# 2 a.m. Sunday, March 11

Don't forget to turn your clock ahead one hour at 2 a.m. Sunday (or before going to bed Saturday night)

### **CCHA ticket** contest

Enter our Facebook contest for a chance to win a family fourpack of tickets to the **CCHA** semifinals Friday, March 16, at Joe Louis Arena.

Share the contest link with a Facebook friend and get an extra five chances to win if they also enter the contest. Prizes will be awarded Tuesday, March 13 and the winners must be able to pick up the tickets on game day.

You can enter by clicking on the contest link in our Don't Miss module at Hometownlife.com or by visiting our facebook page at http://www.facebook. com/OEHometown.



### **Doyle's party**

Doyle's Tavern in downtown Plymouth celebrates its 10th anniversary with deals for its patrons today (Thursday).

The celebration will last the whole day. Customers get the chance to pull slips from a special bowl, and can win discounts on food and T-shirts.

Doyle's Tavern is located at 860 Fralick, across from the post office in downtown Plymouth.

For more information, call (734) 207-9656 or visit www.doylestavern.com.

#### Hunger game

Huntington National Bank and Emagine Theaters are teaming up to support Gleaners Community Food **Bank of Southeastern Michigan's Smart Bites** program through March 31. The community is

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FOOD, B7

# **District redraws boundary map**

#### **Bv Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer**

Let the shuffling begin. Plymouth-Canton Community Schools administrators, in the midst of a facilities study that will likely end in the closing of two elementary schools before the 2012/13 school year, unveiled a new map that redraws the boundaries for the buildings that will remain come September. In all, 12 of the 14 elementary

schools that will remain open in the fall will have some change. School officials said the changes were necessary because of the impending school closures and the shift next school year to allday kindergarten.

"If we did nothing (in terms of closing buildings), one of the issues we'd have to deal with is implementing all-day kindergarten," said Phil Freeman, assistant superintendent for facilities. "There are three or four schools

where we would have to move kids, because there isn't any room at those buildings."

#### **Decision time**

**GO GREEN WI** 

TREATS, DRINK

Exactly how the map changes will depend on which schools the Board of Education decides to close. District officials have all but admitted Fiegel Elementary School will close. The other two elementary school buildings under consideration are Gallimore and Hulsing. Board members are expected to make their decision at the March 27 meeting.

Regardless of which schools close, two buildings would have no boundary adjustments, Freeman said. When officials did the math, it turned out neither Workman Elementary nor Hoben Elementary needed a boundary change. While the complete boundary map is available on the

Please see MAP, A2

Layoffs bring out large, loud crowd

**Fire ire** 

**By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer** 

Emotions ran high again Tuesday as residents and firefighters questioned the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees about the layoff last week of six firefighters and the closing of one of the township's three fire stations.

Plymouth Community Fire Department staffing, the subject of meetings stretching back more than a year, a tax initiative that was defeated by voters last week, court action in December and a summer and fall petition drive, dominated the public comment segments of Tuesday's board meeting.

The March 1 layoffs, which township officials said were needed toclose a nearly \$1 million budget sho



Dearborn Jewelers' Matthew Allen (left) helps Antonio Martin and his fiance, Keely Martin, during Saturday's Spring Bridal Trunk Show.

Bridal show draws a local crowd

encouraged to make a contribution at theaters. online or by phone (call or text). Huntington National Bank will match every donation dollarfor-dollar

**Gleaners' Smart Bites** program provides healthy snacks to children who do not get enough to eat at home. Donations can be made online (visit www. gcfb.org), by phone (cali 866-453-2637) or by text (Keyword EAT to 85944 to donate \$10). Donations can also be made at Emagine locations, including the Canton theater located at 39535 Ford Road

#### **By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer**

It shouldn't have come as a surprise to see Antonio Martin in Dearborn Jewelers in downtown Plymouth Saturdav

After all, his parents have shopped Dearborn Jewelers for years, as have Martin's three siblings.

But Martin was in the store Saturday, during the second annual Spring Bridal Trunk Show, for the same reason many other shoppers stopped by: To make arrangements for his upcoming wedding.

"The customer service has always been great," said Martin, the youngest of four siblings. "They've always treated (my parents) well. Everyone raves abut this place."

Martin was there with his fiance, Keely Martin (no relation — yet), to pick up wedding bands and do a little prewedding looking. They were among many shoppers taking advantage of the show, which included wedding-related businesses from around the downtown area.

Participating businesses included Bella Mia Dressed Up, Magnolia Fresh Flow-

er Market, Special Moments Photography and Spa Agio. **Chefs from Fiamma Grille** served up the appetizers.

While the day got off to a slow start, business picked up pretty quickly, according to Teri Allen, Dearborn Jewelers owner and organizer of the show.

#### Intimate venue

"People like it because it's a smaller venue," Allen said. "It's more intimate, and you can talk more intimately with (clients). It's not like the bigbox shows."

Please see BRIDAL, A3

fall caused by the city of Plymouth's departure from the department, left the PCFD with 15 firefighter-paramedics. They are now working five-person shifts, staffing fire Stations 1 and 3, while the station on Wilcox Road, Station 2, was closed. A paramedic crew from Huron Valley Ambulance will be based in the area to respond to medical emergencies in the northeast section of the township, officials said.

Tim Kantzler of Royal Oak said he and his wife had made an offer on a house in the township, and that he was unhappy that, in his view, service had been cut.

#### Service questioned

"It kind of makes me sick to my stomach to know that I'm making an invest-

Please see FIRE, A4

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If you buy a car today from one of the Detroit Three automakers, chances are high that a facility in Plymouth Township helped put it together.

Robert Bosch LLC, part of a worldwide company doing business in auto parts, home appliances, health-care equipment, computer software and more, has a laboratory on Haggerty Road where its car and truck components are tested: shaken and bumped, frozen and overheated, studied under a microscope and in corrosive conditions, and measured for sound waves and electromagnetic emissions. Part of Bosch's automotive technol-

Bosch lab puts auto parts through paces

ogy group, which is based in Farmington Hills, the Bosch lab tests a range of parts, including engine cooling fans, motors for window lifts and windshield wipers, backup sensors and battery sensors and circuit boards for electronic key fobs.

About 700 people work in the lab, many of them electrical, mechanical or computer engineers, and the company is moving ahead with plans for expansion.

#### 'Extreme testing'

"I think most people, when they buy a car. don't realize that every component in that car has gone through extreme

Please see BOSCH, A5



The Bosch laboratory in Plymouth Township opened in 2007 and now employs about 700 people; the company is putting up a temporary office building on the campus and considering a permanent expansion.

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#### LOCAL NEWS

**A2** 

### Township hosts Passport Day

#### **By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer**

If you've been thinking about getting passports for this summer's family vacation, or maybe passport cards for a night out in Windsor or a trip to Pointe Pelee, you'll have your chance on Saturday.

That's Passport Day in the USA, a Department of State event designed to provide information about passports and passport cards and make it more convenient for people to file passport applications without having to fit it into their weekday schedules

**Plymouth Township** Clerk Joe Bridgman's office is participating in Passport Day, and will have staff on hand at township hall to answer questions and take applications. The hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Bridgman said the Saturday hours will make obtaining passports easier for people who can't take time off from work during the week or don't want to take their children out of school. Last April's Passport Day brought in about 60 applications, Bridgman said.

The clerk's office has been handling passport applications for seven years and took in 339 total applications in 2010,

#### Bridgman said.

In addition to the forms available at the clerk's office, which can be filled out on the spot, passport applicants need proof of citizenship, such as a birth certificate, expired passport, or naturalization documents; a two- by two-inch clear color photograph; a form of photo identification such as a driver's license; and the passport fee.

Passports fee are \$135 each for adults (\$110 for a renewal) and \$105 for children under age 16. For wallet-sized passport cards, the fee is \$55 for adults (\$30 for a renewal) and \$40 for children under age 16. Prices include the \$25 application fee.

First-time applicants can get discounts when applying for both a passport and a passport card. Both the passports and the passport cards are valid 10 years, five years for those under 16.

Passports are required for international travel to most places.

Passport cards are required to reenter the U.S., by land or sea, from Canada, Mexico, Bermuda and the Caribbean. They are not valid for international air travel.

Bridgman's office is on the first floor of Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 North Haggerty.

#### **AROUND PLYMOUTH**

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

#### **EASTER EGG HUNT**

Date/Time: Saturday, April 7, 10 a.m.

Location: Plymouth Township Park, Ann Arbor Trail and McClumpha

Details: The Plymouth Lions Club hosts the annual Easter Egg Hunt. Bring your baskets, bags and cameras. The event will feature age groups for 0-3, 4-6, 7-8 and 9-10. There will be collection boxes available for hearing aids, eyeglasses and cell phones. Donations are welcome.

#### **NEWCOMERS MEET**

Date/Time: Sunday, March 25, 2-4 p.m.

Location: Plymouth District Library Friends room, 223 S. Main

Details: Coffee and donuts with Plymouth Newcomers & Neighbors. Board members will be on hand to share information about their group. Men's Poker, Euchre, Ladies Bunco, a Kids' Playgroup and themed adult activities are just a few of the fun and exciting activities offered on a monthly basis.

#### **FISH FRIES**

Date/Time: Every Friday through April 6, 5-7 p.m. Location: VFW Post 6695, 1426 S. Mill in Plymouth Details: VFW Post 6695 hosts its 2012 Fish Fry, featuring baked or fried fish dinners, chicken strip dinners and sides including fries, macaroni and cheese, baked potato and cole slaw. All dinners are served with roll & butter and coffee

#### **MOPS MEETINGS**

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

Location: St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth

Details: The St. Edith/St. Kenneth Catholic Parishes' Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group invites all mothers with children aged newborn through kindergarten to join. The group provides the encouragement, nurturing, and support and features a schedule of activities that include speakers, crafts, and group discussions.

Contact: Heather at (734) 437-9517 or e-mail stekmops@ gmail.com, or visit www.stekmops.org

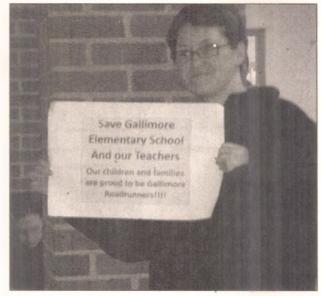




**Christian Bible Talks Plymouth VFW Hall** 1426 S Mill St Sundays, March 4, 11, 18 and 25 at 4:00 PM These one-hour meetings will mphasize the teachings of Christ. No collection Ministers: Matthew Jensen

& Jason McInally 515-851-2939

Call 734-464-3251 for an appointment



Autumn Kearney of Canton stood through a recent threehour public forum, holding a sign asking the school district not to close Gallimore Elementary School.

### MAP

Continued from page A1

district's website (www. pccs.k12.mi.us), here's a brief look at changes at the other schools:

 Dodson — Freeman said there was some room at Dodson so that school will pick up students redistricted from Gallimore and Isbister schools.

• Bentley — will gain some students from Field Elementary.

 Eriksson — will gain students from Allen and Fiegel.

• Allen — will gain a good portion of the students from Fiegel.

• Farrand — will pick up some students from both Fiegel and Allen.

 Tonda — picks up Gallimore students.

 Miller — adds students from Gallimore. • Bird — presented one of the bigger challenges, Freeman said, because it was already at capacity for kindergarten before all-day kindergarten. Bird will need eight classrooms for its four kindergarten sections. • Smith — will pick up

part of Bird's student population.

• Isbister — will add some Smith kids.

• Hulsing — if Hulsing closes, its student population will be moved en masse to Gallimore, according to freeman.

• Gallimore — if Gallimore closes, much of its population will move to Hulsing, with the rest being spread around to a few other schools.

#### Not in middle

Middle school boundaries are not affected by the changes at the elementary school level, according to Freeman.

"Our middle schools are packed pretty tight, but they're balanced pretty well right now," Freeman said. "At this point, it doesn't look like (middle school changes) will happen."

Freeman said administrators were mindful of "not chopping neighbor-hoods up" while putting the map together. The new boundaries, he said, were designed to keep the district from having to redraw them again in the near future.

"Is it perfect? There's no perfect map," Freeman said. "This is the puzzle that fits our needs and allows us to close two elementary schools."

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4

6

#### LOCAL NEWS



Dearborn Jewelers clerk Elizabeth Pizzo (right) talks with customer Rina Madias of Plymouth during Saturday's Spring Bridal Trunk Show. Madias is getting married in August.

### BRIDAL

Continued from page A1

That's what attracted Rina Madias of Plymouth to the show. She's getting married in August.

"Everything is right here locally that I need," Madias said.

The folks at Bella Mia took part in last year's inaugural event and enjoyed some success, so they were more than happy to join in this year. Amy Royer, manager at Bella Mia Dressed Up, said the chance to partner with other downtown businesses is too good to pass on.

"Any kind of crossworking we can do with other Plymouth businesses is a help," Royer said. "We're like a family (downtown), and anything we can do to keep business here benefits us all." That's a big part of the attraction for Sarah Klatt, one of the owners at Magnolia Fresh Flowers, , although drumming up some business is always a plus.

"We got a couple of weddings (from) last year, so it was worth our while," Klatt said. "And it's nice to be able to refer people to someone you know."

Allen said young people — largely the target audience for the show are interested these days in shopping local which, of course, benefits the show's participants.

"I think letting consumers know every dollar they spend is going to stay (downtown) appeals to them," Allen said. "These are the things we stress when we're doing an event like this."



Bella Mia Dressed Up clerk Lissa Forster helps Holly Denison of Redford try on a prom dress.

# Former mayor, DPW chief 'wanted everything for the city'

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

Joe Bida, a veteran of two wars and a former minor league baseball player who served as public works chief, city commissioner and mayor in Plymouth, was remembered this week as a good-humored man who was committed to the community.

Bida, who lived in Canton Township and later Brooklyn, Mich., in recent years, died Sunday at Angela Hospice in Livonia at age 89 after a long illness. His wife of 63 years, Irene, died last August.

"He was one of those kind of guys who just wanted to do everything for the city," said Bida's oldest son, John Bida of Plymouth. "He was a community-minded individual who was always, I mean always, involved in everything."

His father, John Bida said, was a Rotary Club member and was involved in the 1956 Rotary chicken barbecue that became what is now Plymouth's Fall Festival. He also co-founded the Plymouth Little League, and a ball diamond at what is now Massey Field used to be named in his honor, his son said.

#### 'Just knew everybody'

Bida was a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Goodfellows and the Kiwanis, among other groups. He was a lifetime member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6695 and a past post commander.



Former Plymouth Mayor Joe Bida, with his late wife, Irene, passed away Sunday. Irene passed away in August.

"He was one of those guys who just knew everybody," said another son, Tom, also of Plymouth.

"He was a great guy. Always smiling, always gregarious," said City Manager Paul Sincock, whose late father, Robert, had also served as mayor. "He'd give you the shirt off his back."

Born in 1922 in Pennsylvania, Joe Bida grew up in the Port Huron area and in Detroit. He played baseball, pitching in the Cleveland Indians organization, before joining the Marine Corps and serving in World War II, where he fought in the Pacific. He reached the rank of sergeant and drove heavy military equipment.

Bida also served during the Korean War as a Marine reservist. According to John Bida, his father was turning in his reserve uniform, about to quit the reserves, when an officer spotted him and told him there was a conflict on and he'd better do his part.

Bida was with the Garden City public works



He was later a Plymouth City Commission member and was mayor from 1973 to 1975.

John Bida remembers his father coming home late from commission meetings and paying him hush money so his wife, who was asleep, wouldn't find out how late he'd been out.

#### Autos to oil fields

He had a varied career after his employment with the city, working for the now-defunct Leo Calhoun Ford dealership on Plymouth Road and the Don Massey Cadillac dealership, his sons said. He also sold pipe and was the building supervisor in Plymouth Township. He also supervised oil fields in southern Illinois that were owned by Leo Calhoun. He and Irene Bida later returned to Michigan, and bought a house in Canton in 1986.



Joe Bida, right, in his minor league baseball days. Bida was also a veteran of two wars.

Bida returned to the Fall Festival in 1989, running it for a few years, with his oldest son assisting him.

"I understood him enough so that when things started getting scrambly I knew how to calm it down," John Bida said.

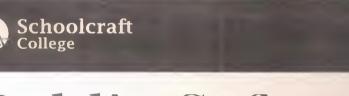
"It was fun working with him. ... He worked well with all the clubs, you know, because they all knew him and loved him," he continued.

"He knew everybody," said Sincock. "He'd be working at the Fall Festival ... and, good God, he'd have everybody talking to him."

In addition to sons John and Tom, Bida is survived by a daughter, Wendy Borsos, and her husband, Jim; daughters-in-law Cindy Bida and Sandie Bida; grandsons Garrett, Mike and David Bida; granddaughter Jill Bida-Priest; and five greatgrandchildren.

Visitation is planned for 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 15, at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main in Plymouth. A rosary service will be held at 7 p.m.

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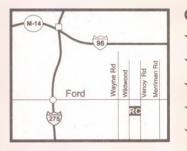
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# PUBLIC SAFETY

### FIRE

Continued from page A1

ment when the services might not be there," Kantzler said.

"Trust me, you're going to be safe," Treasurer Ron Edwards said.

But audience members, some shouting boos and catcalls, were clearly skeptical, and speaker after speaker walked to the podium to express doubts. At least 16 people spoke on the topic for well over an hour before the board moved on in its meeting agenda.

"You are cutting the level of service, especially for the folks in Lake Pointe," said Chris Hull, a resident and a firefighter in West Bloomfield Township. Hull said firefighters' concessions could have made up the revenue shortage, but Edwards said the concessions are worth far less than firefighters had claimed.

Hull suggested the fire department will become a political issue in township elections later this year. "I think we can all agree it's time to get some new people on this board," he said to applause from the audience.

#### **No HVA payment**

Tom Kelly, a resident and a firefighter in Royal Oak, questioned whether HVA, a nonprofit, would be paid for its increased paramedic service. A payment to HVA, for its guaranteed presence, had been proposed last vear as different scenarios for reorganizing firefighting and emergency medical services were discussed.

'There is no contract

with the company. There are no additional tax dollars used," Supervisor Richard Reaume said in response to Kelly. HVA is paid, usually by insurers or Medicare, when it transports patients to hospitals during medical emergencies.

John Werth, a township resident and the public safety director in Northville Township, said he was concerned about his family's safety. Northville Township recently began doing all medical transporting, instead of relying on a private service, and Werth suggested that could work in Plymouth Township.

"You have a lesser service. You can do that, but you've got to own it here," Werth told the board.

Edwards said he has respect for the fire department, but that the township can no longer, without the revenue and work load from the city of Plymouth, keep staffing at the same level.

'Any business, when you run it correctly, when you lose 30 percent of the work, you're going to have to lose employees," Edwards said. Between 25 and 30 percent of the PCFD's annual runs were in the city, which left the department Jan. 1 to partner with the city of Northville.

One resident, Larry Cooper, congratulated the board.

"I would like to thank the board for being prudent and doing what's necessary to avoid a tax increase," Cooper said. "I appreciate what you've done."

mjachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405

# Mannequin's chums look forward to reunion

**By Matt Jachman** Observer Staff Writer

Priscilla likes to get out of the house in the winter, but, this time, someone's taken it too far.

Priscilla is a life-sized mannequin who sits, in colder weather, on the front porch of Evelyn Butler's house on Clemons Drive in Plymouth Township. Someone made off with Priscilla over Super Bowl weekend in February, and her companions, including a sister mannequin, are missing her.

"We need her back by St. Patrick's Day," said Butler, an attorney with an office in Livonia.

Butler likes to dress up Priscilla in seasonal outfits --- Mrs. Claus, a Mardi Gras partygoer, a Chinese costume for Chinese New Year — and St. Pat-rick's Day is Priscilla's favorite holiday.

"She gets to go out and play if we're in the mood to take her anywhere," said Butler.

Priscilla, who is stuck in a sitting position, is made of heavy plastic and is wearing a red coat, black pants, a brown wig and a Chinese New Year hat of red and black. She has eyelashes and pierced ears.

Butler acquired Priscilla about 10 years ago from her father, who had her specially made in Ohio - she has never been used to display



Priscilla the mannequin is missing from the front porch of a house on Clemons Drive in Plymouth Township. Her human companion, Evelyn Butler, wants her back by St. Patrick's Day --- Priscilla's favorite holiday.

clothes. Butler's first mannequin, Esmerelda, had been splattered by a nephew with a paintball gun, and Butler's father wanted to find her a replacement.

"They don't make mannequins like that any more," Butler said. "They're hard to find." (Esmerelda is on standby in the garage, having undergone plastic surgery to cover the paint splatters, Butler said.) Priscilla has jobs around the house, Butler said.

When Butler's insurance company wanted her to secure her outdoor hot tub, she sat Priscilla on it with a BB gun and some chains. The company loved the photo she said, asking if they could use it in corporate presentations.

Butler has no suspects in the theft. "It's weird, because we don't get much traffic," she said. But the mannequin attracts some attention, she said; her lawn-care workers call her the mannequin lady, and even

some visiting Jehovah's Witnesses snapped a photo of Priscilla one day.

Butler is worried about her inanimate friend. She recently filed a report with the Plymouth Township Police Department.

"I would like her back. No questions asked, and maybe a nominal reward for her return," Butler said. "It's kind of creepy, right? Is she laying in a ditch someplace or what?"

Butler can be reached at (734) 679-1888, the police at (734) 354-3232.

### CRIME WATCH

#### Storage wars

A washing machine, a dryer, a refrigerator and stove and two mountain bicycles were reported stolen from an apartment on Brougham Court, in the area of

and it was not clear how they were removed.

#### Shed burglary

A leaf-blower and a power washer were





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Hines Drive and Wilcox Road, recently.

The items had been taken from a storage area in the building's basement, a **Plymouth Township Police Department** report said.

The bikes had been chained to a pole in the basement, the victim told police,

reported stolen from a backyard shed at a house on Southworth, in the area of Ann Arbor Road and Haggerty, on March 1. The burglary had occurred some time since Feb. 24, the victim told police.

- By Matt Jachman

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### BOSCH

#### Continued from page A1

testing," said Simon Price, Bosch's Plymouth Township engineering manager. The testing of samples of parts, to standards set by Bosch's customers - the manufacturers that would later be using the parts in their cars and trucks — are to ensure quality, safety and durability, Price said.

The lab includes an anechoic chamber — one designed to not reflect electromagnetic emissions - for measuring the electromagnetic waves produced by various electronic components. The components must comply with federal guidelines on electromagnetism, and also must not emit waves that interfere with the operation of other electric parts in the vehicle, said Andrew Wolf, the facilities manager.

Another anechoic chamber, nonreflective of sound, is used to measure the sound produced by different moving parts. "We want only the noise coming from the component to be recorded," Price said.



Bosch's lab in Plymouth Township, part of its Farmington Hills-based automotive technology group, puts a variety of the company's car and truck components, such as a window lift that might go into this car door, through extreme conditions. The lab includes a machine shop for internal use, but no auto parts are manufactured on the site.

#### **Simulating road** conditions

There are also chambers to give parts a "thermal shock," to take them from the temperatures in say, northern Minnesota, and then suddenly to Death Valley in the California desert, Price said. Vibration machines, one powered by electromagnetic forces and another by a more traditional hydraulic system, put parts through years of potholes and road wear to see how they hold up.

"We accelerate the test-

ing here," Price said. "Obviously, we can't test for years.'

Small parts, such as the individual components on a circuit board, are looked at with a scanning electron microscope, which can magnify many hundreds of times.

"This is how we can see what's going on in the component under extreme conditions," Price said.

Bosch opened its lab in the township in 2007 and, with the rebound of the automobile industry in the past two years, has

been adding personnel there after some job cuts during the recession. Last December, the company won approval for a temporary modular building. mostly for office space, designed to accommodate about 130 employees, mostly engineers.

### Temporary quarters The modular building,

at \$3.5 million, a price that includes its removal, is under construction, and Bosch officials hope to move in this May. Much of it will be built off site, trucked in and put together. Bosch has pledged to township officials that the modular building will be taken down and removed by mid-2015. Still in the works are plans for a permanent

expansion, a \$15 million to \$20 million addition to the campus. Bosch officials are gauging market conditions and the

strength of the automotive market rebound before committing to that project; if built, it would provide space for between 300 and 400 employees and be completed by late 2014, officials say.

With its growth in the township, Bosch is also planning further involvement outside the lab to put "new and deeper roots" in the community, said Kimberly Lindsey-Feagin, manager of government and community affairs.

#### Local involvement

**Employees contribute** to local clothing drives and volunteer in elementary and middle school classrooms to show students some real-world applications of science, she said.

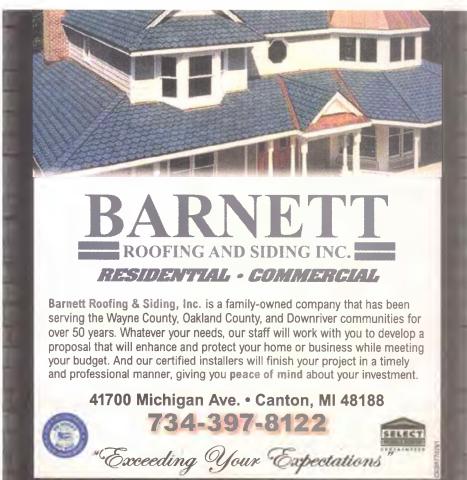
Last November, Bosch awarded \$25,000 to the Plymouth-Canton Com-

munity Schools for a variety of science-related projects. Fifteen grants of \$1,000 each went to individual teachers for their specific classroom projects, and \$10,000 went to the high schools at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park for the development of a freshman-level energy curriculum.

"We're looking forward to following up and seeing a lot of exciting activities the teachers have done," Lindsey-Feagin said.

The parent company, Robert Bosch GmbH, is based in Germany and has about 285,000 employees worldwide. It's North American brands include Gilmour lawn-care equipment, Skil and Dremel power tools and Purolator auto components.

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Irish party benefits food pantry

#### **By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer**

Oh Danny boy, it's almost as Irish as a leprechaun or shamrock, this celebration hosted by Canton-based St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church that raises money for St. Patrick's Food Pantry in Detroit, which helps feed the metro area's hungry.

It features the Kish Celtic Band, the O'Hare Irish Dancers, an Irish trivia contest, a singalong, a corned beef and cabbage dinner and oth-

er activities as the church honors what Canton resident Barb Weir — vice president of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Elizabeth Fagan Division — calls the Irish traditions of generosity, hospitality and helping the less fortunate.

It all unfolds Saturday, March 10, as St. Thomas a'Becket opens its doors at 5:30 p.m., an hour before dinner begins. The church is located at 555 S. Lilley, south of Cherry Hill.

Tickets cost \$20 per person in advance or

\$25 at the door. They are available at St. Thomas a'Becket or by calling (734) 981-1333.

The Rev. Patrick Casey, pastor of St. Thomas a'Becket, said the Irish party has occurred about six years now. He said it's intended as a moderately priced, fun event that happens to raise money for a good cause.

For more information on the AOH Patrick Ryan Division, call Mike Riley at (734) 377-8734. For the Ladies AOH Elizabeth Fagan Division, call Barb Weir at (734) 453-1459.



**A5** 

(P)

# **Donation helps expand arts programs**

LOCAL NEWS

#### By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

Last month's African-American Day field trip for fifth-grade students to the Village Theater at Cherry Hill was expanded from four to five days thanks to a large donation from a local business.

Republic Services donated \$10,000 to the Canton Partnership for the Arts & Humanities, the bulk (\$8,000) of which was used to expand the field trip and give more fifth-graders than ever an opportunity to take part in the field trip.

The week-long event, which celebrates African-American culture and features three of the area's more popular artists — folk singer Matt



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stephanie W. Glysson of Republic Services, Scott Johnson and Jill Breen Engel at the recent State of the Township address.

Watroba, blues musician Robert Jones and master drummer Kevin Collins — played host not only to students from Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, but also to area charter schools and



Plymouth Christian Academy. Students from All Saints were invited, but a school conflict kept them from participating.

"That's an extra 360 kids we were able to bring in for this event," said Jill Engel, the Partnership's executive director. "That's amazing."

The other \$2,000 of Republic's donation will benefit the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' annual art show which, thanks to the donation, expands to two days and opens it to the general public.

"We're thrilled to be able to open it to the general public this year," said Amy Morgan, the district's visual and performing arts coordinator, who called the Republic donation "generous." It's the second straight year Republic Services has made the \$10,000 donation. The difference this year is the money was earmarked for those specific cultural events. The art show, which closes shortly after Earth Day, was targeted as a means to highlight recycling.

"The timing is perfect, we wanted (the show) to look at mediums that are done with products that would otherwise be thrown away," said Stephanie Glysson, Republic's Michigan governmental affairs/municipal services manager. "It's a fitting and timely project."

Glysson said Republic Services, which owns a landfill in Canton and is one of the township's largest tax-generators, feels compelled to support the arts in an effort to better the environment in their community.

"As budgets get tighter (for the arts), it's imperative businesses step up to the plate to ensure the cultural arts are sustained," Glysson said. "When businesses are looking at coming into a community, they look at what kind of cultural environment their employees will live in. If it's not attractive, if it doesn't have a good culture base, a lot of companies will look elsewhere. As one of the largest businesses in Canton, we feel it's necessary for us to step up."

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

# 'White Coat' author to speak at UM-D

Stephen J. Busalacchi, the author of the awardwinning oral history, *White Coat Wisdom*, will speak at the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus at 1:30 p.m. Friday, March 9.

The presentation will be at the CASL building, Room 1030, 4901 Evergreen Road. The presentation is free and open to the public.

Busalacchi is a medical journalist and honorary fellow at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. His book was named a USA Best Books 2011 finalist in the health category. It also earned first place in the health category of the Eric Hoffer Book Award.

"White Coat Wisdom is a compelling, enlightening, and skillful work of oral history," said Dave Isay, founder of Story-Corps, heard on NPR. "An absolutely fascinating book. Studs Terkel would be proud."

Most people have a family doctor, but how well do they really know him or her? In his book, Busalacchi introduces readers to physicians who discuss unique experiences with lessons for everybody. In doing so, readers receive practical advice for solving society's and individuals' intractable health problems.

"If you hope to understand what it means to be an excellent physician, the doctors in *White Coat Wisdom* provide gripping examples of their most excruciating and joyful experiences," said Michael Bliss, History of Medicine, Professor Emeritus, University of Toronto. White Coat Wisdom is about the grit necessary to overcome substantial obstacles and ultimately discover true fulfillment in one's personal and professional life.

Busalacchi has more than 25 years of experience in medical journalism. He has reported for National Public Radio and Wisconsin Public Radio, and has received more than two dozen journalism awards, in addition to public relations awards.

"Doctors' lives are always interesting, especially when the reader is allowed behind the curtain. White Coat Wisdom is a good read for anyone, but of course, of special interest to the growing number involved in health and medicine," said Dr. C. Everett Koop, former U.S. Surgeon General.

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# Band boosters host annual craft show

The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters host their annual Spring Arts and Crafts Ensemble Saturday at Plymouth High School. The fundraising event is a juried art show produced twice each year by the PCMB to help support the band and color guard programs at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

More than 100 exhibitors with handcrafted items will be on display at this artistic event. Visitors can expect a high quality show with jewelry, handmade clothing, soaps, artwork, sculptures, floral arrangements, and

many spring related items. Plymouth High School is located at 8400 Beck in Canton. The Spring Arts & Craft Ensemble runs 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. In addition to more than 100 exhibits, there will be food, door prizes, a raffle, and entertainment by marching and concert band musicians throughout the day. Admission is \$2; strollers are welcome.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 8, 2012

"The Arts & Craft Ensembles are two of the most successful fundraisers we host each year," said Erin Babcock, president of the 2012 Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters. "It's a wonderful community event that welcomes springtime each year. We're hopeful the community will come out and support our kids by visiting our craft show."



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 8, 2012

(CP)

**8**A

LOCAL NEWS

online at hometownlife.com



A volunteer holds a caddis fly, which builds a casing which it lives within during its larval stage in the water. The bug is hiding inside.

# Abundance of aquatic insects evidence Johnson Creek is high-quality stream

#### By Kurt Kuban Staff Writer

As Matt Halliday wades kneedeep into the cold waters of Johnson Creek, he drags a net along the streambed. He then walks over to Sally Petrella sitting on the bank, and deposits the contents of the net into a small plastic tray filled with water. She examines the twigs, mud and decaying plants taken from the net. After a couple moments, things in the tray begin to move, and before long, everything in the tray seems to come alive.

That's when Petrella's face



a site near Five Mile and Currie Roads, which has been the best sampling site in the entire watershed.

"This is the best sampling site we've had for years," Petrella said. "Johnson Creek is the healthiest part of the watershed. It's a cold water stream. It's spring-fed so it remains cold throughout the year. There also isn't a lot of development out here that you have in most of the watershed, so pollution isn't a major problem."

Sue Thompson has been involved with the bug hunts for years. She said she always gets a thrill when she finds stoneflies and other organisms that live in the stream — small life that most people don't even think about. Yet, they are integral aspects in the web of life.

lights up, as she sees what she was hoping to find — several stoneflies. While some people might recoil at the sight of such a bug, Petrella and Halliday are really excited because stoneflies are one of the most sensitive aquatic insects, meaning they can't tolerate pollution. Their existence in Johnson Creek proves the small stream, which is part of the Rouge River watershed, is quite healthy.

In fact, stoneflies aren't the only aquatic organisms Petrella, Halliday and fellow Friends of the Rouge (FOTR) member Susan Thompson found during their recent "bug hunting" excursion on Johnson Creek at a site in Salem Township. They also found five different varieties of caddis flies, mayflies, riffle beetles, and many others. In addition they caught several fish species, including the rainbow dace, and some fingernail clams, both species that don't tolerate pollution very well.

Friends of the Rouge volunteer Sue Thompson looks for different aquatic insects, while sampling Johnson Creek in Salem Township.

#### Semi-annual sampling

Johnson Creek is just one of many sites FOTR volunteers sample twice a year looking for the existence of aquatic insects, which are some of the best indicators of a stream's health. In addition to a Fall Bug Hunt, the group has been doing it's annual Stonefly Search each January since 2002. This year, more than 70 volunteers checked 32 sites around the watershed. which covers much of southeast Michigan and is one of the most populated watersheds in the state. Searchers were happy to find stonefly larvae at 14 of the sites, making this an average year (report available

#### at www.therouge.org).

As it turns out, most of the stoneflies were found in Johnson Creek, the Rouge's only cold water tributary that flows through Salem Township, Plymouth and Northville. The rest were found in the Lower Branch of the Rouge, including two tributaries (Fellows and Fowler Creeks).

Petrella, FOTR's volunteer monitoring program manager, said the data provided by the group is turned over to state environmental officials and other agencies, which can use it for planning purposes. The goal is to try protect areas where there are healthy populations of aquatic organisms — something the Rouge River watershed isn't known for. The Rouge, which was once one of the most polluted rivers in the country, has been making a comeback since the federal government teamed up with communities in the watershed to start reversing years of degradation. Water quality has improved dramatically in some areas of the watershed.

In places like Salem Township, however, the Rouge hasn't changed much at all. It is still a high quality stream.

#### **Best one**

On this day, Halliday, Petrella and Thompson are sampling "It's interesting to see what is living in our streams. If we could do this every day I would be thrilled. The diversity of life is amazing," she said.

Likewise, Petrella said she gets so encouraged every time they find a stonefly, almost like hitting a jackpot.

"We love it. If we could see this many bugs in all areas of the Rouge watershed, it would be very exciting," Petrella said. "Every single stonefly is extremely good to find. One of our volunteers likes to call them little nuggets of gold. I couldn't agree more."

For more information about Friends of the Rouge and volunteer opportunities, visit www.therouge.org or on Facebook.

> kkuban@hometownlife.com (248) 437-2011, ext. 245



Friends of the Rouge volunteers also found several fish species in the waters of Johnson Creek in Salem Township, including this rainbow dace, a species that doesn't tolerate pollution very well.



Friends of the Rouge volunteers Matt Halliday, Sue Thompson and Sally Petrella stand near Johnson Creek off of Five Mile Road in Salem Township. It is one of the healthiest parts of the entire Rouge River watershed.



PHOTOS BY KURT KUBAN

Matt Halliday and Sally Petrella, both of Friends of the Rouge, look for aquatic organisms taken from Johnson Creek in Salem Township.

A9.(P) THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2012 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# BUSINESS

#### BRAD KADRICH, EDITOR

Bkadrich@hometownlife.com (313) 222-8899 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

#### **IT'S YOUR BUSINESS O&A**



Crawford's Kitchen, located at 542 Starkweather in Plymouth, is a "Mom & Pop" neighborhood restaurant offering homemade breakfast and lunch menu items as well as corporate and social catering products and services.

# **Kitchen offers** homemade fare

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

Crawford's: We offer homemade dishes that include 10 freshly made salads with homemade dressings on the side, 11 grilled sandwiches on seedless Russian rye or dark whole wheat, ad 11 unique wraps on Lavash bread. All sandwiches are served with variety of sides such as cup of soup, house chips, potato salad, fruit salad, Coleslaw, etc. In addition, we offer a large Breakfast menu made from scratch. We also have an extensive catering menu for corporate and social events.

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

Crawford's: My husband was working as a chef in a corporate restaurant environment but wanted to open his own where he could be more creative and independent. I

#### **CRAWFORD'S KITCHEN**

Business name and address: Crawford's Kitchen, 542 Starkweather, Plymouth

Your name: Ania Crawford, owner/business manager; Jeff Crawford, executive chef

Your hometown: Canton

Business opened: June 6, 2006

Your business specialty: We are a "Mom & Pop" neighborhood restaurant offering homemade breakfast and lunch menu items as well as corporate and social catering products and services. We transform simple. fresh ingredients into familiar & healthy meals. Hours of operation: Tuesday-Sunday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Phone: (734) 454-5724

recent economy affected your

Crawford's: We have

noticed a slight decline

in our corporate cater-

ing business because a

number of companies in

the area have gone out of

business, and other expe-

rience budget cuts which

affect their spending on

luncheon meetings and

other events. Our social

**Observer: Any advice for** 

Crawford's: Do it right.

We believe that "you do it

right or you don't do it at

all." Most of all have PAS-

SION for what you do.

store for the future of your

Crawford's: Due to

we are "outgrowing"

our continuous growth,

our dining room capaci-

ty. During the off-season

months, when our patio is

closed, we are faced with

many challenges due to

lack of space. Although,

we would like to remain

the warm, "Mom & Pop"

days), we would love to

either expand or move

would allow us to offer

more sitting inside.

to a location nearby that

restaurant (like in the old

**Observer: What's in** 

business?

catering has not been

other business owners?

affected much.

business?

ing for, including ample parking space for our guests as well as large area to design and build a large patio.

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

Crawford's: We are a neighborhood "Mom & Pop" restaurant where the owner is also the Chef who takes a personal accountability for the products he creates. My husband makes everything from scratch using

# Home improvement goes digital

thermo-

are even

set up to

#### **By Jon Gunnells Guest Columnist**

our home improvement list isn't going to start finishing itself. End the procrastinating this Spring by utilizing some new gadgets that will make your projects quicker and easier.

If you frequent the DIY Network or watch home improvement shows regularly, you've likely seen thermal leak detectors that look fancy and expensive. But did you know you can purchase an effective leak detector for less than \$30? Black and Decker offers a digital, hand-held detector that can be found as low as \$26 online.

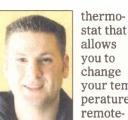
The unit uses infrared technology to locate changes in surface temperatures around your home and those changes can help identify where you need to add insulation.

Online product reviews for the Black & Decker device estimates users can save up to 20 percent on their home energy bills by identify leaks with a thermal leak detector.

#### Thermostat

Another way to save significantly on heating/ coolings is with a programmable thermostat. Even if you already own a programmable thermostat, the new wave of devices could save you even more money thanks to wifi connectivity. For less than \$100 you

can buy a wifi enabled



Jon Gunnells

work with your smartphone. Appliance smartphone controls are a new trend; in fact, Craftsman even has a new garage door opener that can be engaged from a smartphone app.

A new-fangled, smartphone-controlled garage door won't save you monev but it could save you time, as could a new laser level.

Whether you are hanging pictures or putting up shelves in your garage, a laser level can help you achieve a precise measurement without a tape measure or heavy traditional level. Laser levels are available from numerous manufacturers for less than \$100. More advanced models for contractors or serious DIYers can be found as high as \$240 or more.

Instead of hiding a key under the welcome mat or calling a locksmith every time you misplace your house key, why not consider Kwikset's smart key system. The system works by allowing owners to re-key their locks quickly without removing them from the door. All you need is an existing key, a Kwikset smart key

tool and blank key and you can reset your lock in a matter of minutes.

#### **Save money**

To save money on utilities this spring and throughout the year you can consider purchasing an electricity-monitoring unit. P3 International makes a unit called Kill-A-Watt which acts a bridge between your appliances and the wall outlet. The LCD display on the unit shows how much electricity your device uses when it is on and even when it is off. The results can show homeowners which electronic devices to unplug when they aren't being used. Electricity monitoring units cost between \$20 and \$30 and can be purchased online.

Similarly, water meters are helpful tools to monitoring your water usage. They can be connected as a bridge between your faucet and hose, but aren't exactly on the cutting edge of technology.

If you are truly looking for the most advanced tools to help you fix your home and save money, stick to wifi thermostats, thermal leak detectors and appliances that work seamlessly with your smartphone or mobile device.

Jon Gunnells, a Northville Township resident, is a social media planner at a Detroitbased advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan. gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnSh0w.



allows vou to change your temperature remotely. Some **Tech Savvy** devices

have an MBA and worked in marketing for 15 years but lost my job due to economy. One evening we decided to start a catering business in Northville and Plymouth. After about a year and a half of catering we decided to open a restaurant. My husband has 30 years of culinary experience. I am business savvy and have a passion for food. We concluded that we make a great team and are quite capable of running a successful restaurant.

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

Crawford's: We already had catering accounts in Plymouth and Northville, and strong brand recognition. The location offered everything we were lookthe freshest ingredients. He doesn't freeze anything, and the only fried food is the house chips. everything else is either baked or grilled.

#### **Observer: How has it** changed since you opened? Crawford's: We have

changed our inside decor a few times to make it more interesting. We have added more equipment including additional grills, etc. to make sure our food comes out faster. We also expanded our patio (doubled in size) to accommodate everyone, especially during busy weekends. We have changed our menu to include breakfast, and additional lunch items and specials.

Observer: How has the

#### PLYMOUTH BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### **New Realtor**

**RE/MAX** Classic welcomed aboard Associate Realtor Jim Brennan to their Canton office. Brennan is a seasoned professional in the industry with expertise in residential sales, bank-owned and investment properties and short sale and distressed homes. Brennan initial-



ly established his career in the Dearborn, Dearborn Heights and downriver communities and has extended his expert service to the Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Novi areas.

Brennan

"We are so proud that Jim has chosen to make the move to RE/.

MAX Classic. Not only does he have a great deal of expertise in the market, but he also makes it a priority to make his client's real estate transaction as stress free as possible. He is continually driven to expand his knowledge and marketing skills. He is a no-nonsense Realtor that puts his clients above the crowd," said broker/ owner Carol Boji.

#### **OR code blitz**

Dealer Concepts, a leader in providing innovative customer reten-

tion and marketing programs, announced its partnership with Dick Scott Automotive Group of Plymouth to provide full-scale QR-code promotions at each of its dealer locations.

QR codes are a visual representation of a website address, YouTube video, Google Map, vCard, or links to socialmedia sites. Dick Scott Automotive Group is one of Michigan's first dealers to support this technology with a full-marketing campaign. Each Dick Scott location will feature banners, loyalty cards, T-shirts, and cut-out displays featuring their custom QR code. The dealership also plans to display a 10x10 QR code outside its Plymouth location. The QR codes will direct consumers back to Dick Scott's website for the latest offers and promotions

"Since 70 percent of all phones sold today are Smart Phones, it makes good business sense for us to embrace this technology," said Nichole Scott, director of operations, Dick Scott Automotive. "Our goal is to make it as easy as possible for our customers to have access to the latest discounts and specials. QR codes are the perfect solution. We are very excited about this promotion and committed to making it a success."

Services You Need	What You Can Expect at Abbey Park
Affordability	Monthly rental fee includes heat, central air, water, electricity, housekeeping services, two meals and 24-hour staffing. Veterans and surviving spouses may qualify for the VA Aid & Attendance Benefit.
Daily light housekeeping	We make the bed and take out trash everyday
Nutritious meals*	Continental breakfast and choice of lunch or dinner are included
Laundry service	We wash bed linens and towels every week
Full cleaning service	We vacuum, mop, dust and change linens every week
Transportation	Scheduled chauffeured transportation for doctors appointments, dinner and casino trips
Security	We provide 24-hour staffing, medical monitoring and the reassurance of a full facility generator
Professional care	Medicare certified services, physician visits, physical therapy, podiatry, hair salon available
Warm & friendly caregivers	From morning housekeeping to evening dinner service, your parents are attended by our caring staff
An active social life	Full time activity directors offer trips, games, and entertainment
Friendship	A vibrant community of seniors enjoy ice cream socials, movies, Happy Hour and live entertainment

For more information, please call:



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

PAGE A10 . (P) THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2012 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# OPINION

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

#### **OUR VIEWS**

# Must read Literacy is a must now more than ever in today's world

In a recent promo for an upcoming cable TV show, Larry the Cable Guy told his audience he stays young because he reads at a third-grade level. They responded with laughter.

We should ask ourselves: Why they did they laugh? There's nothing funny about that at all.

In today's world, doing well depends on being able to read. It is the backbone of life. Without it, the ability to speak and write is limited to simple words. And while non-readers might be able to listen to what someone says, their comprehension is stunted by a lack of understanding of our language.

Reading is important because it develops the mind. It also is important because it is how we discover new things. Through reading, we develop our imagination and a good self-image.

Reading also is important because words - spoken and written - are the building blocks of life. Reading. Words we have heard or however, read help us become the needs to be persons we are. People, celebrated families, relationships, and even nations are beyond built from words. March, it March is read-needs to be ing month, and last Thursday, school chilcelebrated dren around the country took an oath to read, every to feed their minds so month. It they can grow. March needs to be has been selected as celebrated Reading Month in part because of the birthby those day of author Theodor who can Geisel, an American writer, poet and carread and toonist most widely pursued by known for his children's books written under the those who pen name of Dr. Seuss. want to Many a youngster has read. grown up with his Cat in the Hat, Green Eggs and Ham and The Foot

#### **COMMUNITY VOICE**

# What do you think will be the biggest issue in this fall's presidential race?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"The economy. People are still struggling, and communities are struggling."

> Katie Houlihan Farmington Hills



"Jobs. ... Definitely in Michigan - a slow recovery."

> Robert Miller Plymouth Township



"It's the economy and jobs. ... I think it's getting better and I'm very much pro-Obama. People are impatient." Cindi Shake Salem Township



"Probably race in general. That's basically what I've heard on any news show ... taking shots at (President) Obama because he's black." Michael Stypula Plymouth Township

#### LETTERS

#### **Avoid Timeway**

I am writing this letter in hopes of alerting fellow travelers to avoid doing business with Timeway Tours, a travel company located in Livonia. On Oct. 11, 2011, I made a \$350 deposit on a 32-day trip to Florida, scheduled to leave Michigan on Feb. 4-March 6, 2012. The final payment of \$1,649 was made on Dec. 2, 2011

When I had not received an itinerary and trip information by the first week in January, I started calling and e-mailing the company trying to get the requested information/confirmation the trip was still going as planned or confirmation that the trip had been cancelled.

When I couldn't get any response to my inquiries, I contacted the Attorney General of Michigan and was informed that there were already four complaints filed against the company, all for payments made for trips without services rendered and no refunds received as required by law and the company's printed policy. No response has been given to date to these complaints to my knowledge. The Better Business Bureau has had complaints which have not been acknowledged or resolved by Timeway. They have given the company an F rating for nonresponse to their inquiries. I have filed complaints with both the BBB and Attorney General in hopes of resolving this problem without litigation. I was finally informed by the owner, Kenneth Second, on Jan. 28, five days before our scheduled departure, that the trip had been canceled and I would receive my refund in three weeks. That three-week deadline expired Jan. 20, and to date. I have not received any money or notification of intended payment.

#### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following: Web: www.hometownlife.com Mail: Letters to the Editor, Plymouth Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226 Fax: (313) 223-3318 E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.

com. Deadline: Letters should be

received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published Thursday.

business practice for Timeway Tours or not, but I do know that as a senior on a fixed income, I cannot afford to lose \$1,999 on a trip that didn't happen. Thank you for alerting readers. **Carol Roumell** 

St. Johns, Mich.

#### **Squandering resources**

Squander of taxpayer resources to cover bad judgments is indigestible. This happened with the purchase of the derelict State Hospital property in Northville Township from REIS Taxpayers were bamboozled, buying land with problems, never, ever, needed in the first place. Abundant undeveloped publicly owned acreage spreads over our township, most of it aifted free. This deal maker had needs. The property was zoned residential, and most profitable possibilities were the Seven Mile/ Haggerty corner. Residual property and derelict hospital buildings his burden. Suddenly, annexation threat orchestrated, Township leaders bought exaggerated thinking of loss of tax base to a suitor, Livonia. Their eager minds lusted at glossy dreams of awesome, commercial taxation. Livonia voted, wisely dumping annexation outside existing city boundaries, perhaps viewing difficulties of utility expansion or serving isolated properties.

Our township initiated odd midsummer voting for their bond issue for property excess of REIS's retained corner. We're stuck with it. Bond issues in millions never reveal lingering costs. Our board reasoned needs for parkland despite huge abundance. Next, "a red herring," a threatened lawsuit, typical for land use disagreements but disposed of through established land use plans. Our relaxed township recruited studies for grand plans. Bonded indebtedness is better applied to public safety or school support, or serious needs. The township was misguided, through fear or bad counselors?

Without an oil gusher, this property is a horrible investment. Serving many years on the township board, and chairman of the Planning Commission, this deal, outcomes, especially costs to taxpayers is absurd. Many share my view, but are helpless, dutiful taxpayers. Dreams of high tax income from commercial uses at Seven Mile/Haggerty vanish. Insult would be tax abatement's for

Book. Many of his stories — Horton Hears a Who and The Lorax —

have become movies.

Reading. however, needs to be celebrated beyond March, it needs to be celebrated every month.

It needs to be celebrated by those who can read and pursued by those who want to read.

Those of us who can read need to help those who can't.

In Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, programs are conducted all month. All 16 elementary schools will have their own programs. The media centers are transformed into "reading camps" and other programs. Guest speakers are brought in, all to demonstrate the importance of — and celebrate — reading.

Both the Plymouth District Library and the Canton Public Library offer a variety of reading programs for children, and tutoring programs for adults who can't read but desperately want to.

Reading is lifelong.

It's a skill we must have, a skill we must make certain everyone has. We as adults need to join school children in pledging to read.

Whether it's a book, a magazine or a newspaper, or an electronic book, we need for children to see that we, too, feed our brains.

We also need to commit to reading with our children as a parent, a grandparent or a volunteer.

We need to share the joy of a good story whether it's about the bedlam created by the Cat in the Hat, Harry Potter's battle with the evil Voldemort or Charles Dickens.

It's not just a case of *need*. It's case of we *must* make every month Reading Month. And this month is a good place to start.



Brad Kadrich, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor

.

**Grace Perry,** Director of Advertising I don't know if this is common

development crowning piles of millions. One more bite into taxpayer.

A good leader desires to defend our community from threats to its character, people, and tax resources. ... Board members have a stipend for office, talent and time.

New contenders should be assembling for every position led by a new supervisor candidate. Leaders are available fitting every principal position and supporting trustees. Others equally displeased with squander of taxpayer resources will welcome making pensioners of the current board.

> Jim Nowka Northville

#### **GUEST COLUMN**

# There were alternatives to closing station

#### By Joe Bridgman Guest Columnist

n March 1, the Township Board of Trustees held a special meeting and voted 6-1 to lay off six firefighters.

I was the lone dissenting vote and here's why. First off, this



issue should have been handled at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Township Board on Tuesday, March 6. Calling a special meeting and providing township res-

idents only 24 hours notice was an inappropriate way to handle such a controversial situation.

Regardless of your take on the situation, all residents have a stake in a matter of this magnitude and it is only fair to give them as much notice as possible. Second, the township and the firefighters' union are in the midst of binding arbitration and this action by the board could have a major impact on the arbitrator's decision. It would have been proper to allow the arbitration process to finish and then make any staffing decisions.

Lastly, I do not believe that the closure of station No. 2 (Lake Pointe) is in the best interests of the township's residents. A compromise should and could have been met to allow this station to remain in operation even if it was at a limited scope.

As tax-paying residents, you pay the elected officials and trustees of our township to figure out ways to solve problems with your best interests in mind. Is it in your best interest to pay more taxes? No, of course not. That is why I, along with other township officials and IAFF Firefighters, asked you to vote "No" on the Fire SAD proposal.

Throwing more money at this situation is not going to solve it. The fire department needs to be restructured but there are alternative means to do so without laying off our employees.

Having a low tax rate is very important but having a strong public safety record is equally important and, when push comes to shove, you pay us to find a way to make it work. With the City of Plymouth leaving, a quarter of the funding was taken out of the fire department's annual budget and thus a quarter of the costs also need to be cut.

If a quarter of your household income was cut you wouldn't just let go of one of your family members to make up the difference, you would trim costs and expenses to live within your means.

That is exactly what the Township should have done; as someone who was at the negotiating table I can tell you that those cost-trimming concessions were in fact offered.

We all agree that costs must be cut and concessions have to be made, but there were other options available besides laying off six firefighters. That is why I voted "no" on Thursday night. You pay me to be a public servant and I take that role very seriously.

Whether you agree with me or not, my door will always be open to any resident.

Joe Bridgman is the Plymouth Township clerk. He can be reached at (734) 354-3224.

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# Power documents address family emergencies

By Rick Bloom Guest Columnist

n today's complex world, it is important to recognize that estate planning is not just for when you pass away, but also for handling a family emergency. In fact, for many people that aspect is more important than the distribution of assets upon death.

The more you can keep judges, courts and lawyers out of family affairs, the easier life will be. One way to do this is to have an up-to-date estate plan. The documents needed to handle a family emergency before death are a medical power of attorney and a durable power of attorney. These two documents will allow your family to handle a crisis without bringing outsiders into the mix.

#### **Power of attorney**

Every adult should have a medical and durable power of attorney. It doesn't matter whether you're 18 or 108, these document are vital.

The medical power of attorney allows someone to make medical decisions on your behalf, if you are unable to do so. It used to be that a husband could make necessary decisions for his wife and vice versa. However, that is no longer the case. A medical power of attorney is also for young adults. Remember, if you're 18 years or older, you are legally considered an adult. With privacy rights what they are, if an 18 year-old has a medical emergency, parents may be forced to go to court in order to become involved.

One of the nice things

about a<br/>medical<br/>power of<br/>attorney<br/>is that<br/>you do<br/>not have<br/>to pay<br/>anyone to<br/>prepare<br/>it. The<br/>free med-

ical power of attorney form on my website should fit the needs of most people.

#### **Distributing assets**

How assets are distributed upon death is also a concern for everyone. In that regard, every adult needs a will. Even if you do not have a lot of assets, a will is important, if for nothing more than to state who should be in charge of your estate. See the free, fill-in-the-blank will on my website (www. bloomassetmanagement. com/bloom-university/ legal-forms.aspx) that fits the needs of most people.

Some people need more complex estate planning documents such as a trust. If you have a large estate or if you want to control your money past your death, a trust is the way to go. In addition, a trust can be a valuable estate planning tool to keep your estate out of probate, save on estate taxes and protect your beneficiaries.

One last point about estate planning is you can save your family a lot of aggravation and grief by making sure that you have named beneficiaries where appropriate such as for investment accounts and life insurance policies.

When you name beneficiaries the money avoids the probate process and goes directly to the person you have named. Of course, just like your estate plan, it is important that you keep your beneficiaries up to date. All too often, people add a beneficiary and then forget about it. It is important to frequently review whom you've named as beneficiary. I've seen ex-spouses or someone who is already deceased named as beneficiaries. The bottom line is: Check beneficiaries periodically.

#### **Document locator**

One last note, I strongly recommend preparing a document locator. You should have a road map as to where your important documents and assets can be found. Doing so saves a family a lot of aggravation in case of death or emergency.

There's only one reason to prepare an estate plan and it has nothing to do with saving taxes or avoiding probate. Although those are benefits of estate planning, the main reason is because you love your family.

If you've never prepared an estate plan, or if you haven't looked at your plan in a while, now is a great time to make sure that things are in order.

Remember, estate planning is not just for the wealthy. It's for everyone. After all, wealthy people don't love their families any more than the rest of us. 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 web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

# Nominees sought for state senior citizen awards

The Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (OSA) and Commission on Services to the Aging are seeking nominations for the Senior Citizen of the Year awards.

Winners will be announced and honored at the fifth annual Older Michiganians Day event on Wednesday, June 20, at the State Capitol in Lansing. "It is always a welcomed pleasure to recognize the Senior Citizen of the Year honorees. These dedicat-

ed Michigan citizens

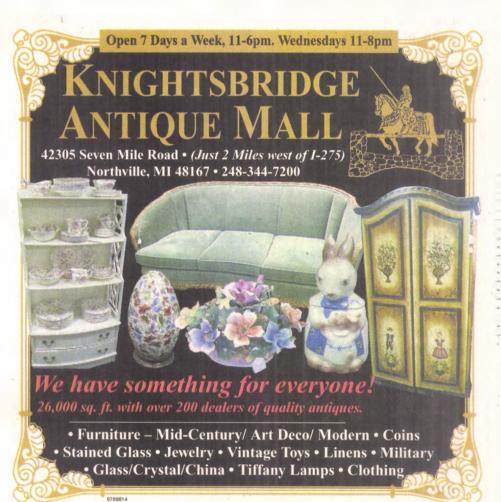
selflessly extend them-

selves to others in such meaningful ways," said Kari Sederburg, director of OSA. "They truly are the special people that enrich the fabric of community life in Michigan."

Two older Michigan citizens will be named: one for volunteer contributions made in the area of community leadership, and the other for service provided to others. Those people age 60 or older on or before May 7, 2012, are eligible for nomination, and all nominations must be submitted by an organization. Nominees may be employed at the time of nomination, however, applicants will be judged on their service or leadership in unpaid, volunteer positions.

Nominations must be postmarked by Monday, May 7, and mailed to the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging, ATTN: 2012 Senior Citizen of the Year Award Program, P.O. Box 30676, Lansing, MI 48909-8176.

Nomination forms are available at www.michigan.gov/miseniors or may be requested by calling (517) 373-8230.



(CP) A11

# **BET ON EVERYTHING!**

Iorthville Downs



### Live Racing is Back! Every Friday & Saturday Post Time 7pm

Chances to Win \$100K every Friday & Saturday Night The Best in Simulcast Wagering 7 Days a Week Check out the New Menu at the Clubhouse Restaurant! Call for reservations!

And Our **Poker Room** is Better Than Ever! Start playing at 10am! Tournaments every night at 7pm.

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As a local Allstate Agent, I'm proud to support Susan G. Komen for the Cure. And now, it's easy for you to help too. Call or stop by for a free insurance quote and I'll donate \$5\* to Susan G. Komen for the Cure.



Joel J. Schembri (734) 927-9500 15432 Sheldon Rd. Northville, MI 48168 joelschembri 1@allstate.com

Get a quote today and help make a difference tomorrow.

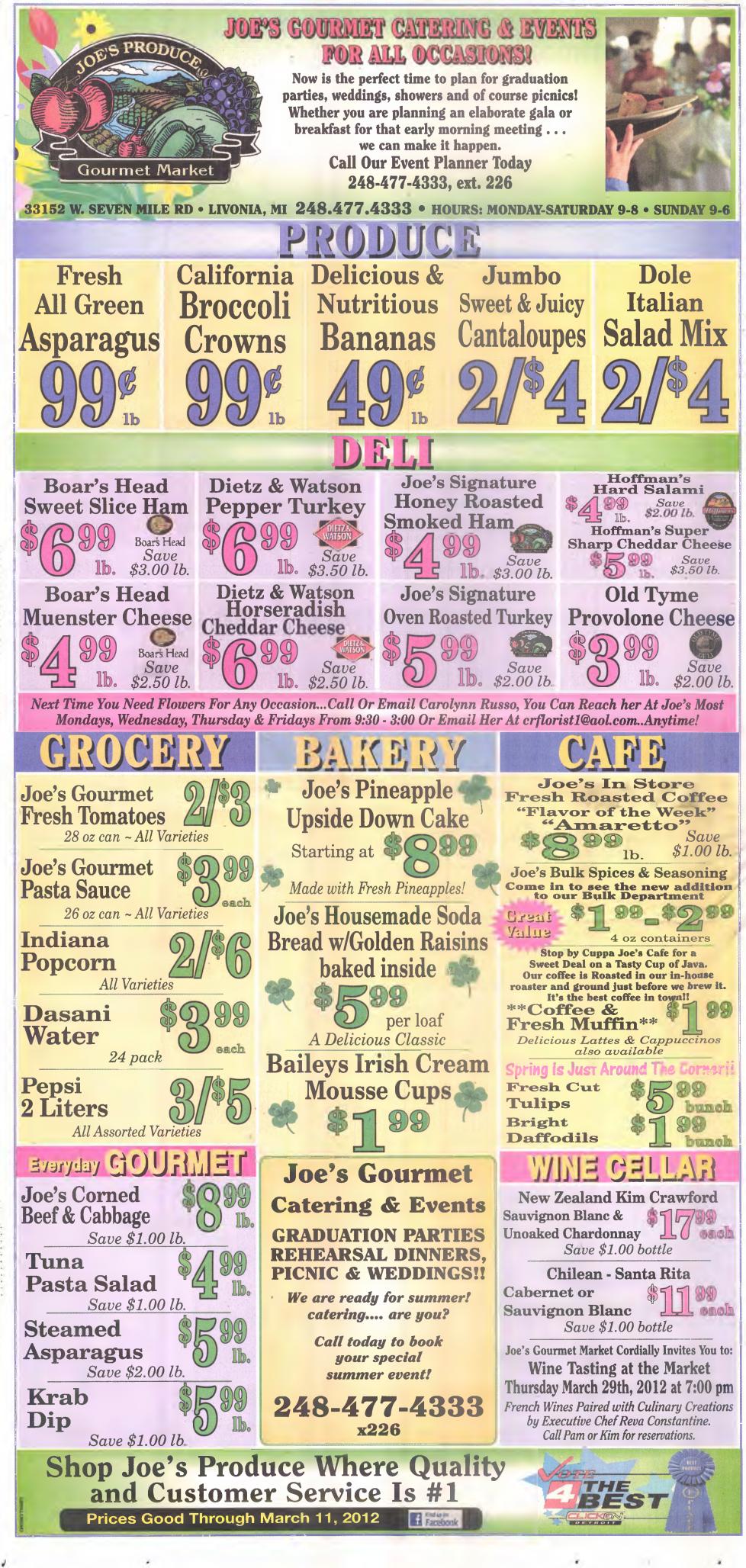




Auto Home Life Retirement

\*No purchase or use of goods or services necessary for donation fulfillment. Maximum donation of \$5000. Limited to one (1) donation per household. Ends 12/31/2012. Insurance subject to terms, qualifications and availability. Alistate Property and Casualty Insurance Company, Alistate Insurance Company: Northbrook, IL. © 2011 Alistate Insurance Company A12 (CP) Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 8, 2012

online at hometownlife.com



### **INSIDE:** CLASSIFIED, B10-12

SECTION B . (CP) THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2012 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR tsmith@hometownlife.com 734-469-4128

#### **DIVISION 1 INDIVIDUAL WRESTLING FINALS**

# Wildcats savor new success

#### By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth High School varsity wrestlers did not leave The Palace of Auburn Hills empty-handed.

For the Wildcats, senior Said Youssef and junior Chase Kallil earned all-state honors for their performances at the Division 1 individual finals last Thursday through Saturday. They are the first all-staters in the school's history.

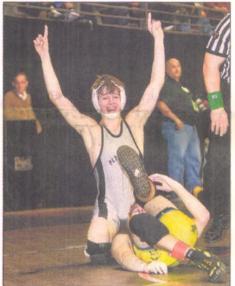
Youssef's outstanding prep career came to a close with a 3-2 mark at The Palace, ultimately falling 5-0 to Rochester's Dean Vettese in the bout for third place at 145. But he collected a medal for fourth place at the podium, finishing 43-11 for the season.

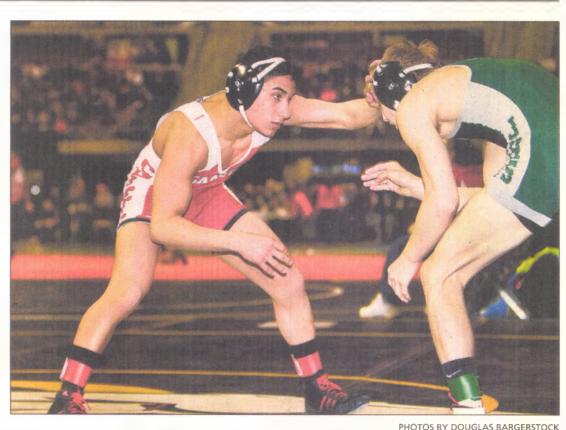
"He was the first-ever placer for Plymouth," head coach Quinn Guernsey said. "And then he wrestled real tough against Trent Samuels from Jenison, and came up *just* short. It was a real good match, though.

"The top four guys in his weight were all pretty even. Actually the top six guys. He had to beat a good kid in the consolation semis. But it was a pretty competitive bracket. He wrestled well, which was good."

Youssef knocked off Macomb L'Anse Creuse North's Gideo Gaiter in two different contests, the second after the

#### Please see WILDCATS, B2





Canton's Alec Pantaleo (left) squares off against Jenison's Dylan Wyngarden during a second-round bout at 135. Pantaleo went on to win the Division 1 state title in his weight class.

# **Pin-nacle**

### Canton all-state trio led by 135-pound champion Pantaleo

#### By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

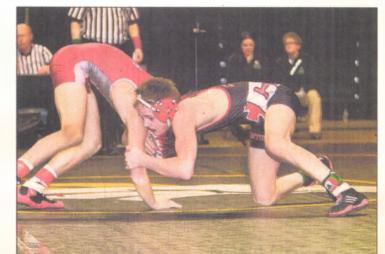
It seems as though Alec Pantaleo and Malik Amine are always facing each other in high-stakes wrestling competition.

Saturday at the Division 1 individual state finals, Canton sophomore Pantaleo captured the state championship at 135 with a 9-6 decision over Amine, a Novi-Detroit Catholic Central sophomore.

"Last year, he ended my season on a loss," Pantaleo said. "I guess it was all good to get my payback."

Pantaleo renewed acquaintances with Amine — they actually are friends and summertime training partners

– after going 1-1 in recent



Ben Griffin of Canton (right) goes head-to-head against a 112-pound opponent during the Division 1 individual finals at the Palace.

just put it in my mind that no one in the state should beat Title quest Canton head coad

Canton head coach Cory

### Chiefs third at D1 bowling finals

Canton's varsity boys bowling team finished third at the MHSAA Team Division 1 finals at M-66 Bowl in Battle Creek.

The Chiefs dropped a 1,305-1,105 final to Macomb Dakota.

Aaron Madsen scored a 162 in the final game for Canton, followed by Kurt Kowalski (154), Mikey Richards (152), Alex Champagne (143) and Josh Pozan (136).

Canton was defeated 198-193 and 189-165 in the two Baker games before falling 918-747 in the final match.

Canton reached the finals by defeating regional champion Wayne Memorial (1,284-1,232) and Utica (1,314-1,145) in the quarterfinals and semifinals, respectively.

### Girls cagers sought by AAU squad

The LaZers AAU Girls 16U Elite Basketball Club has openings for the spring / summer season.

Varsity level players are sought for the team. Call Coach Z for information at (734) 286-1009 or e-mail him at zgodadominic@ sbcglobal.net.

### Rockettes pom clinic Saturday

The Salem Rockettes Kids Clinic is just around the corner, slated from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, March 10.

DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

All smiles after pinning Hartland's Justin Rollins is Plymouth junior 125-pounder Chase Kallil. matchups. Pantaleo was victorious at the D1 district finals, only to fall to Amine in the regional finals.

"I knew it really was just a matter if I wanted it more than he did," said Pantaleo, who finished the season with a stellar 53-3 record and has already surpassed 100 career wins. "I mean, after losing to Malik Amine at regionals, I me at my weight.

"And through those two weeks I had leading up to state meet, I really picked up my training and got myself in the best shape I've been in probably my whole life.

"So just when I got to the state meet, I was just ready to go and ready to prove that I was the dominant person in my weight."

**BOYS BASKETBALL DISTRICTS** 

Salem stops pesky 'Cats

Mancuso praised Pantaleo for that work ethic and for never losing sight of his lofty goal.

"Alec Pantaleo was just a man on a mission all weekend," Mancuso said. "He wasn't going to let anyone beat him. I was so happy for his dad and assistant coach Mike Pantaleo to be able to

Please see GRAPPLERS, B2

Plymouth

senior Donte

teammate to

pass the ball

to Monday

night, while

**Chris Dierker** 

JOHN KEMSKI

Salem's

closes in.

Fox (No. 5)

looks for a

Participants will learn various routines, receive a T-shirt and pompoms and be invited to perform at the annual Rockette Show.

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

# Canton again region's best

#### By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

Canton scaled the heights yet again at Saturday's girls gymnastics regionals with a third consecutive championship.

The Chiefs scored 148.525 points to top the 12-team field at Plymouth High School and advance to Friday's team finals at Kenowa Hills (near Grand Rapids). Also making the finals are Salem, the

runner-up with 143.425 points, and third-place Grosse Pointe United (139.725).

If that's not enough for Canton head coach John Cunningham, four Division 1 all-arounders (freshman Jocelyn Moraw, Melissa Green, Ayana Lewis and Nicole Lasecki) and D2 standout Erica Lucas will compete in Saturday's individual finals — regardless

Please see GYM, B3

A standout at regionals for champion Canton was freshman Jocelyn Moraw, who won three events including the uneven parallel bars.

JOHN KEMSKI



By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

With hoopla over winning the KLAA association championship behind them, the Salem Rocks turned the page Monday as the Class A boys basketball districts began.

It wasn't easy, but led by junior forward Chris Dierker's school-record nine blocks, the Rocks defeated host Plymouth 58-51.

Salem (19-2) advanced to Wednesday night's contest against Northville (42-41 winner Monday over South Lyon), while the Wildcats' season came to a close.

"I think we all know it's a fresh start," Salem senior point guard Grant Bettner said. "As coach (Bob Brodie) said before the game, everyone's zero and zero. We just take it one game at a time and see if can keep moving forward.

"But what we needed to do was take care of the first game tonight."

#### Early worries

The Wildcats gave Salem plenty to worry about, especially during the first half, which ended



with the Rocks nursing a 22-19 lead.

"Plymouth's a tough team, they're scrappy," Brodie said. "They've played a lot of close games this year. They never let down and we knew that was going to happen. We told the kids you got to come out with a vengeance or they're going to jump all over you. "They came out determined again tonight ... they ran some special defenses and our kids were a little confused. I

just kind of let them work through it a little bit and we made some adjustments at halftime."

Plymouth (6-15) trailed 10-7 after one quarter, but clawed back to take a 14-12 lead with 4:10 left in the half on a runner by junior Brendan Swanson (nine points).

Salem senior guard Markus Olind (11 points to lead the Rocks) buried a triple to get the lead right back, but the Wildcats

Please see HOOPS, B3

### Taylor lauded

straight season, Grand Valley State junior Briauna Taylor (Livonia Franklin), who averaged 14.8 points and 6.7 rebounds per game, was named first-team All-Great Lakes Athletic Conference in women's basketball.

The 5-foot-9 forward notched at least 15 points in 14 games including a season-high 26 points last month at Wayne State.

Taylor also became the 21st women's basketball player to tally 1,000-career points and now owns 1,040 heading into her senior season.

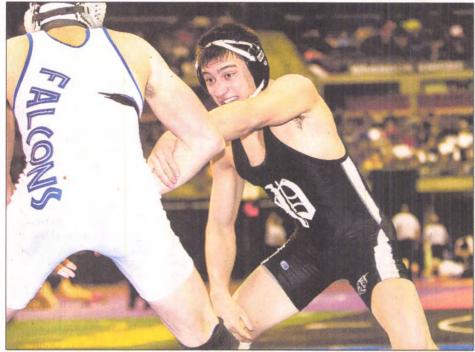
Taylor ranked in the top 15 in the GLIAC in five different categories including scoring (eighth), rebounds per game (13th), free throw percentage (13th) three-point percentage (13th) and total offensive rebounds (11th).

Grand Valley struggled with injuries this season and finished just shy of a GLIAC Tournament berth this season with a 10-16 mark on the year and a 7-12 record in the GLIAC.

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LOCAL SPORTS



PHOTOS BY DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

Plymouth senior Said Youssef (right) and Rochester's Dean Vettesse compete in the thirdplace match Saturday at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

### **WILDCATS**

Continued from page B1

tough loss to Samuels dropped him down to the consolation bracket.

#### Starting the trend

According to Guernsey, it was rewarding that Youssef — the team's goto guy the past four years — finally experienced making it to the podium.

"Even as a freshman, there was a lot of pressure on Said to go out and be the good kid on our team and wrestle well for us," Guernsey said. "After four years of doing that and having to be that guy, it's a lot of pressure to put on him, it was nice to see him finally get what he's been trying to achieve the past four years.

"He's been close a couple years earlier, but it was nice for him to get the monkey off his back and off our school's back. Hopefully by him being first it will start the trend of many, many placers in the future."

Two other Wildcats could continue that trend, namely 125-pounder Kallil (eighth place with a 2-3 mark over the weekend) and freshman 103pounder Brandon Harris, the school's first freshman state qualifier.

Kallil pinned Hartland's Justin Rollins and earned a 8-7 decision over Battle Creek Lakeview's Jesse Sum. He finished 40-17.

"Chase wrestled a heck of a match in the round to be all-state when he had to wrestle against Jesse Sum, a pretty good kid," Guernsey noted. "So winning that match was pretty big for Chase, it was nice for him, that all the hard work he's put in this season paid off with getting to be on the podium at the end of the year."

The third state qualifier for the Wildcats, freshman 103-pounder Brandon Harris, lost his opening bout to Rochester's Justin Kim, but did rebound quickly with a 9-5 decision over Port Huron Northern's Austin Thompson.

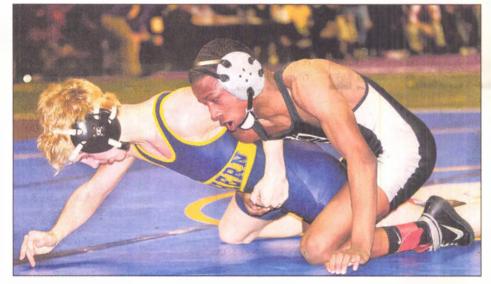
The Plymouth youngster subsequently was pinned in 2:02 by Westland John Glenn's Kyle Gillies to finish with an impressive 38-13 record.

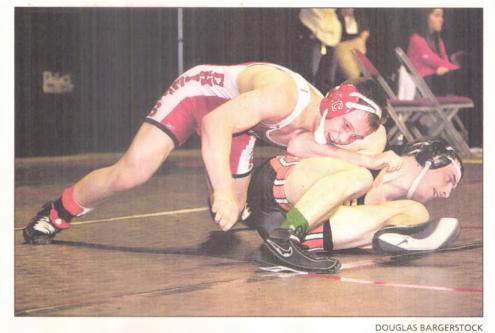
"The match he was able to win was a real exciting match," Guernsey said. "I was glad to see him go out and not get worried by being under the big lights and freezing, which happens to some wrestlers when they go to states (because) it's such a big venue."

Salem brought two wrestlers to the D1 finals, junior Tyler Gross (160) and senior Jacob McCabe (189).

Both lost their only two matches of the weekend. Gross finished 40-11, while McCabe's final prep season ended with a 33-16 record.

> tsmith@hometownlife.com (734) 469-4128





Wrapping up an opponent at 145 is Canton senior Zach Marsh (left), who wound up taking seventh place.

# GRAPPLERS

share such a special moment like that."

Mike Pantaleo is a Roseville High School wrestling alum who earned All-America honors while at Olivet College.

"My dad is a really, really big influence on me. I come from a family that's really big on wrestling," Alec Pantaleo said. "He was able to send me on national trips, to Virginia Beach, North Carolina, South Carolina. He's really been there to push me to try to win and to get better."

The Canton wrestler emphasized he wasn't looking ahead to a possible rematch with Amine, at least not until taking care of his first three opponents.

"I wasn't really focused on Malik, I was just thinking one match at a time," Pantaleo said. "Our side probably had the toughest side of the bracket. I took out a tough kid from Davison the first round (Carter Stoddard), and then I had Dylan Wyngarden (Jenison) who was also ranked in the state.

"And then I beat Kaelan Richards, who's been ranked No. 1 all year in the state, in the semifinals. I just did one match at a time."

#### Making history

Pantaleo's state championship was the highlight of what Mancuso called a "historic weekend" for the Canton wrestling program in that two members of the team reached the title matchup.

Also reaching the championship bout was 112-pound sophomore Ben Griffin. After stringing together wins over Dave Markowicz (Kalamazoo Central), Jacob Gorial (Hartland) and Doug Zundel (Roseville), he lost 9-5 to Temperance Bedford's Mitch Rogaliner to finish in second place. Griffin ended with a 47-7 record.

"Ben Griffin had an unbelievable tournament as a dark horse to make the finals," Mancuso said. "He put three excellent matches together. ... Unfortunately, he ran into a really tough wrestler and three-time finalist (Rogaliner).

"I thought Ben battled him the entire time though, and made one mistake that opened the door for the Bedford wrestler."

The weekend was one to remember for another reason — Canton's other state qualifier (senior Zach Marsh) also earned all-state honors with his seventh-place finish. Marsh (40-13 for the year) won the seventhplace bout at 145 with a 12-2 major decision over Rochester's Aaron Morgan.

"I was really proud of him (Marsh) that he was able to make all-state his senior year," Mancuso said. "It makes it all the more special because he is the first senior that I have had wrestle for me for all four years of his career.

"He really only started wrestling seriously four years ago, so for him to get to the level that he is at now is a true compliment of the hard work he has put into the sport."

According to Pantaleo, that several Canton wrestlers were highly successful at The Palace speaks to the team camaraderie and commitment to excellence.

"When one of us wants to go work out we'll just call each other, and we'll just all go for a team run," he said. "We really bonded closely as a team, me, Ben and Zach Marsh really pushed each other.

"If we saw one of us was taking a little break, we'd try to get the guys pumped up as much as we could and keep on training."

> tsmith@hometownlife.com (734) 469-4128

The first-ever Plymouth freshman state qualifier, Brandon Harris (right), competes during his 9-5 win over Port Huron Northern's Austin Thompson at 103.

# Shamrocks earn three individual state titles

#### By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

It's been a remarkable year for the Novi-Detroit Catholic Central wrestling team, and it was punctuated last week with three individual state champions and six additional All-State selections.

The Shamrocks wrestling team — which won the team title in Division I two weeks ago with a victory over defending champion Oxford — was dominant at the Palace of Auburn Hills. Leading the way for the team was senior captain Kevin Beazley, junior Ken Bade and sophomore Drew Garcia as each won their respective weight classes.

Beazley, who will wrestle at Old Dominion next year, earned a victory over Brandon Sunday of Temperance Bedford in the finals, 6-0, in the 189-pound weight class. Bade, who wrestled at 130 pounds, earned his second-straight title with wins over Austin Gullick of Portage Central, 18-3, in the quarter finals, Dom Trevino of Holt, 20-5, in the semi-finals, and Mike Willits, 6-1, in the finals.

Garcia, a 171-pound wrestler, defeated Charlie Meyers of Utica Eisenhower, 5-2, in the finals to earn his title.

A wrestler who made school history this year was Alec Mooradian, who became the first wrestler at Catholic Central to reach four MHSAA finals. His bid fell short, however, in the championship tilt in the 152pound division as he fell to Brighton's Aaron Calderon, 3-2.

"Alec Mooradian is an amazing young man and has had an incredible career here at CC," said coach Mitch Hancock. "He will go down as one of the greatest competitors and wrestlers in the history of our school. His work ethic, determination and success has earned him a scholarship to Columbia where I believe he will use this weekend's experience to motivate him to accomplish even greater things. I couldn't be more proud of him."

Sophomore Malik Amine also made it to the finals, competing at 135 pounds, earning All-State status and a second-place finish. He fell to Alec Pantaleo of Canton, 9-6, in the finals.

"Malik is an amazing competitor," said Hancock. "He loves to wrestle and believe that when he steps on the mat he deserves to win. I'm proud of him."

TJ Fagan, a senior captain, finished his high school career with a loss in the semi-finals to Mitch Hrynak of Forest Hills Central before winning two rounds in the consolation bracket to finish third in the 125pound weight class. Also taking third was freshman Trevor Zdebski, who fell in the semi-finals of the 103-pound division and then won the remainder of his matches.

Nick Mason finished fifth for the Shamrocks at 160 pounds while Bob Coe finished seventh in the heavyweight bracket. Freshman Myles Amine bowed out of the tournament on the first day, finishing with a 1-2 record.

Sam Eggleston is a freelance writer.

#### PREP WRESTLING RESULTS

MHSAA DIVISION 1 INDIVIDUAL WRESTLING AREA FINALIST RESULTS DIVISION 1

March 1-3 at the Palace of Auburn Hills Jacob McCabe, Salem, 189

pounds: lost to Kevin Miller (North Farmington), 7-4; lost to David Skochelak (Utica Ford), 3-2. Final record: 33-16. **Brandon Harris, Plymouth,** 103: lost to Justin Kim (Rochester), 9-2; decisioned Austin Thompson (Port Huron North-ern), 9-5; lost via fall to Kyle Gillies, Westland John Glenn, 2:02. Final record: 38-13. Ben Griffin, Canton, 112 (runner-up): dec. Dave Markowicz, Kalamazoo Central, 7-4: dec. Jacob Gorial. Hartland, 6-0; dec. Doug Zundel, Roseville, 5-1; lost to Mitch

Rogaliner, Temperance Bedford, 9-5. Final record: 47-7. **Chase Kallil, Plymouth, 125** (eighth): lost to Eric Maniaci, Macomb L'Anse Creuse North, 8-4; pinned Justin Rollins, Hartland, 4:56; dec. Jesse Sum, Battle Creek Lakeview, 8-7; pinned by Andrew Fialka, Farmington Harrison, 4:17. Final record: 40-17.

Alec Pantaleo, Canton, 135 (first): won by major decision over Carter Stoddard, Davison, 12-2; dec. Dylan Wyngarden, Jenison, 7-5; dec. Kaelan Richards, Rochester, 7-4; dec. Malik Amine, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 9-6. Final record: 53-3.

Said Youssef, Plymouth, 140 (fourth): dec. Gideon Gaiter, L'Anse Creuse North, 7-6; dec. Ryan Foley, Brighton, 12-5; lost to Trent Samuels, Jenison, 3-2; dec. Gideon Gaiter, L'Anse Creuse North, 6-5; lost to Dean Vettese, Rochester, 5-0. Final record: 43-11.

Zach Marsh, Canton, 145 (seventh): won by major decision over Nick Brish, Brighton, 9-0; lost to Thomas Giradot, Birmingham Brother Rice, 7-6; won by major dec. over Deishawn Stewart, Pontiac, 15-4; lost to Jake Baker, BC Lakeview, 4-1; won by major dec. over Aaron Morgan, Rochester, 12-2. Final record: 40-13.

Tyler Gross, Salem, 160: pinned by Greg Dolland, Chippewa Valley, 2:28; lost to Jordan Maschke, Brighton, 8-3. Final record, 40-11.



### **Title town**

The Plymouth-Canton Force sixth-grade White Team took first-place honors in the Livonia Slam-Fest basketball tournament Saturday, March 3. The team beat Livonia, South Lyon and Dexter to get to the finals, then beat a team from Detroit 43-33 to win the title. Pictured are (front, from left) Cole Skaisgir, Zack Beadle, Max Okolo and Chase Meredith; and (back, from left) Andrew Neal, Coach Skaisgir, Jacob Seipenko, Alex Ristic, Matt Nutt, Coach Meredith and Connor Engel.

# Chiefs down Novi in district opener

Canton junior point guard Josh Mayberry scored 23 points to lift the host Chiefs to a 53-33 victory Monday over Novi in a Class A boys basketball district opener.

The Chiefs (16-5) led 18-12 at halftime and then kicked their offense into high throttle with a 20-13 third quarter to take a 38-25 advantage over the Wildcats (7-14). Then for good measure, Canton went on a 15-8 roll in the final frame.

Mayberry did much of his damage from longrange, connecting on five of six three-point attempts.

Chipping in with a double-double was Canton senior forward Paul Baumgart, who tallied 13 points and 11 rebounds.

Contributing nine points for the Chiefs was senior guard Kyle Adams, while sophomore forward Jordan Nobles and junior forward Scott Gring helped the cause with seven and five rebounds, respectively.

"We had a pretty slow start, but I really liked the way we played in the second half," Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy said. "I thought



JOHN HEIDER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Scott Gring (No. 10) vies for a rebound with Novi's Michael Jocz (No. 34) during Monday night's district game.

we were solid the whole night defensively. I think Scott Gring and Jordan Nobles and Miles Felton gave us a spark tonight."

Canton advanced to face Novi-Detroit Catholic Central in Wednesday's district semifinal, which took place after this issue of the Observer went to press.

#### PCA rolls, 65-11

Plymouth Christian Academy routed Detroit Universal Academy 6511 in Monday's Class D district contest at Huron Valley Lutheran. The Eagles (7-14) built a 44-5 halftime lead, with a strong, intense effort from the opening tip.

"One thing I liked, the boys came out with a lot of energy and they came out with a lot of confidence," PCA head coach Dominique Washington said. "That's one thing I felt we lacked last Thursday (a 58-47 loss to Detroit City). They came out with confidence and they played hard.

"They were relentless, they didn't allow any second-chance opportunities."

Junior forward Mick Noel and sophomore forward/guard Daniel Jipping each scored 12 points, with senior forward/guard Chris Scagnetti and junior guard Alex Huber tallying 10 points a piece.

Contributing nine points was sophomore wing guard Jacob Bailey, while junior forward Drew Ibach had a solid all-around game (eight points, 11 rebounds, five assists).

The win moved PCA into Wednesday night's district tilt against Detroit Westside Christian.

### HOOPS

Continued from page B1

answered with a threepoint play by junior Josh Priebe (17 points), regaining a 17-15 edge.

"This was a 6-15 team, but they never quit in any game that we had," Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup said. "That's a testament to those guys' character. I'm really proud of them for that."

Salem, however, as was the case all night, had quick responses to any Plymouth momentum. A trey from the right flank by junior forward Austin Whitted helped the Rocks return to the locker room at halftime with a slim lead.

After the teams traded buckets to open the third, the Rocks went on a 13-4 run that opened up a 37-25 lead.

Senior center Josh Peterson (seven points, six rebounds) opened the surge with a putback and Bettner drained a triple. Junior forward Cameron Werner tallied two field goals and senior guard Tyler Stewart (nine points) drove in for a layup to cap the rally.

#### Up a notch

Dierker was in the mix, too, pounding the glass (he had nine rebounds) and blocking every shot he could.

"I think our intensity in the first half wasn't that good, and that hurt



Dribbling around Salem defender Chris Dierker (right) is Plymouth's Marcus Oden (No. 12).

us at the beginning of the game," Bettner said. "But we were able to amp that up in the second half and I think that's what led us to come away with the win." According to Brodie, the

play of Dierker was a definite bonus. "Anytime you get a

school record at Salem, with all the history we have, that's pretty nice," Brodie said. "We've had some nice players there and some big-time shot blockers. He's right there with the rest of them. He can get up and get after it. I'm proud of him for that fact."

Plymouth cut the deficit to 39-32 early in the fourth, thanks to a trey and jumper by Swanson. But for the next several minutes, whenever the Wildcats tried to start a run, the Rocks immediately answered.

Several times, the Rocks

#### threw the ball the length of the court for long-distance layups — two scored by Stewart.

"We tried to hang with them," Soukup said. "That was our goal, to be there at the end and steal one. They made some good plays and we had to come out and pressure them and that really wasn't our forte.

"They were able to throw it over the top for some layups and that hurt us."

#### **No regrets**

The loss ended the prep careers of Plymouth seniors Marcus Oden (15 points, eight rebounds, seven assists), Donte Fox (nine points, six boards, four assists) and Jalen Eason.

Oden actually fouled out in the final minute, earning a nice round of applause as he left the court.

"Eventually a senior's career's got to end," Soukup said. "Marcus has given more to our program in the three years I've been here than just about any other kid.

"He's played hurt, he hasn't missed a workout. He's been a consummate leader."

Oden said it was a bittersweet finale, but he appreciated the warm response. "It could have been better, but no regrets," Oden said. "Happy I finished it off strong."

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### GYM

#### Continued from page B1

of how the Chiefs do on Friday.

So will Marina Milad, who took first place on balance beam in the D2 competition with a 9.400. Of course, first things

first, and that was to nail down the regional title. "We had one bad event

"We had one bad event but we had three terrific events," Cunningham said. "We scored 37-plus on vault, beam and floor. We finished on beam and we didn't count a single



#### **GIRLS GYMNASTICS RESULTS**

MHSAA GIRLS GYMNASTICS8.90REGIONAL RESULTS(GrMarch 3 at Plymouth H.S.MclTEAM RESULTS:(top 3 qualify<br/>giefor team finals) 1. Canton,<br/>148.525 points; 2. Salem,<br/>United, 139.725; 4. LivoniaJanUnited, 139.725; 4. Livonia<br/>Blue, 139.675; 5. Saline,<br/>7. Adrian, 137.225; 8. Livonia<br/>Red, 136.250; 9. Northville,<br/>(Sal<br/>Red, 136.250; 9. Northville,<br/>G3.525; 12. Dearborn Edsel<br/>Ford, 110.800; 11. Tecumseh,<br/>63.525; 12. Dearborn Fordson,<br/>8.80DIVISION 1<br/>(ron 8 quality for finals)Kair<br/>Hond<br/>Hond<br/>Hond<br/>Hond<br/>Hond<br/>Hond<br/>Hond<br/>Hond<br/>Hond

(top 8 qualify for finals) Vault: 1. Ayana Lewis (Canton), 9.675; 2. Melissa Green (C), 9.350; 3. Nicole Fischoff (Adrian), 9.225; 4. Nicole Lasecki (C), 9.075; 5. Jocelyn 8.900; 10. (tie) Emma Abessinio (Grosse Pointe United), Megan McKeehan (P), 8.850; 14. Maggie McGowen (Livonia Red), 8.725; 15. (tie) Maddie Burt (Salem), Pia Simon (C), Kayla Janeveski (P), Katie Salanga (P), Jennifer Nguyen (A), 8.650. Parallel bars: 1. Kitz (LB), 9.400; 2. Adelaida Jepperson (Salem), 8.975; 3. (tie) Ramirez (Salem), Shannon Diaz (LR), 8.900; 5. Jordan Toor (Saline), 8.850; 6. Abessinio (GPU), 8.800; 7. Jacobs (Salem), 8.675; 8. (tie) Melotti (Salem), Madi Kaiser (GPU), 8.575; 10. Sarah Hogan (LB), 8.550; 11. Soper (Salem), 8.525; 13. (tie) Sammy Richart (Saline), Sarah Fenten (GPU), Olson (LB), Jillian Zafarana (LB), Aubrey Slovik (A), 8.400; 18. Lucas (C), 8.375; 19. (tie) Engstrom (P) (P), Gabbie Ralph (Saline), 8.350. Beam: 1. Marina Milad (C), 9.400; 2. Kitz (LB), 9.250; 3 Melotti (Salem), 9.225; 4 Richart (Saline), 9.075; 5. Lucas (C), 9.00; 6. Rose Prebola (LR), 8.950; 7. Kaiser (GPU), 8.800; 8. Engstrom (P), 8.750; 9. Sarah Uhlian (P), 8.625; 10. (tie) Jacobs (Salem), Ramirez (Salem), Diaz (LR), 8.600, 13. (tie) Fenten (GPU), McGowen (LR), Emily Griffith (GPU), Darah Fitch (Saline), 8.575 17. (tie) Jepperson (Salem), Nikki Martin (A), 8.550; 19. (tie) Sydney La Pointe (Edsel Ford), Nora Ákcasu (Salem), 8.525. Floor: 1. Jacobs (Salem), 9.600; 2. Kitz (LB), 9.525; 3. Jane McCurry (P), 9.500; 4. Kennedi Lewis (P), 9.400; 5. Soper (Salem), 9.325; 6. Abessinio (GPU), 9.300: 7. Richart (Saline), 9.275: 8. Kelsey Flanagan (Saline), 9.250; 9. (tie) Ramirez (Salem), Salanga (P), 9.225; 14. Pre-bola (LR), 9.125; 16. Jepperson (Salem), 9.050; 17. Milad (C), 9.00; 18. Engstrom (P), 8.925; 19. (tie) Mallory Dorton (LR), Brenna Connelly (P), 8.925. All-around: 1. Kitz (LB), 37.300; 2. Jacobs (Salem), 35.975; 3. (tie) Lucas (C), Ramirez (Salem), 35.775; 5.. Richart (Saline), 35.550; 6. Melotti (Salem), 35.325; 7. Kaiser (GPU), 35.275; 8. Jepperson (Salem), 35.075; 9. Engstrom (P), 34.975; 10. Abes-sinio (GPU), 34.850; 11. Milad (C), 34.700; 13. Soper (Salem), 34.500; 15. Olson (LB), 34.225; 16. McGowen (LR), 33.900; 17. Zafarana (LB), 33.650; 20. Jackie Dziurgot (LR), 33.400.

fall. It was just, the kids were on."

Only on the uneven parallel bars did Canton have any difficulties, wracking up a firstplace score of 35.500.

#### **Ready for states**

According to Cunningham, with a few tweaks in that event, the Chiefs could hit the 149-point mark which they will need to do in order to unseat defending champion Grand Ledge.

"If nothing else we had a sneaky low score (at regionals), because to fix bars is just simple," he said. "... I'm really comfortable with our 148. I think the score that came out for Grand Ledge was 149.2. So we're within five or sixtenths, even with a bad event."

The Chiefs scored seven firsts, five seconds, three thirds and grabbed 24 all-region medals (top eight in any event).

In the D1 competition, Moraw was first with a 37.650 all-around and won three events. Winning the other two events was Lewis (third in all-around, 37.100).

Finishing between Moraw and Lewis in second was Green (37.175).

"I had kids that did some things for the very first time," Cunningham said. "Marina (Milad), sometimes scores a 9 on beam. That was the best beam routine of her life. Nicole Lasecki, landed her vault and it's the first time she's actually gotten full credit on her vault.

"Jocelyn, we took some stuff out so her floor routine would be smoother. And you can see what happened. She took tricks out and still won. Ayana, she's got the potential to set more

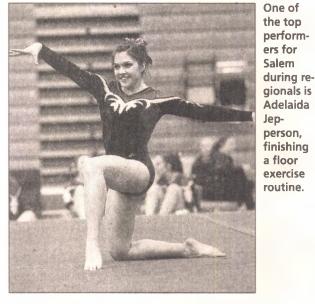


PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI

Canton's varsity girls gymnastics team celebrates after winning Saturday's regionals at Plymouth High School.



Plymouth gymnasts (from left) Jane McCurry, Kennedi Lewis and Reagan Engstrom will represent the Wildcats at Saturday's individual state finals.



Finishing second

in D2 all-around was

Nicole Jacobs (35.975)

with teammates Brit-

tany Ramirez (fourth,

35.775), Andrea Melotti

(sixth, 35.325) and Ade-

laida Jepperson (eighth,

35.075) all earning med-

The other Salem medal

"I'm very proud of that

winner was Morgan Sop-

er, taking sixth on vault

Salem team," Cunning-

with a 9.025.

als.

records. she already owns three of them. These guys, in total, are just a terrific team."

He added that Lucas has "the potential to break the school record" on vault.

#### Salem sizzles

The second-place Rocks also bring plenty of talent and confidence to Kenowa Hills, having placed second in every event at regionals. ham said. "I think that was their highest score of the year.

"If you want to peak, you want it to be at regionals and states. you certainly don't want to do it Jan. 2nd." Salem head coach

Dana Driscoll could not be reached for comment.

#### Wildcats excel

The third team from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, the Plymouth Wildcats, placed sixth with 137.925 points.

But Plymouth will be represented at the individual finals by allregion winners Reagan Engstrom — eighth on vault, 8.950 — and eighth on beam (8.750), Jane McCurry and Kennedi Lewis (third and fourth, respectively, on floor exercise with scores of 9.500 and 9.400). Coach Pam Yockey

said those strong performances are the latest in what has been an outstanding season.

Yockey said captains Engstrom, McCurry, Sarah Uhlian and Alisha Punjabi set four Plymouth marks this year, with McCurry's regional score on floor eclipsing teammate Brenna Connelly's record.

Other records were set by Uhlian (9.55 on beam) and Megan McKeehan (9.05 on vault).

Earning All-American status were Engstrom, McCurry, Lewis, Uhlian, Connelly, McKeehan and Katie Salanga, she said.

tsmith@hometownlife.com (734) 469-4128 Moraw (C), 9.050; 6. Victoria Clay (Northville), 8.600; 7. Morgan Price (N), 8.450; 8. Taylor Dempsey (N), 8.250; 9. Erin Warwood (N), 8.050.

Uneven parallel bars: 1. Moraw (C), 9.600; 2. Green (C), 9.025; 3. Fischoff (A), 8.850; 4. Lewis (C), 8.500; 5. Dempsey (N), 8.025; 6. Warwood (N), 7.900; 7. Lasecki (C), 7.875; 8. Price (N), 7.550.

Balance beam: 1. Lewis (C), 9.525; 2. Moraw (C), 9.475; 3. Fischoff (A), 9.450; 4. Green (C), 9.300; 5. Lasecki (C), 9.025; 6. Dempsey (N), 8.425; 7. Price (N), 8.350; 8. Warwood (C), 8.100; 9. Clay (N), 6.825.

Floor exercise: 1. Moraw (C), 9.525; 2. Green (C), 9.500; 3. Lewis (C), 9.400; 4. Fischoff (A), 9.375; 5. Lasecki (C), 9.100; 6. Warwood (N), 8.875; 7. Dempsey (N), 8.800; 8. Clay (N), 8.775.

All-around: 1. Moraw (C), 37.650; 2. Green (C), 37.175; 3. Lewis (C), 37.100; 4. Fischoff (A), 36.900; 5. Lasecki (C), 35.075; 6. Dempsey (N), 33.500; 7. Warwood (N), 32.925; 8. Price (N), 24.350; 9. Clay (N), 24.200.

#### DIVISION 2

(top 8 qualify for finals) Vault: 1. Erica Lucas (C), 9.700; 2. Haley Olson (Livonia Blue), 9.175; 3. Alex Kitz (LB), 9.125; 4. Nicole Jacobs (Salem), 9.100; 5. Brittany Ramirez (Salem), 9.050; 6. Morgan Soper (Salem), 9.025; 7. (tie) Andrea Melotti (Salem), Reagan Engstrom (Plymouth), 8.950; 9. Brooke Allgeyer (Salem),



The picture of concentration on the balance beam for Canton is senior Nicole Lasecki.

JOHN KEMSKI

#### RELIGION

# Young adult retreat set in Livonia

Bishop Anthony Michaels will be the guest speaker at a young adult retreat, "Following in the Footsteps of Christ," March 30-April 1 at St. Mary Orthodox Church, 18100 Merriman, Livonia.

The event is aimed at ages 18-40 and is sponsored by the Diocese of Toledo Fellowship of St. John the Divine.

Michaels, an Iron Mountain native, earned a bachelor of arts degree in literature, science and the arts from the University of Michigan and a master of divinity degree from St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in New York. He founded the Christian singing group, Kerygma, and was consecrated a bishop in 2011. To register for the retreat, call

(734) 422-0010.



Michaels



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

#### KING, RALPH J.

March 3, 2012 age 71 of Plymouth. Beloved husband of Alice. Dear father of Pauline "Wendy" & Howard. Brother of Leslie (Glenna) & Collen Richards. Memorial Service Thursday 3 pm at the Uht Funeral Home 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland, MI. Family will receive friends Thursday 12-3 pm. Family requests memorials to the Michigan Humane Society. Please visit and sign a tribute at www.uhtfh.com

#### MOUSA, HAWKY JAM

**SHAWKY JAMIL** Age 80, March 4; 2012. Loving husband of 60 years of Jannette. Beloved father of Noel (David) Bawulski, Patricia Mousa, Sharon (Joe) Keepers, Elizabeth (Thomas) Beter and Michelle (Ann) Mousa. Grandfather of Dylan, Erin, Shannon, Elise, Jameel, Joseph, Benjamin, Elliot, Lauren, Alexander, Tara, Aimee and Rocky and great grandfather of Olivia and Maxwell. He is also survived by his sisters Viola Sackleh and Afaf (Fuad) Foteh. Visitation Tuesday 6-8pm until his Trisagion at 8pm and Wednesday 9am until his funeral service at 10am at the Antiochian Basilica of St. Mary Orthodox Christian 18100 Merriman, Church, Michigan 48152. Livonia, Memorials may be made to the Church Building Fund in his

#### **RUSSELL, GINNY**

Age 87, of Farmington Hills. Passed away March 1, 2012. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

#### 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.

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#### SMITH, FRANK L.

Age 77, March 4, 2012, of Garden City, MI. Beloved husband of Doris. Loving father of Kimberly (Ed) Bailey, Kelly (Tom) Mar, Kari (Mike) Hinken, & Kristie (Rich) McLaughlin. Dear grandfather of Christopher, Rachel, Josh, Amy, Scott, Sean, Bradley, Ryan and Nathan. Great-grandfather of Juliartna and Aria. Memorial Gathering Thursday 5 pm, until time of Service at 7 pm at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 31551 Ford Rd., Garden City. Please sign the on-line guestbook at: www.rggrharris.com

May you find comfort in Family and Friends

# Church youths collect toys for mission

The youth group at Kenwood Church of Christ in Livonia is collecting new fast food toys and simple toys such as Matchbox cars and jump ropes through Sunday, March 11.

They'll pack a suitcase full of toys for Landen Koch, the church's youth intern minister, who's headed for Honduras on a mission trip this month. He'll give the donations to Living Hope Ministries in Honduras. Koch will talk about mission trips and what it takes to prepare for one during the church's youth group meeting at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 11. During the gathering, youth group members also will write cards and notes to include with the toy donation.

Interested in donating toys to the group? Call the church at (248) 476-8222. The church is located at 20200 Merriman.

#### **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.

### March

#### BETHANY

Time/Date: 8 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, March 31 Location: Don Hubert VFW

Hall, 27345 Schoolcraft, east of Inkster Road, Redford **Details:** Bethany Together Dance. Admission is \$12. Wear "proper" attire **Contact:** Loretta from Betha-

#### ny East at (586) 264-0284 BIBLE READING CAM-

Time/Date: 11 a.m., Sundays; began March 4

Location: Livonia Church of Christ, 15431 Merriman, in Livonia Details: The Story is a unique way to read the narrative portions of the Bible in chronological order in 31 weeks. Consisting of 31 chapters of carefully-selected scriptures sequenced in chronological order, The Story presents the word of God in an engaging format, reading like a novel

#### Contact: (734) 427-8743

#### BIBLE TALK

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, March 11, 18 and 25 Location: Plymouth VFW Hall, 1426 Mill, Plymouth Details: These one-hour meetings will emphasize the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. No collections will be taken. Matthew Jensen and Jason McInally are the minis-

#### Contact: (515) 851-2939 BOWL-O-RAMA

ters leading the sessions

Time/Date: Noon to 12:30

Location: Oak Lanes, 1230 Middlebelt, between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia Details: Fundraiser for Mt. Hope Congregational Church's youth group mission this summer to Pittsburgh, Pa. The trip costs \$223 per participant, in addition to transportation costs. The fundraiser will include three games of bowling, shoes, pizza and pop, along with a raffle ticket entry. Cost is \$20 for bowlers, 11 and older; \$15 for children under 10. Bumper bowling will be available. 50/50 raffle tickets also will be available. Register by March 10 Contact: Kathy at (734) 261-4202 or Mt. Hope at (734) 425-7280 BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Sunday, March 18 Location: St. Theodore Social

Hall, 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.

#### Sponsored by St. Theodore Men's Club **Contact:** (734) 425-4421

#### **CLOTHING BANK**

Time/Date: 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 14 and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, March 24

Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy Road, between Lilley and Haggerty, Canton Details: Free clothing and shoes given to anyone in need

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

#### CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 18 Location: St. John Lutheran **Details:** Detroit Lutheran Singers; tickets are \$10 general admission, \$7 for students and seniors, children under 12 are free. Tickets available online or at the door

**Contact:** www.DetroitLutheranSingers.com; DLSingers@hotmail.com

#### DISCUSSION

Time/Date: 7 p.m., March 21 Location: Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills

Details: "Can-Do Detroit: Shaping an Innovative Future from a Creative Past," is a series of interviews and discussions highlighting individuals involved in Detroit's current resurgence. The second program in the series includes Rachel Lachover, associate director of CommunityNEXT, Justin Jacobs, founder of Come Play Detroit, Amit Weitzer, a member of the Detroit Area Communal Leadership Initiative, filmmaker Oren Goldenberg, and Rachel Prinstein, a member of the **Detroit Young Professional** Board. Admission is \$12 Contact: Eileen Polk at (248) 865-0627, or Jan Durecki at (248) 865-0628

#### **GRIEF SUPPORT**

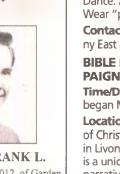
Time/Date: 7 p.m. March 14 and 21

**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 John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry. Register by calling the church of visiting Good Mourning Ministry's Web site. Began Feb. 29

**Contact:** (734) 261-1455; www.goodmourningministry.net

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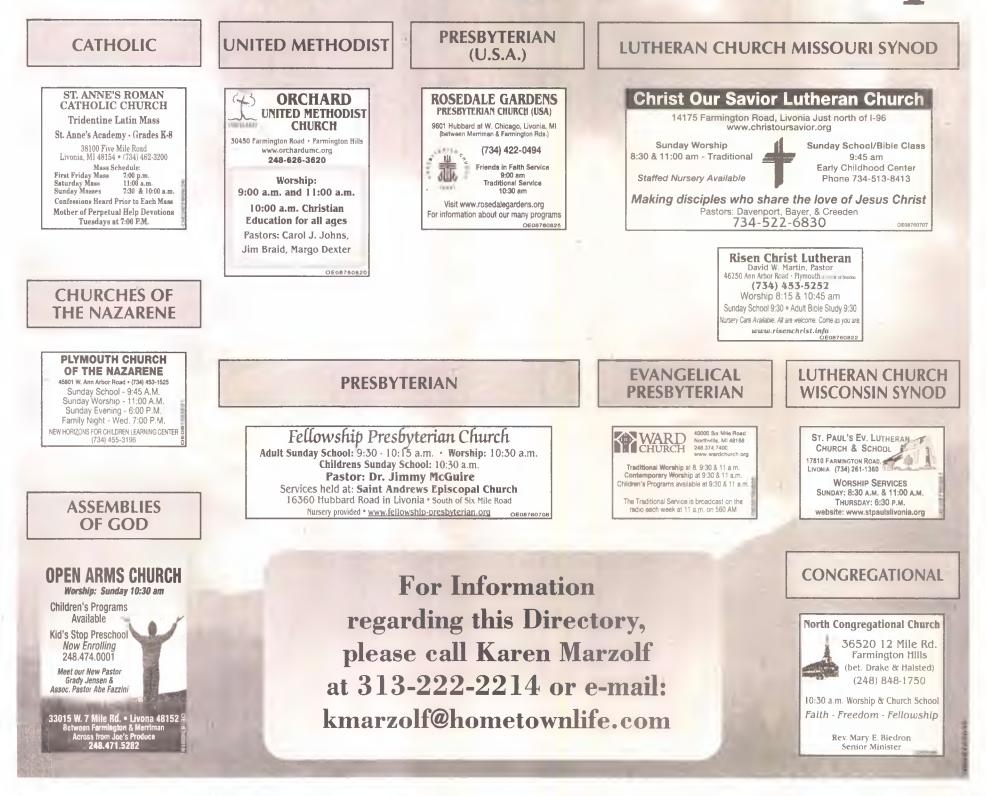
honor. Please visit: www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



from 1-4 p.m. March 17

Church, 23225 Gill, Farmington Hills

Your Invitation to Worship



.

# ENTERTAINMENT

# **Shakespeare simplified**

# Schoolcraft presents edited version of 'Rome and Juliet'

By Sharon Dargay O&E Staff Writer

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2012 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

James Hartman labored over every word in the rendition of *Romeo and Juliet* he's directing this month at Schoolcraft College.

"The two years I worked on the script, sometimes I would sit for eight or nine hours and I'd end up with a paragraph," said Hartman, who edited Shakespeare's original play. "I thought if I had that much difficulty understanding what this is saying, can you imagine an audience that sees it?

"People who go to Shakespeare probably miss a lot. I'm hoping with my editing work they don't miss too much. At least they'll get the bulk of what the lines mean."

Romeo and Juliet is Hartman's 60th stage production — his seventh Shakespeare play — at Schoolcraft, where he has taught drama and theater for 25 years. Hartman, whose Phd is in Shakespearean acting, taught at the University of Cincinnati and Indiana University before developing the theater and drama curriculum at Schoolcraft.

He edited each of the seven Shakespeare plays that he has produced at the college.

"Each time I get a new one edited, I try to stage it to test it," said Hartman, whose first five edited Shakespeare works were published as the book, An

#### 'ROMEO AND JULIET'

What: Shakespeare's tragedy about starcrossed lovers When: 6:30 p.m. March 23-24 and 30-31, dinner theater performance; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 13-14, performance only

Where: Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia

**Details:** Drama and theater professor James Hartman edited the script actors have memorized for this production, with the goal of making the play more understandable

**Tickets:** \$24 for dinner theater and \$12 for performance only. Order by phone at (734) 462-4596 or stop by the campus bookstore, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday to buy in person. The bookstore is closed for walk-in business this week during spring break, but will reopen Monday, March 12.





Jared Withrow of Livonia and Katherine Schooler of New Hudson rehearse a scene as Romeo and Juliet.

speare because of the language. The language has changed in 400 years and someone had to address the issue of language. I took it upon myself to be that person."

#### **Making changes**

Each revision takes about two years to complete. Hartman primarily works on revisions from May-August when he's not teaching. He scrutinizes each word for clarity, substituting more modern expressions when necessary, changing syntax occasionally and cutting redundant lines to shorten the story.

"Shakespeare used a lot of words we don't have the true meaning for and I don't want to miss those. He made up words and there are Shakespearean terms we help the audience understand who the actors are talking about. He trims lines to keep the plays at a manageable length.

"Shakespeare will say something and give four or five examples. I'll leave some examples out. Or in *Romeo and Juliet*, he has several characters essentially retell the whole story," he said. "As I started staging the play I started making changes. I edited my own editing. On that one lin es for the prince were cut,

Please see SIMPLIFIED, B6



Benjamin Gresko of Howell (left) as Mercutio, crosses swords with Nathan Shaw of Livonia, who plays Tybalt in the upcoming production of "Romeo and Juliet" at Schoolcraft College.



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Actor's Edition of Shakespeare Revisited, published in 2007. "I don't think there's any playwright around who handles the language as beautifully as Shakespeare, who writes plots and characters as cleverly as he does. The probJames R. Hartman, professor of theater and drama at Schoolcraft College, looks over his edited script of "Romeo and Juliet" while directing a rehearsal.

lem is that many people are turned off by Shakedon't use today," Hartman said, pointing out the words, "hurly burly" from *MacBeth*. "Who knows what hurly burly means? We don't use that word. It means commotion.

He also substitutes nouns for pronouns to

# Livonia Symphony concert rescheduled

A power outtage last weekend at Clarenceville High School's auditorium forced Livonia Symphony Orchestra to postpone its "Strings of My Heart" concert.

The new concert date is Saturday, March 31 at the high school, 20155 Middlebelt, Livonia. The program will start at 4 p.m. and will feature the U.S. debut of David Sutton's composition, *New American Overture*. Guitarist Steven Dearing also will perform Rodrigo's

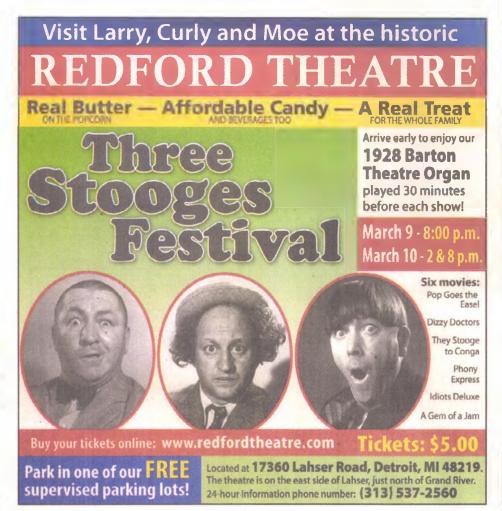
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Concierto de Aranguez.

Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors and \$5 for students.

All tickets that were purchased for the March 3 concert will be honored. Ticket-holders who are unable to attend the March 31 event may attend the symphony's concert on April 28.

Questions? Call the symphony's Music Hotline at (734) 421-1111 or visit the LSO website at www.livoniasymphony. org.





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### Westland Grand Digital Cinema 16 6800 N. Wayne Rd. 734.298.2657







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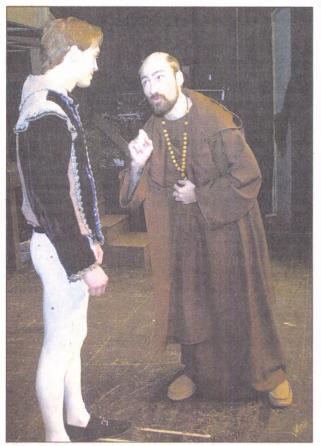
Every Saturday & Sunday February 25th thru March 25th 2012 Adults: \$1.00 No Advance Ticket Sales

Showtimes posted on www.mjrtheatres.com on the Tuesday before the posted date.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 8, 2012

**ENTERTAINMENT** 

online at hometownlife.com



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia residents Aaron Ruettinger (right) as Friar Laurence and Jared Withrow as Romeo, rehearse a scene from "Romeo and Juliet." Ruettinger shaved his head for the part.

### SIMPLIFIED

Continued from page B5

Balthasar's speech was cut.

"I want people to listen and follow the story and enjoy the language. My joy comes from watching audiences come to see Shakespeare and seeing them leave understanding it and enjoying it."

#### Elizabethan costumes, set

He likes simple sets that don't overpower the actors, but plans to enhance the staging in Romeo and Juliet with colored lighting. It's designed to help the audience focus on specific characters during the play. After he finished revising Romeo and Juliet last June, Hartman toyed with the idea of giving the play a contemporary spin on the stage, by setting it in 2012.

"But then I thought, am I getting too close to West Side Story? So

#### thought I'd keep it Elizabethan."

Actor Aaron Ruettinger of Livonia, who plays Friar Laurence, also stayed true to the period setting by shaving his head for the role.

"It was ultimately my choice. Professor Hartman brought up the idea to me. I ended up sleeping on it and thought a lot about it," said Ruettinger, a Schoolcraft student who plans to grow his hair back after the production. "I decided I need to get used to strong choices now."

Katherine Schooler of New Hudson, a Schoolcraft student who plays Juliet, credits Hartman for helping the cast understand Shakespearean acting.

"The real challenge with Shakespeare is you have to know what you're saying and once you know what you're saying, it's just like anything else," she said. "Hartman has a wonderful grasp of Shakespeare. He's done a wonderful job of imparting that to the cast

#### Art

#### **DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS**

Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit **Details:** Target Family Sundays. storytelling, performances, free with admission

Exhibits: Detroit Revealed: Photographs 2000-2010, an exhibit of 50 photos through April 8; Gift of a Lifetime: The James Pearson Duffy Collection of drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs through March 18

Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org **NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE** 

#### Time/Date: Through March 23

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville Details: Call for entries for the 4th Annual West of Center All-Media Show. Applications with jpgs on CDs must be hand-delivered or shipped to the Northville Art House to arrive by March 23. Applications are available on the Art House website at www. northvillearts.org. The show will open June 1

Current exhibit: Anarchy of the Line: Drawing Comes of Age features works by 14 artists, through March 24 Contact: (248) 344-0497 or e-mail to arthouseoffice@northvillearts.org

#### **UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday, through May 20 Location: University of Michigan Museum of Art, 525 S. State, Ann Arbor

Details: "Fluxus and the Essential Questions of Life," includes more than 100 works by major artists, such as Yoko Ono, Nam June Paik and George Maciunas; admission is free Contact: (734) 764-0395

#### Comedy

#### **COMEDY JAM**

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24

Location: Michigan Firehouse Museum, 110 W. Cross, Ypsilanti Details: Fifth annual jam features Rex Havens in his one-man comedy, "Bidding You A fond I Do" and benefits the museum. Tickets are \$25 for general seating and \$35 for premium

seating Contact: (734) 547-0663

#### **GO COMEDY!**

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays through Sundays Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays

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

**JD'S HOUSE** 



The Kenya Safari Acrobats will perform gravity-defying moves March 30 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

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

#### Dance

#### **CONTRA DANCE**

Time/Date: Beginner instruction at 12:30 p.m.; dance starts at 1 p.m., Sunday, March 4

Location: American Legion Hall, 31775 Grand River Ave., Farmington **Details:** Farmington Contra Dance; cost is \$10, \$5 for students, with all proceeds benefitting a charity **Contact:** American Legion at (248) 478-9174

#### **DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA**

Time/Date: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10; doors open at 4 p.m. Location: William Weber Performing Arts Center at Thurston High School, 26255 Schoolcraft, Redford Details: Polish National Alliance Centennial Dancers' 32nd Annual Dance Extravaganza; tickets are \$10 Contact: www.pnacentennialdancers org or like the group on Facebook at **PNA Centennial Dancers** 

#### **MOON DUSTERS**

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday; dance lessons 7-8 p.m. Location: Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia

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

#### Film

#### **PENN THEATRE**

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Friday, March 9 and Thursday, March 15; 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, March 10; and 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, March 11

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plym-

#### Museums

#### **CHARLES H. WRIGHT**

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday Location: 315 E. Warren Road. Detroit

Details: Regular museum admission is \$8 for adults, 13-61; and \$5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admitted free. "Moving to His Own Beat" celebrates the life and music of Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, who fused traditional African high life music with classical jazz and funk, a unique sound he called "Afrobeat" The exhibit runs through April 1

Contact: (313) 494-5800

#### **PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday-Sunday; current exhibit runs through June 17

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth Details: "Ration Stamps & Bombers, WWII at Home" is the current exhibit. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, 6-17

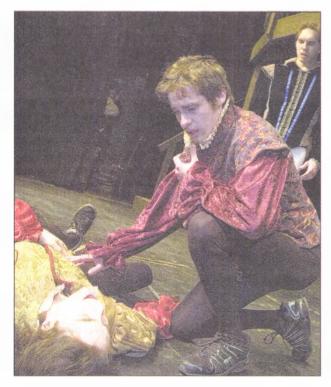
Contact: (734) 455-8940

#### **U-M KELSEY MUSEUM OF AR-CHAEOLOGY**

Time/Date: The museum is open 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., Tuesday- Friday, and 1-4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday

Location: 434 S. State, Ann Arbor Details: Part II of the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology's special exhibition "Karanis Revealed: Discovering the Past and Present of a Michigan Excavation in Egypt" – will run through Sunday, May 6. This special exhibition explores the story of the site's excavation, which was initiated by the University of Michigan in the 1920s and 1930s.

Special event: Ancient Egypt Family Day runs 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18 with hands-on activities such as hieroglyphic writing, mummy wrapping (with a doll filled with candy organs), crown making, jewelry crafting, and flower wreaths, like the one found on King Tut.



Joev Kulling of Livonia, as Benvolio (right) approaches a wounded Mercutio, played by Benjamin Gresko of Howell.

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield

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

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

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

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: John DeBoer, through March 10; Tracy Smith, March 14-17; Horace HB Smith, March 21-24; Dave Landau, March 28-31

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

#### **MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE**

Time/Date: Dave Attell, March 8-10; Michael Malone, March 15-17; Tom Papa, March 22-24; Gary Valentine, March 29-31; Jay Black, April 5-7 Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

outh

Details: "The Adventures of TinTin," \$3

Coming up: "Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close," 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., Friday-Saturday, March 16-17, 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, March 18 and 7 p.m. March 22; "The Iron Lady," 7 p.m. and 9:10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 23-24, 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, March 25 and 7 p.m. Thursday, March 29 Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

#### **REDFORD THEATRE**

Time/Date: 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. March 10

Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit **Details:** "Three Stooges Festival" tickets \$5. Includes "They Stooge to Conga," "Phony Express," "Punch Drunks," "Dizzy Doctors," "A Gem of a Jam" and "Idiots Deluxe"

Coming up: "The Quiet Man," 8 p.m. March 16 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. March 17, tickets \$4; Shirley Temple's "The Little Colonel," and "The Poor Little Rich Girl," 8 p.m. March 30 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. March 31, tickets, \$5 Contact: (313) 537-2560

Contact: www.lsa.umich.edu/kelsey; (734) 764-9304

#### Music

#### **THE ARK**

Time/Date: Teitur, March 8; Caravan of Thieves, March 9; Hoots and Hellmouth & Small Houses, March 10; Bill Harley, March 11; The Tartan Terrors, March 13; The Jeremy Kittel Band, March 15; Sunny War, March 16; Vishten, March 17; David Wilcox, March 18; Peppino d'Agostino, March 20; Terri Clark & Jefferson Ross, March 21; The Steel Wheels, March 22; The Ragbirds, March 23; Uncle Bonsai, March 24; Gemini, March 25; Blackthorn, March 25; Rosie Thomas & Bhi Bhiman, March 26; Take a Chance Tuesday with Blame Sally, March 27; Sierra Maestra, March 28: Brian Vander Ark, March 29: The David Wax Museum, March 30; Justin Roberts & the Not Ready for Naptime Players, March 31; Elephant Revival, March 31

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



- Floyd Griffith Garden City
- Elaine Cornellier South Lyon
- Steve Stevens Livonia
- Peter Wright
- Barbara Wernimont
- John Polson Redford
- Ben Swaine Novi
- Daniel Gerych Westland
- John Czernel Milford

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# FOOD

SHARON DARGAY, EDITOR SDARGAY@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM (313) 222-8883 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# Go green with treats, drinks

#### Break out the green food coloring. It's time to create a little St. Patrick's Day fun in the kitchen.

"St. Patrick's Day is a perfect occasion to get playful with bold colors and bright flavors," says Mark Garcia, a chef at the McCormick & Company's McCormick Kitchens. "Our easy recipes take favorite treats, like cupcakes, shakes and brownies and add a bright green twist to make them a perfect fit for St. Patrick's Day celebrations."

To bring bright hues to your entire St. Patrick's Day spread, add a few drops o' green to your favorite beverages and store-bought items. The experts in the McCormick Kitchen suggest adding five-six drops of green food coloring to 12 ounces of beer; six drops to an 8ounce lemon-lime soda; 10-12 drops to a ½ cup of blue cheese dressing (for chicken wings); and 10-12 drops to a ½ cup of ranch or Franch onion dip (for chips, veggies and potato wedges). For more recipes and additional St. Patrick's Day tips, visit McCormick.com and Facebook. com/McCormickSpice.



Luck o' the Irish Cake Pops

Luck o' the Irish Cake Pops Prep Time: 45 minutes Cook Time: 35 minutes Refrigerate: 2 hours Makes 4 dozen cake pops

1 package (18¼ ounces) yellow cake mix

- 2 teaspoons green food color
- <sup>3</sup> cup marshmallow creme
- 1 bag (14 ounces) white confectionery coating wafers
- Lollipop sticks
- Green sprinkles (optional)

1. Prepare cake mix as directed on package, adding food color. Bake as directed on package for 13- by 9-inch baking pan. Cool completely on wire rack.

2. Crumble cake into large bowl. Add marshmallow creme; mix until well blended. Shape into 1-inch balls. Refrigerate 2 hours. 

#### Peppermint Paddy Martini Prep Time: 5 minutes

Makes 4 servings

- 8 ounces Irish cream liqueur
- 2 ounces creme de cacao liqueur
- 2 ounces vanilla vodka
- 2 ounces heavy cream
- ¼ teaspoon pure peppermint extract Peppermint Whipped Cream, recipe follows (optional)

1. Fill cocktail shaker ½ full with ice. Add first 5 ingredients; shake until well mixed and chilled. Strain into martini glasses.

2. Top each with a dollop of Peppermint Whipped Cream, if desired.

Peppermint Whipped Cream: Beat 1 cup heavy cream, ¼ cup confectioners' sugar and ¼ teaspoon pure peppermint extract in medium bowl with electric mixer on high speed until stiff peaks form. Makes about 2 cups.

Test kitchen tip: Wet outside rim of martini glass with pure peppermint extract. Dip glass in coarse sugar to lightly coat.

#### Emerald Mint Milkshake Prep Time: 5 minutes

Makes 3 servings

1 pint (2 cups) vanilla ice cream

1 cup milk

½ teaspoon McCormick pure peppermint extract

- k teaspoon McCormick green food color
- Whipped cream and green sprinkles (optional)

1. Place ice cream, milk, peppermint extract and green food color in blender; cover. Blend on high speed until smooth

cover. Blend on high speed until smooth. 2. Pour into glasses. Top with whipped cream and sprinkles, if desired. Serve immediately.

Test kitchen tip: For easier measurement, ¼ teaspoon food color is equal to 20-25 drops.

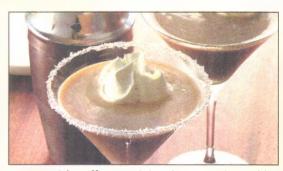
Nutrition information per serving: 247 calories, fat 15g, carbohydrates 23g, cholesterol 53mg, sodium 85mg, fiber 0g, protein 5g.

Green with Envy Cheesecake Bars

3. Melt coating wafers as directed on package. For each Cake Pop, dip ½ inch of lollipop stick into melted coating. Insert dipped end of lollipop stick halfway into cake ball. Let stand until coating is set. Dip each cake pop into melted coating. Shake gently to remove excess coating. Sprinkle or roll cake pops in green sprinkles, if desired. Place cake pops in Styrofoam blocks. Let stand until coating is set.

Test kitchen tips: Substitute ½ cup canned vanilla frosting for the marshmallow creme. If Styrofoam blocks are not available, use upside-down foam egg cartons or a cardboard box to hold the cake pops.

Nutrition information per serving: 226 calories, fat 10g, carbohydrates 32g, cholesterol 23mg, sodium 176mg, fiber 0g, protein 2g.



Creamy Irish Coffee Martini and Peppermint Paddy Martini

#### **Creamy Irish Coffee Martini**

Prep Time: 5 minutes Makes 1 serving

2 ounces Irish cream liqueur 2-ounces Irish whiskey 2 ounces chilled brewed strong coffee ¼ teaspoon pure vanilla extract Vanilla Whipped Cream (recipe follows) Green sprinkles (optional)

1. Fill cocktail shaker half full with ice. Add first 4 ingredients; shake until well mixed and chilled. Strain into martini glass.

2. Top with a dollop of Vanilla Whipped Cream and green sprinkles, if desired.

Vanilla Whipped Cream: Beat 1 cup heavy cream, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup confectioners' sugar and 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract in medium bowl with electric mixer on high speed until stiff peaks form. Makes about 2 cups.

Test kitchen tip: Wet outside rim of martini glass with pure peppermint extract. Dip glass in coarse sugar to lightly coat.

#### **Irish Cream Swirl Brownies**

Prep Time: 20 minutes Cook Time: 35 minutes Makes 16 servings

1 package (18-20 ounces) fudge brownie mix

- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
- ¼ cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons flour
- ¼ cup Irish cream liqueur
- 1 egg
- ¼ teaspoon green food color

1. Prepare brownie mix as directed on package, adding vanilla. Reserve 1 cup batter. Spread remaining batter in greased 9-inch square baking pan.

2. Beat cream cheese, flour and sugar in medium bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until smooth. Add Irish cream liqueur, egg and food color; beat until well blended. Pour over brownie layer in pan. Drop reserved 1 cup batter by spoonfuls over cream cheese layer. Cut through batter with knife several times for marble effect.

3. Bake as directed on package for 9-inch square baking pan. Cool in pan on wire rack. Cut into squares. Serve with a small scoop of vanilla ice cream, if desired.

Test kitchen tips: For easy clean-up, line pan with foil with ends of foil extending over sides of pan. Use foil handles to remove brownie from pan. Place on cutting board and cut into squares.

If desired, 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract may be used in place of the Irish cream liqueur. Omit flour.

Nutrition information per serving: 292 calories, fat 16g, carbohydrates 34g, cholesterol 53mg, sodium 179mg, fiber 1g, protein 3g.



Turn ranch dip a green hue for St. Patrick's Day with 10-12 drops of food coloring.



#### **Green with Envy Cheesecake Bars**

Prep Time: 20 minutes Cook Time: 30 minutes Refrigerate: 4 hours Makes 24 servings

1½ cups chocolate wafer cookie crumbs (about 30 cookies) ½ cup butter, melted

- 3 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- ½ cup sour cream

1 teaspoon pure peppermint extract

- ½ teaspoon green food color
- 3 eggs

2 ounces semi-sweet baking chocolate, melted

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Mix cookie crumbs and butter. Press firmly onto bottom of foil-lined 9-inch square baking pan. Refrigerate until ready to use.

2. Beat cream cheese and sugar in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until well blended. Add sour cream and peppermint extract; mix well. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating on low speed after each addition just until blended. Pour ½ of the batter over crust. Tint remaining batter green with food color. Pour over batter in pan.

3. Bake 25 to 30 minutes or until center is almost set. Cool completely on wire rack.

4. Refrigerate 4 hours or overnight. Lift out of pan onto cutting board. Cut into bars. Drizzle bars with melted chocolate. Store leftover bars in refrigerator.

Nutrition information per serving: 215 calories, fat 15g, carbohydrates 16g, cholesterol 69mg, sodium 184mg, fiber 0g, protein 4g. Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, March 8, 2012

Make your

own kite!

online at hometownlife.com

hometownlife.com

**JBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** 

WEEKLIES

Scoop's

**Hound Dog Highlights** 

Spring is almost here! On the first warm day it would be fun to go outside and fly a kite; especially one that you have created yourself using your old newspapers.

Chance to Win!

4 tickets to

The Shrine Circus Dates: March 30th - April 1st

April 6th - 8th

Show off your kite. Send a picture of the kite that you created and

decorated along with your name, community of residence and a

You could be featured on a future

CONTEST:

photo.

**B8** 

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It's a great time to explore worlds of adventure by reading a good book. Here are a couple popular authors mentioned by Ms. Michele Durbin, a Canton Librarian.

2nd Grade:

Reading is FUN!

Pre-School: Eric Carle or Keiko Kasza Kindergarten Laura Numeroff Kevin Henkes Marc Brown Tst Grade: Russell Hoban, Cynthia Ryland David Adler

> BREAD AND JAM FOR FRANCES

Mary Osborne Suzy Kline **3rd Grade** Beverly Cleary Roald Dahl **4th Grade** Lynne Reid Banks Jerry Spinelli **5th Grade:** Rick Riordan Gordon Korman

BROWNICEPEAR

6th Grade: Richard Peck Brian Jacques

MARC B

ARTHUR'S

## Scoop's Craft Corner

Spring is almost here and on the first warm day it would be fun to go outside and fly a kite; especially one that you have created yourself using your old newspapers. Here is an inexpensive way to have tons of fun with mom and dad inside and out.

- \* PARENTS HELP IS NEEDED
- Items needed:
- Old newspapers - Two long sticks or dowels ap<mark>prox</mark>imately
- 1/4" thick
- Masking tape
- Scissors - String
- A little saw or exacto knife
- Colorful cloth or ribbon 2" wide
- and one foot long - Art supplies for decoration

Take two wooden dowels or sticks making sure that one is longer than the other. One stick should be approximately 36 inches long and the other 33 inches long. (You can always use barbeque skewers and taped them together to get the same effect). around the kite. It should go right into the notches of each stick. Make sure that the string is tight. This will make a diamond shape. You will need to make a knot securing the string to the stick. Tape over the notches so the string does not come loose.

Now lay your frame on a sheet on old newspaper. Cut the newspaper to about the same shape and size as the frame leaving a slight overlap.

Use a long piece of masking tape to fold the newspaper over the diamond shape. Tape down the edges of the newspaper over the string.

Create the handle of the kite by cutting a six feet piece of string. Tie one end to the bottom of the kite. It is also important to tie colorful pieces of cloth or ribbon every 12" to the string.

Decorate your kite using your favorite paints, markers, feathers, ribbons, etc. Get creative and make it your own.

### Notch Wooden Dowel 10 inches equal distance equal distance Take a small piece of tape and place it between the two sticks on top of each other making a cross

FRAMED



Selected winners will have their name. age, hometown and photo in the next Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

### Mail to: Scoop the Newshound 41304 Concept Drive Plymouth, MI 48170

#### **Deadline for submissions:**

All entries need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers by close of the business day on March 26th. Winners to be announced in the April Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.



2 Wooden Dowels	
length - 36 inches	
length - 22 inches	

Take both pieces of wood and wrap a layer of masking tape around each end like shown in this picture then use your saw or exacto-knife to make a notch in the ends. This notch is for your string.

Take a small piece of tape and place it between the two sticks on top of each other making a cross. Make sure that the right and left sides are equal distance and top is shorter than the low portion. (See illustration)

Wrap the string around the sticks multiple times to secure it .

Now wrap a single layer of string all the way

Games, Activities, and

other Fun Things...

these two pictures?

SCOOP'S PLAY TIME

What the difference between

Can you find all 6 of them?

Send a picture of the kite that you created and you could win great prize.

Good Luck!



# • required for Birthday Class • Required for Birthday Class</

### HRPPY BIRTHDAY

**Michael Ledbetter** Community: Livonia March 3

**Ryan Summer** Community: Milford March 3

Laela Lawrence Community: Novi March 21

#### B9.(\*) THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2012 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# **REAL ESTATE**

#### JULIE BROWN, EDITOR JCBROWN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM (313) 222-6755 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# **Plymouth businessman heads Building Industry Association**

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan has announced its 2012 Executive Committee. BIA's president is Rich Kligman, Superb Custom Homes, in Plymouth. He and the other Executive Committee members took oath of office as part of BIA's Economic Forecast Luncheon & Industry Awards Program on Feb. 15 at the Best Western Sterling Inn in Sterling Heights.

In addition to Kligman, the **Executive Committee includes** Salvatore (Sam) Palazzolo, Palazzolo Brothers Construction Co., Sterling Heights, moving into the position of first vice president; Paul Aragona, Aragona Properties, Clinton Township, as treasurer; Norm Finkelstein, Norwood Homes, LTD, Farmington Hills as secretary, Robert M. Tedesco of Silverado Homes, Birmingham, as vice president; and Katie Hallett, TK Design & Architecture, Howell, in the newly created position of associate vice

president. Adorno Piccinini, Walbridge, Detroit, moves into the position of immediate past president.

Continuing in their positions are vice presidents James Clarke, Robertson Brothers Co., Bloomfield Hills, Lawrence Cohen, CohenHomes. com, LLC, Franklin and William Phillips, Windham Development Inc., Bloomfield Hills. **Richard Komer, Wineman &** Komer, Southfield, continues as special counsel and Michael C. Stoskopf continues as BIA's CEO

The Executive Committee is responsible for furthering the building industry's relationship with municipal and county governments and providing representation in the state and national associations. Additionally, the committee assists in overseeing BIA's mission to provide education, information, programs, networking, political action and all other activities that advance the building industry, while making the



**Rich Kligman BIA president** 

American dream of home ownership a reality for Michigan families.

In addition to the swearing-in ceremony, the guest speakers were David Crowe, Ph.D., chief economist for the National

Association of Home Builders (NAHB) in Washington, D.C. and Edsel Charles, chairman, MarketGraphics Research Group in Franklin, Tenn. The speakers addressed topics pertinent to those involved in the residential and light construction industries.

The program also included the annual Industry Leadership Awards presentation to Immediate Past President Adorno Piccinini and the distinguished awards honorees.

Headquartered in West Bloomfield, Building Industry Association of SE Michigan and Apartment Association of Michigan are trade associations representing nearly 600 builders, remodelers, multifamily property owners, developers and suppliers to the single family and multi-family residential construction industry. BIA is affiliated with the Michigan Association of Home Builders in Lansing and the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C.

# Court upholds nixed parking

**By Robert Meisner** Guest Columnist

Q: Does our association have to grant a parking request as a reasonable accommodation under the Fair Housing Act when the member hasn't paid his condominium dues?

A: While that decision may not be clear in Michigan, according to a recent decision in New Jersey, the member's parking accommodation request was not reasonable. In that case, the association had revoked the disabled person's parking privileges because he was substantially in arrears on his monthly assessments. The state civil rights agency



found no probable cause to support his claim and the Appeal Court upheld the decision. The court indicated that

**Robert Meisner** 

under fair housing law,

housing providers may be liable for refusing to make a reasonable accommodation in rules, policies, practices, or services when necessary to afford a person with a disability equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling. However, the court noted that the duty to provide a reasonable accommodation for a resident with a disability does not necessarily entail the obligation to do everything possible to accommodate that person. The court reasoned that although the association may be liable for failing to provide a resident with a disability a parking space accommodation, the member's accommodation request was unreasonable because the association

collected assessment fees mon

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 21-25, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices

CANTON

2267 Arcadia Dr 212 Charterhouse Dr 1412 Hampshire Dr 457 Lenox Dr 42154 Tonguish Ct LIVONIA 15956 Brentwood St 37849 Dardanella St 9930 Doris St 18617 Doris St

36607 Gardner St NORTHVILLE PLYMOUTH REDFORD \$120,000 26136 Joy Rd \$95,000

\$169,000 \$500,000 \$315,000 \$415,000 \$363,000 \$125,000 \$75,000

9010 Kinloch 16875 Macarthur	\$70, \$48,
25049 Puritan	\$33,
9035 Tecumseh WESTLAND	\$37,
8702 Hugh St	\$38,0
37512 Lang Ct	\$100,0
5818 N Berry St	\$40,0

#### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

619 Fox Hills Dr N These are the area residential \$45,000 FRANKLIN 22855 Pontiac Trl # 8 433 Fox Hills Dr S \$49,000 31625 Franklin Rd 22200 Quail Run Cir Unit 5 \$110,000 \$350.000 real estate closings recorded the 4578 Kirkcaldy Rd \$222,000 61434 Rambling Way 30815 Hickory Ln \$84,000 \$100,000 week of Nov. 14-18, 2011 at the 2444 Loch Creek Way \$335,000 LATHRUP VILLAGE 26268 Shumans Way \$285,000 Oakland County Register of Deeds 4267 Stoneleigh Rd 5380 Wing Lake Rd \$165,000 \$47,000 \$380.000 26825 Lathrup Blvd \$15,000 57950 10 Mile Rd 260 Washington St # 280 office. Listed below are cities, ad-\$338,000 \$130,000 18318 Rainbow Dr 2327 Tilbury Pl COMMERCE TOWNSHIP \$400,000 SOUTHFIELD 18168 Sunnybrook Ave dresses, and sales prices. \$89,000 \$92,000 MILFORD 27335 Aberdeen St \$161,000 5504 Leafwood Dr 1643 Hidden Pond \$310,000 28546 Lowell Ct S \$300,000 \$850,000 3798 Loch Bend Dr 730 Milford Glen Dr 16316 Meadowood Rd \$72,000 \$213,000 **BEVERLY HILLS** 3517 Newton Rd 22571 N Bellwood Dr \$106,000 766 Panorama Dr \$82,000 20433 Lincoln Hills Ct \$300,000 FARMINGTON 17400 New Hampshire Dr \$70,000 NOVI 16208 W 13 Mile Rd \$76,000 31432 Lamar Dr \$65,000 30065 Northgate Dr \$135,000 \$395.000 42864 Ashbury Dr 19534 Waltham Rd BIRMINGHAM \$389,000 22810 Lilac St 31525 Marblehead Rd \$23,000 30245 Pleasant Trl \$122,000 28093 Carlton Way Dr \$105,000 28802 Red Leaf Ln \$129.000 24401 Cavendish Áve W \$375,000 1731 Dorchester Rd \$250,000 24062 Merrilyn Ct \$130,000 1 Richmond Towne St 47539 Cheltenham Dr \$520,000

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1011 Humphrey Ave   \$223,000   34150 State St   \$168,000   2272     517 Lewis St   \$215,000   23907 Wesley Dr   \$92,000   2641     1010 N Glenhurst Dr   \$\$84,000   FARMINGTON HILLS   2629     1437 Pierce St   \$414,000   22635 Colgate St   \$65,000   2423     243 Ravine Rd   \$400,000   30779 Country Ridge Cir   \$260,000   2432     451 Vinewood Ave   \$326,000   30070 Fernhill Dr   \$164,000   4457     620 W Frank St   \$497,000   39284 Horton Dr   \$218,000   2469     243 Wellesley St   \$395,000   35113 Meadow Ln   \$110,000   2238     2219 Yorkshire Rd   \$275,000   31705 Nottingwood St   \$109,000   3107     BLOOMFIELD HILLS   34731 Pickford Dr   \$192,000   SOUT     671 Bennington Dr   \$485,000   26393 Power Rd   \$95,000   5446     4090 Justin Ct   \$120,000   29307 Regents Pointe   \$100,000   228 E     3900 Oakhills Dr   \$160,000   23636 Springbrook Dr   \$72,000   205 N     BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP   \$2667 Stratton Hill Ct   \$550,000 <t< th=""><th>stwood Dr   \$488,000   29074 Tiffany Dr E   \$41,000   areas of the state of th</th><th>in the comm he commun the parking the member ke his requi s for several he association revoke his p s. In that par association d to resolve ssue with the and accomm by offering plan which y</th></t<>	stwood Dr   \$488,000   29074 Tiffany Dr E   \$41,000   areas of the state of th	in the comm he commun the parking the member ke his requi s for several he association revoke his p s. In that par association d to resolve ssue with the and accomm by offering plan which y
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#### Investors

"Mr. Landlord" (Jeffrey Taylor), a nationally known "Landlording Expert" and author, will cover finding qualified prospects, having tenants leave the property in move-in condition and how to increase monthly cash flow when filling vacancies at the regular meeting of the Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, March 8, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, 29310 John R, north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. www.REIAofOAKLAND.com; (800) 747-6742.

#### **Real Estate Career Seminar**

A free Real Estate Career Seminar will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 15, at Keller Williams Realty 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100 Plymouth. For more information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

#### **BIA courses**

**Building Industry Association of** Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present all three courses needed for Certified Aging-in-Place designation by the National Association of Home Builders. Don Pratt, CAPS, CGB, CGR of CECS of Michigan, LLC will be the instructor for all three courses. He will cover the technical, business management and customer service skills essential for competing in this fast growing segment of residential construction.

CAPS I, Marketing and Communication Strategies for Aging and Accessibility, will be held on Monday, March 12. CAPS II, Design/Build Solutions for Aging and Accessibility, will be held on Tuesday,

#### **REAL ESTATE BRIEFS**



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Docent Linda Smith in the kitchen at a recent home tour. Many people are looking for home improvement ideas for this spring.

March 13. Business Management, the third course required for this designation, will be held on Wednesday, March 14. Each session runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

Registration for each course is \$195 per person for BIA members and \$225 per person for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org.

#### **Seminar on Tuesdays**

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation.

Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

#### Free Foreclosure Tours

Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@ addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

#### **On Facebook**

**RE/MAX** has launched a new Facebook page for customers and the public to get direct answers for their real estate questions from RE/MAX

experts. The new site is a chance for the public to ASKREMAX and get clear, expert answers in real time.

Visit www.facebook.com/ASKREMAX.

#### Finance Seminar

Learn how to finance your purchase and rehab projects in and around Detroit. Hear from an expert in the lending business, Trent Dalrymple, who has more than 25 years of experience. Real estate and investment professionals are welcome. Seating is limited so call (248) 547-3006, or sign up at www.metro-mi.com. These free one-hour seminars will be 6-7 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of the month at Metro Mortgage Investments, 26711 Woodward Ave., Suite 301, Huntington Woods.

ınity, ng lot, ber uired al tion had s parking articular n also e the the modate ig a ch was rejected. However, each case is fact intensive and you are best advised to consult with your association attorney who presumably has knowledge of the Fair Housing Act.

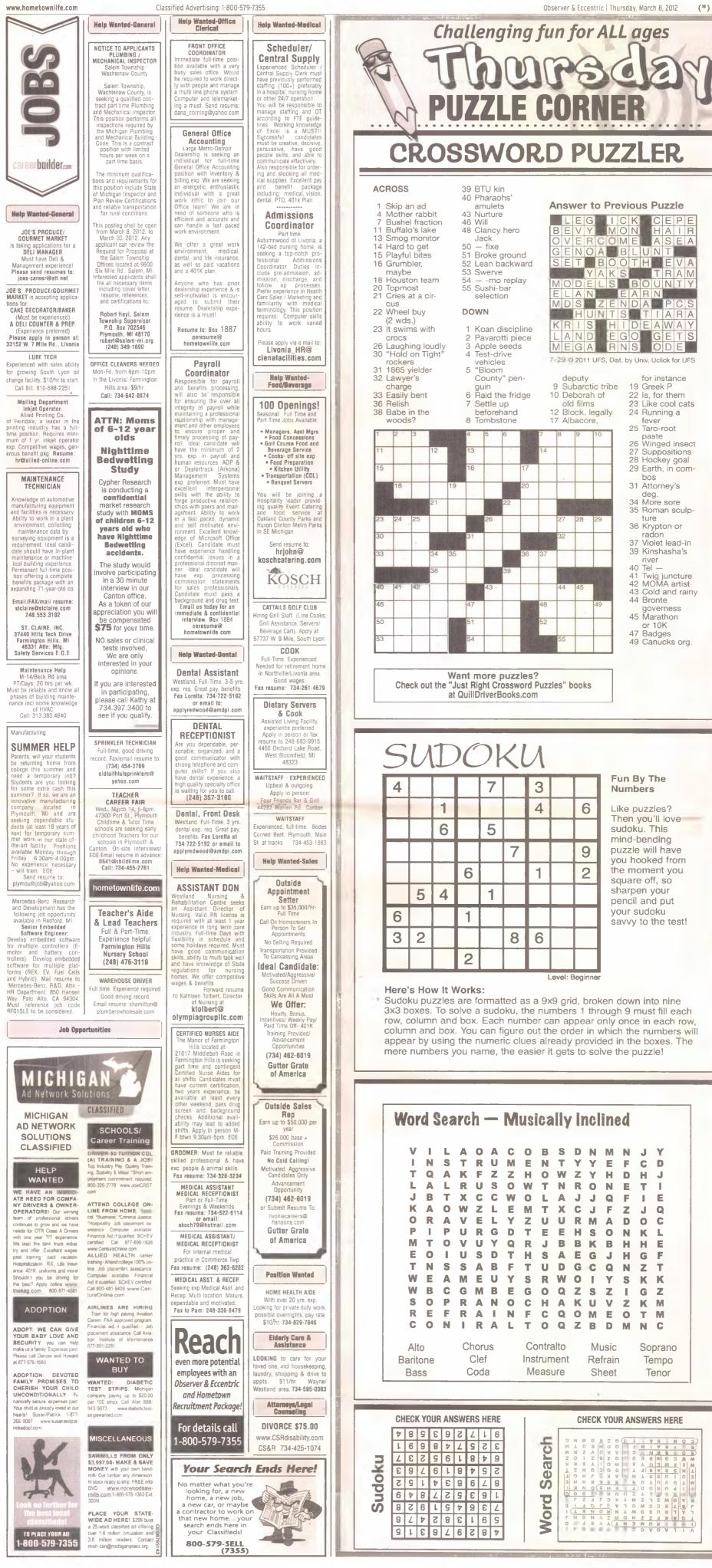
Q: Several of our neighbors in our condominium are concerned about second-hand smoke that is infiltrating our unit. Do you think we have any recourse?

A: A tough question since there may not be a specific statute or rule in your condominium that deals with this. The cases are somewhat divided about whether smoking in a unit where the smoke permeates another unit constitutes a nuisance. It would seem to me that you would have to have specific bylaw provisions limiting smoke inside of the unit in order to be reasonably successful, but that may or may not be the case depending upon the court and jurisdiction. You are best advised, if you are a board member, to consult with your association attorney.

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



**B11** 



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