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Farewell to 'Z'

Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Principal Bill Zolkowski announced he'll retire when the school year ends in June.

Zolkowski, who left Thurston High School in Redford to become the first park principal in July 2009, said simply "it's time" for him to move into a new phase of his life.



Zolkowski

"I have other things I want to do while I still have the energy to do them," Zolkowski said. "It's just time. I have some regrets (about the decision). I walk through the halls and see things I still love and I think, 'Am I doing the right thing.' Then I talked to my wife, and yes, it's absolutely the right thing."

Zolkowski spent seven years as the principal at Thurston, before moving to Plymouth-Canton.

Plymouth-Canton Supt. Dr. Jeremy Hughes said at a Board of Education meeting Tuesday the leadership structure will be evaluated in the wake of Zolkowski's retirement. No decision has been made yet on replacing Zolkowski.

Senior party

The committee putting together the 2012 PCEP All Night Senior Party hosts a fundraiser Tuesday at the Canton Cinema from 6-10 p.m. The party earns 50 percent of concession sales if the movie goes brings a coupon they printed off at home.

There will be coupons available in the lobby, organizers said, but those only earn 25 percent of the concession sales.

For more information and to get coupons, e-mail Cathi Macko at cathimacko@yahoo.com.

Food drive

The Plymouth Lions Club sponsoring a drive to collect non-perishable food items to help Plymouth-area families in need

March 2-16 at both the Plymouth District Library and the Plymouth Historical Museum.

The museum is offering a \$1 ticket discount per person with food donations. All collected food will be distributed through a local food pantry March 17.

For more information, contact (734) 748-0909.

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Officials credit community effort in water-rate drop

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

It looks like Plymouth Township will be paying less for water beginning this summer, and township officials say the savings will likely be passed on to water customers.

New wholesale rates proposed last week by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department include a price drop of more than 14 percent for the township, from \$20.82 per thousand cubic feet to \$17.86 per thousand.

Township officials are crediting system upgrades, their persistence last year in negotiating with Detroit over a proposed 40-percent price hike and water users' compliance in avoiding heavy water usage during periods of peak demand, for the price decrease.

"This is a whole community effort here," Treasurer Ron Edwards said.

"Our negotiations last year paid off this year," Supervisor Richard Reaume said.

Although proposed sewage

charges to the township, another component of residential and business customers' water bills, aren't finalized, Reaume said his recommendation to the Board of Trustees will likely be to lower retail rates.

Township water customers currently pay \$9.05 per thousand gallons for water and sewer service.

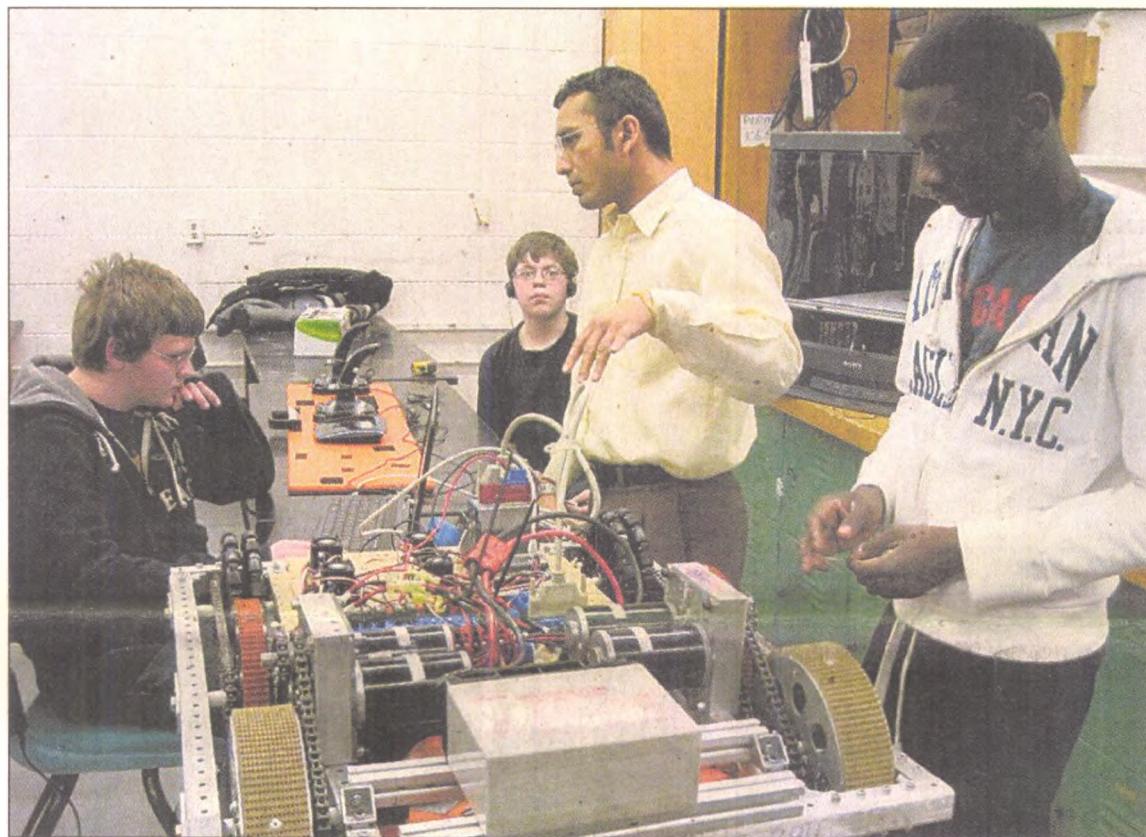
Improvements to the township's water system last year allowed the system to level water demand during peak periods, Reaume said, and

DWSD uses a community's peak demand as a factor in determining rates, as the cost of delivering water during peak periods is higher.

Customers also helped cut peak demand by shifting high-volume usage — car washing, lawn watering and even running dishwashers and clothes washers — to the off-peak hours of between midnight and 6 a.m. and noon and 6 p.m., Reaume said.

A year ago, Detroit proposed

Please see WATER, A7



Building bridge manipulator, Mentor Sameer Praikh of Bosch Corp., talks with programmer Nathan Sherrit and mechanical students Emmanuel Uwoma and Joel Adler.

Robotics squad aims at FIRST districts

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Eddie McClendon would hate it. But when Plymouth-Canton's robotics team, FIRST Team 862 Lightning Robotics, heads to district competition at Kettering University March 2-3, they're taking his namesake, a robot named "Eddie," with them.

While "Eddie" carries with him the responsibility of handling the basketball game tasks that have been assigned as this year's robotics task, the 72-member team will carry the memories of the former team member who died of bone cancer in 2010.

His death, said Kristen Todd, his teammate back then, was like losing a member of the family, because that's what Lightning Robotics is all about.

ROBOTICS ROUNDUP

Who: Plymouth-Canton's FIRST Robotics team, Lightning Robotics Team 862

What: 2012 FIRST Robotics district competition

Where: Kettering University in Flint

When: March 2-3

Why: Game plan is to build a robot to score baskets in various hoops for points

'It's a family'

"It's not just a team, it's a family," said Todd, who organized the first robot unveil and symposium Thursday in the Salem High School auditorium. "When the war

Please see ROBOTICS, A4



Lightning Robotics members Ian Pudney (from left), Jeff Middleton and Jeff Hess will drive 'Eddie' in the upcoming FIRST Robotics competition.

District still adjusting to new MEAP standards

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

School officials shouldn't have been surprised that MEAP scores released Wednesday — the first scores using the state's new, more rigorous proficiency standards — show students aren't as prepared as they should be for college.

And they weren't. Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials, like school administrators around the state, knew the scores — though higher or level in 13 of 18 areas — weren't going to be high enough to reach Adequate Yearly Progress status.

"Many of our schools raised their scores," said Dana Jones, the district's director of academic and assessment services. "It's too soon to know if we made AYP. The state raised the cut scores significantly. We can't worry about that; this is the new standard, and we've got to get there."

Michigan Department of Education spokesperson Jan Ellis said the state started talking about toughening the standards "well over a year ago."

Tougher standards

The state applied the more rigorous cut scores operationally for the first time to the 2011 scores while also applying the new cut scores to MEAP results from prior years to provide a meaningful comparison of the percentage of students proficient in each content area across the years.

Please see MEAP, A6

Home values up; trends show 'year of recovery'

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer



Shawn Riley, a Realtor and the office manager at Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel in Plymouth, said he feels like the "market's healed and we're starting to come out of it in our stronger communities."

A downward spiral in residential property values in recent years appears to have reversed itself in Plymouth Township and at least flat-lined in the city of Plymouth, and a local Realtor is convinced the tide has turned.

Figures released earlier this month show residential property assessments up an average of 2.5 percent in the township, and completely flat, at 0 percent, in the city. That compares to residential assessment decreases reported a year ago of eight-tenths of 1 percent in the township and 3.2 percent in the city.

Assessments are being mailed to individ-

ual homeowners this month.

One local Realtor said the Plymouth-area housing market is definitely rebounding.

"When we get the inventory, it's selling quickly, and the sale prices are going up," said Shawn Riley, a Realtor and the office manager at Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel in Plymouth. "It feels very much like the market's healed and we're starting to come out of it in our stronger communities."

Riley noted that conditions vary widely within the Detroit metropolitan area, with some communities showing to show declines while others showing increases. Among the Plymouth area's neighbors,

Please see HOME VALUES, A3

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Panel OKs 'Waterland' for AP use

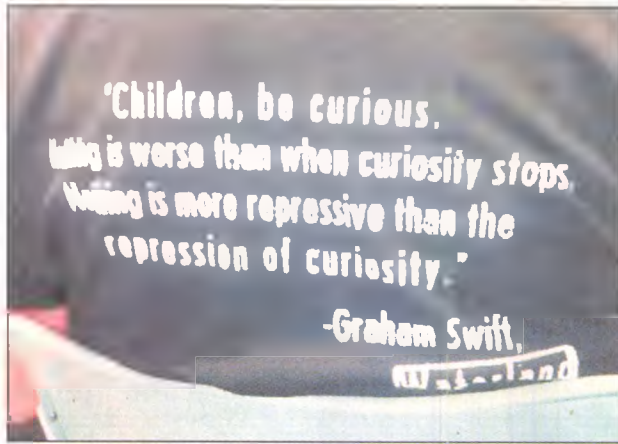
By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Waterland, the 1983 Graham Swift novel that started a months-long controversy over its appropriateness for use in an Advanced Placement English curriculum, will live to teach another day.

The nine-member panel convened last week to consider the merits of a complaint brought by the Canton parents of an AP student offended by the book, and the defense of its use by the teachers charged with the program, decided in an anonymous vote to leave *Waterland* in the curriculum.

The committee met in a public meeting Feb. 8 and heard from Barb and Matt Dame of Canton, who brought the complaint, and from AP English teachers Brian Read and Gretchen Miller. They met again in a closed meeting Monday and cast their anonymous votes this week.

Erin MacGregor, the district's director of secondary education who facilitated the review



At last week's review committee hearing, 'Waterland' supporters wore this T-shirt emblazoned with a quote from author Graham Swift, who penned the book in 1983.

committee, said committee members were impressed with arguments made by both sides. However, he said, the argument Read and Miller made that *Waterland* and *Beloved*, Toni Morrison's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel which had its own review hearing last month, fit together within the framework of the curriculum was a selling point.

"The feedback I heard was truly how impressed they were with the instructional program the teachers deliver," MacGregor said. "What

I heard this time was the way the two novels play off each other really well and work into the curriculum really well. What they heard from the teachers, I think, made that argument very solid."

Matt Dame could not be reached for comment.

Read, who introduced the books some 10 years ago, said he was glad the committee opted to keep *Waterland* in the curriculum, and hoped the distractions caused by the controversy would end.

"I think we gave a very reasoned defense of it, so

the (ruling) doesn't surprise me," Read said. "I'm happy. Hopefully, this will bring that all to an end."

Waterland has been out of the curriculum since Supt. Jeremy Hughes removed it in mid-December. Read said although *Waterland* has now been approved for teaching, it's too late to reintroduce it this year.

"We just finished (Friday) the unit that sort of brings those books together," Read said. "There's no time this year."

The book will be returned to the curriculum in the fall. At last week's public meeting of the review committee, Read and Miller said adjustments will be made to the syllabus to provide a more strident warning to parents whose students are considering the AP English course.

While the decision of the committee is not binding on the administration, Hughes has said he would abide by the rulings of both review committees.

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Injury accident case sent to circuit court

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

An Ann Arbor man is scheduled to be arraigned Friday in Wayne County Circuit Court on charges stemming from a Dec. 1 crash that injured two sisters from Plymouth Township.

Adam Gil, 41, is charged with one count of causing a serious injury while driving drunk and one count of drunken driving. He waived his preliminary hearing in 35th District Court on Feb. 10, and Judge James Plakas sent the case to circuit court.

Police say Gil was driving a Ford F-150 pickup truck west on Ann Arbor Road on the night of Dec. 1 when the truck crossed the center line and crash head-on into an eastbound Honda Odyssey minivan driven by a 21-year-old township woman, and also occupied by the driver's 16-year-old sister.

Firefighters had to use an extrication tool to cut the driver from the Odyssey, and she spent two days at the University of Michigan Hospital. The younger victim was treated for minor injuries and released.

A sample of Gil's blood analyzed by the Michigan State Police showed his blood-alcohol level at 0.16, twice the level at which a driver is considered drunk, said Lt. Bob Antal of the Plymouth Township Police Department.

Gil, who was not seriously injured, had told police at the time of the crash that he was on his way home from work and couldn't remember what happened just before the collision.

He had originally been charged with two counts of causing a serious injury while driving drunk, but the assistant prosecutor amended one of those charges to driving while intoxicated.

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Kroger expansion planned; Aco also adding space

HOME VALUES

Continued from page A1

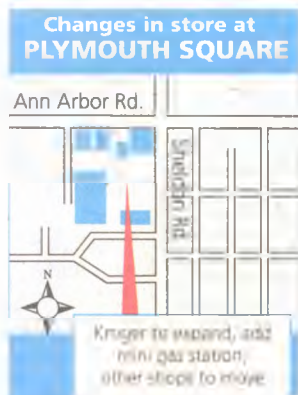
By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

An expanded Kroger supermarket, a new kiosk-style gas station and the demolition of three existing buildings are among the changes planned for Plymouth Square Plaza, a shopping center at the intersection of Ann Arbor Road and Sheldon in Plymouth Township.

At the same time, the plaza's Blockbuster video store is closing — a sign on the store Friday said the store was in its last 10 days — and employees at the adjacent Aco Hardware store are getting ready to open an expansion of about 5,000 square feet.

Specific information on Kroger was sketchy last week, but plans on file with the township, and discussions at a December Board of Trustees meeting, indicate the supermarket will expand northward toward Ann Arbor Road by about 15,000 square feet. Plans also show a new attached retail space, facing Ann Arbor Road, of nearly 11,000 square feet.

The Big Boy restaurant on Ann Arbor Road, which closed Feb. 12, two days after it was sold, will be torn down



to make room for the expansion. The building, which housed a Big Boy for more than 30 years, was already being dismantled Friday.

Kroger also plans to open a kiosk gas station — with gas pumps and a small building meant only to shelter the clerk, not a convenience store — on the corner off Ann Arbor Road and Sheldon, where a vacant bank building now sits.

Kroger spokesman Brandon Barrow on Friday said plans have been submitted and are awaiting township approval, but couldn't provide a time frame for when the expansion might begin.

The nearly 11,000-square-foot space that would be attached to Kroger under the expansion is to create space for businesses — the Red Dragon restaurant,

a Great Clips salon, the Happy Nails salon and a FedEx facility — now in a separate building that is to be razed once the expansion is complete.

Employees at Great Clips and Happy Nails said Friday that their shops will be relocating to the new space, while an employee at the Red Dragon said it wasn't clear if the restaurant will move. A Fed Ex spokeswoman said she had no information on a possible move by the shipping outlet.

Another building in the plaza, which houses the Better Health store, Travel Leaders and several other shops, will remain as is, the plans

show.

At Aco, manager Sheila Quigg said the store recently expanded into two spaces to the west of the hardware store, a former Coney Island restaurant and a vacant storefront. "It almost doubled our sales floor," Quigg said.

The area was stocked with merchandise but not open to customers Friday; Quigg said the space was still awaiting inspections and should be open within weeks.

A grand opening of the expanded Aco is planned for late March or early April, she said.

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Northville and Northville Township saw residential assessment increases while Canton Township, Livonia and Westland saw further declines.

Township Supervisor Richard Reaume welcomed the assessment increases in the township. "We take it as a sign that consumer confidence is going up in our area," he said.

In some areas of the township, he said, assessments were up by around 10 percent, while other areas showed no increase.

Riley said that in the city and the township, homes in good shape are in demand, and even short sales — deals in which the seller's lender agrees to take less for a home than is owed, because the mortgage is "under water" — are sell-

ing quickly.

"We're still seeing a lot of multiple bids and first-day sales" on short-sale deals, Riley said. The number of short sales, Riley added, also seems to have dropped off.

Riley said the average home sale price in Plymouth and Plymouth Township in 2011 was \$201,275, up from \$198,407 in 2010. That includes condominiums but not sale-by-owner deals.

"I'm very optimistic," Riley said. "I think this is the year of the recovery."

The new residential assessments will be used to calculate taxable values and applied to property taxes when the rates are set later this year in each community. Taxable value increases are capped at the rate of inflation, currently about 2.8 percent.

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Stacey Turnipseed, RN
Director of Nursing

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ROBOTICS

Continued from page A1

was too hard (for Eddie) to fight alone, Lightning Robotics was right there to fight right next to him."

Now the team will take "Eddie" to Kettering to fight another battle. They've been working on him since January, when they got the game plan from the FIRST (For Inspiration and Respect of Science and Technology) Robotics program developed by Segway electric vehicle inventor Dean Kamen.

That opened a six-week window for the team, with its seven subgroups, to develop, build and program the robot to take on the challenge. The team's subgroups — manufacturing, programming, computer-aided design, electrical, marketing, scouting and website design — wasted no time getting started.

"We usually start that same day," said Sarah Leeson, a Salem High School junior from Canton. "You don't get much time, and you can't waste it."

Student-run

The team is totally student run, with an elected board of officers headed by current team president David Nikolits, a Canton High School senior from Plymouth. And that's not easy, considering it's an extracurricular program.

"It's hard," Nikolits admitted. "We have to fit this in with school and homework. Our parent mentors make sure school comes first. But it's worth it."



Team members Eric Devey, Kristin King and Tim Condron work on the bridge manipulator.



Matt Kohls takes a look at 'Eddie' from a computer-aided design perspective.

While the students make the decisions, they have plenty of support. Jay Obsniuk originated the team some 13 years

ago, and other teacher and parent mentors help out. And the program is done with a team of mentors from Bosch Corp.,



Tim Condron on the drill press as the building of 'Eddie' commences.

with offices in Farmington and Plymouth.

Bosch support

A team of engineers from Bosch — five full time, two part time — not

only oversees the engineering portion, but also has a hand in how the team uses the \$16,000 cash donation the company makes. "This is important ...



Freshman Brandon Diehl suited up as 'Gigawatt,' mascot for Plymouth-Canton's Lighting Robotics team.

this is the next generation of engineers," said Chris Morgan, a calibration engineer and Bosch's lead mentor for FIRST robotics. "This is a way to make sure kids understand science, technology, engineering and math disciplines. They're getting a crash course in Engineering 101."

It's a crash course the kids love, and it becomes a huge part of their lives. How huge? At one point, according to his dad, they wheeled Eddie McCleendon to a robotics build on a gurney, and from that gurney Eddie was helping a freshman understand the rigors of the team.

How huge? The team heard about Eddie's April 2010 death while on their way home from the Michigan state robotics championship.

So how would he feel about having the robot namesake?

"Oh, he'd hate it!" said Edwin McCleendon, Jr., Eddie's father and now a parent mentor for the team. "But that's Eddie. When he was sick, people always wanted to ask him about it, and he'd just walk away. He never wanted it to be about him."

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Commissioner Cox calls for Ficano to resign

By Ken Abramczyk
Observer Staff Writer

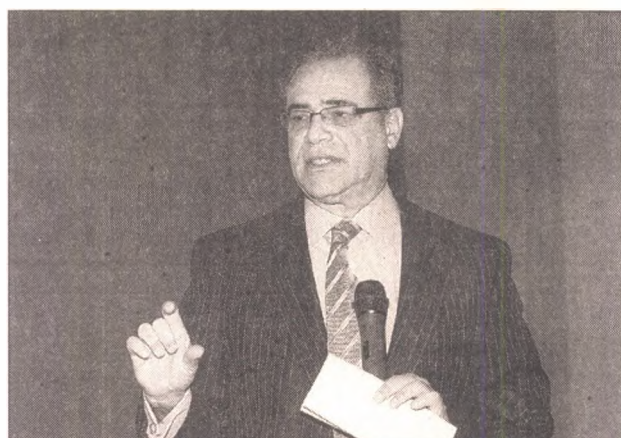
Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox, R-Livonia, has called for County Executive Robert Ficano to resign.

Cox called for Ficano's resignation Thursday at a commission meeting inside the commission chambers at the Guardian Building.

Cox's statements came one day after the FBI charged Wayne County's former Chief Information Officer Tahir Kazmi with extortion, theft and obstruction of justice. The FBI also charged Zayd Allebban, another member of the IT department, with obstruction of justice.

"Why does any duly elected commissioner have to put up with the corruption, incompetence and pettiness of the Ficano administration?" Cox asked. "Does anyone here know one employee — one employee out of our 4,300 employees — who is proud to say they are a public servant in Wayne County? Mr. Ficano and his administration have given a black eye to public service in Wayne County."

Cox said Ficano has "stonewalled" the commission on questions regarding spending.



Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano.

"He said there were no more severances; then we found out he was hiding even bigger severances than Ms. (Turkia) Mullin," Cox said. "So I am going to say what most every one of those 1.8 million citizens have been saying. We need a leader who is not someone hiding out in a bunker on the 31st floor. We need a leader who is man enough to come before this commission and answer our questions. We need a leader — man or woman — who is strong enough to lead this troubled county. We need that leader now and it isn't Bob Ficano."

"Wayne County needs those of us on this commission to speak truth to power. It needs us to be silent no longer. So today I call on Bob Ficano to resign and let Wayne

County move on."

Ficano issued a statement in response to Cox's statement.

"The commissioner's statements today are obvious political grandstanding that cannot be taken seriously and are not worthy of a response," Ficano said. "I am not resigning, and there have been no allegations of wrongdoing made against me. My administration will continue to be cooperative with the federal authorities."

One other county commissioner — Bernard Parker, D-Detroit — also believes Ficano should step down.

It appears that other Democrats on the commission want more accountability and answers.

Commissioner Diane



Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox.

Webb, a Democrat who represents Garden City and Redford, believes the administration should be held accountable for its actions.

"Residents need to understand that by law, the Wayne County Commission does not have the ability to remove the county executive from office," Webb said. "I understand where Commissioner Cox is coming from, and I am equally as appalled and outraged as she is because it is clear that the administration has intentionally misled and deceived the commission and the public."

"The FBI's investigation has been moving swiftly and thoroughly, and we need to let that

process take its course. At this moment in time, the commission, which is the county's legislative body, needs to continue what we are doing and that's been enacting ordinances that provide safeguards and maximize internal controls."

County Commissioner Kevin McNamara, a Democrat from Canton, said Ficano needs to sit down with commissioners and tell them what's going on.

"If he's not willing to do that, then enough is enough ... a lot of the commissioners feel that way," McNamara said. "He's misled us ... he's gone around the rules that govern how we do business. He needs to get out of that bunker on the 31st floor, tell us what happened and stop spoon-feeding the truth to us. Enough is enough."

Local community leaders are not joining Cox in her call for Ficano's resignation.

Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy, while stopping short of saying Ficano should resign, said Wayne County has obvious problems.

"I think there are some significant issues,

and they need to be addressed," LaJoy said. "I don't think things are getting better. The problem for me is, every day it's something new. Somehow, someday, these things need to get figured out."

Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume declined to comment on Cox's call for Ficano's resignation. He said county employees have always been attuned to the needs of Plymouth Township residents.

"Plymouth Township works cooperatively with the Wayne County administration, including the executive's office and individual Wayne County departments," Reaume said.

Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey would not comment on Cox's statement, nor would he comment when asked if he agreed with her or what he thought about the federal investigation of Wayne County. Westland Mayor Bill Wild also would not comment on Cox's call for Ficano to resign.

Staff Writers Brad Kadrich and Sue Mason contributed to this story.

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A NEW ARTHRITIS

The patient is an elderly person usually age 85 or older, coming to the office on an emergency basis. The patient is experiencing such pain that getting out of the house without the aid of a relative or neighbor is impossible. When the doctor examines the patient there is nothing to see. The patient points to a place on the hand or foot as the site of the intense pain, but the doctor cannot identify any swelling or redness, only marked pain if the site is even gently palpated.

Treatment consists of an injection of steroid at the site of pain. This therapy at times ends the attack, but not always. In some instances the injection gives only 1-2 days relief; the doctor must prescribe oral prednisone 10-15 mg for five days, and then repeat the dose because of another attack.

These episodes exhibit the features of gout, but swelling is missing and repeat attacks so soon after therapy, is not in keeping with gout. The response of cortisone controls the pain, but the need for repeated doses brings the risk of steroid side effects such as bone loss and vulnerability to infection.

To date, investigators have found no correlation of this arthritis with changes in thyroid or kidney function, presence of diabetes or use of medications such as diuretics. Nor does any medicine other than steroids stop an episode.

This arthritis seems connected with aging, and with changes in bone chemistry. Until research uncovers the biochemical events leading to the acute episodes physicians see, the medical community must continue to treat and advise with caution.

Canton threatens lawsuit to install water main

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Canton's elected leaders are threatening a lawsuit against a group of west-side property owners unless they agree to allow the township to install a new water main along the east side of Denton Road between Geddes and Mott. Township officials are hopeful the 15 homeowners will avert a condemnation lawsuit by accepting what Municipal Services Director Tim Faas called "a good-faith offer" allowing Canton to install the water main and restore the property. "There should be very little disruption to the property," Faas said. Firing a new salvo, the

Canton Township Board of Trustees voted Tuesday to authorize the lawsuit against any property owner who tries to block the project by refusing to accept the offer by late this week. "I see this as being purely procedural," Trustee Pat Williams said of the board's decision. Canton officials say the water main is needed to address low-pressure problems that have plagued Canton's southwest side. Moreover, the project would bring water service to residents and allow the installation of fire hydrants. One house on Denton Road was gutted by a Jan. 12 fire that forced firefighters to

haul water to the site. "We need to put the water (main) in there," Supervisor Phil LaJoy said. Water-pressure problems on Canton's southwest side are among the community's worst. Local officials are hopeful the residents have held out until now as a bargaining chip to get what they can for allowing the water main on their property. Any condemnation lawsuit would be filed in Wayne County Circuit Court — a move intended to allow Canton to seize property only for purposes of using the easement for a water main.

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MEAP

Continued from page A1

The old standard simply asked students to show a basic understanding of the material, while the new standards are based on how students would need to score to be ready for college and careers. Under the new system, students must get some 65 percent of the answers correct to pass the exams, compared to some 39 percent under the old standards. "We passed new grade-level expectations, and we set the proficiency levels at a basic level to give schools time to integrate the more rigorous standards that were coming," said Michigan Department of Education spokesperson Jan Ellis. "There still was a very small percentage, maybe 20 percent, who were college ready."

Although Plymouth-Canton students still managed increased scores, the state averages weren't good when the new standards were applied. Consider:

- In math, 37 percent of students in grades 3-8 passed the MEAP exam. Plymouth-Canton students in grades 3-8 averaged 62.5 percent.
- State averages were better in reading, at 63 percent. Plymouth-Canton averaged 77.5 percent.
- The average pass rate in science statewide was 16 percent; Plymouth-Canton's was 22.5.
- Writing scores averaged 46 percent around the state; in Plymouth-Canton it was 61.5.
- Ninth-graders statewide scored 29 percent on the social studies test; Plymouth-Canton students hit 41 percent.

Waiver request

Federal No Child Left Behind guidelines call for schools to be 100 percent AYP proficient by

Plymouth - Canton Community Schools

District average

Percentage of students who were "proficient." Writing was new to 4th and 7th grades in 2010.

Grade	2009	2010	2011
3rd Grade			
Math	53.5	55.1	54
Reading	75.7	74.4	73
4th Grade			
Math	62.1	60.2	63.0
Reading	76.6	74.9	82.0
Writing		38.5	37.0
5th Grade			
Math	70	68.3	69.0
Reading	79.2	79.6	83.0
Science	18.2	27.8	23.0
6th Grade			
Math	72.8	64.3	69.0
Reading	78.8	76.5	79.0
S. Studies	48.1	42.1	45.0
7th Grade			
Math	62.4	58.6	61.0
Reading	71.8	74.1	75.0
Writing		66.0	66.0
8th Grade			
Math	59.2	54.6	59.0
Reading	69.8	71.8	73.0
Science	22.6	22.0	22.0
9th Grade			
S. Studies	53.1	44.8	41.0

Source: Michigan Department of Education

2014. Ellis noted the state board is preparing to request a waiver from the federal government for the 2011 scores to give the state a chance to evaluate.

In the meantime, educators plan to keep the focus on student achievement.

"We need to ensure all students receive either the technical skills to get a job, or additional schooling," Ellis said. "Number one is, we want to make sure parents don't have to pay for remedial classes because students didn't learn what they needed to learn (in high school). We want to make sure our students can get the best jobs

available." Jones is confident the district's ongoing move to match the state's more rigorous common-core curriculum should right the MEAP ship once adjustments are made. "Our curriculum will be more rigorous," Jones said. "The common-core state curriculum is more rigorous, and we're working on ours to bring it to that level. We have work to do, definitely. If we were looking at last year's (cut) scores, we'd be celebrating. But there is a new standard, and we have to move forward."

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH LEGAL NOTICE

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2012

Notice is hereby given that a primary election will be held in the Charter Township of Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan, on Tuesday, February 28, 2012. The Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. below is a listing of the offices and proposals that will be on the February 28, 2012 Presidential Primary Election. Sections are Partisan and Proposal.

Partisan Section:

President of the United States

Proposal Section:

Fire SAD Ballot Language

A proposal to create a special assessment district for fire services comprising all of the land of the Charter Township of Plymouth except tax exempt property under Public Act 33 of the Public Acts of 1951, MCL 41.801 et seq., thereby authorizing the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees, after public hearing, to annually assess and levy on the lands specially benefited an ad valorem special assessment based on the taxable value of the property in the special assessment district, in an amount not to exceed .10 percent of the taxable value of the property assessed (10 mills) for fire vehicles, equipment, apparatus and housing; and further authorizing the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees, after public hearing, to annually assess and levy on the lands specially benefited an ad valorem special assessment based on the taxable value of the property in the special assessment district, in the amount necessary for operation and maintenance of fire services.

Shall the proposed Special Assessment Fire District be created and the assessment be authorized?

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NEW POLLING LOCATIONS ARE:

Precinct 1	St. Kenneth's Catholic Church	14951 N Haggerty Rd
Precinct 2	Friendship Station	42375 Schoolcraft Rd
Precinct 3	Township Hall	9955 N Haggerty Rd
Precinct 4	Fiegel Elementary School	39750 Joy Rd
Precinct 5	Isbister Elementary School	9300 Canton Center Rd
Precinct 6	West Middle School	44401 W Ann Arbor Trl
Precinct 7	Church of the Nazarene	45801 Ann Arbor Rd W
Precinct 8	Praise Baptist Church	45000 N Territorial Rd
Precinct 9	Living Word Church	46500 N Territorial Rd
Precinct 10	NorthRidge Church	49555 N Territorial Rd
Precinct 11	Risen Christ Lutheran Church	46250 Ann Arbor Rd W
Precinct 12	Pioneer Middle School	46081 Ann Arbor Rd W

All polling locations are handicapped accessible.

Applications for Absentee ballots may be obtained during regular business hours, which are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Plymouth Township Clerk's Office
9955 N Haggerty Road
Plymouth, MI 48170

On Saturday, February 25, 2012, the Clerk's Offices will be open; 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., to issue Absentee ballots to qualified voters in person.

On Monday, February 27, 2012, qualified voters may be issued an Absentee ballot in person, and shall vote them in the Clerk's Offices until 4:00 p.m.

Joe Bridgman, MMC
Township Clerk

Publish: February 19, 2012

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

Detroit man gets year in county jail

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

A Detroit man who ambushed his ex-girlfriend in her Canton home and sexually assaulted her will spend one year in the Wayne County Jail.

Kerenski Caldwell, 43, also will remain on probation for five years after he was sentenced Thursday by Wayne County Circuit Judge Patricia



Caldwell

County Prosecutor Maria Miller said he pleaded guilty Jan. 18 to second-degree criminal sexual conduct, stalking and domestic violence.

Fresard, a court clerk said. Caldwell's sentencing came after Assistant Wayne

His plea agreement resulted in more serious charges of first-degree criminal sexual conduct and first-degree home invasion being dropped. If convicted as charged, he could have faced penalties ranging up to life in prison.

Caldwell's former girlfriend testified against him in November during his preliminary hearing in 35th District Court. She wept and her body

was visibly shaking as she recounted what happened inside her Canton home last Oct. 12 when Caldwell hid in her bathroom before she came home.

"He grabbed me by the neck and pushed me against the wall," she said, accusing Caldwell of forcing her to the floor, sexually assaulting her, dragging her to a bed and continuing to attack her. The victim said she

punched and kicked Caldwell and managed to call 9-1-1 when he momentarily left the room.

According to the Michigan Department of Corrections, Caldwell already had spent years in prison for a criminal history including armed robbery, retail fraud, embezzlement, felonious assault and felony firearms. The incidents date back as far as 1990.

Caldwell's ex-girlfriend testified in November she suspected wrongdoing when she entered her home Oct. 12 and wasn't greeted by her dog, who had been placed on a sun porch.

She said she had known Caldwell for three years but they had decided to end their relationship and "remain friends."

dclem@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2238

WATER

Continued from page A1

a 40-percent wholesale increase for the township, but months of negotiations, during which township officials proposed system improvements, held that increase to 18 percent.

In the city of Plymouth, a wholesale increase of about 8 percent, to \$16.18 per thousand cubic feet, was reportedly proposed, but that number could not be confirmed with Plymouth officials.

The proposed DWSD rates are subject to a vote of the Detroit City Council and, if approved, would take effect beginning in July.

A thousand cubic feet of water is nearly 7,500 gallons.

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Treasure Hunters Come to Livonia!

By Jason Delong
THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow
STAFF WRITER

Got Gold? This week, visitors can cash in on antiques, collectibles, gold, silver, coins or just about anything that is old.

THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow is not affiliated with or related to the Antiques Roadshow television series, PBS or WGBH

Clean out your attics, closets and lock boxes because Treasure Hunters are coming to Livonia. Event specialists will be in town examining antiques, collectibles, gold and silver.

While they will accept anything that's old, they will be focusing on gold and silver coins made before 1970, military items, toys and trains, musical instruments, pocket and wrist watches. Scrap gold is expected to be a popular category this week due to soaring gold prices.

Buyers for the event have noticed a tremendous increase in the amount of

"U.S. coins made before 1970 are most sought after by collectors. Coins made before 1970 are 90% silver and valuable because of the silver content or could be worth even more if one happens to be a rare date."

gold coming to the event and for good reason. Record gold prices have event guests cashing in on broken jewelry or jewelry they don't wear anymore with our "fair and honest" purchase offers.

Treasure Hunters encourage anyone planning a visit to take a minute and examine their jewelry box or their lock box at the bank and gather anything that's gold. If a guest

is not sure if something is gold, bring it anyway and the event staff will test it for free. Other gold items of interest include gold coins, gold ounces, gold proof sets and dental gold.

Other types of items event specialists hope to see include old toys and train sets. Archie Davis, THR's toy specialist spoke about some of the top toys getting great offers. "Old tin windup toys from the late 1800's through the 1960's are in great demand now," said Davis, "Especially those that are character related. Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, the Flintstones or any character toys are sought. Old Buddy L toys from the 1920's to 1960's are in demand." Basically any toys made before 1970 are wanted. Train sets made by Lionel, American Flyer, Marklin and others have the potential to fetch a large sum. Davis also stressed, "Toys with boxes and in mint condition bring sensational prices. Most of the toys that come

to the event are not in perfect shape but can still bring good prices from collectors."

When specialist Tom Fuller was asked what he enjoyed most about

working at the event, he was quick to answer, "Old coins and paper currency. For as long as I can remember I have been fascinated with collecting coins. I would go

through the change in my parents grocery store looking for rare dates and errors. Once, I found a silver quarter that I sold for \$300.00. Not bad for an 8 year old."

Fuller went on to explain that any U.S. coins made before 1970 are most sought after by collectors. Coins made before 1970 are 90% silver and valuable because of the



Above • A Gentleman sits with Mike Delong with anticipation as the event specialist examines his collectibles.

"If you go to the event, you can cash-in your items for competitive prices.

THR's representatives will be available to assess and purchase your items at the Holiday Inn, Tuesday through Saturday, in Livonia."

silver content or could be worth even more if one happens to be a rare date. "We help people sort through their coins for unique dates. We buy all types of coins at the event from wheat pennies to buffalo nickels, which are valuable from one coin to an entire truckload. See you at THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow," said Fuller.

www.treasurehuntersroadshow.com

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• **JEWELRY** Gold, Silver, Platinum, diamonds, rubies, sapphires and all types of stones, metals, etc. Rings, bracelets, necklaces, all others including broken jewelry. Early costume jewelry wanted.

• **WRIST & POCKET WATCHES** Rolex, Tiffany, Hublot, Omega, Chopard, Cartier, Philippe, Ebel, Waltham, Swatch, Chopard, Elgin, Bunn Special, Railroad, Illinois, Hamilton, all others.

• **TOYS, TRAINS & DOLLS** All types of toys made before 1970 including: Hot Wheels, Tonka, Buddy L, Smith Miller, Nylint, Robots, battery toys, Mickey Mouse, train sets, all gauges, accessories, individual cars, Marklin, American Flyer, Lionel, Hafner, all other trains, Barbie Dolls, GI Joe, Shirley Temple, Characters, German, all makers accepted.

• **MILITARY ITEMS, SWORDS** Civil War, Revolutionary War, WWI, WWII, etc. Items of interest include swords, badges, clothes, photos, medals, knives, gear and letters. The older the swords, the better. All types wanted.

• **ADVERTISING ITEMS** Metal and Porcelain signs, gas companies, beer and liquor makers, automobile, implements, etc.

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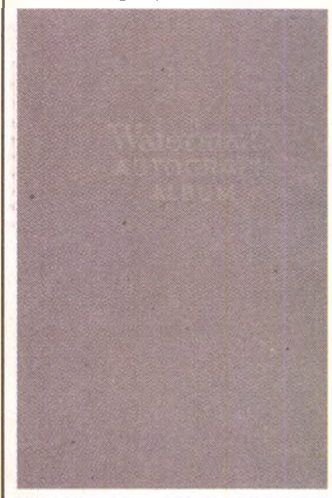
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- The offer is made on the spot on behalf of our collectors making the offer
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THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow event runs Tuesday through Saturday in Livonia.

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1798 \$5
UP TO \$125,000*



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Pay off charge cards and diversify portfolio with windfall

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

Q: Dear Rick: I'm in my late 50s and receiving Social Security disability. I just received a settlement from Social Security and after I pay the taxes and legal fees, I will have approximately \$30,000. Currently, I do not need any additional income and I don't think I will need the money for at least 10 years.

After reading one of your past columns, I did refinance using the HARP mortgage and I'm locked in at 3 1/2 percent. In addition, I have \$5,000 on an outstanding charge card where the interest rate is 9.9 percent. I also have another \$10,000 in charge card debt, however, it is at 2 percent. The rate will adjust May 1.

I consider myself a moderate investor and my current portfolio, which is approximately \$150,000, is 50 percent U.S. stocks, 5 percent large, foreign stocks and 45 percent U.S. treasury. I would appreciate any suggestions.

A: My first recommendation is pay off both charge cards. In regards to the charge card that you are paying 9.9 percent, it is a no-brainer — pay this card off.

After all, by paying off this high-interest rate charge card, you're guaranteeing yourself a 9.9-percent return.

In today's world, most investors would agree that 9.9 percent is an

excellent rate of return. As to the other card, because your gimmick rate is set to expire in the very near future, I think it also makes sense to pay it off. I have no doubt that when the rate adjusts in May, your rate will rise dramatically.

In the past, many people would transfer the balance to another gimmick rate deal and keep doing that. Unfortunately, it is not as easy as it used to be. You may find that you are unable to do this. Therefore, pay off both cards now.

I love the idea that you are looking at long-term growth for the remaining money. Based upon that and what you currently have in your portfolio, I recommend investing the remaining \$15,000 in an emerging market fund. At this point, you don't have this asset class in your portfolio.

Emerging market funds invest in new economies such as China and India. It used to be that only aggressive investors invested in an emerging market fund, however, that is no longer the case. Today, all inves-

tors need to maintain a position in emerging market funds for diversification purposes.

A couple of no-load (no commission) funds to consider are the Fidelity Emerging Market Fund and the Acadian Emerging Market Fund. The Vanguard Emerging Market Stock Index is another good fund to consider.

When I got involved in this business more than 25 years ago, investing internationally was considered the cutting edge. Investing in emerging markets was unheard of.

As far as I'm concerned, just about all investors need positions in large company international, small company international and emerging markets. Just as large corporations now think globally, investors need to do the same thing. Investing internationally is not aggressive nor is it unpatriotic. It is smart and over the long run, the smart investors are the ones who end up with more money in their pocket, and that is exactly where it belongs. 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.

Canton man dies in U.P. crash

Authorities say a Canton man has died during a snowmobile accident in the Upper Peninsula.

According to published reports, 65-year-old Carl Dale Peterson of Canton died after his snowmobile hit a tree

Thursday afternoon in Adams Township in Houghton County.

The crash happened along the North Freda trail. The Houghton County Sheriff's Department said the crash is under investigation.

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Having trouble sleeping? Believe it or not, Daylight Savings Time can play havoc with your sleep schedule. Come discuss a variety of sleep related topics with the board certified "GCH Dream Team". From insomnia to sleep aids, the Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan will help you rest easier...and better!

Tuesday, March 6, 2012
5:30 pm – Registration
6:00 pm – Presentation

Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan
35600 Central City Parkway • Westland, MI 48185
(Located in the Westland Specialty Center; adjacent to Dick's Sporting Goods)

This event is free to the public and includes speakers:

- **Medical Director of the Sleep Disorders Center of MI, John Morrison, Jr., DO**
Reviews and explains the various sleep disorders
- **Pharmacist, Lisa Cayo, R. Ph.**
Discusses over-the-counter and prescription sleep aids, and the interactions and effects of medications
- **Sleep Medicine Specialist, Amal Omran, MD**
Provides an overview of sleep disorders in children
- **Diabetes Educator, Sharon Goodsell, RN**
Explains the link between Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) and diabetes

Plus, tour our technologically advanced facility

Also, on-hand to discuss the latest products and services for improving sleep are: Garden City Home Medical Equipment and Sweet Dreamzzz, Inc.

There will also be a prize drawing that will include gift cards and more!

Light refreshments will be served, but space is limited and registration is required. To reserve your space, or for more information, call 734.458.3330

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Romney talks business at chamber luncheon

By Stacy Jenkins
Observer Staff Writer

Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney said all the right words to a crowd of more than 500 Thursday at a lunch co-hosted by the Livonia Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce.

"I liked how he talked how important Michigan is, and about bringing business back to Michigan," said Mark LaBerge, an ambassador with the Livonia Chamber.

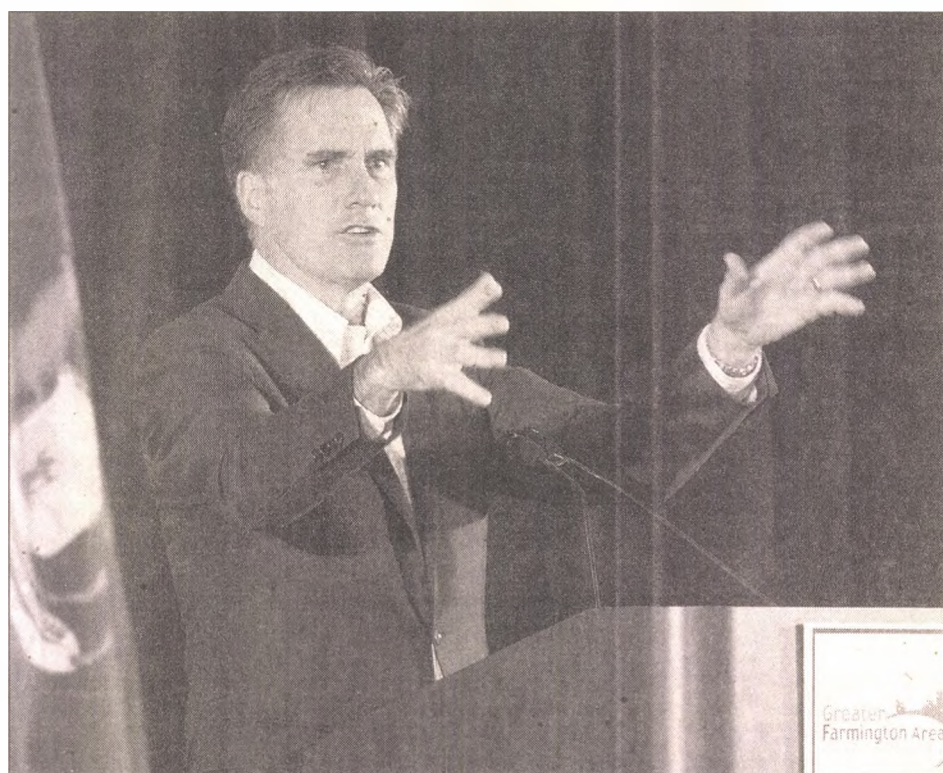
His son, Andy LaBerge, of Livonia, who is 22, said he was impressed by Romney's words — and his spirit.

"I think he truly believes in America," he said. "My generation is looking for jobs — and for the president himself to hold to his promises. That's the biggest thing that's caused anger and disapproval in our current president, in my generation."

The longtime businessman and former Massachusetts governor made a strategic stop on the campaign trail, just hours before key opponent Rick Santorum was scheduled to speak at the Oakland County Republican Party Lincoln Day Dinner in neighboring Novi.

The Republican presidential primary in Michigan is Feb. 28.

Romney was joined by family members and Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder at the event, held at the Farmington Hills



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mitt Romney said many Obama administration actions are anti-business.

Manor. Snyder, Thursday, publicly endorsed Romney in a *Detroit News* guest column, and offered words of support before Romney took the stage.

He means business

Snyder pointed out Michigan "had been at the bottom, for a decade, of all 50 states," but is now repositioned as a leader in a fiscal turnaround that has erased a \$1.5 billion debt and eliminated \$5.6 billion in long-term liability.

He also touted the elimination of the Michigan Business Tax and Michigan's recent climb from 49th to seventh best in

the nation for corporate taxation.

"We are now becoming a role model for the rest of the United States, in what success is all about and what teamwork is all about," he said.

Change in D.C.

Snyder said Washington D.C. is holding the state back.

"Washington is a divided place and the job is not getting done," he said. "We need the leadership in Washington to get that job done. To do that, we need the right people, leading the charge. We have a person in Governor Romney who has that

background. He has a great combination of private sector experience ... and being the chief executive of a state."

Romney echoed his experience in the private sector as "being essential in knowing the nuances of how to run a government."

He was preaching to the choir, to a room filled with Chamber of Commerce members who own or manage businesses.

"In the private sector that you all live in, you're either fiscally conservative or you're out of business," he said. "You can't borrow money year after year and spend more than you take in, or you'll go bankrupt. And, if you don't balance your budget, you'll kill your enterprise."

Inspiring

Debra Williams of Livonia, vice president of

operations at Garden City Hospital, said Romney's speech was "very fruitful and insightful."

"He is a man who can hopefully lead the American people in the right direction," she said.

Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey said Romney's speech was so spot-on and succinct, he told him afterward, that he should make audio copies and distribute it all over the country. He liked that Romney explained his private sector background and why it's important in government — and how he would make it work.

"It was one of his most effective presentations," said Kirksey. "I thought both governors gave outstanding speeches."

sjenkins@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2369



CITY OF PLYMOUTH

"PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION NOTICE"

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Presidential Primary Election will be held in the City of Plymouth, Michigan on **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2012 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.**, for the purpose of nominating candidates of the Democratic Parties for the following office:

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Applications for absentee ballots may be requested, or applied for in person, from the City of Plymouth, office of the City Clerk, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170. Telephone number is 734-453-1234, ext. 234 or 225.

Absentee ballots will be issued to qualified absentee voters if they apply in person at the City Clerk's offices from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., on Saturday, February 25, 2012. On Monday, February 27, 2012, absentee voters may apply for and receive ballots and vote them in the Clerk's office from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Polling locations in the City of Plymouth are as follows:

PRECINCT #1, #2, #3, & #4 CULTURAL CENTER
525 Farmer Street

Any questions concerning obtaining ballots, registering to vote or voting locations, can be directed to the City Clerk's office.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: February 19, 2012

CE0878882 - 2x4.5

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF HEARING ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE OF HEARING given that the Plymouth Township Board of Review will meet on the following dates and times:

Hearings are by appointment, please call 354-3269, between 8 am and 4:30 pm for an appointment.

Date	Time	Event
Tuesday, March 6	9 am - Noon	Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 12	2 pm - 5 pm 6 pm - 9 pm	Hearings by Appointment Hearings by Appointment
Wednesday, March 14	9 am - Noon 2 pm - 5 pm	Hearings by Appointment Hearings by Appointment
Thursday, March 15	9 am - Noon	Hearings by Appointment
Saturday, March 17	9 am - 11 am	First Come - First Served

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed.

All persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. Written protests to the Board of Review must be received by mail or delivered in person to the Assessing office by the close of business on Friday, March 23, 2012 at 4:30 pm.

The Board of Review will be held in the Board Meeting Room of Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Please come prepared as a ten (10) minute time limit before the Board of Review will be strictly adhered to.

Publish: February 16, 19 and 23, 2012

CE08787988 - 3x4

ADVERTISEMENT

Sealed proposals will be received for the construction of the Plymouth Township 2012 Barrier Free Sidewalk Ramp Improvements by the Plymouth Charter Township as Owner, until 10:00 AM Local Time, on Tuesday, March 6, 2012, 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.

Major Estimated Work:

Concrete Sidewalk and Ramp	7,345	S.F.
Concrete Curb	700	L.F.
Detectable Warning Strips	65	E.A.

Funding for the project work is being obtained through the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than minimum salaries and wages as set forth in the Contract Documents must be paid on this project and that the Contractor must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex or national origin, in accordance with Executive Order 11246 Equal Employment Opportunity and Notice of Requirements for Affirmative Action to Ensure Equal Employment Opportunity.

The Contractor must comply with the Davis-Bacon Act, July 2, 1964 (Title 40 USC 276a to 276a-7), the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, September 28, 1965 No. 11246, all United States Department of Labor Regulations and Standards Title 29, 1,3, and 5, and Title 18, USC Section 874, known as "Anti-Kickback Act", and the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.

The Contractor shall comply with the requirements of the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 USC 1857 et seq., the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 USC 1251 et seq., and the regulations of the Environmental Protection Agency with respect thereto, at 40 CFR Part 15, as amended.

Copies of plans and specifications may be obtained at the Office of the Clerk, Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 on or after January 31, 2012. Bid documents may be mailed for a charge of \$10.00.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a Certified Check in the amount of 5% of the bid, payable to the Owner, as security for acceptance of the contract. A bid bond in the Michigan Standard Form issued by an approved surety company may be furnished in lieu of a Certified Check.

No bidder may withdraw his proposal within 60 days after the date set for the opening thereof.

The right is reserved by the Owner to reject any or all proposals, either in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities therein.

Signed: Joe Bridgman, Clerk
Plymouth Charter Township

Publish: February 5 & 19, 2012

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Family Center helps clients get back on their feet

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

A large overdue DTE Energy bill and issues with housing brought Christina King and her five children to the Wayne County Family Center about four months ago.

"It's been decent (at the center). I'm working on housing, schooling and getting myself out of debt," said King, 28, who

has 11-year-old twin boys, 7-year-old twin girls and a 9-year-old son. "I'm making progress."

The Wayne County Family Center is one of the few homeless shelters in Michigan where family members can stay together in the same room. The 24 families - currently 79 people, including 55 children - don't share their room with anyone else.

Before coming to the center, King said she and



Christina King, 28, and her son Marctwan Thomas, 9, have been staying at the Wayne County Family Center for about four months. King, who also has two sets of twins, had been living in Detroit in a home without electricity.

the children had lived in a place without electricity for eight months.

"I'm trying to get a business and finish up my schooling," said King, who is working to complete her GED. "I would like to open a clubhouse for kids and adults."

Common dilemma

With a large debt still owed to DTE, King is faced with the problem of trying to deal with past debt and trying to support her family going for-

ward. That's a common dilemma for family center clients.

"If bills need to be paid and you're not working, the debt is still growing," said Wayne County Family Center Director Angela Pilarski. "Getting out of poverty isn't as easy as getting a job. It's not that they aren't trying."

As clients struggle to get back on their feet, Pilarski said they often don't make enough money at jobs or are under-

employed. The only criteria for families to receive help at the family center is homelessness. Families can stay up to two years although but the average is six to seven months.

Some families had trouble with large utility bills or another financial issues that resulted in homelessness, said Brenda Johnson, program administrator.

"Some were living in homes that were in foreclosure and the landlord didn't tell them. Or a landlord gets people into a house and didn't own it," said Johnson. "There is a loss of jobs. Some owners lost their homes."

When clients meet with case managers, Johnson said they determine what the clients see as their obstacles and set goals to help them move forward with their lives.

Outreach program

A single parent, Johnson said, would be

encouraged to apply for jobs that would work around the children's school schedule. Once a family has left the center, there is a six-month outreach program that helps them connect with after school care.

"We try to promote getting families into Section 8 subsidized housing. It's affordable," said Johnson. "The rent goes down, if your income drops. It doesn't mean you get put out of your home. It's secure housing."

Many families are struggling economically, Pilarski said, with housing being a major problem.

"It's very emotional to try to get the best for your kids, your intentions might not come to fruition," Pilarski said. "That's why trying to connect people to all these services is essential. It's very difficult to negotiate."

lr Rogers@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-5428

Notice of Public Sale of Liened Property

Notice is hereby given that a closed bid sale will be held on March 8th, 2012, 1:00 PM at 40671 Joy Road Canton, MI. 48187 County of Wayne. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE will sell to satisfy the lien on property stored at 40671 Joy Rd Canton MI 48187, by the following persons. The inventories listed below were notated by the tenants at the time of rental. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE makes no representation or warranty that the units contain said inventories. Unit E20 Cozey, Household Goods: Unit J19, Nash Household Goods: Unit K20 Garrison, Household Goods: Unit A11 Healy, Household Goods: Unit J32 King, Household Goods: Units H30, I11, I28 Brant, Household Goods: Unit G05 Didario, Household Goods: Unit K09 Ray, Household Goods.

Publish: February 19 & 26, 2012

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Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

Technology Department
1036 S. Haggerty Road
Canton, MI 48188
Telephone: 734-416-2711

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

RFP-USF FORM 470/FY2012 - The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools will accept bids for Internal Connections services for FY2012 of the Universal Services Fund (USF) E-rate Program. Specifications are available from the following web site: triple-r.us/erate/RFP2-PCCSFY12.pdf. You may also obtain a copy of the RFP at the Truesdell Building 1036 S Haggerty Rd, Canton, MI 48188. All questions regarding this RFP should be directed to James Casteel at 734-416.2708. RFP's will be received in the Technology Department until 2:00P.M. on March 1, 2012. The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education reserves the right to reject or decline all bids.

Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Federal Law

It is the policy of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, height, weight, disability, religion or marital status in any of its programs, activities or employment.

Address Inquiries To:
James Casteel, Director of Technology
Truesdell Building
1036 S. Haggerty Road
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Publish: February 19, 23 & 26, 2012

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Tuesday, March 6, 2012 Loc Performance Products, Inc.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 6, 2012, during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider the request of Loc Performance Products, Inc. for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for the cost of machinery, equipment, furniture, and fixtures located at 13505 Haggerty Rd, Haggerty, L.L.C., Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

The request of Loc Performance Products, Inc. is on file in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall where it is available for public perusal from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

During the public hearing any resident of Plymouth Township or members of the Legislative Board of any affected taxing unit in the Township shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments addressed to the Clerk will be considered. Contact phone number is 734-354-3224.

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday March 6, 2012, will be held in the Town Hall at the Charter Township of Plymouth, 9955 N Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, Michigan 48170. Following the public hearing, the Board may decide on the request by resolution.

Joe Bridgman, MMC
Clerk
Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: February 19, 2012

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Growth Works applauds young people who overcome

By Julie Brown
Observer Staff Writer

Area young people and adults were lauded Thursday at the annual Growth Works Recognition & Awards Dinner.

Each year, the agency acknowledges endeavors of young people who successfully address significant obstacles in their lives. Some have come to Plymouth-based Growth Works through the juvenile justice system and have been in the Western Wayne Care Management Organization, one of five delinquency agencies established by Wayne County to serve the needs of delinquent wards.

"We like to acknowledge the progress youth have made in improving their lives," said Dale Yagiela, executive director. "And also people in the community who have been helpful in that process."

Growth Works started in 1971 in its same downtown Plymouth building with Yagiela as the first



Honoree Austin Thomas shares his thoughts at the dinner.

employee.

"A lot of our supporters and friends come together" each year at the dinner, he said, including the Growth Works board, county commissioners and those who work in juvenile justice with Wayne County and agencies including Growth Works, Wolverine Human Services and others.

'Nice moment'

"These are folks who all play a role. We're always dealing with the difficult parts of this, so this is really a nice moment," Yagiela said of the evening.

WWCMO relies heavily on Growth Works' Addiction and Recovery Treatment efforts.

Tiffany Willoughby of Farmington Hills and



The late Ronald Harrison was honored at the Growth Works dinner. He introduced the idea of adolescent substance abuse treatment to the agency in the early 1980s and was a recovering person himself.

Joseph Taylor of Garden City were recognized for efforts toward continued success in the community following program services from Western Wayne Care Management

Organization.

Austin Thomas of Plymouth, Sean Hyde of Plymouth and Marissa Thilman of Ypsilanti were recognized for continuing commitment and efforts toward recovery and achievement following services in Community Intervention and Treatment.

During the dinner at Fox Hills Golf Club, three Growth Works board members were lauded for years of service: Steve Harper, 30; Pete Wilson, 25; and Don Morgan, 20.

Community Awards recipients included Jim Belknap of Royal Oak, who retired last year as the deputy director for Juvenile Justice Services for Wayne County and was a "charter member" of the county's Care Management effort. Commu-

nity Awards recognize efforts aimed at improving the lives of young people.

"He was really instrumental in working out policy and process issues. He really was a good teacher to our staff," Yagiela said.

Keith Johnston of Belleville also received a Community Award. Johnston is a businessman who's active in the Van Buren/Belleville communities. He has been active in that area's WWCMO Community Team.

"He's really been helpful in working with kids we have coming out of residential programs," the executive director said. The community team is an effort to connect community stakeholders to the youth in the CMO.

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Santorum calls Michigan primary 'game changer'

By Aileen Wingblad
Staff Writer

Declaring Michigan "is in a high-stake place" in the November elections, Republican presidential candidate Rick Santorum fired up an already energized crowd of 1,400 at the annual Oakland County Republican Lincoln Day Dinner Thursday in Novi.

The former U.S. Senator criticized the current administration and outlined his vision for a United States that is "built on the concepts that made America great."

Held at the Suburban Collection Showplace, the event reportedly drew record numbers, dwarfing the typical attendance of some 500 seen at past years'



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Former Sen. Rick Santorum greets the Oakland County Republican Party at their Feb. 16 dinner in Novi.

Lincoln Day dinners. Santorum, the final speaker in a lineup that

included Gov. Rick Snyder, Ann Romney and Rev. C.L. Bryant, out-

lined a conservative agenda that embraces "foundational freedoms," economic opportunity for all and limited government — buoyed by solid family values. This, he said, is the key to once again making America "the model for the world."

Calling President Barack Obama "divider in chief" and describing the current Congress as "horribly unpopular," Santorum said "we don't have the leadership to remind us what brought us together, what made us great."

America, he said, "is a great country because we believe in a great society being built from the ground up, a great society that trusts free people."

He also spoke out

against Obama's "over-reaching and over-burdening regulation" that he said is thwarting free enterprise and job growth. "It's crushing and destroying the goose that laid the golden egg," he said.

Santorum said Obama

"is a president that doesn't believe in you."

"You need someone who can paint a picture of an America that puts people to work, not make them dependent," he said.

Noting that his relatives emigrated to the United States knowing they would find opportunity and freedom, Santorum said people "need to elect someone who understands the heart and soul of America's values, to go out and talk to the American people, to remind us who we are and what brings us together."

This is a "time of great consequence," Santorum added. "And Michigan, Michigan is in the center. You have an opportunity to be a game changer in the primary. You

have an opportunity to be a game changer in the general election."

In the crowd were several Milford High School students, who said they were selected for the event by their advanced placement government teacher.

"I am a conservative, but I still haven't picked a candidate," said 18-year-old William Schoenle, a senior.

Fellow student Chris Orr said he wanted to attend "just to get involved in government."

"And to keep my options open," he said.

Novi resident Jack Donnelly said he was "here for great government."

"I just want to hear what they have to say. I haven't totally made up my mind (for the primary), but I will.

"And I think it's inspiring to see all the young people here," Donnelly said. "It's very encouraging."

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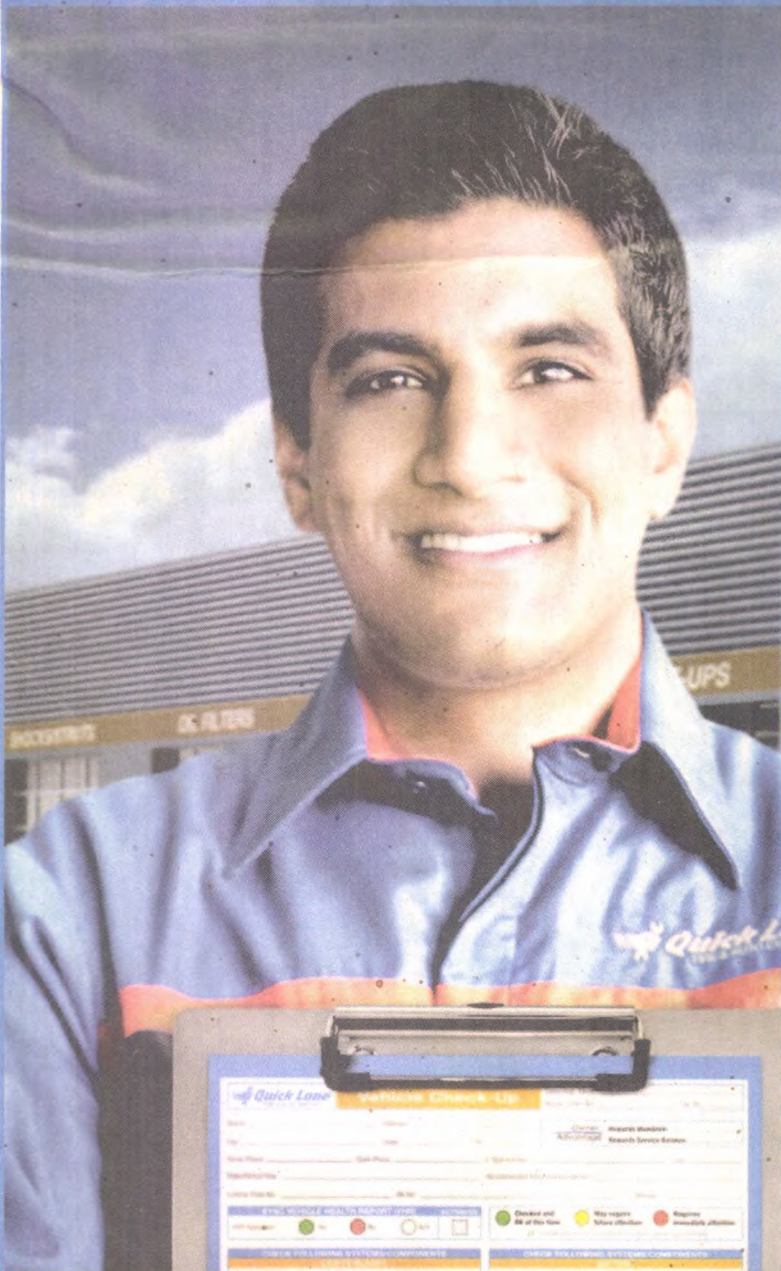
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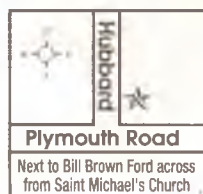
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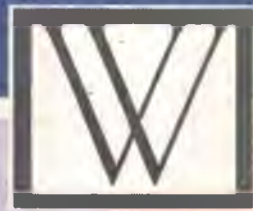
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CHIEFS

Continued from page B1

third quarter changed the game's momentum. Novi sophomore point guard Kerri McMahan (17 points) heaved a half-court shot that banked in for a trey — squaring the contest at 27-27 going into the fourth.

"That gave us a tremendous boost," Novi head coach Bill Kelp said about McMahan's answered prayer. "We had a play we were trying to run, they didn't run the play so thank goodness they didn't."

Samulski took the hit for that play, too.

"Kerri's a good player, she made a great shot," he said. "But we can't just allow her to catch the ball, dribble and shoot it."

"I didn't do a good enough job of relaying that to the kids, not to let her get the ball."

The fourth quarter went back and forth, with the game tied on four different occasions, the last coming when Canton sophomore guard Rachel Winters sank a layup with 1:52 to go.

McMahan then worked the clock to try for the final shot, Kelp said, "but unfortunately we got that five-second call, and then we played some good defense and got the ball back. Then we ran a play and it worked."

Struggle to score

Frantic defense all over the floor led to both teams having a miserable time shooting the basketball. Novi (15-3) made just 14 of 41 field-goal tries for 34 percent; Canton (14-4) hit 11-40, 27.5 percent.

"That's the way this game was going to be," Samulski said. "Novi's very solid defensively, we're very solid defensively. We knew coming in that it was going to be a defensive battle. 35-all, minute to go. They executed one more play than we did."



Canton's Kiara Schneider (No. 15) was a force on the glass Thursday night for the Chiefs.

Mack led the Chiefs with 12 points, with sophomore forward Paige Aresco tallying eight. Junior center Kiara Schneider (seven points) had a big game in the rebounding department, with 13 boards (10 on the offensive end).

In addition to McMahan, Novi scoring leaders were junior forward Jade Antolec (seven points, six boards) and sophomore Sam Pavlika (five points).

"I thought we rebounded the ball pretty well," Samulski said. "I thought we crashed the boards hard. But we didn't execute some of those shots around the rim."

Even still, the Chiefs led 12-11 after one frame and 22-19 at halftime and nursed a five-point lead (27-22) after a layup by

Schneider.

Then came the long trey by McMahan that sparked the Wildcats, who now visit KLAA South Division champion Westland John Glenn Monday night for the association championship.

Samulski and the Chiefs will finish the regular schedule with two games leading up to the Division 1 districts at Novi. Canton's first game is Wednesday, Feb. 29.

"We'll have two games in about a week-and-a-half to get ready for whoever we're going to play that Wednesday in the state tournament," he said. "Our main goal is you want to make a run in the state tournament."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
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Tourney trouble for PCEP teams

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Friday's opening round of the KLAA boys basketball tournament didn't yield winning results for Plymouth and Canton, knocking both squads to the consolation bracket.

Plymouth couldn't find the basket in the final minutes and dropped a 37-34 decision to host Northville (11-6).

At South Lyon, in a see-saw affair, the Chiefs forced overtime only to be outscored 8-3 to fall by a 60-55 score.

"We just haven't gotten it done in situations like we have in the past," lamented Wildcats head coach Mike Soukup, whose team's record dipped to 6-11.

Plymouth trailed by 10 points entering the final stanza of regulation and came on strong, cutting

that deficit to a deuce.

But the Wildcats couldn't close out the rally, missing four straight foul shots and not getting a quality field-goal try off in the final moments.

Despite the defeat, Soukup said several players were strong for the Wildcats. He cited the defensive play of junior Brendan Swanson (six rebounds) and offensive punch of junior Josh Priebe (15 points).

Contributing five points and five rebounds each were seniors Marcus Oden and Donte Fox.

Canton, meanwhile, were unable to get past the Lions despite 20 points from junior point guard Josh Mayberry, 18 points from junior guard Kyle Adams and 12 points and 15 rebounds from senior center Paul Baumgart.

The Chiefs (13-4) were up 14-8 after one frame and 27-23 at halftime before the Lions inched ahead 39-38 entering the fourth.

It was close the rest of regulation, which ended 55-55. But South Lyon (11-6) took care of business from that point on. Luke Short paced the Lions with 21 points.

PCA 74, PARKWAY CHRISTIAN 70 (OT): A 31-point night by Mick Noel keyed Plymouth Christian Academy to this Friday night boys basketball victory.

Chipping in with 17 points for PCA (6-11) was Alex Huber, while Drew Ibach collected 11 points and 11 rebounds.

The Eagles face Allen Park Inter-City Baptist on Thursday.

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ROCKS

Continued from page B1

things, I think towards the end of the game it was missing our little runners, our little put-backs, things like that that really doomed us."

It took a while for Wayne to gain some traction in the second half, which began with the Rocks opening with a 9-0 run (featuring two layups by center Josh Peterson) to go up 40-24.

With about three minutes left in the quarter, Dierker (eight points, six assists) then sent a nifty bounce pass through the paint to senior guard Grant Bettner (seven points) and it was a 42-26 advantage.

But the Zebras increasingly started pushing the ball up the floor and to the rim, sparking a 10-3 run that sliced Salem's lead to 54-47 with 1:27 to go after a bucket by senior Thomas White (eight points).

The only Salem points during that stretch was junior guard Kevin Mack's strong-to-the-basket layup and tack-on foul shot.

It didn't help the Rocks during the late Wayne comeback bid that Dierker had to sit for a couple of minutes after being called for his fourth foul.

"He was a force out there when he was on the floor and then he got in foul trouble," Brodie said. "So he's down and he can't be as aggressive as he normally is."

"But other players stepped up. We got nice support off the bench. Ankit Tiwari (nine



JOHN KEMSKI

Salem's Tyler Stewart (No. 21) puts a shot up Friday night while Wayne Memorial's Dezmon Burleigh (No. 4) flies in trying to thwart the attempt.

rebounds) had a good game for us."

Closing it out

Just when Brodie and the Rocks wondered if the Zebras were one trey away from really making things interesting, Stewart came through with six points in a row in the final 90 seconds to widen the gap again.

That personal 6-0 run began when Peterson (eight points, nine boards) threaded a perfect pass to Stewart, who then went in for the layup.

"The good players got to step up to the plate late in the season when the going gets tough," Bro-

die said. "Tyler did a good job and so did Dierker, our two best players out there."

Stewart said the game plan was pretty cut-and-dried down the stretch.

"We just knew we had to take care of the ball and make as many free throws as we could," Stewart said. "And we just knew we had to get back on defense."

Scoring 12 points for Wayne was senior Michael Cooper, with seniors Dezmon Burleigh and Darnell Givhan contributing nine and eight, respectively.

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PLYMOUTH

Continued from page B1

six rebounds each from Chyna Williams and Shelby Cheston (four blocks).

Other Wildcats making contributions were Tionne Johnson (five boards), Kate Watson and Lexie McGhee (three boards each).

SALEM 61, CHURCHILL 33: The Rocks earned a KLAA consolation bracket victory Thursday night, riding a hot start and torrid finish.

Salem (5-13) enjoyed a 17-4 lead after one quarter and withstood Livonia Churchill's rally in the second (17-10 to make it a 27-21 Salem lead at halftime).

After padding the lead to 43-31 after three, the Rocks went off on an 18-2 tear to close out the game.

"We had a great first quarter and our second half was outstanding," Salem head coach Fred Thomann said.

Spearheading the victory was Bri Berberet, with 20 points. Adding 17 points was Breanne Beaver. Other making solid contributions were Hannah Nowaske (eight points), Katelynn Krause (seven points) and Katie Heitmeyer (eight rebounds).



Salem senior Katie Heitmeyer (No. 22), shown from earlier this season, grabbed eight rebounds Thursday against Livonia Churchill.

Whalers take drubbing

Owen Sound scored twice in each of the first two periods Friday night and went on to defeat Plymouth 5-1 in an OHL game before 2,488 fans at Compuware Arena.

The Whalers got on the scoreboard at 13:45 of the third period when center Michael Whaley scored an unassisted goal against Attack

goalie Jordan Binnington, who stopped 33 of 34 shots.

Taking the loss for Plymouth was goalie Scott Wedgewood (34 saves).

Plymouth fell to 37-16-2-1 (77 points), still good for first in the OHL West Division. Owen Sound's record improved to 27-21-3-4.

PLYMOUTH 4, WINDSOR 3: Colin MacDonald scored late in the third period Thursday night to lift the visiting Whalers to victory.

Other goal scorers for Plymouth included Stefan Noesen, Jamie Devene and Danny Vanderwiell. Stopping 38 of 41 shots was goaltender Matt Mahalak.

Moore lifts Ocelots to win

Karl Moore turned in a big-time performance Wednesday night with 32 points, 17 rebounds and six assists to spark the Schoolcraft College to a 93-83 men's basketball triumph at home over Henry Ford Community College.

Moore, a 6-foot-5 forward from Detroit and Oak Park Academy, also added three blocks and two steals as the Ocelots improved to 15-10 overall and 7-7 in the MCCA's Eastern Conference.

Other contributions came from LenDerrick Witcher, 13 points; Dan-

iel Hill (Wayne Memorial), nine points and seven rebounds; Richmond Jackson, nine points and five rebounds; and Zachary Childress, six assists.

Schoolcraft, tied for fourth in the conference, had a total of 25 assists and only 14 turnovers.

The Ocelots trailed 42-39 at intermission, but roared back by hitting 18-of-22 second-half free throws after going 3-for-6 in the opening half.

MADONNA 77, N'WESTERN OHIO 56: Sophomore point-guard Bobby Naubert (Livo-

nia Stevenson) scored 16 points and dished out eight assists as Madonna University (17-12, 11-6) got back on the winning track with a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference win Wednesday night at Northwestern Ohio (7-22, 2-15).

Sophomore guard Travis Schuba, hitting 5-of-10 three-point attempts, added 15 points, while Tyler Coker added 11 for the Crusaders, who enjoyed a 47-30 halftime lead.

Eoghann Stephens had eight points and eight rebounds as MU snapped a two-game losing skid.

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Rocks' rally falls short

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Shorthanded Salem poured it on late in the third period Wednesday against host Howell in a KLAAs crossover varsity boys hockey game.

But the Rocks could not overcome a costly, short-handed goal earlier in the frame and fell 5-2 to the Highlanders on Howell's senior night at Grand Oaks Ice Arena. The three-goal differential was due to a pair of Howell empty netters in the final minute.

With Salem (7-11-1) down 2-1 about five minutes into the third, Howell senior forwards Collin Myers and Jordan Mitter combined for the crushing goal. Myers centered the puck to Mitter, who buried it past junior goalie George Veresan — left helpless on the play.

"It was just a breakdown," Salem head coach Ryan Ossenmacher said. "We had a mistake defensively. They're quick, if you make any sort of mistake they're going to capitalize."

"They've got to be one of the faster teams we've played."

But despite missing injured top center Alek Zultowski and forward Jack Driscoll, the Rocks kept firing away in hopes of at least forcing overtime.

With 3:51 to play, junior

BOYS HOCKEY

forward Jake Fedel and senior forward Austin Sartorius stormed the Howell goal with Fedel finally nudging the puck past Howell junior netminder Bryce Goulah. Earning the second assist for Salem was sophomore defenseman Colin Pietron.

"Their goalie played really well," Ossenmacher said. "Even the last goal we scored, we probably had four or five whacks at it from two feet outside the net."

The Highlanders (15-5-3) then salted away the victory on empty-net markers by Myers and senior forward Zach Nitschman.

"I thought it was a pretty good game, 5-2 probably doesn't tell the story," Ossenmacher said. "But I thought our guys played well. We're still short-handed a couple guys. We need all hands on deck. The guys who were here battled."

Salem took a 1-0 lead in the first period when Sartorius — who skated strong all night — sent a wrist shot from the left point that eluded Goulah. Earning assists on the goal were senior defenseman Kyle Eggenberger and Fedel.

A solid period by Veresan (12 saves in the first period, 25 stops for the game) enabled Salem to take that 1-0 lead into

the intermission.

Howell, however, tied the game with 5:14 left in the second and took a 2-1 lead a few minutes later.

On the equalizer, junior forward Casey O'Doherty rushed down the right wing and snapped a high shot over Veresan's glove.

Then with just 1:02 to play in the second, sophomore defenseman Matt Passino also went top shelf to put Howell ahead. Assisting were forwards A.J. Mitter and Ethan Doyle.

CHELSEA SHOWCASE: Salem went 0-2 at last weekend's Michigan Public High School Hockey Showcase in Chelsea.

The Rocks lost 5-0 to Chelsea and were edged 5-4 by East Kentwood.

Scoring twice against East Kentwood was senior forward Mark McGee.

BRIGHTON 4, CANTON 1: Scoring for the visiting Chiefs in Wednesday's KLAAs boys hockey crossover featuring two division champions was senior Andrew Gorski, with assists from senior Duggan Tear and junior Chandler Berlin.

Taking the loss in net for Canton (12-8) was Robbie Beydoun, who had a solid game despite the outcome.

The Bulldogs improved to 14-3-2 with the victory.

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Penguins senior forward Nicole Natelborg (No. 7) rushes down the ice ahead of Northville's Katelyn Hilmer (No. 32) during Tuesday night's girls hockey game at Arctic Edge Arena in Canton.

Penguins best D1 rival

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Division 1 rivals are proving no hindrance to the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins girls hockey team.

On Tuesday night at Arctic Edge Arena, the Penguins improved to 5-2 against D1 teams in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League with an impressive 2-1 overtime victory over Northville.

Scoring both goals for the Penguins (13-3-1 overall, 12-3 in the MMGSHL) was senior forward Nicole Natelborg — one of five players honored on Senior Night.

Natelborg ripped a shot past goalie Avery Allman with 1:52 to go in over-

GIRLS HOCKEY

time to give the Pens the victory.

Setting up the winner was senior forward Mari-ah Tucker, who broke in with Natelborg on a 2-on-1 rush. An outlet pass by senior center Jackie Lough started the play.

Giving PCS a chance to win was senior netminder Kaitlyn Allard, who was outstanding in stopping 29 of 30 Mustang shots.

Also honored before the game was senior defenseman and team captain Emily Bullock.

Penguins assistant coach Brad Johnson said the players were challenged to come out with more urgency in the third period, after Northville's Sarah Blackhurst tied the

game 1-1 in the second.

"After two periods, we (the coaching staff) were not pleased with the effort and let them know the winning team would be the team that worked the hardest in the third period," Johnson said. "Our effort through the first two periods would not be enough to win this game."

PCS came out flying in the third and outshot the Mustangs 12-4. Only the goaltending of Allman kept the game tied through regulation.

Opening the scoring was Natelborg, in the first minute of the opening period, with Lough assisting.

The Penguins will play Saturday at Grosse Pointe North.

SIGN

Continued from page B1

Fox, who Sawchuk said is "going to be a stud" at Grand Valley, was not at the Feb. 9 press conference.

Defensive lineman Davon White signed with D-III William Penn University near Des Moines, Iowa.

Sharing the dream

That such a large contingent of Plymouth players earned full-ride scholarships is a source of much pride for Austin and others.

"These guys mean the world to me," Austin said. "Every single one of them is keeping their dream going, keeping playing football."

"I wish we could play together, but everyone knows that's just not realistic. But I'm just proud of every one of them, I'm happy for them."

Austin decided to go to the Upper Peninsula because of the quality of the college, its football program and his love of winter sports such as snowmobiling.

"It's Up North, in the boons, up in the U.P., it's the GLIAC, it's good competition," Austin said. "I wanted to play. ... Plus the school is great academically, which is the biggest point."

Sawchuk said the quarterback who led the 2010 playoff run (and the 2011 team that went 8-2) should have little trouble adjusting to safety.

"He's thrown against defenses so I'm pretty sure he knows what the defenses are doing," the coach said.

Gridiron reunions

According to Abraham, playing closer to home in the Midland, Mich. area, "to have so many guys that are going to colleges shows how good our team was and how much football means to us."

Abraham said he is looking forward to going up against other Plymouth alums in the GLIAC, such as Austin and Fox.

"That will be fun, playing against my (high school) teammates and coming back to my family sometimes on the weekends," Abraham noted. "It's not that far."

Sawchuk, meanwhile, said Northwood "got a steal" in Abraham.

"This kid's tough as nails," he said. "He's a heckuva football player

WHERE THEY'RE GOING

Six players from the Plymouth football team have signed on with colleges. They include the following:

• **Tyler Goble, LB, United States Naval Academy (Division I):** The 18-year-old Goble chose Navy over Stanford and had several other offers. He brings a 3.85 grade point average and is leaning toward a degree in business or medicine. Immediately following college he will begin a five-year stint in the U.S. military. His parents are Ron and Lisa.

• **Robert Riche, OL, University of Buffalo (D-I):** Riche, 17, will work toward a degree in international business. His parents are Christine and Warren; his dad lives and works in Dubai, U.A.E. He carries a 3.5 GPA.

• **Shaun Austin, DB, Michigan Tech University (D-II):** Plymouth's quarterback of the 2010 state finalists, the 17-year-old Austin will play defensive secondary and special teams in the Upper Peninsula. He considered the University of Dayton and Hope College, Owner of a 3.6 GPA, his parents are Vince and Karen.

• **Faris Abraham, LB, Northwood University (D-II):** The 18-year-old Abraham, who carries a 3.0 GPA, decided on Northwood over several other interested colleges, including Wayne State and Grand Valley State. He is looking to major in sports management. His parents are Curt and Amy Wachlarz.

• **Donte Fox, RB, Grand Valley State University (D-II):** Fox was not able to attend the Feb. 9 press conference to announce the Plymouth signings.

• **Davon White, DL, William Penn University (D-III):** He chose to go to the Iowa college instead of Robert Morris (Chicago area) and Michigan schools such as Saginaw Valley and Grand Valley. His mom is Lula; his father, David, is deceased. Davon is interested in a career in criminal justice.

and he's only going to get bigger, too."

For Goble, his decision to sign with the U.S. Naval Academy (located in Maryland) will enable him to fulfill his longtime dream of playing college football while opening the door to a subsequent, five-year stint in the Navy or Marine Corps.

"They kind of came in after football season ended," Goble said. "But the more I looked into it, and the more I realized it was a really good fit, I'm really excited to go. I'm excited for the opportunity."

Goble cited the efforts of Sawchuk and Plymouth's recruiting coordinator Carl Lowe for helping him and all of the college signees.

"They were great the whole process," Goble said. "They really helped us out."

Sawchuk said the hard-hitting Goble has a good chance to see action as a freshman, if not at linebacker than on special teams.

New chapter

Also D-I bound is Riche, who excelled on both sides of the football as a lineman at Plymouth. He'll play offensive line at Buffalo.

Riche chose to go to upstate New York instead of signing with any of

five Midwest Athletic Conference schools that offered scholarships.

"It means a lot, it will be the first time I've lived outside Michigan," Riche said. "I wanted to experience something new and the coaching staff's amazing there and the whole campus is amazing. They've treated me like family."

Deciding to play college football at D-III William Penn in Iowa is White, who considered Robert Morris University (near Chicago) and D-II Michigan colleges.

"I'm ready to start a new chapter in my life," said White, adding that he selected William Penn because of "the coaches, how friendly they are, the character that their team has."

"I talked to some of their players and they were so cool that they welcomed me even before I signed."

Like his teammates at the press conference, White said being part of such a large, college-bound contingent validated their dedication and success at Plymouth.

"It feels good," he noted with a smile. "We all worked hard for it so we deserved what we got."

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

'Cats girls lax meeting

Anyone interested in playing Plymouth High School girls lacrosse in the spring should circle Thursday, March 1, on their calendars. At 7 p.m., there will be a mandatory parent and player meeting in room 401 at Plymouth High School.

Rockettes pom clinic

The Salem Rockettes Kids Clinic is just around the corner, slated from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, March 10. Participants will learn various routines, receive a T-shirt and pom poms and be invited to perform at the annual Rockette Show.

To download the clinic flyer, go to www.pompon.salemrocks.com and click on documents.

Play GCYBSA ball

Registrations are now under way for the Greater Canton Youth Baseball Softball Association's baseball and softball programs.

The GCYBSA offers progressively developmental recreational baseball and softball programs for players age 4-18 from Plymouth and Canton. GCYBSA is also home to a Competitive League and travel programs (Boys Cardinals, Girls Pride Fast Pitch).

For more information, go to www.gcybsa.com or contact Coralee Ott at (734) 394-5358, via e-mail at cott@canton-mi.org.

Whalers' to host YMCA spring leagues

The Plymouth Family YMCA is accepting registrations for spring co-ed soccer and girls volleyball leagues.

Both leagues run from April 16 through June 9. There will be one practice and one game each week. The cost is \$84 for program members or \$115 for community members. The registration deadline is March 30.

If you are interested in participating or coaching your child's team, please contact the YMCA at (734) 453-2904 or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

YMCA starts registration

The Plymouth Family YMCA is registering for its instructional clinics.

The focus of these programs will be on fun, exercise and social interaction through sports instruction. Clinics include Tiny Tikes Sports Sampler (ages 3-5), Preschool Basketball (ages 4-5) and Y Pucks (ages 6-8).

The programs run the weeks of March 6 through April 17. All classes are held

in local schools during the week.

For more information, contact the YMCA at (734) 453-2904 or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

Baseball clinics

Baseball fundamentals are on tap for youngsters looking to improve their skills, at the forthcoming Plymouth Wildcats Youth Baseball Clinic.

Participants in grades 1-8 will receive age-appropriate instruction from 2012 Plymouth varsity baseball coaches and players. Stations will include hitting, pitching, infield, outfield, catching and radar gun readings.

Sessions, in the Plymouth High School gymnasium, will take place: 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday March 17 (for those in grades 1-4); Saturday March 31 (for those in grades 5-8).

The pre-registration cost, which includes snack, is \$20. The fee is \$25 the day of the clinic. Pre-registration is urged, as the camp is limited to 100. Go to www.baseball.plymouthwildcats.com for more information.

Salem baseball camp

Learn all about baseball from Salem's varsity players and coaching staff.

The annual Salem Varsity Baseball Clinic will take place Saturdays March 24 and 31 in the high school gym.

For a fee of \$28, kids will get three hours of instruction, focusing on pitching, hitting and all phases of fielding, along with a T-shirt.

Each player should bring a baseball glove and hat to one of the following sessions, space permitting:

Session 1: Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m. to noon, ages 11-14; 14; Session 2: Saturday, March 24, 1-4 p.m., ages 7-10; Session 3: Saturday, March 31, 9 a.m. to noon, ages 7-10; Session 4: Saturday, March 31, 1-4 p.m., ages 7-10.

For more information, call Mary Theisen at (734) 354-9181 or e-mail salemrocksbasesball@gmail.com.

MU softball casino trip

The Madonna University women's softball team will sponsor a fundraiser charter bus trip to Greektown Casino from 3:30-9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18.

The cost is \$30 for each passenger, who will also receive a \$20 voucher to use at the casino.

Refreshments will be served on the bus. You must be 21 years or older and have a valid photo I.D. to make the bus trip. Reservations are due by Friday, Feb. 10.

For more information, e-mail MU softball coach Al White at awhite@madonna.edu.

Rolfe drafted by MLS Dynamo



Professional soccer is calling the name of Colin Rolfe, a 2008 graduate of Plymouth High School and First Team All-American at the University of Louisville for two consecutive years. Rolfe (No. 9 above) recently was selected in the first round of the MLS Superdraft by the Houston Dynamo. He is the thought to be the first Plymouth soccer alum to move on to the pro ranks. Rolfe always was a cut above, according to his coach at Plymouth, Jeff Neschich. "His pace of play and strength with the ball set him apart from high school players. His ability to take over the game (included) often beating two or three players at a time."

WILDCATS

Continued from page B1

Matt, you're our best shot at winning this thing, you got to go out and do what you can."

Guernsey said Walsh had a 4-0 lead going into the third period, but "went to his back and the weight difference probably made a big difference by that point. But without him we wouldn't have had any chance. He wrestled really well."

Of course, the reward for the Falcons for pulling out the win was going up against powerhouse Novi-Detroit Catholic Central in the team regional final. The Shamrocks won 70-9.

"We wanted the opportunity to wrestle CC," Guernsey noted. "But at the same time we were well aware of what would have happened had we wrestled them. ... If I could put money on it, I'd put it on them winning it all (at state finals)."

Despite the disappointing finish, seven Plymouth wrestlers were slated to compete in Saturday's individual regionals at Saline — Said Youssef, Chase Kallil, Alec Breckenridge, Brandon Harris, Jon Conn, Mohamad

Youssef and Trey Berry.

They comprise the largest Plymouth contingent to reach the regionals, one step away from making the state finals at The Palace of Auburn Hills. Six of those wrestlers earned points Wednesday.

Plymouth got off to a strong start against the Falcons. After Farmington won two of the first three bouts, the Wildcats reeled off four straight wins to build a lead.

Successive wins by Berry (119, major decision), Kallil (fall in 5:36), Conn (fall in 4:24) and Breckenridge (by void) put Plymouth in the driver's seat. At least for a while.

Two matches later, Said Youssef tallied a 20-3 technical fall over Marcello Perez and Joey Shaver nipped Matt Justice 7-6 at 160.

"The guys wrestled tough," Guernsey added. "Farmington's got a good team. They were a good matchup for us."

"A lot of our good kids wrestled a lot of their good kids, at the end of the day they were a more-balanced team that night."

DIVISION 1 REGIONAL TEAM WRESTLING DUALS FARMINGTON 38 PLYMOUTH 36 Feb. 15 at Garden City

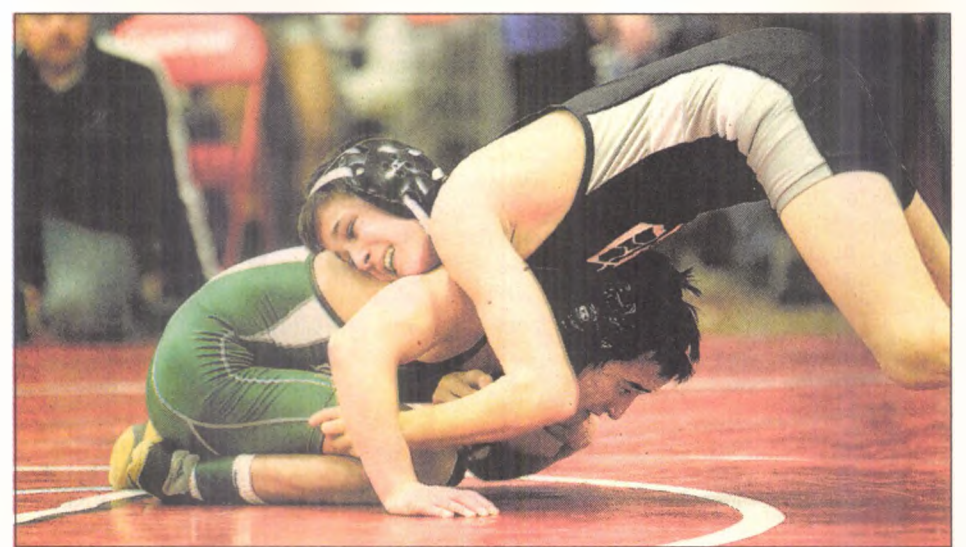
Semifinal Match

285 pounds: Mike Purry (F) major dec. over Adam Pulong, 24-11; **103:** Brandon Harris (P) pin. Chase Walkowiak, 3:39; **112:** Nimantha Herath (F) major dec. over Mohammed Youssef, 13-4; **119:** Trey Berry (P) major dec. over Eric O'Neill, 12-4; **125:** Chase Kallil (P) pin. Mannie Govantes, 5:36; **130:** Jon Conn (P) pin. Brandon Schulz, 4:24; **135:** Alec Breckenridge (P) won by void; **140:** Wes Kuttilla (F) pin. Hussein Youssef, 5:45; **145:** Said Youssef (P) tech. fall over Marcello Perez, 20-3; **152:** Mike Rankin (F) pin. John Rubio, 1:56; **160:** Joey Shaver (P) dec. Matt Justice, 7-6; **171:** Ryan Southerland (F) pin. Cody Hunley, 1:28; **189:** Trent Bekker (F) pin. Matt Walsh, 4:51; **215:** P.J. Hicks (F) won by void.

CATHOLIC CENTRAL 70 FARMINGTON 9

Feb. 15 at Garden City Championship Match

103 pounds: Parker O'Brien (CC) won by void; **112:** Zack Colone (CC) pin. Nimantha Herath, 5:11; **119:** Evan Toth (CC) pin. Eric O'Neill, 1:41; **125:** Mannie Govantes (F) pin. Casey Hogan, 1:45; **130:** Ken Bade (CC) pin. Brandon Schulz, 1:19; **135:** Malik Amine (CC) won by void; **140:** Riley Hanson (CC) pin. Wes Kuuttilla, 1:32; **145:** Mike Rankin (F) dec. Alex Goings, 5-3; **152:** Alec Mooradian (CC) pin. Matt Justice, 1:40; **160:** Nick Mason (CC) pin. Alec Perlstein, 0:21; **171:** Andrew Garcia (CC) major dec. over Ryan Southerland, 14-1; **189:** Kevin Beazley (CC) pin. Mannie Sanchez, 0:30; **215:** Jay Peterson (CC) pin. P.J. Hicks, 3:20; **285:** Bob Coe (CC) pin. Mike Purry, 3:40.



JOHN KEMSKI

Plymouth's Jon Conn (right) subdues Novi's Alejandro Albyeme in their third-place bout at 130 during the Feb. 11 Division 1 team districts. Conn also won his matchup at Wednesday's team regionals against Farmington.

CITY OF PLYMOUTH 2012 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Plymouth Board of Review will be conducting the 2012 March Board of Review and will convene in the City Commission Conference Room, 201 S Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The regular Board of Review schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, March 6, 2012 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING 3:00 p.m.
 Wednesday, March 7, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Thursday, March 8, 2012 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, March 13, 2012 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
 Monday, March 19, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. Hearings are by appointments only. COMPLETED 2012 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY, and must be submitted to the Front Office located on the First Floor of City Hall prior to your appointment. The "Deadline" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Monday, March 19, 2012.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. Written petitions must be received by Monday, March 19, 2012 by 3:00 p.m. Postmarks are not accepted.

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted and published in the local newspaper.

All Board of Review Meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's Office at (734) 453-1234, ext 253.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC
 City Clerk

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Church observes Lent with daily gifts, deeds

By Sharon Dargay
 O&E Staff Writer

Spencer Rife went on a "plastic fast," and gave up credit cards for Lent two years ago.

Last year, the Southfield man kept his complaining in check between Ash Wednesday and Easter.

This year, Rife and other members of Mt. Hope Congregational Church in Livonia, will give gifts to friends, family — even strangers — every day, for all 45 days of Lent.

"Our pastor, Steve (Schafer) has always been so creative and inspiring when it comes to his spiritual leadership about Lent and other spiritual ideas and events," said Rife, who has attended the church with his wife, Lynn, for 27 years. "In fact I was serving on the trustee board nine years ago when he came to us and asked for a hefty loan that he guaranteed would all be paid back plus some. His idea then was to give every one in the congregation \$20, what he called God's money. He instructed us to go do some good with it and make it multiply. Some made things to sell, some baked cookies ... and many events were done for the good of the community and for our church and of course the loan we approved got completely paid back plus, just as he had said."

Rife looks forward to reading a list of 87 suggested good deeds and gifts meant to help participants jumpstart the Lenten project this



week. Schafer, who compiled the "45 Days of Giving" ideas, with the help of some church members, will distribute the list to the congregation on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 23 and Sunday, Feb. 26. The 87 ideas, along with a checklist of dates, are printed on a flyer the size of a dollar bill, for easy folding into a wallet.

Creative giving

Schafer said the project isn't specific to Lent but works well with the Christian observance

because the season encourages sacrifice.

"It could be a summer project. It could be any time of the year," he said. "I always try to do something creative during the Lenten season."

Schafer encouraged church members to give up their credit cards and make a "plastic fast" during Lent two years ago. Last year, church-goers wore purple bracelets that they moved from wrist to wrist each time they whined during Mt. Hope's "complained-

free" Lenten season.

Schafer developed the giving project after becoming aware of a book called *29 Gifts: How a Month of Giving Can Change Your Life*. Its author, battling multiple sclerosis, sought advice from an African healer, who told her to give to others. The book follows her 29-day journey.

"I don't completely buy into the philosophy of it being a healing process," Schafer said,

Please see LENT, B6

TRY THESE ACTS OF KINDNESS

Here's a portion of Mt. Hope Congregational Church's list of 87 ideas for giving to others:

1. Give a hug to a family member who doesn't "do" hugs (or an "I love you" in the same situation)
2. Take a trip to the park with the grandkids.
3. Do a family member's laundry, bathroom, cleaning, dishes.
4. Make a meal for someone who isn't grieving or shut in — just a surprise.
5. Spend the day taking pictures of someone's day-to-day life and then send them the pictures.
6. Give your pet a special treat.
7. Take flowers to someone — just because.
8. Write an anonymous thank you note to mail deliverers everywhere and drop it into the corner mail box.
9. Leave a stack of quarters in the do-it-yourself car wash.
10. Clean out your craft supplies and take them to an elementary school.
11. Pay for the person behind you in the fast food drive through lane.
12. Teach Sunday school for one Sunday.
13. Listen. But you must REALLY listen. No interrupting, no daydreaming, no planning your response. Just listen.
14. Send a card or letter to a friend or acquaintance sharing how that person has influenced their life.
15. Help a friend or neighbor with snow removal/yard work.
16. When driving, look for opportunities to allow other drivers to turn, merge, or enter traffic in front of you.
17. Leave loose change in random places.
18. Offer candy mints to those around you in church or leave wrapped candy mints on the church pews before the service.
19. Take your neighbor's trash cans back up to his house on trash day.
20. Recycle.
21. Offer to walk someone's dog or take care of their pet for the day/weekend.
22. Offer to drive a "shut in" to church or an activity.
23. Volunteer at Gleaners, Forgotten Harvest, Capuchin Soup Kitchen.
24. Donate returnable bottles to an organization (youth group; Scouts; school groups).
25. Make a special candlelight dinner for your family.
26. Borrow your spouse's car then get it cleaned inside and out and return it with a full tank of gas.
27. Burn a CD of significant songs and leave it in someone's CD player.
28. Pick up trash in your neighborhood.
29. Collect your spare change and donate it.
30. Ask to speak to a restaurant manager and tell what good service you got from your waitperson.
31. Leave a piece of fruit in your mailbox with a note of appreciation to your mail carrier.
32. Smile at complete strangers.
33. Give blood.
34. Make a treat or hot cocoa mix and deliver it to your church staff with a note of appreciation.
35. Forgive someone who has wronged you.

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Couple celebrates milestone anniversary

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Dale and Billie (Brown) Collins share a love that never quits.

"If anyone asks how did we make it over 70 years, I simply quote an old tune I learned as a kid, and I used it as a goal at school, at work, in retirement... 'get your hat and get your coat, put your troubles on the doorstep and just direct your feet to the sunny side of the street.' A positive attitude beats negative every time," Dale said.

"We've always had a good marriage and good children," Billie noted.

The Canton couple celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary Jan. 31. They were married in 1942 at a small wedding in Dearborn, after meeting through Dale's stepmother, who was a member of Billie's family.

"He lived in Michigan and I lived in Oklahoma. I came up to Michigan to help my cousin out." Billie, 88, said. "From the time we saw each other we decided we'd get married."

Was it love at first sight? "I think it was," she said.

They lived apart for three years while Dale served in the U.S. Army and then settled in Canton and began raising a family. Their children are Judy Walkowiak, Jerrie Sigworth, Randy Collins and Roger Collins, all of Canton. The couple also has six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Dale, 88, retired in 1984 from

Detroit Edison, where he had managed the art department. He developed painting skills while in high school, Billie said.

"He didn't think anything would come of it, but it did. He was hired by Detroit Edison when he was in high school. They had a magazine and did a lot of advertising."

Dale continues to paint in both oil and watercolor in retirement.

"My husband is a pretty good artist and loves to go places where he can see things that intrigue him."

Billie enjoys homemaking and spending time with her family.

"We live near our children. Every Sunday the whole family gets together and someone cooks," Billie said.

Her favorite contribution to the meal is "good old-fashioned Oklahoma cornbread" without sugar.

The couple celebrated their milestone anniversary with a large family get together.

"It was very nice, very well done," Billie said.



Billie and Dale Collins of Canton celebrated 70 years of marriage last month.



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LENT

Continued from page B5

referring to the book. "But it certainly can't hurt. The idea was to get her outside of herself and think of someone else and that is what Lent is all about. We have to get outside of ourselves for a while."

Suggestions

Schafer began compiling a list of good works and gifts meant to inspire congregants and help them adhere to the Lenten project.

"I didn't want it to come down to materialism. Some of those things on the list are material items, but none are substantial in terms of (financial) value."

When he began to run out of ideas, church members, like Shari Haverty of Livonia, pitched in.

If she follows her own suggestions this Lent, Haverty will pay for a stranger's meal at a restaurant drive-thru window and will help someone with yard work.

"I think the greatest gift we can give someone is our time and attention," she said. "Every week when I pray

with our choir, I remind them that we never know when we might affect someone's day, in a positive, blessed way. So it is important to pay attention, lend a hand, write a note and give with the Spirit."


Wendy Hardy, a Livonia resident and member of Mt. Hope for 38 years, also added ideas to the gift list, including donating blood and complimenting others.

"It is so easy to get caught up in the day to day activities and forget those around you. With our busy schedule and crazy routine it is easy to not make time for others, whether it is to read in a classroom, volunteer at church or pay it forward in the line at the coffee shop," she said, adding that she, her husband, Paul, and their son, Mitchell, will try to do their part to make "someone else's day just a little bit brighter."

Schafer hasn't decided if the church will set aside time for members to share stories about their gift project experiences, but said the Sunday after Easter might be a good time for such testimonials.


Mt. Hope Congregational Church is located at 30330 Schoolcraft, between Middlebelt and Merriman; www.mthope.com.

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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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Zoo, Rouge Friends set frog workshops

Learn to monitor frogs in the environment by training with Friends of the Rouge and the Detroit Zoological Society.

Volunteers interested in surveying Rouge wetlands for frogs and toads can sign up for one of four upcoming training workshops with Friends of the Rouge. Volunteers learn how to recognize eight frog and toad species commonly heard in spring locally and are assigned a nearby area to survey by listening.

Individuals from all walks of life participate in the survey, including students, retirees, and families. Children, 5 and older may participate when accompanied by a participating adult.

The survey has been conducted since 1998 and results are used to track the health of local wet-

lands, which are critical to the health of the Rouge River. The survey is funded through a grant from the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project and local Rouge communities.

Workshops are 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, March 3, at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 North Haggerty, Plymouth; 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton; 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, March 10, at Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia; and 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, March 17, at Bloomfield Township Hall, 4200 Telegraph, Bloomfield Township. Register by e-mail to monitoring@therouge.org or visit www.therouge.org.

Training sessions for FrogWatch will be held 1-



Learn to recognize frogs, like this tree frog, through workshops presented by the Friends of the Rouge and Detroit Zoological Society.

4 p.m. Saturday, March 3 and Sunday, March 11 at the Detroit's Zoo's Ford Education Center.

The "citizen science" program teaches volunteers how to identify frogs and toads by their breeding calls and gather and record data that supports a national network.

FrogWatch volunteers throughout the tri-county area and monitor the sites for several weeks. Their observations provide valuable insight into whether amphibians in the region are declining or increasing

or if new species are being found in areas where they have not been identified before.

"We already know about the extinctions and crises amphibians face globally, but data is deficient in our own backyards. This program allows us to keep better records and monitor our native species for any changes that may occur," stated Marcy Sieggreen, Detroit Zoological Society's curator of amphibians.

For more information or to register, e-mail Rebecca Johnson at rjohnson@dzs.org.

Plan your wedding at Plymouth trunk show

Several businesses in Plymouth will present wedding fashions, jewelry, flowers and photography, during Spring Trunk Show, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, March 3, at Dearborn Jewelers, 805 W. Ann Arbor Trail.

This free event is designed for consumers in the wedding market to receive information for planning their wedding and to promote "buy local".

Dearborn Jewelers will feature a collection of engagement and wedding rings as well as attendants gifts. Biba Design Jewelry's newest collection of pearl and gemstone bridal jewelry, as well as spring and summer collections also will be on hand.

The latest "Pretty Maids" bridesmaid dresses from Bella Mia Dressed Up will be featured and Magnolia, Fresh Flower Market will show bridal bouquets and centerpieces. Special Moments Photography will be on hand with a portfolio of wedding photos and Spa Agio will feature skin care analysis, as well as spa packages for the bride. Piamma Grille will serve appetizers. A representative will be available to discuss rehearsal dinner and reception ideas.

For more information on the Spring Bridal Trunk Show, call Teri at Dearborn Jewelers of Plymouth or visit (734) 737-9525 or www.dearbornjewelers.com.

Shopping event aids First Step

Zonta Club of Farmington/Novi Area and First Step Steppin' Out in Style, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sunday, March 18 at Parisian in Laurel Park Place, located at Newburgh and Six Mile, in Livonia.

Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. They're available at Parisian Laurel Park and through Zonta Club at (248) 496-9841.

The event will include after-hours shopping at Parisian with a 20 percent discount on most items, entertainment, fashion, signature food from local restaurants and caterers and raffles. All proceeds from ticket and raffle sales will be used to help victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault.

Animal rescue sets dinner, chili events

Dine with Tail Waggers' 1990, a Livonia-based animal welfare organization, on Wednesday, Feb. 22, and you'll help raise funds for low-cost spay and neutering.

Or perfect your favorite chili recipe and enter Tail Waggers' 1990s annual Chili, Hoops and Hounds next month to help fundraise for the nonprofit's mission to help dedicated pet owners in need of assistance through low-cost vaccination clinics, spay/neuter and pet food

help, critical care funding and rescue efforts.

Spay-Ghetti Dinner runs 4-9 p.m. at Aubree's Pizzeria & Tavern, 20420 Haggerty, Northville. It's an all-you-can-eat dinner of pizza, salad bar, feta bread, pasta, dessert, and non-alcoholic beverages for \$20. Kids, 12 and under, eat for \$10.

Chili, Hoops and Hounds will run 1-5 p.m. Sunday, March 31, at UAW Local 182, 35603 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Enter the chili cook-off

for \$30, get a signature event apron and a chance to win Best Tasting Chili, Best Table Choice Award and the People's Choice Award. Register no later than March 15. Print a registration form from www.tailwaggers1990.org, request a form via e-mail at tailwaggers1990@yahoo.com or call the office at (734) 560-4660. Mail the completed form and a check payable to Tail Waggers' 1990, 28402 Five Mile, Livonia, MI 48154.

The public can try chili

samples for \$1 each or buy an all-you-can-eat wristband for \$15 at the event. French bread is included with samples and beverages will be available for purchase. All guests will have a chance to vote in the People's Choice award. This family-fun event will feature an inflatable, interactive basketball challenge, face-painting, magic, entertainment and more.

Visit its website at www.tailwaggers1990.org.

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Experienced. Needed for fast paced Southfield law firm specializing in telecommunications. Secretarial and telephone skills a must. Duties include, but not limited to: data entry, processing legal forms and assisting in incoming phone calls.
Send resume to: csummers@tiwpc.com

Help Wanted-Office Clerical
FRONT OFFICE COORDINATOR
Immediate full-time position available with a very busy sales office. Would be required to work directly with people and manage a multi line phone system. Computer and telemarketing a must. Send resume: kollterreust@yahoo.com

Help Wanted-General

Help Wanted-Office Clerical
Psychiatrist
Needed 8 hours per month At the Livingston County Jail in Howell, MI.
Flexible Schedule, Excellent Salary & Malpractice Provided!
Send Questions/CV to: Michelle.ferguson@correctioncare.com or contact Michelle at: (666) 670-3311
EOE

Help Wanted-Dental
DENTAL HYGIENIST
12 Mile btwn Evergreen and Southfield. 20-25 hrs/wk. Thurs., Fri., and Sat. At least 3 yrs. exp. X-ray certified; enthusiastic; caring; dependable and organized. Eaglesoft and digital x-rays a plus. Join our newly remodeled, patient centered practice.
Call Toni: 248-353-4747

Help Wanted-Medical
Certified Nursing Assistant
West Hickory Haven Nursing Center is looking for an outgoing team player to fill a position as a certified nursing assistant. Position duties include assisting residents with daily care under direction of professional staff. State C.N.A. certification required.
Apply in person at: West Hickory Haven 3310 W. Commerce Rd. Milford MI 48380 or send resume to: amatovskii@peplinskigroup.com

Help Wanted-Medical
RN
Wayne-Westland Community Schools 36745 Marquette Westland, MI 48185
Position open as follows: Registered Nurse with Associates Degree in Nursing. Works under the direction of the School Nurse to provide services to Special Education Students. EOE. Posting closes 3/1/12.
Apply online at: <http://wwcscd.net> or come to Human Resources to access the online application system

Help Wanted-Medical
SCRUB TECH & MEDICAL ASST
Experience required. For surgical suite.
Fax resume: 248-305-5880

Help Wanted-Sales
STEEL SALES - LIVONIA
Fast paced Livonia Steel Service Center seeking inside salesperson. Experience with steel and/or inside sales/customer service in an industrial environment preferred. Excellent math, phone, communication, and organizational skills are all required. Send resume via fax to: Sales Mgr. 734-452-3915

Help Wanted-Sales
"It's All About Results"
Observer & Eccentric 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

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Help Wanted-Food/Coverage

BEANS & CORNBREAD
AWARD WINNING RESTAURANT SEEKS DINING ROOM MANAGER
2 years exp., competitive Salary. Occasional weekend days off & hiring bonus for right individual. E.O.E.
Please send resume to: oeersume@hometownlife.com
Ref. Box 1877

BREAKFAST COOK:
Good leadership skills, opportunity to advance.
Send resumes: plymouth.rest@yahoo.com, (734) 233-5951

BREAKFAST/LUNCH RESTAURANT MANAGER
Pancake House, Mackinac Island. Background in food service management is a must. \$450-\$550 per week. Housing for an individual provided. Late April - October. 1 (906) 847-7196 www.theislandhouse.com

PREP COOK, Part-Time
at retirement community. Apply within: 37501 Joy Rd. Westland, MI 48185 EOE

SOUS CHEF
1850 Grill Room and Mary's Bistro on Mackinac Island. \$500-\$600.00 per week housing for an individual provided. May - October. 1 (906) 847-7196 www.theislandhouse.com

Help Wanted-Sales
STEEL SALES - LIVONIA
Fast paced Livonia Steel Service Center seeking inside salesperson. Experience with steel and/or inside sales/customer service in an industrial environment preferred. Excellent math, phone, communication, and organizational skills are all required. Send resume via fax to: Sales Mgr. 734-452-3915

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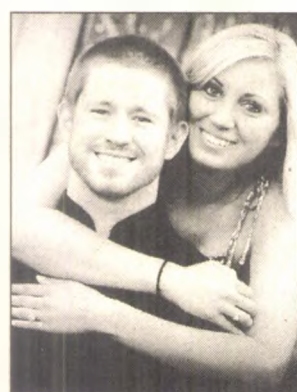
Sophia Lee Annabelle

Sophia Lee Annabelle Mason was born Jan. 10, 2012 at Providence Hospital, Southfield. Sophia joins her parents, Jesse and Leslie Mason, and her sister, Nora Helen Mason, 2, at home in Livonia. Proud grandparents are Jeffrey and Linda Douglas of Westland and Joseph and Sharon Mason of Saline. Great-grandparents are Helen Wendland and Ray Disney of Livonia, Evelyn and Henry Romans of Saline, and Dorothee Brasseur of Milan.

Milestones

Currier-Butkovich

Lyndsey Kay Currier and Blake Alan Butkovich announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of George and Kathy Currier of Northville, graduated from Northville High School and works at Northpointe Insurance. Her fiancé, son of Ernie Butkovich of Canton and MaryAnn Butkovich of Plymouth, graduated from Canton High School



and works at Northpointe Insurance. A September 2012 wedding is planned in Northville.

Drew-Hendrickson

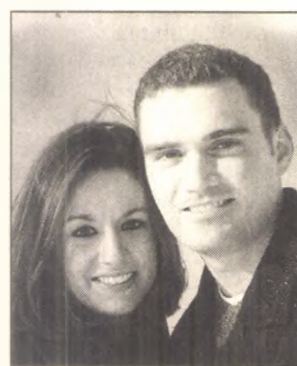
Ashley Drew and Jason Hendrickson announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Corey Drew of New Hudson and Linda Schmeichel of South Lyon, graduated in 2006 from South Lyon High School. She recently completed her cosmetology degree from LeSprit Academy in Livonia and is working at Cameron's Salon in South Lyon and Leo's Coney Island in Novi. Her fiancé, son of Dexter Hendrickson of Redford Township, graduated in 2006 from Redford Union High School. He is a self-



employed owner-operator of Hendrickson Property Maintenance, Inc., and works at the Redford Township Ice Arena. He also has achieved his firefighters certificate. An October 2012 wedding is planned at Mill Race Village Chapel in Northville.

Umlauf-Stahl

Lindsey Umlauf and David Stahl, both of Novi, announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of John and Charron Umlauf of Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., graduated from the University of Florida. She is employed as center operations director for Concentra Medical Center in Romulus. Her fiancé, son of Michael and Marie Stahl of Farmington Hills, graduated from Michigan State University and



is employed as a senior financial planner at Planete Moran Financial Advisors in Southfield. A June 2012 wedding is planned in Gainesville, Fla.

GARDEN & NATURE

Send garden and nature announcements to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

Gardening seminars

The Master Gardener Association of Western Wayne County presents seminars for the gardening public, 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, and 28, in the Wayne County Extension Office auditorium, 5454 Venoy, a quarter mile north of Van Born, Wayne. Cost is \$10 per session. For more information visit mgwcc.org. To register, e-mail mgwccorg@gmail.com or call (313) 719-1181.

- Urban Chicken Farming, on Feb. 21, will be taught by an urban chicken farmer. Local ordinances will be discussed as well as coop design and construction.

- Square Foot/High Yield Gardening, on Feb. 28, will teach techniques, fertilization and space saving tips, including how to grow lots of vegetables in a small space and in a bale of straw. Taught by Paul Rodman, Advanced Master Gardener, and garden writer.

English Gardens

- A free, step-by-step presentation will focus on arranging fresh flowers, 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25.
- Create your own floral arrangement to take home, 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25. Cost is \$24.99. Register at www.englishgardens.com.

- Learn about starting seeds indoors at a free presentation, 1 p.m., Saturday, March 3.

- A free presentation focuses on herb growing at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 10.

- Plant four herbs in a stylish container at a "Make it and Take it" workshop, 2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10. Cost is \$19.99. Register at www.englishgardens.com.

- Learn how to keep your lawn green at a free presentation, 1 p.m. Saturday, March 17.

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Photos must be in jpg format, attached to the e-mail.

February

BLACK HISTORY

Time/Date: 11 a.m., Sunday, Feb. 19 and 26
Location: First Baptist Church of Detroit, 21100 Southfield Road, Southfield
Details: Observe Black History Month at 11 a.m. services. Ardis Cazeno will present "Tuskegee Airmen" Feb. 19 and the church's Praise Dance Group and Children's Church will present dance and music selections. Light refreshments will be served after the services. United Voices in Christ, a male singing group, also will perform at 3 p.m., Feb. 26
Contact: (248) 569-2972 or firstbaptist@fbcdetroit

BOWLING FUNDRAISER

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26
Location: Westland Bowl 5940 Wayne Road, Westland
Details: For Good Hope Lutheran Church in Garden City; tickets are \$20 for adults; \$15 for children and include three games, shoes, pizza, and pop
Contact: (734) 427-3660

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 19
Location: St. Theodore, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, juice, milk; \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, 2-10
Contact: (734) 425-4421

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Time/Date: Eucharist, 10 a.m. Feb. 19
Location: St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth
Details: Bishop Wendell Gibbs will attend the worship service on Feb. 19. The service will include special music and banners created by members of the parish. A celebration reception will follow the service
Contact: (734) 453-0190

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25
Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy Road, between Lilley and Haggerty roads, Canton
Details: Free clothing and shoes are available to anyone in need
Contact: (734) 927-6686 or (734) 404-2480

GRIEFSHARE

Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19-May 27
Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, south of Five Mile, Livonia
Details: The 13-week grief seminar and support group is non-denominational, Christian-based and designed to help participants understand the grieving process, as well as provide encouragement and comfort. Sessions will include video seminars and group discussions. Registration is \$15 and includes a workbook/journal
Contact: Pastor Roger Wrightt at (313) 682-7491; www.griefshare.org

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Feb. 29 and March 7, 14 and 21
Location: St. Michael's Catholic Parish, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia
Details: Grieving with Great Hope, a four-week grief support series for individuals who are mourning the loss of a loved one. Presenters will include The Rev. Bill Tindall as well as John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry. Register by calling the church of visiting Good Mourning Ministry's Web site.
Contact: (734) 261-1455; www.goodmourningministry.net

GUEST PREACHER

Time/Date: Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 25-26
Location: St. John Lutheran Church, Farmington Hills, 23225 Gill, Farmington Hills
Details: The Rev. Philip Hemke, director of Church Relations at Lutheran Social Services of Michigan, will lead an "LSSM Sunday." He'll preach on "A New Start" at 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Sunday. He'll also lead the Bible study at 10:15 a.m. Sunday. The lesson is based on Mark 1:9-15
Contact: (248) 474-0584

LENTEN WORSHIP

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesdays, beginning Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22-March 28
Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford
Details: There will be a free soup and sandwich supper served at 6 p.m. on Ash Wednesday. Free treats after other Lenten services. Series theme is "See His Cross!"
Contact: (313)532-8655 or (734)968-3523

MOVIE

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24
Location: Christ Our Savior Lutheran, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: A free showing of the movie, "Courageous," from the creators of "Fireproof"
Contact: www.christoursavior.org; (734) 522-6830

Passages
 Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

View Online
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1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oeobits@hometownlife.com
 Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

BEHRMAN, EDNA H.

Age 91, of Plymouth, previously of Northville, passed away peacefully February 8, 2012 in Plymouth. She was born on February 3, 1921 in Port Clinton, Ohio to Gust and Mary (Tairi) Johnson. She was a 1938 graduate of Port Clinton High School and attended Sandusky Business College. Edna married Howard Behrman on October 25, 1941; they celebrated 70 years of marriage this past October. She was assistant supervisor of medical records at the Plymouth Center for Human Development, but spent most of her life being a wonderful homemaker. Edna was a devoted wife, cherished mother, and a loving grandmother. She is survived by her husband Howard; her children, Brad Behrman and Cathy (Paul) Clough; 6 grandchildren; and 8 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, her son John Behrman, and her brothers Ang Johnson and John Johnson. Services have been held. Memorial contributions would be appreciated to New Hope Center for Grief Support, 315 Griswold, Northville, MI 48167. Arrangements entrusted to Casterline Funeral Home.

BURKLOW, JAMES D.

February 16, 2012; age 67 of Garden City. Beloved husband of Peggy. Father of Chris (Leah) Eckles and Skip (Angie) Eckles. Loving grandfather of Shaelyn, Dakota, Jocy, Hannah, Ryan, Erin and John. Member of of Wayne Masonic Lodge 112 and Garden City Kiwanis. Memorial Services at a later date. Memorial contributions to Kiwanis Kids day in the Park, c/o P.O. Box 451, Garden City, MI 48136-0451. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



EBERSOLE, CAMILLE A.

Passed away February 16, 2012 at the age of 66. She was born in Detroit on December 13, 1945 to Cyril B. and Bernice A. (Troost) Rodman. She is survived and greatly loved by her husband James and her children Daniel (Janice) Ebersole and Denise (Kevin) Cadwell. She is the dear grandmother of Steven Cadwell and the dear sister of Harry (Patricia) Rodman. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. Camille was preceded in death by her sister Gloria Cecile Thorpe. Until the time of her death Camille was the Manager at the Super Bowl in Canton where she worked for many years. She formerly worked at Tait's Cleaners and Gould's Cleaners as well. She was a life-long resident of Canton and Plymouth. At one time Camille served as a Director at the local level for the W.I.B.C. (Women's International Bowling Conference) She was a long time avid bowler. She also loved to travel and visit Casinos. Camille loved to watch MSU sports, the Redwings and the Tigers. She especially loved spending time with her family that she loved so much. Funeral Services will take place Monday, February 20, 2012, 11AM at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth. Friends may visit Saturday 4-8PM and Sunday 2-8PM. Memorials may be made to Karmanos Cancer Institute, or Saint Joseph Mercy Hospice. www.schrader-howell.com



PERRY, GEORGE ROBERT

Formerly of Westland, passed away Feb. 9, 2012, reuniting with his beloved wife Mary Lou (Owens) and eldest David (Jamie). Born Sept. 8, 1927, to John-Henry and Claire (Reilly) Perry. George had a brother, John "Jack" Perry and sister Miriam Bailey. He will be missed by his survivors: Douglas John (m. MaryCarole) Perry and daughters Meaghan and Erin; daughter Denise Perry (m. Paul) Donavin and sons, Daniel and Craig; and David's son Robert (m. Brittany) and their children: Jack, Brock, and June. George joined the Army in 1945, served as the Chief Clerk of the Military Government of post-WW II Japan. A U. of Detroit law school graduate and a judge for 10 years, he was honored in 2004 as a Bar Association Golden Member. A Master Tax Planner in Tucson, where he relocated 20 years ago. He was an avid traveler, golfer, bowler, bridge player, and Gold Medal Senior Olympian. Visitation will be Mon., 2/13 at Adair Funeral Home, Dodge Chapel from 5-8 p.m.



SCHMEMAN, NORMA S.

Life long resident of Plymouth, passed away February 16, 2012 at the age of 97. She was born February 23, 1914 to Coda J. and Myrtle G. (Walker) Savery. She is the beloved wife of the late George. Dear mother of Pamela (Kurt) Siefert and Wendell (Margaret) Sikes. Dearest sister of Myrilla Schrader and dear aunt of Win(Susan)Schrader. She also leaves four grandchildren, five great grandchildren and one great niece. A Funeral Service will take place Sunday, February 19, 2012, 2PM at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth. Friends may visit Sunday from 12noon until time of service. Memorials may be made to the Humane Society of Huron Valley, 3100 Cherry Hill Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105 www.hshv.org. To leave a condolence or share a memory www.schrader-howell.com



TUCKER, MADELINE E.

Age 87, February 13, 2012. Loving wife of over 70 years to Edward "Tom" Tucker. Beloved mother of Fran (Jim) Griffith, Nancy Clarke, Thomas, Timothy, Stephen, James (Jeanette), Barbara (Jeff) Baker and Mary Tucker. Grandmother of 15 and great-grandmother of five. Sister of Robert, Richard (Eileen) and William (Marcy) Haney and the late Raymond Haney and Mary Haney-Roach. Loving aunt of numerous nieces and nephews. She was a long time resident of Livonia, Michigan and retired with her husband to Roscommon in 1985. Madeline will be laid to rest at Richardson Cemetery in Roscommon, Michigan on Saturday, February 18, 2012 at 1:30 pm. Memorials may be made in her honor to the Fr. Solanus Guild of the Capuchins or the charity of your choice. Please visit www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



GELINAS, KATHERINE DANA (GROM)

After a short, but courageous battle against Pancreatic Cancer. Katherine, peacefully passed with her loving family by her side on February 12, 2012 at 46 years of age. Loving wife of Ken Gelinas. Cherished mother of Amber and Trevor Gelinas. Loving stepmother of Michael and wife Mel Gelinas and Ryan and wife Joany Gelinas. Beloved daughter of Joseph and Mary Grom. Dear daughter-in-law of the late Helen and Alvin Gelinas. Dear sister of Michael, Marilea and husband Patrick Rogers, Steven and wife Erin. Many loving aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins survive. Will be sadly missed by her companion pets Chloe, Copper and Mace. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to LaSalle Minor Hockey Association and or the LaSalle Turtle Club Soft Ball League. Visiting Tuesday 7-9pm and Wednesday 3-5 & 7-9pm. Prayers Wednesday 8pm at Families First 3260 Dougall Ave. South Windsor, Canada 519-969-5841. On Thursday family and friends are invited to meet at Sacred Heart Church LaSalle Canada (219 Sacred Heart Dr) after 9:30am followed by Funeral Mass at 10:30am. Interment Greenlawn Memorial Gardens. A memorial luncheon will take place on Friday February, 17th from 12:30pm-2:30pm at Mama Mia's on Plymouth road in Livonia.

HIRTZEL, ESTHER PEARL

Age 106. February 15, 2012. Beloved wife of the Late Walter L. (6/83). Dearest mother of Helen Gascon. Loving grandmother of Cori (Steven) Salmons, Timothy (Diane) Miller, Julie Cowan & their children. Funeral Service Wednesday 10:00 a.m. at The Fisher Funeral Home 24501 Five Mile (btw. Beech Daly & Telegraph) Redford Twp. (313) 535-3030. Visit Tuesday 2 p.m. until 8 p.m. with ritual service under the auspices of O.E.S. Kindness Chap. #523 at 7:30 p.m. Burial Parkview Cemetery, Livonia. Memorials suggest to Masonic Pathways Sr. Living Services, 1200 Wright St, Alma, MI 48801 or Alzheimer's Assoc. www.fisherfuneralhome.com

May you find comfort in Family and Friends

BUSCHLEITER, FRED "Harley"

Passed away Monday, February 13, 2012, of Westland, Ypsilanti and Canada. He was a good friend, former employee of Northwest Airlines, and served in the U.S. Army. Per his request no funeral/burial services will be held.

COLEMAN, ETHEL "SUSIE"

Age 94. Passed away on February 17, 2012 at her home in Independence Village, of Plymouth. She was born on May 1, 1917 in Fort Wayne, Indiana to the late Harry and Grace Hatfield. On May 1, 1948 she married Darwin "Bob" who preceded her in death on July 9, 1992. Susie is survived by her good friend Kenneth Ray of Plymouth, formerly of Bradenton, Florida. She will be laid to rest at Manasota Memorial Park in Bradenton, Florida. Arrangements entrusted to Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia.

Let others know... When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages"... a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper. Observes & Eccentric Call 1-800-579-7355

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

Find a health study through online registry

The University of Michigan Health System recently added its 10,000th research volunteer to its participant registry.

In spite of the major milestone, there's still a need for research participants at U-M and nationwide. A lack of volunteers slows progress in the fight against cancer, diabetes, depression and other devastating illnesses. Many studies seek healthy volunteers as well as those will a specific condition or ailment.

"To us, these volunteers are nothing short of heroes because they're helping scientists find cures, improve individuals' quality of life and move health research forward," stated Molly White, manager of the clinical research recruitment program at the Michigan Institute for Clinical & Health Research, (MICHR). "Polls have shown that more than 90 percent of Americans recognize the importance of clinical research to the advancement of medical science, yet the vast majority know very little about the research process or how to get involved."

That's where MICHR comes in. Founded in 2006, the institute helps to support researchers across U-M and helps bridge researchers and the community.

MICHR is committed to moving medicine forward with safe and innovative studies, and in assisting research



Volunteers are needed for health studies on such topics as knees and joint problem at the University of Michigan.

teams across campus to find volunteers who are interested in participating in studies.

The online registry at UMClinicalStudies.org allows prospective volunteers to search or browse the studies that are looking for volunteers. It also can match would-be participants based on eligibility criteria, health status and the volunteer's preferences.

Since the registry's launch in 2007, it has been used to enroll participants in more than 500 studies. Study teams report that in many cases, the Web site was instrumental in helping

them meet their recruitment goals. When there aren't enough participants, studies can languish or even be canceled. This free resource also helps to lower the costs of individual studies because less money needs to be spent on recruitment advertising.

"We'd like to invite everyone to check out the online registry and see if there's a study that would be of interest to them," White said. "No matter who you are, how old you are, or whether you're healthy or have a health condition, there's probably a study out there that could use your help."

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

February

ANGEL KISSES FUNDRAISER

Angel Kisses, a group dedicated to raising awareness of late-term pregnancy and infant loss, will present its fourth annual fundraiser, 2-8 p.m. Feb. 25, at Woody's Diner, 208 W. Fifth, in Royal Oak. The group's mission is to help raise awareness of late-term pregnancy and infant loss, and also to help improve the quality and quantity of support and services available to families who experience such a loss. The fundraiser includes a silent auction, item raffles, 50/50 raffles and a candle-lit moment of silence. Woody's Diner will also donate 20 percent of food and beverage sales during the hours of the event. All proceeds will go toward fulfilling Angel Kisses' 2012 goals, including funding the launch of Beaumont Hospital's new standard of care for families who experience pregnancy and newborn loss. This standard will include training staff for bedside care and

the handling of bereavement mementos. For more information visit www.angelkisses.org or e-mail to amyallen@angelkisses.org.

BOWLATHON

RSVPs are due Feb. 27 for a Bowlathon set for 2 p.m., Sunday, March 4 at the Town and Country Lanes, 1100 S. Wayne Road, Westland. Garden City Hospital's staff team "Reaching for a Cure" presents the event, which will raise money for the American Cancer Society. Cost is \$20 per person and includes shoe rental, 3 games, and pizza. There will be a chance to win a gift basket. RSVP to Jamie at (734) 634-5701 or ly1as@yahoo.com.

CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS

Maple Grove Educational Programs for Children of Alcoholics offers "Celebrating Families," a free education and support program for children, ages 5-17, and their parents/caregivers, 5:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays, through March 28 at Maple Grove Center-in West Bloomfield. The program is designed for

children living with chronic stress due to family challenges such as substance abuse or mental illness. Each day's activities focus on learning skill-building through games and crafts. Topics covered include feelings, self-worth, communication, coping, defenses, alcohol and other drug use, safe decision-making, getting help and learning how to take care of themselves. To register, contact Maple Grove Community Education at (248) 661-6170 or e-mail mce_cp@hfhs.org.

GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL

• Heart Walk 2012 celebrates American Heart Month, 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Feb. 25 at Westland Mall, 35000 Warren Road, Westland. Dress in comfortable clothing and bring all your heart-related questions for a panel of experts. A hospital pharmacist will be on hand to answer medication questions; free health screening on site; and Pulse EMS will be on hand for support. All events are free. Heart risk assessments will be offered on site. Call (734) 458-3248 to reserve.

Canton begins planning Relay for Life

Canton community members will kick off their Relay For Life season 6:30-7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, at Dodson Elementary School 205 North Beck Road.

Families, caregivers, cancer survivors, schools, local organizations and others will ring in the new season with a rally that explains how Relay for Life benefits the American Cancer Society's goal to save lives and create more birthdays.

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life is an overnight community celebration. Individuals and teams camp out, picnic, dance, play games and take turns circling around a track "relay" style to raise funds and fight cancer. The event opens as cancer survivors

lead the way around the track and are honored with the Survivor Lap. As the sun begins to set, the warm glow of hundreds of luminaria light the field in an emotional silent ceremony. Each bag lit is in honor of a loved one who won the fight against cancer.

Started in 1985, Relay For Life began with one man who circled around a track for 24 hours raising \$27,000. Relay For Life has grown to more than 5,000 communities and over 25 countries worldwide.

For more information about Relay for Life in Canton as well as other communities, call (800) 227-2345 or visit www.cancer.org/relay.

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The Elephant In The Interview Room: Are You Being Passed Over Because Of Age?

Beth Braccio Hering,
 Special to CareerBuilder

“I can see the look in people’s eyes when they first greet me,” says Bill Wood, a 64-year-old from Minneapolis, Minn., who is looking for a job in information technology. “It seems to say, ‘This guy is going to retire soon; we don’t want a short-term permanent employee.’”

Cyndi Pauwels, a writer in her 50s from Yellow Springs, Ohio, has had similar experiences. “I was told (second-hand, off-the-record) by a headhunter, ‘We don’t hire older workers.’ I’ve read that the longer I’m unemployed, the less likely my chances are of finding anything, and I’m beginning to believe it.”

The current recession has been particularly hard on older job candidates. In March 2011, the duration of unemployment for all seekers averaged 39 weeks. But in April, the average length of unemployment for people over 55 surpassed the year mark (53.6 weeks), according to an AARP analysis of Labor Department data. And while age discrimination is illegal, that certainly doesn’t mean it isn’t happening. Complaints filed with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission have increased 35 percent over the last three government fiscal years compared with the average of the three years prior.

What is behind the longer length of unemployment? Lisa Quast, author of “Your Career, Your Way!” and president of Career Woman Inc. in Seattle, Wash., notes the following:

Corporate downsizing during the recession eliminated many of the middle-management positions previously held by older workers. There are more entry-level positions available, and these are the positions into which young people are being hired. Higher-level positions are less numerous and harder to obtain, so it

can take longer for older workers to find an equivalent position to what they previously held.

Older workers are further up the career and salary ladder. Many do not want to take a position beneath their skill level, so they hold out on accepting lower-level positions, thus increasing the duration it takes to find a position.

Yet even when older workers are willing to settle for less, they often get passed over. “I have dropped my salary expectations to allow me to compete with younger candidates,” Wood says. “The philosophy of industry in the past was to bring in ‘young guns’ that have fresh ideas and ways of doing things. Unfortunately for people in a similar position as me, companies are not changing that attitude and are missing out on a

golden opportunity to improve the business by utilizing experience.”

Older workers often are perceived as outdated or stuck in their ways. Such stereotypes can be hard to shatter, but not impossible. “Show some enthusiasm. Discuss how you have been innovative and are a life-long learner,” says Robin Ryan, author of “Over 40 & You’re Hired!” “Demonstrate on a resume and in interviews the results you have achieved in the last few years. Show recent training (especially your technical prowess) and innovations made on the job, such as creating something new, making process/system improvements or saving past employers money.” Ryan also notes that many mature workers appear “weather-worn

and tired out” and suggests looking as vibrant as possible with a new hairstyle and a contemporary, well-fitting suit. While being lively is one thing, trying to hide your age can backfire. “In some cases, I see older workers removing the dates of their college degree(s) or their earliest jobs from their resume in order to appear younger,” Quast says. “However, savvy hiring managers are able to see the candidates in person and guesstimate age -- and may then be forced to ask candidates to explain holes in their resume, leading to questions of integrity and additional embarrassment.”

Focusing on what you can offer a company (wisdom and experience) rather than what you can’t (youth) oftentimes sets the tone. “If you sense the hiring manager is worried about your age, then take the first step to put him at ease by explaining how you believe your knowledge, skills and experience would benefit him and the position,” Quast says. “If you choose to ask about his concerns, do so in a highly professional manner, such as, ‘Based on my education, skills and experience, are there any concerns you have that I am not qualified for this position?’ The goal is to get the hiring manager to show his hand without you having to bring up the topic of age.”

Finally, resist making blanket assumptions that companies only value youth. “The real-life experience of older workers can be of huge benefit in the business world, especially for start-up companies with a lot of young workers,” Quast says. “If you are truly worried about your age being a negative factor, seek out companies who could benefit from your expertise and sell them on yourself and your skills!”

Beth Braccio Hering researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues for CareerBuilder. Follow @Careerbuilder on Twitter.



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Saturday Sale: Feb 25th. Doors Open 8:30A.M.
*Non-Auto Auction @ 10A.M. Featuring Dining Room Set, Power Tools, 50" Vizio TV, Sofa/Loveseat, GE Washer/Dryer, Full Drum Set. Over 200 items up for sale. **Auto Auction @ 12:30 P.M. Featuring up to 100 cars/trucks including '03 Trailblazer, '98 BMW M Series, '04 Olds Alero '05 Toyota Corolla, '03 Mustang and '99 Volkswagon Beetle to name a few. We would also like to announce that the Van Buren Township Police Dept. will have a Police Auction at our facility for abandoned & unclaimed vehicles. Preview Sale Items - 48hrs before sale @ www.protection.com 13000 Haggerty, Belleville, MI 48111 (800-497-7900)

Estate Sales

BLOOMFIELD ESTATE SALE
Sat & Sun, Feb. 25 & 26, 10-4pm. 4459 Chamberlain Bloomfield, MI 48301. Antique Glassware, Furniture, Household Goods!

LIVONIA ESTATE SALE:
2/23-2/25, 9:30-5:30
18407 University Park Dr, behind Laurel Park Pl. Antique furniture & smalls, books, crafts, doll accessories, LOTS of items. No early birds.

Help Wanted-Medical

RN
Wayne-Westland Community Schools
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Position open as follows: Registered Nurse with Associates Degree in Nursing. Works under the direction of the School Nurse to provide services to "Special" Education Students. EOE. Posting closes 3/1/12
Apply online at: <http://wwcsd.net> or come to Human Resources to access the online application system

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CHILDCARE needed immediately in Plymouth for our sweet children. 2 & 5 yr olds. Full-Time, Mon-Fri. Must have references and transportation. Non-smokers only. Call 313-523-0660 or email plymouthchildcare@gmail.com

Attorneys/Legal Counseling

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CS&R 734-425-1074

Homes

LIVONIA: Totally Updated Ranch! 3 bdrms, 2 1/2 bath. FR with fireplace. Newer roof, bath, windows, furnace. HW floors. Large fenced yard. \$169,900. Call Teri Spiro at 248-760-8765

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CRAFT SHOWS:
Laurel Park Place Mall, Livonia. Mar. 11-13, 16-18, Mar 30-Apr 1, Apr 20-22. For space, call 810-658-0440 smetankcraftshows.com for more info.

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NORTHVILLE - 7 Mile & Northridge condo. 1200 sq ft, 2 bdrm/2 bath, carpet, C/A, refrigerator & stove incl. Small dogs & cats welcome! \$825/mo. + sec. 248-465-0262

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Nice 3 bdrms, very clean. Rent to own. Sec 8 okay. Call: (313) 729-1111

GARDEN CITY: Block St. Cute, clean 2 bdrm. all appl. incl. 2 car gar. Fenced. \$800/mo. Immed Occ. 734-261-2475

GARDEN CITY: 3 bdrm, 1 bath, living room, kitchen, bsmt. lg lot, clean inside/out, dep required. (734) 612-2231

GARDEN CITY: Remodeled 3 bdrm, bsmt, garage, 28417 Barton. \$800 + sec. No pets. Immed occ. (734) 421-5194

Livonia/Farmington area: 3 bdrm, 1 full bath, 1000 sq. ft. updated kit w/appl. Lg backyard. \$980/mo. 248-342-0314

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Happy Ads

ANNA (MIESZCZAK) BUDZISZEWSKI
Celebrated her 90th Birthday with family at Rose's Restaurant on February 10, 2012. She has been an inspiration to her family and friends throughout the years. Ann is an angel on earth as she is so caring and giving. Her faith has been an important part in her life and she continues to pray the rosary daily. We are so happy to have this special lady in our lives and can't wait to celebrate her 100th! Your Loving Family 'N',

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CANTON ESTATE SALE
Antiques, Collectibles, Brick-a-Brack, Large Atwater-Kent Radio Collection, Vintage Photographs, Lots of Furniture Dishes & Much Much More! See photos & Full Inventory at ESTATE-CLICKS.com. SALE Feb 25 & 26 (9am-5pm), 701 STONEHENGE, Canton, MI 48188.

[hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

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	30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending (734) 459-0782	3.625	0	3.125	0	J/A
Accurate Mortgage Solutions (800) 593-1912	3.625	0	3.125	0	J/A
AFI Financial (877) 234-0600	3.625	0	3.125	0	J/A/F
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp. (248) 740-2323	3.75	0	3	0	J/A
BRINKS Financial Group (800) 785-4755	3.375	1.125	2.875	0.875	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule (800) 991-9922	3.5	1.375	2.875	0.25	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union (734) 466-6113	4	0.25	3.375	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank (313) 565-3100	4.125	0	3.375	0	A
Fifth Third Bank (800) 792-8830	4	0	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
First State Bank (800) 372-2205	NR	NR	NR	NR	J/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage (800) 991-9922	3.625	0.25	2.9	0.25	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage (248) 282-1602	4.125	0	3.5	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule (800) 991-9922	3.5	1.25	2.875	0.25	J/A/V/F
Talmer Bank & Trust (800) 462-2786	3.875	0	3.125	0	J/A/V/F

Above information available as of 2/10/12 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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Car Report

Advertising Feature

SUPER BOWL ADS KEEP ON RESONATING FOR AUTO BRANDS

By Dale Buss

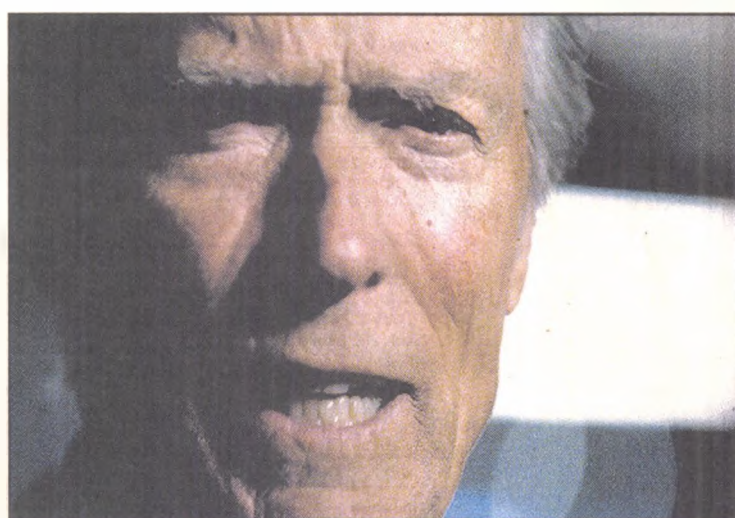
Yes, no one's quite sure yet how the flap over Chrysler's Clint Eastwood Super Bowl spot is going to end up, with the continuing argument over its potential political implications. Chrysler avows no political intent, and do does



Dale Buss

Dirty Harry. In the meantime, Chrysler dealers love all the attention to the brand. But it's pretty clear what the winning and losing brands were among other automakers after viewers and consumers, as well as the pundits, got a chance to react to their ads during the Big Game, which car brands dominated. Here's how how

the other auto brands fared:
Volkswagen: The brand behind the other automotive hit of last year's Super Bowl scored big with reviewers and Edmunds.com visitors with "The Dog Strikes Back," its SB46 commercial featuring the slimmed-down dog chasing the new-profile Volkswagen Beetle.
Toyota: After the couple of years that Toyota has had, it's unfortunate that the brand's couple of spots for the new Toyota Camry missed the mark. There was too much attention in "Connections," for instance, to the legacy of Camry. How does that help viewers understand that they've got to get back to Camry via the new 2012 model?
Lexus: Lexus needs its new GS to be a hit, and it's a worthy car. But the actual vehicle got only a beauty shot and little discussion in "Beast," the Lexus model's Super Bowl



Chrysler's Clint Eastwood ad dominated much of the post-Super Bowl national discussion.

debut ad, which also hinted of more great new models to come. A relatively weak effort.

Fiat: Edmunds.com visitors blew out server circuits finding out more about the Abarth after Fiat's sexy Super Bowl spot, a spot called "Seduction" that previously ran in Italy. Hard to call that anything other than a big success.

Honda: A lot of pre-game buzz was generated following a Matthew Broderick teaser hinting at an updated Ferris Bueller's Day Off for a mystery brand. But maybe all the pre-publicity helped prepare Super Bowl fans to watch the actual Game Day commercial when it aired and focus a bit more on the new CR-V. At least this spot displayed the vehicle's capabilities and appeal. It should help.

Acura: Long the fading brand among the Japanese Big Three of luxury, Acura needs to

get back on the radars of American luxury buyers. A Super Bowl ad is a great way to do it, especially a funny spot featuring boomer-favored celebrities like Jerry Seinfeld and Jay Leno. Too bad the NSX they raved about won't be available for a while.

Chevrolet: Maybe the brand finally has found a way to make its much-criticized "Chevy Runs Deep" slogan resonate in a meaningful way. That was one commonality among the ads for Silverado, Sonic and Camaro. The Silverado piece could become a classic for its once-in-a-lifetime 2012 context, for its creative execution and for how it got under the skin of Ford.

Cadillac: For decades, Cadillac has dreamed of fielding a truly competitive small sedan, and executives believe they finally have one in

the ATS to be released later this year. There was no subtlety in a commercial showing the ATS circling a test track in Germany known as "Green Hell." They must believe the car can compete with the BMW 3 Series.

Hyundai: Hyundai of America President John Krafcik wanted to go for more "memorable" Super Bowl ads this time around. Not sure the brand really achieved that, although they were popular with Edmunds.com visitors. And Hyundai's spots did serve to dimensionalize the brand even further with U.S. viewers.

Audi: The brand had the field to itself among German luxury makes for the day and chose to continue its Super Bowl tack of using humor to underscore an important attribute in its "Vampire Party" spot. In the last few years, that attribute was "new luxury" that is pushing to supplant the old-fogey BMW and Mercedes-Benz brands. This time, Audi went for a more limited objective - highlighting the blazing headlights on its new S7 - and managed to achieve it with the vampire-vanquishing spot.

Kia: No more stuffed sock monkeys, but Kia's spot ("A Dream Car for Real Life") was still a fantasy ad. Only this one didn't really serve the Optima very well. The brand clearly has found its groove with NBA sponsorship and Blake Griffin and probably should have stayed there.



Chevrolet got some extra Super Bowl buzz from awarding a Corvette Grand Sport Convertible Centennial Edition to game MVP Eli Manning.

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5 At This Price - 112 Available.

EPA estimated 15 city/21 hwy mpg



NEW/2012 Ford Edge SE

EPA estimated 19 city / 26 hwy mpg

Buy for \$21,535+

MSRP \$28,540

Featuring: Tilt Wheel, Cruise Control, Power Windows, Seats, Locks.
4 at this price - 96 available

24 month lease

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\$1000 DOWN

\$237*

\$1401 due at signing

SIGN & DRIVE

\$294*

\$0 due at signing



NEW/2012 Ford Escape Limited

EPA estimated 21 city / 28 hwy mpg

Sun & Sync Package

Buy for \$21,589+

MSRP \$29,940

Featuring: 302A Package, Chrome Wheels, Luxury Package, Moonroof, Premium Sound.
10 at this price - 490 available

24 month lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee.

\$1000 DOWN

\$183*

\$1404 due at signing

SIGN & DRIVE

\$241*

\$0 due at signing



NEW/2012 Ford Fusion SEL

EPA estimated 23 city / 33 hwy mpg

Loaded, Leather, Moonroof

Buy for \$19,938+

MSRP \$29,085

Featuring: Sync, Automatic, Power Windows, Locks, Mirrors, Keyless Entry, Satellite Radio, BLIS, Rearview Camera, Reverse Sensing.
10 at this price - 293 available

24 month lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee.

\$1000 DOWN

\$172*

\$1347 due at signing

SIGN & DRIVE

\$227*

\$0 due at signing



NEW/2012 Ford Focus SE

EPA estimated 28 city / 38 hwy mpg

Sport Package

Buy for \$16,825+

MSRP \$22,475

Featuring: Automatic, Cruise Control, Rear Spoiler, Power Windows, Sport Package, Heated Seats.
5 at this price - 200 available

24 month lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee.

\$1000 DOWN

\$168*

\$1298 due at signing

SIGN & DRIVE

\$222*

\$0 due at signing



NEW/2012 Ford Explorer XLT

EPA estimated 17 city / 23 hwy mpg

Buy for \$29,916+

MSRP \$37,010

Featuring: Sync, Reverse Sensing, Keyless Entry, Power Windows, Power Locks, Power Liftgate.
3 at this price - 55 available

24 month lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee.

\$1000 DOWN

\$325*

\$1434 due at signing

SIGN & DRIVE

\$383*

\$0 due at signing



NEW/2012 Ford Fiesta SE

EPA estimated 29 city / 38 hwy mpg

Buy for \$14,718+

MSRP \$18,040

Featuring: Sport Appearance Pkg., SYNC and Sound, Automatic, Ambient Lighting, Satellite Radio, Heated Seats, Keyless Entry Key Pad. 3 at this price - 72 available

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\$178*

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SIGN & DRIVE

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\$0 due at signing



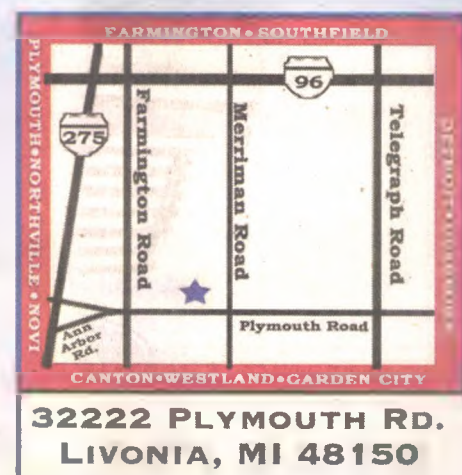
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