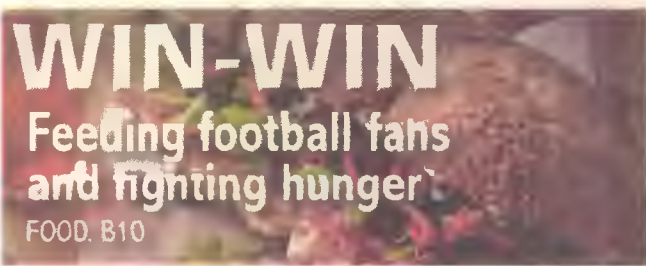


**Ready for Kickoff, B1**



**WOMEN GET TOP BILLING AT NEW THEATER**  
ENTERTAINMENT, B8



**WIN-WIN**  
Feeding football fans and fighting hunger  
FOOD, B10

**Remembering 9/11**

With the 10-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks of 9/11 approaching, the Plymouth Observer is looking for remembrances of that day among its readers. Do you remember where you were or what you were doing that day? Did you have a connection to someone lost in the attacks? Do you have a story to share? We'd like to hear it. E-mail editor Brad Kadrich at [bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com), and please include a contact phone number.

**Perennial exchange**

The Trailwood Garden Club sponsors a perennial exchange at the Plymouth Fall Festival 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 10. The exchange is open to the community without charge; bring something (healthy plants only)-take something. Those unable to bring plants to the exchange should stop by anyway, as there could be extras. Look for the exchange at the east end of Kellogg Park (opposite the Wilcox House). Trailwood Garden Club is a member of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association. For further information, call (734) 459-7146.

**Grant funds**

The Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation is accepting grant applications for six grant programs, including one for the Plymouth Community Foundation. From the Community Foundation of Plymouth, funding is available to support organizations and programs that benefit the residents of the greater Plymouth area. The Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation is dedicated to enriching the quality of life in the region through its engaged grantmaking, knowledgeable leadership, and creative partnerships with donors — to make philanthropic investment and build endowment. Founded in 1963, AAACF has awarded more than \$21 million in grants and scholarships to strengthen the local communities. For more information, visit AAACF's website at [www.aaacf.org/grants](http://www.aaacf.org/grants).

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elizabeth Anchor helps Maggie Hermann throw out the ceremonial first pitch.

**'Miracle' happens as field opens**

By Brad Kadrich  
Observer Staff Writer

A couple of years ago, Deb Madonna closed her eyes and envisioned a field where special-needs children who had no place to play baseball could come and enjoy America's pastime like all the other kids. On Saturday, she opened her eyes and there it was. Madonna, the self-appointed "first woman baseball commissioner" in baseball, joined co-chair Bob Bilkie and builder Ted Barker for the opening day of the Miracle League of Plymouth, the league designed to provide athletic opportunities to special-needs players. "It was fun to build it," Madonna said. "I saw the picture in my mind, and (Barker) built it." Hundreds of fans were there Saturday, including dozens of players, as the completion of the project came about. Madonna and Bilkie, who co-chair the Miracle League of Plymouth, spearheaded a \$1.1 million fundraising effort, including paying for the \$500,000, soft-surface field on Theodore behind Central Middle School. The complex is complete with grandstands, dugouts, a concession stand and restrooms.

Please see **MIRACLE, A9**



The Miracle League of Plymouth's Bilkie Family Field is ready for baseball players.

**Petitions fall short of target**

By Brad Kadrich  
Observer Staff Writer

The citizens group trying to get a special assessment district onto the Nov. 8 general election ballot in an effort to maintain current fire department staffing and service levels was dealt a blow Tuesday when the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees ruled the group hadn't reached the threshold necessary to force the issue onto the ballot. But leaders of Citizens Action Group of Plymouth Township believe Clerk Joe Bridgman erred in eliminating some commercial properties from the list of signatures the group got in support of the proposal, and vowed to fight to keep the effort alive. "We'll meet with our attorney and see what we want to do," said Jennifer Mann, the wife of a Plymouth firefighter who is spearheading the effort. "Some of the businesses who did sign (the petitions) were the owners and should have been included. They weren't counted. We believe if they had been counted, we would have met the 10 percent." The citizens group needed to obtain signatures from owners of 10 percent of the property owners that would be in the proposed district — in this case, the entire township — in order to force the issue onto the November ballot. Moreover, the township's Board of Trustees faces an Aug. 30 deadline for getting ballot language to the county elections bureau.

**Signature target**  
The citizens group filed the petitions last week with more than 3,500 signatures. Bridgman verified some 2,800 of those signatures, but they represented just 8.9 percent of the property in the township. Bridgman told the group at Tuesday's special board meeting that businesses such as Loc Performance and several car dealerships

Please see **PETITIONS, A3**

**EPA investigating potential hazardous dumping**

By Brad Kadrich  
Observer Staff Writer

The Environmental Protection Agency said an investigation of a hazardous material spill discovered in a Plymouth Township pond Saturday night has led nowhere. The investigation was prompted by the response of the Western Wayne County Hazardous Materials team, called out shortly after 7 p.m. Saturday by the Plymouth Community Fire Department. Fire Chief Mark Wendel said firefighters responded to a call about "an oily substance" in a pond near a residence in the area of Ann Arbor Road west of McClumpha in Plymouth Township. Wendel said his firefighters tried to

absorb the material, then called in the Western Wayne Hazmat team when "they realized it was a bit larger of a situation." The discovery was made by township resident Jennifer Mann, ironically the wife of a Plymouth firefighter. Mann said they'd gone out around 4 p.m. and upon returning around 8:40 p.m., discovered the substance in a spill pond on the property. Mann, who is spearheading a petition drive to get a special assessment district established for fire services, said her first thought was, "Why now?" "We figure someone must have dumped around Beck and Ann Arbor Trail," Mann said. "At first, I thought,

Please see **EPA, A6**



PAUL E. SCHULZ

Members of the Western Wayne County Hazardous Materials team quickly put out absorbent booms to catch any further chemical from continuing downstream after a hazardous material spill in Plymouth Township Saturday.

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# Museum hosts nostalgia sale

The Plymouth Historical Museum hosts its annual Nostalgia Sale during Plymouth's Fall Festival, September 8-10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The sale takes place at 345 Sunset in Plymouth, and not at the museum. Sale items include nostalgic and/or historic artifacts no longer needed at the Museum, as well as donated items. Museum officials are accepting donated items for the sale in order to raise more funds. The proceeds bene-

fit the Plymouth Historical Museum, which is privately funded and receives no government support. Persons interested in the yard sale, or who want to donate items, should call the museum at (734) 455-8940 for more information. The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 South Main Street, one block north of downtown Plymouth. Visit the museum's website at [www.plymouthhistory.org](http://www.plymouthhistory.org) for more information.

"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](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com)

**PERENNIAL EXCHANGE**  
**Date/Time:** Saturday, Sept. 10, 9-11 a.m.

**Location:** East end of Kellogg Park (opposite the Wilcox House)

**Details:** The Trailwood Garden Club sponsors a perennial exchange at the Plymouth Fall Festival, open to the community without charge; bring something (healthy plants only)-take something. Those unable to bring plants to the exchange should bring something anyway, as there could be extras. Trailwood Garden Club is a member of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association.

**Contact:** For further information call (734) 459-7146.

**GOLF FOR HOCKEY**

**Date/Time:** Saturday, Aug. 27, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Location:** Hickory Creek Golf Club, Ypsilanti

**Details:** The Plymouth, Canton, Salem Boys Varsity Hockey Team's 13th Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser includes a \$10,000 Hole-in-one contest, prizes for closest to the pin, longest drive, first place, skins, and door prizes.

**Contact:** To register please contact Patti at [berlin.patti@yahoo.com](mailto:berlin.patti@yahoo.com)

## AROUND PLYMOUTH



JULIE YOLLES

### Cruise benefit

Gene Brown (left) of Plymouth and Don Heidelberg of Fenton attend the ninth annual Champagne Cruise to benefit Forgotten Harvest. The fundraiser, which has brought in more than \$1 million in the past nine years, was held on Dream Cruise eve at Westborn Market in Berkley.

Golfers receive donuts/bagels for breakfast, a hot dog at the turn and a buffet dinner. Cost is \$120 per player or \$425 a foursome.

**Contact:** To register please contact Patti at [berlin.patti@yahoo.com](mailto:berlin.patti@yahoo.com)

**MOPS MEETINGS**

**Date/Time:** First-third Fridays, 9:15-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Hagerty, Plymouth

**Details:** The St. Edith/St. Kenneth Catholic Parishes' Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group invites all mothers with children

aged newborn through kindergarten to join. The group provides the encouragement, nurturing, and support and features a schedule of activities that include speakers, crafts, and group discussions.

**Contact:** Heather at (734) 437-9517 or e-mail [stekmops@gmail.com](mailto:stekmops@gmail.com), or visit [www.stekmops.org](http://www.stekmops.org)

**FALL DANCE**

**Date/Time:** Now

**Location:** Metro Dance Company, corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Lilley in Plymouth

**Details:** Registration for the fall dance season is now open. Classes are available for all ages and experience

levels, 2-1/2 to adult. The studio offers ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, preschool combo, ballroom, pom, pointe, lyrical and modern classes as well as private and semi-private lessons.

**Contact:** Register online at [www.MetroDanceCompany.com](http://www.MetroDanceCompany.com) or by phone at (734) 207-8970.


**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](http://www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org) or call (734) 397-0088.



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**RANDY BROCK**



The Randy Brock Group was formed in 1996 as a power trio with Randy Brock on guitar, Mike Rowe on Bass and Brian Deming on the drums. The line-up now features Sam Galizia on drums and Karl Goebel on keys. For the past 12 years, the band has been a staple of the Detroit live music scene developing their style and talent and have gained a reputation as one of the hardest working bands in Detroit. In addition to local venues, the band has played all over the country and opened for some of the most legendary names in music such as Journey, Ted Nugent, Eddie Money and CCR.

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## PETITIONS

Continued from page A1

were't counted because it couldn't be verified that the people signing the petitions representing those businesses actually owned the property.

"Based on our calculations and the best information we have available, this is the calculation we came up with," Bridgman said.

The Citizens Action Group of Plymouth Township is seeking a township vote on a five-year, 1-mill (\$1 for every \$1,000 of a property's taxable value) assessment for the fire department. But Tuesday, township attorney Tim Cronin told the board — and a large, vocal audience of fire department supporters — that language, which the citizens group included on the petition, was disingenuous.

Public Act 33 of 1951, the state law under which the SAD would be sought, would allow the board to levy up to 10 mills under the SAD, Cronin said, and for an unlimited number of years. He said the ballot language would not include the "1 mill for five years" language the citizens group proposed. "That language is meaningless," Cronin said. "It will not go on the ballot that goes to the county."

### Strong disagreement

But Citizens Action Group attorney Laura Garlinghouse, of the Grand Rapids law firm FosterSwift, strongly disagreed with Cronin. She said she believes the ballot language could include the "1-mill, five-year" stipulation.

"The statute is not nearly as clear as I

believe the township attorney is interpreting it," Garlinghouse said.

The board's decision to take no action made meeting the deadline to get the proposal on the November ballot problematic. Bridgman said the group's next chance comes with the state's next scheduled election date, which is Feb. 28. Any ballot language will have to be approved by Wayne County 70 days prior to that, which means the group would need to push to acquire more signatures by sometime in December, Bridgman said.

Garlinghouse said she couldn't comment on what steps the citizens group would take next.

Without a dedicated assessment, firefighters could face layoffs as the township looks for ways to cut approximately \$1.3 million from its annual budget of nearly \$4 million. The city of Plymouth is leaving the shared department after the end of the year, meaning the loss of its financial contribution, which has been close to \$1 million a year. Township officials also cite loss of revenue from the state and decline in tax revenue linked to falling property values.

Some in the audience pushed the board to press forward with the SAD language as soon as possible, regardless of the petition drive.

"People want to have a say in the matter," firefighter Greg Mangan said. "We're wrangling over small details here. The big detail is what kind of service these people are going to have come next year (when the city of Plymouth pulls out of the department). That should be left up to them."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com  
(313) 222-8899

# McCotter places third in straw poll

By Aileen Wingblad  
Staff Writer

Political pundits and others who say U.S. Congressman Thaddeus McCotter is relatively unknown and has no chance of success in his bid for the White House might want to take notice after the Livonia lawmaker placed third in a recent presidential straw poll in New England, tying with Texas Gov. Rick Perry.

Some 400 attended the New Hampshire Young Republicans Lobster Bake and Straw Poll in New Castle on Aug. 20, according to Alex Talcott, McCotter's New Hampshire communications director. Ron Paul was declared the winner, snagging 45 percent of the votes.

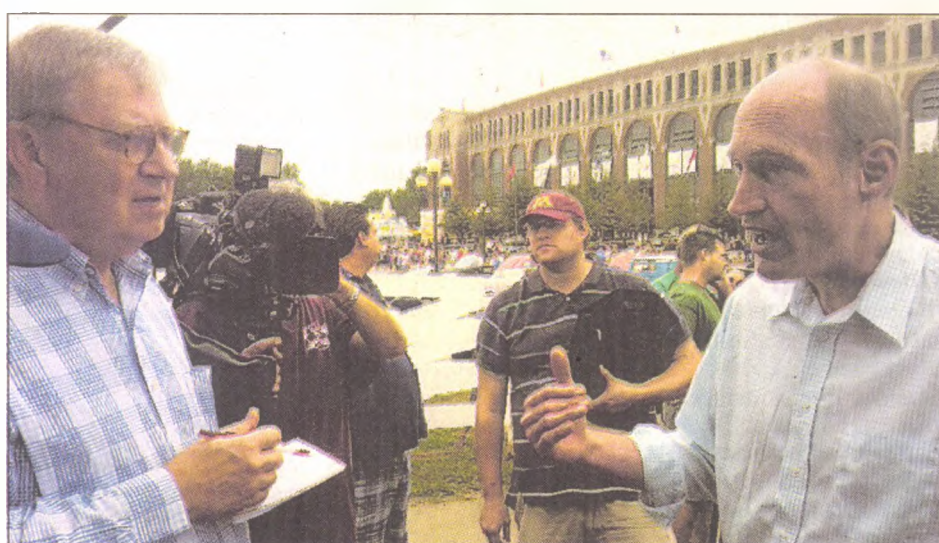
McCotter and Perry each received 8 percent of the votes, closely trailing second-place winner Mitt Romney's 10 percent.

"These results in the straw poll exceeded everyone's expectations," Talcott said. "It's a very strong indicator his grassroots campaign is making progress."

McCotter also touched on that theme in his statement released soon after the event.

"I thank the New Hampshire Young Republicans for hosting this event, and for all they do for our country and our party. This strong showing in their straw poll shows our young grassroots campaign continues to steadily build momentum with the only people who matter — the voters," McCotter said.

The poll placed McCotter ahead of New Mexico Gov. Gary Johnson, businessman Herman Cain,



Presidential candidate Thaddeus McCotter of Livonia, right, answers reporters' questions on the campaign trail.

Congresswoman Michele Bachmann and former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman.

McCotter serves Michi-

gan's 11th district, which includes communities in Wayne (including Plymouth and Canton) and Oakland counties. He has

district offices in Milford and Livonia.

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# In Plymouth, it's OK to cry in baseball

In the 1992 movie *A League of Their Own* about the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, Tom Hanks' character chastises one of the women on his team, bringing her to tears and prompting one of the top 100 movie lines in cinematic history.

"There's no crying in baseball," Hanks' Jimmy Dugan yells.

Deb Madonna begs to differ.

And, after Saturday's opening day ceremony for Madonna's baby, the Miracle League of Plymouth's Bilkie Field, she's pretty sure she's got proof. Tears flowed at will as the field, built through the sweat, tears and sheer will of Madonna, Bob Bilkie and Ted Barker, was christened before hundreds of fans and dozens of special-needs players who dreamed of having a place to play.

"Ted and Bob say there's no crying in baseball," said Madonna, who fought back tears as she emceed the opening-day ceremony. "I say there is crying in baseball."

Madonna, the self-described "first woman baseball commissioner," wasn't the only one shedding a few tears Saturday, but she's done as much as anyone in town to earn them. She and Bilkie, who lives in Salem Township with his wife, Shari, worked hard to make the Miracle League of Plymouth happen. Madonna spearheaded the \$1.1 million fund-raising effort, including the \$500,000 it took to build the field. She worked tirelessly for a couple of years to pull off her vision.

"I saw the picture in my mind, and (Barker) built it," Madonna said Saturday, at the unveiling



Brad Kadrich

ing of her crowning achievement. "It's amazing to have a vision and then literally watch it come true."

Bilkie and his wife contributed \$150,000 to the fundraising effort and wound up with the field named after the family. Ironically, Bilkie said a lack of "economic means" kept him off Little League baseball fields until he was 12. For a man who has harbored a "lifelong passion" for the game of baseball, the memory of having to hang over the fence and watch other kids play the game he loved was a powerful motivator.

"You don't know the pain of wanting to participate until you know you can't," Bilkie said. "I know these kids had the same kind of pain, just coming from a different place. I knew this would open up a whole new world for them."

Madonna gave a lot of the credit for the creation of the field to Barker, who honchoed the building of the field. Truth be told, they both get a lot of the credit, Barker for buying into Madonna's vision and bringing it to fruition, and Madonna for trusting Barker and pretty much staying out of his way while he got it done.

"My family has been in this community for 100 years, and I can't say thank you enough," said Barker, who gestured to the hundreds of community members in the crowd. "If you look around, this is what built this complex. The community built it." Someone should have



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Shari and Bob Bilkie were on hand to dedicate the Miracle League of Plymouth's new field.



Volunteer Buddy Coordinator Laura Cionca, Grand Valley State University physical therapy students Laura Lorik and Lindsay Tyler train a big crowd of Buddies, who will be paired with each ballplayer.

told Tricia Wolfe there's no crying in baseball, because she couldn't stop watching her son, Tyler, enjoy the field, Wolfe said the field "means the world to me."

"Walking up today, seeing these kids smile, (the field) gives them something to smile about," Wolfe said. "It warms my heart." If there wasn't crying



Elizabeth Anchor helps ballplayer Maggie Hermann get ready to throw out the first pitch.

in baseball before, there is now. But, as Madonna said, that's not all there'll be.

"If there's any place there's going to be crying in baseball, it'll be here," she said. "But there will



The woman who made this field of dreams happen is Debbie Madonna.

also be lots of giggles and smiles, too."

Most of the giggling and smiling will be done by the players and their families. That might be the biggest success story of all.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of the Plymouth and Canton Observers. He can be reached via e-mail at bkadrich@hometownlife.com or by calling (313) 222-8899.

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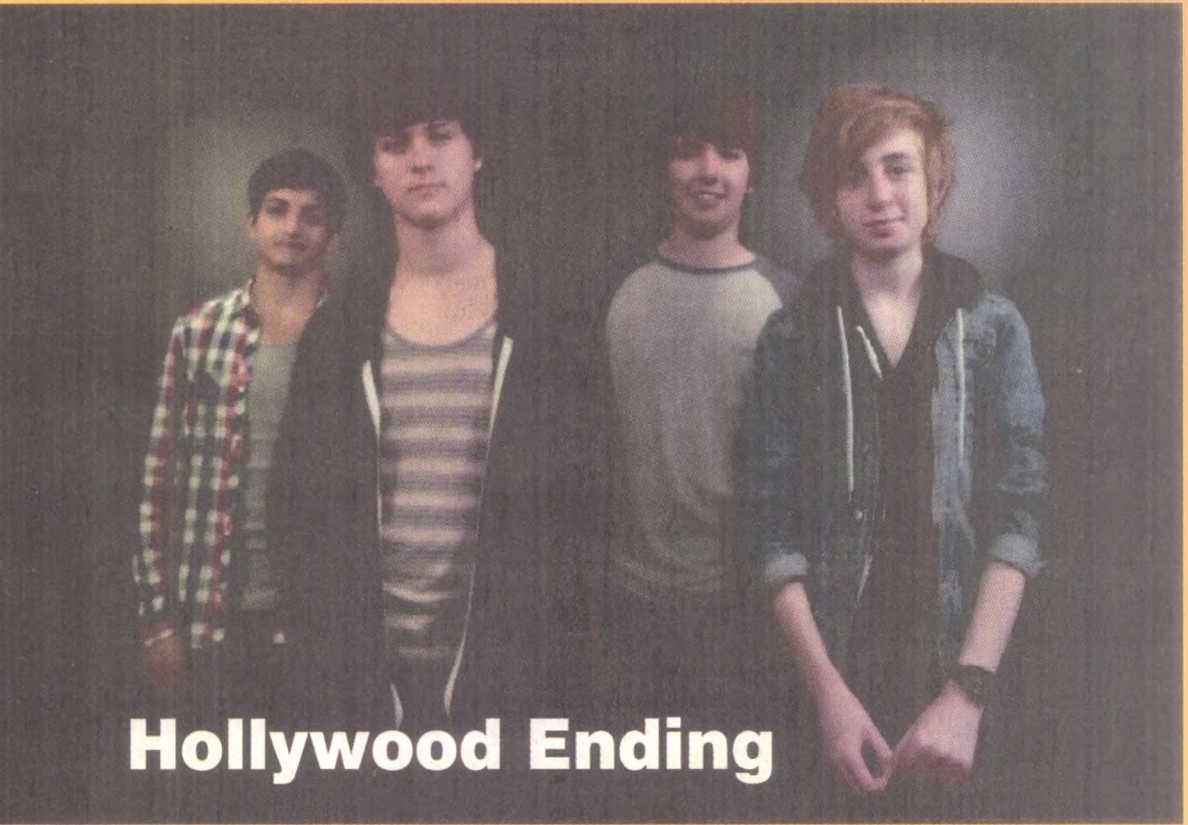
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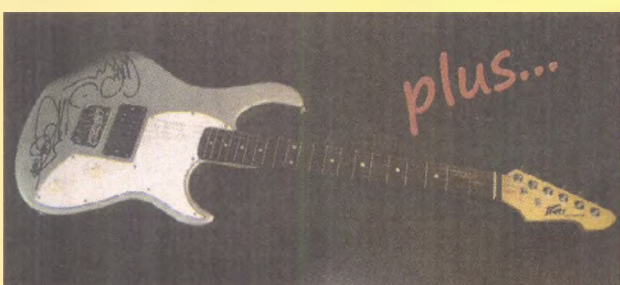
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**EPA**

Continued from page A1

‘Oh my God, I can’t believe this is happening now.’”

Wendel said firefighters moved upstream in an effort to locate the source of the substance. He said investigators don’t yet know exactly what the substance was, but he did describe it as having a similar chemical makeup to jet fuel. Wendel said the substance was not fuel oil.

“It had the same makeup as jet fuel, although we aren’t saying that’s what it was,” Wendel said. “It’s something in that realm of chemical makeup.”

Wendel said he isn’t sure exactly where the source originated, but said investigators believe it was dumped into the system, perhaps down a manhole between the sub-



Members of the hazmat team review storm sewer and river maps to track flow of the hazardous material spill Saturday in Plymouth Township.

PAUL E. SCHULZ

division and Ann Arbor Trail.

He said the spill affected water in Plymouth Township, in Canton Township though to a much lesser degree, and to an even lesser degree in Westland.

He said Hazmat officials notified the EPA,

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Natural Resources. EPA investigator Steve Wolfe said while someone dumping the material “is the most likely scenario,” there’s no way to find out for sure who it was.

“Usually a one-time

thing like this, it’s one-and-done,” Wolfe said. “If someone had dumped it from inside their home, (finding out who) is a possibility. That doesn’t seem to have happened here. We went upstream and didn’t see any signs of it.”

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**Village Faire back at Canton park**

Step back in time and enjoy Canton’s annual Village Faire Sunday, Aug. 28, at the Preservation Park, located at 500 N. Ridge Road in Canton.

This annual event takes place 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and organizers say it “will provide many educational and entertaining activities that the whole family can enjoy.”

Celebrate Canton’s rich history and heritage while watching historical demonstrations. There will also be music, face-painting, a petting farm, guided tours of the Bartlett-Travis House and more. The event will offer a variety of activi-

ties for the whole family.

And don’t miss the tasty corn roast sponsored by the Canton Lions Club. All-you-can-eat wristbands will be on sale at the event, and pre-registration is not necessary. Come early to the event to stroll the grounds and enjoy the best in fresh Michigan-grown produce and local handmade crafts at the Canton Farmers Market on-site at Preservation Park every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Oct. 16.

No registration is required. To learn more about Village Faire, visit Cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.

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Pediatric and Young Adult Therapy Programs

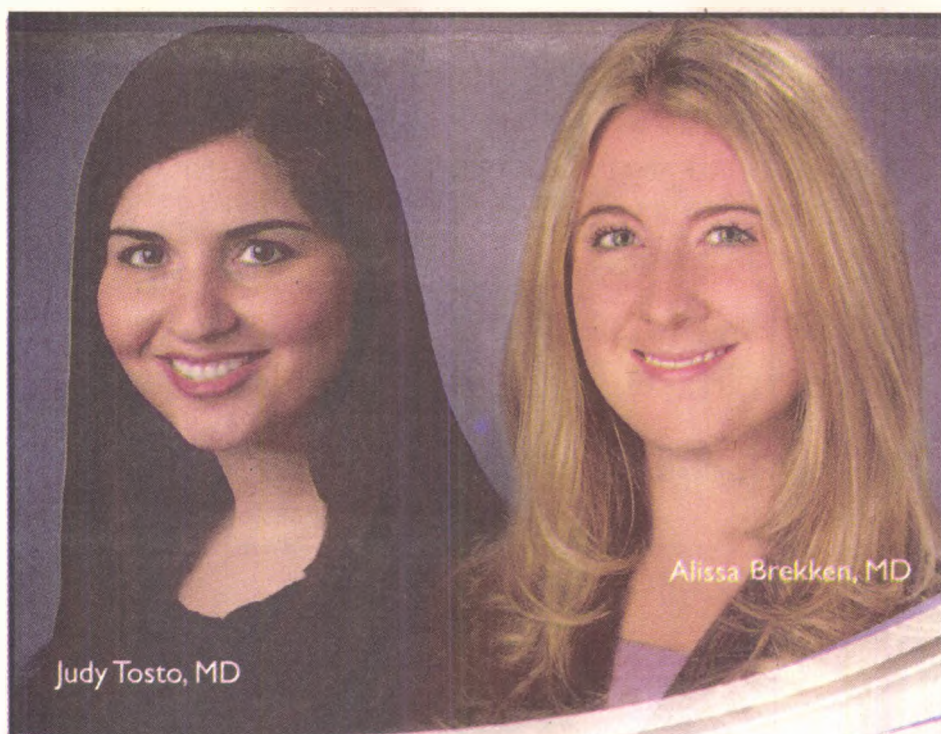
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**~Other Therapy Programs Available~**

- BEEhave**  
MONDAY-THURSDAY 3:30, 4:45, 6:00 PM  
Behavior Coaching for Early Learners and their Caregivers. Groups are taught by ABA Trainers and BCBA's. Play date style for learners 2-6 and their families.
- Finicky No More**  
TUESDAY-FRIDAY 2:30, 3:45, 5:00, 6:00 PM  
Feeding therapy for learners who have food sensitivity challenges. Attention will be placed on sensory, oral motor movement and coordination, and food tactical awareness.
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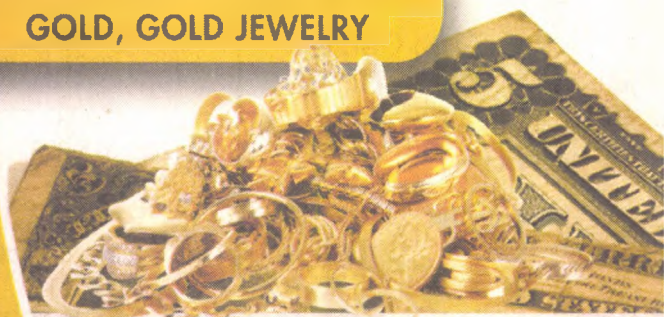
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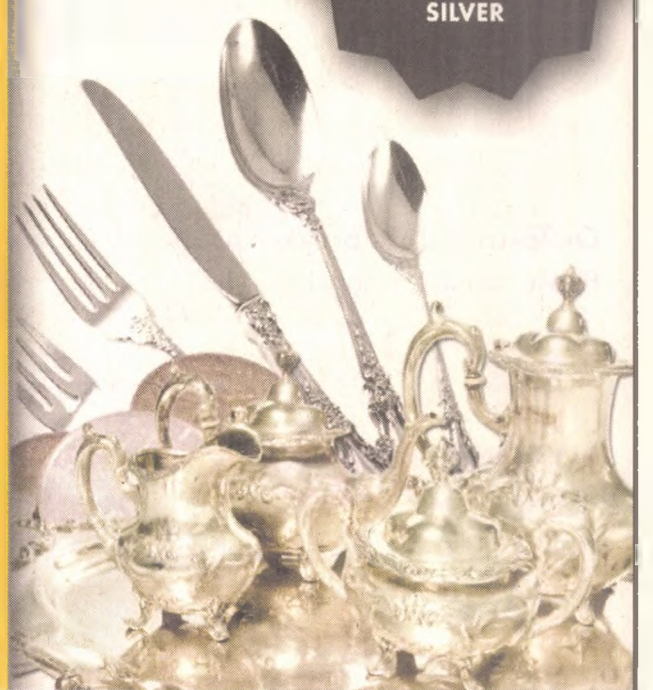
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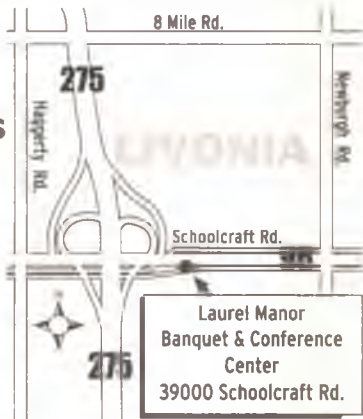
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## Spa hopes 'Give Back' week changes lives

The team at Ashka Salon & Spa hosts their second annual Give Back Week in honor of Spencer and Bryton Pratt, Sept. 12-17.

Alongside other initiatives spa employees will be volunteering their time to host a week-long "Beauty-A-Thon" at their facility, located at 242 N. Canton Center Road, with 100 percent of the proceeds being donated to The Pratt brothers. Ashka's team members will be donating their time and offering 25-minute chair massages for \$20, haircuts for \$25, pedicures for \$30, facials for \$40 and express Keratin treatments for \$50.

Owner Jozie Hogarth said her team is "excited to invite the Pratt Brothers into their Ashka Family." Spencer, 6, and 2-year-old Bryton were born with a similar birth defect.

"The sad part is their suffering is unnecessary," Hogarth said. "The medical help they need is currently available, but not in their home state of Texas."

A tracheoesophageal fistula (TEF) is essentially a point of fusion or connection between the trachea and esophagus. TEFs often lead to severe and/or life-threatening pulmonary complications, as food particles can enter the lungs and/or air can enter the stomach and intestines. The brothers, according to Hogarth, have had over six failed surgeries and months of missed school, and are "still in a great need for advanced medical treatment." As the situation progresses, devel-



Canton's Ashka Salon & Spa hosts its second annual Give Back Week to benefit Spencer and Bryton Pratt, who were born with similar birth defects.

opmental concerns are increasing for both boys, she said.

Hogarth said one of Ashka's stylists had a baby boy last July born with a TEF. He received surgery shortly after being born to take care of the fistula and to repair the mis-connection.

In addition to the Beauty-A-Thon, a silent auction will be conducted through Sept. 17 and will feature many gift cards, services and items. It includes assorted gift cards from local restaurants including Hayden's, Red Olive, and Fleming's Steak House. Also, front row tickets for the Detroit Tigers, Red Wings Legend's Club tickets and tickets for a University of Michigan football game are included. Autographed Red Wings Memorabilia, gym memberships, Amazon.com gift certificates, personal training, handbags

and jewelry will also be included.

Lastly, Ashka Salon & Spa will be donating 10 percent of all regular service, retail and gift card sales this week and will host an on-line raffle for a \$500 AVEDA Gift Basket, which can be found at [www.ashkasalon.com](http://www.ashkasalon.com).

The Give Back Week is "one small way to show our thanks and pay it forward," Hogarth said. "We want our guests to feel confident that each dollar spent at Ashka is reinvested in environmental causes, local careers and economy and giving back to those in need."

Call (734) 414-9980 to schedule a Beauty-A-Thon appointment, and mention the Beauty-A-Thon when booking as these appointments are limited and subject to availability.

Ashka Salon & Spa is located at 242 N. Canton Center Road in Canton.

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## MIRACLE

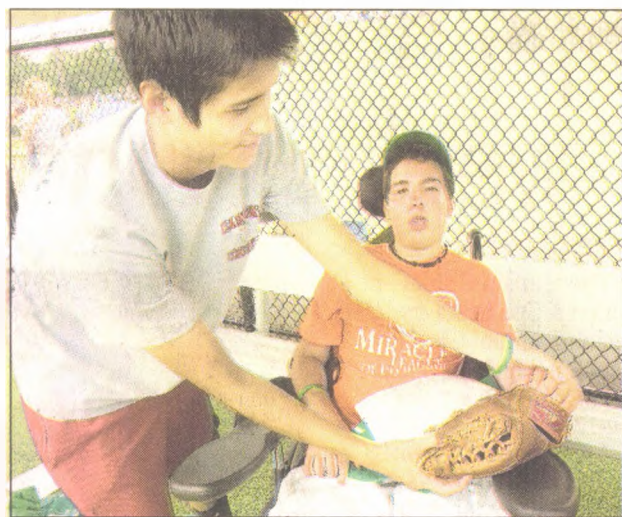
Continued from page A1

Mostly, though, it'll be complete — starting with Saturday's beginning of league play — with the sights and sounds of young people enjoying the game of baseball. That game has been a passion of Bob Bilkie's his whole life, even when he couldn't play it.

"I couldn't play Little League ball until I was 12," said Bilkie, who with wife Shari contributed \$150,000 for the naming rights to Bilkie Field. "I had to hang over the fence and watch. You don't know the pain of wanting to participate until you know you can't."

"I know these kids had the same kind of pain, just coming from a different place," Bilkie added. "I knew this would open up a whole new world for them."

The Miracle League of Plymouth is part of the national Miracle League movement, and Madonna and Bilkie traveled extensively, looking at fields, gauging the right way to do things. When they were done, Plymouth had just the third Miracle League field in Mich-



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Miracle League coach Jake Brekke, a ballplayer with the Canton Chiefs, makes sure Jesse Lindlbauer's glove is on just right.

igan; the other two are in Southfield and Bridgeport, near Saginaw.

In addition to the donation from Bilkie, other major donors include the Buhr Foundation, the Helppie Foundation and the Klopocic Family Foundation. The Miracle League also benefited from a \$250,000 state grant. The Detroit Tigers will make a \$40,000 donation if Miracle League can match it. The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, too, played a major role, agreeing in 2009 to a no-cost lease of the site by the Miracle

League.

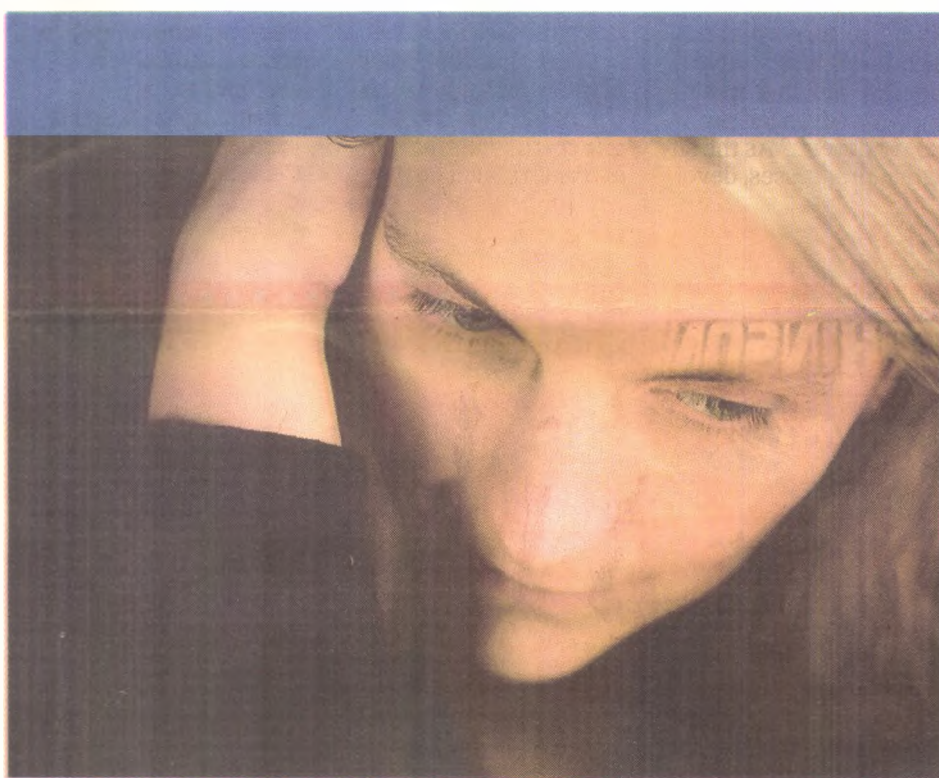
Stephanie Davis, program director for the national Miracle League Association, commended the community for what has been accomplished.

"What an amazing job your community has done with this complex for your kids," Davis said. "I see fields all over the country, and you have come up with an amazing complex. You really pulled off a miracle for your kids."

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This panoramic view of the field is six separate photos, stitched together in Photoshop.



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Fri. 6:45 pm	Sat. 8:00 pm	Starts Oct. 4th
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	Sun. 7:00 pm	Starts Sept. 7th

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## IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kerri Pollard is Spa Director at Spa Agio, which opened earlier this month in the Mayflower Center in downtown Plymouth.

## Day spa has something for just about everyone

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

**Agio:** We are a full-service Day Spa, offering massage, facials and skin-care, body treatments, manicures and pedicures, hair and waxing services. We use and sell four product lines: Decleor, Sonya Dakar, Sanitas and our own Agio line. We also carry Bare Escentuals mineral make up.

**Observer:** How did you first decide to open your business?

**Agio:** I have a retail and spa customer service background and my father, Larry Lester, has experience in both finance and marketing. It was a wonderful opportunity to be a part of the community, in a business that fills an important niche, giving people a great environment in which to pamper themselves.

**Observer:** Why did you choose Plymouth?

**Agio:** My parents, Larry and Pauline Lester (Agio's owners), my sisters and I all live in Plymouth and Plymouth Township. We love everything that the town has to offer and really wanted to be a part of that. Downtown Plymouth is such a vibrant shopping and entertainment destination and the Mayflower Center is a great location.

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

**Agio:** Our menu has such variety, everyone can find something to enjoy. We have an amazing team of professional service providers and customer service staff to make sure that you receive the best service for your needs. Our Agio products are an aromatherapy based, organ-



The ceramics on display at downtown Plymouth's Spa Agio are all from The Village Potter's Guild.

### AGIO

**Business Name and Address:** Agio, located at in the Mayflower Centre in downtown Plymouth  
**Your name:** Kerri Pollard, spa director  
**Your hometown:** Plymouth Township  
**Business opened:** Aug. 4, 2011  
**Your Business Specialty:** Full-service day spa.  
**Number of Employees:** 12  
**Phone and website:** (734) 207-5200; spa-agio.com (coming soon)

ic line in zero carbon footprint packaging, they are wonderful. We have a Red Wine facial using the Agio skincare line that is fantastic.

**Observer:** Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business owner?

**Agio:** We are learn-

ing everyday how important Facebook can be! So many people have found us that way and we love the way we can interact with our guests and let them know what's going on with the spa.

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

**Agio:** Great things!

## PLYMOUTH CHAMBER CHAT

### Penn Theatre

The Summer Cinema Matinee Series shows its final August movie tonight (Thursday). The feature is "The Great Muppet Caper," which starts at 1 and 7 m. Seats are only \$3.

### Tiny Tots

There are still openings for The Salvation Army Tiny Tots Pre-School this coming school year. This is a licensed co-op program for children between the ages of 3-5. This is a quality program based on the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children (MiAEEYC) standards. Contact Sheila Johnson at (734) 453-5464, ext 27, or visit [www.misalplymouth.org](http://www.misalplymouth.org).

### Tuition discount

Lawrence Technological University has consolidated its military tuition discounts into a single 15-percent discount for all servicemen and women who are on active or inactive military status, in the Reserve, Guard or retired from military service and are not receiving another tuition discount from the university.

To receive the tuition discount, applicants need to provide a copy of their DD-



### Yummy yogurt

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce's Ambassadors joined owners Chris Tomei and Craig Turk and their families at Yogurt Palooza to cut the ribbon on their new business at 416 S. Main St. The store has 14 rotating yogurt flavors and a 14-item toppings bar, ranging from healthy fruits to candy.

214 form when applying online at [www.ltu.edu/futurestudents/transfer/military.asp](http://www.ltu.edu/futurestudents/transfer/military.asp).

### Car show

You can pre-register for the Plymouth Fall Festival's antique and classic car show which takes place September 9-11. Pre-registration is \$10 for one day and \$15 for two days. Registration forms can be found at [www.fallfestival.com](http://www.fallfestival.com). Mailed forms must be received by Sept. 2.

## PLYMOUTH BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Art exhibit

Lotus Art Gallery announced the opening of a new exhibit, "Detroit Renaissance: An Exhibition Exploring Innovation in Printmaking, Painting and Graphite," which runs through Aug. 31.

The exhibit features large-format artwork from the metro Detroit area leaders in inventive and experimental techniques. Featured artists include Zdzislaw Sikora, professor and section chair of print media in the Fine Arts Department at the College of Creative Studies; Hubert Massey, 2011 Kresge Artist Fellow and renowned muralist; Jeanne Poulet, master etcher/engraver; and Diane Whitehead, avant garde graphite artist.

An artist reception takes place 6-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26. Lotus Arts Gallery is located at 995 W. Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth.

### Business news

From the desk of the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority:

- Look for M.D. Bagel Fragel to move into the space currently occupied by Jeff Zak Catering, which is moving to Old Village. Look for fresh bagels and bagel breakfast and lunch sandwiches, as well as the bagel fragel, which is a fried cinnamon raisin bagel with cinnamon sugar.

- Lloyd and Patricia Rockette own another Bagel Fragel in Ann Arbor.

- Yogurt Palooza held its grand opening recently at the Mayflower Cen-



### Dance fever

Molly Brewin, Alexandra Chatas, Jordyn Shepler, Kasidy Shepler, Stefanie Shepler and Kalena Wright, members of the Metro Dance Company Senior Lyrical group, brought home a Platinum Medal and a second-overall trophy from the Nexstar National Dance Competition in Sandusky, Ohio. Metro Dance is headquartered in Plymouth.

tre. Owners Craig Turk and Christopher Tomei have 14 rotating yogurt flavors and a 14-item toppings bar, ranging from healthy fruits to candy. The cost is per ounce, with the average yogurt and toppings costing about \$4.

### Primary care

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan has designated 414 Wayne County doctors as patient-centered medical home physicians - placing them among a select number of primary care physicians in Michigan who are improving health care quality and lowering costs through a more intensive focus on their patients' wellness.

Among them are 10 doctors from Canton:

- Jennifer Becker, Cynthia Culler-Johnson, Tarin Gitlin, Kimberly Meisenholder, Praveen Modi, James Sansone, Adrian Sheremeta, Nancy Spangler, Lorri Vanderroest, Robert Vartabedian.

"Partnering with Blue Cross, many dedicated health care professionals are greatly improving access for patients, achieving better outcomes of care and more effectively managing costs," said Thomas L. Simmer, M.D., BCBSM senior vice president and chief medical officer for BCBSM. "This program gives Michigan residents closer relationships with their doctors, not only when they are sick, but when they need advice and guidance to keep them healthy."

## Big Apple Bagels

### Bagel Sale!

Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>

Friday & Saturday Only

Offer valid: 8/26/11 - 8/27/11

Code B501

# 39¢

## Bagels

(Limit 12, BABS' Choice extra)



Only one coupon per visit. Coupon is not redeemable with any other coupon or special offer. No reproduction allowed. Valid only at Canton location. ©2011 BAB, Inc.

You deserve a better bagel.



Offer expires 9/15/11

Code B502

Offer expires 9/15/11

Code B503

### FREE Breakfast Sandwich

Buy 1 Breakfast Sandwich and Regular Drink, Get 1 Breakfast Sandwich Free (equal or lesser value)



### FREE Jumbo Muffin

Buy 1 Jumbo Muffin and Regular Drink, Get 1 Jumbo Muffin Free



## Big Apple Bagels

302 N. Canton Center Road  
Canton  
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F: (734) 981-1373

[www.BigAppleBagels.com/302CantonMI](http://www.BigAppleBagels.com/302CantonMI)

STORE HOURS:  
Mon-Fri 6AM - 4 PM  
Sat. 6 AM - 3 PM  
Sun. 6 AM - 3 PM



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Check us out on the Web every day at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)



# Make sure student covered for health care at college

By Rick Bloom  
Guest Columnist

With all the turmoil in the markets and the world economy, it's amazing how fast summer is going. Labor Day is just around the corner and kids are heading off to college. When I went to college (yes, quite a few years ago), we lived in a simpler time than today. Whether an incoming freshman or a senior, there are some things that parents and college students need to address before the fall semester begins.



Money Matters  
Rick Bloom

When kids head off to college it's important to remember they are 18 — legal adults — and, thus, a whole set of different rules apply to them. One of these deals with medical care. When an individual turns 18, his or her parents no longer have the legal right to be involved as they were before.

This issue is particularly important when it comes to health care. In cases of medical emergencies, parents, just by the fact that they are parents, have no rights. Because of this, it is important to have declarations for medical care for your children. If something happens, you don't want to be shut out when it comes to your children's medical care.

Parents who do not have declarations for medical care may find in cases of emergency, the only way they can have access to their children's doctors and be involved in the medical decisions is to go to court.

No one wants to have to go to court, especially in an emergency. Therefore, having a declaration for medical care for your child is essential. Parents can find a free declaration for medical care form on my website [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com) that should fit the great majority of needs. Download the declaration for medical care form by clicking on Legal Forms under the Bloom University tab.

When it comes to health care, nothing is easy and don't assume anything. If your child is currently under your health care plan, confirm that he/she will continue to have coverage even if they are going to an out-of-state institution. It's also a good idea to review what other health care options your child may have. Many universities offer plans that are sometimes very competitive. In some situations it may make sense to use one of those plans. Either way, make sure you confirm your child's coverage.

Speaking of coverage. If your child is taking valuables with them it may be important to have insurance on those items. Some of those items may be covered under your current homeowner's plan while others may not. Contact your homeowner's agent to deter-

mine the coverage. Keep in mind that not everyone who goes to college needs some sort of homeowner's protection.

When your child goes to school they will be inundated with charge card offers. They'll get free T-shirts, free water bottles and more for signing up for a charge card. It is imperative that you sit down with your child and have one of those discussions about charge cards. The number of college kids graduating with substantial debt, that's not related to tuition or books, is amazing. What many of these kids are finding out is that when they graduate, their poor credit scores hinder their chances of obtaining a job.

In today's competitive job market, you need every advantage you can get. Having a charge card is important, however, knowing how to properly use a charge card is even more important. Even if your child rolls their eyes at you, it is important to have that conversation regarding charge cards as well as other areas of personal finance.

Good luck to those who are getting ready to go to college. Whether it's your first year or your last, I believe that a good college education is probably the best investment you'll ever make. Good luck!

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

# Memorial service set for community activist Dumas

Mary E. Dumas, a community activist who served for 14 years on the Wayne County Commission in the 1970s and 1980s, died Aug. 17 after a five-year battle with ovarian cancer. She was 89.



Mary E. Dumas

A memorial service will be held at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27, at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Road, Livonia. Visitation will start at 1:30 p.m.

Dumas was educated at Pershing High School in Detroit, Wayne State University and the University of Wisconsin from which she graduated with honors in languages and broadcasting.

Prior to Dumas' career on the commission, she was active as president of the Livonia School Board Advisory Committee, secretary of the Livonia Charter Revisions Committee, a volunteer probation officer and elected to the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees. She received numerous awards for her leadership in civic, political and professional organizations, and was appointed

to several state and national commissions.

Gov. William Milliken appointed her to the Michigan Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee. Milliken cited her for a program she conceived, developed and conducted called "A Day at Jackson" where young offenders spent the day with prisoners serving life sentences at Jackson State Prison. The program's intent was to scare the participants straight. Word of the program reached Washington, D.C., and Dumas was invited to testify before the Senate Committee on juvenile justice.

Dumas was elected to the 28-member Wayne County Board of Commissioners in 1972. She was

the only Republican and the only woman on the board at that time. During her 14-year term, she served on numerous committees including the National Association of Counties Crime and Public Safety Steering Committee, the Wayne County Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee and the Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments.

Dumas is survived by her husband, Victor, and children Cordelia, Charles and Julianne, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The family is asking that in lieu of flowers contributions be made to the Salvation Army Bed and Bread program or the Michigan Humane Society.

CHECK US OUT DAILY ONLINE

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## The Charter Township of Plymouth Public Notice

Beginning 9/6/2011, the Charter Township of Plymouth Department of Public Works will start its fire hydrant winterization program. You may notice a temporary discoloration of your water. This should only be for a short period of time. Any prolonged problems should be reported to the DPW by calling 734-354-3270 x3.

Publish: August 25 & 28, 2011

CE08751992 - 2x1.5

## PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for the purchase of one 2011 Ford F-450 Super Duty 4 x 4. Specifications and bid forms are available by phoning Jim Larson-Shidler in the PCCS Business Department at (734) 416-2740 or by email at [james.larson-shidler@pccsmail.net](mailto:james.larson-shidler@pccsmail.net). Sealed bids are due to the E.J. McClendon Building, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48154, on or before 12:00 p.m., Thursday, September 8, 2011. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school.

Board of Education  
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools  
ADRIENNE DAVIS, Secretary

Publish: August 25, 2011

CE08751749 2x3.5

## Host an Exchange Student Today! (for 3, 5 or 10 months)



Nitcha from Thailand, 16 yrs. Enjoys dancing, playing the piano and swimming. Nitcha looks forward to cooking with her American host family.



Daniel from Denmark, 17 yrs. Loves skiing, playing soccer and watching American movies. Daniel hopes to learn to play football and live as a real American.

### Make a lifelong friend from abroad.

Enrich your family with another culture. Now you can host a high school exchange student (girl or boy) from France, Germany, Scandinavia, Spain, Australia, Japan, Brazil, Italy or other countries. Single parents, as well as couples with or without children, may host.

Contact us for more information or to select your student today.

Jose at 734-788-7154 or  
Amy at 1-800-677-2773 (Toll Free)

[www.assehosts.com](http://www.assehosts.com) and [www.asse.com/hot](http://www.asse.com/hot)  
or email us at [info@asse.com](mailto:info@asse.com).



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Daniel Shub

Direct: (248) 465 6210

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21500 Haggerty Rd., Ste. 200 Northville MI 48167  
[www.MichiganCommunity.com](http://www.MichiganCommunity.com)

\$10,000 minimum deposit

Funds can be transferred from qualified accounts (401(k), IRA, ROTH) and from non-qualified accounts (CD, Money Market). Terms and conditions apply. Rate is valid when printed and is subject to change. Subject to individual approval. Please call for details.

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Offer good thru 8/27/11.

**30% off**  
lighting fixtures & ceiling fans  
after 18% extra savings  
Excludes switchplate covers, light bulbs, fountains, lamp shades, mirrors & accessories. Additional 18% off excludes Casablanca, Minka Aire, Monte Carlo Select, Hunter Prestige & Kichler online. Offer ends 8/28/11.

**25% off**  
kitchen & bath fixtures  
after 12% extra savings  
Additional savings excludes special order kitchen, bath & decorative hardware fixtures. Offer good thru 8/27/11.

**UP TO 20% OFF** all Kenmore<sup>®</sup> and Kenmore Elite<sup>®</sup> appliances  
Excludes countertop microwaves. Savings range 5-20%. Offer good thru 8/27/11.

**plus extra 10% off** with Sears card on all appliances over \$499  
Excludes Sears Commercial One<sup>®</sup> accounts, Sears Home Improvement Account<sup>™</sup> applies on installed merchandise only. See store for details. Offer good thru 8/27/11.

**or free delivery** on purchases over \$499<sup>††</sup>  
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**5X** Earn 50 points for every \$1 spent.  
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Offer good 8/26 & 8/27 only.

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## OUR VIEWS

# Back to school

## These tips can ease transition for many

It's been a great summer for kids in Plymouth and Canton — lots of summer camps, special programs and events to fill each day — but, those days are dwindling in number as we approach back to school time.

Students will return to the routine of getting up early, doing homework and learning new things when school starts on Tuesday, Sept. 6.

For some students, this transition can be scary and somewhat dreadful. An area education expert, Wie Pan, who is executive director of Huntington Learning Center of Canton, takes note of this, and offers parents and students some tips.

We think they're worth sharing with our readers.

"End of summer is bittersweet for some children, while others are much more fearful about going back to the classroom," said Pan. "No matter what your child's demeanor, it is beneficial for parents to prepare their child for the change."

Pan offers these six tips to get your child ready to head back to school.

1. Take your child back-to-school shopping. Spending a day together buying school supplies and maybe even a new back-to-school outfit is a fun way to get into the school mode and a good opportunity to let your child tell you the things he or she thinks will help make him or her successful. It's also a good chance for parents to have one-on-one conversations with their children about any goals they have for the year and how they can be supportive of their children.

2. Introduce your child ahead of time to another classmate or two. A few weeks before the first day of school, reconnect with friends from last year who will be in your child's new class. If your child is new to the school, look around your neighborhood to find other children of the same age. A back-to-school night may be a good opportunity to meet other classmates, too.

3. Plan on getting extra help. For students who struggled in the previous school year, the idea of going back to school may be especially stressful. Summer is a great time to build skills and improve weaker areas, but if your summer was focused on other things, now is a great time to investigate supplemental education services for your child. Talk to his or her teacher in advance about problem areas and how the two of you can work together to get your child off on the right foot.

4. Set an optimistic tone. As a parent, you have a lot of influence on your child's attitude toward school. Show him or her through your actions that learning is fun and a part of everyday life. Teach your child to value effort and hard work. Your child needs to understand, too, that failure is something we all experience. What matters is how we learn from it and move forward.

5. Be prepared. Many schools have an orientation before school starts, which gives parents the information they need about school supplies, dress code, required forms, transportation and more. Being organized and on top of all school requirements will minimize first-week stresses for both you and your child.

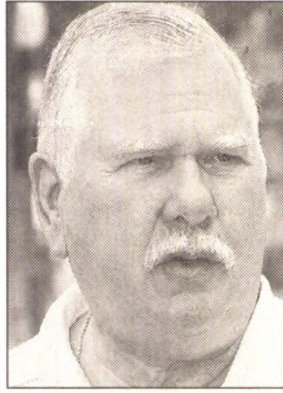
6. Meet the teacher. Your school may host a meet-your-teacher day, which is a great opportunity for your child to get to know his or her new teacher before the first day. If not, ask the school if you and your child can come in another time before school starts. Get familiar with the school layout and other school resources that will help your child (the guidance counselor and speech therapist, for example). Let your child's teacher know that you look forward to working together this year.

These tips can be useful in reducing the back-to-school nerves and anxieties for students and parents. Parents should set that positive tone about school, long before the bell rings on the first day. But, that's just the beginning — support throughout the school year is necessary. Partnering with your child and with his or her teacher in the education process is important in leading kids down a productive and perhaps even enjoyable educational experience.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

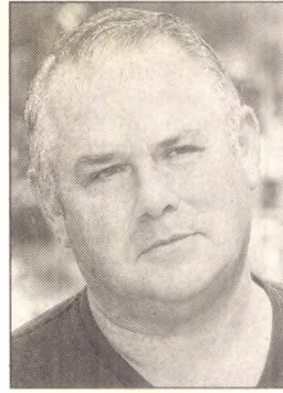
# There are 15 people running for four seats on the Board of Education for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. Why would that many people want what can be a pretty thankless job?

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



"Because they're interested. It's a good school district, and with all the financial problems we have, we want to figure out what's going on."

**Richard Zalewski**  
Plymouth Township



"Probably because they need the work. The only jobs out there any more are elected."

**Jim Meadows**  
Plymouth Township



"First of all, I'm a retired teacher. ... I think people are looking for a peaceful resolution, and leadership, real leadership. ... The arguments that are going on ... make the whole community look bad."

**Dianne Griswold**  
Plymouth Township



"Because they want to get a better education for the kids."

**Pat Sexton**  
Northville

## LETTERS

### Put aside partisanship

A two-member panel from the Wayne County Elections Commission recently turned down language to recall state Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton. I applaud the panel for their decision.

Representative Slavens and I do not always agree on the issues and, oftentimes, we have voted at odds with one another on bills before the Legislature. But as elected officials, we have both upheld our duty to vote on the legislation before us. While I firmly believe that a recall process is an important part of a representative government, it should be reserved for cases of malfeasance or unethical behavior by our elected officials and not invoked because a legislator has an opposing philosophy to our own or simply casts a vote.

It is unfair to taxpayers to spend their money on recall elections when an elected official does the job that they were elected to do. If we disagree with a lawmaker's philosophy or voting record we can work to vote them out of office at the next election.

These recall election attempts have done nothing but further the partisan fighting and take attention away from the real issues — creating an environment that promotes job growth and responsible government spending. I, for one, will not compromise my conservative values. These conservative values include treating those who oppose me with respect.

The overwhelming majority of voters in my district elected me in November to help fix Michigan. I will continue to uphold my campaign pledge to promote legislation that restores fiscal responsibility to our state government and encourages job growth.

On issues where we may disagree, rest assured that I will continue to listen to your ideas with respect. These are not simply words. Since the beginning of my service in January, I have demonstrated a sincere willingness to reach across the aisle to work together to fix Michigan. I currently serve as the co-chair of the bipartisan, bicameral SE Michigan Caucus where we are developing joint strategies to return our state to prosperity for all.

It is time to put aside the vindictive partisanship exemplified by these recall efforts and allow our elected officials to focus their efforts on doing what they were elected to do.

**Patrick Colbeck**  
state senator  
Canton

### Thanks for helping

I want to say thank you to the police officer who called an ambulance for me when I cut open my head in front of the Plymouth library a few weeks ago.

I was at a friend's birthday party on a scavenger hunt when I walked

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

E-mail: [bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com).

Read or comment online:  
[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

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

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com).

into a pole and cut my head. The Plymouth Firefighters/EMS arrived really fast!

Thank you for taking care of me until my parents got there.

**Jasper Hrubicki, 11**  
Plymouth

### New Hope thanks

On July 26, New Hope Center for Grief Support in Northville was able to bring the soothing effects of an art experience to children who have recently lost a loved one.

Twenty-three children had dinner at Subway and then walked to Creatopia to paint a ceramic piece of their choosing. On behalf of New Hope Center, I would like to thank Plymouth United Way for providing a grant to us which made this great night possible for the third year in a row. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**Elaine Dzwonkowski**  
KIDZ Group coordinator  
New Hope Center for Grief Support

### AYP is 'ridiculous'

AYP testing and proficiency requirements are ridiculous.

A mandate for 100 percent proficiency by 2014 contradicts reality, there is no such thing as perfection! And standardized tests might provide a reflection of already known demographic data, too late to have any value.

Punishment as the solution is reflective of turn of the century management behaviors for unskilled manual labor. Punishment for failure to exceed these ridiculous "standards" will just make matters worse — the cheating in Atlanta schools is a prime example.

Continued reliance on these broadly proven failures to "reform" schools and provide accountability hint at the unwillingness of those who hold the purse strings to embrace strategies that work. Fear of change or upsetting the apple cart is no doubt the root of this unwillingness.

We could make progress if real change were embraced. Change such as:

- Curriculum development and

implementation at the building level.

- Curriculum and assessment of learning progress focused on an individual student's strengths.
- Older students teaching younger students.

- End the use of the Carnegie Unit (AKA seat time) for earning credit.

- Incorporate the community, including parents, in the school through meaningful project-based learning and internships.

- Provide honest alternative paths to teacher certification.

- Capital and operating funding distributed equally for each student.

Blaming special needs children and absences is acceptance of the status quo, excuses to mask the reality of our failure. What to do and how to do it is known. Ignorance and fear stand in the way.

And children pay the price.

**Chuck Fellows**  
South Lyon

### A wakeup call

On Aug. 2, the U.S. and the world witnessed the end of a congressional logjam over the debt ceiling which was a phony diversion from the real issues of jobs and economic stimulus.

The lengthy crisis was created and manipulated by 80-plus new Republican members of the House of Representatives. These half-educated ideologues elected by corporate dollars and Tea Party fanatics threatened to cut Social Security and other dire consequences. Thus the our nation was saved from default, but the poor and middle class will suffer even more in the future.

President Obama could/should have been more involved and combative.

He is a knowledgeable, pragmatic, experienced politician, but is naive and conciliatory at times. Most Democrats fought hard but could not defeat irrational people who, while quoting and interpreting the Constitution to fit their agendas, paid more allegiance to Grover Norquist's pledge to never raise taxes. The guiding principle of many extreme right-wing Republicans was and is "no compromise." Congress is now under the control of persons who do not behave in a civil, coherent, legal or ethical manner.

What happened Aug. 2 must be a wakeup call for all concerned citizens. It is imperative that voters with moderate views be involved, active and as passionate and organized as they were in the 2008 election, when Barack Obama was elected president. Many voters neglected to participate in the 2010 mid-term elections. Contact and support representatives with your ideas, time and money. Let's begin NOW to battle these know nothings!

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Joan Jasin of Canton competes in the freestyle.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Senior Olympians go for the gold

By Ken Abramczyk  
Observer Staff Writer

Nearly 800 seniors participated in activities last week ranging from bocce ball to swimming in the seventh annual Western Wayne County Senior Olympics.

The event attracted senior athletes from 16 western Wayne County communities. The games kicked off at Nankin Mills in Hines Park with a breakfast for the seniors. County Executive Bob Ficano, U.S. Rep. John Dingell, Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey and Westland Mayor William Wild attended the opening ceremony. Ficano lit the Olympic torch with the help of Kirksey, Wild and Dingell, before sending the athletes to the first of five days of competition.

On Wednesday, 18 participants swam in the 50-yard backstroke, breast stroke and freestyle events at the Livonia Community Recreation Center. Patrice Milnek of Northville and Sue Hurn of Livonia were the big winners for the women, winning gold and silver medals in the backstroke, breast stroke and freestyle swimming in the A category (ages 50-59).

Other gold medalists in other age groups were Mary Skamiera of Canton, Dorothy Skupinski of Canton, Joan Jasin of Canton and Ruth Miller of Livonia.

David Edwards, William Anderson, Donald Sprague and Melvin Tockstein, all of Westland, and Al Kopack of Redford won gold medals in the men's races.

In one of the bocce ball categories, Flora Murray, 88, of Livonia and Luigi Aronne, 91, of Dearborn won a gold medal again after taking silver last year. The two have won gold medals every year prior to last, according to Karl Peters, recreation supervisor at the Livonia Senior Center.

"They were very proud of that," Peters said.

Other bocce gold medal winners included Luigi Colone and Joe Vassallo, both of Livonia, and Clara and Roger DeLuca of Northville. Bocce ball was played at the Italian American Club in Livonia.

Peters said the nearly 800 participants was a record number. "It's had a snowball effect," he said. "The numbers get larger every year."

"You see how much fun they have and it makes it all worthwhile."

The participants wore their Senior Olympic shirts at the bocce ball competition. "They are very competitive," Peters said.

Peters said the participation is increasing because the games are an inexpensive way for the seniors to have fun and socialize.

For \$7, the seniors got a T-shirt, breakfast and reg-



Dave Edwards of Westland begins his event.

istered for games and for each event they paid an additional \$2.

Anyone interested in participating in next year's games can apply as early as April, Peters

said. The games included a closing ceremony on Friday at the Italian American Club.

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## 2011 FOOTBALL PREVIEW — PT. 2



FILE PHOTO

Whether on offense or defense, Plymouth's Donte Fox (No. 5) makes things happen for the Wildcats. Here, he blocks a Novi-Detroit Catholic Central punt during a 2010 playoff game.

# Wildcats won't rest on laurels

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

There's no telling what a football team can accomplish once players start to believe they're good.

Last year, the Plymouth varsity grid squad went down that road all the way to Ford Field in Detroit — winning four straight postseason contests before bowing to Lake Orion in the Division 1 final.

In the Wildcats' path during that hot Wildcats were some pretty formidable opponents in cross-campus rival Canton, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central and Rockford.

But two stalwarts from 2010 (kicker Kyle Brindza, Brennen Beyer) have graduated and are

gearing up for college football.

And veteran head coach Mike Sawchuk is smart enough to know that the past won't matter one bit once the 2011 season opens (11 a.m. Saturday against Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central in the Big Prep Day Showdown at Eastern Michigan University).

### It's not automatic

"We got some kids still that got to buy in," Sawchuk said. "I don't care how much talent you have, there's so many little things that have to happen for you to get to where we got last year.

"You have to have some luck. You got to keep everybody healthy, you got to keep everybody out of trouble. You got

to get a break here or there."

Make no mistake, however. No coach is going to proclaim all is rosy before the first snap.

The fact remains Plymouth (11-3 overall, 7-2 in the regular season in 2010) is a strong team that should be a force in the KLAAs South Division.

Also, Sawchuk likes the physicality being shown by his players during the preseason two-a-days and that there seems to be plenty of competition for spots in the lineup.

That includes quarterback. The player who piloted the postseason run, Shaun Austin, "is being challenged by junior 'X-factor' Jamarl Eiland, who impressed coaches during practices with laser-beam throws.

Austin, a senior, probably still has the inside track. He showed the ability to excel under pressure during the playoffs, particularly a last-minute drive to score the winning touchdown against Rockford (on a fourth-down aerial to Beyer).

But Sawchuk likes having Eiland in the wings. If Austin starts at quarterback, Eiland will be a primary target at wide receiver.

"The kid's an athlete," he said about Eiland. "He can be a mismatch."

Other wide receivers in the mix are senior DJ McMillan and juniors Nate Emminger and Matt Janke.

Please see WILDCATS, B2

# No 'Cats on Salem sked

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

The annual "Black and Blue" game between Salem and Plymouth signified the start of another high school football season.

But that tradition has been scrapped — at least for the 2011 season — as Salem head football coach Kurt Britnell opted for his squad to kick off against a different opponent.

The Rocks will visit Ann Arbor Huron for a 7 p.m. Friday contest while Plymouth's Wildcats will travel to Eastern Michigan University's Rynearson Stadium for an 11 a.m. Saturday tilt against Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central.

According to Britnell, his decision to face a different team in the opener was no slight against the Wildcats — a Division 1 state finalist last year.

He stressed that the move was done to give his team a chance to face a variety of opponents.

During Britnell's first two seasons at the Salem helm, the Rocks played both Plymouth-Canton Educational Park rivals during the regular season and had the chance to face them again in the KLAAs crossover conference.

Add the potential of a district matchup and that would be tough for any team, let alone one in rebuilding mode as Salem is.

"The thing I'm trying to do is, when we get to where we're supposed to get, which I think is going to be soon, we could potentially play Canton or Plymouth three times in a season," Britnell explained. "Because if we're 1-2 in our division, chances are it's going to be Canton and Plymouth. We're already scheduled to play Canton in Week 9. We're going to be in the same district draw.

"So there's potential that you could play

Please see SCHEDULE, B2



Marcus Houston (No. 31 in this file photo) is sprinting into his third season as a starter and playmaker for Salem's varsity football team.

# Call to arms for young Rocks

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

The third year of Salem head football coach Kurt Britnell's regime could be the charm.

Britnell's first two teams went a combined 3-15, so any improvement in the won-lost record in 2011 will be welcomed with open arms.

And the strong arm of junior quarterback Jacob Deprez will be a primary reason if the Rocks' fortunes take an upward turn. The first test is at 7 p.m. Friday at Ann Arbor Huron.

"He gets the game, he's like a coach on the field at a young age," Britnell said. "We saw that last year even on JV. He just gets it.

"He worked his butt off all off-season with me doing quarterback school, learning the offense and how to read defenses. He can run our offense."

### Airing it out

Deprez certainly will air it out in the direction of a pair of lanky wideouts in senior Ryan Jankowski and junior Chris Dierker — both varsity basketball players who

stand in the neighborhood of 6-foot-6.

"I don't know how many corners are going to be able to cover them," Britnell said about the receivers. "I mean, they're basketball guys, they're athletic and have good hands, too.

"Deprez can get it to them, he can put the ball in there from anywhere," he added.

Senior receiver Chris Contos and junior tight end Cameron Werner also might help move the chains through the aerial game.

Please see ROCKS, B2

## PCA football may return in future

Despite the Plymouth-Christian Academy football season being cancelled, the move does not mean the sport could return at some point in the future, according to school Principal Mark Wood.

"We have cancelled our football program for the upcoming season due to the small number of young men interested in playing," Wood wrote, in an e-mail to the Observer. "There is still a strong desire to provide a solid football program to our students and families, and we will continue working hard to generate the interest level necessary to sustain an effective football program at Plymouth Christian Academy."

Athletic Director Rick Swilley enthusiastically started varsity football in time for the 2010 season, but a lack of players resulted in a winless season for coach Mark Rumschlag.

## Knights win Balconi

Walled Lake Northern defeated Canton on penalty kicks to win Saturday's Gary Balconi Invitational, all three Plymouth-Canton Educational Park teams in the process.

Prior to the finals, Northern defeated Plymouth and Salem.

Rocks head coach Ed McCarthy said his team struggled all day on offense, with a 0-0 tie against Novi-Detroit Catholic Central (although Salem followed via PKs) followed by a 2-0 loss to Northern and 1-1 tie with Ann Arbor Huron.

Salem's lone goal was scored by Blake Townes, on an assist from Chris Dierker.

## Holes-in-one

Chalk up a few more holes-in-one at Fox Hills in Plymouth.

Two came Aug. 17 at the Fox Hills Strategic Course, by Deborah Turchan and Alex Wrocklage.

Turchan, 56, of Northville, used a driver to sink a Top Flight ball into the cup of the 112-yard No. 4 hole.

The 16-year-old Wrocklage, of Plymouth, aced the 105-yard No. 10.

Meanwhile, the strategic while was where 14-year-old Ryan Fogoros of Canton sank a hole-in-one. He used a 9-iron and a Wilson Ultra ball. His ace was at the No. 1 hole, also from 105 yards out.

## O&E tourney

Registration remains for the 2011 Men's Observer & Eccentric Open, a 36-hole medal play event Sunday-Monday, Sept. 4-5, at Fox Creek and Whispering Willows golf courses.

The entry fee is \$95 and is limited to the first 120 golfers. There will be \$2,500 in guaranteed prizes in three different flights (championship, first and seniors 55 and up). Entries close 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27.

Visit [www.golflivonia.com](http://www.golflivonia.com) or call (248) 476-4493.



# STAFF GRID PICKS

Week 1	Wright	Smith	O'Meara	Emons
<b>Thursday, Aug. 25</b> West Bloomfield at Farmington, 7 p.m. Seaholm at North Farmington, 7 p.m. Edsel Ford at Thurston, 7 p.m. Walled Lake Central at Canton, 7 p.m. Walled Lake Northern at Churchill, 7 p.m. Anchor Bay at John Glenn, 7 p.m. Wayne at Brighton, 7 p.m.	Farmington Seaholm Thurston Canton Northern Anchor Bay Brighton	West Bloomfield North Farmington Thurston Canton Churchill John Glenn Wayne	Farmington Seaholm Thurston Canton Churchill John Glenn Brighton	West Bloomfield Seaholm Thurston Canton Churchill John Glenn Brighton
<b>Friday, Aug. 26</b> Cranbrook at Lutheran Westland, 5 p.m. Bradford Academy at Clarenceville, 7 p.m. Salem at Ann Arbor Huron, 7 p.m. Detroit Western at Garden City, 7 p.m. Redford Union at Romulus, 7 p.m. Stevenson at Franklin, 7 p.m.	Lutheran Westland Clarenceville Salem Garden City Union Franklin	Lutheran Westland Clarenceville Salem Garden City Romulus Stevenson	Cranbrook Clarenceville Huron Garden City Romulus Franklin	Cranbrook Clarenceville Salem Garden City Romulus Franklin
<b>Saturday, Aug. 27</b> Plymouth vs. Monroe St. Mary CC (at EMU), 11 a.m. Harrison vs. Cass Tech (at EMU), 8 p.m.	Plymouth Harrison	Plymouth Harrison	Plymouth Harrison	Plymouth Harrison

## WILDCATS

Continued from page B1

At tight end will be hard-nosed seniors Faris Abraham and Billy Roberts.

Perhaps the key catalyst for Plymouth's offense is senior running back Donte Fox, who also can catch a pass when needed.

"Donte's just a load, he's 5-11, 210 with legs this big," Sawchuk said, holding his hands apart.

### Line 'em up

Junior Stefan Turrentine and senior Fred Dunbar provide depth to the running game.

That group of play-makers will benefit from playing behind what Sawchuk said could be the best offensive line since he's been at Plymouth.

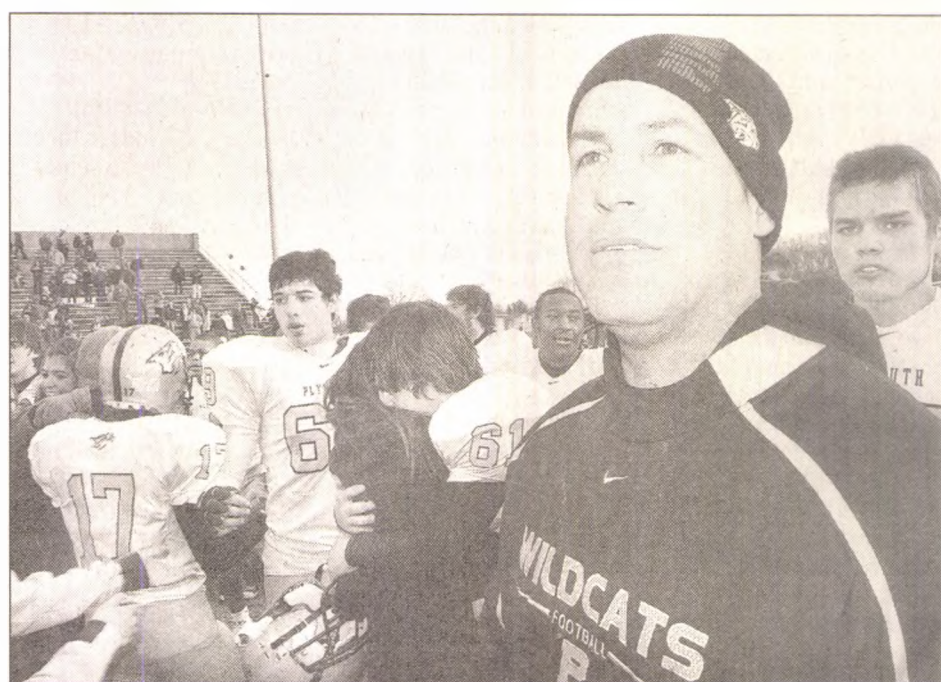
He listed 6-0, 230-pound senior Tyler Goble, along with junior Kory Ignagni, senior Josh McGowan, 6-6 senior Bobby Riche and junior Sean Preston.

"They have the potential to be the best group of offensive linemen we've had at the school since I've been here," Sawchuk said. "Whether they get it done or not is up to them. They got to work hard."

Depth on the defensive line might be a soft spot entering the season. Sawchuk said members of his O-line will see double duty until others emerge.

"We're trying to keep some offensive linemen on the offense and defensive linemen on the defense," he said. "But there's a couple kids that are going to have to go both ways."

Sawchuk noted the pre-season presence of junior lineman Kyle McMillan, who could land a regular spot on the D-line. Fox



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Last year's Plymouth Wildcats reached the Division 1 state finals, but head coach Mike Sawchuk wants to focus on the 2011 season.

### FAST FACTS

**School:** Plymouth.  
**Head coach:** Mike Sawchuk, 10th season.  
**2010 record:** 11-3, Division 1 state finalist; 7-2 during regular season, including 4-1 in KLAAs South Division (second place).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Brennen Beyer, Kyle Brindza, Anthony Rhodes, Michael Olevnik, Jake Morris, Jerel Jenkins, Cody Ignagni, Anthony LeMerise, Mark Wallath.  
**Top returnees:** Donte Fox, Sr. RB-DL; Shaun Austin, Sr. QB; Faris Abraham, Sr. LB-TE; Tyler Goble, Sr. LB-OL; Nate Emminger, Jr. DB-WR; Bobby Riche, Sr. OL-DL; Jamarl Eiland, Jr. WR-QB-DB.  
**Others to watch:** DJ McMillan, Sr. WR-DB; Brenton Zuzo, Jr. P-K; Billy Roberts, Sr. LB-TE; Kory Ignagni, Jr. DL-OL; Matt Janke, Jr. DB-WR; Fred Dunbar, Sr. RB-DB; Kyle McMillan, Jr. DL-OL; Stefan Turrentine, Jr. LB-RB; Bobby Deeg, Jr. P-K.  
**Sawchuk says:** "Everybody on the team has to buy in like all the kids bought in last year."  
**Schedule:** (all 7 p.m. except as noted) Saturday (11 a.m.) vs. Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central at EMU; Sept. 1 at Howell; Sept. 9 at Wayne Memorial; Sept. 16 Livonia Churchill; Sept. 23 (6:30 p.m.) Livonia Franklin; Sept. 30 at Westland John Glenn; Oct. 7 Canton; Oct. 14 vs. KLAAs crossover; Oct. 21 (TBA) vs. 3rd Place Catholic League.

also might be called upon, perhaps at defensive end. "A kid who's opening up some eyes on both sides of the ball is Kyle McMillan," Sawchuk said.

### Ready to pounce

The linebacking corps should be formidable, with players such as Abraham, Goble, Turrentine and junior Mike Kennedy.

Opposing quarterbacks will have to deal with the Wildcats' quick and talented defensive secondary.

Eiland, Emminger, Janke, seniors DJ McMillan, Said Youssef, William Askew II and junior Josh Dennard provide Sawchuk with much to choose from.

Sawchuk also might have to find out what it's like to stop kickoff returns, too.

In recent years, it was virtually a cinch that Brindza (now at Notre Dame) would send his kickoffs through the end zone, forcing other teams to start at the 20-yard line.

Taking over punting and kicking duties will be juniors Brenton Zuzo and Bobby Deeg.

"Right now, Zuzo has the stronger leg," Sawchuk said. "But Deeg matched him the other day from 42 (yards) on out, with accuracy."

tsmith@hometownlife.com (734) 718-5306

## ROCKS

Continued from page B1

The offense will focus on a dynamic ground game, too, with third-year starting halfback Marcus Houston in the top spot.

"He's a good one, he's quick, just a little scab-back," the coach said about Houston, a 5-9 senior running back with big-gain capabilities. "But he's not afraid to pound it up in there when you have to."

"Marcus has bought in more with our off-season program, he's stronger than he has been. He does have a gift. ... He's a special athlete."

At fullback to augment Houston will be senior co-captain Nick Troher and junior Kyle Cameron, running behind a largely young offensive line.

"We're going to be young," Britnell said. "We have a lot of juniors that are going to be starting for us."

One of those is Matt Grabowski, who started as a sophomore in 2010.

Although co-captain Jack Vida is a senior, he has missed much of the past two seasons due to injury.

"He's finally healthy coming out of camp, so we're excited about that," Britnell said. "He's already gone through like three facemasks. He's unbelievable."

### Kicking it

Another offensive lineman is returnee Alex Brown, a senior.

There are others still vying to be in the lineup.

"We've good a few new guys in there," he said. "We've got about eight right now that we're looking at to find a starting five."

When the Rocks can't punch the ball into the end zone, they can turn to sophomore placekicker Alex Kenrick.

According to Britnell, the youngster can boot the ball through the uprights from 50 yards and has excelled at various summer kicking camps — just like 2011 Plymouth grad Kyle Brindza did.

Britnell said Kenrick has a chance to become another elite kicker at

Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

"I coached Brindza when I was at Plymouth (as an assistant)," Britnell said. "And at this point, Alex is a little ahead of where Brindza was. It's pretty cool to see."

Salem's defense is a work in progress, with coaches still trying to build up enough depth in all areas.

That particularly holds true for the defensive line, where coaches are looking to minimize using O-linemen.

"We're trying to platoon more up front so we can get a rotation and not have the same guys starting both ways," Britnell said.

The Rocks likely will employ juniors Nick Howie, Justin Broughman, senior Zach Bird and junior Kyle Cameron on the D-line.

### New attitude

Anchoring the linebacking crew will be senior co-captain Tyler Schultz.

"Tyler's another smart kid, he's a coach on the defensive side," Britnell said. "He knows where everybody's going and what to do."

"Sometimes he doesn't look the prettiest, but he always winds up where he's supposed to. He really improved a lot last year as a junior."

Vida and Werner are other linebackers who could wreak havoc on KLAAs Central opponents.

In the defensive secondary will be Houston, Dierker, Jankowski, senior Evian Pardo, juniors Mike McNamara and Jeremy Lewis and sophomore Gu'woin Ingram.

All in all, Britnell likes the way the Salem program is progressing.

"I think the first year I was here, there was excitement," he said. "A new regime. But did they believe they could win? I don't think we played like they thought that. Last year was more of the same."

"This year, the attitude is different. It's just starting to feel like it should. Whether or not that shows up, that's to be determined."

tsmith@hometownlife.com (734) 718-5306

### FAST FACTS

**School:** Salem.  
**Head coach:** Kurt Britnell, third season.  
**2010 record:** 1-8, KLAAs Central Division.  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Drew Thompson, Ethan Walsh, Omar Kendah, Jake Pollard, Tommy Rodriguez.  
**Top returnees:** Marcus Houston, Sr. RB-DB; Chris Dierker, Jr. WR-DB; Ryan Jankowski, Sr. WR-DB; Evian Pardo, Sr. WR-DB; Nick Troher, Sr. RB-DL; Tyler Schultz, Sr. LB; Jack Vida, Sr. OL-LB.  
**Others to watch:** Jacob Deprez, Jr. QB; Alex Kenrick, Soph. K-P; Cameron Werner, Jr. TE-LB.  
**Britnell says:** "You know, we're building, we're getting there so now we got some guys that are all in and committed to what we're trying to do, improve the program."  
**Schedule:** (all 7 p.m. except as noted) Friday at Ann Arbor Huron; Sept. 1 Walled Lake Central; Sept. 9 South Lyon; Sept. 16 at Novi; Sept. 23 at Northville; Sept. 30 South Lyon East; Oct. 7 (6:30 p.m.) Livonia Stevenson; Oct. 14 vs. KLAAs crossover; Oct. 21 at Canton.

## SCHEDULE

Continued from page B1

Canton three times in a row. Or Plymouth week 1, 8 and 10."

"So nothing against Plymouth, but just from a program perspective I didn't want that chance."

Plymouth head coach Mike Sawchuk said he understood the Salem move.

"They're trying to build their program, I respect what they're doing," Saw-

chuk said. "... You got to respect another coach's decision on how they want to run their program."

"If that's what they want to do there's nothing we can do about it. We just got to play who we play."

As for Canton, the Chiefs open up 7 p.m. Thursday at PCEP's varsity turf field against Walled Lake Central.

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Elisa from Italy, 16 yrs. Likes to play tennis, swim, loves to dance. Elisa hopes to play American softball and learn American slang while in the USA.

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## 2011 BOYS TENNIS PREVIEW — PT. 1

# Chiefs, Wildcats eye South Division battle

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

Last year, Canton and Plymouth's varsity boys tennis teams battled for supremacy in the KLAAs South Division.

It looks as though that rivalry could spill over into another season as the Chiefs and Wildcats gear up for the 2011 regular schedule.

League play for both teams begins on Tuesday, Aug. 30 with Canton visiting Wayne Memorial and Plymouth hosting Livonia Churchill.

Understandably, coaches for the two teams are eager to roll.

"We had a strong team last year (4-3 overall, 4-0 in the KLAAs South) which will encourage the team to fight hard to improve and keep our winning streak alive," noted Canton head coach Barb Lehmann.

She said there is experience returning to the varsity in Alan Halim, Josh Wendel, Sarav Shah, James Dodge, Steve Price and Travis Michalak.

Wendel and Shah are co-captains who Lehmann said "have worked hard this summer in preparing the team for the season and I am sure (that) will add to our success."

Another plus, the Chiefs coach added, is having newcomers with tournament competition under their belts.

The Wildcats (6-1, 4-1) have All-Stater Aaron Zhang back and that brings a smile to the face of head coach Tom Kimball.



Zhang

"Our school's only All-State player, Aaron Zhang, returns for his senior

year and he will be backed up by a talented group of singles players," Kimball said. "Many of the doubles guys have been working on their game year-round, and should add some depth to our lineup."

Kimball also likes having "strong potential in some of our JV players and we will likely shuffle in a few of those guys for some varsity experience."

Zhang will handle No. 1 singles, followed by freshman Charlie Hou (No. 2), senior Josh Heinze (No. 3) and senior Josh Postel (No. 4).

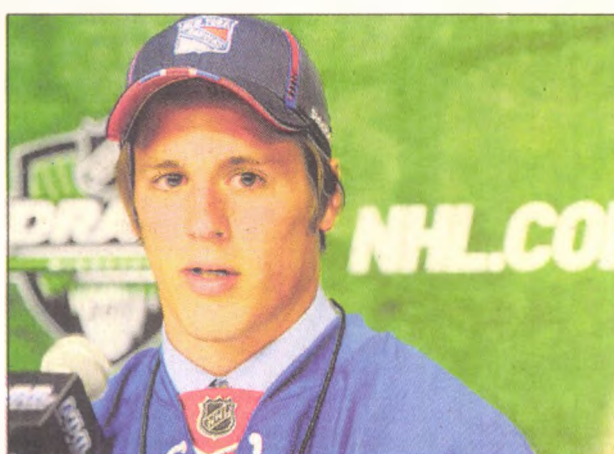
Leading off the doubles lineup for the Wildcats are junior Cameron Earls and senior Kevin Standifer in the No. 1 slot.

Other Plymouth doubles teams entering the season are as follows: No. 2, juniors Akash Yerakola and Praveen Loganathan; No. 3, sophomore Jon Conn and junior Dylan Grant; No. 4, juniors Joe Klots and Danny Sinnott; No. 5, senior Raleigh Belanger and sophomore Jared Hopf.

"We have a solid team and strong leadership," Kimball said.

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# Whalers ink big, quick Miller



J.T. Miller, who will play this season with the Plymouth Whalers, also is property of the New York Rangers. He was picked 15th overall by the Rangers in the 2011 NHL entry draft.

Plymouth Whalers coach and general manager Mike Vellucci recently signed J.T. Miller, who was originally selected by the Whalers in the fifth round of the 2009 Ontario Hockey League Priority Selection.

After spending the last two seasons in Ann Arbor with the US National Team Development Program, Miller, 18, of East Palestine, Ohio, was taken this summer in the first round (15th overall) by the New York Rangers in the 2011 National Hockey League Entry Draft.

The Rangers recently signed Miller to an entry-level contract.

"J.T. is a skilled power forward," said Vellucci. "He already plays what we call Whaler hockey. Given a little time, he should fit in well in Plymouth."

According to Miller, reached via telephone, "I'm very excited to finally get to Plymouth. I've had to make a couple of tough decisions over the last few weeks, but I'm happy to get up there and am ready to play."

"We love the way J.T. plays the game," said Gordie Clark, the Rangers' player personnel

director. "Everyone who went out to see him came back with (the opinion that) every shift J.T. takes is identical — he expends himself in his skating game and his physical game, making plays and crashing the net."

"He has all of those qualities and he uses them on every shift."

Compuware Arena fans will immediately notice that Miller is a player with size and speed.

"I'm a big forward who likes to use my speed to my advantage," Miller said. "I try to get pucks to the net and be in front of the net as much as possible."

Miller led Team USA in scoring with 13 points

in six games en route to capturing the gold medal. Miller was selected by coaches as Team USA's top player during the tournament.

The addition of Miller give the Whalers three players who were selected in the first round of the 2011 NHL Entry Draft. Those include Miller at 15th overall; Stefan Noesen, who was taken by Ottawa 21st overall; and Rickard Rakell, who was taken by Anaheim 30th overall.

Other Whalers taken in the 2011 NHL Entry Draft include Garrett Meurs by Colorado (5th round, 123rd overall) and Matt Mahalak by Caroli-

na (6th round, 163rd overall).

Miller is expected to report with the rest of the Whalers on Sept. 1 for the start of training camp.

**Whalers nab Bathgate**  
Vellucci also acquired 20-year-old forward Andy Bathgate from the Belleville Bulls.

In return, the Whalers send third round picks in the 2013 and 2014 Ontario Hockey League Priority Selection back to Belleville.

Bathgate was selected by Belleville in the third round (54th overall) in the 2007 OHL Priority Selection and was taken by the Pittsburgh Penguins in the fifth round (151st overall) in the 2009 National Hockey League Entry Draft.

Bathgate enjoyed his best offensive season in the OHL last season for the Bulls, scoring 25 goals and 35 assists for 60 points in 64 games.

The acquisition of Bathgate gives Plymouth five overage players (1991 birthdays) on the roster — forwards RJ Mahalak, Jamie Devane and Peter Neal, along with Bathgate and defenseman Beau Schmitz.

OHL teams carry three overages every season.

# Ocelots to feature international flavor

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

The make-up of this year's Schoolcraft College men's soccer team has the distinct look of a United Nations meeting.

That's because veteran coach Rick Larson, who is coming off a 17-4-1 season and a runner-up finish in the NJCAA Region XII tournament, has brought in players from three different continents including England, Venezuela and Canada.

"It's been great," Larson said. "I think the multi-cultural flavor allows us to play a versatile style of soccer. You have the area kids mixed in with players who have come here and are serious about the game, and it makes for a unique environment."

Schoolcraft opens its season Saturday on the road against Region XII nemesis and 2011 NJCAA National Tourney runner-up Cincinnati State before coming back home for a 10 a.m. Sunday match against South Suburban (Ill.).

The Ocelots, gunning for their sixth straight MCCA title, are led by second-team NJCAA All-America Marco Lobo, a native of Caracas, Venezuela.

## ROUNDUP

### Join the Legends

Are you a young baseball player from Canton or Plymouth looking for a new travel league experience?

Well, the Motor City Legends might be just the ticket for you.

The MC Legends are a new travel team in the KVBSA who will begin play in 2012.

Tryouts are 6-8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27, (with registration 15 minutes before each tryout) at Haggerty Diamond C (located on the northeast corner of Haggerty Road and Hines Park).

Prospective players must be age 11 or younger by May 1, 2012, and a tryout waiver form must be completed. Contact Mike Zaia at (248) 462-9380 for more information and to pre-register.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### MU women edged, 1-0

Kelsey Pauley's goal early in the second half proved to be the difference Saturday as host Marian (Ind.) University defeated the Madonna University women's soccer team, 1-0, at St. Vincent Health Field.

Goalkeeper Chelsea Gregg (Livonia Clarenceville) made six saves, while Marian counterpart Jessica Fisher had eight stops.

The Crusaders were coming off a season-opening 4-0 loss to NCAA Division I foe Butler University Friday in Indianapolis.

"I thought we played better today," Madonna coach Jeff Hodgson said. "Compared to this time last year, we are getting quality scoring chances where we were just not getting those last year. We just need to continue to work hard in training this week to be more confident on the ball and our finishing."

MU (0-2) returns to action beginning at noon

Saturday at home against St. Xavier (Ill.).

### Eagles go for Gold

The Plymouth Christian volleyball team reached the semifinals of the Gold Bracket at Saturday's Battle Creek St. Philip Carrie Adams Memorial Tournament.

After winning in pool play against Goodrich (25-19, 25-19) and Harper Creek (25-15, 25-16), the Eagles split a match against Concord (27-25, 23-25).

In the subsequent Gold playoffs, PCA knocked off Leland (25-23, 25-14) before falling 23-12, 25-14 in the semifinal against St. Philip.

Top performers for the Eagles entering the St. Philip matchup were Kristin Malcolm (35 kills, nine blocks), Jennifer Malcolm (57 assists), Jessica Rich (13 digs), Sarah Howard (12 kills, three blocks), Amy Zinn (10 kills, 13 digs) and Mary Anleitner (eight kills).

PCA will play another tournament Saturday at Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard.

# Moose game to honor 9/11 victims

The Detroit Moose hockey team will remember those who on 9/11 "paid the ultimate sacrifice" by playing a game on Saturday, Sept. 10 at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township.

Moose president and Canton resident Derek Fowler said the "remembrance" game against Ameriprise Financial is slated from 5-7 p.m..

Admission is free and families are welcome. The first 100 kids

## MOOSE HOCKEY

age 12 and under will receive a free slice of pizza and a soft drink for the game.

Compuware is located at 14900 North Beck Road. For more information, go to www.DetroitMoose.org or www.Ameriprise.com.

Fowler said members of the Detroit Red Wings Alumni will be on hand and there will be other special guest appearances.

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 Sept. 16 7 p.m. at Wayne Memorial  
 Sept. 23 7 p.m. vs. Westland John Glenn – PCEP Varsity Turf Field  
 Sept. 30 7 p.m. at Livonia Churchill  
 Oct. 7 7 p.m. at Plymouth – PCEP Varsity Turf Field  
 Oct. 14 7 p.m. vs. KLA A Conference Crossover  
 Oct. 21 7 p.m. vs. Salem – PCEP Varsity Turf Field

PCEP= Plymouth-Canton Educational Park

## Jr. Varsity Canton

Aug. 24 7 p.m. at Walled Lake Central  
 Aug. 31 7 p.m. vs. Grand Blanc (PCEP JV Field)  
 Sept. 8 7 p.m. at Livonia Franklin  
 Sept. 15 7 p.m. vs. Wayne Memorial (PCEP Varsity Turf Field)  
 Sept. 22 7 p.m. at Westland John Glenn  
 Sept. 29 7 p.m. vs. Livonia Churchill (Varsity Turf Field)  
 Oct. 6 7 p.m. vs. Plymouth (Varsity Turf Field)  
 Oct. 13 7 p.m. vs. KLA A Conference Crossover  
 Oct. 20 7 p.m. at Salem (Varsity Turf Field)

## Freshman Canton

Aug. 24 4:30 p.m. at Walled Lake Central  
 Aug. 31 4:30 p.m. vs. Grand Blanc (PCEP JV Field)  
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 Oct. 13 4:30 p.m. vs. KLA A Conference Crossover  
 Oct. 20 4:30 p.m. at Salem (Varsity Turf Field)

## VARSITY Plymouth

Aug. 27 11 a.m. vs. Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central at EMU (Big Day Prep Showdown)  
 Sept. 1 7 p.m. at Howell  
 Sept. 9 7 p.m. at Wayne Memorial  
 Sept. 16 7 p.m. vs. Livonia Churchill – PCEP Varsity Turf Field  
 Sept. 23 6:30 p.m. vs. Livonia Franklin – PCEP JV Field  
 Sept. 30 7 p.m. at Westland John Glenn  
 Oct. 7 7 p.m. vs. Canton – PCEP Varsity Turf Field  
 Oct. 14 7 p.m. vs. KLA A Conference Crossover  
 Oct. 21 TBD vs. 3rd Place Catholic League – PCEP JV Field

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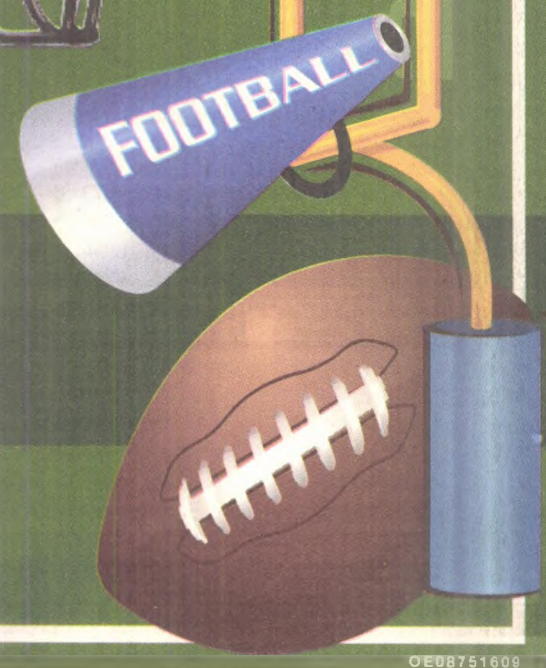
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 Sept. 29 7 p.m. vs. Westland John Glenn (JV Field)  
 Oct. 6 7 p.m. at Canton (Varsity Turf Field)  
 Oct. 13 7 p.m. vs. KLAAs Conference Crossover  
 Oct. 20 7 p.m. Open Date

## VARSITY Salem

Aug. 26 7 p.m. at Ann Arbor Huron  
 Sept. 1 7 p.m. vs. Walled Lake Central - PCEP Varsity Turf Field  
 Sept. 9 7 p.m. vs. South Lyon - PCEP Varsity Turf Field  
 Sept. 16 7 p.m. at Novi  
 Sept. 23 7 p.m. at Northville  
 Sept. 30 7 p.m. vs. South Lyon East - PCEP Varsity Turf Field  
 Oct. 7 6:30 p.m. vs. Livonia Stevenson - PCEP JV Field  
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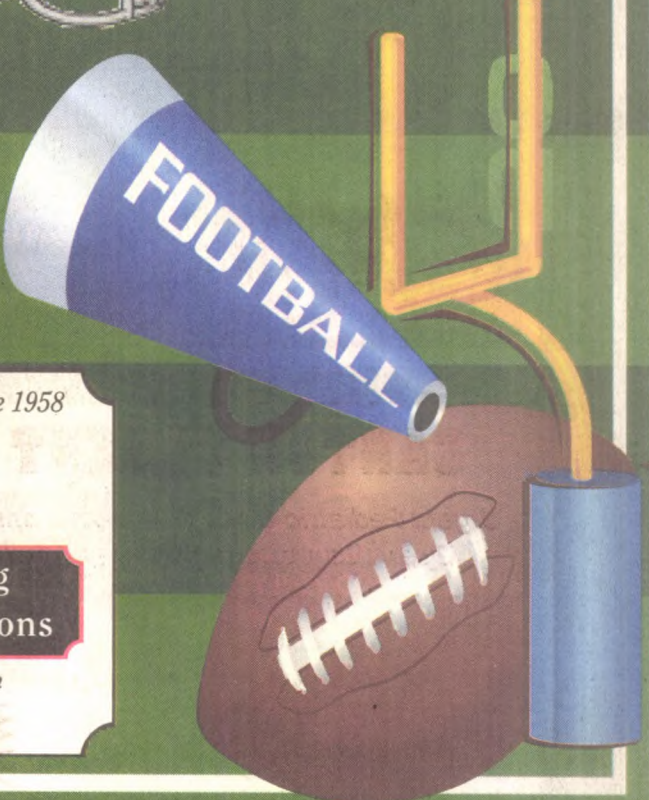
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## BARBER, RUTH MARIE

Age 86. On Monday July 18, 2011 Ruth Marie Barber died peacefully at home when called to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She was born on May 13, 1925 in Detroit, Michigan, the daughter of the late Owen and Margaret (Dahm) Ivey. She was the second of five children & was raised in Detroit, Michigan. On September 8, 1945 she married Edward Barber (deceased January 26, 1984), husband of 38 years. Settled in Plymouth, Michigan in 1959 & raised a family of five children. She was a long time member of Risen Christ Lutheran Church. She is survived by Dianne Barber, Richard (Virginia) Barber, Margaret Carter, Gayle Nelson, Alecia Barber, 16 grandchildren, & 30 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, four siblings, & a son-in-law. A memorial service was held at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church in Dexter, Michigan on August 5, 2011. Cremation has taken place & burial of remains will be at Glen Eden Lutheran Memorial Park in Livonia, Michigan.

## GREEN, GEORGE

Age 73, beloved husband of Barbara, father of Georgette and Joel Green both of Rapid City, Michigan. Also survived by two brothers, 2 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Celebration of Life Service, Saturday, August 27th at 11:00 am at the Chapel of L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 42600 Ford Rd, Canton (W. of Lilly Rd.)

## POST, BETTY L.

Age 70, of Farmington Hills, MI, formerly of Whitehall, MI, passed into the arms of her savior, Jesus Christ, on August 17th, 2011, after a short but graceful battle with pancreatic cancer. She was born on March 8, 1941, to Peter Hutchinson & Jean Reed Hutchinson at her grandparents' home in Six Lakes, MI. In December 1970, she suffered a spinal cord injury in a motor vehicle accident that left her paralyzed from the waist down. Betty was an inspiration to all who met her, they were amazed by her ability to overcome her disability & accomplish more than most with enthusiasm & always with a bright smile & warm heart. She especially enjoyed water color & oil painting, reading, teaching Bible study & Sunday school, playing Bridge & crafting. Betty was an extraordinarily talented seamstress & created many beautiful outfits for her daughters, grandchildren & others seeking her professional touch. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. Betty is preceded in death by her parents Pete Hutchinson & Jean Hutchinson Cannon, her brother Donald Hutchinson & her infant son Marc Verplanck. She is survived by her sister Wanda Roach of Tawas, MI & Sharon (Wayne) Cannon-Ariss of Whitehall, MI; her daughters Dr. Marcy (Michael) Verplanck-Kantz of Traverse City, MI, & Dr. Michelle (Kurt) Verplanck-Kralovich of Farmington Hills, MI; her six grandchildren: Arielle, Marc, & Delin Kantz, Jon-Luc, Georgia, & Alexis Kralovich; as well as many nieces & nephews. Memorial service will be held on Saturday, September 3, 2011, at 2:00 pm at Faith Covenant Church-35415 West 14 Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48331-1300; Reverend Ken Larson officiating. In lieu of flowers, consider memorial donations to: Faith Covenant Church, Betty Post Memorial (address as above).



## HOLDEN, AUDREY J.

Died May 3, 2011, age 78 of Plymouth Loving mother of Jeri Lynn (Danny) Holden-Taylor, Teri Ann Ritchison, and Jamie Holden. Proud grandmother of Ben Ritchison, Christian Taylor, Audra Taylor and James Holden. Dear great-grandmother of Patchoulie, Lotus, Willow and Hattie Joe Ritchison. Audrey retired from Hertz after 25 years of service. During her retirement she volunteered at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, The Henry Ford, and the YMCA in Livonia. She was also a very active member of Risen Christ Lutheran Church in Plymouth. Her memorial service will be held Saturday September 3, at 10:30 AM at Risen Christ Lutheran Church, 46250 Ann Arbor Road (btwn Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. Memorial contributions may be made to U of M Cancer Center or American Heart Association. To share memories please visit: [vermeulenfuneralhome.com](http://vermeulenfuneralhome.com).



## DUMAS, MARY E.

Died August 17, 2011 at the age of 89. Mary served as Wayne County Commissioner for 14 years and was a Schoolcraft College Trustee. She is survived by her husband, Victor and children Cordelia, Charles and Julianne, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A Memorial Service will be held at 3:30 PM on Saturday, August 27, 2011 at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Gathering from 1:30 until time of Service. In lieu of flowers, memorials are requested to The Salvation Army Bed & Bread Program or the Michigan Humane Society. Please share a memory at [www.rgrharris.com](http://www.rgrharris.com)

## NESTOROVSKI, MILICA

of Bloomfield, 8/15/2011; age 85; wife of Trpk. Mother of Vince, Jonathon & Mike. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (586)777-0555.

## SCRIVO, ELLEN T.

of Harrison Twp., 7/13/2011; age 58; beloved wife of David. Dear mother of Matthew and Mark. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (586)777-0555.

## SMITH, NORMA L.

of Dearborn Hts., 8/4/2011; age 91; Mother of Susan Brostean, grandmother of Candice Hunter and Lucas. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (313)382-1181.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

**EVICH, STANLEY P.**  
of Detroit, 8/3/2011; age 82; husband of Charlotte. Father of Gail Raczak, Pamela Evich, Kathleen Kugel, Diane Stege and the late Gary. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (586)777-0555.

## Friendly game



Members of Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, Livonia, mixed fellowship and fun on the baseball field recently. The annual game, with team captains were the Rev. Anthony Creeden and the Rev. Dean Davenport, was among the activities at the church's annual summer gathering that included food and faith. Youngsters played in a bounce house and all ages took part in a water balloon toss.

## RELIGION CALENDAR

Send calendar items to Sharon Dargay at [sdargay@hometownlife.com](mailto:sdargay@hometownlife.com). Feel free to include relevant photos as attached jpgs. Or mail items to Dargay, Observer, 615 Lafayette, Level 2, Detroit, MI 48226.

### Aug. 25-31

#### BACK TO SCHOOL PARTY

Time/Date: 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27

**Location:** Canton Christian Fellowship, 8775 Ronda Drive, Canton

**Details:** Party for people who are in financial need because of job loss or reduction in income. There will be games, food, and fun. Each registered child will receive free school supplies

**Contact:** Register at (734) 404-2480 or (734) 927-6686

#### CRAFTERS NEEDED

Time/Date: Accepting applications now

**Location:** Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

**Details:** Crafters sought for fall craft show, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Oct. 15. Space rental is \$25. \$5 per table or bring your own table. Spots are limited to three crafters per category and one vendor per product

**Contact:** (734) 464-0990 or e-mail [rpfoffice@arounddetroit.biz](mailto:rpfoffice@arounddetroit.biz)

# Church observes 9/11 at annual picnic

Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia will thank "first responders" for their service to the community during the congregation's annual picnic on Sept. 11.

"We're doing it in remembrance of the 10th anniversary of 9/11," said Sarah Nadeau, church communications coordinator. "We're planning for 350 people including church members. It's for the whole community. It's free to the public."

The picnic will start at 11:30 a.m., after the 10 a.m. worship service. A ceremony recognizing the Livonia police and fire departments will start at 12:30 p.m. The congregation also will plant a peace pole on church grounds.

"It will be placed in the ground and there will be a prayer for peace around the pole," Nadeau said. "We're taking a stand for peace."

The pole will sport the phrase "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in Arabic, English, Hindi and Spanish. Nadeau said it will mark the 9/11 anniversary and celebrate the rich cultural diversity in and around Livonia.

Games, face painting and bounce houses will round out the festivities.

"We're doing chicken and potato salad, beans and corn on the cob and ice cream cones. It's a fun time."

For more information, call the church at (734) 422-0149.

— By Sharon Dargay

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### UNITED METHODIST

**ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills  
www.orchardumc.org  
248-626-3620  
Worship:  
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages  
Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter

### PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

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(734) 422-0494  
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9:00 am  
Traditional Service  
10:30 am  
Visit [www.rosedalegardens.org](http://www.rosedalegardens.org)  
For information about our many programs

### LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

**Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96  
www.christoursavior.org  
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional  
Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am  
Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413  
Staffed Nursery Available  
Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ  
Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeden  
734-522-6830

### CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

**PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
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Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.  
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.  
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.  
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(734) 455-3196

### PRESBYTERIAN

**Fellowship Presbyterian Church**  
Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.  
Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.  
Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire  
Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church  
16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road  
Nursery provided • [www.fellowship-presbyterian.org](http://www.fellowship-presbyterian.org)

### EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

**WARD CHURCH**  
4000 Six Mile Road  
Northville, MI 48168  
248-374-7400  
www.wardchurch.org  
Traditional Worship at 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m.  
Contemporary Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m.  
Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.  
The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM

### LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

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WORSHIP SERVICES  
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.  
THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.  
website: [www.stpaulsilivonia.org](http://www.stpaulsilivonia.org)

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248.471.5282

### CONGREGATIONAL

**North Congregational Church**  
36520 12 Mile Rd.  
Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted)  
(248) 848-1750  
10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School  
Faith - Freedom - Fellowship  
Ministers  
Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron

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





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Farmington Hills • 29538 Orchard Lake Rd (248) 626-4110  
 Ferndale • 1030 W 8 Mile Rd (248) 543-7131  
 Livonia • 28411 Plymouth Rd, (734) 525-5916

Northville • 598 S Main St (248) 675-1156  
 Sterling Heights • 43375 Van Dyke Ave (586) 731-6590  
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## Women get top billing at new professional theater

By Sharon Dargay  
O&E Staff Writer

Two Muses Theatre will put out the welcome mat for women when it holds auditions next month.

"We're here to promote female artists and artisans. That's what our mission is all about — finding plays that deal with women's issues, giving women the opportunity to direct, to stage manage," said Barbie Weisserman, a Farmington Hills resident who founded the new professional theater with Diane Hill, also of Farmington Hills. "We'd like to help employ as many females as possible."

Men will fill a few roles, too, during the theater's inaugural season. It will get off the ground with Neil Simon's female version of *The Odd Couple* in November, followed by *Same Time Next Year* in February 2012, both staged in the performing space at Barnes & Noble, 6800 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield.

Weisserman said the 180-seat theater is perfect for the new venture because it required few changes other than electrical work for the stage lighting.

"It's an absolutely beautiful space for us to use. It's nice for patrons, too. There's a Starbucks right there and they can bring the coffee in and during the 20-minute intermission they can browse through the store," she said. "The Farmington Players were the ones who made the space into a theater a number of years ago. It's ready to go."

Weisserman has been involved with professional and community theater, including the Farmington Players, SRO Productions in Southfield —



Hill



Weisserman

where she's a board member and former executive director — and Stagecrafters in Royal Oak. She's chairman of the board at Magenta Giraffe Theatre and has worked with Breathe Art Theatre Project, Living Faith, Zeitgeist and the Smith Theatre at Oakland

Community College, (OCC). She teaches acting, costume design, and hair and makeup for theater at OCC and has bachelor's and master's degrees in theater from Wayne State University. Hill earned a doctorate degree in theater from Wayne State, master's and bachelor's degrees from the University of Michigan and taught high school drama and music for 20 years. She has produced and directed for professional theaters such as Breathe Art Theatre Company in Detroit, Opus Mime in Ann Arbor, Jewish Ensemble Theatre in West Bloomfield and Heartland Theatre Company in Detroit. Her acting credits include shows at Fisher Theatre, Masonic Temple, Gem

### TWO MUSES THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 5-10 p.m., Monday, Sept. 12

**Location:** Barnes & Noble Theatre Space, 6800 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. Enter the bookstore and theatre is on the left

**Details:** Auditions for the female version of Neil Simon's "The Odd Couple" require a 1-2 minute comic monologue and possible readings from the script. Participants should bring a head shot and resume. All roles are non-Equity and are paid. The roles of Olive, Florence, Mickey and one of the Spanish brothers have been cast. The theater seeks women, ages 40-60 and men, ages 40-50  
**Season:** "The Odd Couple," will run Friday-Sunday, Nov. 4-27; "Same Time, Next Year," is set for Friday-Sunday, Feb. 3-26, 2012

**Contact:** For audition appointment, e-mail preferred half hour time slot to [twomusestheatre@gmail.com](mailto:twomusestheatre@gmail.com). Visit [www.twomusestheatre.org](http://www.twomusestheatre.org) or send written inquiries to Two Muses Theatre, 29015 Summerwood, Farmington Hills, MI 48334

Theatre, Purple Rose Theatre, Tipping Point Theatre and other professional venues; independent films, industrial films and television and radio commercials. She is cast in Meadowbrook Theatre's first show of the season, *Something Wicked this Way Comes*.

Both Hill and Weisserman will appear in *The Odd Couple*. Hill will direct Two Muses Theatre's first show and Weisserman will costume it, dress the set, handle props and other duties.

They first worked together at Oakland Community College, where Weisserman costumed shows that Hill directed.

"We put our heads together and it was real simple. She said do you want to start a theater? I said, okay," Weisserman recalled.

They kicked the idea around for a few months and then began to build a board of directors and start the process of becoming a nonprofit organization. They quickly found a venue and selected two plays with broad appeal for Two Muses Theatre's first season.

"Eventually we'd love to do original plays by women, but to start off we want to make sure we are enconced well in the public domain so we can get people into the theater to see productions that will keep women working," Weisserman said. "It's difficult to find popular plays to start off with to get our feet wet and hit all the female issues at once, but we also hope to pick more female-oriented plays in the future. We're also going to be doing benefits for female issues."

She said that's likely to include a late winter production of *The Vagina Monologues*.

"We hope to feature female artists and have their work for sale on a rotating basis," she added.

During the summer, they'll switch gears and focus on plays for children.

"Not using children, but for children, like fantasy-type theater. We both in the past worked at OCC doing plays of that nature. We both had a great deal of fun with them."

For more about Two Muses Theatre, visit [www.twomusestheatre.org](http://www.twomusestheatre.org).



Farmington Community Chorus will perform at Stars in the Park concert series, 7 p.m. Aug. 25, in Heritage Park, in Farmington Hills.

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### GET OUT!

#### Art

##### NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

**Time/Date:** Through Aug. 27; gallery hours are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday

**Location:** 215 W. Cady, Northville  
**Details:** "13 Ways to View a Blackbird and Other Thoughts in Thread," is an art quilt show featuring two groups of work by artists from across the Midwest  
**Contact:** (248) 344-0497

#### Comedy

##### THE ARK

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 16-17

**Location:** 316 South Main, Ann Arbor  
**Details:** The Second City with sketches and improvisation; \$25  
**Contact:** (734) 763-8587; [www.theark.org](http://www.theark.org)

##### Go Comedy!

**Time/Date:** Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays

**Location:** 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale  
**Details:** Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays  
**Contact:** (248) 327-0575; [gocomedy.net](http://gocomedy.net)

##### JD'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

**Time/Date:** Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

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

##### JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB OF LIVONIA

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

**Location:** 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia  
**Details:** Dave Lãndau with Cory Latarski, through Aug. 27; Collin Moulton with Nate Fridson, Aug. 31-Sept. 3; Sheila Kay with Darnell Anderson, Sept. 7-10; Nick DiPaolo, Sept. 16-17  
**Contact:** (734) 261-0555, [\[scomplex.com\]\(http://scomplex.com\)](http://www.kicker-</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

##### MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

**Time/Date:** Nathan Macintosh, Aug. 25-27; Michael Kosta, Sept. 8-10; James P. Connolly, Sept. 15-17

**Location:** 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak  
**Contact:** (248) 542-9900, [www.comedycastle.com](http://www.comedycastle.com)

#### Concerts

**Contact:** (734) 455-1453

##### THE ARK

**Time/Date:** Suzy Bogguss, Aug. 26; Finvarra's Wren, Aug. 27; Brother Sun featuring Joe Jencks, Greg Greenway & Pat Wictor and Jen Cass, Aug. 28; The Fishtank Ensemble, Sept. 1; Orpheum Bell & The Red Sea Pedestrians, Sept. 2; Chris Thile & Michael Daves, Sept. 8; The David Wax Museum, Sept. 9; John McCutcheon, Sept. 10; Carbon Leaf & Chamberlin, Sept. 11; Bernard Allison, Sept. 13; Ben Sollee & John Whitaker, Sept. 14; Ember Swift, Sept. 15; Willy Porter with Seth Glier, Sept. 18; Joy Kills Sorrow, Sept. 19; Maria Muldaur & Her Red Hot Bluesiana Band, Sept. 20; Eilen Jewell, Sept. 21; Mavis Staples, Sept. 23; Red Horse, Sept. 24; Patrizio, Sept. 26; Match by Match & Hannah Winkler, Sept. 27; Asleep at the Wheel, Sept. 28; Fleet Foxes with The Walkmen, Sept. 29; The RFD Boys, Sept. 30

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

##### HERITAGE PARK

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 25  
**Location:** 24915 Farmington Road in Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Farmington Community Chorus concludes the free summer concert series, Stars in the Park  
**Contact:** (248) 473-1848

##### KELLOGG PARK

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Aug. 26  
**Location:** Downtown Plymouth  
**Details:** Randy Brock Group  
**Coming up:** Lady Sunshine and the X Band, Sept. 2 Family series: Noon, Wednesday concert series features Beverly Meyer, "The Music Lady," Aug. 24  
**Contact:** [www.downtownplymouth.org](http://www.downtownplymouth.org) for evening concerts; [www.plymoutharts.com](http://www.plymoutharts.com) for noon concerts

##### TOWN SQUARE

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26

**Location:** In the pavilion at Town Square in downtown Northville

**Details:** Free concert series concludes with Justine Blazer, rock/country  
**Contact:** (248) 349-0203

##### TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Ana Egge with Jason Myles Goss, Sept. 9; Jan Krist, Sept. 10; Steve Gillette and Cindy Mangsen, Sept. 17; Pierce Pettis and Bill Mallonee, Sept. 23; Claudia Nygaard with Jeff Scott, Sept. 24; Joshua Davis, Sept. 25; Tim Grimm and Mark Dvorak, Sept. 30; Tumbledown-Town, Oct. 1

**Location:** 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia  
**Contact:** (734) 464-6302, [www.trinity-house.org](http://www.trinity-house.org)

#### Dance

##### MOON DUSTERS

**Time/Date:** 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday; dance lessons 7-8 p.m.

**Location:** Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia  
**Details:** Singles and couples dance to music of the 30s, 40s and 50s; free refreshments. Dance lessons cost \$6; dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests, \$6.50 for associates and \$6 for Moon Dusters members  
**Contact:** Joe Castrodale, club president, (248) 968-5197

##### POLKA BOOSTER CLUB

**Time/Date:** Doors open, 12:30 p.m., buffet dinner, 1:30 p.m., dancing from 3 p.m.-7 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 11  
**Location:** Msgr. Hunt K of C Hall, 7080 Garling Dr., Dearborn Heights  
**Details:** Dinner-dance celebrating the club's 44th anniversary features music by Stas Golonka and the Chicago Masters. Admission is \$25, which includes buffet dinner, dancing, beer, wine and pop  
**Contact:** For reservations call Terry at (734) 422-1901 or Joanna at (313) 561-8389

#### Family

**BAKERS KEYBOARD LOUNGE**  
**Time/Dates:** 2-5 p.m. Sundays  
**Details:** Jazz for Kids Program  
**Location:** 20510 Livernois Ave., Detroit  
**Contact:** (313) 345-6300, [www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com](http://www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com)



# Sewing expo returns to Novi

The 18th annual American Sewing Expo will bring fashion shows, sewing tips, home decorating and fashion design competitions under one roof, Friday-Sunday, Sept. 23-25 at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

"Reality sewing competition, one of a kind fabrics and supplies, hands-on workshops and demonstrations will provide techniques and tips for beginner and veteran crafters and sewers," stated Janet Pray, show producer, in a press release. "It's a chance to inspire your

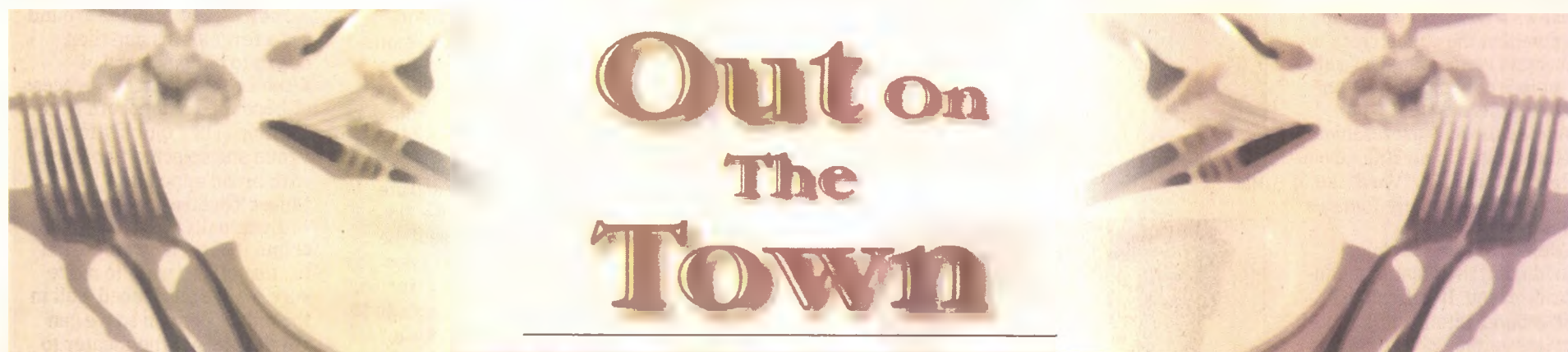
artistic and creative side." Show experts will include Stephen "Suede" Baum, 2008 Project Runway semi-finalist; Sandra Betzina, author, Vogue pattern designer and HGTV *Sew Perfect* show host; Sue Hausmann, author and PBS-TV sewing and quilting show host and producer; Kathy Delaney, author and quilting expert; and other award winning fashion sewing designers including Barb Callahan, Joi Mahon, Kathy Ruddy and Angie Wolf. Other industry professionals will conduct edu-

cational presentations at more than 160 lectures, hands-on classes, seminars and all-day workshops. The "Show Your Support Bra Challenge" sponsored by Janome, Coats & Clark and BurdaStyle and benefiting Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute will display bedecked fun, serious, themed or abstract bras completely decorated inside and out using thread in some form. The "Yes, I Made This!" pin purchased by attendees to show off their sewing project bene-

fits the Dress for Success charity. Reality television competitions are the inspiration for the Passion for Fashion Sewing Challenge that will start when the show opens. Twelve finalists design and sew garments for judging and a fashion show. Attendees can learn unique tips and techniques as they sew their own project to take home at the Sew Experience Café and make a handbag and embellish it using their style and imagination at the Bag-Mania Station sponsored by Janome and Clover. More than 125 exhibitors from 35 states, Australia

and Canada will display fabrics, sewing machines, notions, threads, patterns, yarn, sergers, technology, embellishments, kits, gadgets, embroidery designs, tools and other products. Visitors can participate with quick Make and Take projects at some vendor exhibits. Several special exhibits will display art quilts, couture collections, fiber art and fashion designs. "Show visitors can test-drive sewing machines, attend a seminar or watch a demo to get creative tips, discover fresh possibilities and be inspired for new projects," Pray stated. Show hours are 9 a.m.-6

p.m. Friday; 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Preshow workshops are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 21 and Thursday, Sept. 22. Expo admission is \$14 and children 15 and under are admitted free with a paying adult. One-hour seminars are \$14, all-day workshops are \$98 to \$148 and special combination packages are available. Onsite parking is available for \$5. Suburban Collection Showplace is located at 46100 Grand River Ave., between Novi Road and Beck, in Novi. For more information, visit [www.AmericanSewingExpo.com](http://www.AmericanSewingExpo.com) or call (248) 889-3111.



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Tailgate Turkey Pile-on

## It's a WIN-WIN!

### How to feed football fans and fight hunger

When it's your turn to call the plays on game day food, you need recipes that are easy to make, easy to eat and will feed a crowd of hungry fans. These four recipes from celebrity chefs Pat and Gina Neely are a must for your tailgating playbook — full of satisfying flavor that will score big with football fanatics.



Gina and Pat Neely

The recipes make it easy to please the football crowd, and Kraft Foods' Huddle to Fight Hunger makes it easy to help your neighbors in need. According to Feeding America, more than 50 million Americans — that's one in six of your neighbors — live in food insecure households. But you can do something about it.

Join the Huddle to Fight Hunger on Facebook — for every "like" at [www.facebook.com/KraftFightHunger](http://www.facebook.com/KraftFightHunger), Kraft Foods will help donate one meal to Feeding America. Last year, Kraft Foods and its family of iconic brands donated more than 20 million meals. Its mission this year is to help donate 25 million meals.

It's a win-win for everyone — make the recipes for your friends, like the Kraft Fight Hunger Facebook page and you will help feed your neighbors.

#### Zesty 100 Yard Bites

Prep Time: 20 minutes  
Makes: 12 servings

½ cup Kraft Mayo with Olive Oil Reduced Fat Mayonnaise  
1 tablespoon Sriracha sauce  
1 teaspoon fresh lime juice  
12 slider buns  
12 slices Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh Honey Ham

12 slices Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh Slow Roasted Roast Beef  
3 Kraft Big Slice ColbyJack Cheese Slices, cut into quarters  
2 plum tomatoes, cut into 12 slices

12 Claussen Bread 'N' Butter Pickle Chips  
12 stuffed green olives

Mix mayo, Sriracha and lime juice in a small bowl. Spread each bun with ½ tablespoon (1 ½ teaspoons) mayo mixture.

Fill each bun with 1 folded slice each ham and roast beef, a cheese slice quarter, tomato slice and pickle.

Top each bun with a small decorative bamboo skewer, skewered with an olive.

Substitute: Substitute hot pepper sauce for the Sriracha sauce.

#### Potato Dog Skins

Prep Time: 10 minutes  
Total Time: 1 hour, 30 minutes  
Makes: 6 servings

3 large baking potatoes (2 ½ pounds), baked  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
2 tablespoons butter, melted  
3 Oscar Mayer Selects Premium Beef Franks  
½ cup Bull's-Eye Original Barbecue Sauce, warmed

½ cup Kraft Shredded Colby & Monterey Jack Cheeses  
½ cup Breakstone's or Knudsen Sour Cream  
¼ cup chopped fresh chives  
Heat grill to medium heat.

Cut potatoes in half lengthwise and spoon out the flesh, leaving half-inch shells. Mix garlic and melted butter. Brush potatoes on both sides with garlic butter mixture.

Grill franks 7 to 9 minutes, or until heated through, turning occasionally; slice into rounds. Grill potatoes until crisp, about 4 to 4 ½ minutes on each side.

Spoon sliced franks into the potato shells; drizzle with barbecue sauce and top with cheese. Grill until the cheese is melted. Top with sour cream and chives.

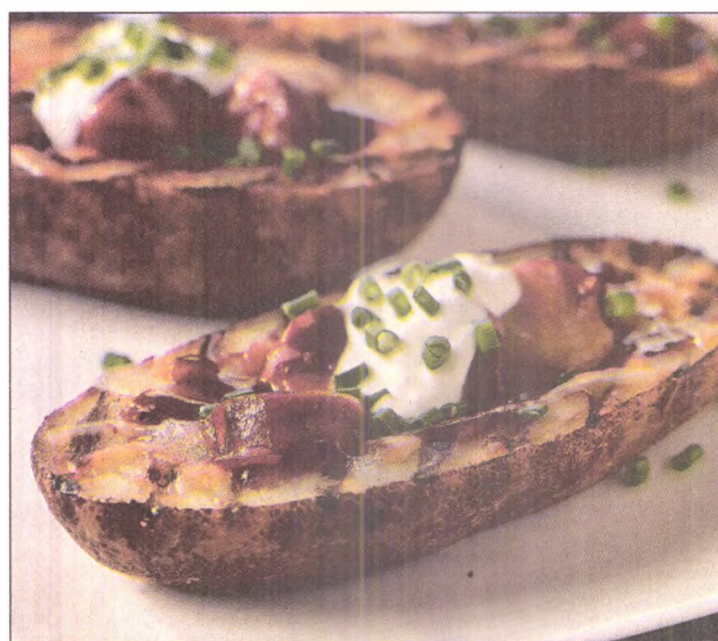
Alternative cooking method: If you prefer, bake the buttered potato skins in a 250°F oven until crisp, about 15 minutes, before adding the toppings. Fill as directed and bake 5 minutes more.



Zesty 100 Yard Bites



Chipotle Chile Mac and Cheese



Potato Dog Skins

#### Tailgate Turkey Pile-On

Prep Time: 10 minutes  
Makes: 6 servings

1 12-inch loaf Italian bread with sesame seeds, sliced in half horizontally  
¼ cup Kraft Mayo with Olive Oil  
Cracked Pepper Reduced Fat Mayonnaise

24 slices Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh Oven Roasted Turkey Breast  
6 slices Oscar Mayer Fully Cooked Bacon, crisped  
½ cup shredded iceberg lettuce  
¼ cup sliced black olives  
¼ cup drained roasted red pepper strips

Hollow top of bread slightly; discard removed bread or save for another use. Spread mayonnaise on both sides of bread.

Fill with remaining ingredients.

Slice into 6 (2-inch) pieces.

Tailgating tip: To make for easy eating, wrap sandwich in parchment paper (like at a sandwich shop) and then slice with a serrated knife. Wrap in foil for transport.

#### Chipotle Chile Mac and Cheese

Prep Time: 20 minutes  
Total Time: 35 minutes  
Makes: 6 servings, about 1 cup each

1 package (14 ounces) Kraft Deluxe Macaroni & Sharp Cheddar Cheese Sauce  
1 pound lean ground beef  
1 onion, finely chopped  
1 red bell pepper, finely chopped  
1 canned chipotle pepper in adobo sauce, minced

4 green onions, thinly sliced  
¾ cup Kraft shredded cheddar cheese

6 Ritz crackers, coarsely crushed (about ¼ cup)

Heat oven to 400°F.

Prepare dinner as directed on package.

Meanwhile, brown beef with onion and bell pepper in large skillet over medium-high heat 5 minutes. Drain.

Add meat mixture to prepared dinner and stir in chipotle pepper. Spoon into greased 2-quart casserole or baking dish. Top with green onions, cheese and cracker crumbs.

Bake 15 minutes or until mixture is hot.

Tailgating Take Along: Make your casserole in a disposable foil pan. Just heat on a covered grill on low heat until mixture is golden and heated through.

Tip: For additional heat, increase to 2 chipotle peppers in adobo sauce.

Substitute: Prepare using extra-lean ground beef and Kraft 2% Milk Shredded Cheddar Cheese.



## Project Build! gives homeowner new lease on life and place to live

When Alison Grabell, a case manager for Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit, visited her client's Novi home in March, she found rotted floors, peeling paint on the walls, appliances that didn't work and gutters that were no longer fully attached to the home. Her heart went out to the woman who had to live in these conditions. She knew that if she could find a way to improve her client's surroundings, it would also go a long way toward improving all the other aspects of her life, as well.

Grabell knew her client would be a perfect candidate for Project Build! a program formed by JFS in partnership with the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan in April 2011. Project Build! matches people in desperate need of repairs to their homes with professional builders, remodelers and suppliers. Despite facing significant financial difficulties, families in the program gain a chance to live safely and comfortably in their own homes. And despite enduring a crippling economic downturn in their businesses, local professionals can offer much needed support by donating their expertise and the materials they may have on hand.

The Home Depot Foundation and the The Home Depot Commerce Township store teamed up to complete this extensive home repair. It took seven days over a period of three weeks to replace all of the rotted flooring, paint all of the walls, replace the lighting and oven, and repair the gutters outside. The client even received a new American flag to replace her old one, which was faded and ripped. In the end, Project Build! and The Home Depot turned the client's house into a home.

"Everyone at work tells me how happy and healthy I look these days," said the client. "I tell them that every day I walk into a new home. I'm not worried about things anymore."

Marsha Burley, Team Depot captain, and 10 of her colleagues completed the majority



Working on the home are Tom Keyser (left) and Doug VanGordon.



Marsha Burley, Team Depot captain, of Commerce Township and Mark Williams, store manager, Commerce Township, were glad to participate.



Participants included back row (left to right): Linn Smith, Tom Keyser, Mark Williams, Commerce Township store manager; Front row (left to right): Brittany Pasekel, Marsha Burley, Team Depot captain, Bill Trembley.

of the work with the assistance of a couple of volunteers. "I'm leaving part of my heart here," said Burley.

Through Team Depot, an associate-led volunteer program, The Home Depot Foundation provides opportunities for associates and suppliers to contribute their home improvement know-how to create meaningful impact in communities. In 2010, Team Depot completed 1,600 projects across the country. From building dozens of wheelchair ramps in one day for disabled senior citizens in Altamonte Springs, Fla., to renovating the home of an 82-year-old Marine Corps veteran in Seattle, Wash., Home Depot associates work with local nonprofit organizations to use their home

improvement know-how to make a difference in the lives of thousands of deserving families.

"It turned out far more beautiful than I imagined it would. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Team Depot really did a fantastic job," said the homeowner.

Project Build!'s sources, in addition to The Home Depot, include The Jewish Women's Foundation of Metropolitan Detroit, BIA Charitable and Educational Foundation and the BIA Professional Women in Building Council. To date, over 35 local businesses have participated in 12 home repairs or remodels and together have donated over \$30,000 in supplies and labor costs.

Richard Cherkasky, president

of The Richard Group Inc., a JFS and BIA board member, initiated Project Build! "Unfortunately, the world has changed from how we knew it not too many years ago," said Cherkasky. "Times are hard and this gives you an opportunity to be involved with work where you know what you are doing is desperately needed and deeply appreciated. It is highly satisfying to see the relief and excitement in the clients we serve. I feel honored to be a part of it."

Project Build! is looking for building and remodeling industry professionals and local businesses to volunteer services and donate materials for upcoming jobs. If you are interested in helping, call Michelle Malamis at (248) 592-2651.

## China has firms for home services

By Robert Meisner  
Guest Columnist

**Q: Are there companies in China that provide residential services for purchasers of houses and/or apartments?**

**A:** Yes, there are companies that provide residential services including orientation, home selection, home inspection, lease negotiation and lease maintenance. The company is also involved in commercial projects throughout China. They have, by way of example, residential sales and leasing businesses throughout China. However, it has been necessary to adopt necessary measures to curb rising property prices such as restricting residents in 35 major cities from buying second or third homes.



Robert Meisner

Other measures include higher down payment requirements for mortgages, the imposition of property taxes in Chongqing and Shanghai, and various monetary policies that have raised borrowing costs for developers. Apparently more people are interested in investing in real estate because of the high demand for premium residential properties.

**Q: I am the purchaser of a condominium and I find that my condominium association is not FHA certified. Don't they have a responsibility to do so in order for me to get financing?**

**A:** In my view, the Board of Directors of a condominium association has the fiduciary responsibility to assist in the marketability of the condominium units. Given the fact that FHA requires project-wide certification ("spot" approval having been abolished in 2009), you may have a good argument that the board has been remiss in the discharge of its fiduciary duties by not seeking FHA certification, assuming that is the case. You should have your prospective seller (the co-owner) write the Board of Directors to demand that it take action to seek FHA certification.

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

### HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of May 16-20, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
6837 Carriage Hills Dr	\$135,000
44338 Fair Oaks Dr	\$131,000
1535 Glengarry Blvd	\$275,000
42825 Lilley Pointe Dr	\$52,000
1729 Nowland Ct	\$283,000
3648 S Canton Center Rd	\$70,000
46764 Spinning Wheel Dr	\$160,000

7534 Thornwood St	\$145,000
GARDEN CITY	
32261 Rock St	\$80,000
31960 Florence St	\$30,000
28782 Leona St	\$50,000
LIVONIA	
14475 Alexander St	\$146,000
35974 Ann Arbor Trl	\$48,000
15875 Blue Skies Dr	\$223,000
29059 Bretton St	\$125,000
31568 Bridge St	\$189,000
38813 Donald St	\$130,000
36152 Fairway Dr	\$290,000
19931 Fairington Rd	\$37,000
9951 Inkster Rd	\$41,000
37535 Kingsbury St	\$165,000

14644 Merriman Rd	\$170,000
NORTHVILLE	
18186 Blue Heron Dr W	\$295,000
16290 Brook Trout Ln	\$127,000
16305 Brook Trout Ln	\$125,000
44352 Cypress Point Dr	\$70,000
16368 Sherwood Ln	\$360,000
PLYMOUTH	
46730 Burlington Ct	\$210,000
50456 Beechwood Ct	\$90,000
1052 Coolidge St	\$160,000
13968 Eaton Dr	\$330,000
354 Pinewood Dr	\$50,000
1199 S Sheldon Rd	\$32,000
48989 Tuscan Hills Dr	\$440,000
8829 Woodberry Rd	\$305,000

REDFORD	
9392 Garfield	\$40,000
8974 Mercedes	\$65,000
26305 W Seven Mile Rd	\$8,000
12113 Woodbine	\$60,000
13560 Wormer	\$33,000
WESTLAND	
35030 Donnelly St	\$90,000
34354 Florence St	\$80,000
613 Lansdowne Dr	\$88,000
947 N Wildwood St	\$96,000
1377 Westchester St	\$75,000
1915 Wilshire St	\$57,000
7422 Woodview St	\$25,000

### HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of May 9-13, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
18356 Bedford St	\$277,000
19070 Bedford St	\$490,000
BINGHAM FARMS	
23795 Ravineview Ct	\$200,000
BIRMINGHAM	
771 Ann St	\$515,000
1207 Bird Ave	\$325,000
1790 Graefield Rd	\$73,000
856 S Bates St	\$895,000
1537 S Bates St	\$325,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
2975 Aspen Ln	\$235,000
496 Newburne Pointe	\$133,000
1094 Park Place Ct	\$415,000

950 Trailwood Path # D	\$87,000
284 Woodwind Dr	\$600,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
322 Douglas Dr	\$150,000
2860 Farmingdale Dr	\$249,000
7203 Lindenmere Dr	\$440,000
1915 Long Lake Shore Dr	\$1,500,000
2446 Sanders Pl	\$200,000
6290 Thurber Rd	\$230,000
1133 N Cranbrook Rd	\$705,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
3119 Arbutus St	\$130,000
9470 Boncrest St	\$80,000
2688 Ivy Hill Dr	\$233,000
8307 Kingfisher Ct	\$240,000
2282 Palmetto	\$180,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
31831 Grand River Ave Unit 8	\$18,000
33268 Slocum Dr	\$143,000
24290 Farmington Rd	\$54,000
29549 Fox Club Dr	\$243,000
30314 Fox Club Dr	\$310,000
21142 Ontaga St	\$10,000
22085 River Arbor Dr	\$148,000

26738 Trillium Dr	\$775,000
29850 W 12 Mile Rd # 503	\$22,000
31915 W 14 Mile Rd # 237	\$85,000
30271 Westgate Rd	\$235,000
FRANKLIN	
26980 Wellington Rd	\$280,000
Lathrup Village	\$78,000
17380 Roseland Blvd	\$90,000
MILFORD	
1675 Lone Tree	\$38,000
2525 W Buno Rd	\$425,000
NOVI	
24584 Bashian Dr	\$56,000
24347 Bramblewood Dr	\$227,000
22553 Cranbrooke Dr	\$78,000
1705 East Lake Rd	\$165,000
48700 Grand River Ave	\$510,000
23667 Greening Ct	\$232,000
40518 Lenox Park Dr	\$229,000
40522 Lenox Park Dr	\$240,000
27026 Maxwell Ct	\$45,000
25556 Portico Ln	\$120,000
30911 Savannah Ct	\$160,000
44920 W 10 Mile Rd	\$185,000
157 Wainwright St	\$116,000

45566 White Pines Dr	\$325,000
28346 Wolcott Dr	\$89,000
22142 Worcester Dr	\$415,000
SOUTH LYON	
144 Aspen Way	\$78,000
331 E Lake St	\$75,000
205 Maplewood Ct	\$42,000
512 Orchard Rd	\$18,000
23689 Prescott Ln W	\$61,000
SOUTHFIELD	
29644 Farmbrook Villa Ct # 2	\$28,000
29170 Heritage Ct	\$73,000
22530 Ivanhoe Ln	\$123,000
24282 Lois Ln	\$45,000
27389 Marshall St	\$50,000
29501 Red Leaf Dr	\$106,000
17614 Silver Maple St	\$60,000
20906 Stahelin Rd	\$19,000
18698 Webster Ave	\$550,000
17070 Westland Ave	\$75,000
WHITE LAKE	
20 Acorn Ct	\$180,000
1157 Union Lake Rd	\$70,000
1323 Waverly Dr	\$105,000



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**Landscaping**

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# JOBS

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**Accounting** Billing & Dispatching Using Word, Excel & Access Full-Time w/Great Benefits Hartland & NW Detroit Fax: 313-535-4403

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**APPOINTMENT SETTER** Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart. Call 9-5, M-F. 734-728-4572 or email: phoneworkinfo@aol.com

**AUTO MECHANIC** State of Michigan & ASE Certificates required. Apply in person at Phil's 76 Service Inc. 19340 Gerald, Northville.

**COOK** For assisted living facility. Apply in person: 8121 Lilley, Canton, MI (btwn Joy & Warren)

**DRIVER (TRUCK)** Asphalt co. taking immediate applications for tri-axle dump truck drivers. CDL Class A required with a minimum 2 yrs. exp. Top pay with benefits. Applications being accepted at: S&J Asphalt 39571 Michigan Ave. Canton, MI 48188

**DRIVER/CHAUFFEUR** For Airport Executive Car Service. FT. Excellent driving record a MUST and experience a MUST! 248-355-5466

**Help Wanted-General**

**ENGINEERING TEAM LEADER** Responsible for overseeing automotive harness and electrical system projects, including formulation of concept and project order and insuring that project timing, budget and quality targets are met Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering required 3 years experience required in job offered or as Design Release Engineer For experience as Design Release Engineer to substitute, experience must be in complex automotive wiring harness and electrical distribution systems global projects. 40 hrs/wk Monday-Friday Employer: Leoni Wiring Systems, Inc. Job location: Warren, MI Qualify applicants email resume to: alex.ferder@leoni.com Proof of authorization to work in U.S. required if hired. EOE

**GATE KEEPER - WANTED ON THE JOB TRAINING!** \$20/hr Benefits & Days! Monitor/track ticket dispenser in parking areas E1 S185 J229. Call 313-292-9300

**Hotel OPEN HOUSE** Fri., Aug 26, 2011 9am-5pm Holiday Inn Detroit Metro Airport 8400 Merriman Road Romulus, MI 48174 Accepting applications for Multiple Locations & ALL POSITIONS! 734-729-8400

**Janitorial Part-Time** Detroit, Metro Localities (734) 425-0161

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**MAINTENANCE TECH** Part-Time including some on-call hours. For Canton community maintenance experience preferred. Please fax resume: (734) 397-0319

**MAINTENANCE, Part-Time** Exp. Apts in Plymouth 8-28 hrs/wk Rotating on-call required. Email resume to: job.48170@yahoo.com

**MAZAK CNC PROGRAMMER** Full time with benefits. Westland Resume to: Jargen1@lethwoodtool.com

**Music Teachers Needed** For fast growing Canton Music Studio. Send info: guitarunion@comcast.net

**PARKING ATTENDANTS** \$9/hr to start. Part time & full time. Must have own transportation, knowledge of stick shift. 248-682-1800

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AFI Financial	(877) 234-0600	4	0	3.25	0	J/F
Amenplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	4.125	0	3.25	0	J/A
BRINKS Financial Group	(800) 785-4755	3.875	0.625	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	3.875	0.5	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	4.25	0	3.375	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	4.375	0	3.625	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	4.125	0	3.25	0	J/V/F
First State Bank	(800) 372-2205	4.125	0	3.375	0	J/F
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 784-1074	4.125	0	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	4	0	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	4.375	0	3.625	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	3.75	1.25	3.25	0	J/A/V/F

Above information available as of 8/19/11 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at [www.rmcreport.com](http://www.rmcreport.com). Key to "Other" column - J = Jumbo, A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032

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# GARAGE SALES

hometownlife.com

### Garage/Moving Sales

**BIRMINGHAM - Garage Sale**  
1028 Chester Street. Thursday (25)-Saturday (27), 9am-3pm Loads of designer clothes, children's, household, toys, furniture. NO EARLY BIRDS!

**BIRMINGHAM**  
Garage Sale - Household items, small appliances, pictures, clothing, some furniture. Fri., 8/26, 9am-5pm; Sat. 8/27, 9am-3pm. 1268 Emmons. 248-561-3142

**BIRMINGHAM**  
K & P's Annual Garage Sale Household items, Designer Clothing, Children's Toys & Clothes, Sports Equipment, and MORE! 350 Shirley Rd., Birmingham. August 25 & 26.

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS MOVING SALE:**  
1214 South Timberview Trail, Adams Woods. Aug 25-27, 9-4 Household items, women's clothes, custom furniture, CDs, framed art, BBQ grill, artist drawing table, flat storage shelves, everything goes!

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS Garage Sale** - Friday, Aug. 26th, 8am-3pm!! 5624 Sutters Lane, 48301. Kids hockey equipment, kids clothing (with price tags still on), toys, Avon products, kitchen items, and many items in original package. A Bellini wooden rocking chair in perfect condition!

**BLOOMFIELD TWP.** 4 pc maple full-size bdrm set. Thurs., Aug. 25 thru Sat., Aug. 27th, 9-5pm. 3522 Maxwell Ct., 3 bks S of Quorton. E. of Lahser

**CANTON GARAGE SALE**  
2651 Brookhaven, 48188 Aug. 25th-28th, 9am

**CANTON Multi-Family Thurs-Sat. 8/25-8/27 8-5pm**  
1500 Manton Blvd. Men's, women's, kids' & baby clothes, toys, books, jewelry, purses, school supplies, Halloween costumes, home/holiday decor, furniture, CDs, DVDs, sports items/equip., video games, photo albums/frames and more!

**CANTON Moving Sale**  
43555 Fleetwood Ct. Aug. 26-31, 9-6. Almost all items from home & business for sale!

**CANTON:** Thurs-Sun, 10-6pm. 1617 Marlowe St., 48187. Lots of name brand women's clothes, etc.

**COMMERCE TWP.** Large Moving Sale - Aug 25-27, 9am-5pm. 2613 Collendale Dr. Furniture, antiques, dishes, artwork & framed prints, pool table & acc, queen bed, household decor, books, collectibles, too much to list!

**FARMINGTON HILLS 3 FAMILY GARAGE SALE** - Oddies of Items! Aug. 25-27, 9-4pm. 29950 South Brook

**FARMINGTON HILLS MOVING SALE** - Aug. 25-27th. Thurs-Sat. 10am-4pm. 28716 Eton Glen Dr. off Drake, btwn 12 & 13 Mile. Furniture, tools, lawn care items, games, Logo set & Benny Babies & more!

**GARDEN CITY 28576 RUSH - SAT.** 8/27, 9am-4pm & SUN. 8/28, 9am-2pm. Furniture, electronics, toys & more! Warren/Middlebelt. Benefits American Diabetes Assoc.

**GARDEN CITY:** 402 Clair, 48135. Aug. 26 & 27, 10-5. Household items, furniture, tools & more tools.

**GARDEN CITY:** 6105 Deering, N/Ford, S/Warren, btwn Middlebelt & Inkster. Aug 25-27th, 9-5pm. Household items, tools & lots of misc.

**LIVONIA - YARD SALE 34900 GROVE**  
Lots of new collectibles 8/23-8/26 Burton Hollow Sub.

**LIVONIA** Baby items, toys, video games, electronics, furniture, purses, household items. Sat. 8/27, 9am-3pm. 8969 Oporto St.

**LIVONIA HUGO Four Family Sale** - 30126 Breton, off Middlebelt, btwn 7 & 8 Mile. Wed-Fri., 8am-5pm. Furniture, kid's toys & clothes, lots of misc. items.

**LIVONIA Moving Sale** - 15900 Auburndale, off 5 Mile & Merriman. Thurs-Sat., 8am-4pm. Furniture including office, Tools, Collectibles, Household goods & more!

**LIVONIA YARD SALE:** Thurs 8/25 - Tues 8/30, 8am-7pm. Additional merchandise each day 33201 Norfolk St., 1 bk S of 8 Mile Rd & 1 bk E of Farmington Rd. A unique collection of an unusual variety of household merchandise for sale. Come, Shop & Enjoy!

**LIVONIA - Multi family sale.** 8/25-8/27, 10-6pm. 8/28 10-2pm. 34701 Vargo, N of 6 Mile, just W of Stevenson High School. Clothes: women's to newborn to 5x and men's small to 5X. Household, china, costume jewelry, books (1,000), arts & crafts. Best deal in town!

**LIVONIA:** Huge 2 family Sale. Some antiques, household items, furniture, misc. All must go. 27817 Lyndon St. Thurs., Fri., Sat. & Sun. 10-6.

**LIVONIA Moving Sale.** Aug. 25, 26 & 27, 9-5. 14291 Knolson, W of Newburgh. Household items, clothes.

**LIVONIA:** Thur-Sat. 8/25-27, 8-5. 17671 Bell Creek Ln. 6 & Farmington. House goods, books, Magazines of photos, cars, motorcycles, railroad. Stereo equip., old toys, furniture, Sears Craftsman tools.

**MILFORD:** Puzzles, books, tapes, jars & household items. Aug 25-27th, 9-5pm. 325 Caroline St. Milford storage at the corner of the street.

### Garage/Moving Sales

**MISC ITEMS:** furniture, framed pictures, filing cabinet, books, kitchenware & small appli., china/dishes, decorative items, lamps, rugs, old phones, VCR, printers, Christmas items, linens, clothing & gardening items. Call for appointment 248-565-6400

**NORTHVILLE BASEMENT BLOWOUT!** Our effort, your gain! Unique articles in garage sale at 536 Reed Street, Northville. Saturday & Sunday, 8am-4pm.

**NORTHVILLE:** Garage Sale - Thurs & Fri., Aug. 25 & 26. 9am-3pm. 18212 Parkshore Dr., Northville, 6 Mile/Beck Rd.

**NORTHVILLE:** Fri-Sat. 8/26-27, 9am. Tools, electronics, clothes, books, sports equip. & collectibles, furniture. 39373 Phillips Dr. 7/Haggerty

**NORTHVILLE:** Aug. 25-27, 9-4. 44575 Galway Dr. N. of 8, W/Canter. 3 families, bike, air hockey, rollerblades, soccer, toys, games, household & craft items, furniture & more.

**NORTHVILLE:** Must see, 2 family! Northville Colony Estates. 16253 Appleby Lane, 48168. W of Haggerty, S of 6 Mile. Fri-Sat, 9am-3pm.

**PLYMOUTH**  
Garage Sale - Fri. & Sat. Aug. 26-27, 8am-3pm. Household items, tools, dorm room items, sports equip., computer equip. 14908 Maplewood, (5 Mile & Haggerty).

**PLYMOUTH-GARAGE SALE**  
Primarily for Women, Name Brand-CLEAN-Blazers, Coats, Slacks, Jeans, Jean Shorts, Sweaters, New Dooney & Burke Purses, Casual Wear. Some New w/Tags-ALSO: Jewelry, Watches, Electronics, Cameras, Luggage, Colognes, Household Decor, Yard Equipment, Xmas Decor & More - 6150 Curtis, 48170, N.Territorial- No Early Birds- CASH ONLY- 8:30am-5:30pm. Thurs., Fri., Sat., Aug. 25th, 26th, 27th- 734-455-2721- EVERYTHING Priced to SELL!!

**PLYMOUTH:** Rep Gift Samples Sale. Home Decor, Candles. Thurs-Sat. 9-5. 242 Blunk N. of Sheldon, E. of Penniman.

**REDFORD:** 8/26-8/27, 9-5pm. 17630 Summer, N of 6 Mile, E of Beech Daly. Household items, furniture, kid's & adult clothing, books, toys & more!

**REDFORD:** Got young kids? Parents, don't miss our giant yard sale: toys, games, puzzles, videos, clothes. Special on kids books. Huge Barbie department: mall, house, doll case, many dolls, and outfits. Kid furniture includes changing table, toy rocker, picnic table, toddler bed frame, toy boxes, tables and chairs. Also kids slide, tricycle, scooter, knick-knacks, teen & up video games and more. Priced to move! Saturday 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m. Corner of Hope and Norborne, one block west of Beach Daly, three blocks south of Five Mile.

**SOUTH LYON LARGE GARAGE SALE:** Sat only, 9-3pm! 8490 Pontiac Tr, S of 7 Mile

**SOUTH LYON MOVING SALE** - Sat & Sun, 8/27-28, 9am-4pm '195 Eagle Way. 248-880-8077

**SOUTH LYON: HUGE SALE!** Aug. 25-27, 9-5pm. Tons of baby items, crib, strollers, high chair & lots more. Kid's clothes and shoes, quality toys, books, canoe, furniture, tools, french horns plus much more. 11500 Lisa Lori Lane, off 8 Mile, W of Pontiac Trail.

**SOUTH LYON Moving Sale** Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 9-5. Tools, furniture, housewares, everything must go. 1368 Chase Ct. Carriage Trace Sub.

**WESTLAND HUGE MULTI FAMILY GARAGE SALE** 8/25-27, Thurs & Fri., 9am-6pm, Sat. 9am-2pm. Bar mirrors, unique beer merchandise, furniture, TOYS. 34465 Fairchild, Westland.

**WESTLAND YARD SALE** - Saturday, 8/27, 9am-3pm. 7292 Haller, off of Warren, between Middlebelt and Inkster Rds.

**WESTLAND:** 33000 Hivley, 48186. Sat-Sun, Aug. 27 & 28, 10-5pm. Multi-Family. Household & baby items, clothes, books. No early birds.

**WESTLAND:** 553 S. Sybald, W/Newburgh, S/Cherry Hill. Follow signs. 8/25-27, 9-5. Antiques, 40 pc china set, Household goods, furniture, country items, boys bike, toys, basket making tools & kits, golf clubs, boys clothes like 5-8, womens clothing like new size 12-16.

**WESTLAND:** Big Garage Sale Fishing rods, reels & lures; Women's & Men's plus clothes, baby clothes, toys & more. 34218 Frances, off Wildwood btwn Cherry Hill & Ford. Fri-Sat. 8/26-27, 10-6.

**WESTLAND:** Huge multi-family sale! 32220 Grandview Ave., btwn Merriman & Venoy. Sat-Sun, 9-7pm. Office, school supplies, housewares, furniture, clothing, motorcycle, etc.

**WESTLAND:** Multi-Family Garage Sale. Thur. & Fri. Aug. 25-26, 9-5. 34201 Barton, Off Wildwood

# WHEELS

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Silver Spark, 4wd, LT, remote start! You deserve it! Only \$28,331! 888-372-9836  
**Lou LaRiche**

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Super crew, \$28,788 loaded. Hard T-cover. Only 25k miles, super clean. **NORTH BROS. FORD** 734-402-8774

**Ford F-350 2008**  
Diesel 4x4 \$33,998. Loaded, extra extra clean, low miles. **NORTH BROS. FORD** 734-402-8774

**FORD RANGER 1994:**  
Runs great, low miles, \$1300/best offer. Call: (734) 239-4840

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White, air, auto. \$5,995. **BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC** (734) 453-2500

**GMC EXTENDED CAB 2010**  
Pickup, 10K. \$19,995. **BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC** (734) 453-2500

### Trucks for Sale

**GMC SIERRA 2009**  
Autumn Sunrise, 10k chrome and ABS! Very sharp truck! Only \$25,995! 888-372-9836  
**Lou LaRiche**

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Pickup, 4X4. \$19,995. **BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC** (734) 453-2500

**RAN 2006 PICKUP**  
4x4, Gray, \$17,995. **BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC** (734) 453-2500

### Mini-Vans

**CHEVY VENTURE 2003**  
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**Lou LaRiche**

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Sharp! \$18,995. **BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC** (734) 453-2500

**MERCURY MONTEREY 2005**  
MPV, silver, \$5,995. **BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC** (734) 453-2500

**SATURN RELAY 2005**  
Blue, \$10,495. **BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC** (734) 453-2500

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**CHEVY VAN 1993**  
Good work van, 162,000 miles, runs great. \$1,100. Call: (734) 740-1948

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14 cube truck, \$9,998. Extra clean, low miles. **DEALER** 734-402-8774

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### Sports Utility

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