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COMMUNITY LIFE, B5

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We will select a winner and publish as many of the photos as we can in an upcoming edition. Movie passes don't expire until March.

PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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Fire boosters try again with petition drive

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Confident that signatures on their petitions represent enough Plymouth Township property owners to put a tax question to voters, members of the township's Citizens Action Group turned in more petitions, and affidavits they said bolster their cause, on Wednesday.

The CAG, organized to support the Plymouth Community Fire Department as firefighters face

budget cuts and possible layoffs due to a drop in funding, aims to get a proposal for a special assessment district on the ballot for the Tuesday, Feb. 28, presidential primary.

The group is seeking a 1-mill tax in the district — which would be made up of the entire township — that would be dedicated to the fire department and help it avoid layoffs. A 1-mill tax would raise an estimated \$1.5 million or more a year and would cost \$75

with a taxable value of \$75,000.

CAG members said Thursday they are seeking only 1 mill, even though some critics of their plan have pointed out that a special assessment district could mean a levy of up to 10 mills, at the discretion of the township Board of Trustees.

"We're not looking for 10 mills, we're looking for one mill," said Jennifer Mann, the wife of PCFD Lt. Chuck Mann and a CAG organizer.

"It would be the Board of

Trustees that would violate the voters' trust" if more than 1 mill were levied, said Tom Kelly, another CAG leader and a firefighter in Royal Oak. "They could lock it in" by voting to put on the ballot a proposal for a dedicated fire department millage, Kelly added. "The ball's in their court."

Township Treasurer Ron Edwards said Friday he was not aware of the newest CAG petition.

Please see FIRE, A9

Jazz @ the Elks

The Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780, located at 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, presents the first appearance of the Paul VornHagen Quartet at Jazz @ The Elks 7-10:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 22.

The quartet consists of Paul VornHagen on reeds, Kurt Kranke on bass, Pete Siers on drums, and Chuck Shermataro on keyboard.

Admission is a \$5 donation at the door.

Fowl balls

Bring a frozen turkey (minimum 18 pounds) to Fox Hills Saturday, Nov. 19, and receive free green fees and a cart for 18 holes of golf on Fox Classic at the course, 8768 N. Territorial near Plymouth Township.

All turkeys will be donated to the Plymouth Community United Way and The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps in time for needy families to enjoy Thanksgiving. Serving the Plymouth and Canton community since 1944, the Plymouth Community United Way strives to address human service needs for individuals and families.

Call (734) 453-7272 for reservations.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Robert Danville, lost in Iraq, grieves for his son, Sgt. Brian Danville of the 82nd Airborne, and his brother, Sgt. David Danville of the 101st Airborne, who died in Vietnam.

Service call Plymouth honors vets and their sacrifices

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

On the 93rd anniversary of the end of World War I, veterans of the nation's wars, from the Revolution to the more current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, were honored in Plymouth in prayer, speeches and song.

Friday's Veterans Day commemoration brought a good-sized crowd, including dozens of local veterans, to the Plymouth Community Veterans Memorial Park, at Church and Main. The event was organized by several local veterans organizations.

"They served so that we may be free," master of ceremonies Steve Monaghan said in beginning the program. Monaghan, who served in the Marine Corps, is a past commander of American Legion Post 112. The men and women of the military, he added, "keep the doors of freedom open for all mankind."

The Rev. James Skimins, of the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, offered an invocation, and students from nearby Central Middle School led participants in the Pledge of Allegiance; the school's seventh-grade band then performed *The Star-Spangled Banner*.

Veteran Jay Roberts, who served in the Marines in Vietnam, spoke of the increasing importance of Veterans Day in his life. When he was young, he



The band from Central Middle School plays for the ceremony including Lianna Claypool, Savannah Reibert and Hanna Smith.

said, he took it for granted.

"I didn't appreciate it or understand it until 1968, because I was in Vietnam, becoming a veteran," Roberts, the commander of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528, told the crowd. "It means more to me today than it ever has in my life."

Another Vietnam veteran, Dennis Bielskis, the commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6695, said he anticipated the end of current conflicts. "I'd like to see that today ... and have these

Please see VETS, A5

GOP: 'Message got out' in school race

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Mark Hutchins just chuckled when the rumor was relayed to him.

Then Hutchins, communications director for the Wayne 11th Congressional District Committee, denied it.

The rumor? That the Wayne 11th spent some \$200,000 trying to get its slate of conservative candidates elected in Tuesday's Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education election. Hutchins couldn't — or wouldn't — say how much Republicans spent on the race.

"But it wasn't anywhere near that," he said.

Whatever amount was spent, Republican influence in the party's first real foray into what is a nonpartisan race was evident. The GOP fought the teachers union to a standoff;

each group got two of the four candidates it endorsed elected.

The Wayne 11th supported the so-called "M&M" ticket, featuring Mike Maloney, Matt Dame, Mark Horvath and Mike Andro. Meanwhile, the MEA supported John Barrett, Sheila Paton, John Jackson and Abdul Muhiuddin. The two groups split the difference: Horvath and Maloney joined Barrett and Paton as the four new faces on the board.

The group will join incumbents Judy Mardigan, Barry Simescu and Adrienne Davis in January.

Through the mail

To get its slate elected, Republicans peppered the community with several mailings and robo-calls, targeting groups they knew

Please see ELECTION, A8



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tuesday's election in Plymouth drew rare support from the Republican Party for the so-called 'M&M' ticket (red signs), which ended up costing candidates such as incumbents Nancy Eggenberger and Steven Sneiderman their seats.

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Birthdays on unique date add up to big fun for 11-year-olds

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Friday was a big day for fifth-graders Devin Grant and Cameron DiCola, one their families had been looking forward to for 11 years.

Devin and Cameron both turned 11 on Friday (11/11/11), the only time in a thousand years that the numerical shorthand for the date consists of three pairs of ones.

Cameron and Devin and their families were to have a series of parties on Friday and Saturday to mark the significance of the day. Coincidentally, both were to celebrate with friends at Zap Zone, a laser-tag playground in Canton Township. Cameron was heading there on Friday, Devin on Saturday.

"We've been talking about this for years, and he's been talking about



Devin Grant of Canton baked these cakes for his 11th birthday, which was Friday. He also baked cupcakes to hand out to classmates at Bentley Elementary.

this for years," said Karen Cunningham, Devin's mom, who lives in Canton with husband Terry Grant and their other son, Brayden, 13. "We all knew that this was kind of his special day."

"I think it'll be really



BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cameron DiCola, a fifth-grader at Hoben Elementary in Canton Township, turned 11 on Friday — 11/11/11. Cameron was to celebrate with family members and friends at Zap Zone in Canton.

fun," said Cameron, who lives in Superior Township with parents Kevin and Evelyn DiCola and their other son, Gabriel,

9. "It's my favorite number."

Both boys, actually, said the number 11 is important to them.

Devin often wears an 11 on his jerseys (he plays basketball and soccer) and "feels that's his lucky or favorite number," said his mom. He also invited 11 friends to Zap Zone. "Kind of a coincidence," mom Karen said.

Cameron expected a party of 11 kids (including himself) at Zap Zone, and said his "golden birthday" — the day one's age and birth date match — will be extra special this year. "I am looking forward to being 11 tomorrow and all the other days," he said Thursday.

In addition, his teacher at Hoben Elementary in Canton, Jennifer Bec, has the same birthday (she's older than 11, however). "He felt a really cool con-

nection with her," said his father.

Devin, who wants to become a chef, baked cupcakes for classmates at Bentley Elementary in Canton and used frosting to draw 11s on them. He also baked his own birthday cake, two rectangular cakes that, side by side, of course, look like an 11. He was to open 11 gifts on Friday.

"I love to bake," Devin said. Devin and his family were also hosting a party with extended family on Friday.

Cameron, who wants to play professional baseball, was to go on a scavenger hunt Friday, with stops at places of significance to him in Canton, including the Village Theater at Cherry Hill (the family attends the Veterans Day Salute to Service every year) and High Velocity Sports. "It's completely unknown to him

what the puzzles will be," said dad Kevin.

At Zap Zone, the last stop, the party will be over at 11:11 p.m. "It's a little past their bedtime, yeah," said Kevin DiCola. The DiCola's family party — relatives were coming in from the Pittsburgh area — was to be on Saturday.

Both boys said they have sports-oriented goals for when they're 11: "I would like to improve on my basketball," said Devin, who plays center. "I need to step it up a notch in pitching," said Cameron.

While the 11/11/11 combination won't occur again any time soon, Cameron said a friend of his will share a similar story next year in December, when he turns 12 on 12/12/12.

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Boy faces pre-trial hearing in Plymouth-Canton assault case

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

The 15-year-old boy at the crux of a lawsuit by a Plymouth mother against the Plymouth-Canton School District is scheduled for a pre-trial hearing Nov. 8 in Wayne County Circuit Court on charges of fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct and assault and battery for allegedly assaulting a 14-year-old classmate at Discovery Middle School.

The boy's pre-trial hearing in the juvenile division is set for 2 p.m. before Judge

Mark Slavens. Slavens, a Canton resident, is a former member of the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education.

Officials with the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office said because this a juvenile offense the penalty, if the boy goes to trial and is convicted, is determined by the court. Adult penalties do not apply. The boy is currently on bond.

The Plymouth woman is suing the district and several of its employees after charging in Wayne County Circuit Court her 14-year-old daughter was sexual-

ly assaulted during at least three incidents at Discovery Middle School.

The suit claims the woman's daughter, who has Down syndrome and is part of a Mild Cognitively Impaired Program at the school, was assaulted by the boy, a student in the same program.

District officials declined to comment, but released a written statement.

"As of noon on Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2011, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools has not been formally served with a lawsuit," the statement read. "We are aware of

the situation, and have contacted our legal counsel. We are cognizant of state and federal laws that protect our students' rights. Accordingly, it would be inappropriate to comment further at this time."

According to the suit, filed by Royal Oak attorney Michael Dorfman, the boy admitted to at least three incidents:

"(The victim) is a sweet and vulnerable girl who, because of her cognitive impairments, was repeatedly targeted for sexual assault by another stu-

dent," Dorfman said in a release Wednesday. "Had Plymouth-Canton Community Schools properly monitored these students and delivered them the services they needed, rather than warehousing them like cattle, these repeated sexual assaults would have never occurred."

The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages on behalf of the mother. The case is pending before Judge Jeanne Stempien.

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School election bills headed to governor

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Judy Mardigian, who has served on the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education since 1998, was looking forward to the end of what she said will be her final term in 2013.

Now, it appears she's going to be around an extra year.

Legislation that moves school board elections to even-year Novembers is on its way to Gov. Rick Snyder's desk and, assuming he signs it, the law would move the scheduled 2013 election in Plymouth-Canton to 2014. That means Mardigian, along with board secretary Adrienne Davis and trustee Bar-

ry Simescu, would be forced to stick around at least one more year.

"I'm not thrilled," said Mardigian, whose daughter was in kindergarten when she was first elected and is now a college graduate. "I would like to go out on the year I was supposed to. You make a commitment for a certain amount of time, and it's a commitment I take very seriously. I don't like having that decision taken out of my hands."

"I love the content of the work we do, it fascinates me and that's why I continue to do it. But at some point, it'll be time for people with kids in the district and more of a stake than I have to take up the chal-



Mardigian



Davis



Simescu

lenge." Supporters say House Bills 4005 and 4006 will save taxpayers dollars and increase voter turnout. Currently, school boards and ISDs can choose from any one of five different dates in the two-year election cycle.

"This change will not only save taxpayer dollars and increase voter turnout, it will also put more money back into the classroom by reduc-

ing the costs to school districts and local governments associated with stand-alone elections," said Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, who sponsored the bills. "Taxpayers, school students and local government all benefit from this efficient reform that will save money and increase voter turnout."

Heise said he's drawn solid support from the Michigan Association of

County Clerks, and that the clerks in his district favor the switch.

Indeed, Canton Township Clerk Terry Bennett said she "totally supports" the legislation.

"Voters all the time are asking us, 'Why isn't this on a regular ballot? This is a waste of money,'" Bennett said. "This will remove the cost to the school districts for administering regular school board elections. Since they are now on the ballot with other statewide issues, they will not pay for the elections they currently do, like the one on Tuesday."

According to school district officials, \$80,000 was budgeted for the 2011 election. Actu-

al cost wasn't known yet, but Frank Ruggiero, the district's director of community relations said "it won't be anywhere near that amount."

City of Plymouth Clerk Linda Langmesser called the legislation "a good idea" because it will save the city money.

"We're going to have elections every year anyway, but I'd rather the school board (election) not be on the city ballot," Langmesser said. "Wayne County canvasses the school election, whereas I canvass ours, so there's extra work to do at an extra cost to the city."

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Crash leaves pedestrian critical

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

A 53-year-old Walled Lake man was in critical condition Thursday night after he was struck by a vehicle while crossing Ford Road on foot east of Haggerty, Canton police said.

The pedestrian suffered multiple injuries and was taken to a hospital following an accident

that occurred about 6:30 p.m. along a section of Ford Road that township officials say is among the most dangerous and accident-prone in Michigan.

Canton Detective Tim Wright said the man was an estimated 40 yards east of a crosswalk when he was struck by a mini-van driven by a 64-year-old Inkster woman.

The man was crossing from the south side

of Ford to the north when he was struck by a vehicle heading east along the bustling Canton thoroughfare.

Wright said it appears the driver was not at fault, though the investigation was continuing.

The Canton Police Department's Accident Investigation Team went to the scene and closed traffic on eastbound Ford while they investigated

the accident.

Canton authorities have urged pedestrians to use crosswalks and to cross roads only when they have the right of way. Even then, police have said, pedestrians should watch for any oncoming vehicles.

No other details about the accident were available.

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Macy's representative Wesley Whatley presented a Macy's Parade drum head to Sheldon Frazier and David Armbruster during the announcement party last year.

SCHOOL BRIEFS

Goddard scholarship

The Goddard School in Canton announced that it will be accepting applications for its fourth annual \$10,000 Anthony A. Martino Memorial Scholarship.

The scholarship is awarded to a Goddard School alumnus each year to use toward his or her education at an accredited college or university.

"The Anthony A. Martino Memorial Scholarship provides financial support to a graduate of The Goddard School who demonstrates an excellent work ethic, commitment to family and community and a love of learning," said Joe Schumacher, chief executive officer for Goddard Systems, Inc. "We are eager to determine this year's recipient of this prestigious award."

The application deadline for the Anthony A. Martino Memorial Scholarship is Feb. 19. Eligible applicants can access the scholarship application on Goddard's website at www.goddardschool.com under the Communication tab. Students interested in applying should follow the guidelines. To learn more about The Goddard School, or about the Anthony A. Martino Memorial Scholarship, families are encouraged to visit www.goddardschool.com.

Goodfellow collection

Schoolhouse Montessori Academy is collecting items for teens for the Canton Goodfellows organization and is opening up the collection to the Canton community.

Any families who wish to donate can drop off items in the school's front office 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday at 1669 S. Haggerty until Dec. 9.

This year Schoolhouse is requesting items for teenagers 13 years and up. The staff at Schoolhouse has noticed this age group tends to have fewer donations than younger age groups from their experience volunteering with the Goodfellows during previous years. If families are unable to provide teen items they are welcome to drop off anything for any age child too.

Examples of items that can be dropped off at the school include scented lotions, scented body washes, nail polish/lip gloss/chap stick sets, craft kits, water bottles, backpacks and duffle bags, trading cards, sports items, games, gloves, hats, scarves, sports caps, journals and diaries, chapter books and after shave. We appreciate your generosity by providing donations to help the Canton Goodfellows this year.

For further information about Canton Goodfellows and additional drop off locations (including Showroom of Elegance) check out www.cantongoodfellows.org. For information regarding ways families can volunteer their time over the holiday season contact Paula Kosbe at (734) 394-5100.

Marchers ready for Macy's

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

The last time David Armbruster timed his marching band's performance, the stopwatch stopped at 1:15:03.

That means Armbruster, director of bands for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, needs to shave three-tenths of a second off the time, and he's only got about 11 days to do it.

Armbruster is preparing the 180-member Plymouth-Canton Marching Band for its appearance in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade in New York — the first Michigan high school marching band to do so — and the NBC officials (the network has exclusive rights to the parade) are very strict on time.

"A minute-fifteen feels like a very long time,"

Armbruster said. "You can't go over; you can go under, but you can't go over. NBC has very specific rules about that."

Shaving the time off is about all the band has left to accomplish before they head to New York. With competition season over — the band opted not to compete at nationals to prepare for the parade — the entire focus has shifted to getting ready for Macy's.

For its appearance on national television, the band will play a pair of tunes, Welcome Christmas and Trim Up the Tree, from *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. The rest of the time, the band will play traditional holiday and patriotic fare.

Ironically, local viewers likely won't get to see Plymouth-Canton's marchers make their national television debut. While

NBC has exclusive rights to the parade, local NBC affiliate WDIV TV-4 televises the Detroit Thanksgiving parade. WDIV officials have told the band there will be no local coverage of Plymouth-Canton's appearance.

That doesn't sit well with the band.

"The exciting thing is the whole community is talking about it," Armbruster said. "It's something they can wrap themselves around, because everyone knows the Macy's parade. For people back home not to be able to see it ... it's very frustrating."

Nevertheless, the show goes on, and band members are getting ready for it. Sophomore Alexis Shaft said she's not really nervous now, but she expects to be when the time comes.

"Being on national TV, in

front of America, is nerve-racking," said Shaft, a 15-year-old from Plymouth.

"But I'm sure we'll get over it, and we'll do well."

Armbruster said his young charges are still building their excitement for the parade, but he's confident the magnitude of what they're about to do will hit them soon.

"They'll 'get it' when we actually get to 34th Street," said Armbruster, who did a walk-through with Macy's officials last month. "We will always love the downtown Plymouth (Fourth of July) parade, but this isn't downtown Plymouth. There are 3 million people watching it in person, stacked 20 stories high, and a national TV audience. This isn't your average parade."

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VETS

Continued from page A1

Wars end," he said.

Other speakers included state Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township; Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer; and Stewart Israel, the veterans affairs chairman at Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780 on Ann Arbor Road, where Elks and members of American Legion Post 391 on Wednesday hosted about 80 homeless and hospitalized veterans for a steak luncheon.

"It was a heartwarming experience for all of us to serve the men and women who served us in the military," said Frank Pawelak, the commander at Post 391 and also one of the speakers Friday. Pawelak served in the Army in the 1960s.

Dwyer said it was significant that Veterans Day falls just after the general election, that the ceremony takes place in the shadow of a church (First Presbyterian), and that it this year coincides with protests around the country, as those things represent freedoms — to vote, to worship and to protest — won by veter-



Sid Snitzer served with the Army's 41st Infantry during World War II, spending a lot of time in Japan.

ans. "None of those things came free," Dwyer said.

Friday's ceremony also included a presentation of a flag, flown over the Michigan Capitol last Veterans Day, to Bob Zaetta, a retired history teacher and Civil War buff who was instrumental in establishing Plymouth Community Veterans Memorial Park. Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume gave Zaetta the flag.

"This is so cool," Zaetta said. "This is for the whole community that built this park to honor our veterans."

The ceremony ended with a rifle salute by an honor guard of veterans, and the playing of *Taps* by a lone bugler to honor fallen veterans.

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Vietnam Veterans fire off the rifle salute to close Friday's ceremony.



Veterans gathered in Plymouth Veterans Memorial Park on 11/11/11.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Frank Pawelak of Post 391 was one of several vets who spoke at Friday's ceremony.



Vietnam Veterans Rick Pupa, Joe Agius and William Boudreau presented the colors.



Veterans, families and friends gathered in Plymouth Community Veterans Memorial Park to honor those who serve, past and present.

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Couple ready to honor son's memory at Blum's Landing

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

A Canton couple is nearing the end of a long journey to honor their late son, U.S. Army Sgt. Trevor Blumberg, by offering war-on-terror veterans — and those still serving — a peaceful, woods-shrouded vacation spot near Lake Huron where they can find refuge.

Yet in many ways, Terry and Janet Blumberg's journey has just begun.

The retired couple by Christmas expects to complete their move to Blum's Landing, a 3,500-square-foot, bed-and-breakfast getaway near Rogers City, in the northern Lower Peninsula, where they hope to begin welcoming veterans and troops for no-cost visits as early as this winter. They want to help military personnel, especially those who have endured the physical or mental wounds of war.

"It's a little scary that we're going to finally make it happen," Janet Blumberg, a retired Garden City school principal, said, sitting in the couple's Canton home. "It feels wonderful."

Favors granted

Blum's Landing evolved after the Blumbergs took seriously two favors Trevor Blumberg, 22, asked before he was killed Sept. 14, 2003, in Fallujah, Iraq, after earlier serving in Korea and Afghanistan. If he didn't come home, he told them, he wanted his parents to care for his dog Scrapy,



Blum's Landing provides a peaceful resting spot for veterans.

a friendly Staffordshire bull terrier, and to help other troops.

As Scrapy prances around their Canton kitchen, the Blumbergs talked of a dream that began years ago to build Blum's Landing. They used about \$400,000 of their own money — much of it from their son's death benefits — and started a non-profit organization. They also received monetary donations and volunteer labor from people such as the congregation of St. Michael Lutheran Church of Canton.

They still need money for amenities such as a wheelchair-accessible pontoon boat, a king-size guest bed and, eventually, two guest cabins to complement the main lodging. They also are reaching out to those who can afford to sponsor war-on-terror military personnel who may need travel money or other aid to

make the trip to Blum's Landing.

To learn how to help or to nominate military personnel for a visit, go to www.blumslanding.org or call (734) 812-1500.

Terry Blumberg, a retired independent housing inspector, has poured his skills into Blum's Landing, persevering for years on a place where some of his son's military friends — and their families — already have visited.

"I just do the best I can and let God figure out how I'm going to do it," Terry Blumberg, 65, said, adding that those who have visited Blum's Landing "love it, and they find a little bit of peace that they need to reconnect" with nature.

Creature comforts

The lodging offers two guest bedrooms — one large enough to sleep a small family, one for a couple. It also has amenities such as a big kitchen

and dining area, a fireplace, a large social room the Blumbergs call "the great room," a 1,600-square-foot porch where visitors can sit and enjoy the outdoors, an office, and a room above a garage that the couple hopes to transform into a game room for their guests.

Janet Blumberg plans to cook the food. "She's a great cook," her husband said.

Working with sponsors and local businesses near Blum's Landing, the Blumbergs hope to use their nonprofit organization to offer military personnel and their families a no-cost getaway where they can go fishing, kayaking, hiking, skiing, snowmobiling and visit nearby places such as Ocqueoc Falls, Orchard Lake, Lake Huron and Mackinac Island.

Trevor Blumberg, who loved nature, wasn't the couple's only child. They



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Terry and Janet Blumberg, with grandson Logan Marshall, made two promises to their son: Take care of his dog, Scrapy, and do something for veterans.

have a daughter, Amanda Marshall, who has ties to veterans through her nursing job at the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor. Marshall has two children of her own, Logan, 6, and Griffin, 13 months.

Terry Blumberg described the family as close-knit, and he still recalls his son's dedication to serving in the U.S. Army. "He always said he had the best job in the world because he got to go get the bad guys and make them pay."

Now, the Blumbergs hope to keep their son's

memory alive with Blum's Landing. They pause to remember him — and not just on Veterans Day and Memorial Day.

"I think about him every day," Janet Blumberg said, tears filling her eyes.

As for Blum's Landing, she said, "It's our way to say 'thank you' to all these lovely people who stepped up and protected our freedom. They're heroes in every way."

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A message from your Plymouth Professional Fire Fighters Local 1496

ELECTION

Continued from page A1

had voted in the past, such as absentee applicants.

The mailers took the current board to task for "losing its focus" on critical functions — mostly the budget — and used a variety of tactics, including putting pictures of President Barack Obama, U.S. Sen. Harry Reid and U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi on one mailing.

"Our thought is that Washington and the country have gone more to that progressive liber-

al mindset, where government is taking over our lives. And that goes against our grain," Hutchins said. "Our thought in using (the pictures) ... we thought it was even that way in the local school board, so that's why that piece was put together."

The problem with the literature, critics say, is that the criticisms were either based on old information — the \$26 million deficit the GOP said is expected next year was based on a June report and not newer information that had been presented — or outright misinformation, citing the GOP claim the district had forgone quality teachers in an effort to increase its diversity.

Board Treasurer Judy Mardigan, who wasn't up for re-election but is the longest-serving member of the board, took the Repub-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sheila Paton (left), with volunteer Sue Eggleston Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center, was one of two candidates supported by the teachers union to get elected.

licans to task last week for "distorting the truth."

Fact or fiction?

"Recently, (Republicans) put out some literature stating the district is either \$28 or \$26 million in deficit, depending which brochure you look at," she wrote in an op-ed piece. "There is absolutely no truth to the claims."

The brouhaha ended up costing the three incumbents their seats on the board, regardless of endorsement. Board

President John Jackson, backed by the teachers union, finished ninth in the 15-candidate field. Eggenberger was fifth, but she was some 600 votes behind Maloney.

Eggenberger said candidates backed by either the Republicans or the union drew a lot of support in the community, leaving independents struggling for traction in a race dominated by politics.

"There were two factions getting a lot of support ... it doesn't bode

well for somebody that's an independent," Eggenberger said. "I didn't have money to control the message. When people are getting fliers sometimes twice a week, that's controlling the message, and the message was that we were all bad."

Certainly the divisiveness of the last 18 months — largely over whether to renew the contract of former Superintendent Craig Fiegel — may have played a role. An unscientific polling of voters leaving the ballot box on Tuesday showed people thought the board should behave better, a point both sides agreed may have swayed the election.

Message sent?

"If you look at the numbers, that's what happened," Eggenberger said about incumbents being swept out. "Sometimes, after a while, people get mad at everybody, and they're not remembering who did what."

Maloney, behind early but moving up as more precincts reported, said he's been hearing that refrain from residents "for three years."

"People are fed up with the way the board has

been operating," Maloney said. "No. 1, they aren't operating as a cohesive board and secondly they haven't focused on the important priorities of the school district. To me, it's a clear mandate the school district has to change the way they operate."

Don Wotruba, deputy director of the Michigan Association of School Boards, recently expressed surprise at the level of involvement of a political party in a nonpartisan race — "It's one of the first I've heard of where the actual local party has been involved in endorsing a slate of candidates," he said — but said it could become more common, especially with school elections being moved to even-year November.

Hutchins said the Wayne 11th was troubled by a lack of leadership in this particular race, and stopped short of saying the party would continue to get involved.

"It depends on the situation," he said. "The only reason we did it in this one is knowing what was going on. Plymouth-Canton is a big district; going forward, we'll decide how we're going to allocate our resources."

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TOWER HEIST (PG-13) 11:50, 2:10, 4:40, 7:05, 9:40 FRISAT LS 11:55

IN TIME (PG-13) 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:35 FRISAT LS 12:00

PUSS IN BOOTS (PG) 12:20, 2:30, 4:50, 6:55, 9:00 FRISAT LS 11:10

3D PUSS IN BOOTS (PG)
\$2.50 PREMIUM PER 3D TICKET
11:00, 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25

FRISAT LS 11:30

PARAMORAL ACTIVITY 3 (R)
FRI-MON, TH 12:30, 3:00, 5:25, 7:35, 9:50 FRISAT LS 12:00

TUE 12:30, 3:00, 5:25
WED 12:30, 3:00

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE

To all residents and other interested parties: Agenda's and Minutes for the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees Meetings are available for review under the Reference Desk Page of the Township Website: www.plymouthtwp.org. They are also posted in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N Haggerty Road Plymouth, Michigan for public perusal.

Meeting dates: July 12, August 9, September 13 & 27, October 11 & 25, November 15, and December 13

The public is invited and encouraged to attend the Board of Trustees Meetings.

Joe Bridgman, MMC
Township Clerk

Publish: September 11, September 25, October 9, October 23, November 13 & November 27, 2011

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2011 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, December 1, 2011 commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider:

- Application 1486, 9495 Bradford CT, R-1-H zoning district: requesting one front yard variance for an attached garage. The attached garage would have a front yard setback of twenty-six (26) feet while thirty-five (35) feet is required. Variance requested is nine (9) feet.

The meeting will be held at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

For further information contact Plymouth Township Building Department 734 354-3210.

Publish: November 13, 2011

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TUESDAY, November 15, 2011

Request to Establish an Industrial Development District

For one parcel of Property located at 14900 Galleon Ct D R Group Limited Partnership

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a request from D R Group Limited Partnership, 14900 Galleon Court, was received by the Charter Township of Plymouth requesting that an Industrial Development District be established, under Public Act 198, 1974, as amended. Public Act 198 requires that the Board of Trustees hold a Public Hearing on the establishment of an Industrial Development District at which the owners of properties within the proposed district and residents and taxpayers of Plymouth Township shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments, submitted prior to the November 15, meeting will also be accepted.

TAKE NOTE that the Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 commencing at 7:00 p.m., in the Town Hall at the Charter Township of Plymouth Offices, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan 48170. Phone Number (734) 354-3224.

PARCEL NUMBER
R-78-005-99-0009-704

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

20A2B1B, C1B, D1A2 PT OF NE 1/4 SEC 20 T1S R8E DESC AS BEGS 00D 03M 38S E 659.31 FT AND N 89D 50M 18S W 707.57 FT FROMNE COR SEC 20 TH S 00D 09M 42S W 383.67 FT TH S 89D 50M 18S E 44.82 FT TH S 00D 58M 38S W 210.86 FT TH N 89D 40M 18S W 271.93 FT TH ALONG A CURVE TO THE LT RAD 75 FT CHORD N 63D 03M 32S W 92.76 FT TH N 02D 07M 16S W 553.15 FT TH S 89D 50M 18S E 334.97 FT TO POB 4.56 AC K4.56

JOE BRIDGMAN, MMC
Township Clerk
Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: November 13, 2011

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Library steps up to help diaper drive

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Canton volunteer Marybeth Levine still needs nearly 50,000 diapers to reach her Thanksgiving goal of collecting 200,000, amid a fall campaign to help local agencies provide diapers for children and incontinent adults who can't afford a basic necessity that government safety-net programs forgot.

"We're heading into the home stretch," Levine, founder of the Detroit Area Diaper Bank, said. "It's not out of reach."

That's why the Canton Public Library has again made it easy for patrons and other area residents to help Levine's local campaign by dropping off diapers during a Stuff the Truck event 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 16-17.

Donors may simply drive to the library's parking lot and drop off diapers as volunteers pack them into a large box truck donated by a local catering business, Fat Chef in a Little Coat.

"The diaper drive helps us fulfill our mission of connecting our community," library Director Eva Davis said. "Many of our patrons are young fami-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Marybeth Levine said she still needs nearly 50,000 diapers to reach her Thanksgiving goal of collecting 200,000, amid a fall campaign to help local agencies provide diapers for children and incontinent adults.

lies and the elderly, and we are sensitive to their needs. The lack of clean diapers is a barrier to early literacy for babies and toddlers and causes otherwise healthy seniors to become homebound and isolated."

Levine's nonprofit Detroit Area Diaper Bank has distributed 650,212 diapers to scores of nonprofits, charities and social service agencies since April 2009, drawing praise from organizations

such as Starfish Family Services, The Salvation Army Plymouth and Wayne-Westland Corps, First Step domestic violence shelters and numerous others across southeast Michigan.

The library's Stuff the Truck campaign has become the diaper bank's premier fall campaign event, though many other organizations and local businesses also help Levine. She houses diapers in a storage unit and

arranges to distribute them across the area.

"It's a constant need that affects so many of our neighbors in need," Levine said. "Every dollar and every diaper makes a difference."

To donate to the Detroit Area Diaper Bank, to learn about hosting a diaper drive or for more information, visit www.detroitareadiaperbank.org.

dclem@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2238

FIRE

Continued from page A1

tions, but that they would be verified by the standard process before being taken up by the board.

The petition drive is not on the agenda for Tuesday's Board of Trustees meeting, but Mann said the issue would be discussed during citizen comments and that she hoped for a large crowd at the meeting. Clerk Joe Bridgman reportedly planned to research the petitions Monday in order to determine whether they meet the threshold for getting special assessment question on the ballot.

In order for citizens to force a vote on a special assessment district, their petition signatures must represent the ownership of at least 10 percent of the land area within the

proposed district. CAG's drive fell short in August, due mainly to questions about whether the ownership of some large business parcels had been properly represented, but Mann said Thursday that the group accompanied its latest petition filing with affidavits attesting to the ownership of some of those large parcels. In addition, she said, CAG now has about 4,000 petition signatures, compared to the approximately 3,500 filed in August.

The PCFD faces the loss of about a quarter of its revenue — its current budget is close to \$3.9 million — and also the loss of a quarter of its coverage area starting in January, when the city of Plymouth leaves the shared department and partners with the Northville Fire Department.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2405

AROUND PLYMOUTH

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

HEISE HOURS

Date/Time: Monday, Nov. 14

Location: Northville District Library (10-11 a.m.), 212 W. Cady in Northville; Wayne Community Center (1-2 p.m.), 4635 Howe in Wayne;

and Plymouth District Library (3-4 p.m.), 223 S. Main in Plymouth.

Details: State Rep. Kurt Heise invites residents to meet with him locally during district office hours. Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office.

Contact: Toll free 1-855-REP-KURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

THANKSGIVING TROT

Date/Time: Thursday, Nov. 24, 8:30 p.m.

Location: Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton

Details: Start Thanksgiving Day off on the right foot and make a preemptive strike against Thanksgiving weight gain by running or walking in Canton's ninth annual Turkey Trot. Entry fees are \$25 for adults and \$10 for children 11 and under.

Event day registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Summit Banquet Room. Participants can register online at <http://csc.cantonmi.org> now through Nov. 20. Register by November 16th to receive a commemorative T-Shirt.

Contact: For more information, visit <http://csc.cantonmi.org> or call the Canton Sports Center at 734/483-5600.

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Elks host area veterans for steak luncheon

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

A steak luncheon Wednesday at the Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780 was another hand up offered by the service group to military veterans who are down on their luck.

The lodge, with volunteer help from other organizations, including American Legion Post 391 and local Knights of Columbus members, cooked and served the luncheon to about 80 veterans from the Detroit and Ann Arbor Veterans Affairs hospitals and the Michigan Veterans Foundation shelter for homeless veterans. The luncheon is a twice-yearly event, and November's luncheon is always scheduled around Veterans Day, which was Friday.

The veterans, who are bused to the Elks lodge on Ann Arbor Road for the event, were also entertained by music from the Blue Pigs, the Detroit Police Department's band.

It's just part of the Elks' commitment to veterans. The group last year bought and wrapped 850 Christmas gifts of 12 items each and distributed them to three VA hospitals as well as three shelters for veterans. The Elks bring activities to the community living center at the Detroit VA hospital, and bring those in the hospital regular ice cream socials and chili dog luncheons.

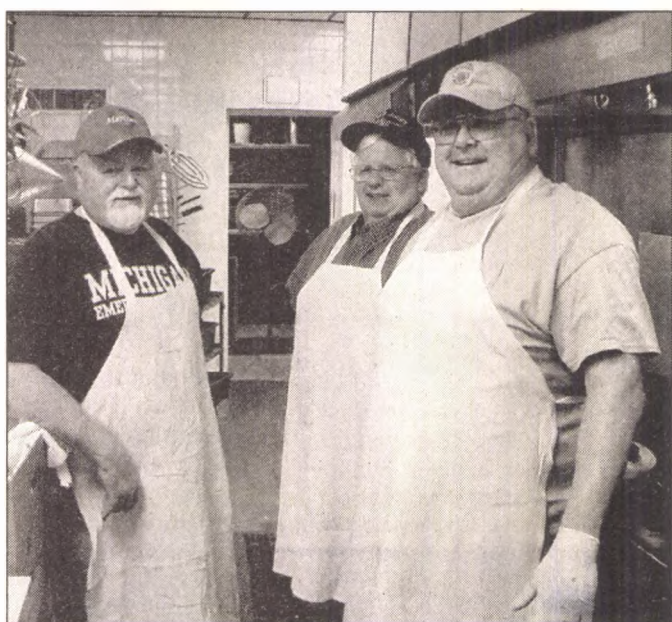
There is also an ongoing clothing drive for veterans in need, and a deer hide collection and processing program for the making of gloves and craft kits for the veterans.

Stewart Israel, the Elk's lodge's veterans affairs chairman, estimates the group touches the lives of 6,300 veterans in the course of a year.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2405



Gordon Vining, a volunteer from American Legion Post 391, serves a veteran during a luncheon for veterans hosted by the Plymouth Elks on Wednesday.



David Melton (left), Dennis Frye, and Chuck Kozub were among the volunteers who helped serve steak luncheons Wednesday to about 80 veterans from area hospitals and a local homeless shelter. The luncheon, held twice a year, was at the Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780.



Stewart Israel, left, veterans affairs coordinator at the Plymouth Elks, talks with veteran Wilbert Clark, a charter member of the lodge, on Wednesday during a steak luncheon for homeless and hospitalized veterans. Clark was visiting from the VA hospital in Ann Arbor.

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December 2nd

Cellist, pianist perform at Schoolcraft Nov. 18

In the second installment of Schoolcraft College's 2011-12 Friday Evening Music Series, cellist Robert deMaine and pianist Pauline Martin will perform at 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18, in the Presentation Room of the VisTaTech Center, located on the college's main campus in Livonia.

Tickets are \$20 per person, \$10 for students.

Praised by The New York Times as "an artist who makes one hang on every note," deMaine has distinguished himself as one of the finest musicians of his generation, having performed to critical acclaim as soloist, recit-

alist, recording artist, and chamber musician throughout the world.

Martin continues to earn world-class recognition for her solo and chamber music performances and recordings. She has appeared as soloist with numerous orchestras, including the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the New American Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra London Canada and others, and appears regularly with the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings.

The pair will perform Prokofiev's *Sonata in C Major, Op. 119*; five *Fantasy Pieces, Op.*

102, for cello and piano by Schumann; and other works by Beethoven, Grieg and Vivaldi. Two other performances round out the 2011-12 Friday Evening Music Series including Tribute to the Andrews Sisters on March 23, and pianist Lori Sims on April 20.

To order tickets, visit www.scbboxoffice.com or for more information on this or any of Schoolcraft College's other music programs, visit www.schoolcraft.edu/music or call the Music Office at (734) 462-4403.

The Livonia campus is on Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile roads.

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subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

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

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

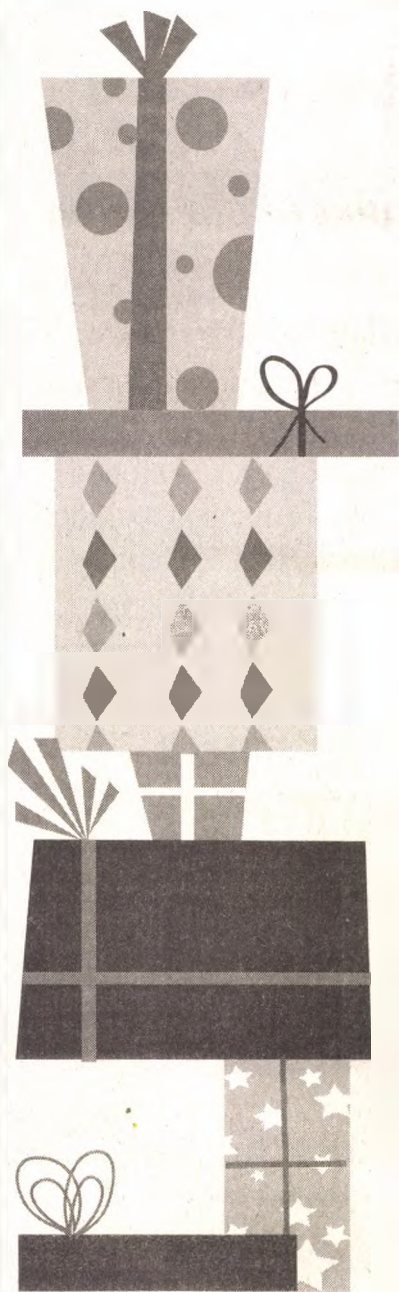
Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

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

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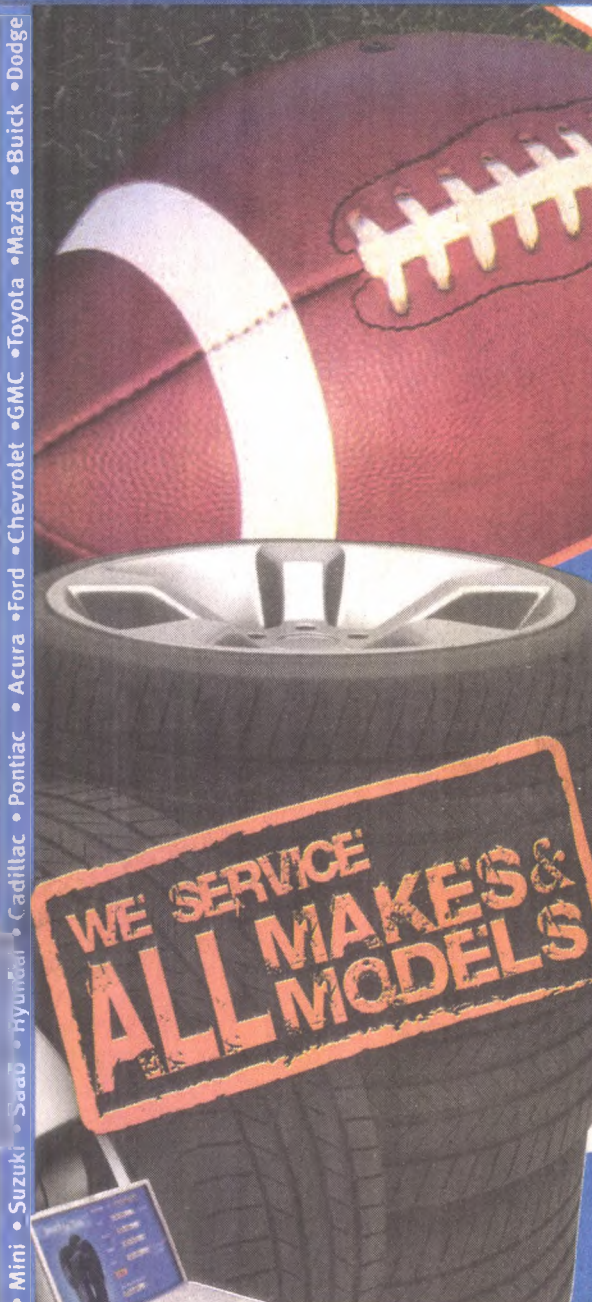
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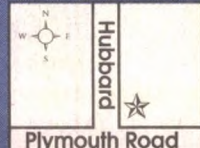
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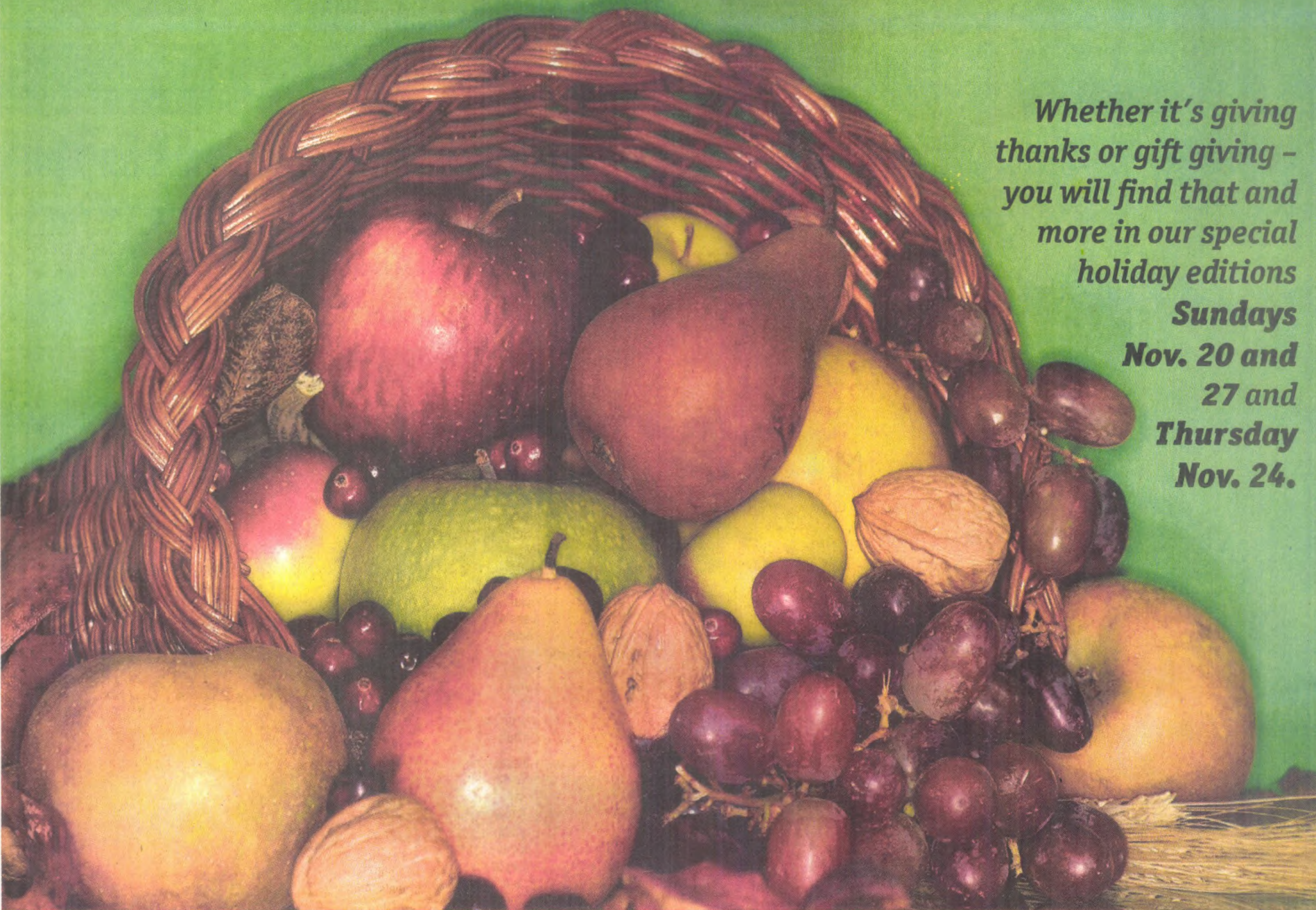
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Schoolcraft board appoints two to open seats

The Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees filled one current and one anticipated vacancy on the college's governing board Saturday.

John R. Elkins of Livonia was appointed to fill the seat left open by Mary Breen, who decided to retire from the board after serving for more than 28 years. Elkins will be sworn in at the board's Nov. 16 meeting.

The board appointed Douglas H. Adams, Ph.D., of Canton to fill the seat held by board chair Gregory J. Stempien, who plans to step down from the board at the end of this year. Adams will be sworn in at the board's Jan. 25 meeting.



Elkins



Adams

Adams intend to run for full terms in the November 2012 general election. Those terms begin Jan. 1, 2013.

Board seats have six-year terms. The seats being filled by Elkins and Adams have terms that end Dec. 31, 2012. Both men have stated they

Elkins is president of JR Elkins & Associates Inc. and serves as Community Liaison for Senior Services with St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

Adams is vice president, Small Business Administration Lending for Comerica Bank.

The seven-member Board of Trustees serves as the college's policy-making body. To be considered a candidate for the position, an applicant must be a registered voter and a resident of the Schoolcraft College district, which includes the Clarenceville, Garden City, Livonia, Northville and Plymouth-Canton school districts and part of the Novi school district.

New mortgage program leaves plenty to consider

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: I read your column a couple of weeks ago about the new federal program for mortgage refinancing. I contacted my lender and they told me I would be able to qualify for a new mortgage. They anticipated that I would be able to save about \$150 a month. They also gave me another option and that was to refinance with a 15-year mortgage, but my payments would actually go up a few dollars a month. I'm not sure which direction I should go. I plan to be in my house for another seven to 10 years, and then downsize. What do you recommend?

A: The mortgage program you are referring to is known as the HARP program and it is intended to help someone like you, whose current mortgage is greater than the value of the home. In the past, people in your situation could not refinance their mortgage in order to take advantage of the lower mortgage rates, but now under this federal program they can.

Based upon the fact that you only plan to be in the house for another seven to 10 years and that interest rates are near historic lows, my recommendation would be to refinance and lower your monthly payments by the \$150. However, at the same time, I would also recommend that as opposed to spending the \$150, you invest it on a regular basis.

My thought is that if you invest this money every month, in seven to 10 years you should have a nice sum of money for your next home's down payment and receive a better rate of return than the after-tax cost of the mortgage.

In reaching my conclu-



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

tion, one thing I factored into the equation was that your house is currently under water — the mortgage is worth more than the house is worth. The question I had to factor into the equation was whether housing prices would be substantially higher seven to 10 years from now or would they remain relatively flat. If housing prices remain relatively flat, there is a good likelihood that if you pay down the mortgage, you may still be under water or have very little equity to make a down payment on your new home.

I am not overly confident that real estate prices in metro Detroit will rebound substantially over the next seven to 10 years and, therefore, from an investment standpoint I think it would make sense for you to take your monthly savings and invest it. Of course, to make this strategy work, you have to have the discipline to invest the savings every month during good times and bad times.

My recommendation is also based upon the fact that you are only going to be in the house for seven to 10 years. If someone is going to be in their home long term with no intentions of moving, more than likely my recommendation would be different. In that situation, I may recommend taking the shorter mortgage and getting the house paid off sooner. I believe the key to making the determination as

to what type of mortgage to get is based upon how long you plan to be in your home.

Whenever I talk about mortgages, I believe it is important to remind everyone that it does pay to shop around. Not all mortgage companies offer the same type of mortgages and, certainly, their fee structures are different. For example, some mortgage companies will offer mortgages through the HARP program, while others will not. Therefore, you should not hesitate to contact a number of companies to get competitive bids. Remember, it is not just the interest rate that you need to shop; you also need to be concerned about fees. Unfortunately, there is very little standardization in the mortgage industry with regards to fees. Some companies will have no fees for one thing, but excessive fees for another. What I always want to find out is the out-the-door cost of the mortgage. By looking at the out-the-door cost of the mortgage and the interest rate charge, it allows me to compare mortgages from different companies.

One last note, never forget that mortgage companies have the ability to waive fees. You should never hesitate to ask your mortgage company to waive a fee. After all, the money you save most definitely looks better in your pocket than it does anywhere else. 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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Money, money

Community steps up to help Wayne High win contest

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

There's something about voting in online contests and Wayne Memorial High School. Less than three months after accepting a check for more than \$21,000 from Big Lots! for an online video contest, Principal Valerie Orr found herself on the receiving end of another oversized check, this time for \$80,000 from Famous Footwear and Converse.

Terence Reilly, vice president of marketing for Famous Footwear, and Joy Howard, Converse vice president marketing-North America, were at the high school Wednesday to celebrate with staff and students after an essay by Orr won the companies' Step It Up For Your School online contest.

According to Reilly, 700 schools entered the online contest and 16,000 votes were cast and "because of one person who is so in love with her school, with her students and with the staff," Wayne Memorial was the big winner.

"I want to get a look and a taste of what winning looks like," Reilly said. "You're a good looking bunch."

Famous Footwear and Converse came up with the contest for back to school, a "big time of the year" for the shoe companies.

"We're more than shoe company," Howard said. "We're committed to inspiring you to do what you love to do. You have the passion and the courage."

The students packed the Alumni Arena for the celebration that included performances by the Converse high-top wearing cheer team, the marching band and choir that did a choreographed performance of *Footloose*. The students also were on their feet to give Orr a standing ovation as she was called to receive the check.

"I appreciate this award



Lots of yellow and blue Converse shoes were seen in the Wayne Memorial Alumni Arena for the celebration.

and I want to thank you for voting for my essay," she told the crowd. "The reason we keep winning is because Wayne Memorial has an extremely supportive community that steps up and votes for the Zebras."

Orr's essay received more than 2,900 votes. Those votes translated into a \$60,000 prize, which grew to \$80,000 when Orr donated the \$20,000 she won to the school. In recognition of her donation, Reilly presented Orr with a gift — an iPad.

In her essay that was posted online, Orr described Wayne Memorial students as "deserving and talented kids."

"Our school is an exemplary school with a magnetic culture that draws students in and doesn't let go until they're on a road to success," she wrote. "Our kids come from diverse backgrounds and face difficult challenges, however, they never cease to amaze us with their personal and scholastic accomplishments ... Wayne Pride shines through daily."

The money will be used for a literacy initiative at the school. Plans are to purchase iPads and downloadable books for reading classes that support struggling readers, computer software to help teachers identify struggling readers "so we can move them into one of our many safety nets."

The money also will be used to purchase resources to support reading and writing across the curriculum, she said.

The giving didn't end with the check presentation. The two companies gave out Famous Footwear gift cards, gift bags, five iPod Nanos and an iPad to students. The name of every Wayne Memorial student was placed in a drum and the winners picked from it.

"All of you did a great job voting for your principal," Howard said. "You have a wonderful principal."

smason@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6751



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Joy Howard of Converse, Terence Reilly of Famous Footwear present Wayne Memorial Principal Valerie Orr with a check for \$80,000 that will be used for the high school's literacy initiative.



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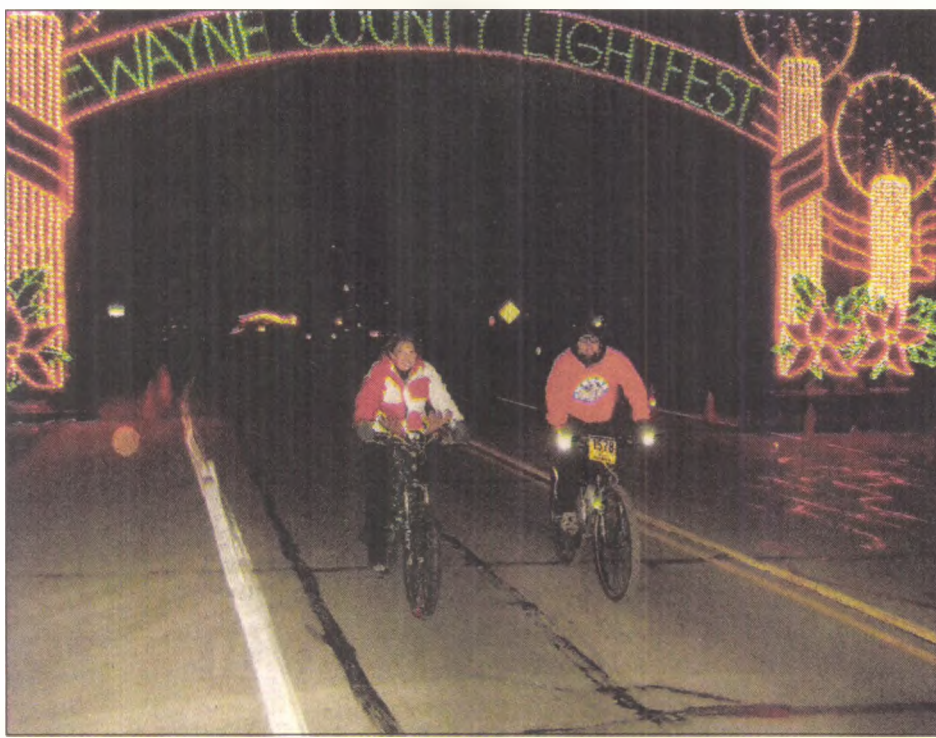
Runners, walkers, bikers get first view of annual Lightfest

Participants in the 15th annual Wayne County Lightfest 8K Fun Run/Walk at 7 p.m. Tuesday will have an opportunity to travel the Lightfest display route on foot. Bike enthusiasts will have a chance to Bike Through the Lights at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

Participants will be among the first to view the displays, which include an enchanting Celebration of Lights arch, Cecil the Magic Dragon, a large waving polar bear with cubs, an animated Old Glory, animated snowflake arches and more.

In addition, there is a new tunnel display for runners, walkers and bikers to look for along the route.

There will be post race food for both events, along with long sleeve T-shirts and glow necklaces. Registra-



Bicyclists will get a chance to be among the first to enjoy the Wayne County Parks Lightfest at Bike Through the Lights at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

tion is \$20 in advance for adults and \$25 on race day. High school students and young-

er cost \$12. Both events will take place in Hines Park-Merriman Hollow area, located at Merri-

man and Hines Drive in Westland.

Registration forms can be downloaded from

the Wayne County website at www.waynecounty.com. Forms also can be picked up at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center in Westland and Total Runner store in Southgate.

Wayne County Parks will host the Lightfest Opening Ceremony at 6 p.m. Thursday in Merriman Hollow Area, featuring fireworks, music, entertainment and light refreshments.

Lightfest features more than 45 giant animated displays and more than one million lights; it is the Midwest's largest and longest light show. The complete Lightfest route is more than four miles of Hines Drive. The light display is open 7-10 p.m. Nov. 17 through Dec. 31 (closed on Christmas Day). There is a \$5 fee per vehicle.

On Dec. 6, 13, 20, there will be Toy Nights. Wayne County will be lending a hand to provide toys to disadvantaged children. On those three nights, the community is invited to bring a new, unwrapped toy in lieu of the \$5 vehicle fee. Wayne County considers the toy donations an oppor-

tunity for the people of the community to partner with the county in an effort to make a difference in children's lives.

And don't forget to visit Santa's Workshop at the Warrendale Park at the end of the Lightfest. Santa will be there from Thanksgiving until Dec. 23. Kids can bring their letters to Santa and drop them in the giant mailbox outside of Santa's workshop. Santa's elves will pick up the letters each night.

Although Lightfest begins at 7 p.m., Hines Drive will be closed to traffic beginning at 5:45 p.m. nightly. Visitors enter Wayne County Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriman in Westland.

Lightfest is presented in partnership with Fox 2 News, Friends of Wayne County Parks, DTE Energy, ITC Holdings, Play Environments Inc., DBT Marketing and Promotional Group, McDonald Modular, Entertainment Express Luxury Limousine, Total Runner and Beattherain.com.

For more information on these Wayne County Parks events, call (734) 261-1990.

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GIRLS VOLLEYBALL REGIONAL FINALS

Hammer time

Chiefs upset No. 1 Mercy for regional crown

By Dan O'Meara
Observer Staff Writer

Canton pounded big hit after big hit on the volleyball court Thursday night, and it's still alive in the final week of the state tournament because it did.

The Chiefs attacked so consistently well they brought down No. 1-ranked Farmington Hills Mercy and won their school's first regional championship.

After losing the first game, 25-22, Canton won the next three in the final match at Brighton High School, 25-20, 25-19, 28-26.

"I believed we could do it," Canton coach Mary Kryska said. "We believed we could beat them; we just had to execute that. This is probably the most exciting thing that's happened in a long time."

"It's great; it's awesome," senior outside hitter Alaina Turner said. "We hope to go farther, and we love making history for Canton."

The Chiefs (42-9) get that opportunity when they play Clarkston in a Class A quarter-final match 6 p.m. Tuesday at Fenton High School. The winner goes to Battle Creek for a state semifinal Thursday night.

Sky-high confidence

"I would absolutely love to go to Battle Creek," Kryska said. "I just have to get off work, so I can do all these good things. We can do it; I'm excited."

Canton's strategy was to be aggressive on the attack and hit the ball hard. They did and



Canton's girls volleyball team is all pumped up after winning the regionals.

not only scored points but also built their confidence.

"It wasn't necessarily (to hit to) certain spots," Kryska said. "We knew their open spots, but it was 'Hit hard and hit often.'"

"We wanted to set the tone for the very beginning to show them what we can do. They saw us play Churchill and Novi, and those weren't our best games."

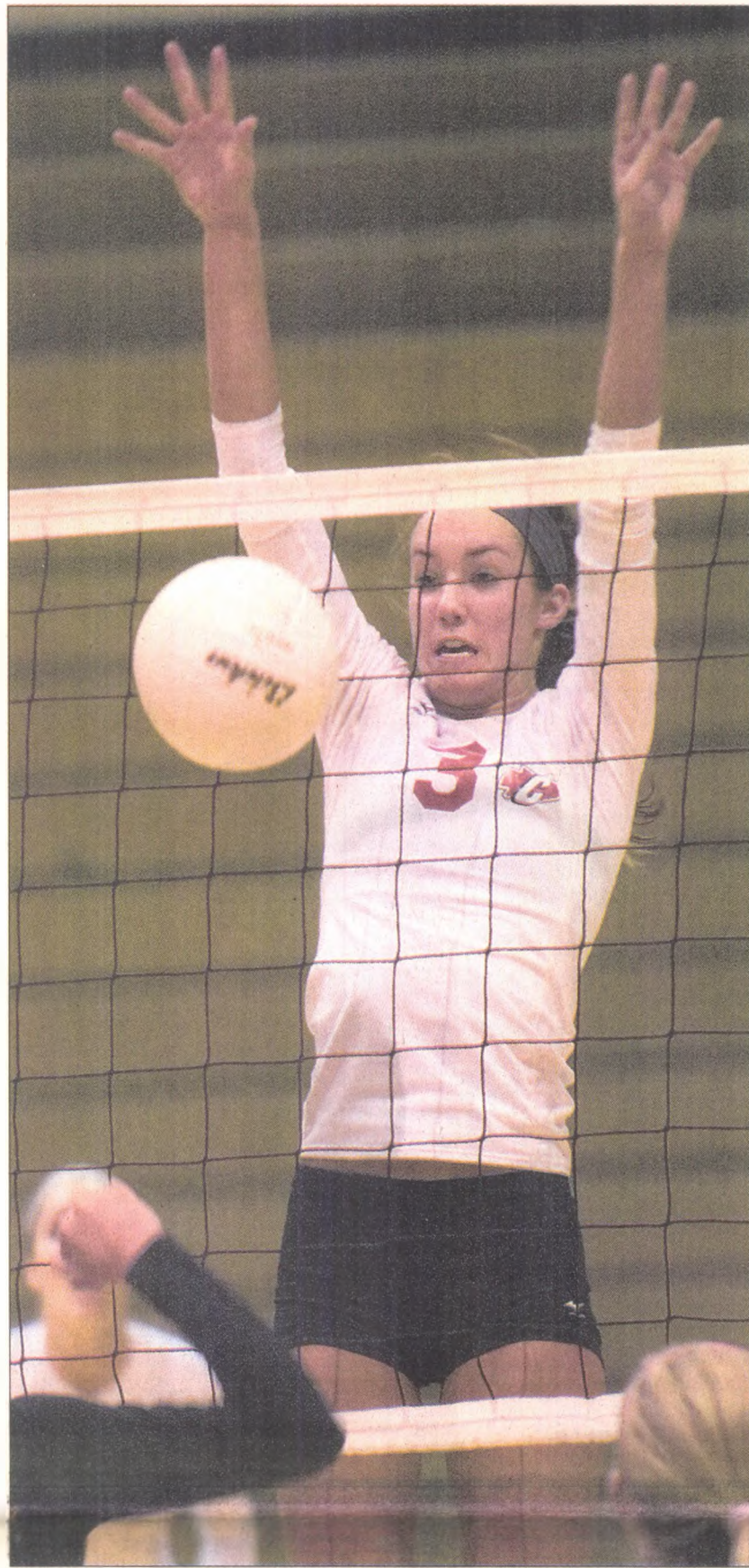
"I don't know if they had ever seen us play our best game. I think, tonight, they did get to see it."

Turner led the attack with 27 kills. Senior Kristen Muir had 24 and junior Erica den Boer 14. Senior setter Lauren Martin had 57 assists, and senior Maggie Deloy and Martin contributed kills, too.

"We decided we were just going to hit as hard as we can at them," Turner said. "Everything was clicking; everyone was on."

Canton also played good

Please see CANTON, B3



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Canton senior Alaina Turner (No. 3) elevates and gets set to block the ball Thursday night against Farmington Hills Mercy.

Moose to face Wings alums

The Canton-based Detroit Moose hockey team and Detroit Red Wings Alumni Association will face off at 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 7 at Canton Arctic Edge in a charity hockey game.

Tickets are \$10. All proceeds benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

For more information, visit www.detroit-moose.org.



YMCA winter hoops

The Plymouth Family YMCA announced that winter basketball leagues are forming for ages 4-11.

Programs are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. The annual registration fee is \$91 or \$123 for community participants. Registration continues until Jan. 2, 2012.

After teams are formed, they will practice once a week and play on Friday evenings from Jan. 16 through March 23.

For more information, visit www.ymca-detroit.org or call (734) 453-2904.

Soaring Eagles return to quarterfinals

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

This isn't how Kelly Blackney and her Plymouth Christian Academy volleyball team thought the postseason would unfold.

But the coach and her players will gladly take it.

Blackney and the Eagles all season have been eyeing a Class D final match with Battle Creek St. Philip Catholic Central.

But following PCA's regional final win Thursday against North Adams-Jerome at Adrian Lenawee Christian, the highly anticipated encounter will take place Tuesday in the quarterfinals instead of at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek.

"We know that our biggest challenge of the year will be on Tuesday," Blackney said. "We're



Plymouth Christian Academy girls volleyball players, coaches and fans relish Thursday night's Class D regional championship. The Eagles defeated North Adams-Jerome at Adrian Lenawee Christian High School.

excited to play St. Philip, we're excited to play them not at the Battle Creek arena, but in a regular gym.

"We expect it will be more of a level playing field. If any team can stop their road to the finals we can."

Stepping up

The 43-6-4 Eagles and No. 1-ranked Fight-

ing Tigers (47-3-2) will square off at 5 p.m. Tuesday at the Bronson-hosted quarterfinal.

Making that possible was PCA's 3-0 triumph over North Adams-Jerome (30-12-1) in the regional final despite unexpected adversity.

The Eagles swept the Rams by scores of 25-13, 25-21, 25-21 to capture

Class D regional title.

"We had a lot of obstacles starting out the first game," Blackney explained. "A few girls are sick on this team, including co-captain Amy Zinn. We started to line up and the referee said she (Zinn) was going to pass out."

"And so we had to call

Please see CLASS D, B3

Blazers fall short

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

As mightily as Livonia Ladywood's volleyball team tried Thursday night, there was no cooling in the Jets.

CLASS B

Not during a 5-0 run that gave host Carleton Airport a momentum-seizing 26-24 set-three victory and a 2-1 lead in sets in the Class B regional final played at Airport and, more importantly, not at the outset of the fourth set when the hosts roared to an 8-2 lead before winning the match clincher, 25-13.

With the 23-25, 25-14, 26-24, 25-13 victory, the 35-13 Jets advanced to Tuesday's quarterfinal round at Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard against Tecumseh. The Blazers'

Please see CLASS B, B3

Carver goal lifts Madonna

Joe Carver (Schoolcraft College) tallied the game-winning goal in the 69th minute as the Madonna University men's soccer team pulled off a 1-0 upset victory win over top-seeded Cornerstone in Wednesday's Wolverine-Hoosier Conference semifinal in Grand Rapids.

The Crusaders, who cruised to 6-8-5 overall, moved into Saturday's championship final against host Aquinas College with the winner advancing to the NAIA National Championship.

MU goalkeeper Adrian Motta (Livonia Churchill) made eight saves including one on a penalty kick in the 71st minute to propel the Crusaders to their first WHAC playoff final since 2008.

Goalkeeper Kyle Breckan made three saves for Cornerstone (11-7).

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Top golfers earn All-Observer accolades

ALL-AREA FIRST TEAM

Jordyn Shepler, Churchill: The senior co-captain and four-year varsity player enjoyed a stellar senior season placing ninth individually in the MHSAA Division 1 state finals with an 83-90-173 en route to all-state honors.

Shepler placed 13th at the regional and earned all-Kensington Conference honors for the third straight year with a fourth place (82).

Her nine-hole average was 40.4, while she finished with an 85.2 for 18 holes.

Shepler was medalist in seven of eight dual matches, added a pair of top-10 finishes and three top-five finishes.

"A player of Jordyn's caliber doesn't come around too often," Churchill coach Paul Worley said of the scholar-athlete and team MVP. "She had a remarkable season. Her work ethic, drive and leadership will be missed. I wish her well at the next level."

Brenna Hammond, Mercy: A repeat member of the first team, Hammond averaged 85.4 in tournaments.

Her best was a 79 in the Catholic League tournament in which she was the runner-up. She also shot 81 twice — first on the Spruce Run Course in Traverse City and later in the Oakland County tournament at Pontiac Country Club. She had the low score that day in Traverse City, and she was sixth in the county. Hammond was third in the regional with an 88. She is a D-2 all-state honorable mention.

"Overall, she had a pretty solid season," coach Vicky Kowalski said. "This was her third year on varsity, and she's been a starter from the beginning. It's the third year in a row she has played in the state final, and we're looking forward to her continuing to improve in her senior year."

Sarah Montone, Mercy: Montone had a breakout junior season, according to her coach, leading the Marlins to a D-2 regional championship and sixth-place finish at the state meet.

She was tied for first at the regional with an 87 and won a three-hole playoff to be the medalist. She led Mercy with rounds of 86 and 87 at the finals. Montone, who averaged 86.3 in tournaments, shot an 84 at Raisin River and was the runner-up, and she had an 82 on the Wolverine Course in Traverse City. Montone is an all-state honorable mention.

"I'm just really proud of all the work she put in to be in that upper echelon," Kowalski said. "She had a poor sophomore season. She was very disappointed and worked hard to come back strong this year."

"She knew she wanted to be a big part of the team and wanted to be one of the players we could always count on, that would always be in the starting lineup, and

she proved herself."

Sophie Kollin, NF-Harrison: Kollin, who was a second-team selection last year, was a D-1 individual state qualifier who averaged 85.8 in tournaments. The sophomore finished in the top 10 at nearly every event. She was sixth of 56 at Alma, second of 85 in the Oakland County D-2 tournament, sixth of 65 at Jackson Lumen Christi and seventh of 64 at the regional. Kollin tied for 37th at the state meet.

"So many times throughout the season she saved us, and we came to depend on her score to get us into a good situation no matter what tournament," coach Bruce Sutton said. "We really relied on Sophie to come through and she did just that. She had a great season."

"I'm really excited about next season for her and the year after that. She's just a great player."

Kelsey Murphy, Plymouth: The junior continued her stellar high school career with an 18-hole average of 76.5 and nine-hole average of 38.

Murphy finished in the top two in every dual match and placed in the top three in every tournament.

Plymouth coach Chris Moore lauded her consistency, winning the Highest Honor Invite at Huron Meadows with a 1-under par 71 and KLAA tournament at Pheasant Run for a third consecutive year (with a 1-over 73).

"Kelsey also earned Super Team honors from the state of Michigan for the second straight year," noted Moore, adding that the Super Team culls the best eight golfers from all four divisions.

Sarah Thompson, Plymouth: The Wildcats' one-two punch also features Thompson, a junior who averaged 39 for her nine-hole matches and 80.8 strokes per 18-hole tournaments. Moore said she finished in the top two in every dual match and had six finishes in the top six at tournaments — highlighted by second-place finishes at the Bedford Invite (76) and state regional at University of Michigan (79).

At Huron Meadows, she registered a career best score of 75 for 18 holes. Thompson earned first-team, all-state honors in Division 1, which consists of the top 12 golfers.

Rebecca Bubenheimer, Stevenson: The senior co-captain makes her second straight appearance on the first team after averaging 42 per nine holes and 88 for 18.

Among the best finishes this fall for Bubenheimer, who has only been playing golf for three years, came at the Home Instead Invitational (third), Kensington Conference tourney (fifth, 83); Ladywood Invitational (11th, 93); and the regional (15th, 88).



Jordyn Shepler Churchill



Brenna Hammond Mercy



Sarah Montone Mercy



Sophie Kollin North-Harrison



Kelsey Murphy Plymouth



Sarah Thompson Plymouth



Becca Bubenheimer Stevenson



Sydney Murphy Plymouth



Francesca Sovis Mercy



Erica Heath Mercy



Molly Laird North-Harrison



Claire Butts North-Harrison



Kelsey McDougall Canton



Jackie Burdette Churchill



Vicky Kowalski Mercy coach

"Rebecca is also an excellent student and helped guide the Spartans to an improved record," said Stevenson coach Brian Gulick of the academic all-stater who carries a 4.0 grade-point average. "She is a very competitive golfer and worked extremely hard this year, both in school and on the course. She was an excellent example for the team and was a pleasure to coach."

SECOND TEAM Sydney Murphy, Plymouth: The future looks bright for Plymouth, as the freshman broke onto the varsity scene in a big way.

She tallied averages of 46.1 per nine and 89.6 per 18. Her season finished strong with a 31st place finish at the D1 state finals.

Moore said she impressed with an eighth-place finish at Forest Lake Country Club with a score of 83 "on a very tough course" as well as her score of 81 at the Highest Honor Invite at Huron Meadows, good for 12th place.

Francesca Sovis, Mercy: The senior played well in her final season and was a key member of the Mercy team, averaging 95.1 in tournaments. Her best score was an 87 at Raisin River. Sovis shot 91 at the regional, and her 94 in the Oakland County tournament at Pontiac CC helped Mercy finish third and beat rival Marian. She is a Catholic League all-academic player, too.

"I was really happy to see this young lady come through for us," coach Kowalski said. "She is another young lady who worked on her game over the summer and wanted to be an integral part of the team for her senior season. She also proved herself."

Erica Heath, Mercy: Heath had little competitive experience at the start of her freshman season, but she became a regular member of the varsity lineup. She shot her best score (89) in the league tournament; Averaging 96.1 for the season, Heath had a 91 at the regional and a 94 on the first day of the

2011 ALL-AREA GIRLS GOLF FIRST TEAM

Jordyn Shepler, sr., Churchill
Brenna Hammond, jr., Mercy
Sarah Montone, jr., Mercy
Sophie Kollin, soph., NF-Harr.
Kelsey Murphy, jr., Plymouth
Sarah Thompson, jr., Plymouth
Becca Bubenheimer, sr., Steven.

SECOND TEAM

Sydney Murphy, fr., Plymouth
Francesca Sovis, sr., Mercy
Erica Heath, fr., Mercy
Molly Laird, so., NF-Harrison
Claire Butts, sr., NF-Harrison
Kelsey McDougall, so., Canton
Jackie Burdette, jr., Churchill

COACH OF THE YEAR

Vicky Kowalski, Mercy

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Canton: Paige Osler, Kaylie Lobb, Kayla Lagola, Chloe Luyet, Rachel Pisanio; Churchill: Maggie McGowan, Nicole Kruse; Farmington: Julia Palaian, Erin Moore; Franklin: Alexis Smith; John Glenn: Michelle Bishop; Ladywood: Christina Briden, Michelle Nelson; Mercy: Gillian Hickey, Imani Gunn, Allison Shaw; NF-Harrison: Stephanie Korona; Plymouth: Kayla Whatley, Danielle Allen, Lindsay Dean, Carly Curvin; Salem: Gabrielle LeBlanc, Christine Li; Stevenson: Sarah King, Laura Shureb, Madelyn Omietanski, Mary Peltz, Dana Smith.

"Claire is a highlight reel within herself," Sutton said. "She has so much strength and an enormous amount of talent. She can hit the ball so far."

"If she decides to play college golf, with the right instruction, someone is going to unlock the key to Claire, and they're going to have a diamond in the rough. She has game; she can play."

Kelsey McDougall, Canton: The sophomore shot an 89 at the regional, qualifying for the state finals. She followed up with respectable rounds of 97 and 99 in the finals.

McDougall averaged 47.6 per nine holes and had an 18-hole average of 96.5.

During the dual meet season, she was medalist twice with scores of 41 and 45.

"Kelsey is a very talented athlete," coach Tom Alles said. "She loves to compete. She gives 100 percent effort every time she plays both in practice and competition."

"With the skills and work ethic she possesses, I am confident that she will become one of our area's premier girls golfers over the next two years."

Jackie Burdette, Churchill: The junior and three-year varsity performer overcame a slow start to place 11th in the regional with a career-best 84, while catapulting the Chargers to a state finals berth where she placed 36th overall with a 98-94-192.

Burdette averaged 47.7 per nine and 96 for 18.

"Jackie will have some big shoes to fill with Jordyn's departure next season," Worley said of the two-time state qualifier. "But she has shown glimpses of how good she can be."

COACH OF THE YEAR

Vicky Kowalski, Mercy: Kowalski was selected Coach of the Year after leading the Marlins to another successful season that included a second consecutive top-six finish at the Division 2 state meet. The Marlins were third a year ago and tied for sixth this year.

The Marlins also won the Division 2 championship in the two-day Traverse City tournament, and they were third in the Division 1 Oakland County Championship.

Mercy was 8-1 in dual meets, finished second in the Catholic League and won a regional championship for the second year in a row.

"I am most proud of the consistency of our golf team," Kowalski said. "We graduated four seniors and the four new starters won again. Mercy was sixth in the Division 2 state finals with only one senior in the starting lineup. I look forward to another top performance for Mercy golf in 2012."

GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING RESULTS

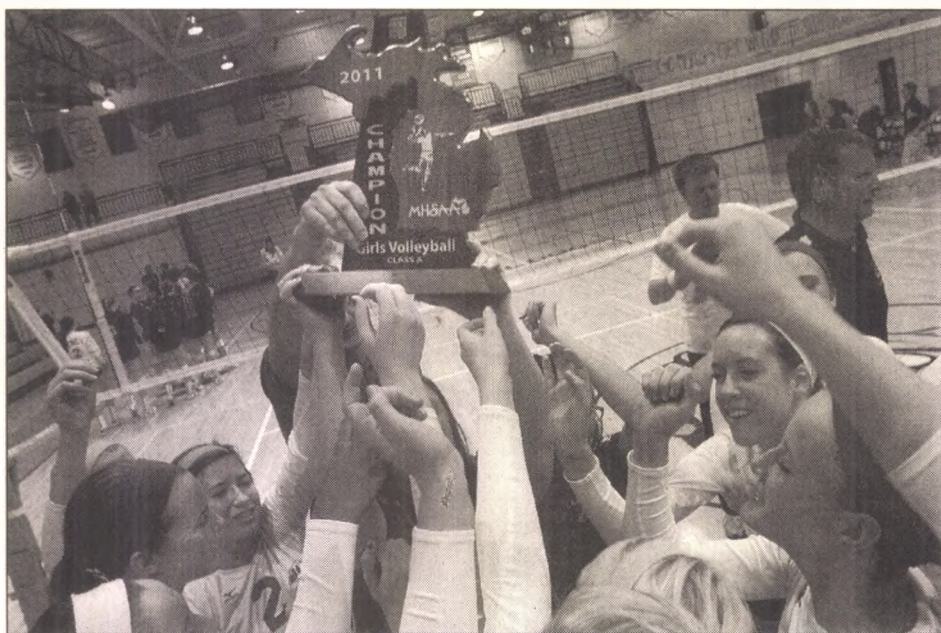
KENSINGTON CONFERENCE GIRLS SWIM MEET
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TEAM STANDINGS: 1. South Lyon, 852; 2. Northville, 826; 3. Novi, 673.5; 4. Livonia Stevenson, 537; 5. Canton, 483; 6. Plymouth, 475; 7. Salem, 394; 8. Livonia Churchill, 231.5; 9. Livonia Franklin, 146; 10. Westland John Glenn, 102; 11. Wayne Memorial, 98.
FINAL HEAT RESULTS
200-yard medley relay: 1. Novi (Buha, VanderMey, Buha, Berg), 1:50.12; 2. Northville, 1:50.49; 3. South Lyon, 1:50.71; 4. Stevenson, 1:52.89; 5. Canton, 1:58.38; 6. Salem, 1:56.48; 7. Plymouth, 1:56.57; 8. Churchill, 2:04.27.
200 freestyle: 1. Berg (Novi), 1:55.16;

2. Green (SL), 1:56.02; 3. Lauren Seroka (Salem), 1:56.22; 4. Gerke (SL), 1:57.54; 5. Nagata (N'ville), 1:58.01; 6. Kipke (N'ville), 1:58.39; 7. Claire Green (Canton), 1:59.7; 8. Madeline Madison (Canton), 1:59.74.
200 individual medley: 1. Cui (N'ville), 2:10.52; 2. VanderMey (Novi), 2:13.93; 3. Emily Toro (P), 2:14.57; 4. Linda Erickson (P), 2:14.72; 5. McCurry (SL), 2:15.67; 6. Dolinski (LS), 2:15.86; 7. Caitlin Orr (Canton), 2:16.15; 8. Washko (LC), 2:16.47.
50 freestyle: 1. Destinee Barmore-Hicks (Canton), 24.6; 2. Buha (Novi), 24.86; 3. Malarik (SL), 25.04; 4. Caldwell (SL), 25.11; 5. Schoenek (N'ville), 25.17; 6. Lexi Ethier (P), 25.43; 7. Hall (Novi), 25.44; 8. Stephanie Matsui (P), 25.61.

1-meter diving: 1. Meister (N'ville), 434.10 points; 2. Eckler (SL), 415.50; 3. Aepelbacher (Novi), 411.95; 4. Boucha (N'ville), 369.90; 5. Marquardt (SL), 348.05; 6. Odom (Novi), 334.20; 7. Canadi (SL), 315.15; 8. Ziegler (Novi), 307.05.
100 butterfly: 1. Bonin (SL), 56.8; 2. Lohman (N'ville), 58.42; 3. Buha (Novi), 58.43; 4. Delaney Adams (Canton), 1:00.43; 5. Toro (P), 1:01.57; 6. Erickson (P), 1:01.83; 7. Shurmur (Novi), 1:02.22; 8. Hannah Jenkins (Canton), 1:02.25.
100 freestyle: 1. Green (SL), 53.09; 2. Malarik (SL), 53.97; 3. Caldwell (SL), 54.13; 4. Berg (Novi), 54.24; 5. Hall (Novi), 54.46; 6. Barmore-Hicks (Canton), 54.55; 7. Matsui (P), 54.84; 8.

Ethier (P), 55.86.
500 freestyle: 1. Seroka (Salem), 5:06.65; 2. Gerke (SL), 5:18.33; 3. Alexa Earls (P), 5:23.85; 4. LaFreniere (N'ville), 5:24.12; 5. O'Dowd (LS), 5:24.51; 6. Christine Pray (Canton), 5:27.27; 7. Roque (LS), 5:29.78; 8. Yan (N'ville), 5:32.97.
200 freestyle relay: 1. South Lyon (Caldwell, Gerke, Malarik, Green), 1:39.23; 2. Plymouth, 1:40.91; 3. Northville, 1:41.64; 5. Canton, 1:42.3; 6. Churchill, 1:46.11; 7. Salem, 1:46.11; 8. Stevenson, 1:46.92.
100 backstroke: 1. Buha (Novi), 57.25; 2. Bonin (SL), 58.6; 3. Abby Aumiller (Salem), 59.42; 4. Kipke (N'ville), 59.43; 5. VanderMey (Novi), 1:00.52; 6. Lohman

(N'ville), 1:00.99; 7. Julia Suriano (Salem), 1:01.32; 8. Morgan (Novi), 1:01.65.
100 breaststroke: 1. Cui (N'ville), 1:06.89; 2. Lohman (N'ville), 1:07.48; 3. McCurry (SL), 1:07.78; 4. Krueger (SL), 1:10.08; 5. Green (Canton), 1:11.28; 6. Adams (Canton), 1:11.29; 7. Jenkins (Canton), 1:11.67; 8. Stark (SL), 1:11.91.
400 freestyle relay: 1. South Lyon (Caldwell, Bonin, Gerke, Green), 3:36.07; 2. Novi, 3:39.43; 3. Northville, 3:39.85; 4. Salem, 3:40.55; 5. Plymouth, 3:44.1; 6. Stevenson, 3:45.74; 7. Canton, 3:52.81; 8. Churchill, 4:01.76.



The triumphant Canton Chiefs hoist their Class A regional championship trophy after defeating Farmington Hills Mercy at Brighton.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CANTON

Continued from page B1

defense, limiting the big hits by the Marlins (64-4) and handling their tips and dinks. Collecting a team-best 24 digs was den Boer; Martin and Muir had 20 apiece, Deloy 15, Turner 13, Becca Middleton and Jordan Tubaro six each.

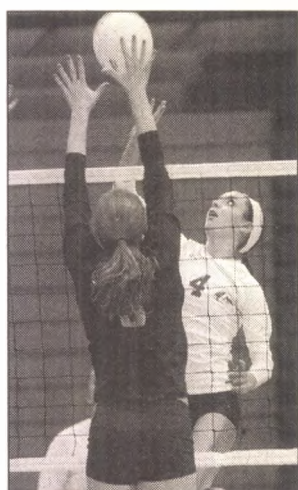
Furthermore, the Chiefs matched Mercy's usual efficiency by making few mistakes, which helped to keep them in every game.

Momentum shift

Canton played well from the start, but it came up short in the first one. That did nothing to dispirit the Chiefs, however.

"I think it helped us," Turner said. "We wanted to win. We came back like we were mad in the second game, like we wanted it so bad."

Canton pulled ahead to a 14-10 lead in the second game with four straight points and extended it to



Vying at the net Thursday night are Canton's Kristen Muir (No. 4) and Farmington Hills Mercy's Molly O'Sullivan.

19-13. The momentum had shifted to the Chiefs, and it pretty much stayed with them for the rest of the match.

"When we got that run in the second game, I think it clicked in everyone's head that 'We can do this; we've got this,'" Turner said.

The fourth game was the closest as neither team led by more than three (19-16, Canton). Near the end,

Mercy had a one-point lead three times; then, Canton went ahead and the Marlins tied it at 26 with a Maddy Doyle kill.

Martin's spike counted for the 27th point when the return ball went out of bounds, and a Turner-den Boer double block won it for the Chiefs.

"I think the girls realized we tried everything, and it wasn't enough tonight," Mercy coach Loretta Vogel said. "We lost to a team that was consistently better tonight. Not just better, but consistently better, and that makes the difference. I wish them well and hope they can continue playing at the level they were tonight."

"After getting the first win, it was like an even playing field again," Kryska said. "It was 1-1 and then it was a best-two-out-of-three. (The Chiefs) knew once they got that first win they could beat them. Not only did they believe it, they thought it as well and continued to come out strong."

CLASS B

Continued from page B1

success-packed season ended at 39-18.

"We knew (Airport) had a very good team and they came out swinging tonight," said Ladywood head coach Erin Craggs. "The turning point was when we couldn't close out the third set and then we fell behind early in the fourth."

The Blazers had depended on the Jets in the team's two most recent encounters: last year's regional final and in the Bedford tournament earlier this season.

"The last time we played them we scored 34 serve-receive errors, so we knew we had to improve on that," said Airport coach Barb Kohn, whose program has now won four regional titles in the past five years. "Everybody played well tonight. I was extremely proud of all the

girls. We beat a very good team."

The crucial third set was tight as neither team managed to build more than a four-point lead.

The set turned in Ladywood's favor a third of the way through when the match's most exciting rally unfolded. Trailing 8-5, Ladywood traded scintillating digs with the Jets for close to a minute, before Olivia Quinn's tip found a soft spot in the Jets' defense and brought the Blazers to within two points.

Powered by strong front-row play from McKenzie Kettner and Cheyenne Woodall, sharp passing from Alexandra Hines and air-tight defense from senior libero Kristine Aurand, the Blazers constructed a seemingly solid 24-21 advantage.

Fueled by the cheers of its loud home crowd, the Jets came out of a timeout by receiving off five straight points — the final one on a

block by junior outside hitter Brooklyn Gerber — to seize a 26-24 win. Thanks to the combination of four Gerber kills and a couple of Ladywood misplays, Airport surge to an 8-2 lead in game four and was never truly threatened from that point on.

The Jets clinched the regional title on a Sarah Buttignoli block.

"We had a great season," Craggs said. "We had a great group of seniors who battled every night. We will definitely miss them."

Hines racked up 37 assists, most the result of feather-soft passes to outside hitters Kettner (12 kills) and Jennifer Rhodes, who knocked down all balls.

Aurand was stellar all night, picking up 14 digs and launching a team-high four aces.

Gerber paced the Jets' balanced attack with 12 kills.

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CLASS D

Continued from page B1

a timeout right away and make some adjustments. I told the girls 'OK, we have to step up and fill Amy's spot.'"

Zinn did get to play during the third game and registered a kill, but the Eagles relied on several players who shined when called upon.

"Leah Manning did a great job, and Mary Anleitner also did a great job and Katie McCormick as well," Blackney continued. "All three kind of stepped up and filled a spot that we needed them to play."

McCormick and Anleitner showed their determination during a rally early during Game 3.

It was an 8-5 game with PCA trailing when it looked as though the Eagles wouldn't be able to keep a rally alive and thus fall behind by another point.

But McCormick sprinted toward the bleachers and sent a no-look pass toward her teammates. Anleitner then dove headlong to keep it from landing.

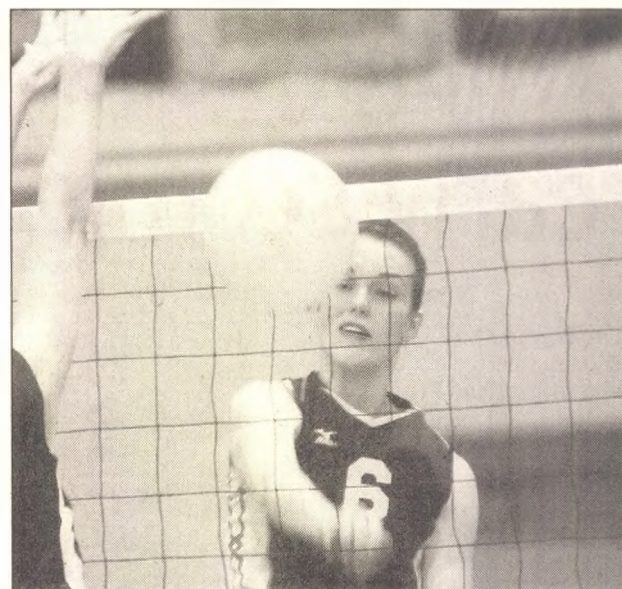
Eventually, sophomore setter Jenny Malcolm (14 assists) spiked the ball over the net for the important point.

The Eagles, however, could not overtake the Rams until Malcolm set up senior Sarah Howard (nine kills) for the spike that put PCA up 22-21.

Ready to serve

That's when Manning calmly stepped up to the service stripe and finished the game and closed out the regional championship win with two aces among three points.

"It was crazy, I don't know, I was so nervous," Manning said later. "I just tried to do my best, and finish it out."



Plymouth Christian senior middle blocker Kristin Malcolm (No. 6), shown in a game earlier this season, was her team's biggest hitter in Thursday's regional final with 15 kills.

According to Blackney, the team needed Manning "to serve consistent and she did a good job at it. She's a very poised player and I think she really helped us tonight so I'm proud of her."

Manning (three aces overall) said the pressure grew with each serve, but the toughest chore she had to deal with was switching from right-to-left defense due to Zinn's illness.

"That was really different because I played a position I never played before in a game," Manning added. "So it was a definite switch. I ... It was do or die, you really had to do whatever you needed to do."

Perfect placement

It helped the PCA cause that, as usual, senior middle blocker Kristin Malcolm (15 kills) was there to make things happen — especially when the Eagles needed to get a defensive sideout or score on offense.

Several times, her spike attempts were hit so hard that they hit the floor and ricocheted into the spectators.

"We had to pick up our defense and our serve-receive also," Kristin Malcolm said. "Those were two big things. And once we got the pass up, Jen (Malcolm) always gives me good sets and I just tried my hardest to hit it where they're not."

In Game 2, Manning served up three points to give the Eagles a 19-13 lead and Anleitner all but wrapped it up with three more points from the stripe (including an ace).

Following the trophy presentation, North Adams-Jerome head coach Darren Kittle tipped his cap to the Eagles.

"We didn't receive well at all," Kittle said. "I think our biggest problem was we couldn't get our offense going."

"But we got beat by a better team. They're a lot better than us and it showed tonight."

Seniors Samantha Bradford (10 assists), Shannen Kittle (13 digs) and Katelyn Smith (six kills, four aces) were the top performers for the Rams.

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Sealed proposals will be received for the construction of the Police Carport Project by the Charter Township of Plymouth as Owner, until 3:00 P.M. Local Time on Friday, December 2, 2011 at the Office of the Clerk, Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read.

Bidders shall review and comply with the instructions to bidders.

Description of Work

The project scope consists of Carport installation for the Police parking lot located at 9955 Haggerty Road in Plymouth Township.

Plans and Specifications may be examined at the Clerk's Office, Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 on or after November 14, 2011. Drawings and Specifications can be shipped by U.P.S. ground for no fee.

Proposals submitted by Bidders who have been debarred, suspended, or made ineligible by any Federal Agency will be rejected.

Each bidder agrees to waive any claim it has or may have against the Owner, the Architect/Engineer, Roofing consultant, and their respective employees, arising out of or in connection with the administration, evaluation, or recommendation of any bid.

No bid security is required. No bid may be withdrawn after scheduled closing time for receiving bids for sixty (60) days.

The Charter Township of Plymouth reserves the right to reject all bids and to waive irregularities in bidding.

Bids furnished and delivered to the Township Clerk on or before 3:00 p.m., Local time, December 2, 2011.

A pre-bid meeting will be held on November 21, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the project site with the Owner's Representative to review the scope of work and project conditions. It is recommended that a representative of the bidding contractor attend this meeting.

Joseph Bridgman, Clerk
Plymouth Charter Township

Whalers coast after early scoring binge

The Plymouth Whalers exploded for five goals in the first period Friday night, and cruised to a 8-4 victory against host Guelph.

Fueled by a ferocious forecheck, Plymouth (11-6-2-1) netted three goals in the first 4:12 of the contest at Sleeman Centre to set the tone.

Getting it started at 1:10 was Garrett Meurs, and Rickard Rakell and Andy Bathgate found the back of the Storm net before too long.

After Guelph (8-5-1-2) cut the lead to 3-1 when Scott Kosmachuk beat Plymouth netminder Scott Wedgewood on a power play, the Whalers got it back two minutes later (at 9:31) on an assisted tally by Alex Alear-di (Farmington Hills).

Mitchell Heard than made it 5-1, converting a pass from J.T. Miller.

In the middle frame, Stefan Noesen (one goal, three assists) registered a shorthanded goal at 10:24, opening up a 6-3 edge.

Guelph made it a 6-4 game after two frames, when Tanner Richard scored.

That's how it stayed until Alear-di went top-shelf at 10:50 of the final stanza for his second of the night and ninth of the season. Bathgate assisted on the goal.

Defenseman and team captain Beau Schmitz completed the rout when



Plymouth Whalers goalie Scott Wedgewood stops a shot earlier this season. He was brilliant in a 2-0 shutout last weekend against Saginaw.

he scored on the power play at 16:35. Schmitz blasted the puck past Guelph netminder Garrett Sparks, who was screened by Miller.

Players from both teams were unsuccessful on penalty shots. At 3:42 of the opening frame, Miller was stopped by Sparks. At 7:31 of the middle period, it was Wedgewood's turn to stop a penalty shot, awarded to Zack Mitchell.

The game against the Storm marked the first of a three-games in three-days schedule for Plymouth.

On Friday night and Saturday afternoon, the Whalers were slated to host Sault Ste Marie and Erie, respectively, at Compuware Arena. Come back to www.hometownlife.com for results of

those games.

Whalers blank Spirit

Meanwhile, last Sunday, the Whalers visited Saginaw and Wedgewood stopped all 35 shots he faced to give Plymouth a 2-0 victory at the Dow Event Center.

Wedgewood really held the fort in the third period, nursing the two-goal lead, as he turned aside all 15 Saginaw shots.

Plymouth got on the board at 9:12 of the first period on a power play tally by Miller, with assists to Schmitz and Farmington Hills' Austin Levi.

The final goal of the afternoon was scored at the 2:42 mark of the second stanza. Rakell banged in a feed from Heard, with Wedgewood drawing the second helper.

In memory of coach Renzi



The Plymouth girls volleyball junior varsity team recently participated at the third annual Kim Renzi Memorial Tournament, to honor the memory of the coach who passed away in 2009. The Oct. 15 tourney also featured the first appearance by a member of Kim's family when Marina Renzi played. Members of the JV Wildcats include (front row, from left) Katie Stevens, Caitlyn Webb and Kylie Jobb; (middle row, from left) Claudia Crampton, Lili Apostol, Miranda Cerny and Marina Renzi; (back row, from left) coach Anna Gatt, Savannah Bentz, Amber Allen, Shelby Cheston, Jenny Gunther and Lauren Clemons. Also participating in the JV tourney were Canton and Salem, among other area squads.

Tough start for MU men cagers

It was the tale of two halves Wednesday as the Madonna University men's basketball team opened its 2011-12 home slate with a disappointing 84-77 setback to unbeaten Rochester College.

Four players scored in double figures for Rochester led by Sean Mattia's 18 points.

Dramel Hogan added 15, while Stephan Henning and Rick Doran added 12 and 11, respectively, for the victorious Warriors (7-0), who rallied from a 47-30 halftime deficit to pull out the victory.

Madonna sophomore Matt Jenkins posted his first career double-double with

13 points and 13 rebounds, while teammate Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) paced MU in scoring with a game-high 20 points.

Derek Lennen also chipped in with 15 points as MU shot only 24.1 percent (7-for-29) in the second half while being out-scored 54-30.

Madonna made a scorching 69.2 percent (18-for-26) from the field during the first half, but committed 21 turnovers on the night (to Rochester's 11).

The Crusaders (0-4) are now idle until 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16 when Marygrove College visits the Activities Center.

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Now is the best time to buy a new car



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Mom, daughter, share passion for hunting

By Valerie Olander
Correspondent

Ten-year-old Molly Borg of Garden City will be armed with a .243 rifle when dawn breaks Nov. 15, opening day of fire-arm season for Michigan's deer hunters. Her mother will be right by her side, trying to scope out dinner in the cross-hairs of her own .30-.30 Winchester.

Molly is an old pro after having bagged one this year.

"I've been hunting since I was 5," the fifth-grader said.

Her early days of hunting with her mom and dad involved hanging out in the blind on property the family owns in Clare. Molly would spot the deer for them. All they had to do was squeeze the trigger, she said.

This year, Molly will be handling the trigger all by herself. A new state law lowered the age from 12 to 10 to hunt deer with a firearm on private property.

Ten-year-olds have been able to bow hunt for several years. That's how Molly shot her first doe last month.

"I was in the blind with my Dad and my crossbow. First, a buck came by, but I couldn't shoot at it because it had antlers. Then we saw a couple of does.

There was this big doe and I shot at it," she said.

The arrow ripped through the deer's front shoulder blade and it went down with a "thud."

"I didn't have to track it. It just dropped right there," she said. "I was sooooo excited!"

And if that wasn't enough to draw shrieks of delight, her best friend



Mother-daughter hunters, Theresa and Molly Borg of Garden City show off last year's deer season trophies. Molly helped spot the deer for her dad, Michael Borg. This year, she will be able to use her own rifle since the state lowered the deer hunting age from 12 to 10.

Alex Sherlock, 11, took one down about 10 minutes later. The girls attend Farmington 5-6 Campus in Garden City Public Schools.

Alex and her dad were hunting alongside the Borgs near their cottage in Clare during early antlerless season. The Borg family also hunts on 30 acres of family-owned property in the Ludington-Baldwin area.

"We're best friends. (Alex) is one year older than me and we go to the same school. We play on the same soccer team," Molly said.

Staying safe

The two girls took a hunter safety class to prepare for their sporting adventure. They learned the rules of hunting and how to responsibly handle a firearm.

"The age was lowered in Michigan because we need to get more kids outdoors, hunting and fishing and enjoying all the recreational opportunities we have in

this state," said Mary Dettloff, spokeswoman for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

"Kids today spend a lot of time indoors playing video games. We need to get them outdoors for their own health and because, if we don't raise the next generation of conservationists, we will lose all our appreciation for fishing and hunting over the next 50 years," she added.

In recent years, fewer youths have taken up the sport. The average age of a deer hunter in Michigan is 43, according to the DNR's 2010 hunting report. Only 9 percent of the nearly 700,000 licenses bought in 2010 were for hunters under age 17.

Hunters are also 91 percent male, another demographic the state is trying to change with its "Becoming Outdoor Women" programs.

Family activity

Molly's mother is in the small but growing segment of women hunters

DEER HUNTING SEASON

September: The season starts with special antlerless hunts and a weekend for youth and disabled

Archery season: Oct. 1 through Nov. 14 and Dec. 1 through Jan. 1

Firearm season: Nov. 15-30

Muzzleloading: Dec. 2-11 for Upper Peninsula; Dec. 9-18 for northern Lower Peninsula; Dec. 2-18 for southern Lower Peninsula

Late antlerless firearm: Dec. 19 through Jan. 1

Requirements: A hunting permit is required for each season, some combination permits are available. Licenses are \$15 and available at most sporting goods stores, such as Dunham's, Walmart and Meijer, and e-licenses can be bought online at the michigan.gov/dnr website.

taking part in the annual rite of fall. Theresa Borg, 35, who works as a dental hygienist in Plymouth, hasn't missed an opening day for deer hunting since she was 19. Last year, she brought home a 7-pointer, her biggest deer yet.

"It's just nice to get some down time. I like nature and seeing all of the wildlife. It's something fun to do with my husband and family," Borg said. "I get a rush when I see the deer."

She was introduced to the sport when she met her then soon-to-be husband, Michael, who was an avid hunter. Her father hunted while she was

Take a safety class before you hunt

A hunter safety class is a minimum of 10 hours and includes classroom and field work. Typically classes are held at outdoor clubs, schools, police stations, and camps.

Cost is about \$10 to cover supplies. Check the website, Michigan.gov/dnr for locations and online courses.

Area conservation clubs also provide education and independent ranges for archery and rifle. Clubs include:

- Western Wayne County Conservation Association, 6700 Napier, in Plymouth; call (734) 453-9843 or visit online at wwcca.com.
- Multi-Lakes Conservation Association, 3860 Newto, in Commerce, near Milford; call (248) 363-8811 or visit online at www.multilakes.com.

growing up, too. All the talk and big buck stories drew on her curiosity until she decided to give it a shot. She has bagged a deer nearly every year.

"The only red meat we eat is venison," she said. "We make summer sausage, bratwurst, ground beef for tacos, even breakfast sausage."

Her middle daughter, Mia, 7, is not interested in hunting, although she likes to shoot the crossbow and go fishing. She'd rather hang out with her grandmother than in the deer blind, Borg said. The couple's youngest son, Colton, is 4.

When people, especially male patients in the dental office where she works, find out Borg is an avid hunter, they're surprised, she said.

"They get a kick out of it," she said. "Some of them make a point of bringing in pictures of the deer they shot."

As for Molly, the boys in her class didn't believe her when she told them she



Theresa Borg, 35, of Garden City has been hunting for more than 15 years. Last year she shot this 7-pointer, the biggest one yet.

was going hunting with her crossbow and planned to shoot a deer.

"The boys didn't think it would happen. I proved them wrong," she said.

Molly has been practicing with her rifle and says she is a pretty good shot. She plans to bring home dinner again this month.

To learn more about hunting in Michigan, visit michigan.gov/dnr and http://deer.fw.msu.edu.

Metro Detroit Pet Expo

This Weekend
Suburban Collection Showplace
SUBURBAN COLLECTION SHOWPLACE

Nov 18 - 4pm - 8pm
Nov 19 - 10am - 8pm
Nov 20 - 11am - 5pm

\$10.00 Adults
\$5.00 Kids 6-12
Kids 5 and Under are FREE!

Bring a can or bag of pet food with you to receive \$2.00 off of your admission price!!



Bring your pet or adopt one there!

Over 25 rescue groups in attendance plus tons of pet related items and services! Learn training techniques and enter your pet in our contests. Please visit our website for complete schedule.

Pets Are Welcome!

Spayed or neutered adult pets on a short leash (6 foot maximum, no retractable leashes) may attend the Metro Detroit Pet Expo with a responsible guardian. Please note that due to health concerns of birds in the show, pet birds will not be allowed. Please visit the website to download the Pet Registration Form.

Free Inflatables for the Kids!

Pet Pictures with Santa

Wonderbull and Pawsitive Impact for Pets have teamed up to offer your pets and opportunity to take pictures with Santa!

Fri, Nov 19: 5-8pm
Sat, Nov 20: 10-12, 1-4, 5-8
Sun, Nov 21: 12-4

Joaquin Guerrero - K9 Trainer & Ground Zero Search & Rescue

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Sat, Nov. 20: 12 - 2
Sun, Nov 21: 12 - 2

www.MetroDetroitPetExpo.com

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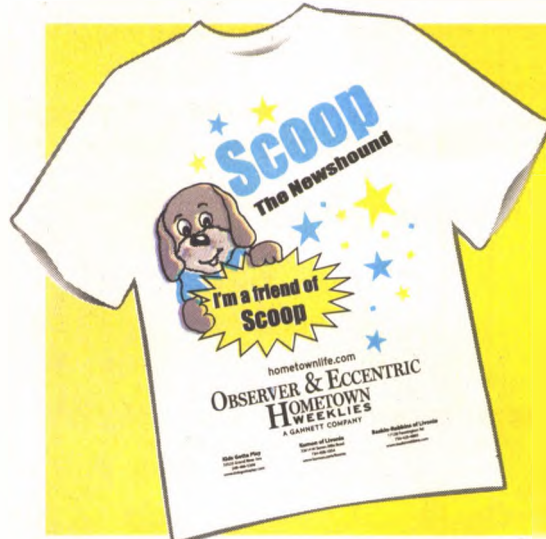
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Donate a new gift to a local child in need

Scoop is asking all of his friends both young and young at heart to help local areas most needy children this holiday season. Bring a new unwrapped gift to one of the office locations:
101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon or 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth

All gifts will be given to Methodist Children's Home Society in Redford and Orchards Children Services in Southfield.



Scoop will personally give each child who donates a gift a Scoop t-shirt in addition to the pizza coupon* during his special appearance dates:

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3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
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South Lyon, MI 48178**

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December 9, 2011
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
41304 Concept Drive
Plymouth, MI 48170**

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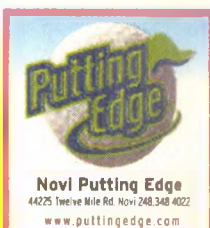
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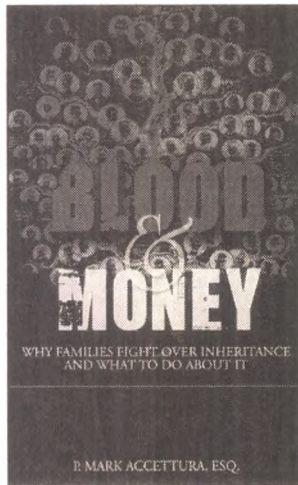
Local attorney talks 'Blood & Money' in new book

Most families try to avoid an inheritance war when a loved one dies.

In his new book, Farmington Hills attorney and author P. Mark Accettura offers 60 specific recommendations to help parents, offspring, and their advisors prevent inheritance squabbles and preserve the most valuable legacy of all — the family itself.

Blood & Money: Why Families Fight Over Inheritance and What to Do About It, Collinwood Press, Farmington Hills, 2011, was released in August. The book details the psychological reasons why families fight and provides practical legal remedies to prevent disputes after Mom or Dad die. The author's fourth book offers an understanding of family dynamics as applied to estate planning.

"The fight for money and things, such as Dad's watch or Mom's wedding ring, is not about the object or money itself, but



"Blood & Money" gets to the heart of common problem in families, in dealing with inheritance and wills.

is really about what the money or object symbolizes — importance, love, security, self-esteem, connectedness and immortality," Accettura says.

Whenever a spouse dies and the surviving spouse remarries, Accettura stresses it is critical for a new will and trust to be drawn to protect

the interests of the new spouse and the natural children.

"When a remarried parent is negligent and does not draw up a new will and trust," he says. "Then the blood is on the parent's hands for not taking care of the business necessary to keep peace in the family after death."

Attorney's role

The author says an estate planning attorney should serve as counselor, helping to resolve conflict, when family members fight over inheritance.

"An attorney must be sincere, transparent, honest and fair but most of all be a peacemaker," he says. "The goal is to resolve the family conflict, not to identify a breach of responsibility or breach of law and file a lawsuit which will serve to heighten the conflict rather than producing family peace."

Accettura said he was inspired to write *Blood*

& Money because of an increase in elder abuse, the growing epidemic of Alzheimer's disease and because 65 percent of Americans fail to plan for their death. He also wanted to uncover the reasons why families fight after the death of a loved one.

In *Blood & Money*, the author explores the impact of dysfunctional families and personality disorders on inheritance disputes and contrasts the toxic, bitter battles involving super-rich personalities such as Leona Helmsley, Summer Redstone and Brooke Astor with the conspicuously philanthropic such as Bill Gates and Warren Buffet.

About Accettura

An estate planning, inheritance conflict resolution, and elder law attorney for 30 years, Accettura has counseled thousands of families on estate and inheritance matters. He lectures frequently on estate planning topics and for 10



P. Mark Accettura is a Farmington Hills attorney who has written a book called "Blood & Money" to address issues of wills, inheritance and keeping the peace.

years was an adjunct professor at University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

Accettura has practiced law in the firm of Accettura and Hurwitz in Farmington Hills and Royal Oak since 1982. A senior partner in the firm, he has handled wills and trusts of thousands of

people in Michigan.

Accettura also hosted *LawTalk*, a television interview series seen via cable in 37 cities in Michigan, for five years.

He is married with three sons, one of whom is now serving as an apprentice in his law firm. He enjoys reading and travel.

A family's health may leave with the rinse water

By Joe Gagnon
Guest Columnist

Didn't discover these facts from any media outlet around these parts, they were sent to me by a newspaper writer named Diane Armstrong from a little town in northern Canada. Her efforts could prove to be very helpful to the many homeowners who use a washing machine in this country.

Didn't they discover penicillin in Canada?

When you purchase a clothes washer today I suggest you ask if it has a hot wash cycle. I know that it says on the water temperature dial on the con-

sole, hot water wash but don't necessarily believe it. It may very well be a big lie. The manufacturers in their endeavor to meet stringent energy standards have taken over your methods of washing clothes. In the old days people boiled their clothes to make sure they were clean and free of bacteria. Then came the washer that gave you a hot cycle to keep the whites clean and the shorts free of brown spots and now these smart intelligent appliance makers who will do anything to make their energy star labels appealing to increased sales have removed the hot water feature on a washer. I'm telling you that I have trouble believing this and they did it in such a sneaky way. I know of an appliance retailer who has exchanged washers for his customers who just won't stand for a washer without a hot cycle.

These clothes washers I speak of are designed to operate on warm water wash even though you set the dial to hot wash. You don't control the temperature, the water valve does that for you which means in the range of 100 degree water temperature even though you want 160 degrees. The results of this washing method can prove to be very harmful.

Heat needed

A report by the international Scientific Forum on Home Hygiene warns that low temperature washing might not be strong enough to kill disease-causing bugs. Professor Sally Bloomfield, of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine says, "We need to launder clothing in a way that renders them not just visually clean, but hygienically clean — the two are not the same."

Her concerns are backed by a German study on clothes contaminated with *Staphylococcus aureus*, linked to skin and urinary tract infections, as well as pneumonia. Researchers found the only way to eradicate the bacterium was with hot water and a detergent containing bleach.

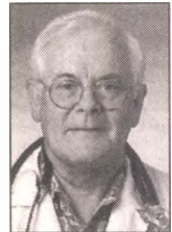
If you work with food and put your uniform in with the rest of the family's dirty laundry, it could become infected with *E. coli* or salmonella — or whatever else is on those clothes says Dr. Lisa Ackerley, a consultant in environmental hygiene.

"In winter, the norovirus (the vomiting bug) could easily spread through a family via the washing machine if you're not using a high enough temperature wash."

Even though we have not seen this story in our area

media we have seen and read about others which point out the health factor associated with major appliances. The front load washers which contain mold and bacteria, the dishwashers which are loaded with bacteria, clothes dryers which expel contaminated air into the environment. I know how tough the human body can be and how they used to bleed you when you were sick in the old days and it took a long time for technology and education to prove the method ineffective. How long will it take for appliance manufacturing to recognize the need of safer appliances for American homeowners? Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

Christmas card sales benefit hunger relief

Forgotten Harvest, the nonprofit organization that rescues surplus, prepared and perishable food, is selling Christmas cards in three designs.

Greeting cards are \$25 for a pack of 20. Designs include a festive holiday filled with peace and love." Greet with the sentiment, "Seasons greetings and warm wishes for a wonderful holiday;" a dove with wheat shaft and the greeting, "Wishing you a holiday filled with peace and love;" and a snowy scene featuring a Forgotten Harvest



The inside of this holiday card from Forgotten Harvest says "Wishing you a festive holiday filled with peace and love."



This holiday greeting card from Forgotten Harvest wishes its recipient a "home be filled with warmth and wonder this holiday season."

be placed by Dec. 16. Order at Forgotten Harvest, 21800 Greenfield, Oak Park, MI 48237; by calling (248) 967-1500; or at www.forgottenharvest.org

Forgotten Harvest was formed in 1990 to fight hunger and waste. The organiza-

tion transports nearly two million pounds of rescued food each month to soup kitchens, pantries and shelters.

Henry Ford Health System sponsors Forgotten Harvest's holiday cards.

Event benefits trafficking victims

Kelly Govan, a Plymouth resident, has organized a fundraiser for Rapha House, in Cambodia, which rescues young, female victims of sex trafficking.

"Bowling Over Traffick" runs 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13, at Bowling IQ, 7023 East 14 Mile, Sterling Heights; (586) 268-4001.

Cost is \$25 per person, \$15 per student and includes bowling, shoe rental, food, a 50/50 raffle, euchre tournament, silent auction and more.

For more information about the fundraiser, call (734) 968-9663 or e-mail to kgovan4@gmail.com.

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PLANTAR FASCIITIS

Pain in the bottom of the foot is particular. The diagnosis physicians most often make is plantar fasciitis, a condition that involves the layer of tissue between the skin of the sole and the underside of the bones of the feet.

Characteristic of plantar fasciitis pain is that it is worse on beginning to walk, lessens while the person walks to make ambulation uncomfortable but possible. While most people who have studied plantar fasciitis pain agree the cause is trauma, there is no consensus on how injury translates into pain that includes the bottom of the foot from the heels to the toes.

The current hypothesis is that plantar fasciitis represents a form of reflex sympathetic dystrophy, resulting in loss of blood supply to small vessels that supply the tissues of the bottom of the foot.

The effect of not having fully known cause for plantar fasciitis is that treatment is uncertain. At present, the physician's first recommendation is a change in shoes to footwear that has ample padding, feels comfortable, and allows the person to walk without restrictions.

Trials using shock wave therapy or botulinum toxin injections show mixed results. The non steroidal drugs such as ibuprofen and aspirin may relieve a portion of the pain, but usually cannot provide enough relief to end the problem. Most often time suffices to bring a resolution to the foot pain. How much time it takes is unclear, but in my experience 3-4 months usually are enough. All the while the person with plantar fasciitis should exercise to tolerance.

Deck the halls DIY-style at holiday events

Get crafty and lend a handmade touch to holiday decorating this year.

Make a wreath or cornucopia in classes next weekend at the Henry Ford Estate in Dearborn or Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

Christopher & Co., professional florists, will teach a class for adults and youth, 12 and older, in wreath-making 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Nov. 19, at the Henry Ford Estate on the campus of the University of Michigan-Dear-

born, 4901 Evergreen. The class will be held in the music room the mansion.

The workshop fee is \$35 and includes materials. Proceeds will benefit the Henry Ford Estate gardens.

Registration and pre-pay are required by Friday, Nov. 18. Call Contact Karen Marzonia at (313) 701-2240 or Pamela Morrison at (313) 701-2241 weekdays.

Pre-registration also is required for three wreath,

cornucopia and centerpiece classes held at Schoolcraft College, located at 18600 Haggerty between Six Mile and Seven Mile in Livonia.

Classes run 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 2-5 p.m. and cost \$75 per person; \$60 for senior citizens. All materials are included in the fee.

Students in the cornucopia class, Sunday, Nov. 20, will make an arrangement with fresh, assorted seasonal flowers.

"Designing Your Holiday Wreath" is set for

Sunday, Dec. 4. Participants will use a mixture of holiday evergreens and decorative accessories to create a festive wreath.

Students in the centerpiece class on Sunday, Dec. 18, will learn how to make a traditional, long and low arrangement using a collection of greenery, ribbons and trims.

Register by calling (734) 462-4448 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd

REUNIONS

DETROIT MACKENZIE CLASS OF 1962
Planning class reunion in 2012. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail the committee at mackenzie1962@gmail.com.

REDFORD UNION HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1962
Looking for classmates, for 50th reunion on Oct. 13, 2012. Contact Madeline (Rice) Smith at (260) 577-4176 or paddlinmadeline@gmail.com;

Linda (Horning) Tracy, at (231) 871-0333 or lindatracy100@gmail.com; Pat (Snell) Moser at (231) 347-4789 or hancock4465@yahoo.com and confirm your e-mail, home address and phone numbers, as well as information about other 1962 classmates.

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL ALL CLASSES
The reunion runs 5-11 p.m., Nov. 26, in the school, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth, between Farm-

ington Road and Merriman. Anyone with a connection to St. Michael's — a graduate, attendee, participant in CYO, religious ed, Scouts — may attend a fun-filled evening of food, drink, music, and reminiscing. The atmosphere is family-friendly with pizza, beer, wine, and pop available for purchase. There will be optional basketball tournaments for those who want to rekindle their old Gaels spirit. See the parish website at www.livoniastmichael.org

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



ALLAN, ANTOINETTE N.,

Age 78, of Farmington, November 9, 2011. Beloved mother of James Fogle, and dearest wife of Jerry T. Allan. Also survived by many additional relatives and friends. Visitation Sunday, November 13th, 1-8 PM at the Heeny-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., (btw. 9-10 Mile Rds., just N of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Funeral Mass Monday, Nov. 14th, 11:00 AM (in state 10:30 AM) St. Gerald Church, 21300 Farmington Rd., Farmington. Interment Holy Sepulchre, Southfield. Memorial tributes suggested to the charity of one's choice. heeny-sundquist.com



REDEDEMAN, ERNESTINE M. (nee HARTUNG)

Age 56, of Westland, MI, formerly of Town Creek, AL, passed away peacefully with his family. Beloved husband of Becky. Loving father of Erick (Becky), Tiffany (Daniel), and Brandon. Proud grandfather of Zeabrenna, Zachary, and Zo-Zo. Also survived by many friends and family. Many thanks to his brother Greg "Jay" for always being there. Memorial service on Monday, November 14 at 12pm - Fisher Funeral Home in Redford. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Angela Hospice of Livonia.

KING, ILA Y.

Age 80, of Farmington Hills, MI. Passed away November 4, 2011. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.



MAXWELL, JERRY HOLLIS

Celebrated Civil War historian and North Farmington teacher passed away October 29 at the age of 69. Jerry spent 32 years teaching various history courses at North Farmington HS, receiving various awards, most notably the DAR National Teacher of the Year in 1995. A historical lecturer and member of the Michigan Regimental Civil War Round Table since 1972, Jerry's passion for the Civil War culminated in The Perfect Lion, his definitive book on Artillerist John Pelham. Jerry was a loving and hilarious husband to Carlene, father to Brent and Holly, grandfather to William and Sofia, and friend and mentor to many more. A celebration of his life will take place on Saturday, November 19th at the Embassy Suites in Livonia, MI from 4-9 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jerry Maxwell's name to Brandy Station, VA (www.brandystation-foundation.com) or to the Detroit Film Theater at the DIA (http://www.dia.org/support/tributes-memorials.aspx). He will be greatly missed and remembered by all who were touched by him.



NIEMAN, LUCILLE M.,

Age 89, November 2, 2011, former 50 year resident of Livonia. Beloved wife of the late Fred Nieman. Loving mother of Rick (Cindy) and Kathy Nieman. Dear grandmother of Matthew and Molly. Visitation at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Road, Livonia, Sunday, November 13, 2011 from 2 PM until Memorial Service at 3 PM. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Michigan Humane Society. Share a memory of Lucille at www.rgharris.com



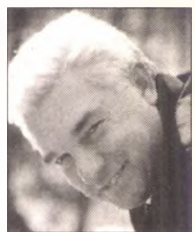
RUPPEL, PAMELA LOHR

65, of Westland, Michigan passed away unexpectedly in her home on November 1, 2011. She was born on April 12, 1946 in Detroit to the late John and Edith (Lohr) Ruppel of Wayne. She graduated from Wayne Memorial High School and attended college at Northern Michigan University and Schoolcraft Community College. Pam retired in 2007 from the Wayne-Westland Schools system after more than 30 years of service. She was a member of the First Congregational Church of Wayne. During retirement, she enjoyed spending quality time with her family and many friends. She loved to read and was always adding to her collection of frog memorabilia. She is survived by her brother John (Chris) Ruppel of Midland, her sister Kay (Ron) Bolenbaugh of Rockwood; her nephews, John (Lisa) Ruppel of Bedford, NH and their children Zachery and Nicole; Ken (Dawn) Ruppel of Columbus, OH; and Andy Bolenbaugh of Flat Rock and his daughter Samantha; and her good friend Robin McDougall of Livonia. A memorial service will take place on Saturday, December 3, 2011, 2 p.m., at the First Congregational Church of Wayne, (2 Towne Square, Wayne, MI 48184), officiated by Rev. Daniel Vellinga. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations are suggested for The American Diabetes Association or the National Breast Cancer Foundation.



SERVALISH, DIANE

Age 49, Nov 6, 2011 of Livonia. Beloved wife of Craig. Loving mother of Andrew and Sean. Dear sister of Craig (Connie), Lance, Colleen and Scott Tracy. Special Aunt to Ryan, Darin, Molly and Chelsea. Daughter-in-law of Don and Sandy Servalish. In state Thurs 10 AM until 10:30 AM Funeral Mass at St. Theodore of Canturbury Catholic Church, 8200 Wayne Rd. Westland. Arrangements by Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N Newburgh Rd (btwn Ford and Cherry Hill) Westland, MI. Memorials may be made to Heartland Hospice. To share a memory, visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com



SIEBERT, DAVID ROY

November 5, 2011 at home in Beverly Hills, with his wife and son by his side. Age 70. He fought prostate cancer valiantly for over 14 years. Dave was born April 16, 1941, in Detroit to John and Alice Siebert. He was preceded in death by his sister, Marilyn Garrett. He spent most of his career in law enforcement and as the head of his own private security and investigations firm. He served in the Detroit police department from 1970 to 1976 and was a member of DPD's special STRESS unit from 1971 to 1975. His friends often called him "Colonel." Dave was an avid outdoorsman who loved animals. He was also a life-long member of the National Rifle Association. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Eaton; son David C. Siebert, M.D., daughter-in-law Suzanna, granddaughter Gabriela and granddog Daphne; sister Barbara Timpe and her husband, Chuck and their children Douglas, Scott and Elizabeth; his step-son Rob Eaton and his wife Jill and children Alexander, Roxanne and Phoenix; nephew Edward Bricker and niece Sally Bricker. Memorial service was held at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), Royal Oak, Saturday, November 12th. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

TRAPP, DENIS A.

Age 43 of Jessup, Maryland lost his battle with pancreatic cancer on 11-9-11. He was born in Garden City, MI on 9-3-68 and graduated from Divine Child High School in Dearborn and Wayne State University. Denis serviced in the U.S. Army and worked for the U.S. government National Security Agency (NSA) until just recently. He was a loving husband to Deborah DeHaas of Jessup, Maryland and son to Dr. Barbara Walsh Trapp of Livonia, Michigan and Arthur Trapp of Saline, Michigan. He was a devoted brother to Dr. Kevin Trapp of Livonia, Cristina Trapp of Livonia and Melissa Trapp Petty of Kent, WA. He is also survived by nieces Lucy Trapp of Livonia, Margaret (Maggie) Trapp of Livonia, Ava Petty of Kent, WA as well as nephew Noah Trapp of Livonia. He was a great friend and loving support to his brother-in-law Lt. Col. Christopher Petty of Kent, WA., sister-in-law Carol Gerstner Trapp of Livonia, Michigan, Uncle Michael Walsh and Aunt Nora Walsh also of Livonia, MI. His grandparents were Casmer and Irene Walsh of Dearborn Heights, Michigan who have greeted him in love. A funeral mass will be held on Wednesday, November 16, 2011, 10:30am at St. Colette Catholic Church, 17600 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, Michigan. Donation in lieu of flowers suggested to: gilchristhospice.org and pancreaticcanceractionnetwork.org

VAN ZOEREN, MICHAEL NEAL

Died at his home in Troy on October 27, surrounded by loving family and friends. He was 56. Mike was employed at Beaumont Hospital (Troy) for 37 years. He was a lifelong seasonal resident at Glen Lake in Leelanau County, where he loved to collect driftwood for constructing furniture. He was the son of the late Jay and Betty Van Zoeren, and is survived by brothers Steven (Pei-shan), Thomas (Alice), and Douglas (Patricia); sister Janice Lewitt Pope; stepmother Carolyn Van Zoeren; seven nieces and nephews whom he adored; and many wonderful friends. Memorial services will take place privately. A hospice/memorial website may be found at mike.vanzoeren.com. A.J. Desmond & Sons, (248) 362-2500

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send calendar items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Or mail items to Dargay, Observer, 615 Lafayette, Level 2, Detroit, MI 48226.

Nov. 13-16

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 13
Location: Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: Daniel Rodriguez, a former police officer from New York City, N.Y. who sang at many memorials after the 9-11 terrorist attack, will perform with the Jesse Lynch Trio. Placido Domingo mentored Rodriguez through the Young Artist Program in Washington D.C. Rodriguez and the trio will give classic song a jazz twist at the Nardin Park show. Tickets are \$20, available from the church office
Contact: (248) 476-8860

CHOIR

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15
Location: New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware, Redford
Details: B.M.C.R. Mass Choir sings; donations accepted
Contact: (313) 255-6330

POMEGRANATE GUILD

Time/Date: 1 p.m., Nov. 13
Location: Spicer House in Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: Andrea Anderson, a Farmington artist, will present a weaving demonstration. The group also will continue preparation for its "Children's Hanukkah Table" that will be displayed Dec. 2-4 in conjunction with the Farmington Garden Club's "Holiday Tables."
Contact: Judy Galperin at (248) 661-5337

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13
Location: Faith Community Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia
Details: A one-night seminar designed to help individuals cope after the loss of a loved one. Will help answer why the holidays are tough after a loss and why Christmas is a reason to hope. \$4 fee covers cost of a book and printed materials
Contact: (313) 682-7491; www.griefshare.org

Nov. 17-23

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 20
Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, juice, milk; adults, \$3 and children, 2-10, \$1.50
Contact: (734) 425-4421

CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 19
Location: Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia
Details: Vendors, crafters, and prizes. \$1 admission includes a ticket to enter your choice of door prize. Lunch available. Profits from admission, food sales and 20 percent of vendor/crafter sales goes to Kids' Hope USA Program, benefiting Livonia school children.
Contact: (734) 427-1414

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 19
Location: Canton Christian Fellowship, 41920 Joy Road, between Liley and Haggerty, Canton
Details: The bank will be open to give free clothing and shoes to anyone in need
Contact: (734) 927-6686 or (734) 404-2480

Milestones



Claire Spellman (left) and Suzanne Devlin of Livonia enjoy time together while visiting Hollywood, Calif.

Identical twins celebrate birthdays

Identical twins, Claire Spellman and Suzanne Devlin of Livonia, celebrated their 73rd birthdays Friday, Nov. 11. The sisters were born in 1938 in Detroit to Bruce and Kathleen Lodge.

The twins, who came into the world with a lot of fanfare, are descendants of John C. Lodge, a former mayor of Detroit for whom the Lodge freeway was named.

This is also a special time for them because it is National Family Care Giver Month. Both sisters are lifetime caregivers to their families: siblings, parents, children, grandchildren, and now husbands alike. Devlin cares for her husband who suffers from debilitating Alzheimer's disease and Spellman cares for her husband, a stroke patient, who is in recovery.

After growing up in Detroit, the pair became permanent residents of Livonia, where they live



Claire Spellman and Suzanne Devlin, identical twins, at age 5.

in the same neighborhood. Both were married and raised their children in the community. Their children and grandchildren are Livonia Public Schools alumni.

They are retired from Plaster Corporation in Livonia.

The sisters are close as identical twins can be and supportive of each other.



Ted Edmonds and his friend, Joan Pankow, enjoy a limo ride to his surprise 90th birthday celebration.

90th birthday celebration

Edwin (Ted) Edmonds of celebrated his 90th birthday with a surprise party Sept. 18 at the Plymouth Elks Lodge, in Plymouth.

The event started with a surprise limousine ride with his children, their families and his close friend, Joan Pankow, also from Livonia.

Ted is a charter member of the Yankee Air Force at Willow Run and was instrumental in restoring a B-17. He has flown in the Stearman bi-plane and survived a crash 20 years ago. He's also a long-time member of Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia and is a member of the Plymouth Elks Lodge.

Friends from the Yankee Air Force, Michigan Stearman groups, previous co-workers from Fox Hills Chrysler in Plymouth, longtime friends and neighbors and many family members were on hand to wish him a happy birthday.

"He is a great guy, good Samaritan, wonderful father, exceptional hus-



Ted Edmonds (right) with his oldest son, Mike, acknowledges his friends at his surprise birthday party.

band to Peggy Edmonds, our mother who passed in 2007, wonderful grandfather and now wonderful great-grandfather" wrote daughter Cheryl Brevik Johnson, in a letter to the Observer. "His children just adore him and he is just the best man we know. He has spent 90 years of his life just enjoying people and always helping anyone in need."

The Livonia resident and her husband, Rich, were on hand to celebrate, along with siblings Lesly (Don) Wisch of Burnsville, N.C., Mike and Debbie Edmonds of Commerce Township, and Gary and Rusty Edmonds of Livonia. Most of his grandchildren were there, too.

Ted's older sister, Geri Launstein, 93, of South Carolina, surprised her "baby brother" with a visit. Dr. Peter Schoeps of Farmington, a friend, physician and long-time airplane buff, rounded out the guest list.

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FDA offers patients advice for safe 'sharps' disposal

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has launched a new website about the safe disposal of needles and other so-called "sharps" that are used at home, at work and while traveling.

Sharps is a term for medical devices with sharp points or edges that can puncture or cut the skin. Such medical devices include hypodermic needles and syringes used to administer medication, lancets or finger-stick devices to collect blood for testing, needle and tubing systems for infusing intravenous and subcutaneous medicines and connection needles used for home hemodialysis.

After being used, many sharps end up in home and public trash cans or flushed down toilets. This kind of improper disposal puts individuals, such as sanitation workers, sewage treatment workers, janitors, housekeepers, family members and children at risk for needle stick injuries or infection with viruses such as Hepatitis B and C and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

"Safe disposal of used needles and other sharps is a public health priority," said Dr. Jeffrey Shuren, director of the FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health. "This Web site provides information about how to keep used sharps from ending up in places where they could harm people."

With more diseases and conditions such as diabetes, cancer, allergies, arthritis and HIV being managed outside of hospitals and doctors' offices, the number of sharps used in homes and work offices is increasing. In addition, pets are being treated in homes and livestock are being treated on farms, which also contribute to the increased number of sharps outside of veterinary hospitals.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agen-

cy estimates that more than 3 billion needles and other sharps are used in homes in the United States each year.

For the safe disposal of needles and other sharps used outside of the health care setting, the FDA recommends the following:

- Do:
- Immediately place used sharps in an FDA-cleared sharps disposal container to reduce the risk of needle-sticks, cuts or punctures from loose sharps.
 - If an FDA-cleared container is not available, some associations and community guidelines recommend using a heavy-duty plastic household container as an alternative. The container should be leak-resistant, remain upright during use and have a tight fitting, puncture-resistant lid, such as a plastic

laundry detergent container.

- Keep sharps and sharps disposal containers out of reach of children and pets.
- Call your local trash or public health department for information about sharps disposal programs.

Do Not:

- Follow your community guidelines for getting rid of your sharps disposal container.

- Throw loose sharps into the trash.
- Flush sharps down the toilet.
- Put sharps in a recycling bin; they are not recyclable.
- Try to remove, bend, break or recap sharps used by another person.
- Attempt to remove a needle without a needle clipper device.

For more information visit <http://www.fda.gov/safesharpsdisposal>



MEDICAL DATEBOOK

November

ST. MARY MERCY

• Cynthia Rochon, a nurse at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, will talk about reducing stress at the holidays, 7 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 16, in the hospital auditorium, 36475 Five Mile, at Levan, in Livonia. Registration begins at 6 p.m. For more information or to register call (734) 655-8940.

• Dr. Jeffrey Mendels will lead a free educational seminar in joint replacement, 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30, in the hospital auditorium. He'll answer questions, discuss joint pain, joint replacement procedures, and available implant options. To register, call (734) 655-2345. The hospital is located at Levan and Five Mile in Livonia.

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute's Hospice Program will present a free "Surviving the Holidays" workshop, 10-11 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 19 at the Older Adult Social Worker Office, within the McDonnell Towers Complex, 24400 Civic Center Drive, Southfield. Call Karmanos Hospice at (248) 304-2201 to register.

December

JINGLE BELL RUN

Mark 9 a.m. Dec. 3 on the calendar for the annual Jingle Bell Run/Walk to benefit the Arthritis Foundation. The event, held at Northville Downs, offers competitive timing, awards in fourteen different age categories and a post-race party sponsored by Qdoba, Busch's, Biggby, Powerade and more. There is even a "Snowman Shuffle," a quarter-mile fun-run for kids under 12. Prizes include signed Red Wings memorabilia offered for biggest team, biggest fundraiser and most inventive costume. Those interested in participating can head to

www.arthritis.org, keyword "Jingle Bell Run/Walk" to register or call event manager Samantha Mertins at (800) 968-3030, Ext. 232, for more information.

ST. MARY MERCY

• The Michigan Bariatric Institute at St. Mary Mercy Hospital offers free monthly educational seminars, 6-7:30 p.m. in the hospital's auditorium. Dr. Tallal Zeni, director of minimally invasive and bariatric surgery and Dr. Jacob Roberts, bariatric surgeon, present information about laparoscopic bariatric surgery. The next session is Dec. 1. For information, call the Michigan Bariatric Institute at (877) Why-Weight. It's located at 14555 Levan, Suite 311, in the Marian Professional Building, Livonia.

• Dr. Harmesh R. Naik, an oncologist at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, will give a presentation, "Nutrition, Medication and Treatment of Breast Cancer," from 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13 in the Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center Atrium at the hospital, located at Five Mile and Levan, in Livonia. Call St. Mary Mercy Hospital's Marian Women's Center at (734) 655-1162 for more information or visit stmarymercy.org.

Ongoing

AQUATIC CLASSES

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the pain of arthritis. Classes are held 10-11 a.m., Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch; 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch; and 2-3 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, at the Birmingham branch. All classes are offered to members and nonmembers of every age and participants do not need to know how to swim to participate. To join, interested individuals can contact their local YMCA branch or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.



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St. Mary Mercy Hospital's UPCOMING HEALTH INFORMATION PRESENTATIONS

Stress Free Holidays

Guest speaker Cynthia Rochon, RN, PMHN, MBA
Wednesday, November 16, 7 p.m.
Call 734-655-8950 to register or for more information.

Women's Health Series: Healthy Living. Healthy Woman.

Speakers from Gynecology and Urogynecology
Thursday, November 17, 6-8 p.m.
Call 734-655-2281 to register or for more information.

Center for Joint Replacement Seminar

Guest speaker Jeffrey Mendelson, MD
Wednesday, November 30, 6 p.m.
Call 734-655-2345 to register or for more information.

Michigan Bariatric Institute Seminar

Guest speaker Tallal Zeni, MD
Thursday, December 1, 6 p.m.
Call 877-WHY-WEIGHT to register or for more information.

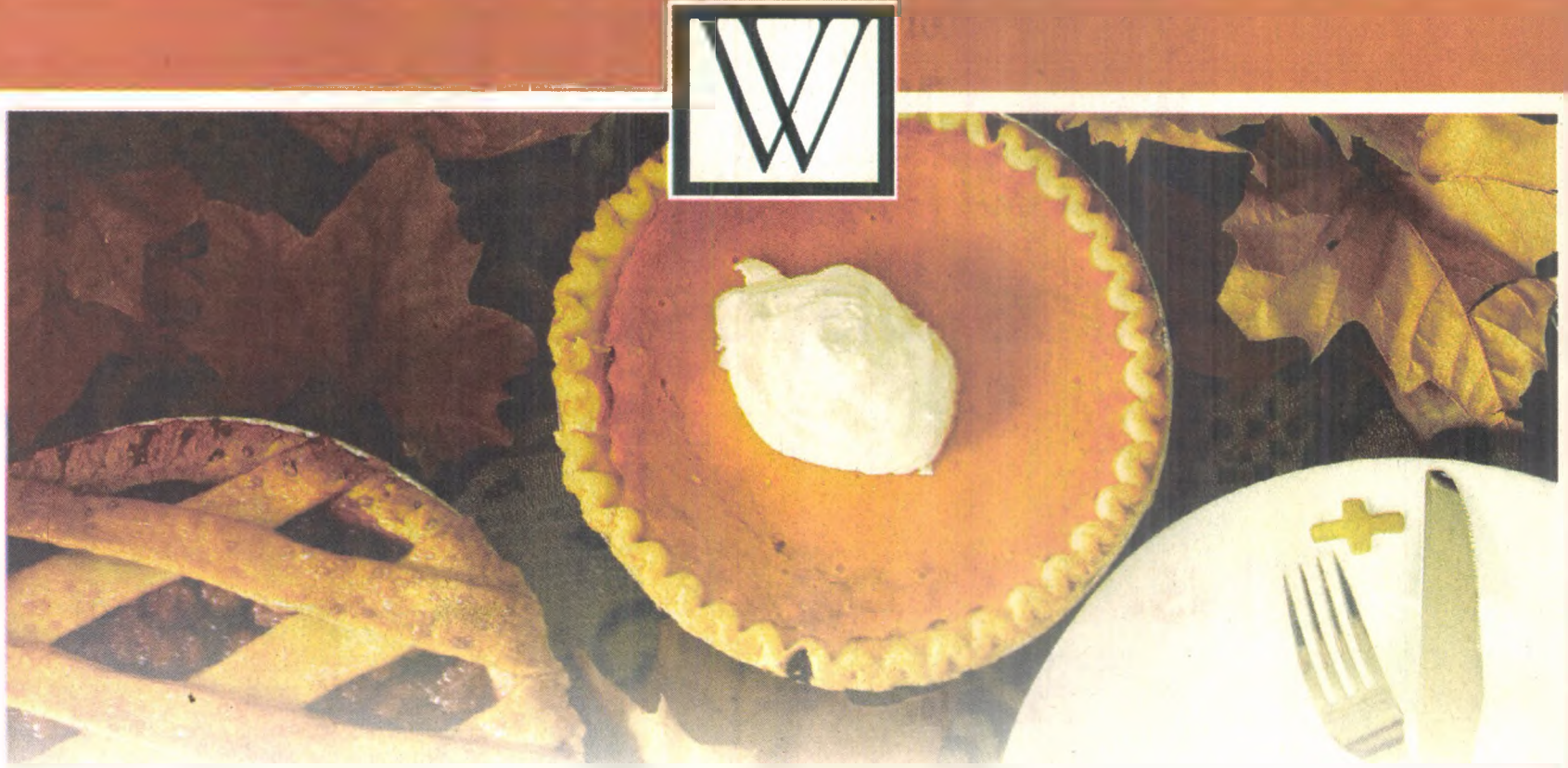
Fall Prevention

Guest speaker Kevin Moore, OTR, WCC, MSA
Wednesday, December 7, 7 p.m.
Call 734-655-8950 to register or for more information.

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How To Ask Touchy Interview Questions

Bringing up salary, benefits and vacation during the interview

Anthony Balderrama, CareerBuilder Writer

Unless you belong to a select group of people, you need a job in order to survive. Oprah Winfrey doesn't need to work another day in her life. The rest of us would have a hard time paying the electric bill without a job.

Yet, when we're going through the song and dance of interviewing for a job, we pretend as if money isn't on the top of our list of priorities. Job-search etiquette dictates waiting for the employer to bring up salary, benefits and vacation. Conventional wisdom says that if you bring it up, you appear more focused on the perks than on doing the job, which sends a bad sign to employers. So you interview over the phone and in person, and after days or weeks of conversation about the job, you don't know how much it pays or if you would be able to leave early on occasion to pick up your son from school. These issues can be deal breakers for many job seekers, but they're taboo topics during the interview process.

If time is money, then both the hiring manager and the job seeker should be happy to get the basics out of the way before wasting time with interviews that might not matter if the salary is too low. We decided to find out if there is a way to bring up these touchy subjects in a more timely manner.

Should you do it?

Before job seekers can even ponder how to bring up these issues, the primary concern is whether

they should even broach the subjects or if they would be making a heinous misstep. For many employers, as long as your approach is reasonable and tactful, you don't need to worry.

"It's definitely fine to ask about the salary, benefits and perks early in the process," says author and corporate recruiter Vicki Salemi. "Think of it this way: Sometimes recruiters will push candidates to give them a ballpark salary requirement and they'll say they can't proceed without knowing so everyone's on the same page. Shouldn't you also feel entitled to knowing information upfront to not waste anyone's time? You're doing everyone, including yourself, a favor by asking and getting an overall idea of the complete package."

You certainly can ruin your chances of being hired by asking the questions the wrong way, Salemi says, but the topics alone won't overshadow your resume and experience. Workplace expert Lynn Taylor, CEO of Santa Monica-based Lynn Taylor Consulting, also views these supposedly taboo topics as essential information for job seekers.

"You have every right to know what you will and won't get, so don't be afraid to ask before the end of the second interview," Taylor advises. "During the first interview, you'll want to get a general idea, ideally from the human resources department (assuming you were interviewed by HR), as these are more administrative questions."

That said, Taylor does suggest making this line of questioning one of your last orders of business, but not because it could harm your chances of getting hired. Instead, Taylor says, waiting can help you receive a better salary offer.

"Often there is room for negotiation on everything. The more valuable you are as a candidate, the more leverage you have. You are best served to determine how well-suited you are for the job before you begin asking about perks," she explains.

How to do it

Now that you know that you can safely bring up sensitive topics during an interview on your own timeline, you need to know how to do it. After all, asked in the wrong way, any question can be damaging during a job interview. Here are five guidelines from career experts on how to raise the questions, get the information you need and stay on the interviewer's good side.

Be assertive but reasonable

"Simply ask in an assertive way," says Salemi, author of "Big Career in the Big City." "You can couch it with a statement such as, 'I don't want to sound presumptuous as if I expect to already get this job, but I would like to know the salary range before proceeding.' Or, 'I am actively interviewing and evaluating offers right now which include evaluating not only the salary but personal time off and benefits, as well as perks. Would you be able to share this information with me at this point in time?'"

Prove why it's in their interest, too. "[Recruiters] don't want to waste their time, so remind them of that fact," says Alex Buznego, business development and marketing services manager for marketing organization Inktel. "Mr. Recruiter, I know your time is valuable and that the last thing you'd want to do is waste your time on a candidate who wasn't a perfect fit. With that in mind -- and I acknowledge these questions are difficult to discuss upfront -- would it be OK if we discussed some uncomfortable questions today?"

You want to know about this information so you don't waste your time, and the interviewer probably feels the same way, too.

Be polite

When you want to bring up an uncomfortable topic, whether it's benefits or work schedules, you can ease into it by asking for the interviewer's permission to ask the question, Buznego says.

"It's a simple gesture and somewhat of a rhetorical one," Buznego asks. "Do you mind if I ask a couple of uncomfortable questions? Don't worry, they are going to say yes, and it starts to break down the tension."

Wait for the right moment

Syndi Seid, founder of Advanced Etiquette, a business and social etiquette consulting organization, suggests job seekers wait for a chance to ask their question rather than force it into the interview. When the interviewer asks if you have any questions at the end of the interview, Seid suggests you take this as your cue.

"You then say, 'Thank you for asking. There is one item I realized we didn't discuss...'" Seid says. "Always couch and sandwich difficult situations by saying something good and nice to start, hit them with the hard stuff, then end with something uplifting and positive."

Ultimately what matters is that you read the cues of the interviewer and ask what makes you feel comfortable and what suits the mood of the moment. As long as you're polite and ask your questions in a reasonable manner, you can walk out of the interview without any regrets.

Anthony Balderrama is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and his job blog, www.theworkbuzz.com. He researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.



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Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart. Call Mon-Fri., 9-5pm. 734-728-4572 or email. phnetworkinfo@aol.com

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AUTO BODY SHOP
Busy collision repair facility with several locations seeks **MANAGER & TECH**. Must be licensed & I-Car certified individuals. Exc. pay & benefits. Email resume to: oiresume@comcast.net

AUTO MECHANIC
General Service Auto, M-F 7:30-5:30, No Sat. Full Benefits. Call: (248) 349-7550 Harold's Frame Shop Inc. 44170 Grand River Ave, Novi

CAREGIVER
For autistic boy in Farmington area. Afternoons, Weekends. \$8.50/hr. (248) 342-6451

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Exp'd. programmer/operator. Exp. preferred on a 4 axis Mazak Super Quick Turn CNC Lathe with Mazatrol programming. Knowledge in Fanuc programming an added plus. Contact by phone, fax or in person: **New Craft Tool & Die 13501 Ashurst Livonia, 48150 Call: (734) 522-3350 Fax: (734) 522-5433**

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This long established, fast-paced Livonia insurance agency is looking for a part-time (36 hrs./wk) account manager experienced in both commercial & personal lines insurance. You must be licensed in P&C, have 2+ yrs in both commercial and personal lines insurance, and have a superior working knowledge of TAM & MS Excel and Word. Qualified candidates please e-mail your resume to **jobs@cambridge-pc.com**

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Charter Twp. of Redford E.O.E. For more info call: 313-387-2761 or visit our website at: **redfordtwp.com/personnel.php**

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HEAVY DUTY DIESEL MECHANIC
Immediate Interviews. Qualified Candidates Must Possess the Following: Valid MI Driver's License (CDL preferred). Available for on-call rotation and weekends. Fax resume to: 313-295-5616 Email: **angelicat@ireillytransparation.com** Apply in person at our Wyandotte location

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Part time days LAUNDRESS Part time, afternoons. Apply within at: Independence Village of Plymouth. 14707 Northville Rd. **housekeeping@ivplymouth.com**

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Cut-N-Care needs 10 temp Landscape laborers \$9.09 hr and \$13.64 OT M-F 8AM-5PM to use hand/power tools to maintain lawns, lay sod & plant from 3/1/12 to 11/15/12 in the Oakland County Area. No experience required & minimum OTJ training provided. Mail resume to **48090 West Rd, Wixom, MI 48393** No drop ins please. Transportation provided to job site from central location. Must be able to lift 50 lbs daily. May be required to other work performed on or after 11/20/11. Must pass post hire background check and drug test.

Machine Maintenance Tech

Leading manufacturer is looking for a Maintenance Technician who is responsible for installing, maintaining, and repairing machinery, equipment, physical structures, pipe and electrical systems. Candidate must be able to troubleshoot and fix mechanical issues, possess basic pneumatic and electrical knowledge. 3 yrs. maintenance exp. working in manufacturing environment required. Please send resume, which must include salary requirements, to **HR@acecontrols.com or fax (248) 426-5631** EOE

Manager of Legal Services and Contract Administration

Canton is now accepting applications for Manager of Legal Services and Contract Administration. Job description with complete qualifications and hiring process are available on the Canton Township website at **www.canton-mi.org** E.O.E.

TRUCK DRIVER Exp'd. Car Hauler with a clean driving record, drug free, CDL license with air brake endorsement. 734-756-7738

Help Wanted-Dental

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
Part time; Mon- Thurs, 20 hours/wk. Brand new office 13 Mile and Southfield. Must have Dentrix computer experience. Email resume and compensation history to **dentistryforlife@aol.com**

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Seeking part-time exceptional staff member to complete our team. We need someone that wakes up everyday with a smile ready to help others with their dental needs. Passionate for quality dentistry with great attention to detail. Enjoyment and laughter with our patient families is a must! Exp'd. with digital x-rays, charting, pouring models, self-breakdown operators, other duties as needed, and excellent communication skills necessary! Please send resume: **info@mikuladental.com**

DENTAL ASSISTANT, SURGICAL

Are you a dental assistant looking to expand your skills and advance professionally in a high quality, leading edge environment? Bingham Farms/Southfield area specialty practice seeks a bright, personable, motivated surgical assistant to join its dedicated clinical team. **Call: (248) 357-3100**

DENTAL ASSISTANT: Experienced, needed for Westland office. Call: (734) 525-7636

Help Wanted-Medical

DIETARY MANAGER

For a Westland Assisted Living Community. Please FAX resume in strict confidence to: (248) 350-9686

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Help Wanted-Medical

FRONT DESK WITH EXPERIENCE
For busy ophthalmic practices with multiple physicians/locations. Great benefits. Fax or email resume: 248-290-2760 **connie@oaklandeye.com**

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Experienced, part-time for busy doctor's office. Fax resume: 248-888-6897

MEDICAL ASSISTANT: Front & back office. Busy Internal medicine practice. Must be flexible. Fax: (313) 831-7002

MEDICAL BILLER

For large medical billing company in Canton. Please fax resume to: (734) 459-7755

MEDICAL FRONT OFFICE STAFF WANTED IN TAYLOR

Exp. required, immediate interviews. Contact: **v.pandiarajan@yahoo.com**

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Enrolling for Winter & Spring Classes! Garden City, Wyandotte & Southgate. \$950. Credit Card Accepted 313-382-3857 **phlebotomyeducation.com**

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• RN position is FT or PT, days/afternoons
• MDS Coordinator/ Case Mgr must be experienced licensed RN, FT or PT
• Assistant Activities Director is PT and must possess a H.S. diploma w/at least 3 yrs SNF exp. Marycrest Manor -55 bed Skilled Nursing Center in Livonia. Applicants must be motivated & caring. These positions offer flexible hours with competitive wages and a generous benefits package. Please send resume with cover letter to: **hr@marycrestmanor.org**

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Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	4.25	0	3.5	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	4.25	0	3.5	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	4.125	0	3.5	0.125	J/A/V/F
First State Bank	(800) 372-2205	4.25	0	3.75	0	J/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	3.875	0	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	4.25	0	3.75	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	3.625	2	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
Signature Mortgage Michigan	(810) 588-4424	4	0	3.375	0	J/A/F
Talmer Bank & Trust	(800) 462-2786	4.125	0	3.375	0	J/A/V/F

Above information available as of 11/4/11 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com.
 Key to "Other" column - J = Jumbo, A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported.
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 Income based on studio & 1 bdrm apts. Studio Units for 55+ years

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- Community room
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 Excellent Maintenance
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Eddie Bauer, 2WD, V-6, 3rd
row seat, 77K Excellent
condition \$13,995
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Red, Sharp 39K, \$10,995
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Stunning Silver, limited,
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Burnt Orange, 12K, convert-
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Legendary power!
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Loaded all-around!
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anti-lock brakes, pw, ps,
am-fm stereo, leather,
77,690 miles. Two owners,
very good condition!
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brilliant silver metallic, 3.5L
V6, 13,800 mi, dealer warren-
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Stunning Silver, limited,
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AWD, Dark blue, \$27,995
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Silver, only \$24K, \$24,795
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Loaded all-around!
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Loaded all-around!
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Maroon Sunset, navigation,
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p/w & ABS! Sporty
Elegance! Reduced to
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Lt. Blue, 72K \$10,995
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Dk. Blue 39K \$13,495
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White, 39K \$13,495
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Dk. Blue 39K \$13,495
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Hybrid, Black, \$17,995
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4dr, auto, 30K Red \$11,895
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BUICK, GMC
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SOLARA 2005
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Midnight Black, SEL, leather,
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Just \$19,895!
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Dk blue, 35K \$14,995
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FORD 1994 F250 TRUCK
174,000 miles, \$1499,
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Toyota

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4dr, auto, 30K Red \$11,895
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TOYOTA PROMISES A NOVEMBER TO REMEMBER AS FORTUNES RISE

By Dale Buss

Yes, Toyota will be hindered by production disruptions because of the floods in Thailand, but not as severely as what befell its sister lines in March after the earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

And while company executives concede that October sales, down by 8 percent from a year ago, were a disappointment, they vowed that November - with inventories of all

major product lines now amply supplied, a new Camry in full production, the early launch of their brands' iconic holiday-seasonal promotion programs, and a bit more strength in the U.S. economy - would really allow the Toyota sales formula to shine again as it hasn't for nearly a year.

Yes, Toyotathon already is going on at Toyota dealers, although in a lower-key kind of way until right before Thanksgiving.

The brightest spot for Toyota last month was Camry, which finally is reaching full-volume production. "It's off to a flying start," said Bob Carter, division manager of the Toyota Division.

Toyota dealers began the month with fewer than 13,000 new Camrys in stock, and sales topped 22,000 units in the month. Toyota is shipping another 35,000 Camrys in November, he said, including the first of the new Camry Hybrid. America's best-selling car "is getting strong reviews," Carter said.

Toyota also is finding that buyers favor more richly contented versions of the new model than of the old one. The up-ladder SE Sport model,



Toyota is counting on higher volumes of its Corolla to boost sales.

touting 18-inch alloy wheels and projector-beam halogen headlamps, accounts for nearly 40 percent of sales of the 2012 Camry so far, Carter said, outpacing the LE one notch down, the nameplate's traditional volume leader.

But overall, October was a bit of a disappointment. "I thought a month ago that we would exceed our year-ago October in sales," Carter said. "Unfortunately, we came up a little short." Carter blamed most of the slight shortfall from his prognostications on two factors: languishing production of Corolla and a slower-than-expected replenishment of inventories of other major nameplates.

Sales of Corolla in October were 10 percent below a year ago, he said, mainly because of the transition of production of the subcompact for the U.S. market to a new Toyota plant in Tupelo, Miss. "We started the month with [fewer than] half the Corollas we

had in stock a year ago, and we just couldn't overcome that shortage" during the course of the month, he said. "But Corolla production started at [Tupelo] last month and are being shipped to dealers to help rebuild inventories."

Toyota faced similar slower-than-hoped-for replenishment of RAV4 and Tundra. The company only "recently recovered" full production of the two models, Carter explained, part of the recovery of 40,000 units of inventory during the month, thanks to a surge in output as Toyota finally returned, completely, to the desired production level for every model. RAV4 inventories, for instance, were only 6,000 units in August; since then, Toyota has recovered to about 15,000 of the compact SUV in inventory, "but that's still well below what we would have had in stock a year ago," Carter said. And typically, RAV4

inventories are 15,000 to 20,000. But "going forward," Carter vowed, "shortages are behind us ... From an inventory-supply situation, we really are at a much different place at the beginning of November than we were a month ago." For that reason among others, Toyota launched its Toyotathon on Tuesday instead of waiting until right before Thanksgiving, as last year, or until after Thanksgiving, as traditional.

Enhanced zero-percent-interest loans and special leases on many Toyota models already are in place under the umbrella of this popular holiday program. But presumably because brand stewards understand that American consumers aren't quite ready on the day after Halloween to shift into a Christmas commercial consciousness, marketing of the promotions won't start until "closer to Thanksgiving week," Carter said.

Whether any of the brand's competitors would join Toyota in making merrier incentives quite this early, though just about every automaker now annually stages some kind of formal winter-holiday promotion program that crescendos at the end of the year. But Edmunds.com's Jessica Caldwell, senior U.S. industry analyst, believes jumping the gun could work for Toyota.

"Special messaging helps a lot" with any incentive program, she said. "Sometimes automakers scratch their heads about what other kinds of tricks they can pull out of their bags. This looks like something they could use."



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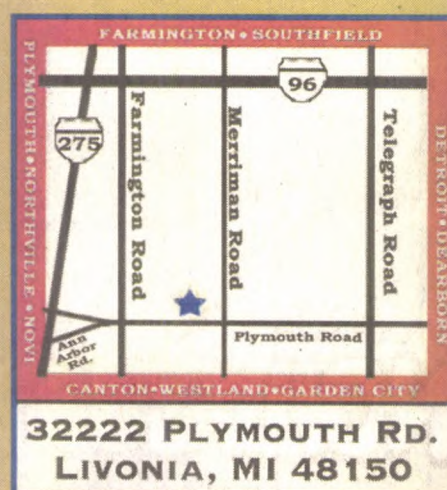
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