr@aol.com

#### Class of 1976

35-year class reunion, 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Sept. 17, at the Livonia Holiday Inn. Visit www.waynememorial76.com or e-mail to reed.terri@sbcglobal.net

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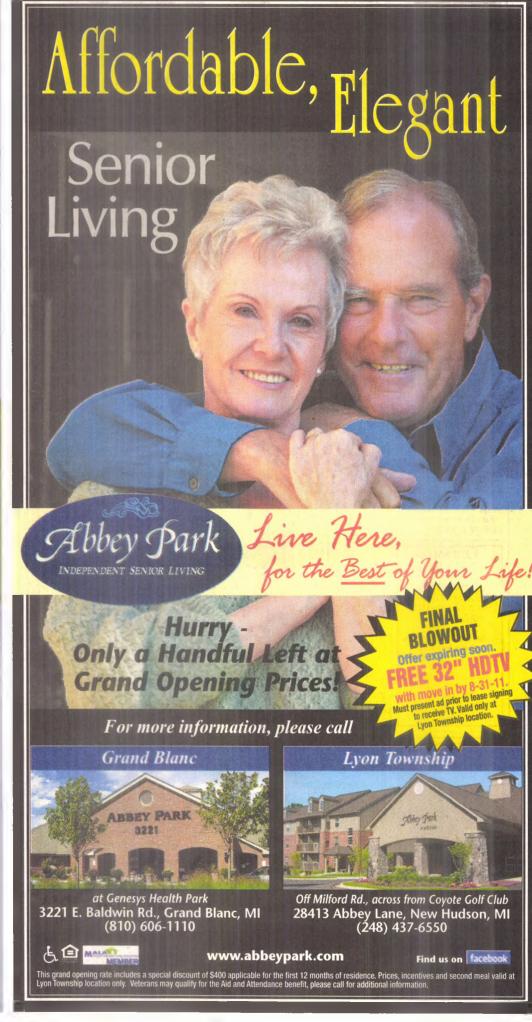
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## Peace groups focus on budget plans

Hear a panel discussion on U.S. budget plans at 7 p.m. Sunday, July 31, at the First United Methodist Church, 33112 Grand River Ave., in Farmington.

Congressman John Conyers, D-Mich., Oakland County Democratic Party chair Frank Houston and Republican Party chair Jim Thienel will discuss three different visions of the federal budget — the Ryan budget, the Obama budget and the "People's" budget. The alternatives all deal with key issues, including deficits, debt, the balance between military and domestic spending, and taxes, in different ways.

A question and answer session will follow the panel discussion. The Moveable Peace 2011 Peace

Walk and the Detroit Area Peace

with Justice Network are co-sponsoring the program, which will be moderated by Amy Lange of

The Detroit Area Peace with Justice Network, a network of 22 peace and justice organizations based in the Detroit Metro Area, was formed in the wake of the 9/11 attacks on the US and the subsequent bombing campaign in Afghanistan.

The 2011 Peace Walk (www. moveablepeace.org) is a statewide initiative that includes peace walks in Detroit, Grand Rapids and Saginaw. The walks will culminate Aug. 9 in Lansing where walkers they will present petitions asking the Legislature to institute a Commission for Peace and

## Help for those in need: Support group offers advice about divorce process

The Transition Center at Schoolcraft College sponsors a Divorce Support Group that meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month in room 225 of the McDowell Center at the Livonia campus.

Meetings are 7-9 p.m. and are open to anyone contemplating divorce, in the process of divorce or having difficulty adjusting to divorce. There is no fee to attend group sessions and registration is not required.

Dianne Hartman of Huron Ridge Associates will facilitate a group discussion on Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8 and Dec. 13 - the final session of the year. Attorney Patricia A. Kasody-Coyle will be on hand at

Attorney David J. Kramer will present an overview of the process of filing for divorce including spousal support, child support, division of marital assets and custody issues on Aug. 23.

each session, as well as a session on Aug. 9, to answer questions in private on a first come, first served

Cynthia Koppin will facilitate a group discussion on Aug. 9.

Attorney David J. Kramer will present an overview of the process of filing for divorce including spousal

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in

support, child support, division of marital assets and custody issues on Aug. 23.

Attorney Susan L. Elkouri, who specializes in family law, will present an overview of the process of filing for divorce on Sept. 27.

Attorney Marie A. Pulte will discuss the mediation process that assists couples in negotiating their divorce, post-divorce and co-parenting issues on Oct. 25

Cynthia J. Barnwell will discuss the intense emotions triggered by divorce during the holidays and other special occasions, on Nov. 22

For more information about the support group, call the Transition Center at (734) 462-4443.

## Find bargains at local rummage sale

Sanctuary at Villa Marie, a non-profit independent senior living community, in Livonia plans a rummage sale Aug. 18-20.

The sale will run 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday-Friday and 9 a.m.-

3 p.m. Saturday. Proceeds from the sale will help fund activities for the resi-

dents at Sanctuary at Villa Marie. The sale will include clothing, shoes, appliances, dishes, glassware, books, furniture, jewelry and much more.

The community also is accepting donated items for the sale. Sanctuary at Villa Marie is located at 15131 Newburgh; (734) 464-9494.



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Other joint conditions have the same effect. For example: an elderly person living alone, awakens in the morning, takes a step, but such terrible pain results, that person cannot move another step. He or she is unable to wash up let alone dress and prepare a breakfast. The most likely cause is an attack of gout in the great toe. Only one joint is afflicted, but the result is to incapacitate the person; a joint emergency exists. To remain independent the person must obtain assistance

immediately and receive treatment at once. Joint emergencies are not confined to the feet. I have cared for patients who experienced sudden excruciating pain in a shoulder; dressing, preparing a meal or driving became impossible, any movement caused intense pain. The problem? The patient was on the blood thinner Coumadin, and experienced a sudden bleed into the shoulder. Until I aspirated blood from the shoulder, the patient, because of the pain, could do nothing but stay still. When I finished the aspiration, the patient stood up, walked out of the office and continued his day with no restrictions

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tions, & availability

vdininger@techmansales.com

#### Help Wanted-Dental

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skills, 20 hrs/wk. Mon-Wed-Fri. 2:45-7:30PM & Sat. 8:45am-1:30pm. 27527 Joy Rd. Westland.

Call mornings Mon.Tues. Wed. & Fri. 734-522-5501 MEDICAL ASSISTANT, FT

For busy OB-GYN office in W. Bloomfield, Exp. rea Email: mwhi01@gmall.com MEDICAL ASSISTANT / MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST

For pediatric office in Livonia Exp. is req'd. 734-591-0220 **MEDICAL ASSISTANT** 

Must have 3-4 years xperience with reference: be able to work late night Southfield office Family Practice Office. Please call: Toni Rentroe for details. – 248-423-0700 Fax Resume:

MEDICAL FRONT OFFICE STAFF WANTED IN TAYLOR Exp. required, immediate interviews. Contact: v\_pandiarajan@yahoo.com

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#### JULY 31-AUG. 3

Ice cream social Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 3 Location: Redford Aldersgate UMC, 10000 Beech Daly, Redford Details: Second annual ice cream social will include free ice cream, games, balloons, face painting,

Contact: (313) 937-3170 Vacation Bible School

square dancing

Vacation Bible School Time/Date: 9 a.m.-noon, Monday-Friday, Aug. 1-5 Location: St. John Lutheran

Church, 23225 Gill, Farmington Hills **Details**: Pandamania theme program with snacks, make and take crafts and more. Cost is \$20 per child

Contact: (248) 474-0584

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 31, 2011

Vacation Bible School
Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Monday-Friday, Aug. 1-5
Location: Emmanuel Lutheran
Church, 34567 Seven Mile, between
Farmington Road and Newburgh, in
Livonia

Details: Sun Surf Beach Bash program is geared to preschool through sixth grade. Youngsters will sing, create crafts, play games, and more. Registration fee is \$5 for one child or \$10 per family Contact: Judy Cook at (248) 442-

#### **AUG. 4-10**

Card party

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 10 Location: Temple Kol Ami, 5085 Walnut Lake Road, between Farmington Road and Drake, West Bloomfield

**Details**: The card party and buffet luncheon will raise money for the National Council of Jewish Women/ Greater Detroit Section's programs for victims of domestic abuse and other projects. Cost is \$40 per person. Players will make their own foursome, bring cards, Mah Jong or games, and send in payment for an entire table

Contact: RSVP to (248) 355-3300 Ext. 0

Cultural program
Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Friday,

Aug. 5 Location: Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300

Middlebelt, near Eight Mile, in Livonia Details: "Around the World in 90

Minutes" will give participants a glimpse of several nations, including their culture, food, stories and games

**Contact**: Register at (248) 474-3444 or e-mail the church at clarencevilleumc@att.net.

Spaghetti dinner Time/Date: 4-6:30 p.m. Aug. 6

Location: Abundant Life Church of God, 2100 Hannan, Canton Details: Spaghetti dinner and silent auction; donations accepted Contact: (734) 722-7688

Widowed Friends

Time/Date: 5 p.m. social hour, 6 p.m. dinner, Wednesday, Aug. 10 Location: Corsi's Italian Restaurant, 27910 W. Seven Mile, three blocks west of Inkster, Livonia

**Details**: Italian buffet dinner is \$12 and includes dinner, beverage, dessert, tax and tip. Pay exact amount at the door. Stay after for games, conversation

**Contact**: RSVP by Aug. 7 to Carol at (248) 946-0300 or Pat at (248) 545-8348

#### ONGOING

AWANA

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

Classes/study

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

the month

Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia Details: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun.

Contact: Pastor Scott Sessler at (734) 673-2485 or e-mail to pastorscott@ emmanuel-livonia.org

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

Location: 34541 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: "Four Views of the End Times"

adult study **Also ongoing**: "Life's Healing Choices"

Study Group, 6 p.m., fourth Sunday
through September, is for men and

through September, is for men and women who want freedom from hurts, hangups and habits. Contact: (734) 464-7990 Men's Bible study

Men's Bible study
Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and
study at 8 a.m.
Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200

Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township Contact: John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491

New Life Community Church Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 am. Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays. Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville Contact: (734) 846-4615

**Time/Date**: 10:30 a.m., Monday-Friday **Location**: YWCA Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand River, west of Beech Daly, Redford

Redford

Details: KJV Scripture Reading,
Communion and Prayer

Contact: (313) 531-1234

Nicole's Revival

Our Lady of Loretto Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Scripture study Contact: (313) 534-9000 Ward Presbyterian Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville

**Details:** Learner's Bible study is held **Contact**: (248) 374-5920

Clothing bank
Canton Christian Fellowship

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

Location: 41711 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty

Details: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank offers free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need Contact: (734) 404-2480, visit www. CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@

Food Bank

cantoncf.org

New Hope Church

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

Location: 44815 Cherry Hill, Canton Contact: Call Pastor Ranay Brown to schedule an appointment at (734) 270-2528

Moms

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, MOPS; 7-8:30 p.m. first and third Thursday, MOPSnext. Both programs run September-May

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Details: Mothers of Preschoolers is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners; MOPSnext supports mothers of school-aged children.

Contact: Rebekah Creeden at (734) 522-6830 for MOPS and Susan Magner at (248) 478-3643 for MOPSnext details.

Dunning Park Bible Chapel
Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third
Tuesdays

**Location**: 24800 West Chicago Road, Redford

**Details**: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.

**Contact**: Amy at (313) 937-3084 or Kristen at (734) 542-0767

Please see CALENDAR, B9

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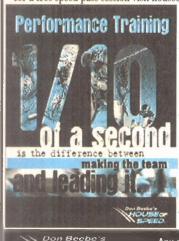
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**B9** 

## **CALENDAR**

#### Pet-friendly service

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

**Details**: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service. All Creatures ULC describes the gathering as non-denominational and Christian. Water is available

Contact: (313) 563-0162

#### Praver

**Nardin Park United Methodist Church** Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday **Location**: 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington

**Details**: Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests. Contact: (248) 476-8860

#### St. Edith Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back of the church. **Details**: Music, singing, prayer Contact: Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656 or Geri at (734) 464-8906

#### St. Michael Lutheran Church Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday

Location: 7000 Sheldon, Canton **Details:** Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed. Contact: (734) 459-3333 St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. Saturdays Location: In the church rectory conference room, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia **Details**: St. Monica's Prayer Group is open to all women who want to support one another in praying for their children, regardless of age.

Other prayer sessions: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. third Wednesday, includes parish prayer and Eucharistic adoration, with Benediction service following. Contact: (734) 261-1455, ext. 200

#### Preschool

**Ward Preschool** Time/Date: 2011-12 school year Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville Details: Enrolling now for children turning 3, 4 and 5 years old by Dec. 1. Contact: (248) 374-5911 or e-mail carol. nowacki@wardchurch.org

#### Senior citizens

**Riverside Park Church of God Time/Date**: 11:30 a.m. third Thursdays **Location**: 11771 Newburgh, Livonia **Details:** Senior adults, age 50 and over, enjoy social interaction and food during time together.

Contact: (734) 464-0990

#### Singles

**Detroit World Outreach** Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Sunday Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford;

**Details:** Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through

divorce, those who are divorced or separated. Occasionally includes quest speakers; open to the public and visitors are welcome.

Contact: The facilitator at (313) 283-8200; lef@dwo.org

#### First Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 7:30-7:45 p.m., social time; 7:45-8 p.m., opening; 8-9 p.m., program Thursdays.

**Location**: 200 E. Main St., Northville **Details:** Single Place Ministry; cost is \$5 Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit www. singleplace.org

#### **Steve's Family Restaurant** Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth

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

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

#### Contact: (313) 534-0399 **Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church** Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. Sunday

activities offered by Widowed Friends.

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville **Details:** Single Point Ministries, for 30 and up, offers fellowship, coffee, doughnuts, conversation.

#### Contact: (248) 374-5920

Song Circle **Congregation Beth Ahm** 

Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m. every Shabbat

Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

**Details:** Sing zemirot (traditional Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are

provided in transliteration as well as the original Hebrew.

Contact: (248) 737-1931 or e-mail nancyellen879@att.net.

#### Support

**Apostolic Christian Church** 

Time/Date: 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily Location: 29667 Wentworth, Livonia **Details**: Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act.

Contact: (734) 261-9000; www.woodhaven-retirement.com

**Detroit World Outreach Time/Date**: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday

**Location**: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford;

**Details:** Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems. drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling. **Contact**: (313) 255-2222, ext. 244 **Farmington Hills Baptist Church** 

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August Location: 28301 Middlebelt, between 12

Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills **Details:** Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

Contact: (248) 433-1011 **Merriman Road Baptist Church** Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. second and fourth Thursday

**Location**: 2055 Merriman, Garden City **Details**: Metro Fibro-Myalgia support group meets; donations

Contact: www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Lucy with questions at (734) 462-1768 **Riverside Park Church of God** Time/Date: 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Monday-Friday Location: 11771 Newburgh, Livonia **Details**: Adult Day Ministry offers an adult daytime care program with a specialty in dementia care.

Contact: (734) 367-4220; www.riversideparkchurch.org St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday

morning Location: 16360 Hubbard, Livonia **Details**: A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available. There are no requirements, this a service the church wants the community to be aware of and use if needed. Donations of nonperishable items also accepted for the cupboard.

#### Contact: (734) 421-8451. St. John's Episcopal Church Time/Date: 10 a.m. the first and third

**Location**: 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth **Details:** St. John's Support Group for the Caregivers of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia

meets. Respite care is provided. The group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

Contact: Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426

Thomas a' Becket Church **Time/Date**: Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m.; support group meeting starts at 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 555 S. Lilley, Canton **Details:** Take Off Pounds Sensibly encourages members of the organization to lose weight and keep it off for

Contact: Margaret at (734) 838-0322 **Unity of Livonia** 

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday Location: 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia **Details**: Overeaters Anonymous Contact: (313) 387-9797; www.oa.org Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church Time/Date: 6 p.m. dinner (optional); 7 p.m. worship; 8 p.m. small group discussion; 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional

coffee/desserts) Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville **Details**: Celebrate Recovery helps men and women find freedom from hurts. habits and hangups (addictive and compulsive behaviors); child care is free. Contact: Child care. (248) 374-7400: www.celebraterecovery.com and www.

wardchurch.org/celebrate

#### Thrift store

St. James Presbyterian Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday **Location**: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford Contact: (313) 534-7730

Way of Life Christian Church Time/Date: 2-3:30 p.m. third Saturday from October through May **Location**: 9401 General Drive, Lilley Executive Plaza, Suite 100, Plymouth **Details:** Women's fellowship is designed for women with a question to know God more in their lives. Contact: (734) 637-7618

Tour

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. to noon first Sunday of the month

**Location**: The Solanus Casey Center, a Capuchin ministry, at 1780 Mount Elliott,

**Details:** Led by Capuchin friar Larry Webber, the director of the Solanus Casey Center, the tour focuses on the spirituality and holiness of Father Solanus, a humble Capuchin friar credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. He provided soup for the hungry, kind words for the troubled and a healing touch for the ill. No reservations are needed, although the center requests an advance phone call for groups of five or more. No cost for the tour, although donations are accepted.

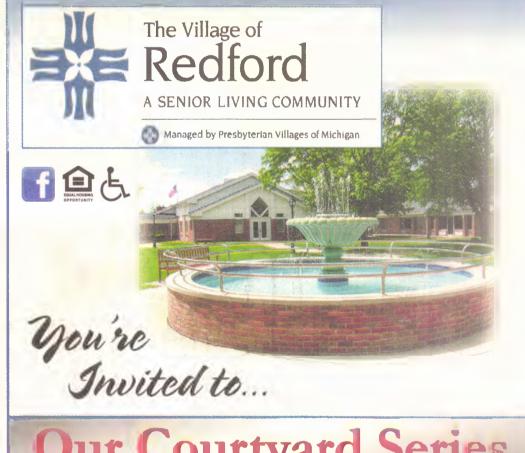
Contact: (313) 579-2100, ext. 149; www. solanuscenter.org

**Adat Shalom Synagogue** 

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday; 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Sunday; and 6 p.m. weekdays **Location**: 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington







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**MILESTONES** 

**AUGUST WEDDING** 

Audra Nicole Ahern

and Timothy James Debo

announce their engagement.

Canton, graduated in 2004

received bachelor's degrees

munications from Eastern

Michigan University. She

currently works at Fidelity

Lynne Debo of Prudenville,

is a 1999 graduate of Arthur

Hill High School in Saginaw.

He served in the U.S. Army

as an Army Ranger during

Investments as a financial rep-

Her fiance, son of James and

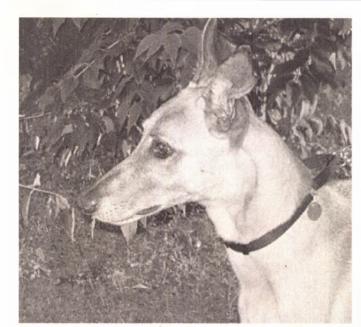
in social science and in com-

The bride-to-be, daughter of Tim and Nancy Ahern of

from Canton High School and

**PLANNED** 

resentative.



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 31, 2011

## **Magnificent**

Myles is a big goofy boy. He does not like cats or other small animals, but would do just fine with dogs his size. Myles is a real lover and would like nothing better to be in his forever home. He's a 6-year-old retired racing Greyhound that loves people. He also loves his crate and cozy bed - he's a real homebody. He would do best in a house without a lot of stairs. For more information about Myles call Greyhound Retirement Adoption Care and Education at (734) 558-4218 or e-mail to gracegreyhounds@yahoo.com; www.houndsofgrace.org.



## **PLANNED**

Jacqueline Nicole Sabourin and Jeffrey Alan Krappitz announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Jeanne Sabourin of Novi and the late John R. Sabourin Sr., is a 2002 Novi High School graduate. She is employed by The

Her fiance, son of Chuck Krappitz and Ginger Krappitz, both of Canton, is a 2004 Canton High School graduate. He is employed by: Metro Repair and Maintenance

planned in Plymouth.



Sabourin-Krappitz

## **OCTOBER WEDDING**

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An October 2011 wedding is



James and Barbara Berberet of Canton

**GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY** 

Sartori-Knight

#### SEPTEMBER WEDDING **PLANNED**

Maria Domenica Sartori and Scott Knight announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Anthony and Dr. Margaret Sartori of Livonia, graduated in 2004 from Mercy High School and in 2008 from Grand Valley State University. She is an executive assistant at Dematic Corp.

Her fiance, son of Patrick and Susan Knight of Grand Rapids, is a graduate of Davenport University. He is employed by Lax Systems.

A September 2011 wedding is planned at St. Mary Catholic Church, with a reception at Kent Oaks Country Club.

KNOW THE

**SCORE** 

check out the

numbers in

today's

**Sports** 

section



Clark. Jim is retired from Texaco, Inc., in River Rouge and Barb retired from Allmand Associates, Inc., in Livonia

in Mason City, Ill.,

by the late Rev. Bert

The Berberets have three children: Deborah Goltz of Walled Lake,

Elizabeth Schumacher day of Plymouth and James Jr. (Rick)

Berberet of Canton. They also have seven grandchildren.

Jim is the son of the late Richard Berberet and Mary E Matthews. Barb is the daughter of the late Harvey and Katherine The Berberets have lived in Canton since 1978. They will cel-

ebrate their milestone anniversary with friends and family at the end of August.



#### SEPTEMBER WEDDING **PLANNED**

Courtney Ryann Leaym and Todd David Noyes announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Marvin and Connie Leaym of Plymouth, is a 2000 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School. She earned a bachelor of science degree in art education from Western Michigan University and a master's in the Art of Teaching from Marygrove College. She teaches high school art in Charlotte,

Her fiance, son of David Noyes of Beverly Hills and Laurie Hynes of Bloomfield Hills, is a 2000 graduate of Birmingham Groves High School.



Leaym-Noyes

He earned a bachelor of business administration degree from Western Michigan University and is a category manager with Anheuser-Busch in Charlotte, N. C.

A September 2011 wedding is planned at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth.

## Obituaries. Memorials & Remembrances 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 email: oeobits@hometownlife.com

#### ACKERMAN, WILBERT E.

July 26, 2011, age 91. Beloved husband of the late Marjorie. Dear father of Peter, Jon & Christine. Services were held on Friday, July 29, 2011.

#### COLE, MARY D.

of St. Clair Shores, 7/13/2011; Age 92. Mother of William (Sherry) and Bonnie (Joseph) Garofalo, 6 grand-children, 3 great grandchildren. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (313) 382-1181

#### CRAIG, HARRIET WALSH

Of Bay City, age 81, passed away July 12, 2011 at Brookdale Senior Living Home. She was born in Weehawken, NJ on November 17, 1929 to the late George and Freda (Schroeder) Walsh. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a Bachelor's Degree in chemistry from Douglass College, now a part of Rutgers University. She worked as a chemist at Northville Laboratories before retiring in 1984. She was a member of Messiah Lutheran Church n Ray City Faith Lutheran Church in Livonia, where she was an active volunteer in church organizations. She is survived by her 3 children: Claudia M. Laws. Katharine E. (James) Guigelaar and Steven W. (Wendy) Craig, 5 grand-children: Steven, Emily and Ellen Guigelaar, Veronica Laws and Sarah Craig; 2 step grandchildren: Jackson and Shelby Smith, and many friends from all the places she called home. Her beloved husband, Theodore T. Craig, preceded her in death on March 16, 2004. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 6, 2011 at 2 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church, 501 S. Catherine St., Bay City, MI 48706 The Rev. Andreas Teich will officiate. Entombment will be at Elm Lawn Mausoleum. For those who so desire, memorials may be made to Messiah Lutheran Church. The family will receive friends at the church from 1p.m. until service. Arrangements by Penzien-Steele Funeral Home, 608 N. Madison Ave., Bay City, MI 48708

#### DUQUETTE, JULIUS T. of Shelby Twp. 7/14/2011; Age 87.

Husband of Dolores (nee: Schultz), father of Kathleen, David (Patricia), and Timothy (Lisa). Arrangements by Simple Funerals (248)227-1954.

JONES, DeCOSTA

of Beverly Hills, 7/1'5/2011; Age 37.

Husband of Antonina (nee: Serafano),

father of Ethan, Chirstian Smith and

## Sterling. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (248)227-1954.

KAFILA, EUGENE July 22, 2011 of Plymouth. Services were held by L.J. Griffin Funeral Home on Tuesday July 26. Visit griffinfuneralhome.com

MAYER, WILLIAM P. Age 83, a former advertising executive died Sunday, July 24, 2011 in Ocala, Florida. Mr. Mayer was Vice President of Campbell-Ewald Company and D'Arcy/Mac Manus advertising agencies in New York and Detroit, where he supervised the advertising accounts of United Delco, United Aircraft, Champion Paper, the Bendix Corporation and Rockwell International. A resident of Miami, Florida for 22 years, he was President and CEO of the marketing consultant firm, Marketing Directions Inc. He retired and moved to Rainbow Springs in Dunnellon, Florida in 1994. He devoted much of his time as a volunteer for Hospice of Marion County and received the Cartright Award, the highest award given to their volunteers. He is survived by his loving wife Beverly; daughter Kathleen M. Monacelli; son Mark W. (Fred) (Lucy) Mayer; grandchildren Erin Mayer, William J. Mayer and Lauren Monacelli. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to Hospice of Marion County



#### NORTH, JUANITA MIKESELL Age 91 of Zeeland, MI, formerly of

View Passages Online: www.hometownlife.com

Northville, MI passed away Sunday, June 19, 2011. She was preceded in death in 2008 by her husband of 70 years, Edwin W. North. Juanita was as a teller at Manufacturer's Bank in Northville, MI. She is survived by her six children: Dona Nagel, Carol and Ernest Navarro, Edwin and Kathy North, Peggy and Terry Rogers, Dale and Heidi North and James North. Thirteen grandchildren and twentyfive great grandchildren. Brother, samuel Mikesell. A memorial service will be held at 2:00 pm, July 31, 2011 at the Bradbury Park Condominium Clubhouse, 40185 Newport Drive, Plymouth MI 48170. Memorial continuing may be made to Henrica of tributions may be made to Hospice of Holland, or Royal Park Atrium, 400 Parkside Drive, Zeeland MI 49464. The family is being served by the Yntema Funeral Home, 251 S. State Street, Zeeland. An online registry is available at www.yntemafh.com.

#### NUFFER, Roy A.

of Fraser, 7/13/2011; Age 62; Husband of Nancy (nee: Fox). Father of Cameron and Erin. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (248)227-1954.



QUANT, ALICE B.

Beloved wife of Edward B. Quant of Plymouth, slipped quietly away in the arms of her surrounding family on July 19, 2011. Born in Detroit on May 1926, Alice graduated from New Trier High School in Winnetka, IL in 1944. She then enrolled at Cornell College in Mt. Vernon, IA, where she met her future husband, Edward B. Quant. After graduating from Cornell, Alice and Ed were married on June 18, 1949, and moved to Iowa City, where Alice sold advertising for the local newspaper while Ed completed his MBA at the University of Iowa. Their first child. Kathleen, was born in Iowa City in 1951. Ed's career in industrial relations took the family first to Ohio, where daughter Barbara was born in 1954 and son William in 1957, and then to North Carolina, where Alice and Ed spent some of the happiest ears of their lives raising their young family and playing cello and flute respectively in the Asheville Orchestra. Subsequent Symphony moves took the family to New York, Minnesota, Wisconsin, upstate Michigan and ultimately to Plymouth, where Alice and Ed resided for the last 25 years of their 62-year marriage. Throughout her eventful 85 years, however, there was one constant in Alice's life: the log house her father built in the early 1920s just outside Indian River in the woods of northern Michigan. There she spent parts of every year of her youth, returned with her husband and children for annual summer vacations and, finally, shared countless months of her autumn years with Ed, happily puttering around the house and yard, caning chairs, painting and staining, walking in the woods and rocking on the front porch. A woman endowed with keen intelligence and an infectious sense of humor, Alice was a strong-willed, loving and unwaveringly supportive wife, mother and grandmother as well as a cherished member of her large extended family. She will be sorely missed by them all and by the many who came to treasure her friendship. A private family service was held at Oak Hill Cemetery in Indian River. Memorials may be made in Alice's name to Transfiguration Episcopal Church, 8119 M-68 Highway, Indian River, MI 49721, for the sanctuary audio system fund, or to Angela Hospice, 14100

Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48154.



RYAN, JANE L.

(NEE VANBEMMELEN)

July 22,2011. Age 64. Born in Grand Haven and resided in Livonia, Michigan. Beloved wife of Kenneth J.

Ryan for 36 years. Dearest mother of

Jeffrey B. Ryan and Kendra A. (Ajay) Rajadhyaksha. Loving daughter of the late Thelma and Julius Garbrecht. Sister

of Joyce Kolean and the late Ron Garbrecht. Teacher for Livonia Public

Schools for 36 years. A Memorial Gathering was held at Ward Evangelical

SHUREB, PAULINE

Age 90 of Northville. Cherished Wife of the late Wilfred. Loving Mother of Ronald (Debbie), Richard (Marla), Kenneth (Janet) and John (Kathleen). Loving Nanna of Brian, Lisa, Kayline, Crystal, Ricky, Paula, Diane, Theresa, Laura, Justin and Sarah, Great-Nanna of Nathan, Logan, Dharius, Payton and Mason. Dearest sister of Mary Attard. Also survived by many other loving family and friends. Memorial Gathering will be held at Fred Wood Funeral Home-Rice Chapel 36100 5 Mile Rd. Livonia (E. of Levan) Sunday 3-9pm with evening Rosary. Memorial Service at St. Colette Catholic Church Monday 9:30am Mass 10am. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice. Please visit online guestbook fredwoodfuneralhome.com

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## Nursing Shortage Means Career Opportunity For Those Interested In Health Care

ARA) - Despite a slow economy, the health care industry continues to thrive. This is partially due to growing demand from the aging baby boomer population, who require additional health care services today and into the future. These same boomers are retiring, leaving many areas of the health care field open for new professionals looking to get involved in helping others.

Nurses, in particular, are in high demand. Many areas of the country are experiencing major nursing shortages. Those with a degree and certification are valuable to employers, and it's not uncommon for experienced nurses to have a number of opportunities to choose from.

Jobs in health care are increasing despite losses in other major industries. Over the last 12 months, health care has added 283,000 jobs, or an average of 24,000 jobs per month. As the largest health care occupation, registered nurses will likely fill many job openings in the future. With above average growth numbers projected through 2018 and a national median wage of \$62,450, there is a unique opportunity for registered nurses.

The majority of nurses work in a hospital - approximately 60 percent - but nurses are also needed in other places. Some alternative workplaces include offices of physicians, home health care services,



government agencies and educational services. Because complicated procedures, once only performed in hospitals, are now being performed in physicians' offices and in outpatient care centers, demand for qualified nurses with strong leadership skills at these locations is increasing.

Whether just starting down the nursing career path or looking to take on a leadership role and influence the delivery of care, education and training are highly valued by employers in this field. Higher education helps practitioners become more skilled and knowledgeable nurses, thus allowing them to step forward as leaders, while

helping improve health care delivery and patient outcomes.

How can you become a nurse? Getting the right education is key. Employers expect nurses to keep their skills current and be able to handle multiple tasks and an increasing number of patients. There are a variety of options for those considering a nursing degree. Typically nurses get a two-year associate degree or a fouryear bachelor's degree that includes coursework and clinical training. For those that wish to expand their skillset and become leaders in this field, higher education programs prepare nurses for

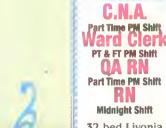
the increased responsibilities and challenges facing today's health care practitioners.

Many nursing students today are considered non-traditional students. This means these working learners have fulltime jobs, are parents, spouses or active members of the military. If you fit into this category, you can still pursue a nursing degree through a flexible online school like University of Phoenix, which has one of the largest nursing schools in the United States with more than 30 years of experience.

For nurses who have a twoyear degree and want to advance to a four-year degree, the RN to BSN program (registered nurse to bachelor's of science in nursing) provides students the opportunity to advance their credentials, knowledge and skills on their own schedule, allowing time for family and other work obligations.

Nurses help those in need both emotionally and physically. Some nurses choose to specialize in a type of patient, such as children or the elderly, or they specialize in a certain area of treatment, such as in the emergency room or during surgery. No matter what your personal interest, the demand for nursing continues to grow and offers a once in a lifetime opportunity for those looking for job security, career growth and the ability to make a difference in other people's





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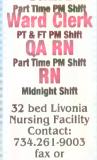
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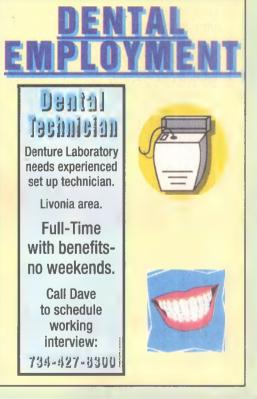
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MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST

v\_pandiarajan@yahoo.com

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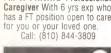
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- (hyph.) 5 Back muscle, in
- the gym 8 Renown
- 12 Gross!
- 13 Caribou kin
- 14 Household
- appliance
- 15 Quarry
- 16 Oh. dear
- 18 Actor's place
- (2 wds.)
- 20 Shoe width 21 Coll. credit units
- 22 Out of -(misaligned)
- 26 Smell 29 Unser and Gore
- 30 Droll 31 Novak and
- Basinger
- 32 PIN prompter 33 Conifer

- 34 Luge surface 35 PC monitor 36 Destines
- T Hunt-and-peck error

37 Sarge, for one

39 Have a cold

40 "-... shucks!"

41 Windflower

45 Young horse

49 Livy's route

50 Melt, as an

52 Bachelor's

53 Houston and

Peckinpah

party

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55 Pamplona

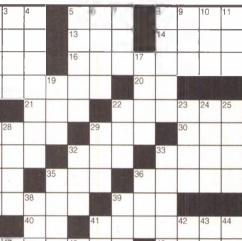
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**DOWN** 

51 Garden-pond

icicle

- Swiss capital 3 Virtuosos
- Beats
- 5 Pantyhose brand
- 5 Sunblock additive



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a 3 a businesses

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**PAGES** LIVONIA: Yard Sale 15461 Merriman Rd. Aug. 4-6, 9am-4pm.

Links

NOVI Association Garage Sale July 30-31, 8:00 - 3:00 pm. Maple Heights Association/ Sleepy Hollow Dr, Novi.

clothes, household goods hardware, scrapbooking sup REDFORD: 9696 Wormer. 2 blks W of Telegraph, N of W

REDFORD HUGE YARD SALE Aug. 4-6, 9-5pm. Baby items Toys, GIRL S clothes (infant

Redford- Mom 2 Mom sale & back 2 school event Sat., 8/6 10-3pm, YWCA, 25940 Grand

SOUTH LYON AREA: 26839 N Dixboro, btwn. 11 Mile & Silver Lake. Fri. & Sat. 9-6 Sun. 9-4 Aug. 5, 6, 7. Two family sale. Baby items, household goods, women's clothes Stop by and make an offer!

#### Garage Sales

SALE Livonia. Aug. 4th-

LIVONIA: Sat., Aug. 6, 9-5pm. 17663 Dolores St., off Inkster btwn 6 & 7 Mile. Bunk beds, 2

Search local

HAMETOWN Hite. com

books, household items

NORTHVILLE: Northville Hills Community Sale. Btwn. 5 & 6 Mile, E. of Beck Rd. Thurs, Fri. & Sat. Aug. 4, 5 & 6, 9-3.

NOVI: Thurs-Sat, Aug 4-6, 9 4pm. 46282 Cordoba, 11 Mile btwn Beck & Taft. Toys

Chicago. Thurs-Sat. 9-4pm Housewares, linens, dishes small appliances, more Priced to sell. No early birds.

Hwy, Redford, 48239.

WESTLAND Amazing **ESTATE Sale Great Deals!** 

> some antique), cabinets dishes, tools, outdoor equip., camera & computer equip., collectibles, child & pet items, holiday deco. chool/office ooks, Rainbow playscape shed, and much more! JULY 28-31, 9am-8pm. 36649 Gilchrist, Westland 48186 (E. off Newburgh btwn Glenwood & Palmer).

HUGE tents overflow with beautiful furniti

furniture

#### Moving Sales

Farmington Hills- Sub-wide Furniture, appli, dishes, tools ollectibles & household ollege dorm furnishings 8/4-8/6 9-4pm Bridle Hills Estates, S/10, W/Inskter

lousehold Goods 7160

BROWN-JORDAN OUTDOOR FURNITURE: side table. 4 arm chairs chaise lounge with cushions List price - \$10,000; you

COUCH - 2 CUSHION Medium blue, good cond. \$100 Call: (248) 437-2261

price - \$2,200. 248-626-1164

DAYBED: \$275 w/trundle mattresses, black metal, wood legs. SOFA: \$85, antique cream brocade, 3 cushions. DINETTE TABLE \$75. Drop-leaf, mahogany 56x36 or 28x36

DINING ROOM SET- 1950s Duncan Phyfe, 9 pc. solid mahogany. Incl china cabinet, buffet, table w/6 chairs. Table has a built in leaf plus 2 additional leafs, & padded cover w/glass top. \$1650. 248-625-0724, 248-356-0507

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FURNITURE- 2 antique china cabinets \$100/each. Antique chiffarobe \$100. Dinette set w/2 chairs \$50. Four antique chairs, \$50. 734-658-2668 MISC ITEMS- Queen sized

MISC ITEMS- Queen sized Thomasville headboard frame \$200. Cherry night stand wi/drawer \$75. Small refrigerator \$25. Light weight travel wheel chair \$100. Adult potty chair \$15. Walker \$15. 248-476-0121 lvg msg. SOFA BED: White, very good cond, clean. 3 removable cushions, comfortable, Sealy

Posturpedic mattress - queen, 82" long, 35" wide, \$350. 248-481-9281, 201-787-3003 SWAROVSKI CRYSTAL

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ble bagger, weed whip, blow-er, Haulmark trailer, all equip

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PIANO- Kawai Baby Grand piano, black polished. Asking

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ng \$1500. Call Michele

7510

bar, 8 hp. \$575.

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#### **WOMEN SEEKING MEN**

SEEKS HONEST RELATIONSHIP SWF, 45, very petite, blande hair, hazel eyes, smoker, down-to-earth, kind, loves antiques, plays, nice dinners, beaches, nature, outdoor activities, seeks a caring and honest man, 43-64, NS, for serious LTR. Please no games. \$\mathbf{2}337328

SEEKS RESPONSIBLE MAN

Pretty SBF, 40, N/S, 5'3", 140lbs, very

attractive, has own place, seeks a hand-some, respectul, honest man, 38-50,

N/S, to enjoy dancing, bowling, shoot pool, jazz concerts, boat cruises, gospel plays, fine toods, action movies and more. Please no games or drama. Please be educated, employed and emotionally stable. 2339629 COULD YOU BE THE ONE? Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 49, educator. outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet

ng for commitment, love and laughter. TP230694 NO GAMES PLEASE SBF, 5'4", 125lbs, average build, retired chef, smoker, likes action movies. seeks honest BM, 25-49, smoker, for friendship, possible LTR. 27339714

a kind Jewish man, 50-60, who's look-

SEARCHING FOR A MAN. 50-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 49-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish men please. 27962317 LET'S MEET!

cated, dresses nice, for friendship and more. 2339125 TOTAL LOSER! I have no looks, no interests, no talent, no I.Q, no friends, no job, and haven't dated since 1982l OK, stop laughing and here is the truth. I am a SJPF. 47

5'8", blonde, shapely, bright (advanced

degree), fun, caring, passionate, and

one of the nicest people you will ever meet. Among other things, I love great conversation, a great sense of humor and great kissing. Seeking compatible male, late 40s - mid 60s, for permanent best friend and lover. I'm temporarily living in Milwaukee but may move to Michigan soon. 27324039

SEEKING A BLACK MAN SBF, 44, no children, lives alone, look-ing for a non-smoking, non-drinking, drug-free man who enjoys travel, play ing cards, getting together and just have ng a good time. 2332295

VERY CUTE

SBF. 58, 5'3", 122lbs, interested in fit, good-looking, confident male, 46-60, N/S, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. 12113198

PEOPLE-PERSON

DWF. 65, 5'2", 107lbs, two grown sons and one granddaughter, looking for SWM, 58-66, N/S, who is family-oriented, easy to communicate with, and fun to be with. I love concerts, dining out, taking

SNOW WHITE WiWF, 69, 125lbs, looking for prince charming, to enjoy life together you will be glad when we meet. \$\mathbb{T}\$323678

WESTSIDER BOMBSHELL Very attractive SWF, 50ish, 5'6", 120lbs, brunette, hazel eyes, light smoker, outgoing, romantic, likes music, art, mov-ies, dancing, motorcycles, weekend gefaways, camping, amusement parks, quiet nights at home. Seeking a sincere SWM, 45-55, weight proportionate to height, polite, fun-loving, for friendship first leading to serious LTR. Please no games. \$245846

FORMER FLIGHT ATTENDANT

a Jewish man who is mensch. I'm 63. a Jewish man who is mension. I'm 63, 100lbs, and look like I'm in my 40s. I'm fun, spiritual, youthful and hope to hear from you soon! \$337886 PRETTY ENTREPREUNER WF, 64, loving, giving, fun to with, look-ing for her soulmate. Any sincere WM, 60-85, who's ambitious, successful, spiritual and fun. Please reply. I like

movies, plays, concerts, ballet, boat-

nming, traveling, life itself. **7**592074 SEEKING COMPANIONSHIP Attractive SWF, 5'5", 125lbs, fun-loving, attractive blonde who is retired would SWF, 44, N/S, pre-op TS, blonde, seeks WM, 30-65, N/S, who is clean, sophistilove the companionship of a gentleman, 65+, with a pleasing personality

22330211

MACOMB COUNTY LADY Looking for a tall gentleman, 60-75, for a LTR. Who likes cards, dining out, mov-5'2", brown hair, brown eyes, leave a message and I will respond. 27630808 SEEKING A MAN WHO IS. young-at-heart like me. Recently wid-

owed WF enjoys dining, dancing, bowling, golf, good movies and more. Would like to have good male companionship with a WM, 50-65. 2330750 I'LL BE WAITING Veryy gorgeous SF, multi-racial, 31, 57", medium build, in search of a man, race unimportant, 40-65, kids ok, who is living his life to the fullest, financially

secure, sincere, who likes concerts, cooking and traveling, for friendship

first leading to possible relationship.

walks. 2334842 LET'S MEET Well-educated, attractive female, brown hair and eyes, 5'9". Looking for com-panion to enjoy movies, dining, travel, etc. Love to cook even better (I love Ital-

#### ian food). If you're a sweet man, In your 40s to 50s, have pretty eyes, and know how to spoil a lady, call me. 2332666

MEN SEEKING WOMEN A SPECIAL GUY
DWM, 56, 5'10", handsome and secure, seeks honest S/DWF, wisense of humor, who enjoys travel, candlelight dinners, plays, dancing, concerts, boating, and movies. Friendship, possible LTR. Recently widowed former flight atten-dant ISO a meaningful relationship with

**2**269646

I LIKE TO TRAVEL
SWM, 53, 6'3", 200lbs, fit, clean-cut,
easygoing, college grad, would like to
meet a slim, attractive WF, under 50, for
friendship/relationship. 17335730 FRIENDSHIP FIRST

I LIKE TO TRAVEL

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
SWM, 53, 511". 180lbs. N/S, like chess, backgammon. coffee houses, going to the gym, comedy clubs. Seeking SWF, 35-55, with similar interests for friendship first leading to possible LTP. \$\text{TP}\$218827 LOVE DOES NOT GIVE UP Handsome SBM, 44, NS, 612", 260lbs, muscular, HIV positive, seeks woman, 25-60, N/S, with same condition, for friendship first and maybe leading to love. \$\mathbb{T}339789\$

SEEKS A FUN LADY SWM, 35, 6'7", very honest, kind, clean, independent, N/S, seeks BF, 23-45, to enjoy sports, movies, concerts, outdoor activities and more. 2339552 FRIENDS FIRST OK?

SWM, 47, 6. average build, business owner, liberal-minded, N/S, likes traveling, the beach, staying active, seeks a kind, honest woman, 25-39, for friendship first. 22339200 SEEKING A LATINA WOMAN SEEKING A LATINA WUMAN SWM, 40. 6'3", N/S, dark hair, blue eyes, easygoing, down-to-earth, likes travel-ing, dining out, sports, movies, con-certs, seeks HF, 18+, for dating, possible

LTR. 2338915 ROMANTIC LEO SWPM, 40s, 6'1", 200lbs. dark blond/ blue, laid-back, logical, easygoing, would like to meet a warm, loving, affectionate, professional lady, 35-45, who

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**23**332436

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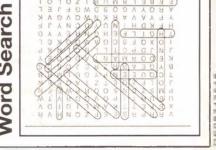
SINGLES LINGO: A-Asian B-African American/Black C-Christian D-Divorced F-Female H-Hispanic J-Jewish M-Male

Α

abdomen

bumblebee

Searc Word



**CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE** 

hive

honeycomb

larvae

nectar

queen

stinger

6 8 5 4 6 8 5 2 9 8 6 5 8 2 1 9 3 4 3 2 9 8 4

#### sudoku. This mind-bending

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Like puzzles?

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the moment you

square off, so

sharpen your

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Numbers

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more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

2

**Word Search** 

V R R P R S E E F Z Q N H V R BFETTKAMLIU UHTIPGVQOR V T W SZDNSOORPW E ZGE T ZIAQE QUEENPYGULMRB В GEARRZREJOSCS EDORMANTADQOEY JDPCTLLBCLNKP XQFSCGAMOOKCL HGILFEHGNREYYD KDHINUYDCNYJF PYAVARKNWQVGVK Υ RQYVGOSDWGFJEL

EBELBMUBIZQLQ

drone

flight

flowers

#### **CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE**

carpenter

colony

dormant

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Advertising Feature







**By Dale Buss** 

How to optimize Buick has been a challenge for General Motors off and on for most of the brand's 108-year history. But with only four brands to spread over the U.S. market now instead of the eight GM marques of just a few years ago, the company needed to broaden the appeal of Buick after the 2009 bailout and to get it right.

And over the last three years, with a completely new product line and confidently enhanced positioning, GM's overhaul has paid off: A re-energized Buick has become the company's workhorse, the fastest-growing U.S.based brand of any auto maker, with an unmatched 21 consecutive quarters of year-over-year sales growth. Six-month sales of 94,000 units were 34 percent higher than a year ago and placed Buick solidly in third place in its new "luxury" segment behind BMW and Mercedes-Benz.

One after another, Buick's new products - Enclave, a new LaCrosse and the new Regal - have been hits with American consumers, and its rising quality rankings have helped as well. To a more limited extent so far, GM also finally has managed to upgrade Buick perceptually, into the ranks of the lowest tier of luxury brands competing in the U.S. market, despite its decades

of history as nothing exceeding a nearluxury proposition.

"We decided to start the Buick renaissance from the product standpoint, from inside-out, and it has captivated a lot of new consumer interest in the Buick brand," said Tony DiSalle, Buick's U.S. vice president of marketing.

At this point, Buick still has a way to go in persuading typical consumers that it has reached the Lexus level. "It will take lots of time," said Doug Scott, senior vice president of GfK Automotive, which researches auto brands. "Buick isn't in the same 'perceptual space' as Lexus," though Americans' cross-shopping of the two brands recently has increased significantly.

But some observers credit what GM has accomplished so far. "I think they're getting there," said George Cook, executive professor of business at the University of Rochester and a former Ford marketing executive. "Everyone I've talked to says they love the Regal and the LaCrosse. They've lifted the brand's image and created - through styling and performance and everything else - a place in luxury. In that sense Buick is in much better position than ever before."



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Buick's conquest rate now is 41 percent, DiSalle said, "much higher" than historically, and about half of those buyers coming from non-GM brands are switching to Buick from imports. Alsomuch higher, he said, is the percentage of new Buick customers who are migrating to the brand from luxury makes.

Such results have been a long time coming. Over the years, most things have conspired to keep the Buick brand in a sort of box that bespoke a buyer's aspiration to luxury, but didn't provide true luxury, and maintained a continuing primary appeal to sixtysomethings even as aging boomers moved into that demographic slot.

But when GM terminated Pontiac in 2009 instead of Buick, it was out of the conviction that the company could gain share on the lower end of the luxury market with Buick while Chevrolet took over some of Pontiac's attributes.

Buick already had embarked on a good start toward more rarefied positioning with critical and consumer acclaim for Enclave, the large crossover vehicle that debuted in 2007. A new LaCrosse bowed in 2010 as the brand's flagship and "Lexus fighter," with Buick making direct comparisons to Lexus in

The Regal is driving Buick's sales



ads. "Pitting it against an established, formidable competitorwas absolutely the right thing to do," DiSalle said, "and it was able to put LaCrosse into consideration sets of people who otherwise might not have considered it."

The new 2011 Regal, launched last year, has provided most of the recent sales momentum, with its sporty styling and European suspension. By the end of this year, GM expects to begin producing the new Buick Verano, a compact sports sedan that will expand the brand's lineup at just the right time.

Marketing has been crucial in spelling out the new Buick. At the same time that DiSalle said Buick is seeing "a lot of Regal buyers in their late 20s and early 30s," the brand also is trying hard to hang onto its traditional cohort. Buick's research revealed that the brand's target should be consumers who have "a sense of quiet confidence, who are curious and balanced about life." One of Buick's key insights, for example, was that "Buick buyers are community-oriented and are often hosts and want to entertain." That was one reason, DiSalle said, that Buick has focused on rear-seat roominess and overall comfort.

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