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SPECIAL SECTION



PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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Contracts approved

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education Tuesday accepted contract agreements with its five remaining employee unions.

With all 10 deals settled, administration officials said the district saved nearly \$7 million, with the majority of the savings realized in the health care area. The final contracts were settled with the district's administrators, plant engineers, secretaries, cafeteria workers and garage/staff security unions.

The majority of the contracts are one-year deals representing the 2011-12 school year.

"I said it a few weeks ago and I will say it again, these settlements prove our employees are willing to do their part to help our district in these difficult times," Supt. Jeremy Hughes said.

Royal couple



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ryan Schwinke and Alexandra Bryden were crowned Canton High School Homecoming King and Queen at halftime ceremonies during Friday's prep football game between Canton and Westland John Glenn. The Chiefs blasted the Rockets, 66-13.

Ex-teacher pleads guilty to gun charge

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Citing a need to put the issue behind him, former Plymouth High School history teacher Ray Schepansky Wednesday pleaded guilty in Wayne County Circuit Court to one count of carrying a concealed weapon.

Schepansky, who was fired earlier this month, faces sentencing Oct. 28 in front of Wayne County Circuit Judge David Allen. The charge is a five-year felony, though pre-sentencing guidelines in the case give Allen the discretion to sentence Schepansky up to three months' or give him probation.

Allen indicated in court Wednesday he'd be open to a probationary sentence.

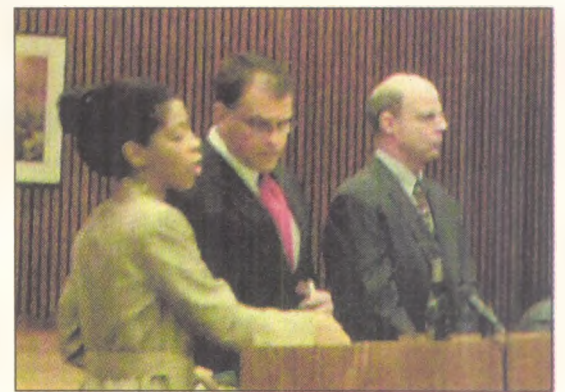
"We're satisfied with this resolution," said Richard Convertino, Schepansky's attorney. "It's draining and taxing on Ray, his family and his friends. It's time to put it behind him and move on."

The plea agreement came on the day the parties were supposed to hear testimony on the Wayne County prosecutor's motion to reinstate three charges dismissed by 35th District Court Judge Michael Gerou after Schepansky's preliminary hearing in that court.

Gerou dismissed charges of carrying a weapon with unlawful intent, carrying a weapon in a school zone and possessing a firearm when committing or attempting to commit a felony. All of the charges stem from an April 14 incident during which Schepansky was arrested after police discovered a weapon beneath the seat of his car during a stop on the driveway leading from Beck Road into Plymouth High School.

Under terms of the agreement, Schepansky can have no further contact with Plymouth-Canton Community Schools or with Erin Mac-

Please see **TEACHER, A6**



Former Plymouth High School history teacher Ray Schepansky (right), with attorney Richard Convertino and Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Charisse Anderson, pleaded guilty Wednesday to carrying a concealed weapon.

Deep roots give Mirto perspective on changes

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Bruce Mirto takes the long view when it comes to Plymouth.

It's a perspective gained from his company's 60 years in business, from his chairmanship of the Downtown Business Association, and from the panorama of Kellogg Park and the center of town that can be seen from the window of his second-floor office on Main Street.

"There was a time when you could cross Main Street with your eyes closed and not get hit by a car," Mirto said during an interview in his office on Monday.

But changes, especially in recent years, have drawn visitors and residents and made Plymouth busier and more attractive,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bruce Mirto celebrates 60 years in Plymouth.

he added. "Who wouldn't want to have an office here, as opposed to a tower in Southfield?" he said.

Though there may be grumbling from some quarters about, for example, the number of restaurants that have recently come to town, or the

city's nightlife, Mirto sees those as positive developments that add to the city's vibrancy.

"It makes it a really nice place to work and live, and I benefit from that," said Mirto, who grew up most-

Please see **MIRTO, A6**



Amber Festian (right) with youth librarian Dana Bussard of the Plymouth District Library.

College help

Amber Festian, a fourth-grader at Farland Elementary School, recently learned she was a winner of Destination College Savings, a summer sweepstakes sponsored by the Michigan Education Savings Program and the Michigan Education Trust.

Amber was one of 12 Michigan winners age 13 or younger who participated in the Summer Reading Program at their local library. She won \$1,500 toward her college education and \$1,000 for the Plymouth District Library.

INDEX

Business.....	A11
Crossword Puzzle ..	B11
Entertainment ..	B5
Food.....	B7
Homes.....	B10
Jobs.....	B10
Obituaries.....	B4
Opinion	A12
Services.....	B10
Sports.....	B1
Wheels.....	B12

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Fall expo has something for seniors, boomers

Seniors citizens, baby boomers and others are invited to come spend the day being entertained and educated at the third annual Senior Fall Health & Living Expo, sponsored by the *Observer & Eccentric/Hometown Newspapers* and Wayne State University-Oakland Center.

The expo starts at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4, and the first 100 attendees through the door will receive a movie pass for two to Emagine Theaters and a coupon for a free four-square Buddy's Pizza.

More than 40 exhibitors, featuring demonstrations and free sem-

inars on estate planning, identity theft protection, insurance planning and investment strategies, along with free morning refreshments and hourly gift giveaways, are on tap for the event, which runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This year's location — WSU-Oakland Center — is new. The center is at 33737 W. 12 Mile Road in Farmington Hills. It is easily accessible from I-696, I-96, M-10 and I-275. Admission is free and ample free parking is available all day.

Free trolley service is available from three locations: Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farm-

ington Road, departing at 7:15 a.m. and 9:45 a.m.; Southfield Senior Center, 24350 Civic Center Drive, departing at 7:40 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.; and Novi Senior Center, 25075 Meadowbrook Road, with one departure at 8:30 a.m. To reserve your seat, call (313) 222-2414.

Come learn about what baby boomers need to know about maximizing their retirement income. O&E financial columnist Rick Bloom of Bloom Asset Management in Farmington Hills will share strategies to protect and grow your investment portfolio in a down economy.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital, member of the Saint Joseph Mercy Healthy System, and Dental One will offer free health screenings.

For a complete schedule of speakers and topics, exhibitors and events, see the Senior Fall Health & Living Expo Special Section inside today's edition.

This year's musical entertainment will be Ya Tafari. In addition, attendees are invited to try their hand at Wii games to win prizes.

For more information or to sign up for free trolley service, contact Choya Jordan at (313) 222-2414 or via e-mail at cbjordan@hometownlife.com.

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Society's annual craft show benefits college scholarships

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Shoppers can browse a juried arts and crafts fair — and get an early start on their holiday buying — while investing in the future of education at the Delta Kappa Gamma craft show next month.

The event, organized by the Plymouth-area chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, a worldwide society for active and retired educators, is 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at West Middle School. It's the society's 27th local show; proceeds go toward college scholarships for students studying education.

The show will offer handmade jewelry, pottery, clothing, woodwork, sculpture, watercolor paintings, handbags, needlework, and more, plus items like gourmet food, candles, floral arrangements and pet supplies.

"We think the quality is pretty good," said Bev Brooks of



A cookie jar made to look like a jack-o'-lantern is among Leslie Greeneisen's 'whimsical' pottery works. Greeneisen will be one of the artists participating in the 27th annual Delta Kappa Gamma craft show, scheduled for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at West Middle School.

Livonia, a society member and a retired speech therapist and school administrator.

The event will also offer drawings for several prizes, and society members will be selling refreshments. Drawing prizes are a handmade quilt, a golf outing at Fox Hills, four

tickets to a spring 2012 Detroit Tigers game, and a package of coupons to local restaurants, including Bennigan's, Station 885 and Crawford's Kitchen.

Some 40 percent to 50 percent of the nearly 100 crafters in the show will be returnees, Brooks said, while the rest will be newcomers. "We actively pursue crafters all year long," she said.

The show has raised a total of about \$100,000 in its history, said Brooks, and is currently providing \$1,000 annual scholarships to around eight or 10 college students. Applicants must be graduating from one of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park high schools and planning to study education in college; the \$1,000 scholarships are available annually for up to five years.

"We want to help future teachers," said Brooks. "We are looking for good students. We are looking for students who are multifaceted and have

a nice resume ... and who we think will add to the teaching profession."

Some past scholarship winners — those still in college as well as those who have teaching careers — typically return to help Delta Kappa Gamma as craft show volunteers, Brooks said. "That's refreshing to see," she said.

The Plymouth-area Delta Kappa Gamma chapter, with about 40 members, includes people from Plymouth, Canton Township, Livonia, Westland, Northville and other neighboring communities.

Leslie Greeneisen of Canton Township, a potter with more than 30 years of experience, is looking forward to the show, which will be her first with the society.

"I think that we'll be getting a lot of crowds," Greeneisen said. The timing, before Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas, is good for artisans, she said.

Greeneisen is an active mem-

ber of the Village Potters Guild and has sold her work at several other arts shows, including Plymouth's Art in the Park, the guild's own annual holiday show and the Saturday farmers markets in downtown Plymouth. Her pottery creations, she said, range from functional (bowls, pitchers, mugs) to whimsical (birdhouses that look like cats' heads, cookie jars that look like jack-o'-lanterns).

Greeneisen said she's happy to help Delta Kappa Gamma with its fundraising.

"They do a lot of great things in our community," she said.

West Middle School is at 44401 West Ann Arbor Trail at Sheldon. Admission to the craft show for shoppers is \$2. PCEP students interested in applying for a Delta Kappa Gamma scholarship should contact their school's counseling office.

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League forum spotlights school hopefuls

The League of Women Voters of NW Wayne County is providing an opportunity for Plymouth and Canton citizens to learn more about the Plymouth-Canton School Board candidates competing for four seats in the Nov. 8 election.

All 14 candidates have been invited to attend a Candidates Forum on Monday, Oct. 3, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton (a 15th candidate, John Nichols, has suspended his campaign). The public is invited to attend

the forum and submit questions for the candidates that will be asked by a League moderator. The public can also submit questions in advance through the League's e-mail address lwvmail@yahoo.com.

The forum will be filmed by Canton Cable and will be aired multiple times before the election.

"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

BARKTOBERFEST

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 1, 9 a.m.

Location: Waggin' Tails Dog Rescue, on Liberty between Starkweather and Mill in Old Village

Details: A two-mile fun

AROUND PLYMOUTH

walk benefitting Waggin' Tails Dog Rescue and the Old Village of Plymouth. Check-in from 9-9:45 a.m., walk starts at 10 a.m. Day-of-event registration costs \$25.

POM CLINIC

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 1, 9-11:30 a.m.

Location: Canton High School cafeteria

Details: The Canton Chieftettes host a pom clinic where participants will learn pom techniques and a short dance routine. Participants perform at the varsity football game Oct. 14. Links to a clinic flyer and registration can be found at cantonchieftettes.com

DINING WITH DOCTORS

Date/Time: Thursday, Oct. 13, 11:45 a.m.

Location: Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth

Details: The Plymouth Community Council on Aging will host a distinguished panel of doctors from the Dearborn Surgery Center. The event will include a Health Expo with free blood pressure, sugar, cholesterol and eye testing, free, catered lunch at 12:45 p.m., and then a 1 p.m. panel discussion with doctors. Limited seating. Contact: Call 453-1234, Ext. 236 for reservations.

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Town hall meeting addresses school cuts

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Hoben Elementary School kindergarten teacher Leslie Martinsky was more than happy to chip in a pair of shoes to a box of shoes marked for Gov. Rick Snyder's office.

What Martinsky, and the other teachers who donated shoes for the cause, would really like is for Snyder to walk a mile in each pair. That's why the teachers put together the package: An attempt to point out to the governor what they perceive as his taking about \$1 billion out of education funding is doing to education in the state.

The gesture was made Tuesday at a town hall meeting hosted by state Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, to gauge the reaction of parents and educators to education funding cuts. Teachers don't believe Snyder understands what such cuts mean in their classrooms.

"Mr. Snyder is welcome to come and assess, teach, manage, care for, and educate 26 5-year-olds without adequate funding," Martinsky said. "I would be happy to write him sub plans."

Michigan House Democrats, who claim the School Aid Fund was carrying a surplus estimated at \$900 million until the governor and legislative Republicans granted a \$1.8 billion tax cut to corporations, have taken their case to communities across the



Hoben Elementary School third-grade teacher Dave Turritt attended Monday's town hall meeting on education, hosted by state Rep. Dian Slavens.



Rebecca Cintron's shoes tell a story of an art teacher responsible for 724 students in two schools.

state, gathering stories from parents and citizens about how the legislation is affecting their schools.

Slavens said Democrats have introduced an amendment to the state Constitution that would prohibit the Legislature from using K-12 funding for anything else.

The amendment would have to pass with a two-thirds majority in both the House and Senate, Slavens said, before it could be put to a vote of the people.

"We had a surplus in K-12, and they took the money, so we had to cut more from our schools," Slavens said. "People move to communities for good schools, and businesses come to communities for good schools. We have to make sure we fund them properly."

She said Democrats have also introduced a School Bill of Rights, which she said would return local control to districts on issues such as election dates.

"It brings local control back to the school district," Slavens said.

James Larson-Shilder, assistant superintendent for Plymouth-Canton schools, painted a dim picture of the effects of state cuts.

He said the district has laid off 16 teachers and 21 custodians, and lost 149 positions

when administrators outsourced the district's bus drivers.

Teachers agreed in their latest contract to begin contributing 20 percent toward health care (the state law won't go into effect until next year), to take a wage freeze and take furlough days.

The stressful climate is causing some teachers to reconsider staying in the field. Martinsky said she is, for the first time, "questioning whether to stay with her career in education."

"I am afraid I won't be able to afford, emotionally and financially, to stay in a job that is not respected and that is continually attacked," Martinsky said. "It makes me very sad because I love teaching."

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Township police department promotes three to sergeant

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

There are three new sergeants in the Plymouth Township Police Department.

Daniel Kudra, Bryan Schaefer and David Hayes were formally promoted by Chief Tom Tiderington at the start of Tuesday's township Board of Trustees meeting, to applause from their families, trustees and members of the public who attended.

Kudra is an 11-year veteran and was the department's officer of the year for 2005; Schaefer is a 13-year-veteran; and Hayes is a 23-year veteran and was the department's officer of the year for 2007.

The promotions follow the retirements, in recent months, of five township officers, including three command officers. Retired Sgt. Steve Rapson, the most recent retirement, was also recognized Tuesday.

Tiderington also publicly congratulated Lt. Cal Lauria, who was recently promoted from the rank of sergeant. The position was opened by the retirement of Lt. Bob Smith, who was the department's assistant chief, last summer.

Windmill rules

The board on Tuesday passed a zoning ordinance that regulates the construction and use of energy-generating wind turbines in the township. The vote was 6-0; Trustee Mike Kelly was absent.

The rules prohibit the construction of wind turbines in residential areas, set noise-level limitations and also mandate the deconstruction of such turbines when they have gone unused for six months.

Turbine towers are also banned from the area near Mettetal Airport in neighboring Canton Township.

Developers of wind energy systems will be required to provide proof of sufficient wind resources at any proposed turbine site, with documentation of such wind power going back at least a year.

The ordinance amendment was previously approved by the township's Planning Commission.

"We're trying to be proactive because they are noisy," said Trustee Kay Arnold, the board's liaison to the Planning Commission.

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Tempers flare at township meeting over fire department

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

A heated exchange over the future of the Plymouth Community Fire Department marked an otherwise routine Plymouth Township Board of Trustees meeting Tuesday.

Resident Chris Hull, who later said he is a firefighter in another community, asked trustees to go to voters with a proposal for a tax to support the department. Faced with the loss of nearly \$1 million in annual revenue when the city of Plymouth leaves the shared department starting in January, township officials are planning job cuts and a department reorganization. A petition drive to put on the ballot a proposal for a special assessment to support the department fell short last month.

"We're telling you that we want to pay the money for this fire department," Hull said



Edwards

during the public comment period at the end of Tuesday's meeting. "What's the harm in letting it go to a vote?" Treasurer Ron Edwards interrupted, objecting to Hull's assertion that voters are uniformly in favor of a tax increase. Only when asked by Edwards did Hull identify himself as a firefighter.

Hull, in turn, objected to the interruption: "I pay good money for you to sit there and listen," he told Edwards. "I'm telling you the level of care I expect."

With raised voices, the two argued over taxes, residency restrictions for part-time, on-call firefighters, and the wisdom of having on-call firefighters in the department.

Hull said the on-call system

"doesn't work." The township currently has no on-call firefighters, but is planning to hire some as part of a planned reorganization.

Hull said the requirement that on-call firefighters live within 15 miles of the township means they could be responding to emergencies from too great a distance.

While a projector displayed a map showing a 15-mile radius from the township and a 35-mile radius, Edwards pointed out that current full-time firefighters are allowed to live within the larger radius.

Hull countered that current firefighters are in the township around the clock on 24-hour shifts while they are working. "That is their profession. They're not out on another job," he said.

Edwards said firefighters face possible layoffs because of their earlier refusal to accept contract concessions.

"We're not going to sacrifice this community because a small group of people don't care about it," he said.

When Hull said concessions had been offered, Trustee Kay Arnold said, "Too little, too late."

The room calmed when resident Marvin Stempien, an attorney and retired Wayne County judge, spoke of his family's experience in a nighttime house fire in Livonia in the 1980s. Firefighters' quick response at the time, he said, saved them from the electrical fire.

Stempien also said he favored going to voters with a tax proposal. That would take the decision out of trustees' hands and leave it to the community, he said. "It'll be the people of this community that'll put it through," he said.

"This is not a poor community," added Stempien, who referred to communi-

ties around the state in which tax increases for public safety have been approved. "This is a community with property to protect and families to protect."

The petition drive, sponsored by the Plymouth Township Citizens Action Group, gathered more than 3,500 signatures in support of a proposal to create a special assessment district out of the township, with a property assessment, or tax, that would support the fire department. Officials determined the drive fell short of the requirement for signatures from the owners of at least 10 percent of the property in the township, but members of the citizens group are continuing to gather signatures and hope to bring a special assessment proposal to voters as early as February.

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Suspect enters station with unloaded gun

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

An unloaded .25-caliber handgun was found on a suspect inside the Canton police station after his arrest early Saturday morning on a less serious charge of driving with a suspended license, Detective Brian Schultz said.

The allegations against defendant Keon Lavell Pritchett, 19, of Redford, have led to a charge he was illegally carrying a



Pritchett

concealed weapon. If convicted, Pritchett could face penalties ranging up to five years in prison.

The incident started shortly after 2:30 a.m. Saturday when a patrol officer stopped a 2003 Chevrolet Malibu on east-bound Michigan Ave-

nue near Hannan after noticing the car twice cross over a white line on the road, according to a police report.

The driver told police he was on his way home from Eastern Michigan University and wasn't familiar with the area.

Police learned Pritchett had a suspended driver's license and took him into custody. He was taken to the police station, where the report indicated the gun fell down the leg of

his sweatpants when he was asked to remove the drawstring while he was being processed.

The gun had been tied to the drawstring and hidden in the sweatpants, Schultz said. Police confiscated the gun.

According to the police report, Pritchett told police he was a collector but didn't mention the gun because he didn't want to get into trouble.

Pritchett was arraigned Saturday on the concealed weapon charge, and a not-guilty plea was entered for him. A \$10,000/10 percent bond was set.

He has been ordered to appear in 35th District Court for an Oct. 7 preliminary examination to determine whether he should stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

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VOICES & VIEWS:
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CRIME WATCH

Shoplifter grabs smokes from clerk

Two cartons of Newport cigarettes, with a reported retail value of \$126, were stolen on the night of Sept. 22 during a shoplifting at a Plymouth Township gas station.

According to a Plymouth Township Police Department report, a clerk at the Mobil station on Ann Arbor Road at Sheldon told police the thief came in shortly after 11 p.m. and asked for the cigarettes.

When she took them from the shelf and placed them on the counter, she said, the man grabbed them from her and left through the front door.

Bike stolen

A 10-speed mountain bicycle was reported stolen from the garage of a house on Foxboro Court, south of North Territorial between Beck and Sheldon, on Monday.

The bike had been taken some time since Sept. 18, the complainant told police. There were no signs of forced entry into the garage and nothing else was reported stolen, police said.

The complainant said the garage had been left

open one night since Sept. 18, but couldn't remember what night.

Garage robbed

A hand cart, two sledgehammers and a gasoline can were reported stolen recently from the garage of a house on Greenbriar Lane, west of Haggerty and south of Five Mile.

The theft occurred late on Sept. 9 or early the next morning, the complainant told police. The man told police the garage had been secure; nothing else was reported stolen and police found no signs of forced entry.

Vandalism

A rock was apparently thrown through the front family room window at a house on Ball Street, north of Joy and west of South Main, on the night of Sept. 22.

It was shortly before 10 p.m., the complainant told police, when he and others in the house heard a loud crash coming from the family room. He went to the room, the man said, to find the front window had been broken by a large rock.

He then went outside, he said, but saw no one nearby.

— By Matt Jachman

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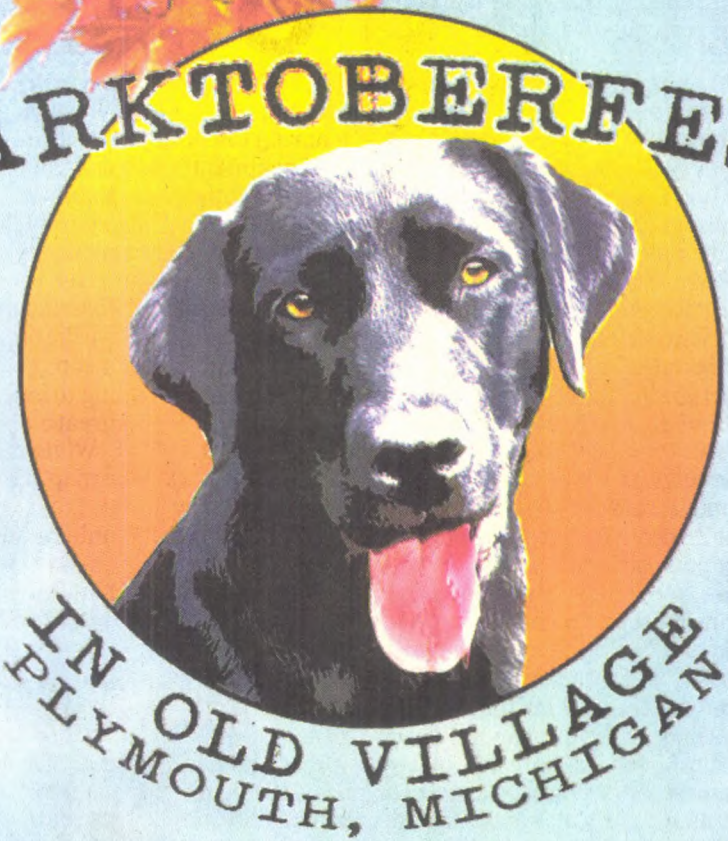
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TEACHER

Continued from page A1

Gregor, who was at the time the assistant principal at Plymouth High School. Testimony in 35th District Court alleged Schepansky had made threats against MacGregor.

Schepansky also submitted a letter of resignation to the district, relinquishing any right he had to appeal the district's decision to fire him.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Bob Donaldson said Wednesday he was "satisfied" with the resolution.

"The school district, the Canton Police Department and our office are all satisfied with the decision," Donaldson said.

Frank Ruggirello, Plymouth-Canton's director of community relations, said the district would "have no comment" on the resolution of the case.

Convertino said afterward Schepansky will "regroup."

"If (Schepansky) wants to continue to teach, I think that's in his future," Convertino said, responding to a question about whether Schepansky would return to the classroom. "No one at any time said he was anything else than a superlative teacher."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-8899

Comcast hosts career open house

Comcast, one of the national's leading providers of entertainment, information and communications products and services, host a career open house Friday, Sept. 30, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., at its Regional Headquarters in Plymouth.

Comcast is looking for candidates to fill positions for Call Center Representatives, Technical Support, Technical Support Specialist, Communication Technicians (Installers), Direct Sales Representatives and Finance Analysts. Comcast's Regional Headquarters is located at 41112 Concept Drive in Plymouth. Positions include:

- Technical Support Specialist – Candidates must be able to work in fast-paced environment, receive calls from customers requiring technical assistance by diagnosing issues. Comcast is looking for 2-3 years of Technical support in a call center environment. This position is for the Ann Arbor Call Center.
- Call Center Representatives – Candidates must be able to work in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service, sales and computer skills. A high school diploma or general equivalency diploma (GED) is required.
- Communication Technicians

(Installers) – A high school diploma or GED is required, prior installation experience and a background in electrical, electronics, cable or construction is preferred.

• Direct Sales – These positions are responsible for selling Comcast products and increasing sales of new and returning residential customer. Bachelors Degree preferred.

• Call Center Supervisor – Candidates must be able to work in a fast-paced environment and possess strong customer service, strong leadership skills. Bachelors Degree preferred and 2-4 years of Call Center Supervision.

• Financial Analysts – These positions are responsible for obtaining financial data for use in maintaining Accounting records, processes and related transactions. A minimum of a bachelor's degree in Finance or Accounting, plus a minimum of three to four years experience required.

Qualified candidates will have on-site interview opportunities. All participants must apply for a position online through the "Careers" section at www.comcast.com before the open house.

All event information is available at the "Careers" section at www.comcast.com

MIRTO

Continued from page A1

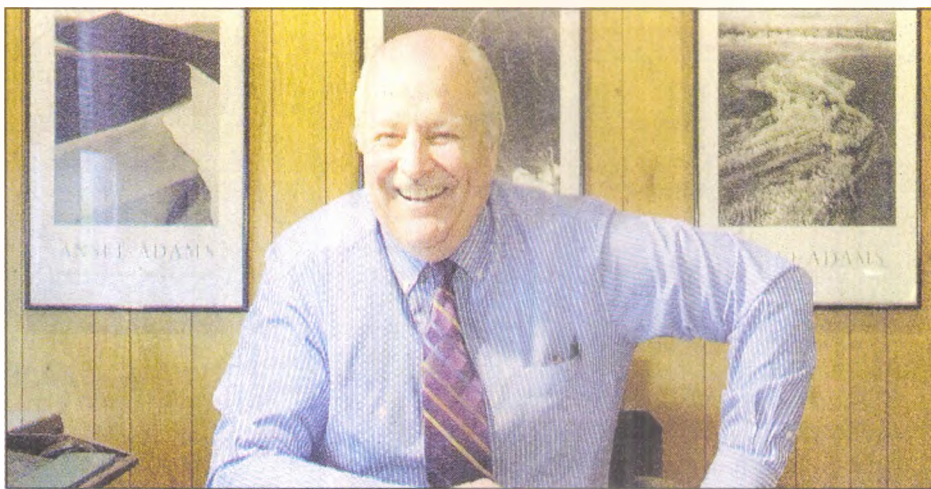
ly in Plymouth and now lives in Plymouth Township.

Mirto owns Mirto & Co., an insurance and retirement planning firm. A Michigan-licensed counselor for health and life insurance, he represents 51 life insurance companies, 26 annuity companies and the state's major health insurance companies. Above all, he said, he represents his clients.

"If the client needs something, I have access to the entire marketplace to find it for them," Mirto said.

Clear career path

Mirto's father, Fabe, started the business as the Mirto Agency in 1951, representing one company, Woodmen Accident & Life. A musician and bandleader in New Haven, Conn., and on the Cunard Line of cruise ships, Fabe Mirto had decided to settle down and raise a family when he went to work in Connecticut for another insurance company, then made the move to Michigan to work for Woodmen.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bruce Mirto has been around Plymouth long enough to know the best local stories and legends.

"My dad enjoyed it. He made a good living doing it," Mirto said.

The family lived in Detroit briefly, he said, but his father discovered Plymouth while traveling between Detroit and Ann Arbor and fell in love with it.

Bruce Mirto is following in his father's career footsteps.

"When I was in college I knew that's what I wanted to do," he said. It seemed natural: He was familiar with the office, and the people at Woodmen knew him (perhaps a little too well, he jokes).

With a marketing degree from the Uni-

versity of Detroit, Mirto started out in 1968 as an agent in his dad's office. He was the assistant manager for two years before Fabe Mirto retired in 1976, then became the agency manager, in charge of the Woodmen sales force in southeastern Michigan. His father died in 2001.

Opening doors

Mirto parted ways with Woodmen in 1982, becoming an independent agent. The life insurance business had changed dramatically because of high interest rates, and Wood-

men (which later aligned with another insurance company) wasn't adapting, Mirto said.

"I didn't see my future continuing with them," he said. The move gave him greater freedom professionally, he said, and so-called "captive agents," who sell just one company's insurance products, are no longer the norm for many insurers.

Mirto likes the social aspect of his job, the opportunity to meet a variety of people. Some people with whom he's done business, he said, have become close, long-

time friends.

"My business has introduced me to people whom I never would've met otherwise," he said.

Even in the Internet age — which has been a big change and allowed people to do business from almost anywhere — the human touch is still important to Mirto.

"There are certain businesses that still require personal contact and counseling, and this is one of them," he said.

Mirto and fellow DBA members are behind many of the efforts to market downtown Plymouth and bring people in, a task Mirto also enjoys. "When it comes to creative things to get people here, it's kind of fun," he said.

But the lively Plymouth that he now sees, Mirto said, has its roots in decades of planning and good decisions, starting with the town square-type downtown layout, with Kellogg Park as the center.

"It's not an accident that it got this way," Mirto said.

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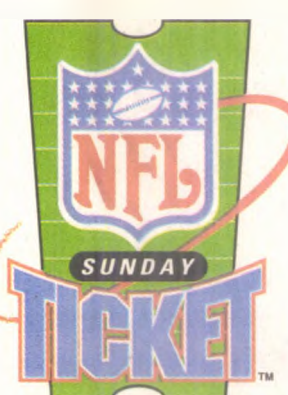
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Chocolate gala benefits First Step



'A Chocolate Affair' to benefit First Step takes place Sunday, Oct. 9, at Plymouth's Inn at St. John's.

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Elizabeth Fagan Division, will host the seventh annual "A Chocolate Affair" to benefit First Step Sunday, Oct. 9.

First Step provides comprehensive services to victims of domestic and sexual violence including temporary emergency housing, counseling, a 24-hour help line, children's programs and more.

The Chocolate Affair will be held at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth from 2-5 p.m. and will feature tastes of chocolate specialties from area bakeries, restaurants, caterers, and chocolate makers, and

will also feature a chocolate fountain, entertainment and prizes. Preceding the Chocolate Affair a Garden Luncheon will be held from 12-2 p.m. featuring a speaker from First Step who will share her inspiring story of survivorship.

Chocolate specialties will be provided by Mary Denning's Bake Shoppe, Treats Catering of Farmington, Sanders Candy, Kilwin's of Plymouth, Fat Chef in A Little Coat Catering, Dove Chocolate, The Claddagh Irish Pub & Restaurant, The Dearborn Inn, Lindt Chocolate, The Kandy Bar, Jo Jo's Treats & Sweets, Caribou Coffee, Baha-

ma Breeze, Maggie Moo's Ice Cream, Paula's Patisserie, Espresso Elevado, Jeff Zak Catering and more. Entertainment for the luncheon will be provided by Inis Ceol. The Chocolate Affair will feature music by the Livonia Symphony.

Tickets for the Chocolate Affair are \$25 and the Garden Luncheon is also \$25, a combined ticket is available for \$45. For tickets or more information on the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, please call Barbara Weir at 734-453-1459. Tickets are also available at the offices of First Step in Plymouth, (734) 416-1111.

Students set to study Rouge River

More than 500 students from local southeast Michigan schools will be conducting chemical tests, examining aquatic life, and surveying the Rouge River during the week of Oct. 5.

The students' efforts are part of their participation in the Rouge Education Project, a program coordinated by the non-profit Friends of the Rouge. Through the Rouge Education Project students get to experience hands-on science in a real-world setting.

Students participating in the Rouge Education Project may monitor up to nine different chemical parameters of the river including pH, dissolved oxygen, phosphorus, nitrates, and fecal coliform bacteria. The students will then collect

and identify benthic macroinvertebrates, such as insect larvae that live in the bottom of the river, crayfish and snails. Lastly, students also complete a physical stream survey, which includes documenting the erosion of streambanks and measuring the velocity of the water.

"The Rouge Education Project provides K-12th grade students with an exceptional opportunity to gain hands on experience in real-world science, learn about their local ecosystem, and form lasting respect for the community in which they live," said Rouge Education Project Program Manager Emily R. Hughes.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2012, the Rouge Education Project began in 1987. Its mission

is to promote awareness and stewardship of the Rouge River watershed through school-based water quality monitoring, investigation and problem solving. In addition to water quality monitoring, students in the project are encouraged take action to improve the health of the river based on their findings, and to consider how their everyday actions impact their environment. The data that the students collect are made available to the public on the Friends of the Rouge web site (www.therouge.org) and are provided to communities in the watershed.

For more information about the Rouge Education Project or the Friends of the Rouge, contact Emily Hughes at (313) 792-9626.

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Living Peace Church meets Sunday mornings at Field Elementary School, 1000 S. Haggerty in Canton. Worship begins at 10:45 am following a short coffee and fellowship time at 10:30. We look forward to seeing you.


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Put some research into charitable giving

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

I recently read that charities will begin their annual, year-end pitch for money earlier than in previous years. Americans are by far the most generous people on earth. We give to charities around the world hoping to make the world a better place. The problem is the unscrupulous individuals who know how generous Americans are and seek to take advantage of this generosity. That is why, at least once a year, I feel compelled to write and remind readers how important it is to do some research before giving to a charity.

Just because a charity has a noble mission doesn't mean you should donate money. Sometimes well-intentioned people start charities that are fiscally irresponsible. The result is your money doesn't go to achieve a charitable purpose. On the other hand, there are others who start charities with the intention of stealing money. Either way, your hard-earned money doesn't go to the charity purpose which you desire. The only way to prevent this is to research the charity before making a contribution.

Two good research sources are www.charitynavigator.org and www.give.org. Remember, one of the tricks used by unscrupulous charities is using a name that sounds similar to a well-known charity. Make sure you research

the exact name of the charity, not something similar.

Unfortunately what has happened over the last few

years is that charities have turned to professional fundraisers to help solicit funds. I say unfortunately because many of these professional fundraisers take a substantial amount of money for their services. For example, some charities use professional phone solicitation. Although many of these companies are on the up and up, they take as much as 50 percent of the money collected in fees.

When I give to a charity, I want to make sure that the company soliciting my donation is not getting 50 percent of the contribution. My general rule is I don't give to phone solicitation. If I get solicited by phone for a charity, I always ask to have something sent in writing. Also, I never give charge card information over the phone. And unless I am familiar with the charity, I do not give over the Internet. Too many bad things can happen over the Internet with charities.

Another rule I have is that I don't like to be pressured. I recognize charities sometimes have to twist some arms to get people to give, however, they shouldn't be using pressure tactics. In addition,

I'm not swayed one way or the other when charities send me free gifts in the mail. Legally you have no obligation to donate to these organizations. You can keep the gifts without any obligation. That being said, I always question if a charity has money to send me gifts, maybe they don't need my contribution.

Many organizations send little gifts to encourage a contribution but don't let that sway your decision. You still have to do your research on the charity.

One other tactic that charities use is tugging at your heartstring. Whether it's stories of kids in Third World nations or of animals that are abused, the pictures and the stories that you see tear at your heart. In other words, they accomplish exactly what they're trying to achieve. Don't let these stories and pictures sway you. Once again, too many people use this tactic to get potential donors to let down their guard. Don't fall for this.

As we enter the charitable giving season, it's important that you do your research to make sure that when you give your hard-earned money to a charity; the money is going to the cause that you want and not just to line someone's pocket. Good luck!

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

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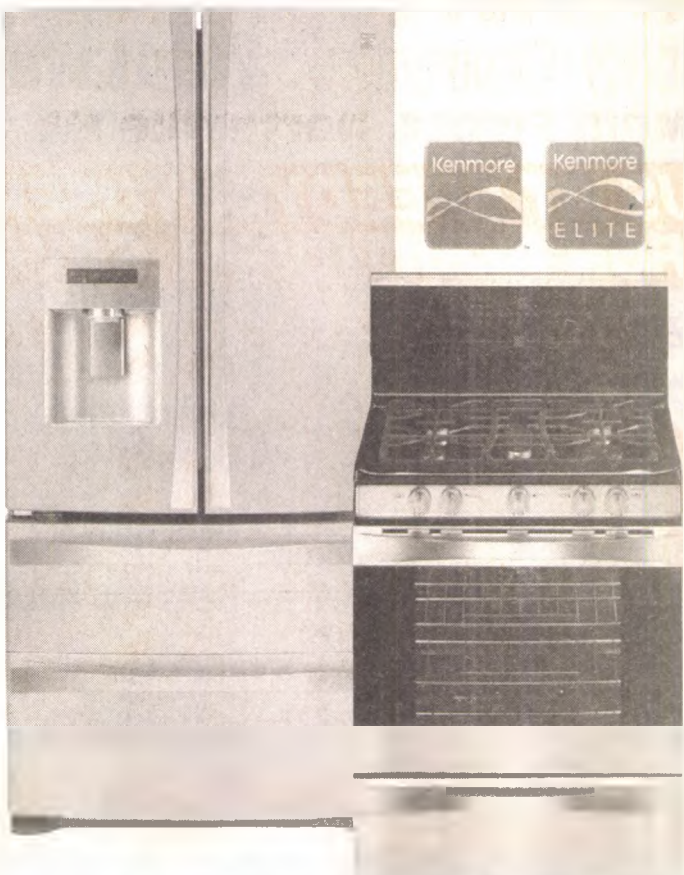
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Mom dedicates walk for orphans to son

By Laurel Thomas Gnagey
Correspondent

Sharon Skop does not believe things happen as a matter of coincidence, so when the Canton woman picked up a brochure at church about an upcoming walk to raise money for children in Africa, the number 17 jumped off the page and she knew exactly what she had to do.

It was 17 years ago Sept. 5 that her son Joe Misch died in a tragic gun accident. He, his dad and a friend were an hour away from going on a hunting trip when a gun he was "horsing around with" went off, Skop says. The young man, who his mother says was loved by so many, was a hockey player who wore a 17 on his helmet and jersey.

The brochure for the World Orphans "walk LOCAL, reach GLOBAL," sponsored by Trinity Church, said the Oct. 8 fundraiser would benefit children from 17 countries who are orphaned primarily because of HIV.

"It really touched me when I saw that World Orphans was in 17 countries. That number 17 is really special," said Skop, who has decided to walk in memory of her son, and has encouraged family and friends to participate as well.

Skop sent a letter to a number of people, asking them to join Team Joe Misch - "The Great #17," explaining that her self-confident son often referred to himself as "the great" as a way to get a laugh out of his fam-



Vala (front, from left), Marina and Catherine Evans, along with (back) Lynn Johnston and Judith Richards, braved cold, wet weather for last year's walk.

ily and friends.

"He was a kid so full of life at 14 years, who had such an impact on people, and now 17 years later those who loved him can make a difference in the lives of those little guys across the world," Skop says, who recites the words on a sign hanging above her kitchen sink: "To the world you might be one person but to one person you might be the world."

Estimates are that every 15 seconds a child in Africa becomes an orphan because of HIV/AIDS. According to UNICEF, 53.1 million children living south of the Sahara desert have been orphaned, 30 percent of them as a result of the disease. Other African children lose parents to war, malaria, cholera, severe famine, unsani-

tary water sources and natural disasters.

This is the second year Trinity Church has sponsored the walk; last year 170 participants raised \$25,000, said Ellie Schupra, director of outreach at the church located at the corner of Ann Arbor Road and Gotfredson. She hopes to nearly double participation this year.

"Our desire is to really make the Plymouth-Canton community aware of the orphan problem," said Schupra. Trinity offers a food pantry, tutoring program and other outreach activities for Southeast Michigan, and several international missions projects. "The program for orphans is one more way to help children who don't have other resources — who don't live in a country with foster care

and adoption programs, rescue mission meals or any type of government or community support. We want the community inside and outside of the church to know they can make a difference for these children by walking or donating."

The walk LOCAL reach Global event will be held at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. Registration begins at 9:30 should end between 12 and 2 p.m., depending on if participants choose to walk 1, 3, 6, 9, or 12 miles. There is a \$5 entry fee and a minimum pledge \$75/person paid online in advance or on the day of the event. One hundred percent of the pledge money goes to orphans. To register, go to <http://www.worldorphans.org/walklocalreachglobal>.

United Way starts annual campaign

The Plymouth Community United Way has kicked off its 2011 Campaign to raise money for partner agencies and grant recipients who provide basic needs and resources for residents of Plymouth, Plymouth Township, and Canton. The agency is reaching out to individuals, businesses, industry, and professionals to make a donation or run a campaign at the office. Everyone benefits when families are financially stable and healthy.

Last year, in addition to funding partner agencies, the Plymouth Community United Way organized Make a Difference days to clean senior citizens' yards, and collected new hats, scarves, mit-

tens, and gloves for the homeless and those in need. Volunteers are still needed for the Nov. 5 event to rake lawns, clean yards and provide light labor for seniors in the Plymouth/Canton community.

Donations can be made to the Plymouth Community United Way, 960 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 2, Plymouth, MI 48170. For more information, call (734) 453-6879.

Visit www.plymouthunitedway.org to learn about the work of 10 partner agencies including First Step, Angela Hospice, The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps, and Plymouth Community Council on Aging.

For more information, contact Linda Chomin at (734) 453-6879, Ext. 5.

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Afternoon delight: Culinary event full of fun, great food

Great food, luscious pastries and fine wines paired with a perfect autumn afternoon spelled success for the 20th annual Schoolcraft College Culinary Extravaganza.

More than 500 attendees were treated to a wide variety of exceptional culinary offerings. Oysters from Mitchell's Fish Market in Livonia, a sushi bar provided by Joe's Produce and Gourmet Market and a scrumptious pork appetizer offered up by chefs from MGM Grand Detroit had patrons lining up for seconds.

The Schoolcraft College Foundation presented the event, which featured more than 40 tasting stations placed throughout the VisTaTech Center. Proceeds from the event provide scholarships and grants for students.

In addition to food and wine, attendees participated in a silent auction, a wine-tasting seminar and, new this year, a wholesome healthy foods demonstration by master chef Jeff Gabriel.

"It was an exciting addition to the event.

Where else can you go hear a master chef talk about food preparation for virtually no cost?" said Marjorie Lynch, Special Events & Fundraising/Development coordinator at Schoolcraft College and member of the host committee.

Highlight of this year's raffle was a Hearts on Fire diamond necklace from Orin Jewelers in Garden City and Northville valued at \$3,400. Colleen Paige of Redford Township won the necklace.

Some 60 businesses and/or individuals sponsored this year's event, which raised some \$40,000 in sponsorships.

"This will exceed our 2009 total and we are pleased with that," Lynch said, adding the committee was also pleased with the auction results, which she attributed to great variety and "presentation of packages." Betsy McCue of Livonia served as the auction committee chair.

Fundraising is the foundation's primary role. Since its inception in 1966, the foundation has raised \$4.5 million in scholarships.



The culinary event attracted patrons from throughout the metro area. Enjoying the food and wine event were (from left) Mike Goebelbecker of Dearborn, Rebecca Shelby of Plymouth, Marcela Arana of Belleville and Elaine Chen of Dearborn.



The Cupcake Station in downtown Plymouth had some 700 samples of five flavors for culinary guests. Staffing the tasting station are (from left) Denise Castor and Amanda Frisk.



Valerie Byrd of Plymouth enjoys hearing about wine from volunteer wine pourers John and Jane Hillock of Livonia.



Walt Menard of Plymouth Township pours a glass of wine for Stephanie Goecke of Plymouth Township. Menard is a member of the Over the Grill Gang, a local chef's club, and a volunteer wine pourer at the Schoolcraft event.



Enjoying good food and good company at Sunday's event were (from left standing and seated) Orin and Tina Mazzoni of Farmington Hills and owners of Orin Jewelers in Garden City and Northville; Sarah Obomsawin (seated), marketing director at Orin Jewelers in Garden City; Eileen Kearfott of Livonia, a Schoolcraft graduate; and John and Judy Santeiu of John N. Santeiu & Son in Garden City. John Santeiu was one of the original signers of the articles in incorporation for Schoolcraft College and an honorary member of the foundation board. Orin Mazzoni is past president of the Schoolcraft College Foundation Board. Orin Jewelers donated the Hearts on Fire diamond necklace which was first prize in this year's raffle drawing.



Chris Cook (left), sous chef at The Henry Ford, and David McGregor, banquet chef, prepare an appetizer for event-goers. McGregor is a graduate of the Schoolcraft culinary program.



Abe Munfakh, a Plymouth Township resident and member of the 2011 Culinary Extravaganza host and sponsor committees, is all smiles as he accepts a sample of apple bacon pie with ginger snap crust from Laura Ingram of Armitage Catering in Farmington Hills.



Chef Linda Armitage of Armitage Catering /Finnish Banquet & Conference Center in Farmington Hills prepared a Trinidadian-style chicken with pickled topping and accented with spicy plantain chips. Chef Armitage lives in Novi.

Coordinating this year's culinary event were Kristina Mayer, secretary of the Schoolcraft College Foundation Board of Governors and chair of the event, and Marjorie Lynch, coordinator, Special Events & Fundraising/Development at Schoolcraft College. Mayer is vice president and branch manager of Bank of Ann Arbor's Plymouth Township office.



PLYMOUTH CHAMBER CHAT

New member orientation

New members and new contacts are invited to an orientation at the Chamber of Commerce office at 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6. Lunch will be served and attendees will learn how to maximize their memberships. If you are a new member or new to the Chamber and interested in attending, please contact the Chamber at teri@plymouthmich.org.

Coffee Connection

The next Coffee Connection, set for 8-9 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, is being hosted by Nico and Vali Italian Eatery. Enjoy a cup of coffee and breakfast treats while making new connections with other Chamber members. If you are interested in attending, call (734) 453-1540 or e-mail teri@plymouthmich.org.

Nico & Vali is located at 744 Wing St. one block east of Main St. There is no fee to attend this event.

After Hours

The Plymouth Community and Northville Chambers of Commerce will hold a joint After Hours at one of the area's most popular restaurants, Karl's Cabin.

This will give members from both Chambers the opportunity to meet each other in a relaxed setting, enjoying delicious food along with a cash bar. These joint events with neighboring Chambers are always great opportunities to network with people who are right in our backyard.

There is no fee to attend this event; RSVP by Oct. 26 to teri@plymouthchamber.org or call (734) 453-1540. Karl's Cabin is located at 6005 Gotfredson.

Michigan Philharmonic

The orchestra opens its 2011-12 Season with The Red Violin featuring Anicka Skalova on violin. The performance takes place at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 8 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Tickets are \$22-general, \$18-senior and \$10-student. Call (734) 451-2112 to purchase tickets.



Opening new doors

Agio Spa Di Reposo recently opened their doors at 444 Main in downtown Plymouth. The spa offers the opportunity to "Repose in Quiet Elegance." Massages, body treatments, hydrotherapy, waxing, hair services, vichy treatments, manicures, pedicures, plus facial and cosmetic services are all offered in their elegant facility. Pictured are owner Kerri Pollard, employees, family and Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors. To set an appointment, call (734) 207-5200 or go to agio-spa.com.

Chocolate Affair

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians is hosting this event to benefit First Step, the program for counseling and emergency housing for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The event begins with a luncheon followed by the Chocolate Affair featuring tastes of chocolates from area bakeries, restaurants and caterers. There will also be entertainment and prizes.

The event takes place at The Inn at St. John's (44045 Five Mile) on Oct. 9. The luncheon is from noon to 2 p.m. and the Chocolate Affair from 2-5 p.m. Tickets are \$25.00 for the luncheon and \$25.00 for the Chocolate Affair or \$45.00 for both. Call Barb at (734) 453-1459 for ticket information. Sponsorships and Advertising opportunities are also available.

Drop-in theatre

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is offering theater classes

for kids and adults through Dec. 12. Theatrical Movement and the Art of Improv (school-age thru adult); Learn to Love Auditions (school-age thru adult) and Introduction to Acting Techniques and Methods (age 10 thru adult). Classes are \$15 for members and \$18 for non-members.

For more information call (734) 416-4278 or visit www.plymoutharts.com/drop-in-theatre-classes.

Grand opening

Music Plus rocked Plymouth at their recent grand opening. The store, located at 445 Harvey St, specializes in accessories, lessons, repairs, string instruments and band instrument rentals. They were previously located on South Main St. near Ann Arbor Road.

The band that cut the ribbon consisted of owner Dan Merski on the lead scissors, employees, friends and Chamber Ambassadors. Learn more about Music Plus at www.musicplusmi.com.

Local firm debuts new skylight

The new Maximizer unit skylight from Duo-Gard Industries Inc. integrates up to three energy-saving, light-transmitting technologies to achieve top performance in translucent daylighting for any specific climatic region.

Duo-Gard will introduce Maximizer at Greenbuild 2011 in Toronto.

"This skylight brings unmatched versatility and savings in daylighting, one of green building's prime factors," said David Miller, president of Duo-Gard. "Maximizer's integration of technologies provides designers with exceptional interchangeability, enabling them to select the level of daylighting performance and the desired ROI that best suits each project."

Maximizer's clear acrylic dome covers a panel of insulating 25mm translucent multiwall polycarbonate glazing with high diffused light transmittance. Adding optional Lumira aerogel (formerly called Nanogel) in the glazing's walls doubles the insulating value and adds additional diffusion. Another option is a transparent coating filter that significantly reduces heat gain from infrared rays and eliminates UV rays, yet maintains visible light transmittance. All three technologies add up to top performance in skylighting, resulting in exceptional savings in building operations.

Six models of Maximizer offer a range of performance values up to the

totally integrated M250 model with dome, IR coating filter and Lumira-filled 25mm polycarbonate, providing 19 percent light transmission, 8 percent heat transmission and U-value 0.13.

For example: A 10,000-sq. ft. box building in Miami's hot-humid climate incorporating Maximizer Model M25 with dome/IR filter/25mm polycarbonate would offer projected annual savings of \$322,600. Hot, dry Tucson could expect \$210,000 in savings. The same building in Boston's cold climate, using Maximizer Model M250 with dome/IR filter/25mm polycarbonate filled with Lumira could achieve projected annual savings of \$391,700.

Miller emphasized that Maximizer is a building-integrated approach to daylighting that requires a strategy involving the structure and its usage, the geographic climate and the balancing of performance wanted with ROI expected. He added that Duo-Gard's in-house team collaborates closely with architects and designers to develop specific daylighting strategies for each project.

"Designers across the country no longer have to settle for one-size-fits-all in a unit skylight. Maximizer lets them pick and choose the desired performance in light transmittance, insulating value and energy efficiency, regardless of their climatic region," Miller said.

PLYMOUTH BUSINESS BRIEFS

Mortgage manager

Charles Cracraft of Plymouth has joined Charter One as a Mortgage Sales Manager. In addition to originating mortgage loans, he is helping to grow Charter One's team of loan officers in southeast Michigan. His office is in Plymouth.

Cracraft originates a wide range of mortgage loan programs, including both conventional and government loans. He has been in the mortgage business for 21 years.

Cracraft came to Charter One from Key Bank, where he was Michigan sales manager. He is a member of the Michigan Mortgage Lenders Association.

"Charter One is committed to the mortgage business and, specifically, to growing our home financing operation in the Michigan market and throughout our retail banking geography," said Ellen Steinfeld, Senior Vice President in the bank's Home Lending Solutions division.

Broker move

Carlina Boji, broker/owner of RE/MAX Classic, has announced that top producing Realtor Delilah Milne has moved her business to the Farmington Hills office. Milne, who was previously affiliated with a local real estate brokerage, made the transition to a RE/MAX brokerage to access the extraordinary educational programs, and for the benefits of working with the largest RE/MAX brokerage in Southeastern Michigan - RE/MAX Classic.

"RE/MAX is not only synonymous with real estate, but at RE/MAX Classic we are provided marketing assistance to grow our business and resources for technology," said Milne. With over 10 years of experience in the real estate industry, Milne specializes in residential and condominium sales, luxury homes and buyer representation.

"Delilah came to RE/MAX Classic this year and from the moment I met her she has been professional, educated, ethical, and caring about the clients she works for. Delilah is a full time Realtor and makes sure she knows the real estate market for her clients," said Carol Boji, broker/owner of RE/MAX Classic. "We are happy to have her join our elite group of Realtors at RE/MAX Classic. Her knowledge and integrity are a perfect fit."

Top Realtors

The Wall Street Journal and Real Trends, Inc. announced the top 1,000 real estate agents and teams for 2011 in the United States. Teams and agents were ranked based on the total number of closed transactions in 2010.

The Keller Williams Plymouth/Canton Market Center is present twice on the "Top 250 Teams by Transaction Sides." The D&R Group holds the 18th spot while Jeff Glover and Associates holds the 83rd spot for 2011.

"The Thousand" consists of data collected in 2010 which is divided into four separate lists of 250: sales professionals by transactions sides; sales professionals by sales volume; real estate teams by transaction sides; and real estate teams by sales volume.

"The real estate market collapsed four years ago, challenging the industry to shift the way they conduct their business. Thanks to Gary Keller's bestselling book, 'Shift: How Top Real Estate Agents Tackle Tough Times,' our campaign and agents were prepared for this market change," said Keller Williams Michigan/N. Ohio Regional Director Louis Ronayne. "The list of our KW agents in Michigan validates what Gary wrote about. We are proud to be in a business with such successful people and congratulate them on being ranked on these lists."

Harvest gathering

The Food Bank Council of Michigan reports more than 13 percent of Michigan households are what the United States Department of Agriculture describes as "food insecure," meaning they often have difficulty obtaining the food they need for an active and healthy life.

Two Men and a Truck locations across the state of Michigan have partnered with local schools and broadcast media to support the Food Bank Council of Michigan's annual "Michigan Harvest Gathering" collection of non-perishable food items to support local food bank pantries for the upcoming winter season.

The program runs through Nov. 18. Anyone interested in donating can drop non-perishable food to participating Two Men and a Truck locations in Michigan. In addition, the moving company will make trucks and manpower available to food manufacturers or anyone wishing to donate a large amount of food at once.

If you have interest in participating in Two Men and a Truck's "Michigan Harvest Gathering," contact Emily Stebila or Kim Tassie at 616-233-0500 or estebila@lambert-edwards.com or ktassie@lambert-edwards.com.

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OUR VIEWS

Voters said yes

It's time for Legislature to fix marijuana law

Not everyone was happy when Michigan voters overwhelmingly said that marijuana should be available for those who find it helpful in dealing with pain and other debilitating symptoms arising from various medical conditions.

Those people should be happy now.

Thanks to a vague law, a listless Legislature, aggressive police work and a crushing appellate court ruling, it's just about impossible for a person to legally obtain the marijuana that 63 percent of the state voters said should be available to them.

In other words, if grandma's cancer-related nausea is alleviated by a small dose of marijuana, she better know how to grow it herself. Or she better have a grandchild who can connect her with the local pot pusher.

The Michigan Medical Marihuana Act, approved in a statewide referendum in 2008, has some wording problems. But, vague wording notwithstanding, the public clearly supported the intent.

The Michigan Medical Marihuana Act, approved in a statewide referendum in 2008, has some wording problems. But, vague wording notwithstanding, the public clearly supported the intent.

That didn't sit well with some politicians, including Bill Schuette who two years later became attorney general, thanks to a Republican landslide.

It also hasn't set well with police and prosecutors. To be fair, they were in a bind. The possession, manufacture and sale of marijuana is still illegal. Without clear guidelines, they needed to enforce the law as they understand it. Some, however, seem to take this responsibility quite eagerly.

For instance, the Michigan Court of Appeals court ruled recently that no one — caregivers or so-called dispensaries — could legally sell marijuana to legitimate, card-holding medical marijuana users. A day later, two Ann Arbor medical marijuana clinics were raided by mask-wearing police officers who took some employees away in handcuffs. Police officials said that the raids were unrelated to the court ruling, but also declined to provide any details or specifics about what crime may have been committed.

Attorney General Schuette didn't try to restrain his glee. Shortly after the appeals court ruling, he essentially informed law enforcement officials that it was open season on medical marijuana clinics. In a prepared statement, he called the ruling "a huge victory for public safety and Michigan communities struggling with an invasion of pot shops near their schools, homes and churches."

Schuette described the horror created by the act. It seems that somewhere in the state, the holder of a medical marijuana card may have been stopped while driving under the influence of pot.

Some communities have passed local ordinances saying that, in short, "the possession, cultivation and use of marijuana violates the federal Controlled Substance Act." Other communities like have basically ignored the voter-approved law, placing a moratorium on the issue since it was passed. Officials have said they were waiting for county and state legislators to tackle the issue.

The law makes it legal for a person to use marijuana for medical purposes, but officials say it provides no legal way for a person to obtain that marijuana. That's even more true now that the appeals court has spoken.

But Lansing has barely lifted a finger, despite continued evidence that people want this solved in a way that will provide for the safe, effective distribution of marijuana for legitimate medical purposes.

Legislators have had time to cut funding to public schools, hack away at public employee benefits, raise taxes on retirees and cut benefits to children in poverty. But grandma and her glaucoma? She's on her own.

COMMUNITY VOICE

A group in Plymouth Township is trying to bring to voters a proposal for a tax that would go toward the Plymouth Community Fire Department, which might otherwise lay off firefighter/paramedics. In your own community, would you pay higher taxes to protect fire department jobs?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



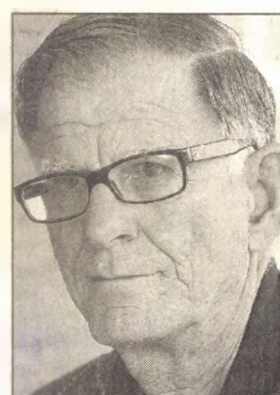
"I might. ... A little bit of money, as long as it's used wisely. ... Police and fire, those are the things you support."

Jeff Slack
Canton Township



"Yes. Keep our community safe. We've had to use 9-1-1 several times for our kids, so I was (pleased) that the (emergency help) was able to get there quickly."

Heather Gilghrist
Pittsfield Township



"I don't know yet. I'd have to know more. ... I don't know the answer right now. We certainly want protection, but we can't say if there might be some efficiencies."

Jim Evanoff
Plymouth Township



"Yes, somewhat higher. Depends on how much. A lot of my neighbors have signs (supporting the fire department)."

Charlie Roebuck
Plymouth Township

LETTERS

Involvement key

I read the recent article, "Researcher: Future depends on raising overall test scores" with interest until I came to the Harvard University faculty member and researcher's comments about the role of parenting in closing the gap between the test scores of whites and nonwhites.

He is reported as having stated, "At age 2, they need to play simple board games so they can begin to learn to count and understand the relationship between numbers." Even if you could get 2-year-olds to stay in one place long enough to play simple board games, this certainly would not be the best way for them to learn to count and understand the relationship between numbers.

For children this age, active involvement with real objects in their environment and counting steps as they go up and down them are far more important than game board representations. Verbalizing (including counting) throughout their activities and while being read stories are far more effective than board games.

When I read his theory about classroom control being "more important when teaching math and English language arts than caring about students or captivating them by making the material interesting," I wondered how long it had been since he had taught in an elementary or middle school classroom.

Important? Yes. More important? After 32 years of teaching experience, I would have to see plenty of research supporting that statement before I would believe it. Hopefully, his audience had more experience working with young children than he appears to have had.

Jane Libbing
Plymouth

Pension tax problem

Dear state Rep. Kurt Heise, The other day I found your Fall 2011 news letter ("Protecting Michigan Seniors") in my mailbox. It was not addressed to me, but rather my mother-in-law who died earlier this year at age 90.

In your newsletter, you tell your target audience, "Seniors age 67 and older by the end of 2012 will be held harmless and remain exempt from pension taxes." It's obvious I am not one of the Michigan seniors you are trying to protect. I am a retired, 57-year-old senior, living off a fixed income from a

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.

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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.

private pension.

The new Michigan Tax Pension law, which you endorsed, will fully tax pensions for people under age 60. This new tax will cost me thousands of dollars for years to come. I would have used this money to stimulate our local economy. This new pension tax is clearly based on age discrimination and is wrong.

As a precautionary measure, Gov. Rick Snyder has asked the Michigan Supreme Court for an advisory opinion as to whether this new pension tax is unconstitutional. I'm keeping my fingers crossed. Regardless of the outcome, I will not vote for you when you are up for re-election.

John M. Vraniak
Plymouth

Government's role

As Americans (mired in a stagnant economy, with an aging population carrying a tremendous national debt burden), we are facing many tough and long-term economic and financial challenges.

By necessity, discretionary expenditures at all levels of government that were once unquestioned are being eliminated or drastically reduced. The urge is to just stop all discretionary spending, rather than prioritize our needs. One benefit of this crisis has been to spark a debate as to what the appropriate role of government (federal, state and local) should be.

It is this writer's belief that it is neither in our nation nor in our state's best interest to allow our border crossings to be privately owned. If border security and the facilitation of international commerce is not a governmental function, what is?

Mike Gerou
Canton

Pass jobs plan now

President Obama laid out a bold and comprehensive jobs plan before a joint session of Congress. This plan directly challenged Congress to immediately address the unemployed and underemployed suffering in our nation. This plan, many features having bipartisan agreement in the past, should be swiftly enacted. It would put this country to work immediately.

Contrary to his predecessor, who for eight years paid for nothing and instead passed debt on to future generations, Obama spelled out how this plan will be paid for by further deficit reduction and, yes, tax increases.

If Congress, particularly the Republican-controlled U.S. House, simply sits on their hands and becomes constipated by their own rhetoric, the nation will suffer — as will they at the polls. If Congress does nothing while they try to single-mindedly work for Obama's defeat, then the reverse is likely to happen.

Gerald Maxey
Farmington Hills

Want to trade?

To all of you who are complaining about having to pay perhaps 25 percent of your company-provided health care: stop it. You do not know how good you have it. Neither did I until my husband was laid off from one company and hired by another. Check your pay stub. Do a little math. Even if your portion of health care was increased by 50 percent, you still would not be close to what we pay. Get on your knees and say a prayer of gratitude, and stop whining.

Here's my reality: BCBS health and dental coverage for my husband and myself costs us \$20,000 out of pocket for our premiums a year, plus deductibles and co-pays. That's \$5,000 per quarter, \$1,650 per month, \$825 per pay period. My husband is a contracted department director for one of the Big Three and he has no benefits whatsoever. What do I get for this preposterous premium payment? Two doctor visits per year, and an upcoming \$5,000 dental bill that I will have to pay entirely by myself.

Want to trade? That's what I thought.

Tommi West
Livonia

PLYMOUTH
OBSERVER

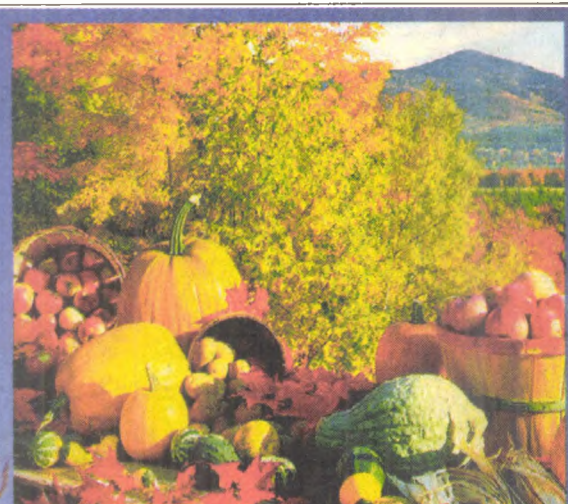
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Eagles power past Warriors

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Once Plymouth Christian Academy's offensive ball started rolling Tuesday night, there was nothing Lutheran Westland High could do to stop it.

The Eagles' power-packed offense and hard-nosed defense proved too much for the Warriors in the Michigan Independent Athletics Conference Blue Division matchup.

PCA earned a 25-15, 25-18, 25-21 victory, improving to 17-4-3 overall and 4-0 in the MIAC Blue. The Warriors fell to 11-7-4 and 1-3.

According to Eagles head coach Kelly Blackney, whose team kept momentum from last Thursday's riveting five-game victory over nemesis Oakland Christian, consistency and defensive determination were keys to the latest win.

"I think we've been a little inconsistent here and there," Blackney said. "And (with) these games I know we're playing to the potential we need to every game."

Senior middle hitter Kristin Malcolm (15 kills) again was a force.

She was on the business end of many sweet sets from her sophomore sister Jennifer Malcolm (25

assists) and also joined forces with senior outside hitter Amy Zinn (13 digs, five kills, four aces) to stymie Lutheran Westland's offensive game plan.

"Serving was key for us," Kristin Malcolm said. "We just aimed for the spots and we just brought on the heat especially Amy, she had awesome serves. They just couldn't handle her."

Zinn said the win over Oakland Christian might be the springboard for the Eagles to fly back to the Class D finals for a second straight year.

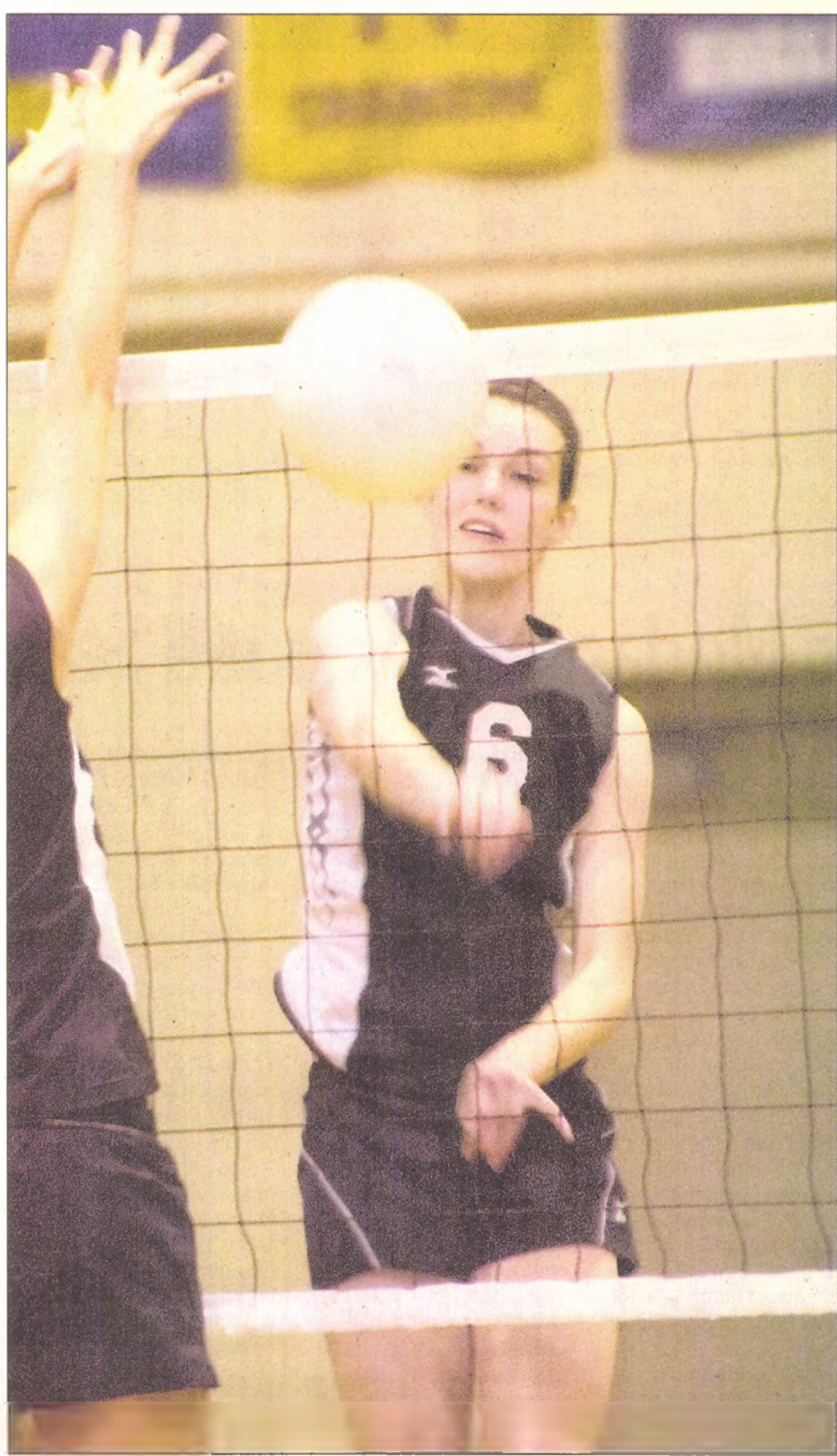
"We're definitely as good as last year," Zinn said. "I mean even this last week with Oakland, we went to five games with them. It just was on-and-off, on-and-off."

"But we're the kind of team that comes back. And we are known for pushing through until the very end. It's a mindset."

Tough to stop

For Lutheran Westland head coach Kevin Wade, whose team was led by senior middle hitter Amanda Terranella (six kills, six blocks), senior libero Taylor Wiemer (22 digs) and senior setter Erica Killian (10 assists), the Warriors could not stem the PCA tide and

Please see SPIKERS, B3



Plymouth Christian's Kristin Malcolm (No. 6) scores another point Tuesday against Lutheran Westland.

VOLLEYBALL

Salem rallies for win

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Salem's varsity girls volleyball team cleared a hurdle Tuesday, overcoming adversity to edge South Lyon in a five-game set between KLA Central Division squads.

The Rocks lost the fourth game, along with losing Erika Hatcher with an ankle injury. But they hung tough, with a big contribution by Nancy Krutty in Hatcher's spot up front, and took the decisive fifth game 18-16.

"I am so proud of my girls; they all worked so hard and never gave up," Salem head coach Amanda Nies said.

"That was a huge milestone for us tonight and I could not be happier."

"I always tell the girls to leave everything they got on the floor and they proved to do that tonight."

Other standouts included Brooke Berberet (13 kills), Hatcher (10 kills), Kara Hewett (six kills, three blocks), Katie Vincent (20 digs),

Please see SALEM, B3

WHALERS HOME OPENER

Aleardi sparks Whalers

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Alex Aleardi already has pretty good returns on his decision to switch from uniform No. 18 to No 40 to start the Plymouth Whalers 2011-12 season.

The Farmington Hills native broke a 2-2 tie early in the third period of Saturday's home opener against Erie and that seemingly flipped the switch that the Whalers were looking for.

Aleardi scored again as the Whalers skated to a 6-2 Ontario Hockey League victory before just under 2,000 fans at Compuware Arena. The win followed Plymouth's 6-2 loss in Wednesday's opener at Owen Sound.

"I changed it up, (No.) 42's been my lucky number my whole life so we only go up to 40 at Plymouth," Aleardi said. "So I took advantage of when Peter Neal moved on and just decided to take it."

Aleardi didn't immediately have a new good-luck charm, however. He clanged a shot off the post just moments after Erie tied the game at 2-2 in the first minute of the

third.

But with 14:34 left, he did score his first goal of the season, capping a beautiful individual effort.

He took a feed and bulled his way along the left half-wall, cutting behind the defense along the goal line and switching to his backhand as he moved laterally in front of Otters goalie Tyson Teichmann (47 saves).

Just enough room

Aleardi then slipped the puck inside the far post, with assists to forward Mitchell Dempsey and defenseman Dylan MacDonald.

"I found a little lane to maneuver and I got a lot of speed so I just took it wide," Aleardi explained. "One of the things I've really been working on is driving the net, right across the crease to make the goalie extend out."

"Teichmann just couldn't adjust fast enough by the time I was across the crease, so I just slid it in."

That goal seemed to provide a chance for the team to collectively exhale and begin to relax

on offense.

Despite heavily outshooting the Otters (including by a 19-4 margin in the first), Plymouth held a slim 2-1 lead entering the third (on goals by Stefan Noesen and Mitchell Heard, both in the second period).

Then in the first minute of the final stanza, Erie winger Greg McKeeg snapped a sharp angle shot from the left circle past Whalers goalie Scott Wedgewood to knot the score.

With about 18 minutes to play, Wedgewood faced a similar chance. This time, he blocked the scoring bid by Stephen Harper.

Wedgewood and the defense then killed off a Plymouth penalty and Aleardi soon netted the go-ahead tally.

Compuware fans could almost see the rust melt away from Plymouth's offensive machine over the final 15 minutes.

Less than two minutes later it was a 4-2 game. Noesen centered the puck to Rickard Rakell cutting in from the left wing and Rakell went

Please see WHALERS, B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton freshman Rohan Vaishnav makes sure to not lose focus, determination etched all over his face.

Young gun

Canton freshman rises to top spot in lineup

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

From day one, Canton freshman Rohan Vaishnav showed he belonged.

And not just as a member of the Chiefs varsity boys tennis team, but as the go-to guy at No. 1 singles.

"Rohan along with all the new players have been a wonderful addition to the team," Canton head coach Barb Lehmann said. "To have a freshman in the No. 1 singles position is an asset to the current season and to our future."

The 13-year-old Vaishnav already is quite accomplished (he's garnered national ranking from 2008-11 via the United States Tennis Association for tournament excellence) and

it's no surprise according to senior teammate Alan Halim.

"He's incredible. His serve is one of the best, one of the most consistent," said Halim, Canton's No. 2 singles player. "And he has killer accuracy. He hits it always on the line, on the corners. It's just incredible."

Halim noted there was slight apprehension before the season about a ninth-grader rolling in and rising to the top of the pecking order. But that pretty much disappeared overnight.

"We were surprised, but we knew it would be a good thing for Canton as a team having a great player who could take the No. 1 singles spot," Halim said. "We're really happy for him."

Bright future

Vaishnav, who started playing competitive tennis as a 9-year-old, said this year has been a great experience and he sees nothing but good things ahead for the Canton program.

"By the time I'm a junior, I really want to carry the team to states," he said. "Even this year, I want to go as far as we can. Canton's a great team. We're doing really well."

When the season ends, he will return to taking private lessons from Armand Molino (who is on the same coaching page as Lehmann, pushing for consistency and aggressive serving) and competing in USTA tournaments — as he has for several years,

Please see VAISHNAV, B2

Plymouth center Mitchell Heard (No. 15) scores against Erie goalie Tyson Teichmann (No. 1) late in the second period Saturday night to put the Whalers up 2-1. Assisting on the goal was J.T. Miller, his first point for Plymouth.



RENA LAVERTY

STAFF GRID PICKS

Week 6	Wright	Smith	O'Meara	Emons
Friday, Sept. 30				
Oak Park (2-3, 1-3) at Harrison (5-0, 4-0), 7 p.m.	Harrison	Harrison	Harrison	Harrison
Thurston (4-1, 3-0) at Robichaud (5-0, 3-0), 7 p.m.	Thurston	Robichaud	Thurston	Thurston
Annapolis (2-3, 1-2) at Garden City (4-1, 2-1), 7 p.m.	Garden City	Garden City	Garden City	Garden City
Crestwood (0-5, 0-3) at Redford Union (0-5, 0-3), 7 p.m.	Union	Union	Crestwood	Crestwood
Canton (5-0, 3-0) at Churchill (3-2, 1-2), 7 p.m.	Canton	Canton	Canton	Canton
Northville (5-0, 3-0) at Stevenson (2-3, 1-2), 7 p.m.	Northville	Northville	Northville	Northville
South Lyon East (1-4, 0-3) at Salem (1-4, 0-3), 7 p.m.	Salem	Salem	Salem	S.L. East
Plymouth (5-0, 3-0) at John Glenn (2-3, 1-2), 7 p.m.	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth
Wayne (0-5, 0-3) at Franklin (1-2, 2-3), 7 p.m.	Franklin	Franklin	Franklin	Franklin
O.L. Lakes (3-2) at Clarenceville (2-3), 7 p.m.	O.L. Lakes	Clarenceville	O.L. Lakes	Clarenceville
Oakl. Christian (1-3, 0-2) at Luth. Westland (2-3, 1-2), 7 p.m.	Luth. Westland	Luth. Westland	Luth. Westland	Luth. Westland
Saturday, Oct. 1				
Berkley (3-2, 3-1) at North Farmington (3-2, 3-2), 1 p.m.	Berkley	Berkley	Berkley	North Farmington
Farmington (4-1, 3-1) at Southfield (4-1, 3-1), 1 p.m.	Southfield	Southfield	Southfield	Southfield
Last week	10-2	10-2	11-1	12-0
Overall	54-14	46-22	56-12	61-7

SOCCER

Canton win streak ends in tie

On a cool, rainy night at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, two rival boys soccer teams faced off in a KLAA South Division battle.

When 80 minutes of action was over on Tuesday, Canton and Plymouth played to a 2-2 tie to snap the Chiefs 10-game winning streak.

The Wildcats nearly pulled out a win on their Senior Night. But with about 10 minutes left, Canton's Neil Zech ran down Plymouth senior Michael Himmelspach, who had gotten behind the Chiefs' defense, and tackled the ball out of bounds.

Each team had corner kicks late in the ball game, but could not crack the 2-2 deadlock.

The Wildcats took an early 1-0 lead when junior Chandler Olah pounced on a loose ball in the middle of the Canton goal box and booted it into the corner of the net past senior goalkeeper Steven Murphy.

But less than a minute later, Brian Berinti led Mitch Posuniak with a long pass up the sideline and he made it 1-1 with a blast that beat Plymouth senior goalie Rene Mejia.

It was 2-1 Canton four minutes after that.

Following a Tyler Wingham corner kick, Berinti found the ball at the top of the Plymouth goal box and touched a pass to senior Nathan Bergeson.

The subsequent chip shot gave the Chiefs a 2-1 lead at halftime.

Plymouth finally drew even midway through the second half. Olah intercepted a bad clearing pass and drove a beautiful shot from about 25 yards out that found the side netting behind Murphy.

The division-leading Chiefs' record moved to 12-1-2 overall and 6-0-1 with the tie while Plymouth's record is 4-4-1 and 4-2-1 — good for second place in the KLAA South.

Westland's Modano goes out a Star

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

An American hockey icon from Westland said a tearful goodbye to the game during a press conference held Friday afternoon in Dallas.

Mike Modano, who starred in the National Hockey League for 21 seasons, signed a one-day contract so he could retire as a member of the Dallas Stars organization.

The Stars put a value of \$999,999 on the contract as a symbolic gesture to salute Modano's wearing of the No. 9 jersey in Dallas. The 41-year-old then immediately sent his retirement papers to the league office.

Modano played all but one of his 21 NHL seasons with the Stars, starting with the team in 1988-89 when the franchise was located in Bloomington, Minn.

He played his last NHL season with Detroit. This summer he considered re-signing with another team with the Vancouver Canucks making overtures, but Modano announced earlier last week that he would retire Friday as a Star.

With 561 goals and 1,374 points, Modano retires as the highest-scoring American-born player in NHL history.

Modano, known for his dynamic skating ability, holds 21 Dallas records, including most games played (1,459), goals in a season (50) and points in a career (1,359).

"I thought I'd get through the first sentence, it looks easy on paper," said Modano, who became emotional throughout the hour-long press conference. "You'd wonder what this day would be like. It

feels pretty overwhelming. The people you seem to touch along the way and the people you meet in the course of a career is pretty amazing. I look back at 21 years with one franchise . . . I think that made me the most proud of anything."

In 1988 he was drafted first overall by the then Minnesota North Stars. He won the Stanley Cup in 1999 and appeared in the 1991 and 2000 finals. Modano represented the U.S. in 11 international tournaments, including three Winter Olympic Games winning a silver in 2002 in Salt Lake City.

"Mike Modano will always be the face of this franchise," Dallas general manager Joe Nieuwendyk said in a statement released by the team. "He means so much to our organization and all of our fans. We wanted to give him the opportunity to retire as a Dallas Star. Mike has given his heart and soul to this game for over 30 years."

Modano, who scored a Stars franchise record 50 goals during the 1993-94 season, knew the day would be coming when he'd have to put away his skates for good.

"It does go fast, it will be over before you know it," Modano said during the press gathering. "When I was told that when I was 18 by the guys in Minnesota, I just rolled my eyes and I said, 'No, you're 35 and old, you're going to be out of the game soon so why would I listen to you?' It does come full circle with those guys."

After being cut loose by Dallas, Modano took a shot at a Stanley Cup run with his hometown Red Wings.

The 6-foot-3, 210-pound center played in 40 games for Detroit, amassing four goals and 11 assists, but appeared in only two of the Wings' playoff games.

"Kenny Holland (general manager) had a vision, so did Mike Babcock (head coach) about maybe coming to Detroit and having a re-birth of some sort," Modano said. "Just for them to think about me, and to play for their organization, certainly was a thrill. It was an opportunity I don't think I could have given up. The Ilitch family, Mike and Marian, my Little Caesars (youth league) days back in the day . . . growing up . . . they did everything for us. They helped with our travel, they helped with our gear, all of the sticks that we needed . . . just a great family."

"My teammates in Detroit . . . played up against them for years. Some of the most amazing guys and skilled players I ever saw in one room. You can see after one year with them why they're at such a level that they're at. But they were great. I appreciate that experience and the opportunity to be a part of that. Of course, all of my minor league youth coaches along the way."

His abbreviated stint with the Wings, though, was marked mostly by a devastating injury to his right wrist, which cost him half the season. When he came back from the injury, No. 99 found himself on the outside having to work his way back into the lineup. He was a healthy scratch for a game in April that cost him the chance to reach a nice, round 1,500 career games.

"After last year, I

was really drained and spent," Modano told the Detroit Free Press. "I felt, at the time, I've exhausted myself mentally and emotionally. After July came and went and there wasn't much happening, I knew I was going to retire."

The certain first-ballot NHL Hall of Famer said he may do some televised games for Fox Sports Southwest, and possibly for the NHL Network. He is married to actress Willa Ford and is an avid golfer. His Mike Modano Foundation serves underprivileged youth in the Dallas area.

Born in Livonia, Modano attended Franklin High before getting a call in 1985 from Rick Wilson and he left home as a 16-year-old junior. Modano went on to play three seasons for the Prince Albert, Alberta Raiders of the Western Hockey League before going as the NHL's first pick overall in the 1988 draft.

"It was great a preparation for the NHL I'd have to say," Modano said of his junior days in Western Canada.

Modano thanked former teammates, coaches, the media, fans, the Stars support staff and friends, but saved his final remarks for this mother and father, Michael and Karen Modano.

"Those long van rides, the 6 a.m. practices, the love and support that you gave to me was a life of hockey," Modano said tearfully.

In 2003, the City of Westland dedicated its ice arena in his name and renamed the rink Mike Modano Arena.

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Canton Lions still unbeaten

The Canton Lions Junior Varsity football team improved their record to 3-0 with a recent hard-fought win over the Westland Meteors, 30-13.

The Lions defense continues to be stingy giving up only 19 points through the first three games. They have been led by strong play from Joey Glunt, Ruben Williams, Spencer Brown, Kyle Amick, Victor Abraham, Alan Farmer, Noah Brown, Colton Wieloch, Jason Arnold and Miles Davenport.

Against the Meteors, Davenport intercepted a pass late in the game and returned it 40 yards for the Lions last touchdown.

Offensively, the Lions have been led by the strong quarterback play of Evan Voyles,

Noah Brown, and Colton Wieloch, who scored on a quarterback sneak late in the first half.

The offensive line has received strong play from Kyrece Smith, David Mason, and Matt Wayne, opening large holes which have allowed Jason Arnold, Victor Abraham, and Miles Davenport to record eight touchdown runs this season all over 25 yards.

Arnold had touchdown runs of 97 and 35 yards against the Meteors.

The Lions face a touch test this weekend against the Ypsilanti Braves at the PCEP football stadium. First games begin at 10 a.m. for the Junior Freshman team, followed by the Freshman, JV, and Varsity at Noon, 2 and 4 p.m., respectively.

WHALERS

Continued from page B1

top-shelf for the goal. Farmington Hills' Austin Levi collected his second assist on the play.

With 7:55 remaining, Plymouth newcomers Andy Bathgate and Mitchell Dempsey chalked up their first points in a Whalers uniform to make it 5-2.

Bathgate sent a pass to Aleari, who in turn put a centering pass on the tape of rookie winger Dempsey — who slipped the puck along the ice between Teichmann's pads.

Wrapping up the scoring in the final minute was Aleari, from Michael Whaley and Dempsey.

According to Plymouth assistant coach Don Eiland, the way the Whalers turned on the offense is something Compuware fans could see on a regular basis.

"We've got it built into three lines instead of loading up one line like we had to do last year," Eiland said. "Hopefully with the three deep lines

we have we look forward to that if we work hard. Don't expect it to come but make it happen."

Eiland said players are still getting used to each other, what with eight Whalers just returning from various National Hockey League training camps.

"It's going to take time, we haven't been together that long," he added. "A lot of guys were away at camp. Everyone's getting to know each other."

Fitting footnote

The assist by Whaley came at the end of a night that began with a moment of silence for his father.

Hockey official David Whaley, 48, recently died following a bout with cancer. He had served as a video goal judge in the OHL since the 2006-07 season.

(Plymouth's next games — both at Compuware — are Friday against Ottawa and Saturday against London. Both games begin at 7 p.m. Call (734) 453-8400 for ticket information.)

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VAISHNAV

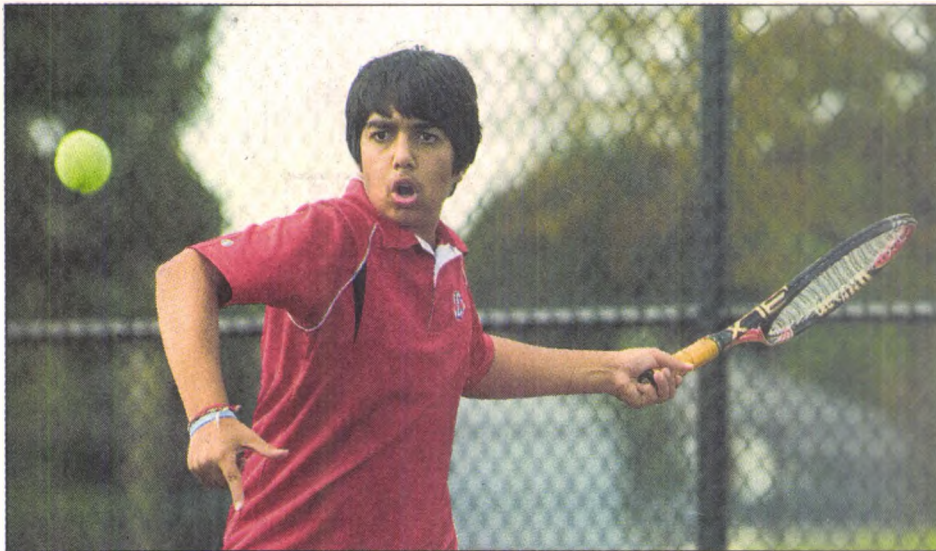
Continued from page B1

with much success.

"I've won a few (USTA) tournaments, I've made runner-up in a few tournaments as well," Vaishnav said. "During the high school season, I haven't been playing (elsewhere), but as soon as it's over I'm going to get right back to it. As long as high school season's going on, I'm not going to play USTA."

Lehmann said the level of commitment to excellence that Vaishnav has bodes well for his Canton career and beyond.

"His family (especially parents Dhaval and Brenda) is a great supporter of his desire to be a great player and one day play in college," she said. "He brings a level of knowledge of competitive play and sportsmanship that is a great example to all of the players on the team."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Putting everything he has into this shot is Canton standout freshman Rohan Vaishnav, excelling as the Chiefs' No. 1 singles player this season.

Better than expected

Vaishnav smiled when talking about what he set out to accomplish as a freshman and what has actually happened.

"When I came here, I wanted to be at least No. 2 (singles), for sure," he said. "When I got here, I won all my matches. I was extremely happy

with the results. It was beyond what I had hoped for."

In fact, he can look across Plymouth-Canton Educational Park at another No. 1 singles player who is pretty good — Plymouth senior All-Stater Aaron Zhang — and perhaps visualize getting to that point as a high school player. So far, one of the few blemishes on

Vaishnav's record came at the hands of Zhang.

"We played once, it was a tight match," Vaishnav said. "He ended up winning, but it was good. He's a great player, he's a good guy."

It's not taking long to describe young Rohan Vaishnav in the same way.

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GIRLS SWIMMING

Salem tankers nip Chiefs, 97-89

On the heels of Saturday's Rock Mauer Invitational, both Salem and Canton got after it Tuesday in a KLAAs crossover varsity girls swimming and diving meet.

The Rocks held on for an exciting 97-89 triumph, sparked by senior Lauren Seroka who was part of two winning relays along with two individual triumphs.

Seroka, Abby Aumiller, Maria Radzwin and Julia Suriano came in first in the 200-yard med-

ley relay with a time of 1:57.27, nipping Canton's quartet of Caitlin Orr, Hannah Jenkins, Delaney Adams and Abby Madison (1:58.43).

The Salem 400 relay also came in first as Seroka, Maddie Gorman, Suriano and Aumiller prevailed in 3:47.78.

Seroka's individual wins came in the 200 IM (2:13.64) and 500 free-style (5:14.57).

Also claiming two solo events was Canton's Destinee Barmore-Hicks

(50 free, 25.30; 100 free, 55.28).

Barmore-Hicks also joined Abby Madison, Claire Greene and Madeline Madison to win the 200 relay, in 1:47.42.

Other swimmers to finish first in events were Canton's Greene (200 free, 2:03.40), Adams (100 fly, 1:01.39) and Jenkins (100 breast, 1:14.11) while Salem's Bridget Maul (diving, 133.75 points) and Aumiller (100 back, 1:01.78) were the other event winners.

Rocks, Chiefs swim hard at invite

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Despite finishing in the middle of the pack at Saturday's Rock Mauer Swimming & Diving Invitational at Salem High School, the Rocks and campus rival Canton did have some positives to take out of the day.

Salem's varsity girls team finished fourth with 140 points while Canton placed fifth with 126. The top spots were secured by Farmington Hills Mercy (352), Northville (249) and Livonia Stevenson (195). Rounding up the standings in sixth place was Ann Arbor Pioneer (120).

There were multiple heats in each event.

"We had a great crowd that were entertained to some exciting competition by all six teams involved," Salem head coach Chuck Olson said. "I was impressed by the sportsmanship and conduct of all the teams which is so important to interscholastic sports."

The Rocks and Chiefs

each collected one first-place finish. For Salem, junior Abby Aumiller won the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:01.53 while Canton sophomore Destinee Barmore-Hicks was first in the 50 free with a mark of 25.72 seconds.

Earning second in one heat of the 200 IM was Canton junior Caitlin Orr (2:24.89), while Salem's Lauren Seroka and Canton's Delaney Adams finished 2-3 in the another heat of that event.

Seroka, a senior, finished in 2:16.49 while junior Adams came in third with a mark of 2:18.48.

In the 500 free, Canton freshman Claire Greene impressed. She placed second in her heat with a time of 5:23.74.

Several individuals from Salem and Canton earned third-place points.

Green took the third spot in the 200 free (2:04.42), while Canton sophomores Mackenzie Dugas and Hannah Jenkins were third in

their heats of the 200 IM (2:32.61, 2:22.45, respectively).

Salem juniors Nicole Kariotis (50 free, 28.15) and Natasha Consul (100 fly, 1:15.52) registered third-place finishes. So did Canton sophomore Rachel Barszcz in her heat of the 100 fly (1:09.73).

Other Salem individual thirds were tallied by Julia Suriano (100 free, 57.58) and Seroka (100 breast, 1:11.98); Canton's Adams (100 fly, 1:03.04) and junior Christine Pray (500 free, 5:42.30) also came in third.

In relays, Salem chalked up thirds in two races. In the 200-yard freestyle relay, the tandem of Kristy Rupp, Michelle Gutta, Noe Milad and Claire Cousino finished in 1:57.48. Also third, in the 400-free relay, were Salem's Vincenza Zaia, Jocey Lamoureux, Stephanie Solterman and Maggie Sniedeman.

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SPIKERS

Continued from page B1

minimize damage.

"You give them a point, at least lately we've been giving them four or five more," Wade stressed. "We talk about it all the time, it's one-and-done."

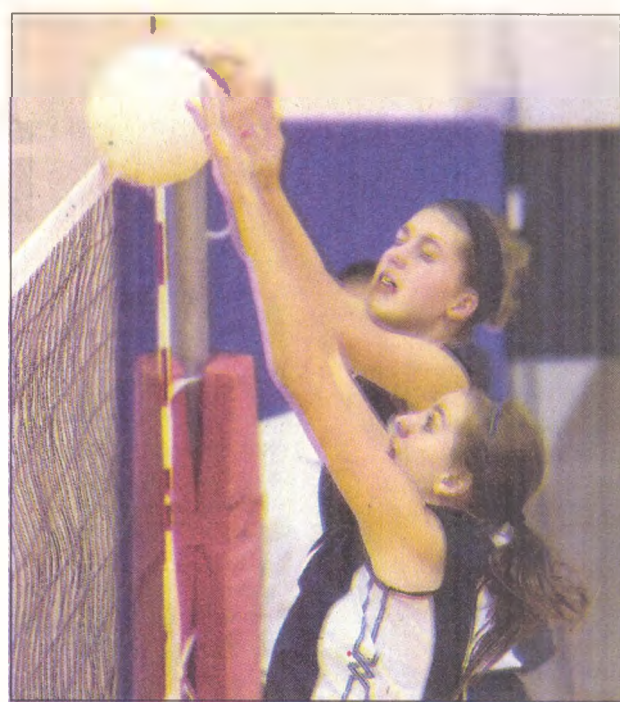
"If you can slow down their attack by getting the next point, you're fine."

In Game 1, a 10-point serving run by PCA senior libero Jessica Rich (nine digs, two aces) opened up a healthy 22-10 advantage.

It was more of the same in the second set, as Zinn hammered three aces among an eight-point surge that made it 19-10.

"I saw an open spot in the corner," said Zinn, recalling her Game 2 surge. "And once I had the first ace it worked, it seemed like a good spot so I just kept hitting that spot."

The two long PCA scoring runs frustrated Wade, adding that with a veteran team (five seniors), adjustments to stop runs shouldn't be too much to ask.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Standing tall to block the ball Tuesday night are Plymouth Christian's Jennifer Malcolm (top) and Katelyn McCormick.

"But they're not making those adjustments," he said. "We're telling them to make the adjustments and it's not computing right now. We're kind of in a rut."

Lutheran Westland played better in the third game, hanging around for most of the set.

It was 14-14 after junior setter Shannon Abbott

served up two points.

But Kristin Malcolm was there to spoil Abbott's bid to finally put the Warriors in the lead as she spiked the ball for a sideout.

The Warriors could not even tie PCA the rest of the night.

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SALEM

Continued from page B1

Katie Heitmeyer (10 digs, four aces) and Quinn Fillinger (49 assists, six kills).

"Quinn played her best match tonight," Nies said. "Her setting was very consistent and that really made a difference for our hitters."

Salem got off to a good start, winning two of the first three games. Heitmeyer's 8-0 serving run opened things up on a high note.

But when the fourth game rolled around, the Rocks could not muster the lead for the longest time.

After finally pulling to within 14-13, Nies called a timeout to try to stop the mistakes that threw away points to the Lions.

Salem (2-4, 2-4) bounced out of that timeout and took it to South Lyon (10-4, 3-3), right up to the clinching point.

"We have been working the past couple weeks on just building our confidence and being smarter players on the floor,"

Nies added. "It really started to come together tonight."

Wildcats stay hot
Plymouth defeated Livonia Churchill Tuesday night in five sets, improving to 25-5 overall and 4-2 in the KLAAs Central Division.

The teams traded wins all night, with the Wildcats finally winning 3-2 (25-21, 30-32, 25-23, 19-25, 15-5).

"I'm so proud of these girls," Plymouth head coach Sarah Marody said. "They earned this victory, they beat a very talented Churchill team."

"The first four games were intense... Every point was back and forth but in the fifth game we came out firing."

Marody said Plymouth's offense clicked "and the defense gave the setters some great passes to convert."

Madelyn Betts led in kills with 16, with Emilee Beyer (13) and Olivia Beyer (10) also big up front for the Wildcats.

Shayla Smalls and Olivia Beyer had seven and six blocks, respectively, while Jessica Scott (30 assists) and Smalls (21

assists) helped keep the Plymouth offense moving.

Betts also was team leader in digs with 27, followed by Emilee Beyer (18) and libero Lindsay Stemberger (17).

Other players to help the-cause included Rachael Hille (eight kills, three blocks) and Taylor Rieckhoff (two blocks, two aces).

At Saturday's University of Michigan-Dearborn tournament, the Wildcats finished third (losing to Dexter in the semifinals).

Plymouth handled Livonia Clarenceville, Dearborn Edsel Ford and Flat Rock in pool play, and then defeated Dearborn Fordson 25-6, 25-11 in the quarterfinals before dropping a 25-21, 25-16 match to Dexter.

Key contributors for Plymouth included Stemberger (29 digs, nine aces), Smalls (10 aces, seven blocks, 40 assists), Betts (27 kills, 14 digs), Emilee Beyer (27 kills, 19 kills), Scott (50 assists) and Olivia Beyer (26 kills).

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PREP CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

MONROE JEFFERSON INVITATIONAL RESULTS

Sept. 24 at Sterling State Park
BOYS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Brighton, 18 points; 2. Canton, 83; 3. Livonia Stevenson, 88; 4. Livonia Churchill, 92; 5. Ann Arbor Huron, 156; 6. Livonia Franklin, 209; 7. Belleville, 244; 8. (tie) Monroe and Wayne Memorial, 248 each; 10. Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 259; 11. Ypsilanti Lincoln, 277; 12. Southgate Anderson, 298; 13. Garden City, 372.

Individual winner: Timmy Jurick (Brighton), 16:35.13 (5,000 meters).

Canton finishers: 10. Mitch Clinton, 17:26 (medal); 12. Miles Felton, 17:35 (medal); 15. Jeff Molchan, 17:40 (medal); 22. Billy Toth, 17:56 (medal); 24. Tom Walkinshaw, 17:58 (medal); 25. Bradon Conley, 17:58 (medal); 33. Andrew Stephens, 18:17.

GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Brighton, 36 points; 2. Livonia Churchill, 57; 3. Saline, 114; 4. Livonia Stevenson, 122; 5. Plymouth, 133; 6. Canton, 148; 7. Livonia Franklin, 194; 8. Salem (B), 197; 9. Monroe, 233; 10. Southgate Anderson, 324; 11. Garden City, 326; 12. Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 398; 14. (tie) Wayne Memorial and Ypsilanti Lincoln, no team scores.

Individual winner: Kerigan Riley (Churchill), 19:19.33 (5,000 meters).

Salem finishers: 31. Adrianna Beltran, 21:43; 33. Hannah Stoliker, 21:47; 45. Rebecca Lopez, 22:08; 46. Lauren Arquette, 22:09; 55. Madison Goodpasture, 22:35; 56. Jamie Olsen, 22:41; 77. Emily Marcero, 23:37; 88. Katy Robeson, 24:12; 90. Alexis Foley, 24:19; 97. Shannon Fitzpatrick, 25:05.

JACKSON INVITATIONAL RESULTS

Sept. 24 at Sharp Park
GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Saline, 42 points (24 teams in race); 2. Northville (A), 70; 3. Troy (A), 118; 4. Pinckney, 177; 5. Temper-

ance Bedford (197); 6. White Lake Lakeland (199); 7. Sterling Heights Stevenson (209); 8. East Kentwood (231); 9. Traverse City West (234); 10. Northville (B), 240; 11. Salem (A), 244.

Salem finishers: 38. Shannon Flynn, 20:05.5; 40. Emily Bizon, 20:11.2; 48. Autumn Burin, 20:28.3; 53. Amanda Beyer, 20:32.0; 68. Natasha Stevenson, 20:52.6; 75. Alejandra Beltran, 21:00.9; 92. Kelly Kerwin, 21:19.4.

BOYS DUAL MEET RESULTS CANTON 25

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 31
Sept. 27 at Cass Benton Park
Individual winner: Miles Felton (Canton), 17:14.2 (5,000 meters).

Other Canton finishers: 2. Mitch Clinton, 17:16.5; 3. Bradon Conley, 17:26.3; 8. Billy Toth, 17:44.0; 10. Tom Walkinshaw, 17:56.7; 13. Evan Dunklee, 18:02.1; 14. Andrew Stephens, 18:24.0.

Dual meet records: Canton, 3-0 overall, 3-0 KLAAs South Division; Churchill, 2-1 overall, 2-1 KLAAs South.

PLYMOUTH 15

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 47
Sept. 27 at Nankin Mills
Individual winner: Derek Gielarowski (Plymouth), 16:34.2 (5,000 meters).

Other Plymouth finishers: 2. Nick Eiben, 17:08.8; 3. Zane Perlonga, 17:16.3; 4. Liam Cardenas, 17:16.8; 5. Jimmy Maciagi, 17:20.3; 7. Brandon Dalton, 17:27.3; 9. Garrett Newman, 17:48.9.

Dual meet records: Plymouth, 3-0 overall, 3-0 KLAAs South Division; Franklin, 0-3 overall, 0-3 KLAAs South.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 20

SALEM 37
Sept. 27 at Cass Benton Park
Individual winner: Stephen Fenech (Stevenson), 17:06.5 (5,000 meters).

Salem finishers: 2. Steve McEvilly, 17:26.7; 6. Riley Duxtader, 17:53.4; 8. Jeremy Drouillard, 18:05.7; 9. Donovan Drouil-

lard, 18:09.3; 15. Noah Engerer, 18:43.2; 17. Alex Creekmore, 18:44.5; 18. Lucas Salinas, 18:48.7.

Dual meet records: Stevenson, 2-1 overall, 2-1 KLAAs Central Division; Salem, 1-2 overall, 1-2 KLAAs Central.

GIRLS DUAL MEET RESULTS LIVONIA CHURCHILL 17

CANTON 42

Sept. 27 at Cass Benton Park
Individual winner: Kerigan Riley (Churchill), 20:02.54 (5,000 meters).

Canton finishers: 5. Emily Southern, 21:08.94; 6. Jessica Siegler, 21:19.35; 8. Anna Gorzalski, 21:26.1; 11. Paige Calvert, 22:07.98; 12. Katie Grimes, 22:17.74; 13. Hannah Ferel, 22:47.31; 14. Anna Lang, 22:47.72.

Dual meet records: Churchill, 3-0 overall, 3-0 KLAAs South Division; Canton, 2-1 overall, 2-1 KLAAs South.

PLYMOUTH 19

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 37

Sept. 27 at Nankin Mills
Individual winner: Nicole Trait-

ses (Plymouth), 19:57.4 (5,000 meters).

Other Plymouth finishers: 2. Marina DiBiasi, 20:38.4; 4. Alexa Chicon, 21:19.8; 5. Briana Lax, 21:27.7; 7. Shannon Shaver, 22:02.7; 10. Renae DeBrito, 22:11.4; 12. Morgan Henson, 22:32.5.

Dual meet records: Plymouth, 3-0 overall, 3-0 KLAAs South Division; Franklin, 0-3 overall, 0-3 KLAAs South.

SALEM 28

LIVONIA STEVENSON 30

Sept. 27 at Nankin Mills
Individual winner: Lindsey Gal-

lagher (Stevenson), 20:27.

Salem finishers: 3. Adrianna Beltran, 20:57; 4. Shannon Flynn, 21:00; 6. Natasha Stevenson, 21:06; 7. Autumn Burin, 21:08; 8. Amanda Beyer, 21:15; 9. Alejandra Beltran, 21:27; 11. Rebecca Lopez, 21:50.

Dual meet records: Salem, 2-1 in KLAAs Central Division.

GIRLS GOLF RESULTS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 185

CANTON 204
Sept. 26 at Whispering Willows G.C.

Churchill scorers: Jordyn Shepler, 41 (medalist); Nicole Kruse, 47; Jackie Burdette, 47; Maggie McGowan, 50; Claire Rose, 53; Lauren Pickworth, 70.

Canton scorers: Kelsey McDougall, 48; Paige Osler, 50;

Kaylie Lobb, 53; Chloe Luyet, 53; Rachel Pisano, 58; Kayla Lagola, 69.

Dual match records: Churchill, 6-2 KLAAs South Division; Canton, 5-3 KLAAs South.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 193

SALEM 225

Sept. 20 at Fox Hills G.C.

Stevenson scorers: Becca Bubenheimer, 44 (medalist); Mary Peltz, 46; Sarah King,

51; Laura Shureb, 52; Maddie Omietanski, 53; Rachel Schuit, 59.

Salem scorers: Gabby LeBlance, 53; Christine Li and KaLaya Thomas, 56 each; Amanda Bennett, 60; Katie Vena, 61; Kahlree Kozan, 66.

Dual match records: Stevenson, 3-4 overall, 3-4 KLAAs Central Division; Salem, 0-7 overall, 0-7 KLAAs Central.

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JOURNEY THROUGH PROPHECY

Time/Date: 7 p.m. or 12:30 p.m. Friday-Wednesday, Sept. 30-Oct. 15

Location: Metropolitan Junior Academy Gymnasium, 15585 Haggerty, Plymouth

Details: The book of Revelation will be explained. These illustrated presentations aim to make Bible prophecy clear and easy to understand.

Learn why many who have attended these seminars have said they learned more about the Bible in a few weeks than they had previously

Contact: (734) 420-3131

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: Pre-sale is 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 29; sale is 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30 and 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, Oct. 1

Location: Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia

Details: Admission for pre-sale is \$2. Admission free Friday-Saturday. Saturday everything is half price

Contact: (734) 422-0149

Through Sept. 30

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

Church refurbishes antique statue

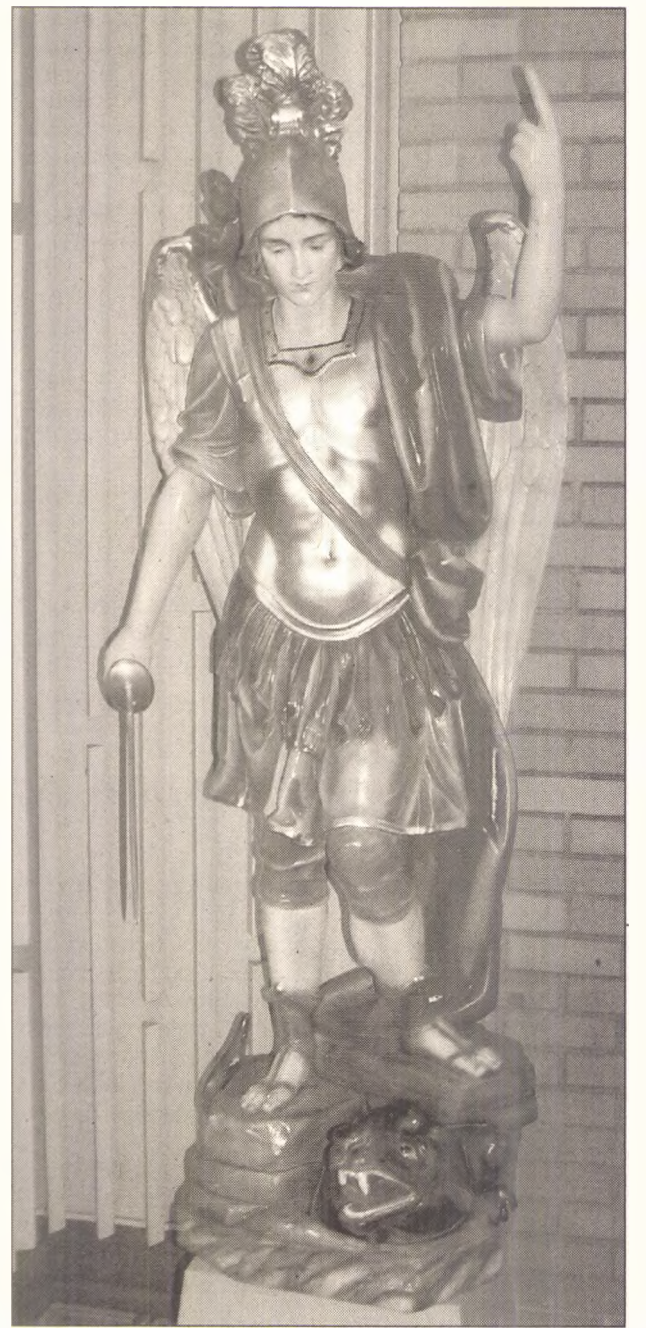
St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia will dedicate a recently-restored statue of St. Michael today, Thursday, Sept. 29, on the saint's feast day.

The dedication will start at 6:30 p.m. in the church, located at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road.

The St. Michael figure is one of several Daprato statues in the church. Since the early 19th century, Daprato statues have set the standard for religious art around the world and found homes in many Catholic churches. When a St. Michael's parishioner happened upon an original Daprato statue of the Sacred Heart sitting in the basement of a closed Catholic church in Redford, the Rev. William Tindall, pastor at St. Michael's, was happy to give it a new home. He missed the beautiful, old Daprato statuary that had filled his former church at St. Charles Borromeo parish in Newport.

While in the process of acquiring that statue, another piece, Our Lady of Grace, was discovered and purchased. Appreciative parishioners stepped forward and anonymously funded the cost of a Daprato statue of St. Michael the Archangel, along with a full set of hand-carved Stations of the Cross, depicting the passion and death of Christ.

All of the art treasures were restored on different occasions by Michael Wendt of Ecclesiastical Studios of San Antonio, Texas. He was on hand at St. Michael's recently to work on the St. Michael piece and Stations of the Cross. Wendt is one of the few church art restorers who actually does his restorations on the parish site in order to avoid shipping the antiques, which could be damaged during the



The colorful statue of St. Michael has been restored and will be dedicated on Thursday, Sept. 29, at St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia.

process. The artist, who is related to the original Daprato family through marriage, has confirmed that the St. Michael statue is one of the rarest artistic portrayals created by the Daprato family and dates to the early 1900s.

Tindall pointed out that the statues, restored with special dyes and paints unique to the original Daprato creations, are works of art.

"Take the time to look closely at the fac-

es of these statues and the detail and emotions in the stations and you will surely discover the beauty and spirituality such art can inspire, for us and for all those who come after us," he said.

The dedication, which will include the recitation of the Chaplet of St. Michael and Benediction, will conclude a full day of Eucharistic Adoration. The ceremony is open to the public. For more information, visit www.livoniastmichael.org.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

BRICKMAN, VIRGINIA

Age 94, born in Denver, CO, ascended peacefully to her reward on Sept. 20, 2011 from her residence at Superior Woods Assisted Living facility to be reunited with her husband, Arthur & her original family. Mom had been a wonderful, most caring teacher at Wayne-Westland schools for over 30 years, taking the students on nature walks, playing baseball with them, allowing them to earn lunch-time crossword puzzle time. Her only child, Mary Carole, living in Memphis, TN with her husband, will most sadly miss her! Fr. Tom will say the memorial Mass Sat., Oct. 1st at 11am.

GERST, GERALD A.

September 25, 2011, age 78. Life-long resident of Plymouth. Beloved husband of Bessie. Dear father of Steven (Nancy) Gerst, Michael (Debbie) Gerst and Denise (Jill) Gerst. Dear grandfather of Katie (Jon) Haywood, Lindsay, Bryan, Rebecca, Kayla and Kyleigh. Services were held Wednesday. Share your special thoughts and memories at www.schrader-howell.com

MINCH, JOHN

49, of Barton City, MI, formerly of Wayne died 9/20/2011. A private memorial service is planned. Gillies Funeral Home.



GOBLE, WYMAN LEE, JR.

Age 43, of Westland, September 26, 2011. Beloved husband of Laura. Loving father of Anthony Lee Goble and Joy Charlotte Rose Goble. Dearest son of Nyoka and Wyman Goble. Dear brother of James Long, Gary (Donna) Goble, Sherry (Donald) Skidmore, Theresa Allread and Marsha (Billy) Norris. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, family and friends. He was the past president of the Detroit Jokers Motorcycle Club. Service is Friday, 2:00 PM at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, (next to Michigan Memorial Park) 30895 Huron River Dr., Huron Twp., (734) 783-2646. Visitation is Thursday, 1:00-8:00 PM. He will then be taken by a custom-built motorcycle hearse for a final ride to Michigan Memorial Park for interment. michiganmemorialfuneral-home.com

SITLER, MARILYN A.

Age 79, September 24, 2011. Beloved wife of the late Ralph Sitler, Sr. Loving mother of Ralph, Jr. (Jean), Margaret Draus, Therese (Mark) Oller, Anne Marie (Todd) Meadows, John (Pamela), Thomas (Marisa), Karl (Theresa), Stephen (Stephanie), Karen (John) Currey, Kurt (Kelly) and Erich. Proud grandmother of 29 and great grandmother of 9. Dear sister of Ellen and Rosemary. Visitation at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Thursday 2-9 PM with a Scripture Service Thursday at 7 PM. Instate at Christ the King Catholic Church, 20800 Grand River, Detroit, Friday from 9:30 AM until Funeral Mass at 10 AM. Memorial contributions may be directed to The Alzheimer's Association. Please share a memory of Marilyn at www.rggharris.com



DILLON, WILLIAM

Sept 24, 2011. Loving husband of Katherine. Dear father of William T. (Jill), Laurence (Mary), Kathleen (Dennis) Blaharski, Mary Margaret (James) Bilicki and the late Maureen Ann, Brother of Jacqueline Sferlazza. Also survived by 18 grandchildren & 34 Great Grandchildren. Past Grand Knight of Cardinal Edward Mooney K of C and past State District Deputy. Share a "memorial tribute" with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com

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<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 46801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>WARD CHURCH 40000 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48166 248-374-7400 www.wardchurch.org</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</p> <p>ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360</p> <p>WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org</p>
<p>ASSEMBLIES OF GOD</p> <p>OPEN ARMS CHURCH Worship: Sunday 10:30 am Children's Programs Available Kid's Stop Preschool Now Enrolling 248.474.0001 Meet our New Pastor Grady Jensen & Assoc. Pastor Abe Fazzini 33015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152 Between Farmington & Merriman Across from Joe's Produce 248.471.5282</p>	<p>CONGREGATIONAL</p> <p>North Congregational Church 36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School Faith - Freedom - Fellowship Rev. Mary E. Biedron Senior Minister</p> <p>For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com</p>		

Italian teen tenors to visit benefit dinner

by Sharon Dargay
O&E staff writer

The first time Anthony Rugiero heard Il Volo sing, he was struck by the group's similarity to both opera's The Three Tenors and the pop music world's Jonas Brothers.

"I was amazed," said Rugiero, who owns a home abroad. "It was, like wow! They are treating these kids like the Jonas Brothers in Italy and they're singing opera, like The Three Tenors. You look at them and it's like, these guys have it all. It's too good to be true."

The trio, Piero Barone, 17, Gianluca Ginoble, 16, and Ignazio Boschetto, 16, won a televised talent competition with their rendition of *O Sole Mio* in May 2009. Since then, the three young tenors — who put a pop spin on classical music, opera and standards — have watched their careers take flight. They released an album last year in Italy, signed a recording contract with Gefen Records in the United States, sang on *American Idol* in May and are on a tour that will bring them to the Fox Theatre in Detroit next month.

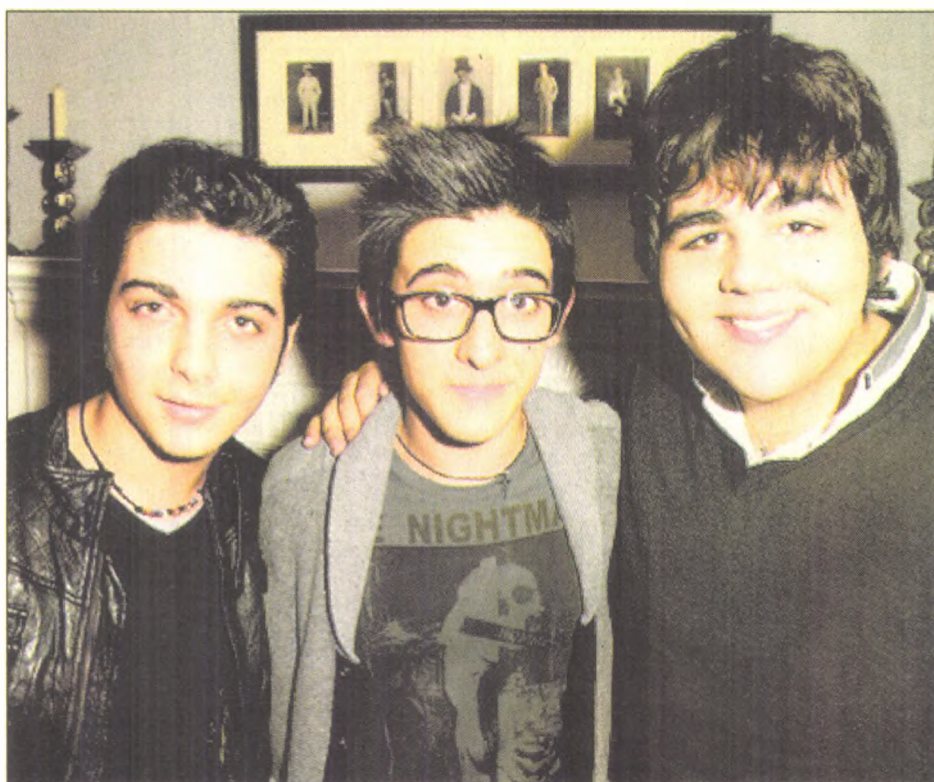
Rugiero, who heard the group sing in Italy, knew Il Volo could help his charitable endeavors

soar, too. The president and CEO of Antonio's Corp — which includes his family's restaurants, Antonio's Cucina Italiana in Canton, Dearborn Heights and Farmington Hills, and Farming Village Cucina Italiana in Dearborn — Rugiero had been looking for a way to raise funds for Boys' Town of Italy, Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance and the Volterra-Detroit.

"I was thinking, how can I get a group together that's big enough that it would reach all age levels? I thought about singing groups and was trying to think of who I could get, when I see these young kids in Italy," Rugiero recalled. "They take classical music and put a little something into it. These kids are wonderful."

Producing a concert

Rugiero, who also is a board member of the Detroit Opera House, was determined to bring the group to Detroit as a fundraiser for the three organizations and began working on a plan to produce the concert himself. After Live Nation bought the group's North American concert tour, Rugiero suggested a benefit dinner that would be held in conjunction with the show on Sunday, Oct. 16. Concert promoters liked



Il Volo will attend a benefit dinner Sunday, Oct. 16, at the Detroit Opera House after performing at the Fox Theatre.



Rugiero

Shuttle buses will take ticket-holders to the Fox Theatre for Il Volo's concert at 4 p.m. They'll return via shuttle to the

idea. The benefit will start with a cash and biscotti reception at The Detroit Opera House.

Detroit Opera House for the dinner, which Il Volo will attend.

"I purchased the first 20 rows, center section, all premium seats," Rugiero said, describing seats at the Fox Theatre. "We hope to have a great evening."

Fiat is a sponsor of the event, along with several Italian-American business leaders including Tom Celani and Anthony Soave.

Benefiting organizations

The Volterra-Detroit Foundation supports Detroit Mercy School of Architecture and Comune di Volterra, which have

formed a partnership to provide a new educational opportunity in the City of Volterra, Italy, for students in metro Detroit. Through the partnership, U.S. students can study in Italy for no additional fee, after paying their regular college tuition.

"I love programs that bridge the gap between Italy and the U.S.," Rugiero said.

Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance (ILICA) is a worldwide organization that opens doors for many students around the world to learn more about Italy, its language and its culture through programs and activities that support the value of Italian heritage. The organization is a leader in promoting and facilitating the study of Italian language in American schools.

Boys' Town of Italy has funded the development of more than 60 child care centers for communities throughout the globe, and has been the primary sponsor of the Boys' Towns and Girls' Town in Rome and United States.

Plymouth chili rides rev up

There's still time to register for the Motor City Chili Ride that will raise money for the Habitat for Humanity and Penrickton Center for Blind Children on Sunday, Oct. 9.

Cost is \$10 per person and riders can depart at 10:30 a.m. from either Dick Scott's Classic Motorcycles in Livonia or Motor City Harley-Davidson in Farmington Hills. Registration will start at 8:30 a.m. at both locations. Both rides will

end at the 16th Annual Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff in downtown Plymouth.

All riders will receive free VIP parking at the event.

The Great Lakes Regional Chili Cook-off runs 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 9 and will include red chili, green chili and salsa competitions, the Restaurant Chili Challenge and Battle of the Businesses Chili competition, "Hottest Dog in the Coolest

City" costume contest, kids' activities, a motorcycle show, dance performances and music by Steve King and the Dittilies.

For more information about the ride from Livonia, call Dick Scott's Classic Motorcycles at (734) 542-8000 or visit www.DickScott.com. For the Farmington Hills ride, call Motor City Harley Davidson at (248) 473-7433 or visit www.motorcityharley.com.

Clubs bring music, art to Westland

The Rotary Club of Westland and Three Cities Art Club will present an art show of original paintings, drawings, graphics and photography Oct. 14-16 at Westland Shopping Center, 35000 W. Warren, in Westland.

The free event has something for every-

one. Sharon Lee Dillenbeck, owner of D&M Art Studio will demonstrate painting techniques beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 15. A "paint off" will be held at 2 p.m., when Dillenbeck, Marilyn Meredith, Deanna Salhaney and Elizabeth Gullikson paint the

same still life in four different mediums and styles.

Select members of the Michigan Philharmonic will perform from 1-2 p.m. and Jay D. Kilgus of Piano Pleasures will play at 2 p.m.

Westland Mayor William West, Westland Rotary Club president

Mary Vellardita, and Carol Rutz of Westland Shopping Center will select winning works of art. Awards will be presented at 1 p.m. Saturday.

For more information, visit www.threecities-artclub.org or call Marilyn Meredith weekdays at (248) 557-3800, Ext. 1.

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Art

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Oct. 7-22; gallery hours are 1-5 p.m.

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "Outside In," an all-media landscape exhibit juried by plein air painter, Heiner Hertling

Contact: (248) 344-0497

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Thursday in October

Location: 744 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth

Details: Works by photo journalist Douglas Elbinger

Visual Arts Association of Livonia

Location: New Five Village Shopping Center, 37653 5 Mile, Livonia

Details: Artisans and crafters are needed for the second annual VAAL Holiday Shoppe; accepting applications now

Contact: (734) 424 1566

Comedy

Go Comedy!

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday through Sundays

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale

Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam ses-

sion show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays

Contact: (248) 327-0575; gocomedy.net

JD'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield

Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday

Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB OF LIVONIA

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mon-

days, 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: Justin Leon with Joe Zimmerman and Bill Bushart, Sept. 28-Oct. 1; Scott Long, Oct. 5-8; Kevin Farley, Oct. 7-8; Kevin Bozeman, Oct. 12-15; Mike Kosta, Oct. 19-22

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

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: Gary Gulan, Sept. 29-Oct. 1; The Amazing Johnathan, Oct. 3; Reno Collier, Oct. 6-8; John Heffron, Oct. 13-15; Bobby

Collins, Oct. 20-22; Tim Gaither, Oct. 27-29

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

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

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

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays

Details: Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission

Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit

Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily through October

Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

Details: Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free

Special event: Fall festival, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Satur-



Michael McDermott performs Saturday, Oct. 1, at the Village Theater in Canton.

day-Sunday, Oct. 1-2, in the picnic grove includes a children's area with straw maze, pumpkin painting, face painting, inflatable slide, and games for \$5; hayride is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children, 2-14; fall-inspired foods such as bratwurst, apple strudel and caramel apples as well as beer and soft drinks will be sold

Contact: (248) 541-5717

Film

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30; 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 1-2

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "Winnie the Pooh," \$3

Coming up: "Captain America," 7 p.m. and 9:20 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Oct. 7-8 and 4:40 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 9; "Cowboys & Aliens," 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Oct. 14-15; and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16

Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

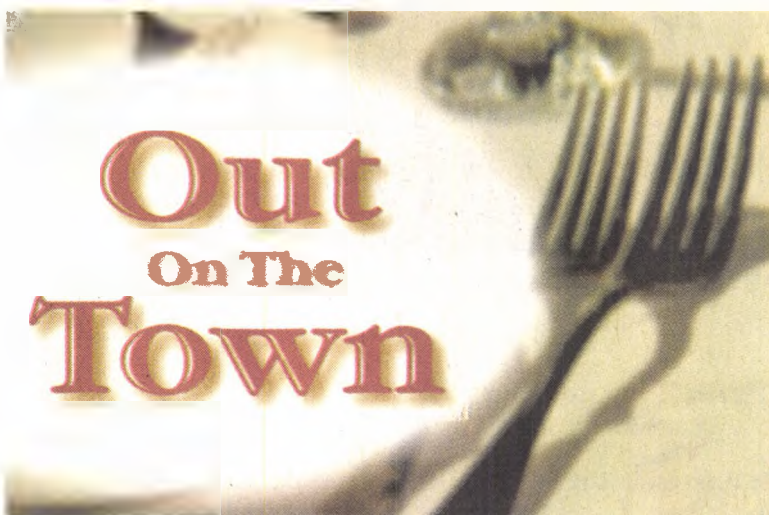
REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Sept. 30 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Oct. 1

Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit

Details: "Second Annual Classic Animation Festival, "Family Animation Rarities Festival," tickets \$5

Contact: (313) 537-2560



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Get the buzz on locally produced honey

By Sharon Dargay
O&E staff writer

As National Honey Month wound down this month, Bob "the bee guy" Jastrzebski harvested the last of his 2011 crop.

"I do things a little different than the other guys. I pull honey twice a year, in July and in September," said Jastrzebski, owner of Bobilin Honey in Canton. "Honey pulled in July is from the spring (blossoms). It's a real light honey and it has a distinct flavor that will be different from what I pull from the same spot in the fall. Fall honey is much darker."

Jastrzebski, a beekeeper with hundreds of hives throughout southeastern Michigan, says 95 percent of Michigan's honey comes nectar bees collect from trees. The rest is from flowers.

"All Michigan honey is 'wildflower,' meaning they got it from wherever."

He said the Basswood tree produces the "biggest honey flow" in the area.

"I taste butter. The other guys taste apple and cinnamon," he said, describing honey from Basswood trees.

Honey harvested in July and made from the nectar of early spring Black Locust trees sometimes has a hint of mint flavoring.

Taste varies depending on the nectar source.

Jastrzebski collects honey and has tasted samples from around the world. Whenever friends travel abroad, they bring him a jar of honey.

"I've got orange blossom honey from Florida. You talk about sweet. It will hurt your teeth it's so sweet. I've got honey from Hawaii that looks almost like hand cream. It's white. It's like tasting a York Peppermint Patty."

Jastrzebski said he collects about 8,000-10,000 pounds of honey from his hives annually. After collecting, he extracts it from honeycombs, heats it — making sure not to kill off enzymes — and bottles it. Water content is kept at 18 percent or below to ensure the product doesn't ferment and spoil.

He suggests consumers carefully read labels on any jars of non-local honey they buy.

"Some companies are adding corn syrup to their honey and calling it honey. Read the label."

Find Bobilin honey at Canton Farmer's Market, Sundays through October, Ridge Road just north of Cherry Hill or Holiday Market at Cherry Hill and Lilley in Canton. For other locations, check his website at www.bobilinhoney.com.



ARCHIVE PHOTO

Bear-shaped jars filled with Bobilin honey await a buyer at Canton Farmer's Market. National Honey Month winds up Friday, Sept. 30.

Sweeten your dinner hour with honey

Whether you're celebrating National Honey Month or observing Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, it's the perfect time to add nature's sweetener to your cooking.

With more than 300 unique kinds of honey — such as eucalyptus, clover and orange blossom — in the U.S., there's a taste for every palate. Lighter colored honey generally tastes milder than dark honey, which has a more robust flavor.

Find honey harvested by local beekeepers at farmer's markets and food stores.

For more honey recipes, visit the National Honey Board Web site at www.honey.com.

Sweet and Sour Zucchini

Makes 2 quarts

- 4 zucchini, or approximately 7 cups, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/2 cup white wine vinegar
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper
- 1/2 cup diced celery
- 1 tablespoon chopped onion
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper

Combine zucchini, honey, vinegar, oil, bell pepper, celery, onion, salt and black pepper in large glass or ceramic bowl. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Drain and serve chilled or at room temperature.

Eggplant, French Toast Style

Makes 6-8 servings

- 1 large eggplant
- Salt, to taste
- 2 eggs
- 2 Tablespoons milk
- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/2 cup flour
- 5 cups crushed corn flakes
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, divided
- 1/2 cup honey, warmed, for serving

Slice eggplant into 1/4-inch rounds. Sprinkle generously with salt and set aside on paper towels or in a colander for 30 minutes. Rinse slices thoroughly to remove salt and brown juice that has formed. Pat dry. In a shallow bowl, beat eggs slightly and combine with milk and honey; set aside. Place flour on a plate; set aside. Place corn flakes in a shallow bowl. Dust eggplant slices with flour, dip into egg mixture, and then coat with corn flakes, coating both sides. Melt 2 tablespoons butter in large skillet over medium heat. Add eggplant slices and cook until brown on both sides and fork-tender. Add more butter to skillet as needed. Serve eggplant slices with additional butter and warm honey.

Golden Pear and Almond Gratin

Makes 6 servings

- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/2 cup dry white wine
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon orange juice
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds, toasted and divided, optional
- 1 tablespoon grated lemon peel
- 1 tablespoon grated orange peel
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 2 pounds ripe pears, peeled, halved, cored and cut

In saucepan, combine honey, wine, lemon and orange juices. Bring mixture to a boil, whisking to dissolve honey. Reduce heat and simmer until liquid is reduced by half, about 15 minutes. Set aside. Meanwhile, chop 1/2 cup almonds. In small bowl, stir together chopped almonds, lemon peel, orange peel and cinnamon until thoroughly mixed. Set aside. In greased 10-inch gratin dish or pie plate, layer half of pear slices; sprinkle with chopped almond mixture. Top with remaining pear slices and remaining 1/2 cup sliced almonds. Pour honey mixture over pears. Bake at 400°F for 25 minutes or until top is golden brown. Serve warm or chilled. For those who don't eat nuts during Rosh Hashanah, almonds can be replaced with 1/2 cup dried breadcrumbs.

Salmon with Honey Balsamic Glaze

Makes 6 servings

- 6 (5-6 ounce) salmon filets with skin
- Salt
- 1/2 cup honey
- 3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Season side of filets with salt; arrange skin-side down in shallow baking pan. Roast at 500°F for 5 minutes. To make glaze, thoroughly mix honey, balsamic vinegar, olive oil, garlic and salt. Drizzle 1 tablespoon glaze over each filet. Roast at 500°F for 3-5 minutes. Remove salmon to serving plates; drizzle 1 tablespoon remaining glaze over each filet.

Honey Baked Apples

Makes 4 servings

- 3 apples, pared and cored
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/2 cup fresh or frozen cranberries
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- 1/2 cup bread crumbs
- 1 tablespoon butter or margarine, melted
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Salt
- Ground ginger
- Nutmeg

Halve 2 apples lengthwise; brush with lemon juice. Place cut side down in oiled baking dish. Brush with honey. Bake, covered, at 400°F for 15 minutes. Chop remaining apple; toss with remaining ingredients. Remove apples from oven; mound apple mixture on apples. Bake, uncovered, 10 minutes longer or until topping browns. One-half cup dried cranberries may be substituted for fresh or frozen cranberries.

CITY BITES

Ahoy, Mateys

PLYMOUTH — Don your best swashbuckling garb and head to the second annual Pirate Pub Crawl 7 p.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1, in downtown Plymouth for fun, drink specials and a chance to win prizes. Cost is \$10 per person, age 21 and over. Costumes are optional. The event will begin at 336 Piano Bar, 336 S. Main, where pirates and wenches will check in to receive their official treasure map. Other participating venues will include Penn Grill — providing free appetizers to pirates and wenches from 9-11 p.m. and music by Violin Monster, The Rock, offering free tarot card reading, and Sean O'Callahan's, where participants can get free temporary tattoos courtesy of Lucky Monkey Tattoo. Pirates and wenches who get their treasure maps stamped at each venue will be eligible to win the grand prize of a free deluxe one-night stay at MotorCity Casino. The best pirate and wench costumes will each win a High Liquors & Lucky Monkey Tattoo prize package.

New business

Kurt M. Lienhard, formerly with Sweets 21, has added Italian cannoli to his samplings at his new businesses, Perfectly Sweet Cakes & Desserts, located with Boule Artisan Bakery, at 880 W. Ann Arbor Trail. Try the soft German Pretzels every Saturday, gelsato, Angel Wings and cupcakes. Yum. Open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday; and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

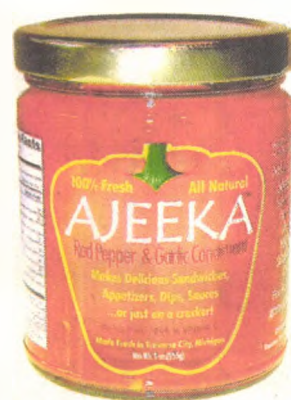
Zoo Brew

ROYAL OAK — Take a twilight stroll through the Detroit Zoo Thursday, Oct. 6 with your favorite brew in hand. The Zoo will offer a tasting of more than 30 beers from Michigan craft brewers, along with music by popular local blues-rock band the Howling Diablos with special guests Horse Cave Trio and Staggo Lee. The event will run from 6-10:30 p.m. and costs \$25 before Oct. 1 and \$30 after, online or at the gathering. Get tickets at www.detroitzoo.org/zoobrew. Ticket packages include Zoo admission, parking and 12 beer tasting tickets. Additional tasting tickets and food will be available for purchase. Designated driver tickets will be available at the gate the night of the event for \$15 and include admission, parking and unlimited soft drinks. Designated driver ticket holders will not be permitted to consume alcohol at the event. All attendees must be 21 or older; photo ID is required.

Peppery condiment

TRI-COUNTY

— Hiller's Markets, including stores in Plymouth, Ann Arbor, Commerce Township and Union Lake, now carry Ajeeka, a blend of sweet red bell peppers, hot red peppers, and garlic, based on a centuries old East European recipe. George Witkowski, who grew up in Plymouth, makes the condiment through his company, GT Food Specialties, LLC in Traverse City. The gluten-free product can be stirred into mayonnaise to make a sandwich spread, spoon on cream cheese and crackers as an appetizer, added to marinades and barbecue sauce, combined with chili or soup, and applied directly to sandwiches, hot dogs, sausages and



cheese.

Food and wine

FARMINGTON HILLS

— Students at Oakland Community College's Culinary Studies Institute will serve a six-course dinner with wine pairings at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, in the dining room at J Building on the Orchard Ridge campus, located on Orchard Lake Road, just south of I-696. The menu will include hors d'oeuvres, October Bean and Butternut Squash Soup, Grilled Salmon with Citrus Caper Butter Sauce and Beef Wellington. Cost is \$75 per person. Reservations are required. Call Maureen Gilbert at (248) 522-3700 or visit www.oaklandcc.edu/culinary and click on events.

Tailgate with Michigan apples

Football season is under way, which means it's time to get out your favorite jerseys and start planning tailgates. When choosing a tailgate menu for your friends and family this season, consider slipping healthful apples into the mix.

The Michigan Apple Committee suggests the Cheesy Apple Quiche for early morning tailgates. Or for heartier fare, try the Apple-Pecan Burger.

Cheesy Apple Quiche

By Jennifer Vick of DeWitt, a winner in the 2009 Michigan Apple committee online amateur recipe contest

- Ingredients
- 1 10-inch pie shell
- 1 1/2 cups shredded Swiss cheese
- 2 cups peeled, cubed tart Michigan Apples, such as Empire, Jonamac or Ida Red
- 1/2 cup minced shallots
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 1/2 teaspoons flour
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 2 cups half & half
- 1 teaspoon salt

Prepare pie shell and press into pie plate; sprinkle 1/2 of Swiss cheese in pie shell and bake 10 minutes on lowest rack of oven; cool. In medium skillet, sauté apples and shallots in butter until soft, about 8-10 minutes.



Stir in flour, cinnamon and nutmeg. Spread apple mixture evenly in pie shell; sprinkle with remaining cheese. In separate glass bowl, whisk together eggs, half & half and salt. Place pie plate on lowest rack in oven; pour egg mixture over apples and cheese. Bake until firm and knife comes out clean, about 60 minutes. Remove from oven and let stand for 10 minutes. Serve warm.

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Parent must be present.

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Scoop's Birthday Club Entry Form

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Realtor safety tips good for all workers to heed

Realtors mark their Realtor Safety Month in September, but those tips apply to many business professionals.

See www.REALTOR.org/Safety for more information.

TIP #1

Keep lights on
Show properties before dark. If you are going to be working after hours, advise your associate or first-line supervisor of your schedule. If you must show a property after dark, turn on all lights as you go through, and don't lower any shades or draw curtains or blinds. Cantic police Sgt. Mark Gajeski said, "You always want to try to show property during the day-time. If something doesn't feel quite right, there's nothing wrong with saying, 'I'm not going to show the house.'"

Gajeski acknowledged that's a change in these times when sales are down, but safety comes first. You can always call and have police come out, with the non-emergency number best unless you sense immediate danger.

TIP #2

Check in
When you have a new client ask him or her to stop by your office and complete a Prospect Identification Form (Find a copy online at www.REALTOR.org/Safety). Also, photo-record their driver's license and retain this information at your office. Be certain to properly discard this personal information when you no longer need it.

"That's always a good idea," Gajeski said of copying a driver's license. "The person will be less likely to do something wrong if you actually know who they are."

TIP #3

Don't be too public
Limit the amount of personal information you share. Consider advertising without using your photograph, home phone number and/or home address in the newspaper or on business cards. Don't use your full name with middle name or initial. Use your office address — or list no address at all. Giving out too much of the wrong information can make you a target.

"Never give out any private information," Gajeski said.

TIP #4

Touch base
Always let someone know where you are going and when you will be back; leave the name and phone number of the client you're meeting and schedule a time for your office to call you to check in.

"Let them know you'll be at this location," Canton's Gajeski agreed. A Realtor can call his or her office when through and check in.

Gajeski's been on the job in police work 25 years and never heard of a real estate safety problem.

TIP #5

Open house:
Don't assume that everyone has left the premises at the end of an open house. Be prepared to defend yourself, if necessary.

TIP #6

Stranger danger
Tell your clients not to show their home by themselves. Alert them that not all agents/buyers and sellers are who they say they are. Predators come in all shapes and sizes.

TIP #7

Make sure that all your home's doors to the outside are metal or solid, 1 3/4" hardwood and have good, sturdy locks.

TIP #8

Block identity theft
Contact the fraud department of any of the three major reporting companies — Equifax®, ExperianSM and Trans Union® — to place a fraud alert on your credit report. The fraud alert automatically lets creditors and other creators know they must contact you before opening



any new accounts or making any changes to your existing accounts.

TIP #9

Keep track of colleagues
Have a check-out employee board at your office, listing your name, destination, customer name, date and expected return time.

TIP #10

Always wear visible company identification such as a badge. It is also best to drive a vehicle clearly marked with your company name. These will be invaluable for identification if you need to get assistance.

TIP #11

Bring up the rear
When showing a home, always have your prospect walk in front of you. Don't lead them, but rather, direct them from a position slightly behind them.

TIP #12

Pick up some self-defense skills
The best way to find a good self-defense class is to learn what is available, and then make a decision.

TIP #13

Whenever possible, take your own car to a showing. When you leave your car, lock it.

TIP #14

Shield your computer from e-mail viruses

Computer viruses can impair and seriously damage your computer. Viruses are often distributed via attachments in e-mail spam.

TIP #15

When you're showing commercial property, thick walls and/or remote locations may interfere with mobile phone reception. Check in advance to be sure your phone is serviceable.

TIP #16

Choose flight over fight
While every real estate agent should take a basic self-defense course, the primary goal in any threatening situation is to escape from immediately and call for help.

TIP #17

"Who's calling?"
Install caller I.D. on your telephone, which should automatically reject calls from numbers that have been blocked. This will provide you with immediate information about the source of the call.

TIP #18

Watch your trash
Just bought a new entertainment system? A bunch of empty boxes out by the curb triggers an alarm to would-be thieves. Cut them down, and stuff them in trash bags.

TIP #19

Hide personal information
Tell your sellers: DON'T leave personal information like mail or bills out in the open where anyone can see it. Be sure to lock down your computer and lock up your laptop and any other expensive, easy-to-pocket electronics, like iPods, before your showing.

TIP #20

Agree on an office distress code
Create a voice distress code, a secret word or phrase that is not commonly used but can be worked into any conversation for cases where you feel that you are in danger. Use this if the person you are with can overhear the conversation, but you don't want to alarm them. Example: "Hi, this is Jennifer. I'm with Mr. Henderson at the Elm Street listing. Could you e-mail me the RED FILE?"

Have your excuse ready
Part of being prepared to deal with a threatening situation is having "an out." Prepare a scenario in advance so that you can leave — or you can encourage someone who makes you uncomfortable to leave.

TIP #21

Take two seconds when you arrive at your destination to check out potential dangers:

- Is there any questionable activity in the area?
- Are you parked in a well-lit, visible location?
- Can you be blocked in the driveway by another vehicle?

TIP #22

You are not alone
If you encounter an individual while working late or alone in your office, indicate to that person that you are not alone. Say something like, "Let me check with my supervisor to see whether she's able to see you now."

TIP #23

Your e-mail is public
Don't send any vital or private information via e-mail. Keep in mind that unlike websites, e-mail is never secure.

TIP #24

Don't get lost
If you are in an unfamiliar area, make mental notes of landmarks, points of interest and intersections. And always know the exact address of where you are going.

TIP #25

Careful with cash deposits!
If you periodically carry large deposits to the bank, be especially aware of any strangers lurking around the office parking lot. If you must transport cash deposits, use the buddy system.

TIP #26

Lock up client keys
Be sure to use the lockbox property-key procedure that has been established to improve real estate agent safety. A reliable, secure lockbox system such as those made by National Association of Realtors (www.sentrilock.com) ensures that keys don't fall into the wrong hands.

TIP #27

When shopping online, check out a website before entering your credit card number or other personal information. Enter this information only on secure Web pages with addresses that start with "https" and have a closed padlock symbol at the bottom of the browser window. Tip #29

TIP #28

When talking to clients and prospects, be friendly but still keep your personal information private.

TIP #29

Take two seconds as you walk towards your destination to check out potential risks.

- Are people coming and going or is the area unusually quiet?
- Do you observe any obstacles or hiding places in the parking lot or along the street?
- Is anyone loitering in the area?

TIP #30

Be careful with keys
Don't hand out house keys to friends, even if they are trustworthy. Know the location of all your house keys all the time. Never use hide-a-keys or leave the key under the doormat, above the door, in a flowerpot, or anywhere outside the house.

TIP #31

From dawn till dusk.
When showing a vacant commercial site, be aware of the time of day you meet a client. Showing a property at dusk or after dark, with no electricity on in the space you are showing, is not advisable.

TIP #32

Thwart thieves
Remind your clients that strangers will be walking through their homes during showings or open houses. Tell them to hide any valuables in a safe place.

TIP #33

Long-term thinking
If you think it may be some time before a property sells (and you may, therefore, be showing it often), get acquainted with a few of the immediate neighbors.

TIP #34

Using a cell phone while driving can cause an accident. For driving safety, purchase a hands-free phone kit for your vehicle. And never attempt to take notes while driving — pull over and stop in a safe place first.

TIP #35

Carry less
Carry only nonvaluable business items (except for your cell phone), and do not wear expensive jewelry or watches, or appear to be carrying large sums of money.

TIP #36

When showing property or meeting someone, park your car in front of the property rather than in the driveway.

TIP #37

Open your credit card bills and bank statements right away. Check for any unauthorized charges or withdrawals and report them immediately. Call if bills don't arrive on time. It may mean that someone has changed contact information to hide fraudulent charges.

TIP #38

Upon entering an open house property for the first time, check each room and determine at least two "escape" routes. Make sure all deadbolt locks are unlocked for easy access to the outside.

TIP #39

Don't use alluring or provocative photography in advertising, on the Web or on your business cards.

TIP #40

Have the locks changed when you move in. And just use your last name, or if necessary last name and first initial, on your door or mailbox.

TIP #41

Rely on good neighbors
Inform a neighbor that you will be hosting an open house, and ask if he or she would keep an eye and ear open for anything out of the ordinary.

TIP #42

Don't use the "V word"
When describing a listing, never say that a property is "vacant." This may be an invitation to criminals.

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TIP #91

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WESTLAND 2 bdrm duplex w/appl. \$650/mo or Lg 3 bdrm duplex \$675/mo. Both new carpet & paint. 313-418-9905

Homes For Rent

WESTLAND - Cozy & clean 2 Bdrm, C/A, bsmnt, back deck, Stove, fridge, W/D. \$700/mo. Section 8 OK. 1922 Steiber. Agent: (734) 216-1206

Homes For Rent

WESTLAND-NORWAYNE
 Pretty 2 bdrm, clean, fenced yard, shed, no pets. \$525/mo. 734-522-5246

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WESTLAND 2 bdrm duplex w/appl. \$650/mo or Lg 3 bdrm duplex \$675/mo. Both new carpet & paint. 313-418-9905

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WESTLAND - Cozy & clean 2 Bdrm, C/A, bsmnt, back deck, Stove, fridge, W/D. \$700/mo. Section 8 OK. 1922 Steiber. Agent: (734) 216-1206

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WESTLAND-NORWAYNE
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Homes starting at \$629.00 per month
 3 BEDROOMS
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 College Park Estates Sun Homes
 Apply at: 4collegepark.com
Hurry won't last!
(888) 284-9760
*Some restrictions apply call for details. All applications subject to credit & reference check. Exp. 9/30/2011 EHO

Mobile Home Rentals

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 '299 Moves You In!' (For Qualified Applicants)
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JOBS

builder.com

Help Wanted-General

Auto Body Tech
 State Certified & Exp Porter
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Help Wanted-General

CAREGIVERS, PT & 24 hr.
 Shifts Exp. d. Plymouth, Canton, Westland, Comfort Keepers 734-771-7404

CASHIER Full or Part Time.
 For carry out deli. Southfield. Call Sid or Harry at 248-352-7177, 248-860-4499

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 To Pay for experienced School Bus Driver Up to \$15/hr. Depending on experience. Durham Schol Services Northville 248-34-8470 Limited openings. complete training by 9/30/11

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 Full + Part-time + Seasonal Start up to \$14 Exp up \$21 Benefits - Bonus - No ghts! 734-525-3200 Fax 523-4443 jobs@jewelryexchange.com

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DEADLINES:
 Fri. at 4 pm for Sunday
 Tues. at 3 pm for Thursday

NEWSPAPER POLICY
 All advertising published in this newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department: Observer & Eccentric/Hometown Weekly Newspapers, 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170, 866-887-2737. We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper & only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears & reporting any errors immediately. The newspaper will not issue credit for errors in ads after the FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, only the first insertion will be credited. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. FR Doc. 724983 3-31-72. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter & spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage advertising an affirmative marketing program in which there are no barriers.

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To place your ad at 800-579-SELL(7355)

Helpanted-General

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 Now Hlr for ALL Positions Join them at Detroit Metro's newest Starwood hotel. The 11-story Sheraton hotel has been completely renovated and is opening a new lounge and restaurant. Open interviews on Thurs, Oct 6th at Then at St. John's Conf. Ctr 1045 Five Mile, Plymouth 51:30 & 1-3:30

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 Looking individuals who are going, have good communication skills, able talk to customers to serator leads in our Homeport Stores. Flexible hours, full time and full time plus avail. Please send resumes to: amy@spapping.com or fax at 7464-0852

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AFI Financial (877) 234-0600	3.75	0	3.25	0	J/F
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp. (248) 740-2323	3.75	0.25	3.25	0	J/A
BRINKS Financial Group (800) 785-4755	3.75	0	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule (800) 991-9922	3.75	0	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union (734) 486-6113	4.25	0			

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For attorneys located at 13 Mile & Telegraph; main areas of practice: social security disability and work comp; min. 1 yr exp; Word Perfect and Dictaphone Non-Smoking office; competitive salary. Call 248-540-0677 or fax resume 248-540-2191 Email: alanben@aol.com

Help Wanted-Medical

EXP MEDICAL ASSISTANT
2-3yr. min exp. Gl drs. office. Farmington Hills area. Fax resume 248-471-8904

Medical Transcriptionist
Multi-physician Southfield office needs in-house experienced Medical Transcriptionist. Part-time. Great pay. Email resume to: transcrip@icloud.com

MEDICAL BILLING CLAIMS FOLLOW-UP
Farmington Hills based medical billing company is looking for a follow-up specialist. Only experienced need apply. Fax or email resume: 248-478-5307. allmedmedicalbill@msn.com

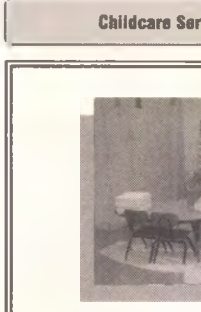
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CS&R 734-425-1074

GARAGE SALES

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Garage/Moving Sales

CANTON - Bridgmont Park
Subdivision, Thurs-Sat., Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 9-4. Canton Center Rd. & Warren, 6824 Bridgmont Dr. 734-453-1496

CANTON VISTAS OF CENTRAL PARK
S. of Cherry Hill, W. of Beck. Subwide Sale, Sept. 29, Sept. 30, & Oct. 1st, 9-4pm. Furniture, household, clothing, misc.

CANTON: 47806 Pavilion, Beck & Cherry Hill, Thurs-Sun. 10-6. Furniture, Mac tools, appliances, clothes (some designer), mink Bomber jacket & more!

Lathrup Village: Relocating Sale. Oct. 1, 9-4. All Must Go. Antiques, dolls, stamps, Beanie Babies, collector sport cards, books, galore. 18190 Rainsgate, Off Southfield, btwn 10 & 11 Mile.

LIVONIA - FURNITURE SALE
34544 Navin Ave., Livonia. Mahogany Bedroom & Dining room set. Plus more! Come and see 10/1 and 10/2!

LIVONIA Charity & Multi-Family Combined Garage Sale
Sept. Fri., 9/30 & Sat., 10/1 9am-4pm
16918 Pollyanna, Livonia, corner of Grove & 1 blk W of Farmington; 2 blks S of 6 Mile Burton Hollow Sub. Charity items make offer support National Kidney Foundation of MI. Electronics, furniture, garden, holiday, household, sports, toys, more!

LIVONIA: 2 family sale! Roll-top desk, pond w/pump, household items 9/30 9-5pm, 10/1 9-3pm. 19280 Glen Eagles Dr. 7 Mile/Newburgh

LIVONIA: Lots of household, everything must go! One day only! Sept. 30th, 8-5pm. 34597 Middleboro, Schoolcraft btwn Slark & Levan.

LIVONIA: Sept 29-Oct 1st 9-5pm. Infant & children's clothing & equip, household items & misc. 18537 Myron, 7 Mile & Farmington rd

LIVONIA: 16742 Rougevay, SW corner of 6 Mile & Inkerster. Fri. Sept.30, 9-6pm & Sat. Oct. 1, 9-5pm. Household, books, furniture, clothes & misc.

LIVONIA: 2 family garage sale. Christmas/Halloween Decor, furniture & misc. household, winter clothes, video games. 18900 Laurel Dr. W. of Farmington, S. of 7 Mile. Sept. 30 - Oct. 1, 9-5.

LIVONIA: 8860 Utah, Off. Joy, 1 blk. E. of Farmington, 9/29-10/2; 9-5pm. Tools, lumber, X-mas & Halloween, power equip, hunting & fishing.

LIVONIA: Basement Sale. Fri. & Sat. Sept. 30 & Oct. 1, 9-4. 29326 Meadowlark Off Middlebelt btwn Schoolcraft & Lyndon. Furniture & household items, books & crafts.

LIVONIA: KIMBERLY OAKS SUBDIVISION SALE
Fri-Sat, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, 9-5pm. N. of 96, E. Farmington Rd. www.koclassifieds.com

Garage/Moving Sales

MILFORD MOVING SALE
INCLUDING A UPRIGHT BALDWIN PIANO, A VIKING SEWING MACHINE, A GRANDFATHER CLOCK, furniture, kitchen table, kitchen ware, Christmas decorations, garden tools, sporting goods, camping supplies and more. 611 River Oaks Dr. Oct. 1st & 2nd. 9am-4pm

MILFORD: Clothing, household items, christmas decor Sept. 29-Oct 1st 9-5pm. 155 Diponio Rossi Dr., off South Hill N of Dawson

MILFORD: 2777 Wixom Trail Sept. 29 & 30, 9-6. Oct. 1, 9-noon. A 15 yr. accumulation Furniture, kids items, Toledo scale, collapsible bike, etc.

MOVING SALE Furniture, clothing, kitchen items, bedding, toys, lots and lots of books, costume jewelry..... Reasonable prices! Our goal is to sell everything Sept. 28 thru Oct. 1 10am - 4pm everyday no early birds no pre-sales
12 Mile and Orchard Lk Echo Valley Condominiums 27671-upstairs

NEW HUDSON: Community yard sale! Abbey Park at Mill River 28413 Abbey Ln., off Millford across from coyote golf course. All proceeds benefit the Lyon Twp Fire Fighters Assoc. Sat. 10/1, 9-3pm

NORTHVILLE - Moving Sale
Furniture, household goods, tools, antiques & more! 1076 Grace Ct. near 8 Mile and Center. ONE DAY ONLY! Sat. 10/1, 8am-3pm

Northville Sub. S. of Main, btw Clement and Beck.
Grape press, brush shredder, misc. Sept 29-Oct 1, 9-5

NOVI MOVING SALE: 23776 Hickory Grove Lane Thurs-Sat. Sept. 29-1st, 9am-2pm. Housewares, dishes, home decor, tools, sports.

PLYMOUTH TWP: Fri & Sat. Sept. 30 & Oct 1st, 9-4pm. Furniture, hand & power tools, household, clothing, & many misc items. 4757 Katherine Ct., W of Beck, N of Joy

PLYMOUTH: Multi-family! Lots of Partyville, furnishings, appliances & more! Sept 29-Oct 1 Thurs & Fri, 8-6pm; Sat. 8-noon. 664 Coolidge btwn Lilley & Main St.

PLYMOUTH: ALL MUST GO! NEEDFUL THINGS SALE!
Fri & Sat. 10-4. Antiques, furniture, china, holiday decor, toys, piano, pop-up camper, tools. 8575 W. Ann Arbor Rd. 1/4 mile W. of Gotfredson.

REDFORD: 15949 Denby, N. of 5 Mile, E. of Inkerster. Antique dealer overstock! Vintage items, many smalls, some household. Dealers & All Welcome. Thurs-Sat. Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 9-4pm.

REDFORD: Huge sale! 9385 Kinloch. Records, purses, etc. Sat., Oct 1st 9-5pm. W. of Beech Daly, off W. Chicago. Rain or shine!

SOUTH LYON: 336 University off Pontac Trail btwn 9 & 10 Mile. Fri., Sept. 30 & Sat., Oct. 1st 10-6pm, Sun Oct 2nd 10-3pm. Car parts, tools, household items, & much more!

SOUTH LYON: One day only moving sale Thurs., Sept. 29th, 9-3pm. 836 Knollwood Dr., off 11 Mile btwn Pontac Trl and Martindale

SOUTH LYON: Huge 3 family sale! Antiques, Drexel Collector's Mahogany poster bed, Bernhard couch & chair, oak bookshelves, misc. furniture, hot tub, exercise equip, sewing machine in cabinet, misc. sports tables, horse trailer, manure spreader, camper, misc. horse items. Duck Hunter's boat. Fri-Sat. Sept. 30 & Oct. 1, 9-4pm. 8830 S. Rushton, btwn 6 & 7 Mile Rds. Rain or Shine.

WALLED LAKE: Multi family! Items of all kinds Women's clothing, home good items, more! Willow Ridge Sub, 465 Cherry Grove Ln., Oct 1st 8am

WAYNE 5120 Niagara, W. of Merriman, S. of Annapolis. 9/30, 9am-5pm and 10/1 9am-1pm NordicTrac, furniture, household items, linens, tools, books.

WAYNE ESTATE SALE: By Mrs. Robinsons
38205 Laurenwood; off Newburgh Rd, 1 blk N of Michigan Ave., take Hillcrest Drive to Laurenwood and turn right. Sat., 10/1, 9-4pm & Sun., 10/2, 10-3pm. Boehm birds, Lladro, Belleek, Fenton, Fostoria, depression glass, 60s glassware, airborne uniforms and items, Norilaki china sets, bookcases, books, records, dining table w/6 chairs, sideboards, cameras, linens, kitchen & baking items, gas stove, end tables, sofa, jewelry, art work, and much, much more! Photos & list. www.michiganestatesales.com Call 734-675-6586

WAYNE: Starting to clear out 60 yrs of treasures. Furniture, dolls, toys, frames, old magazines & much more! 4520 Howe, next to Annapolis. 9/30, Fri noon-5pm; 10/1, Sat 8-5pm. No early sales!

WESTLAND - Estate Sale
38292 Saint Joe Dr., W. of Newburg off Avondale. Sept. 25th-Oct. 1st, 9am-3pm. Appliances, Oak curio & tools.

WESTLAND CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE
SAT. OCT. 1, 9am - 3pm 31133 Hivley, Westland. Call Roz for further details: 734-812-9962

WESTLAND HUNTER'S POINTE CONDO COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE
Thurs, Fri & Sat., Sept. 29-30 & Oct. 1, 9am-6pm. Many Sales! Used & New Items. West of Wayne Rd., off Hunter Ave., between Warren & Ford Rd.

WESTLAND: 29948 Gladys Ave. btwn Joy & Ann Arbor Trl. Fri-Sun. Sept 30-Oct 2nd, 9-6pm. Misc incl tools, furniture, appliances. Come!

WESTLAND: Multi-House Garage Sale. Sat. Oct. 1st, 9-4 34201 Barton, off Wildwood btwn Ford & Cherry Hill.

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COUCH
With clean hide-a-bed. Good cond. except for chairs & fabric. Comes with cover. 248-437-3075

EXERCISE BIKE
Works
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Westgate Rd. 13 Mile & Middlebelt area. Farmington Hills. 248-855-1265

Rummage Sale/ Flea Market

BIRMINGHAM UNITARIAN CHURCH RUMMAGE & BOUTIQUE SALE
38651 N Woodward Ave. Bloomfield Hills (N of LonePine Rd). Sale begins on Thurs. Sept. 29, 6:30-9. Fri. Sept. 30, 10-2, everything 1/2 price. Sat. Oct. 1, 9-noon, \$5 & \$10 for a bag of rummage.

FLAT ROCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY Antiques/Flea Market
Sun., Oct. 2nd, 7am-4pm. 200+ Dealers. Free parking & admission. No pets allowed. Flat Rock Speedway, 1 mile S. of Flat Rock on Telegraph Rd. (734) 782-5220 www.flatrockhistory.org

LIVONIA CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE
Pre-Sale Thurs. Sept 29th, 5-8pm (Adults \$2). Free Admission: Fri. Sept. 30th, 9am-1pm & Sat. Oct. 1st, 9am-noon (1/2 off sale). Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail in Livonia.

Estate Sales

ANOTHER BERNARD DAVIS ESTATE SALE 313-837-1993
19588 Canterbury, Detroit Historic District of Sherwood Forest. Fri. Sept 30 & Sat. Oct 1, 8:45am-4pm go to estatesales.net for more info. SEE YOU THERE!!!

FARMINGTON HILLS ESTATE SALE
Thurs-Sat. 9am-4pm 32225 Middlebelt Rd FULL HOUSE! 60 Years of Accumulation!

LIQUIDATION ANTIQUE DEALER'S ENTIRE ESTATE
Oct. 1st & 2nd 8 am - 8 pm
Antique Furniture, Select Toys, Bronze, Pottery, Glassware, Persian Rugs, Rare Floor Model Version of the Cream City Flour Bin & Sifter, China, Nippon, Art work, Art Frames, Beautiful Slag Glass Lamp, Victorian Brass and Crystal Prism Chandelier, Brass Lamp Parts, 1962 Thunderbird Dealer Promo Car w/ Original Box, Cast Iron, Bookends, Door stops, Native American Baskets and Pottery, Tea Cart, Mahogany Corner Cabinet, Drop-leaf Table, Train Lantern, Stuffed Teddy Bears, Vintage Dolls, Tools, Fishing Gear and more.

For more information and photos, please visit: www.eastbayestatesale.blogspot.com or call Jim, 925-784-9411

2044 E 8th Street in Traverse City (where 8th St. meets East Bay)

MOVING SALE- White Lake. All must go. Furniture, household goods etc. Hrs: 9-5pm Thurs., Sept. 29th - Sat., Oct 1st & noon-5pm Sun., Oct 2nd. 315 Woodledge Ln. Williams Lk Rd/ Cooley Lk Rd

SOUTH LYON ESTATE SALE: Pottery, vintage items, furniture, household, pocket knives, guy stuff, 1929 Roepel Gas Stove & much more. All must go. Fri. Sept. 30, 9-5. Sat., Oct. 1, 9-3. 22360 Natasha Lane. W. of Currie, S. of 9 Mile.

Household Goods

ARMOIRE oak exc. cond. retails \$600. Sell for \$120. Glass dining table, round, wood base. Retails \$600, sell for \$120. Lots of antique collectibles. Mon-Sat. 11:30-5:30 at 81 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac. Directly across from the downtown courthouse.

BDRM SET- Oak, queen size, box spring/ mattress, 2 nightstand, dresser & chest. \$1000/best. 248-788-4085

CHINA CABINET- Moving! 1930s walnut china cabinet. perfect condition. Matching table and chairs avail. \$400. 248-355-5319

DINING SET with china cabinet (2 pcs) top is glass & lights up, buffet, table base looks marble, 2 arm chairs, 4 regular chairs. Beautiful cond. \$700. **BODY BY JAKE** Scissor \$100. 248-987-2492

OAK DINING TABLE: With 2 leaves, 4 chairs & matching china hutch, great cond., \$525. Call: (810) 229-7534

Appliances

DOUBLE WALL OVEN - GE: Model JKP27, black, excel cond, \$265. Call: (248) 207-8846

WHIRLPOOL GAS DRYER
White, only 3.5 yrs old. Excellent Condition \$250. (734) 765-0036

Hospital/Medical Equipment

WHEEL CHAIR - \$60: Walker, \$40, shower chair, \$40, wheel chair alarm system, \$20, home intercom system, \$50. Call: (734) 722-8665

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13 Hawaiian strings
14 Pasternak heroine
15 Club holders (2 wds.)
17 Sandler or West
18 Clay-target sport
19 In a diplomatic way
21 Kebler baker, in ads
23 It may be fragile
24 White-water enthusiasts
28 Carve a canyon

32 -Star Pictures
33 Oola's guy
35 So long!
36 Alpine peak
39 Roadblock
42 Butter square
44 London lav
45 Least possible
49 Faint flicker
53 Black-hearted
54 Feign
56 Billionth, in combos
57 - measure
58 TV knob
59 Catch
60 Joule fractions
61 Paramedic

DOWN

1 Where cranberries grow
2 Jedi ally
3 Model Macpherson
4 Not blatant
5 FBI acronym
6 Barrels
7 Gush forth
8 Ice cream choice
9 Fill the hull
10 Vaccine type
11 Strong, as venison
16 Paws
20 Span in years
22 Back again
24 Country addr.
25 "Exodus" hero
26 Brownish fruit
27 Weep audibly
29 Ginza purchase
30 Do batik
31 Always, to Whitman
34 Confidant
37 Final words
38 Barnyard animal
40 Vicious elephants
41 Croissant or kaiser
43 Liking
45 Type of wear
46 Novelist
47 Heterotic ship
48 Perjurer
50 Chalet feature
51 Bohr's study
52 Soften
55 EPA figure

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SUDOKU

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13				14			
15		16					17			
18				19	20					
	21		22		23					
24	25	26		27		28	29	30	31	
32			33	34			35			
36		37	38		39	40	41			
	42		43		44					
45	46	47		48		49	50	51	52	
53				54		55				
56				57				58		
59				60				61		

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SUDOKU

			1		6	5				
8	5	3	4		7					
			7			3	9	8		
	6	5	3		8			1		
7	4		5		8			3		
3	8			7				4	9	
5										
	3	7		6	9	4	8			
								9	3	6

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Word Search

J H T U B H E T I K N T T I D
S G E L U H H G V G N H E I K
L D U L R E H T A E F G J Q I
S E U T I B V X J U D I V I A
R B M O J C N O X T I L G W B
Q X C D L U O C Z Z A F Q E U
S N J C M C I P W O H I B A Y
U I B L K M R M T Y N A F T T
A T M O S P H E R E L E W H F
C F J D N I L I U L R C M E G
A Q R O B T E V O U F H L R O
Y I G J U W U O T Y W N L W O
B K H S R T N G K J O K T I C
D N S U Z X F C E G T D I N Y
I Q N R N B G S P L A N E D B

atmosphere blue flight kite sky
balloon clouds helicopter ozone weather
birds feathers jet plane wind

Sudoku

9	3	6	7	5	8	4	2	1	4	2
5	9	4	6	9	2	7	3			

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Fall expo increases offerings at third annual event

Seniors, as well as friends and relatives: Get ready for a hardy welcome by more than 40 exhibitors and an action-packed activities agenda at the 3rd Annual Senior Fall Health & Living Expo, sponsored by the Observer, Eccentric & Hometown Newspapers and Wayne State University- Oakland Center on Tuesday, Oct. 4th!

The Senior Fall Health & Living Expo is at a new location this year. It will be held at Wayne State University- Oakland Center. It is easily accessible from I-696, I-96, M-10 and I-275. The day's festivities will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.. The Expo will be located at 33737 West Twelve Mile Road in Farmington Hills. Admission and ample free parking, right on the site, available all day for the expo.

Participants interested in learning about "Savvy Social Security planning and what baby boomers need to know about maximizing their retirement income" are invited to attend a presentation by Advanced Financial Solutions. Richmond Financial will present on "Long Term Insurance," Jack Bolling will speak on "Estate Planning" and Ernie Hallmark will present on "Prepaid Legal Programs and identity thieves." Rick Bloom has some interesting facts about protecting and growing your investment portfolio in a down economy.

You will want to hear what the professionals from St. Anne Mead have to say about Dementia Communications Skills. Dr. Allon Goldberg will be telling us about "Putting one foot in front of the other: improving our balance and avoiding falling issues." Dr. Cogan of HealthQuest will inform us on ways to manage neck and back pain. While you will be concentrating on your health, the kind people from Dental One will present information about Dental Implants and the importance of oral cancer screening. They will also be doing onsite screening, for your convenience.

This year's musical entertainment will be Ya Tafari, there will also be hourly prizes and fun times to be had by all playing the Wii games.

There will be FREE Trolley service from three locations. The Livonia Senior Center at 15218 Farmington Rd. departing at 7:15 a.m. and 9:45 a.m., Southfield Senior Center at 24350 Civic Center Dr. departing at 7:40 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.. The Novi Senior Center is at 25075 Meadowbrook Rd. with only one departing time at 8:30 a.m.. To reserve your seat call (313) 222-2414. Come spend the day with us being entertained and educated. This year's Senior Fall Health and Living Expo promises to be the best ever!



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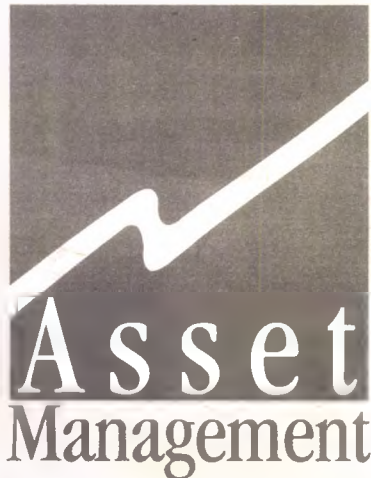
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Going through identity theft is one of the most horrible crimes of today



Provided Photo
Enjoying time with loved ones is what you should be spending your time on, not having to worry about legal matters.

Who are you going to call when your Identity is stolen? Identity theft is America's fastest growing crime. And the worst part is that it could happen to you at any time. Yes, you are very careful about where you use your credit cards and you've made sure that you have signed the back of all your cards. Unfortunately when dealing with identity theft you can never be too cautious. Ernie Hallmark of E & L Independent Associates with Legal Shield said, "Seniors can be prone to the largest targeted audience for this crime."

With the broad range of business practices today your identity could be stolen from just about anywhere. There is a lot of work that goes into the investigation of these crimes not to mention what it takes for the restoration of an identity theft.

Identity Theft: America's Fastest Growing Crime!

Think you're not at risk?
Unfortunately you are.

Do you...hand your credit card to servers at restaurants? Sign your credit cards? Supply personal information over the internet? Keep your social Security number in your wallet or purse? Leave mail at your home or business for the postal carrier to collect? Shred unwanted mail with personal information?

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When you need an attorney Who will you call?

Have you ever...thought about writing or revising your will? been audited by the IRS? purchased a home? been a defendant in a civil lawsuit? signed a contract of any kind? paid a bill you thought was unfair? received an inaccurate credit report? received a moving traffic violation you thought was unjustified? had any type of legal question?

If you answered yes to even one of these questions you could benefit from a Legal Shield Family Plan and an Identity Theft Shield.

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www.legalshield.com/IDT/mahallmark

E & L Independent Associates can help you feel confident about contracts, business forms and the safety of your identity. They offer affordable legal plans where members have access to professional legal counsel. Enroll today and coverage starts today! Benefits vary by state and province. If you have any questions, please call these Legal Shield today.

Ernie Hallmark 734.728.0544,
Lynette Polk 313.506.1423,
Warren Underwood 248.705.1687

Quality fixtures for kitchen and bath is a sound investment

By Dennis Zelazny
Contributing Writer

Infusion Kitchen and Bath Showroom in Wixom is filled with the most luxurious fine art of kitchen and bath fixtures. Actual working displays of faucets, toilets and shower fixtures allow you to experience first hand.

Manager, Kristin Andrews said, "We are concerned about senior safety in the home and we carry many products that are designed especially for seniors." They carry a full line of zero threshold showers and safety bathtubs. There is a huge interest in comfort height toilets as well. Andrews added, "We believe in the Age-At-Home idea, and we can help you plan out all the necessary details for your kitchen and bath."

Infusion Kitchen and Bath
29949 Beck Rd., Wixom, MI 48393
248-624-5000
Kristin Andrews
kandrews@etnasupply.com

Locations

- Wixom • Grand Rapids • Holland
- Kalamazoo • Grand Ledge
- Jackson • Mishawaka

Today's housing market focuses on universal designs for all the ages. People are staying in their homes longer and are actually planning for the aging process that we all experience. Parents are back in the picture and living with their families. Infusion Kitchen and Bath can help design your living space to include towel bars and paper dispensers that also function as grab bars. These items not only are functional but also great investments for your home.

A safety tub has several advantages and is available with an "air bath" or "whirlpool" feature, or a combination of both. An air bath uses heated air pumped into the water and as the air bubbles hit the skins surface and explode, the blood is drawn to the surface promoting better circulation. A traditional whirlpool pushes water from jets to create a focused massage for parts of your body.

Safety tubs have a walk in door and a non-skid bottom surface. The entire family can appreciate these bathtubs.

And what shower couldn't be improved with new custom glass doors. They offer frameless European styles as well as pre-fitted ones. There are many choices, but be sure to ask about the special glass maintenance coating. It performs like non-stick cookware, preventing water spots, fingerprinting and effects from contaminants. It makes cleaning a snap, simply rinse with clear water and your done. Guaranteed to be cloud free for up to 8 years.

And when it comes to kitchen faucets, they have them all -- From modern touchless models, to more traditional varieties. They have so many choices it is best to come into one of their showrooms near you and let your imagination go wild. While in the showroom look at the granite composite sinks, they are scratch, stain, fade and chip resistant.

Owned by Etna Supply Company, Infusion Kitchen and Bath is a Michigan based company. They are the premier supplier of plumbing supplies and waterworks products in the state of Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. Proud to be a family owned company, which employs nearly 300 Michigan residents, and continually looks for better ways to satisfy their customers.

They believe that customer service is number one.



Submitted Photo

Converting your existing tub space into a seated tub and shower surround is an easy and practical design solution. Infusion Kitchen and Bath can show you how it's done.

Schedule of Events:

9:00–9:50

Advanced Financial Solutions
Topic: Savvy Social Security Planning: What Baby Boomers Need to Know to Maximize Retirement Income

Dental One

Topic: Dental Implants and the Importance of Oral Cancer Screening

10:00–10:50

St. Anne Mead

Topic: You Remember Me Don't You? Dementia Communication Skills for everyone.

WSU

Dr. Allon Goldberg
Topic: Putting one Foot in Front of the Other: Improving Balance Avoiding Falls.

11:00–11:50

Rick Bloom

Topic: Protecting and Growing your Investment Portfolio in a Down Economy

12:00–12:50

Jack Bolling

Topic: The Truth about Estate Planning

Richmond Financial

Topic: What you should know about longer term care.

1:00–1:50

L&E Independent Associates with Legal Shield

Topic: Identity Theft Protection

Health Quest

Topic: Ways to Manage Neck and Back Pain

Presenters reveal pertinent information at Expo

9:00 – 9:50

Speaker: Phil Putney, CPA/PFS

Topic: Savvy Social Security Planning: What Baby Boomers Need to Know to Maximize Retirement Income

At this informative seminar you will learn important rules and strategies for collecting your retirement benefits and coordinating Social Security with other sources of retirement income.



Phil Putney, CPA/PFS

Learn the rules for:

- When your benefits may begin
- How your benefit will be affected by the age at which you apply
- How cost-of-living adjustments, or COLAs, affect benefits
- How spousal benefits work
- How survivor benefits work
- How divorced-spouse benefits work
- How working affects benefits
- How benefits affect taxes
- What to do if you have other income from pensions or IRAs

You've paid into the Social Security system for years. Now it will soon be your turn to collect. Find out why advance planning is essential and how some little-known rules can help you make the most of this very valuable benefit.

At this workshop you will learn

• 5 factors to consider when deciding when to apply for benefits

• When it makes sense to delay benefits and when it does not

• Why you should always check your earnings record for accuracy

• How to estimate your benefits

• Two innovative strategies for coordinating benefits with your spouse

• How to minimize taxes on Social Security benefits

• How to coordinate Social Security with your other sources of retirement income

The decisions you make today can have a tremendous bearing on the total amount of benefits you stand to receive over your lifetime.

Bio:

Phil Putney, CPA/PFS is the owner of AFS Wealth Management, LLC an independent financial advisor and advisory associate offering securities and advisory services through Centaurus Financial, Inc. Phil obtained his Bachelors of Science in Business Administration majoring in accounting from Lawrence Technological University and his Masters of Science in Taxation (MST) from Walsh College. In 1990, Putney passed the Certified Public Accounting (CPA) examination on the first sitting and started his own CPA firm in 1995 in Livonia working with closely held business owners on effectively managing their tax burden. To further his education in the area of financial planning, he obtained the Personal Financial Specialist (PFS) designation from the American Institute of CPAs, a designation awarded to CPA Financial Planners with proven expertise and experience in comprehensive personal financial planning. Phil has been offering financial advisory services to his clients for more than eleven years and concentrates on helping his clients design a tax effi-

cient retirement income.

Putney and his family have lived in Livonia for more than 16 years. Him and his wife Debi of 20 years keep busy with their kid's (Brea 18 and Jayme 16) school activities and are active in their church. The family enjoys camping an recently completed a 3,500 mile camping trip to the Grand Canyon in the summer of 2009.

Phil's financial advisory office of AFS Wealth Management is located at 22029 Farmington Rd. Farmington Hills, MI 48336. Phone: (248) 888-7530, Fax: (248) 888-7535 and email pputney@afswalthmgt.com. You can view the firm's website and upcoming events at www.afswalthmgt.com.

9:00 – 9:50

Speaker: Marie Hochstein from Dental One
Topic: Dental Implants and the Importance of Oral Cancer Screening

Dental implants are metal anchors implanted in the jawbone to hold replacement teeth in place. The "root" sits in the jawbone below the gum line and the visible tooth, or "crown," is attached to it. Implants support individual artificial teeth, bridges and dentures, and look and feel much like natural teeth.



Marie Hochstein

Oral cancers kill approximately 9,000 Americans each year, exceeding the death rates for cervical cancer, malignant

melanoma, and Hodgkin's disease. Early detection of cancer and pre-cancerous conditions provides a higher probability of cure.

Bio:

Marie Hochstein is a Graduate of UDM (University of Detroit Mercy). Degree in Dental Hygiene. She is the Senior Leader of Operations DentalWorks with over 30 years experience in direct patient care. She has taught Clinical Dental Hygiene at UDM. Oakland County health department children's dental health program. And she is the Senior Lead at DentalWorks managing eleven metro Detroit practices, and provides convenient, high standards of care to patients.

10:00 – 10:50

Speakers: Hallie Guzal, Shawn Brooklier, and Susan Vosburgh from St. Anne Mead
Topic: "You Remember Me Don't You?"

Please join us to learn some simple, effective techniques that can make communicating with people with memory loss, dementia and Alzheimer's disease an enjoyable experience. We will review the top three causes of dementia as well as the three areas of the brain that are most affected by Alzheimer's disease. Anyone and everyone who knows someone with dementia or interacts with someone with dementia will benefit from this program.

Bio's:

Hallie Guzal, RD, CAD has over thirteen years of experience as a registered dietitian working in long term care. She is also a certified activity director. She has worked at St. Anne's Mead for five years and held the position of Dining Services Director/Clinical Dietitian and currently as the Life Enrichment Coordinator.

Continued on page 20

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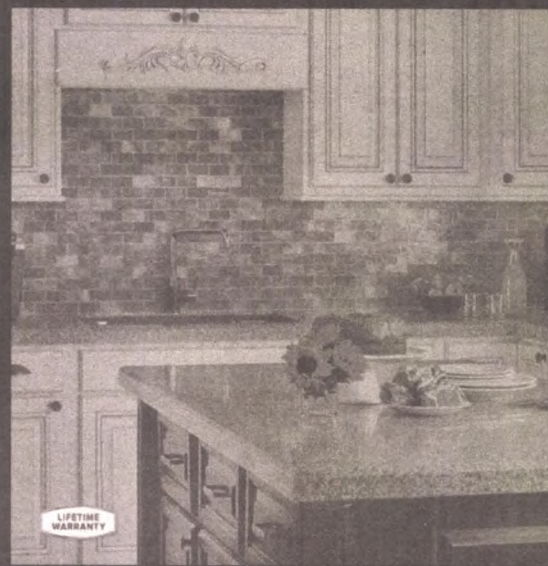
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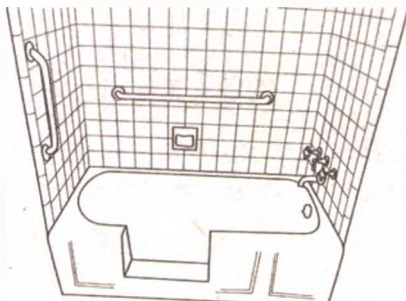


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*Genworth 2010 Cost of Care Survey

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Embracing a commitment to wellness

Discover "Forever Fit" at Waltonwood Senior Living

Waltonwood encourages residents to embrace an active, independent lifestyle, all the while knowing help and personal care assistance is available when they need it. Strengthening our commitment to whole-person wellness is Forever Fit, a comprehensive health and fitness program addressing the physical and social needs of our residents.

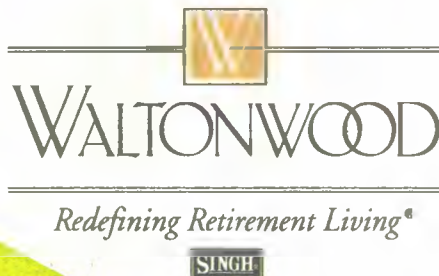
The center of our Forever Fit program are on-site full-service fitness centers with state-of-the-art HUR® equipment specially designed for seniors, and life enrichment programs which foster relationships. Even a little bit of physical exercise can go a long way in preserving health, improving balance, coordination, strength, flexibility, and ultimately maintaining a more independent lifestyle.

To learn more about the difference Forever Fit can make in your life, call or visit your local Waltonwood community today.

Embrace wellness today:

- Balance Class
- Splash Class* – water aerobics
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Senior Fall Health & Living Expo

Workshops & Demonstrations:

First Class Room 605

9:00 – 9:50
Advanced Financial Solutions
Speaker: Phil Putney CPA/PFS
 Topic: Savvy Social Security Planning: What Baby Boomers Need to Know to Maximize Retirement Income

10:00 -10:50
St. Anne Mead
Speakers:
Hallie Guzal RD, CAD
Shawn Brooklier BSW,CAD
Susan Vasburgh RN, BSW,CDON, HHA
 Topic: You Remember Me Don't You? Dementia Communication Skills for Everyone

11:00-11:50
Speaker: Rick Bloom
 Topic: Protecting and Growing Your Investment Portfolio in a Down Economy

12:00 -12:50
Speaker: Jack Bolling
 Topic: The Truth about Estate Planning

1:00 – 1:50
L&E Independent Associates with Legal Shield
Speaker: Erine Hallmark
 Topic: Identity Theft Protection

Second Class Room 604

9:00 – 9:50
Dental One
Speaker: Marie Hochstein
 Topic: Oral Cancer in the Metro Detroit area and our Advanced Screening Techniques

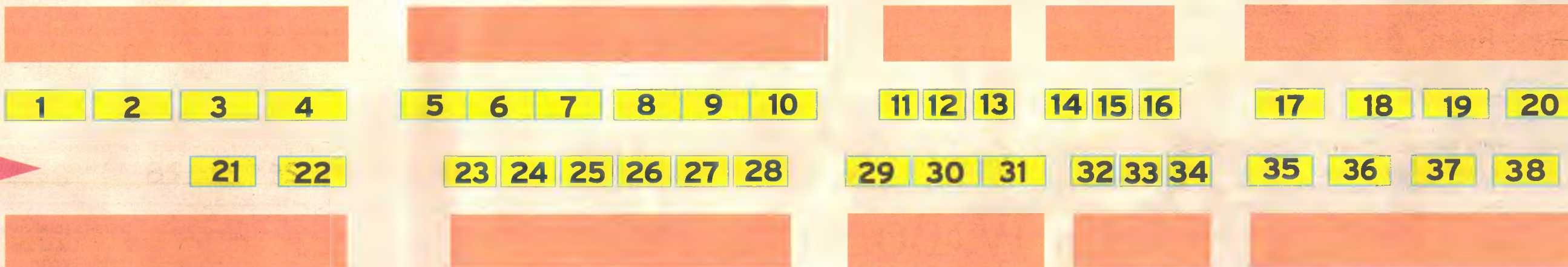
10:00 -10:50
WSU
Speaker: Dr. Allon Goldberg
 Topic: Putting One Foot in Front of the Other: Improving Balance, Avoiding Falls

12:00 -12:50
Richmond Financial
Speaker: Gary D. Richmond Sr.
 Topic: What You Should Know About Longer Term Care

1:00 – 1:50
Health Quest
Speaker: Dr. Sol Cogan
 Topic: Ways to Manage Neck and Back Pain



Main Expo Entrance



Exhibitors:

Abbey Park at Mill River (Table 1)
 AFS Wealth Management (Table 10)
 American House (Table 11)
 Area Agency on Aging 1-B (Table 3)
 Bathtub Liner Co. (Table 32)
 Better Health Clinic (Table 9)
 Bloom Asset Management (Table 4)
 Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan & Blue Care Network (Table 25)
 CSI Support & Development Services (Table 2)
 Dental One Partners, Inc. (Table 29)
 Elder Care Solutions of Michigan (Table 17)
 Expert Heating & Cooling (Table 35)
 Farmington Family YMCA (Table 13)

Fox Run (Table 14)
 Granite Transformations (Table 18)
 HealthQuest Chiropractic (Table 26)
 HearUSA (Table 28)
 Hegira Programs, Inc. (Table 19)
 Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (Table 31)
 Infusion Kitchen & Bath (Table 21)
 Isagenix-Health Warrior 1 (Table 15)
 L&E Associates with Legal Shield (Table 23)
 Law Office of Jack W. Bolling PC (Table 12)
 Marycrest Manor & Marycrest Heights (Table 33)
 Metlife (Table 7)
 Nexcare Health Systems (Table 30)

Personal Hearing Care, Inc. (Table 34)
 Richmond Financial, LLC (Table 20)
 Senior Helpers (Table 16)
 St. Anne's Mead (Table 22)
 St. Mary Mercy Hospital (Table 37)
 Surface Solutions (Table 5)
 Unique Refinishers Inc (Table 36)
 Village of Redford & Village of Westland (Table 8)
 Waltonwood (Table 6)
 West Bloomfield Nursing Center (Table 24)
 Woodhaven Retirement Community (Table 27)



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Returning Featured Expo Speaker - "The Truth About Estate Planning" - 12 p.m.
Visit us in person at the Senior Expo at Booth #12!



Submitted photos
Milford Attorney Jack W. Bolling loves the historic surroundings of his office now located in a renovated 130-year old home at 334 Union St. in downtown Milford.



LAW OFFICE OF JACK W. BOLLING, P.C.

248-684-9742 • www.jackbollinglaw.com

An avid history buff, Milford attorney Jack W. Bolling is passionate about keeping the past alive for future generations.

He is just as interested in preserving your family's legacy by helping you make decisions that will keep your memory alive through your children and grandchildren.

As an estate/legacy planner, Bolling has trademarked his approach to the estate planning process and accompanying legal services as Legacy LifeLines™. This process includes three steps: 1) counseling and plan design; 2) funding of the revocable living trust; and 3) an on-going maintenance plan that is unique to Bolling's practice.

Bolling encourages his clients to think beyond their financial matters and look into their own life's fulfillment by asking themselves questions like: What really matters most to me? What would I really like to accomplish? What legacy

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NEW! Unmarried and same sex couple estate plans that address issues for committed life alliance partners who have no legal recognition or rights automatically afforded to married couples.

do I really want to leave behind?

These important life questions are all the more reason that Bolling has expanded his practice to include Medicaid planning.

He believes that estate planning and Medicaid planning go hand in hand.

"Through proper planning, it is possible to provide for your long-term care while preserving assets for you and your loved ones," Bolling said. "Why should you give up something that you've worked your whole life for when

your spouse becomes ill?"

Bolling is also an accredited VA attorney and can help people who have either served or whose family member has served in the U.S. military. "There are many veterans' programs available, but you need to know who to ask and what to ask," Bolling said. "I am the person who can help you sort through these issues."

While helping people on a one-to-one basis with their legacy planning, Bolling reaches an even broader

audience as a guest columnist for Gannett Newspapers, including The Milford Times. He is also a guest speaker for many local groups and organizations.

With a deep respect and passion for history, Bolling is pleased that his practice is now housed in a 130-year old Victorian home at 334 Union St. in downtown Milford, which has been renovated to the period of time in which it was built.

Original pine wood planked floors, a cupola, winding staircases, tall ceilings and etched glass front doors are just a few of the features that drew Bolling to this location in November 2008.

"History comes alive to me while conducting my practice in this historic home," Bolling said. "It gives me a sense of the past and a vision for the future — exactly what I want to bring to my clients."

— By Sally Rummel

Accredited Veterans Affairs Attorney. Member: National Network of Estate Planning Attorneys; President, Michigan Forum of Estate Planners and the Michigan Conference of Estate Planners.

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Advertising Feature

Seniors need to know the facts about oral hygiene DentalWorks is the smart choice for your smile

By Dennis Zelazny
Contributing Writer

A healthy smile can benefit you in a multitude of ways and provide added confidence. DentalWorks dentists put a patients' needs first, because it's what they believe. Being part of the DentalWorks staff means working at the highest level of integrity and ethics.

Are you a denture wearer, or about to become one, get ready to smile again. When you go in for your consultation, they'll determine what your needs are and make recommendations that are right for you. Their highly qualified staff will craft a set of dentures to your precise specifications. Custom dentures are individually made to provide a lifelike look and a flawless fit. DentalWorks is proud to offer an affordable product that will allow you to choose the size, shade and type of teeth that suit you and your budget.

Your dentures should conform to the contours of your face while complementing the color of your hair and the complexion of your skin. They use the latest techniques to ensure a more precise fit, reducing the necessity for adjustments later on. Dentures are custom designed and specially fitted down to the tiniest detail to match your bite and flatter

your appearance. They are so confident that you'll be pleased with how your new dentures look and feel that they back them with some of the longest warranties on the market.

Perhaps you are in need of partials or just replacing some teeth. Losing teeth can wreak havoc on your health as well as your appearance. Partials fill in the gaps created by missing teeth and fill out your smile. Losing even one tooth can have a profound effect on how you talk, eat and look. DentalWorks can repair your smile by replacing your missing teeth with acrylic or cast metal partials.

DentalWorks is also the place for your comprehensive dental care. Your life has changed dramatically since you got your first tooth. But you never outgrow the need for professional

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dental health treatments. Fortunately, they offer a wide range of services and their general dentistry service includes exams, cleanings, fluoride treatments, fillings, sealants and root canals

DentalWorks offers state-of-the-art dental health treatments and as new advancements are made in dental care those new technologies are introduced. Cosmetic dentistry, in-office and at-home whitening systems, bonding, veneers and tooth-colored fillings, along with Orthodontic braces for children or adults and services for dental implant procedures are all available.

They have several offices in the area, and if money is a concern they believe that their prices should not exceed your ability to pay the price. This makes them a terrific value. They also will work within the guidelines of your insurance benefits, getting you the maximum amount of coverage possible. Many of their offices offer on-site labs for faster turnaround.



Submitted Photo

My dentist is DentalWorks, where patients are treated with outstanding dental care, exceptional service and an incredible value. That's the DentalWorks difference.

Advertising Feature



Submitted Photo
All apartments at Abbey Park at Mill River include patios or balconies, including several with views of landscaped courtyards pictured above.

Five Star Service, Affordable Luxury

Abbey Park communities stocked with elegance, complimentary amenities

Today's seniors don't have to spend an arm and a leg to live comfortably. Many retirees are seeking an environment where they can pursue friendships, life comfortably and participate in hobbies — all within their budget.

Abbey Park's two locations in Lyon Township and Grand Blanc offer more than just a place to live to its residents. They offer bustling communities where seniors interact, participate in activities, share meals together and look forward to visits from family and grandchildren.

It's no surprise the Lyon Township community is near capacity after opening up just two years ago — residents there enjoy a variety of complimentary conveniences every day that are often an added expense at other communities.

"I'm very excited to say that we are almost fully occupied, with more than 150 residents this year," said Tamra Ward, Administrator at the Lyon Township community. "There are so many things to love about living at Abbey Park. We are getting more and more referrals every day."

Abbey Park residents never complain about a lack of something to do: dinner out on the town once a week, weekly musical entertainment, Nintendo Wii tournaments, card playing groups, casino trips, visits to local high school plays, holiday parties and champagne brunches every Sunday are just a few activities planned each month. This summer, residents at the Lyon Township community worked the runway as clothing models during senior fashion shows. Residents are also looking forward to sponsoring and attending the

upcoming Lyon Township kite and film festivals in June, attending the Midnight Summer's Dream "senior prom" in August or visiting with family during the annual Grandparents Day Luau in September.

"They make us feel special here. I don't think we could find a better place to live."

Ed Kustron, Abbey Park resident

Residents can choose from nine floor plans, ranging from one-bedroom, two-bedroom, or handicapped apartment, all are equipped with a modern kitchen, full private bath, abundant closet space and either a balcony or patio. Housekeeping service, linen service, scheduled chauffeured transportation, 24-hour security and medical alert systems are all included in the monthly rental fee, as well as daily continental breakfast and choice of lunch or dinner.

"We have everything our residents need at Abbey Park," Ward said. "We make your bed, we remove your trash, we socialize at Happy Hour, offer a private fitness center, library, movie theater, hair salon and a cozy fireplace to enjoy good company by. We hope to see you soon!"

Visit Abbey Park at 28413 Abbey Lane in Lyon Township (across from Coyote Golf Course). Call 248-437-6500 or visit www.abbeypark.com. Search for "Abbey Park" on Facebook to find community information and event photos.

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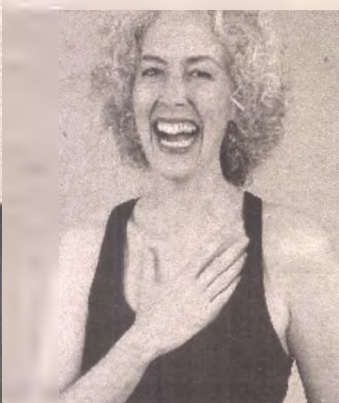


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Continued from page 8

Shawn Brooklier, BSW, CAD has over 11 years experience as a social worker and over eight years experience as a social worker in long term care. She is also a certified activity director. She has worked at St. Anne's Mead for five years both as the social worker and currently as the Life Enrichment Coordinator.

Susan Vosburgh, RN, BSN, CDON, NHA, is a registered nurse, a certified director of nursing and has her nursing home administrator's license. She has worked at St. Anne's Mead for five years as the Director of Nursing and is currently the Quality Assurance Coordinator as well as the Life Enrichment Coordinator.



Hallie Guzal



Shawn Brooklier



Susan Vosburgh

10:00 – 10:50

Speaker: Dr. Allon Goldberg from Wayne State University
Topic: Putting one foot in front of the other

Dr. Allon Goldberg gives tips for older adults on how to maintain balance skills and



Dr. Allon Goldberg

spot problems that could lead to a fall. He will talk about providing direct care to patients in a clinic or hospital setting. He will also explain the effectiveness of new therapeutic interventions on promoting a better quality of life for patients. This is an opportunity for you to talk to him first hand and find out what you can do to help yourself against falling.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that more than one-third of U.S. adults over age 65 fall in their homes each year.

Bio:

Dr. Allon Goldberg, an assistant professor with the Mobility Research Laboratory at Wayne State University in Detroit. Dr. Goldberg, commented, "More research is needed, but it is reasonable to predict that a physical therapy program to improve strength in older adults [with SCK difficulties] could lead to improvements in performing these activities."

Goldberg expects a tailored line of physical therapy to improve coordination among seniors and reduce the incidence of falls. He was involved in a study published in the January issue of the journal Physical Therapy that found that decreased muscle strength in older adults can predict impairments in stooping, crouching or kneeling (SCK). Specifically, decreased strength in the trunk extensor, knee extensor and ankle flexion muscles often develop SCK difficulties.

11:00 – 11:50

Speaker: Rick Bloom
Topic: Protecting and Growing Your Investment Portfolio in a Down Economy

In today's volatile financial environment, it is vital for investors to have a portfolio that can weather the ups and downs of the market. Financial expert and Observer and Eccentric columnist Rick Bloom will discuss the importance of developing a diversified portfolio geared to help you reach your long-term financial objectives, no matter what happens with our economy.



Rick Bloom

Bio:

Rick Bloom has served clients in the area of financial planning since 1984 and is a partner with Ken Bloom in Bloom Asset Management and the law firm of Bloom, Bloom & Associates. He has been selected as one of the Top 250 Financial Planners by Worth Magazine, and currently writes a financial column each Thursday and Sunday in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. He also airs twice-daily business updates throughout Michigan on the affiliate stations of the Michigan Radio Network.

He served as host of the popular "Rick Bloom Show" on WDTK-AM 1400 and was also host of the "Money Talk" radio show on WXYT 1270-AM for 16 years. He was also a daily financial columnist for the Detroit News for over ten years and wrote twice-weekly finan-

cial columns for the Oakland Press. Bloom has been quoted in the Wall Street Journal and other national publications on financial planning and the Stock Market. He is also a frequent spokesperson on financial matters on local TV and radio shows.

Bloom gives numerous seminars and speeches on financial planning and investments for a variety of professional, civic and business organizations, such as Chrysler Corporation, the Better Business Bureau, Grosse Pointe Men's Club, Madonna University, Michigan State University Alumni Association, Corp Magazine and the Observer & Eccentric Senior Expo.

Bloom is an honors graduate of both Michigan State University and the University of Michigan Law School. He is a licensed attorney and a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

12:00 – 12:50

Speaker: Jack Bolling
Topic: The truth about Estate Planning

It's never too early or too late to begin thinking about your legacy or to shape your estate plan as long as you do it. Contrary to what many people think, you don't need to be a millionaire to have an estate plan. An estate plan is an important part of any ongoing financial planning process.

Bio:

Jack Bolling received his Juris Doctor from Michigan State University College of Law, and his bachelor's degree in business administration from Michigan State University and William Tyndale College.

Before becoming an attorney, Bolling was in law enforcement for 12 years, after brief service in the USMC. Currently, Jack is an instructor of Political Science and Criminal Justice at Schoolcraft College. Elaine and Jack have been married for 41 years and they have 3 grown children.

Bolling is a member of: the prestigious National Network



Jack Bolling

of Estate Planning Attorneys; the American Bar Association; the Master Lawyers Section of the Michigan Bar Association and its probate and estate planning and elder law sections; President, Michigan Forum of Estate Planners and Michigan Conference of Estate Planners. He is an advisor and speaker for the Red Cross/Family Caregiving and Fifty-Plus Advisory Committee at Schoolcraft College.

As guest columnist for Gannett Newspapers, Bolling writes about estate planning and related subjects, and a frequent speaker on these and related topics around the State of Michigan. View his complete bio and client ratings at www.avvo.com.


Bolling's law office is located at 334 Union Street, Milford, MI 48381 in the historic 1880 Bissell House. Phone 248-684-9742, fax 248-685-7800, cell 248-563-1561, and email: jwbollinglaw@comcast.net. His practice is now focused on estate planning, Medicaid and Elder Law issues, and he is an accredited attorney with the VA for veteran's benefits. Please view the firm website at: www.jackbollinglaw.com.

12:00 – 12:50

Speaker: Gary D. Richmond Sr. from Richmond Financial LLC
Topic: What you should know about long term care

Long term care insurance can provide you and your fam-

Continued on page 24



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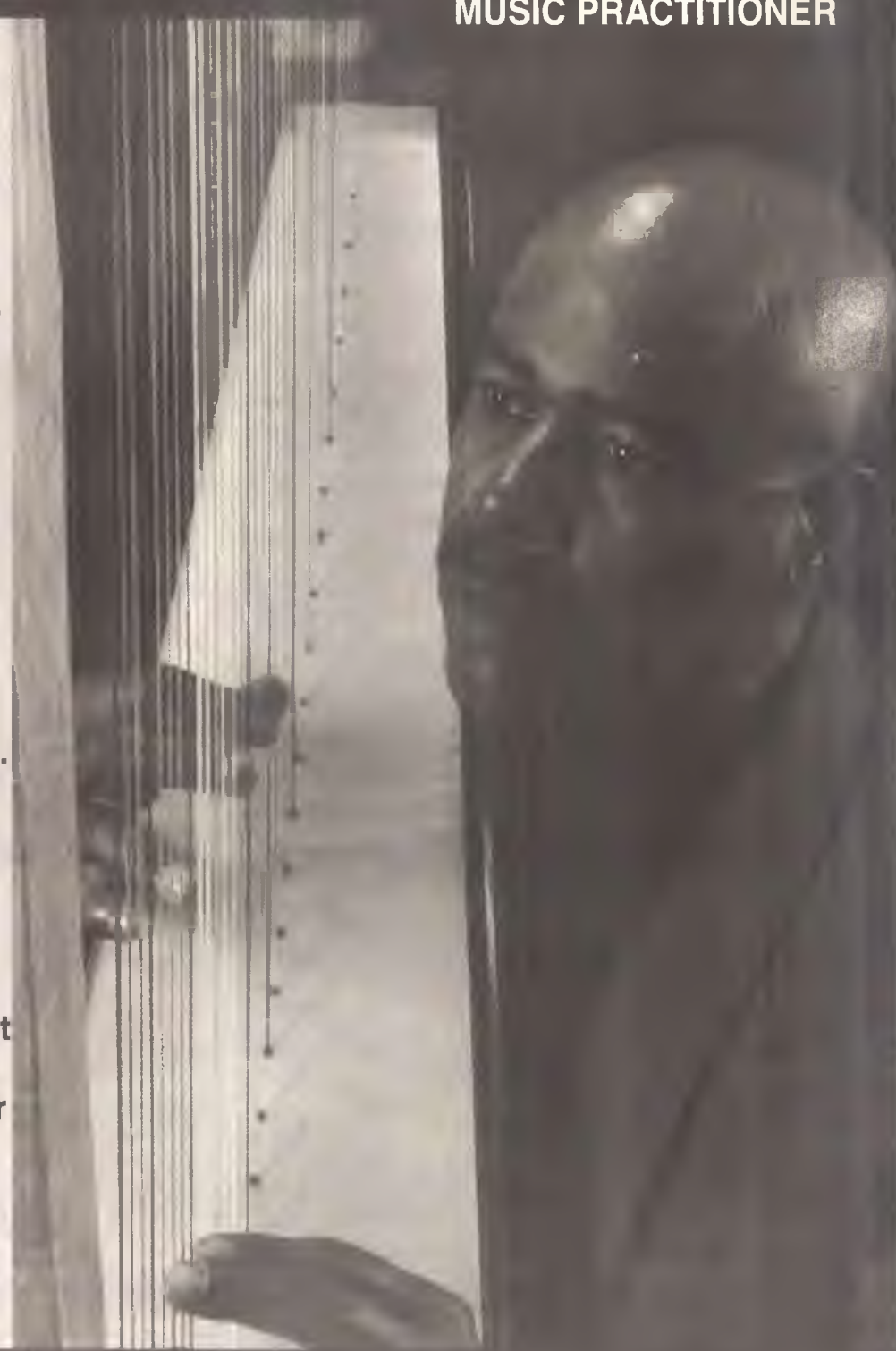
Out” period for my fellow man. I observe rushing around, fatigue, sleep disorders, and a need for meditation and relaxation for all, at home at the work place, school, for personal well-being.

I have a host of genre of music from Relaxation, Smooth Jazz, tropical and nature sounds, Latin Flavors, New age, Healing, Asian Flavors, and Children rest Music and Stories.

I have been a music consultant for schools in both Michigan and Ohio for over 10 years. Much of the music products were purchased by teachers and principals, bought for their personal pleasure as well as for the students.

I started producing at GBI Records and television in Freeport, Bahamas. I have just become the Producer for MegaWave Records in Lansing, Michigan. John Palmer is president and CEO.

The instruments in my work are keyboards, piano, guitar, harp, and percussions. It is very soothing sound of relaxation.



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Continued from page 20

ily with the flexibility you want and the protection you need. **Gary D. Richmond Sr.** will talk about the unique features and options available to you through long term care insurance coverage and secure your



Gary D. Richmond

future.

Bio:

After serving as a parish pastor for 22 years, Richmond became a John Hancock representative and sales manager for five years and currently serves as an independent financial advisor for the past 19 years. He is experienced in long-term care issues and Life and Long Term Care Insurance/Retirement Income/Estate and Medicaid Planning and accordingly serves the 50 and older market. He is committed to the financial success of his clients. He works with his daughter, Michelle. He is married, has four children and six grandchildren and lives in Clarkston with his wife, Karen, of 39 years.

1:00 – 1:50

Speaker: Ernie Hallmark from Legal Shield
Topic: Identity Theft Protection

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal identifying information, without your authorization, in order to perpetrate fraud or other offenses, such as obtaining loans, services or



Ernie Hallmark

credit. To reduce your risk and help protect yourself and your family, you need complete identity theft protection.

Bio:

Ernie Hallmark is an Independent Associate with Legal Shield. Ernie focuses on Identity Theft Protection & Family Legal Plans, as well as Legal Plans for Small Business Owners. What drew Ernie into Legal Shield 3 years ago was he saw the value in their service, and the need for Identity Theft Protection, and his desire to help others.

1:00 – 1:50

Speaker: Dr. Sol Cogan from Health Quest
Topic: Ways to Manage Neck and Back Pain

Dr. Sol Cogan is the President/CEO of HealthQuest he will be talking about neck and back pain management and what you can do about it. Having the knowledge of



Dr. Sol Cogan

the diagnosis and treatment of neck and back pain will help you in the management of these common ailments. Healthquest is the only chiropractic group the Detroit Lions trust with their back pain for the simple reason that when it comes to treating back pain without surgery, they can't be beat. Whether working on the side lines at a Detroit Lions game or treating patients in one of their many clinics, the certified chiropractic doctors at Healthquest can non-surgically relieve back problems ranging from sciatica to stenosis to herniated discs, and of course, the occasional football injury. If you've been living with back pain, neck pain or any other pain and haven't found relief, Dr. Sol Cogan can help you.

Bio:

Dr. Sol Cogan is the CEO of HealthQuest and Back & Neck Solution Centers of America. As the Detroit Lions team D.C., he has spent his 20-year career treating Olympic and professional athletes. He understands that back and neck pain affects more than just a patient's back or neck. He recognizes that it impacts their mood, limits their activities and can devastate their life. His mission is to help people whose lives have been affected by everything from mild pain to debilitating pain due to herniated, bulging, protruding discs, sciatica and spinal stenosis. At Back & Neck Solution Centers of America, Dr. Cogan has developed HealthQuest's Non Surgical Spinal Decompression Therapy. Through the use of a revolutionary computer aided technology, he is able to reduce the pressure on the damaged disc without surgery, shots or drugs. HealthQuest and Back & Neck Solution Centers of America have over a dozen locations to help relieve back and neck pain.

When to get help for painful joints

If your arm goes numb and your speech is slurred, you know you need to seek immediate medical attention. When you nick yourself shaving, you know you can deal with it yourself. But for the vast number of maladies in between, it can be difficult to know when to go to the doctor and when to deal with it on your own.

One of the most difficult situations in which you need to make the "home care vs. professional care" decision may be when something affects your joints. The joints do some important work for the human body, and figuring out when things will get better on their own and when you may have a more serious problem is not easy.

When to seek help

William Ungureit, clinical director of the physician assistant training program at South University in Tampa, Fla., says there are some important signs that will tell you when to seek professional care.

"If the joint is warm to the touch and swollen, seek immediate help," Ungureit says. "Those are signs of a possible infection, something that won't get better on its own."

Likewise, if you know that the joint pain is the result of an injury such as a fall, put an ice pack on the injury and seek help right away. This type of injury will usually be accompanied by swelling and the inability to bear weight.

Otherwise, painful joints often can be treated at home with over-the-counter pain relievers such as ibuprofen or naproxen sodium. And what about ice and heat?

"Cold therapy (ice) can be used for chronic injuries, such as pain after running," says Ungureit. "Heat therapy is recommended for injuries that have no inflammation or swelling. Heat is ideal for sore, stiff, nagging muscle or joint pain."

If you decide to treat the pain at home, you still need to see your primary care physician if the pain

lasts more than two weeks. Your physician may offer prescription pain relievers or other treatment.

Chronic joint pain

Treatment for chronic joint pain may be more involved, Ungureit says. "Non-inflammatory joint pain usually signifies osteoarthritis, which is caused by trauma to the joint or degeneration of the joint tissue in weight-bearing joints." That means the knee, hip and spinal joints.

According to the U.S. Bone and Joint Initiative, a movement sanctioned by the World Health Organization, one in five Americans has some form of arthritis. And contrary to the perception that arthritis is a disease of the elderly, more than half of those with arthritis are under the age of 65.

There is no cure for osteoarthritis, but it can be managed with pain killers, physical therapy, steroid injections such as cortisone, or other injections to help lubricate the joint. As a last resort, surgery to realign or completely replace a joint may be an option. Complete joint replacement is now available for the knee, shoulder, hip and ankle.

Motion is lotion

Although you can't prevent osteoarthritis, you can do things to help lessen its onset and its painful effects. "Losing weight and exercising regularly are great ways to combat osteoarthritis," says Ungureit. "When it comes to joints, we say that 'motion is lotion.' Dropping five or 10 pounds may not seem like much, but five pounds per step adds up fairly quickly on your joints."

What about herbal supplements and other alternative treatments for joint pain? Ungureit says there's nothing wrong with trying them, but make sure you tell your doctor which ones you are thinking about taking, since some supplements can interfere with other medications.

So while you may not need to consult your doctor for every ache, there are some serious signs to look for, and some effective steps that both you and your doctor can take to help relieve those painful joints.

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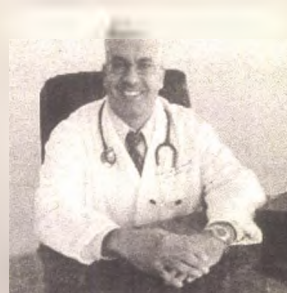
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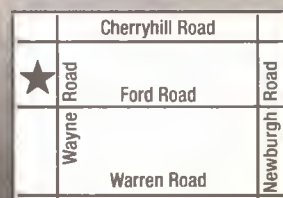
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Advertisers Index

Abbey Park at Mill River.....	2,13	Elder Care Solutions of Michigan.....	6	Metlife.....	25
AFS Wealth Management.....	26	Expert Heating & Cooling.....	9	Nexcare Health Systems.....	26
American House.....	6	Farmington Family YMCA.....	10	Personal Hearing Care, Inc.....	4
Area Agency on Aging 1-B.....	23	Fox Run.....	23	Richmond Financial, LLC.....	10
Bathtub Liner Co.....	25	Granite Transformations.....	9	Senior Helpers.....	23
Better Health Clinic.....	25	HealthQuest Chiropractic.....	6	St. Anne's Mead.....	18
Bloom Asset Management.....	5	HearUSA.....	19	Surface Solutions.....	12
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan/ Blue Care Network.....	6	Hegira Programs, Inc.....	10	Unique Refinishers Inc.....	10
CSI Support & Development Services.....	4	Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority.....	26	Village of Redford & Village of Westland.....	27
Dental One Partners, Inc.....	3, 13	Infusion Kitchen & Bath.....	7, 21	Waltonwood.....	11
		Isagenix-Health Warrior.....	9	Wayne State University.....	14,15
		L&E Associates with Legal Shield.....	7,23	West Bloomfield Nursing Center.....	17
		Law Office of Jack W. Bolling PC.....	16	Woodhaven Retirement Community.....	9
		Marycrest Manor & Marycrest Heights.....	25		

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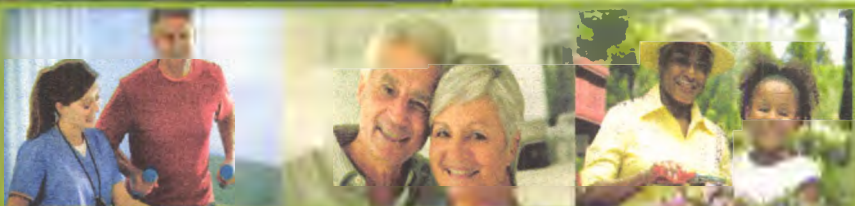
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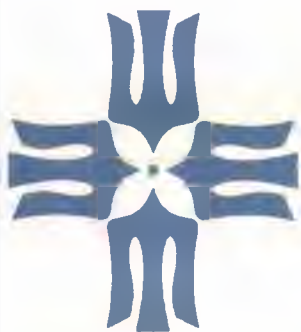
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A photograph of the entrance to the Wayne State University Oakland Center. The building features a dark wood-paneled wall on the left with a digital display showing university information. A set of glass double doors leads into a brightly lit interior. Above the doors, the words "WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY" are mounted on the wall in a large, dark, sans-serif font. The floor is a polished, light-colored material.

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