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79234563240298009, then type in your e-mail address and click on dates on the calendar to see what opportunities are avail-

Those who have already volunteered for a day could also consider signing up for additional days. Buddies may also want to be game-day helpers and umpires.

For more information, e-mail info@ miracleleagueplymouth.org.

PRICE: \$1 • SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2012 • hometownlife control of the sunday of the sunday

Crossing closed for repair; others on list

By Matt Jachman **Observer Staff Writer**

Drivers who travel in and out of the Plymouth area via Plymouth Road will be taking detours for the next

The Plymouth Road overpass at I-275 is completely closed in both directions for extensive work that will include deck replacement, a new concrete surface, new barrier walls and major structural repairs to beams and concrete support pillars. The work, which began Tuesday, is part of the Michigan Department of Transportation's \$23.5 million repair project involving 34 I-275 bridges and overpasses in Wayne County between Van Buren Township and Livonia, including several in the Plymouth area.

The Plymouth Road overpass is

expected to be completed in about seven weeks, MDOT spokesman Rob Morosi said Friday. While the overpass itself is completely closed, Plymouth Road is open to local traffic between Haggerty Road and New-

Next on the list in the area, Morosi said, are Ann Arbor Road and Ann Arbor Trail, though the work will be done in stages to keep detour routes open. While one I-275 overpass is closed - such as the one on Plymouth Road currently - others nearby will stay open to provide alternatives, Morosi said.

The work on the Ann Arbor Road overpass is expected to begin in early to mid-May and last about a month, Morosi said. There will be lane

Please see CROSSING, A5



Exec decision

Gov. Rick Snyder announced Paul Hillegonds of Plymouth has been appointed to the Michigan Economic Development Corp. Executive Committee.

The 20-member council sets the strategic direction of the MEDC, the state's lead agency for economic development.

'MEDC's work toward economic development is absolutely essential in reinvent-



Hillegonds

gan and creating a better business climate." Snyder said. "I'm thrilled to appoint

ing Michi-

these six knowledgeable and dedicated professionals to help get Michiganders back to work."

Hillegonds is senior vice president of corporate affairs for DTE Energy in Detroit. Previously, he served as president and chief executive officer of the nonprofit Detroit Renaissance. Hillegonds also served in the Michigan House of Representatives from 1979-96, including terms as co-speaker and Speaker of the House.

He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Michigan and a doctorate from the Thomas M. Cooley School of Law. He replaces Thomas Lewand.

East Middle School students help turn the front courtyard into a Michigan Native Species garden as part of the school's 'green' initiatives.

Green garden

East improvements create natural habitat

By Brad Kadrich **Observer Staff Writer**

There's a duck nesting in the courtyard near the front of the building at East Middle School, waiting patiently to become a mommy duck.

Thanks to the efforts of students, staff and the school's "Green Team," the duck has a nice habitat in which to wait.

The school's Michigan Native Species Garden, built largely through a \$300 grant from the Canton Community Foundation and the sweat equity of students and staff at East, has grown close to the hearts of those who've put in the work.

"We're going to be adding some things. ... It's a work in progress," said counselor Christina Berggren, who is helping shepherd the project. "It's going to be our labor

The project began as the brainchild of school media specialist Rachel Goldberg, who plucked the idea off a list of potential projects provided by Michigan Green Schools, the entity that designates schools which earn "green" status, as East has the last two years.

Grant writing

Goldberg talked with the National Junior Honor Society about applying for the CCF grant, and eighth-grader Raveena Mata stepped up. Mata wrote the grant and

helped with the research on what to put in the garden.

"It was a good experience writing the application and doing the research," said Mata, who serves as NJHS's Green Schools chairperson. "I just wanted to help out. It was a good opportunity to get more involved.'

The front courtyard was chosen — "It was nice, because we aren't even usually allowed out there," Mata said with a smile

Please see GARDEN, A5

With increasing sales, staff, dealers renovate

By Matt Jachman **Observer Staff Writer**

If you seek evidence that business is picking up for the Detroit Three automakers, look no farther than the dealerships in Plymouth and Plymouth Township.

Four area dealers have recently started or are nearly finished with major construction projects — renovations, image makeovers and, in some cases, building expansions. In addition, a fifth dealership

completed a major renovation late last year.

The work is attracting attention, generating excitement among customers and pouring millions into the local economy. All four dealerships report increased sales (with an asterisk in one case), and managers at three of the four say they plan to add staff in the com-

ing year. "People want to know you're here to stay," said Scott LaRiche, the executive manager and vice president at Lou LaR- iche Chevrolet, as he spoke about the expansion there on Thursday.

"It's a pretty big deal. We're redoing everything," said Ryan Kolb, operations manager at Hines Park Lincoln. "It's not cosmetic.'

All four dealerships remain open during the projects, and Hines Park Lincoln even took the step of moving temporarily into a vacant dealership nearby in order to lessen

Please see DEALERS, A3

Parents lobby board over boundaries

By Brad Kadrich

In a wave of parents parading to the podium at Thursday's Plymouth-Canton Board of Education meeting to talk about elementary school boundaries, Jennifer Lemon stood

While parent after parent, nearly all of them with children at either Allen or Bird elementaries, pleaded with the board not to change their school boundaries, Lemon was the odd woman out, the only one to actually request a boundary change.

Lemon lives along North Territorial, between Ridge and Napier, in Plymouth Township, but her neighborhood is zoned for children to attend Farrand Elementary School. As the district contemplates options for dealing with boundary changes made necessary by the closing of Fiegel Elementary School and the move to all-day kindergarten next year, Lemon hopes her children can be moved to one of three elementaries — Bird, Smith and Isbister that are far closer to her house.

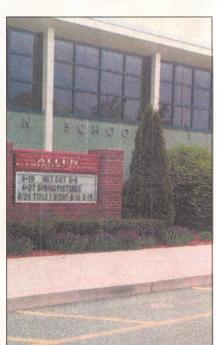
Closer to home

"I would like our neighborhood to be rezoned," Lemon told board members Thursday. There's no reason one of my children can't attend one of the three schools that are closer to my home."

Board members are trying to choose between three options presented by administrators in the wake of the decision to close Fiegel and go to all-day kindergarten.

In the original three scenari-

Please see BOUNDARIES. A3



A new boundary option presented Thursday would leave the boundaries for Allen Elementary untouched.

INDEX Community Life.... Crossword Puzzle C2 Education **B11** Homes..... **C2** C1 Jobs., Obituaries..... © The Observer & Eccentric Volume 125 • Number 72

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Return Address

'Smart' meter debate comes to township

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

Amid sometimes-competing claims about the safety and purpose of advanced electric meters, the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees on Tuesday voted down a symbolic resolution that would have interjected the board into the debate.

The resolution, which would have asked the Michigan Public Service Commission to conduct a thorough study of the advanced meters, also called "smart meters," and also have the MPSC require utilities to have an opt-out program for homeowners who don't want the meters installed, failed in a 1-6 vote. Clerk Joe Bridgman casting the only vote in favor.

"We don't tell the schools what to do, or other governing bodies," said Trustee Steve Mann. "I don't think it's our

place."

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 22, 2012

Advanced meters, which are currently being installed by DTE Energy in markets around the state, send out radio signals that allow them to be read remotely, eliminating the need for meter-readers, and can also provide real-time tracking of power usage. Utility officials tout a number of advantages, including a greater usage awareness that can lead customers to increase their energy efficiency, but detractors say they fear the radiation emitted from the meters can negative health consequences for some people, and that the meters constitute an invasion of pri-

Public comment

The MPSC has been looking into a variety of issues surrounding advanced meters, and on Monday ended a month-long

public comment period prior to its planned issuance of a report in June.

Resident Bruce Hartdegen had brought the issue to the board. Hartdegen said he understood the resolution would not be legally binding on the MPSC, but that he wanted to raise public awareness and have people make informed decisions.

"Not enough information is being disseminated in the community about this topic," Hartdegen said.

Hartdegen said he's worried about the possible health affects, and called advanced meters "surveillance devices" because of their ability to more precisely track electricity usage. He said he's concerned about the system being hacked into and tampered with.

Also speaking Tuesday was Bob Sitkauskas, manager of

DTE's advanced meter program. In addition to remote readings and usage-tracking, Sitkauskas said, the meters allow customers to see and understand the readings, are helpful in cases of power failure, meter tampering and electricity theft, and can use electricity more efficiently in conjunction with "smart appliances" that can avoid peak usage periods.

Not surveillance

The meters are safe and "we do not believe they are surveillance devices," Sitkauskas said. The meters don't track sensitive data or customers' movements in a house, he said. "We're tracking usage," he said.

Sitkauskas said DTE already has about 750,000 advanced meters installed around the state, but isn't sure when

homes in the Plymouth area will be scheduled for installation. The company will inform township officials about 90 days before installation is to begin, he said.

Along with defending the advanced meters, Sitkauskas said DTE is developing an optout program.

Bridgman said he was responding to citizen concerns in bringing forward the resolution. "We have no authority as far as saying yes or no (to advanced meters) and this point," he said.

Treasurer Ron Edwards said the township's water department uses a few such meters around town in places where water meter access is difficult.

"The technology's used all around this area with water meters," he said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

CORRECTION

A story in the April 19 Plymouth Observer about U.S. Rep. Thaddeus G. McCotter being honored by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute should have identified McCotter as a Republican from Livonia.

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"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.

STEAK FRY

Date/Time: Saturday, April 28, 5 p.m. Location: VFW 6695, 1426 S. Mill, **Plymouth**

Details: The VFW 6695 Steak Fry will run until the steaks are gone. All proceeds will go to benefit veterans. The event will also feature an electronic waste collection, for no

Contact: Gary Kubik, (734) 459-6700

ROAD RALLY

Date/Time: Saturday, April 28; check in at 4:30 p.m., rally starts at 5 p.m.

AROUND PLYMOUTH

Location: Participants must solve an advance clue, provided upon registration, to find out

Details: The Plymouth Newcomers & Neighbors host their annual Road Rally, with competing teams racing across town solving puzzles, participating in fun activities and enjoying an evening on the town. The Rally ends at a final dinner party destination. Early bird discounted cost is \$20 per person before March 30, \$22 per person after that. Entries must be received by April 14 to ensure a spot

in the Rally.

Contact: Melissa at president@plymouthnewcomers.com.

SCIENCE FAIR

Date/Time: Friday, April 27, 5:30-7

Location: New Morning School, Haggerty just north of Schoolcraft

Details: Looking for something fun to do on a Friday night? New Morning School in Plymouth is having a Spring Science Fair. Admission is

Contact: RSVP by April 24 to Joan Barrett at joan@newmorningschool.com or call (734) 420-3331.



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LOCATIONS IN PLYMOUTH AND ANN ARBOR





DEALERS

Continued from page A1

inconvenience to customers and interruptions to the construction.

Image updating

The work is being driven in part by manufacturers' requirements that dealerships undergo image makeovers that will update their looks and give them more elements such as color schemes, facades, interior finishings and even furniture - that will be common to dealerships with the same nameplates. But dealers say they're taking advantage of that timing to add some touches of their own: more display space, more customer conveniences and better facilities for employees.

"It gives us a chance to kind of catch up on some things," said LaRiche.

LaRiche, where work began March 19, is adding about 4,000 square feet, 3,000 of it as office and employee break room space that, when the building's footprint is rearranged, will free up showroom space. LaRiche is also adding to the indoor service dropoff space, which will accommodate six vehicles instead of the current four.

New flooring, energy-efficient lighting, new windows, a new



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Scott LaRiche talks about the remodeling of the dealership.

facade, new furniture

and an expanded customer lounge are also part of the plan.

"You have this opportunity to use these great materials — they've tested everything," said LaRiche, referring to the makeover planned by General Motors Corp's Chevrolet division. LaRiche expects the work to be completed late this summer.

New vehicles, showroom

At Dick Scott (where the Chrysler and Jeep lines were recently added to the Dodge and Ram brands already there), the remodeling is nearly complete, with a new blacktop the only step left. Work there included an expanded, redecorated showroom, new windows, a new exterior look and an arched entrance way

that will be common to all Chrysler dealers.

"It's a form of brand recognition," said general manager Jason Scott of the archway. "It's something that's a very nice touch.'

Scott and LaRiche both declined to name a price for the work at their dealerships.

"You've got to spend some money on your facilities," said Scott.

At Don Massey Cadillac, general manager Bob Pollock put the cost of renovations there at about \$3 million. Work began March 11, and Pollock expects it to be completed by Labor Day.

"This is a major renovation," said Pollock. "We're kind of gutting the inside of the building and starting over." The work is being done in phases to keep parts of the dealership open the entire time.

Don Massey is getting



Work at Dick Scott Dodge included an expanded, redecorated showroom, new windows, a new exterior look and an arched entrance way that will be common to all Chrysler dealers.

a new sandstone exterior, new interior finishings, including a black marble showroom floor, a new car wash and new furniture. Massey's famous

atrium will be kept. Massey is one of more than 100 dealerships around the country owned by Sonic Automotive, and the company is also investing heavily in developing applications for Apple iPads that will make sales and service writeups a smoother, almost paperless process, Pollock said.

"We're going to be years ahead of anybody in the marketplace," he said.

Sales up

At LaRiche, Scott and Massey, the managers reported that sales are up over last year, and said they ferent at Hines Park Lincoln, which lost its Mercury line about a year and a half ago when Ford Motor Co. discontinued it. Kolb said Lincoln sales are up significantly, but not enough yet to make up for the loss of Mercury, which accounted for more than half of Hines Park's new-

car volume. Kolb said the

dealership hired about a

dozen people since last

summer but is not now

plan to hire staff this year.

Things are a little dif-

adding personnel. But Hines Park is the biggest-volume Lincoln dealer in the country currently, according to Kolb, and as far as the remod-

eling, "We're hitting it at the right time." Like the other dealerships, Hines Park is getting a new interior and exterior,

and a new look unique to its brand. The used car building has been demolished. the main building will be expanded, with a net gain of about 800 square feet, and showroom space will be added, Kolb said. Everything will be under one roof; Hines Park is also adding to its service area and adding a cafe to the customer lounge.

Kolb is planning on having the work completed by the end of October.

Temporary HQ

In order to minimize construction-related disruptions, pretty much the entire Hines Park dealership moved to a neighboring facility, the vacant former Saturn of Plymouth dealership. Hines Park is leasing the space for the duration.

The move was a marathon affair that nevertheless didn't require the dealership to close or reduce hours, Kolb said.

"We did it all in two days. Saturday (March 24) and Sunday we moved the whole dealership,' said Kolb. "We opened up at the Saturn store that Monday morning like

nothing ever happened." Asked to put a price tag on Hines Park's renovations, Kolb simply said, "It's expensive."

At Bob Jeannotte Buick-GMC on Sheldon Road, a \$1 million renovation was completed late last year.

BOUNDARIES

Continued from page A1

os (complete details of all options are available on the district's website at www.pccs. k12.mi.us), students at nine of the district's elementaries -Allen, Bird, Eriksson, Fiegel, Gallimore, Hulsing, Isbister, Smith and Tonda — are the only schools whose boundaries are being considered for change.

A fourth option — which would leave Allen Elementary

School's boundaries untouched except for the addition of a portion of Fiegel's students - was presented Thursday night.

The latest option, presented by Trustee Mark Horvath on behalf of Trustee Mike Maloney, who was out of town, would not displace any Allen students, and would add a portion of the students being displaced by the closing of Fiegel.

That was music to the ears of the vocal Allen parents.

"Allen is a wonderful school with wonderful staff and teach-

ers who work to provide a quality educational environment," said Julie Boerner of Canton, an Allen parent. "We're a family. ... We can't emphasize enough the feeling when you walk through the door. If you make these changes, our friendships will endure. (But) I ask that you not make the changes."

Vocal opposition

The other vocal faction has been made up of parents of Bird Elementary School students. The boundaries for Bird.

which district officials say is overcrowded and uses a couple of portable classrooms, change under all but one of the options.

Bird parents pointed out the district is losing students to private and charter schools, and more than one parent mentioned the new charter being opened in Plymouth Township by National Heritage Academies this fall.

Nina Hier of Plymouth said the opening of the new charter should give board members pause before deciding to alter

Bird's boundaries.

"Choosing Option 2 or Option 3 will make the charter school option more attractive" to parents considering moving their children, Hier told the board. "The overcrowding issue will be solved, but not in the way you hoped."

A decision on the new boundaries is expected to be considered at the board's meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 24, at Discovery Middle School.

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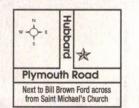
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Grant lets art show go two days

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

The Plymouth-Canton All-District K-12 Art Show is going to feature more than 2,000 works of art when it opens Saturday in the cafeteria at Plymouth High School.

And, for the first time, observers will have two days to view it.

The show has been expanded to two days this year after a large donation from Cantonbased Republic Services allowed organizers to afford the cost of having the building open for a second day.

The fourth-annual show will feature art from every grade and every school in the district. It includes two- and threedimensional works drawing, painting, collage/mixed media, ceramics, metals/jewelry, sculpture, photography and graphic art — all created by kids from 5-18 years



John Jochman's shell art was a Judges' Choice in last year's K-12 District Art Show.

"The show has always been open to the public, but because of the size of the exhibit, there's never really been room for more than the artists and their families," said Amy Morgan, the district's visual and performing arts coordinator. "The show takes an enormous amount of time and effort to mount. Teachers and community volunteers put in a tremendous amount of work to pull it off, and it always seems such a shame to only open

for a few hours."

This year, the show also opens the Canton Acts of Culture week. Morgan said organizers hope the additional time "allows for more of the community to take an active part in encouraging our young artists and just experiencing what is truly an extraordinary display of talent and vision.'

Morgan said celebrity judges from all over the Plymouth-Canton community will pick pieces that speak to them, art



Rachel Bissonette earned an honorable mention last year.

teachers award special recognition, and a jury of three professional artists will award prizes as well.

Musicians from P-CEP will be performing live throughout the event, the P-CEP culinary team will provide desserts for the gala area, the art faculty have donated items for a silent auction, local arts related businesses and organizations will have tables with information. and the radio station will be on hand broadcasting

ANNUAL ART

What: Plymouth-Canton All-District K-12 art show When: Saturday, April 28, 4-8 p.m., and Sunday, April 29, 1-4 p.m.; there will be an awards ceremony April 29

Where: Cafeteria of Plymouth High School, 8400 Beck,

Why: The fourth-annual show will feature art from every grade and every school in the district. It includes two- and three-dimensional works — drawing, painting, collage/mixed media, ceramics, metals/jewelry, sculpture, photography and graphic art — all created by kids from 5-18 years old.

How much: Admission is free, but there is a suggested 1\$ donation at the door.

remotely from the show. Morgan pointed out.

She said a show of this magnitude is beneficial for the artists.

"Just as publishing does for authors, and performance does for musicians. gallery shows provide artists an opportunity to see their work in a larger context," Morgan said. "They get to share their vision with the community."

The expanded show gives many more people a chance to see the art.

Morgan believes those who view it will walk away impressed.

"It's hard to find the words to express the impact of the show," she said. "There are some truly amazing artists here in the district. People often comment on being floored by the quality of the work, and the diversity of output. It's genuinely stunning."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com

New area charter school picks first principal

The board of Plymouth Scholars Charter Academy, a National Heritage Academies charter scheduled to open in Plymouth Township in September, announced Jaclyn Jeffrey will serve as the school's first principal when doors open for the 2012-13 school year.

Jeffrey joins Plymouth Scholars after serving in several key leadership positions, including principal, at NHA's Keystone Academy in Belleville.



Jeffrey

officials said Jeffrey She has been "an invaluable member" of the NHA staff for more

School

than seven years, bringing to Plymouth Scholars "an established track record of success and deep understanding of the organization's commitment" to student achievement.

"Since joining NHA as a teacher in 2004, Jaci has done an exceptional job in inspiring her students to maximize their potential," said Rocco Bellino, Plymouth Scholars board president. "Her positive attitude, commitment to her students, and passion for learning is infectious. Her knowledge of the NHA education model and understanding of the warm, learning environment we expect to

create will be an asset to

the school. She is the ideal leader for Plymouth Scholars as we prepare to open the school this fall."

A graduate of Western Michigan University. where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education, Ms. Jeffrey also holds a Master's Degree in Learning Disabilities from Madonna University.

"Having worked at and led an existing NHA school for more than seven years, this is an exciting opportunity," Jeffrey said. "I

look forward to the many challenges we'll face in preparation for the 2012-13 school year, including building the state-of-theart school facility from the ground up and hiring a dedicated and highly qualified teaching staff. I've already met many members of the community who have expressed excitement for Plymouth Scholars opening in their neighborhood, so we're eager to welcome students and families to our school."

The school, located at

48484 N. Territorial, has already received nearly 900 applications for approximately 550 open seats for children in grades young-five-Kindergarten through sixth grade. Plymouth Scholars will add one grade per year until reaching eighth grade and serving more than 700 students. An enrollment lottery will be held at Canton Charter Academy 4:30 p.m. May 2 to determine the first class of students at Plymouth Scholars.

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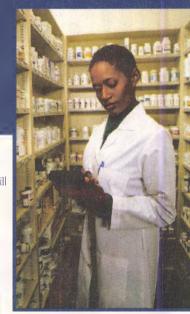
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GARDEN

Continued from page A1

 because of its proximity to the entrance of the school. Organizers thought it would make a natural, well, habitat.

"There were just some random things in (the courtyard)," Berggren said. "We thought it would make a perfect place to beautify."

The garden currently contains some plants transplanted from Berggren's own home garden, along with some bulbs purchased by Goldberg. Berggren said she'll bring more plants from home, weather permitting, for transplanting Monday.

Among the plants being grown is lupine, which Mata's research showed is a natural habitat for the blue karner butterfly. The school hopes to help save the butterfly, cur-



East eighth-grader Raveena Mata, who chairs the National Junior Honor Society's green efforts, gets in some planting in the school's Michigan Native Species garden.

rently on the endangered species list.

Green efforts

The garden is only part of the school's commitment to the environment. It first earned its "Green School" designation in 2011, one of several schools — Allen, Bird, Dodson, Field, Gallimore and Miller elementary schools and Central and

Pioneer middle schools are the others — to earn the title.

There's also a recycling center, where everything from plastic juice bags to batteries and cell phone cartridges are recycled. The school even earns a small stipend for the juice and snack-size chip bags they recycle and send to a company that then uses them for other

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products that are resold. Much of the school's green efforts are funded by a \$3,000 grant — "It was a very generous donation," Berggren said from Kohl's, which has a long history of partnering with the school district. Kohl's employees even came out last fall to help

It all provides an important life lesson for the students, according to Berggren.

work on school grounds.

"Increasingly, in this day of more and more electronics, where one thing is outdated a day after they get it, it's important for kids to understand how to recycle those things," Berggren said.

With the Native Species Garden well tended to, Berggren said the team will turn its attention to other courtyards, where perhaps some vegetable gardens can be planted.

CROSSING

Continued from page A1

restrictions during that project, but the overpass won't be completely closed, he said.

Once both the Plymouth Road and Ann Arbor Road overpass repairs are complete and the roads opened, by about mid-June, the Ann Arbor Trail overpass will be closed for work that's expected to take 30-45 days.

Both the Ann Arbor Road and Ann Arbor Trail overpasses will be getting new road surfaces, Morosi said, but the work isn't expected to be as extensive as on the Plymouth Road overpass.

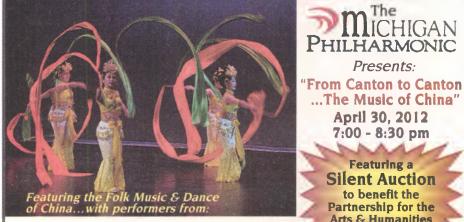
In addition to the closures on local roads for overpass work, I-275 traffic will be affected by the overpass work and by bridge construction, as is planned for the two freeway bridges (northbound and southbound) over Hines Drive and the two freeway bridges over Koppernick Road in Canton Township. Morosi said freeway drivers should anticipate lane restrictions.

MDOT's website says that in the area of the bridge and overpass work, two lanes of I-275 will be kept open during peak travel times and one lane during overnight hours and weekends.

The project also includes the resurfacing of about five miles of I-275 between Ecorse Road and Ford Road. The entire project is expected to be completed in late November.

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Celebrate the Diversity of the Canton Community and Canton Acts of Culture Week



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• The Chinese School in Canton

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For a complete calendar of the 2nd annual Canton Acts of Culture Week, please visit: www.cantonfun.org.

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Veterans visit Elks Lodge for luncheon treat

About 100 homeless or ailing military veterans were treated to a steak luncheon Wednesday at Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780 on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth Township.

The veterans were from the Veterans Administration hospitals in Detroit and Ann Arbor, and from the Michigan Veterans Foundation shelter in downtown Detroit and the VA shelter on the east side of Detroit.

They were served 12ounce New York strip steaks, baked potatoes, salad, rolls and dessert. Entertainment was provided by the Blue Pigs, the Detroit Police Department's blues-rock band.

Local Elks provide yearround services and activities for veterans, including hosting twice-a-year



Volunteers from the Elks Lodge and a nearby American Legion chapter formed a kitchen assembly line Wednesday to put together about 100 lunches for homeless military veterans and veterans currently being served by the Veterans Administration hospitals in Detroit and Ann Arbor.

steak luncheons, bringing chili dog lunches and ice cream socials to patients at the Detroit VA hospital, and collecting, packaging

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 22, 2012

and delivering Christmas gifts. They were assisted Wednesday by members of a local American Legion post.



Veterans enjoyed live entertainment Wednesday as the Elks Lodge 1780 hosted about 100 veterans for a steak luncheon.



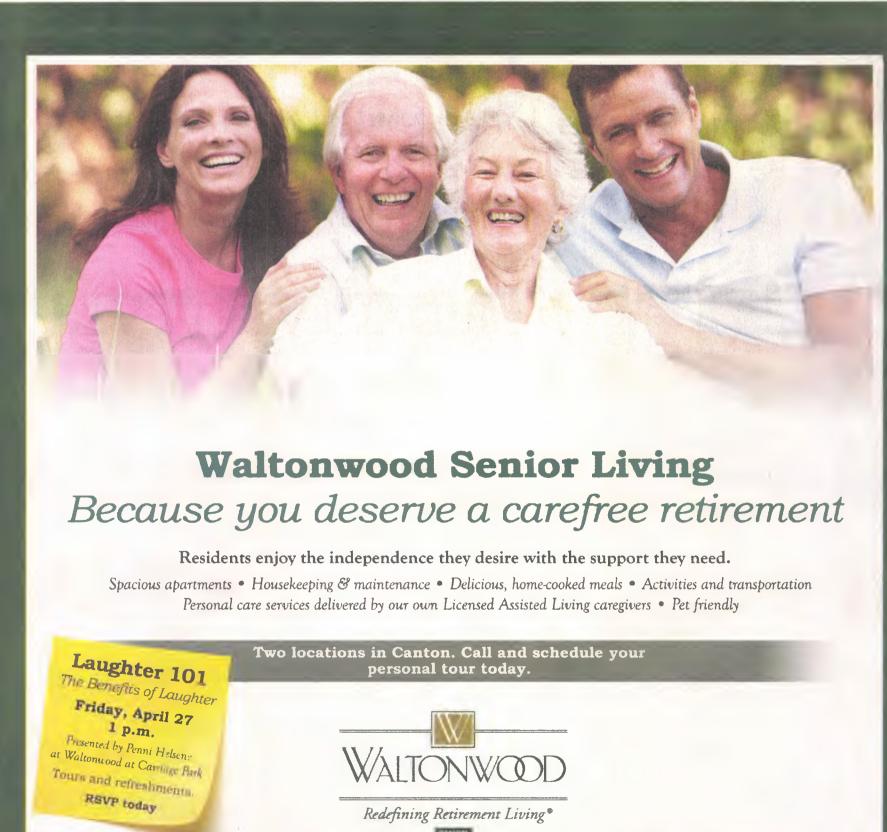


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Area Dems throwing Spring Gala

Following up on what organizers called "a smash hit" last year, the Democrats' Spring Gala 2012 at the Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville has added a fifth club as sponsor and another hour of music and dancing.

Set for May 19 from 7 p.m. until midnight, the Gala has added Democrats of West Oakland County to last year's four sponsoring Democratic Clubs -Northville, Livonia, Plymouth and Community (Canton and environs).

Adding the Oakland club to the four Wayne County clubs makes it a two-county affair for the first time since the event began in 2010, with the five-club membership now totaling some 600.

Spring Gala offers an opportunity to rub elbows

with the stars in the panoply of Democratic local and national office holders and activists. Meadowbrook is located at 40941 W. Eight Mile just west of I-275.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 22, 2012

Other highlights of the evening are an extensive buffet orchestrated by Meadowbrook's Executive Chef Steven McKigney, a cash bar and music and dancing to the popular Dittilies show band.

Admission is \$50 per person, Patron \$75, Host \$200 (includes 2 tickets) and Student \$30. Reserve tickets by May 4 and ad space in the program book before April 30 by contacting Community Democratic Club's James Amar, (734) 776-1763 or e-mailing jamesamar@wideopenwest.com, or e-mailing Plymouth Democratic Club member Pat Robertson at pyrobertson@gmail.com.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Democratic Club members Mary Maguire and daughter Alana join Meadowbrook Country Club chef Steven McKigney in a sampling of the fare they'll have at their May 19 Democrats' Spring Gala at the club.

More members



The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band, here practicing at Ford Field, is looking for new members to join their ranks of marchers, color guard and percussionists for the upcoming season. Current PCMB members and staff will be hosting informational meetings in the upcoming months for students and parents interested in finding out more about the band program. The band meetings will take place on April 24, May 15 and June 5 at 7 p.m. in the Plymouth High School band room.

NEWS BRIEF

Trivia Night

The Plymouth-Canton Branch of the AAUW, which provides annual live children's theater at Garden City High School, is holding its second annual Trivia Night Friday, May 11. Doors open at 6:15 p.m.and games begin at 7 p.m.

The event is being held at The Barn at Colony Farms on Colony Farms Drive in Plymouth. The

cost is \$20 per person or \$100 for a table of five. Cash prizes for first- and second-place teams. Cost includes snacks. There will be a donation jar for liquid refreshment.

Have fun with friends and family, put your knowledge of facts and factoids to good use. All proceeds benefit the

AAUW's scholarship fund. For more information, call Sharon at (734) 453-

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Charter Township of Plymouth, Michigan, Downtown Development Authority (DDA) will accept sealed bids for the following Project:

> STREET LIGHTING MAINTENANCE FOR DDA STREETSCAPE Details are described in the bid Drawings and Specifications.

Bids for the above Project shall be accepted no later than 2:00 PM Local Time, on Monday, April 30, 2012, at the Office of the Clerk, Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170-4673, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and

General Description of Work: Maintenance on fortyeight (48) decorative street lights and four (4) Services include asilluminated street name signs. needed repairs and replacement of poles, luminaries and

General Description of Project Area: The decorative street lights are located along Ann Arbor Road, from Eckles Road to Haggerty Road, in Plymouth Township. The illuminated street name signs are located at the intersection of Ann Arbor Road and Haggerty Road in Plymouth Township.

Copies of the bidding documents are available for pickup only (no mail delivery) at the Office of the Clerk, Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170-4673.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Certified Check in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), payable to the Charter Township of Plymouth Downtown Development Authority, as security for acceptance of the contract. A bid bond in the Michigan Standard Form issued by an approved surety company may be furnished in lieu of a Certified Check.

No bidder may withdraw his/her bid within sixty (60) days after the date set for the opening thereof.

The Township reserves the right to accept any bid, to reject any and all bids in whole or in part, and to waive any defect or irregularity in any bid if it is deemed in the Township's sole discretion to be in the best interest of the Township. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services.

REQUIREMENTS

- The Contractor shall be duly licensed by the appropriate authorities to perform Work.
- Insurance shall be in accordance with the Charter Township of Plymouth insurance requirements.
- The Contractor must provide references for similar jobs. The signed contract is not assignable or
- transferable to any other company without approval of the DDA.
- The term of the Contract is one year and may be renewed by written agreement of both parties at least ninety (90) days prior to the expiration date.
- The Contractor will conform to all applicable federal, state, and local laws.

 The contract award by the DDA must be approved by the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees.

ANY INQUIRIES REGARDING THIS BID ARE TO BE Mrs. Jana Radtke.

Community Development Director/Planner Charter Township of Plymouth 9955 N. Haggerty Road Plymouth, MI, 48170-4673 Ph: (734) 414-1453

ALL BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO:

Mr. Joseph Bridgman, Clerk Charter Township of Plymouth 9955 N. Haggerty Road Plymouth, MI 48170-4673

Publish: April 15, 2012

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(CP)

Author closes culture week slate

Wrapping up a weeklong celebration of the second annual Canton Acts of Culture Week. Transformation Coach, author, speaker, and radio personality Kandee G will be making a special morning appearance Friday, May 4, at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton. This special event will start with a continental breakfast at 7:30 a.m. followed by Kandee G's presentation at 7:45 a.m.

Kandee G is the founder of Kandee G Enterprises, Inc., originator of The Vision Program, and author of "NOW BOARD-ING, Next Stop Your Remarkable Life."

Kandee G has earned numerous fans by helping people discover their roadmap to personal prosperity with insights from successful entrepreneurs and change-makers. Her methods transform companies from the inside out by producing both measurable value and highimpact results.

Recognizing this success, renowned motivational speaker Les Brown has described her as "gifted." Kandee G has been featured in Time Magazine, Balance Magazine, Sharing Ideas,



Kandee G

Success Training Network, as well

The

as on "Dateline" and "Head-

line News." This presentation is

part of a special week, hosted by the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage, that encourages community members to celebrate the arts from Saturday, April 28 through May 5, 2012 at various community locations.

Some of the many goals of Canton's Acts of Culture Week include: showcasing community cultural resources and partnerships; celebrating diverse culture offerings; raising awareness of arts accessibility; instilling an appreciation of local arts organizations; and promoting the arts and heritage in and around the Canton community.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton. Tickets are \$10 and include a continental breakfast. Get tickets online at www.cantonvillagetheater.org or by calling (734) 394-5460.



State Rep. Kurt Heise (back, second from left), stands with a group of bipartisan lawmakers who helped shepherd the autism bills through the legislative process.

Snyder signs autism health care law

State Rep. Kurt Heise participated in a special bill-signing ceremony at the governor's residence in Lansing as legislation to give Michigan autistic children greater access to needed health care was signed into law.

Michigan families affected by autism also participated in the ceremony. Heise is a member of the House Families, Children and Seniors Committee, which first considered the bills in the House.

"Michigan has taken a monumental step to give autistic children and their families the hope they so desperately need," said Heise, R-Plymouth.

LOCAL NEWS

"Immediate treatment is essential after a diagnosis of autism, and families need health insurance coverage in order to get that care."

Public Acts 99-101 require health care companies to cover treatment for autism spectrum disorders. Heise said

the new laws will help Michigan save money in the long run because research shows that autistic children who are treated early can significantly improve and ultimately reduce Medicare costs.

Once considered a rare condition, autism rates have increased exponentially around the world since the early 1990s. Between 2001 and 2006, the number of children in Michigan public

schools diagnosed with autism-related disorders increased by more than 100 percent, according to the Autism Society of Michigan.

"This initiative is the right thing to do on so many levels," Heise said. "Michigan families affected by autism need our support and understanding, and they also deserve comprehensive medical care that only can be provided through insurance."



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Police part of drug give-back program

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 22, 2012

The Canton Police Department will take part in a national collaborative effort with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) to remove potentially dangerous prescription drugs from homes in the local community 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 28.

This national giveback initiative will provide a unified opportunity for the public to turn in expired, unused and unwanted prescription medications to law enforcement for destruc-

Unused prescription drugs may be placed in a drop box located in the lobby of the Canton Police Department, 1150 S. Canton Center. Dropoffs are free and anonymous, no questions asked. The give-back applies only to pills; liquids and needles will not be accepted.

Last April, Americans turned in 376,593 pounds — 188 tons — of prescription drugs at nearly 8,400 sites operated by the DEA and their state and local law enforcement

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Unused medicines in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription

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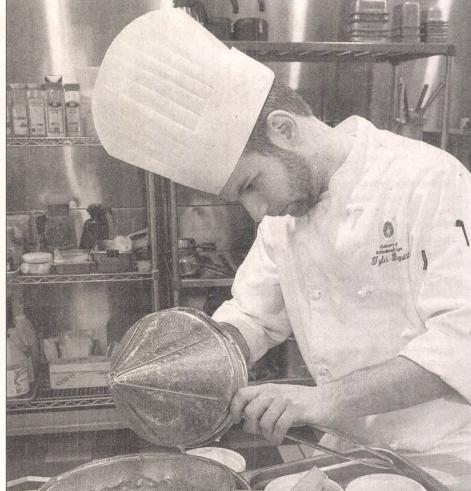
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drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs.

Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines — flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash. both pose potential safety and health hazards.

Questions should be directed to the Canton Police Department at (734) 394-5400.



Tyler Bergquist, of Canton, blanches parsnip that will be in an aspic on the cold plate during the competition.

Schoolcraft's culinary team finishes second at regional

Oh, so close.

Schoolcraft College's culinary team finished a very close second at the American Culinary Federation's Central Region Student Team Championship.

Schoolcraft lost by .07 of a point to a five-student team representing Chefs de Cuisine Association of St. Louis. The winning team was announced Monday night during the 2012 ACF Central Regional Conference in Detroit.

Schoolcraft's team of second-year students consists of Katie Kilanski, who is the team's captain; Tyler Bergquist of Canton; Michelle Collett of Romulus; Brandon Zarb of Milford; and Carla Spicuzzi of West Bloomfield. The team won the state title in February at Oakland Community College.

Nine teams competed at the local and state levels before advancing to the regional competition, which consisted of three phases: cold-food presentation, skills and cooking. Schoolcraft hosted the skills and cooking competition last weekend.

During the cooking phase, teams prepared four portions of a fish starter, salad and dessert of their choice and the pre-assigned classical entree, supreme de volaille a l'ecarlate from Escoffier: The Complete Guide to the Art of Modern Cookery. A panel of judges determined the winning team. The St. Louis team will now prepare for the national finals, where it will face three other winning

regional teams. The 2012 ACF Central Regional Conference, hosted by ACF Michigan Chefs de Cuisine Association, brought more than 550 chefs, cooks and food service professionals to Detroit.



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Saturday, April 28, 2012 12:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Booker Dozier Recreation Center 2025 Middlebelt Road Inkster, 48141

Tuesday, May 8, 2011 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Summit on the Park 46000 Summit Parkway Canton, 48188

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Moving in together can create risks for both parties

By Rick Bloom Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: I am single - always have been ---- and have no children. I own my own house. My boyfriend and I have been seeing each other for a number of years and we are thinking about moving in together. He will be moving into my home. We have no plans of getting married. We will just live together. One of my friends said that if things don't work, I'm at risk. What do you recommend I do to protect myself?

A: Adults moving in together and starting a relationship, without being married, is becoming more and more common in America. A recent report said only about 51 percent of Americans are now getting married.

Although more people are living together, in most cases, the law hasn't caught up to that increase. While there are laws to protect people when they get married, when

Rick Bloom

That is why you **Money Matters** see lawsuits when people who are

it comes

ple living

together,

the law is

unclear.

somewhat

to peo-

Your friend is correct. You could be at risk if you let your boyfriend move into your home and it doesn't work out. I recommend that a co-habitation agreement be drawn up.

This is similar to a pre-

living together break up.

nuptial agreement for couples getting married. When I first got involved in the legal business, prenuptial agreements were only for the very wealthy and they were difficult to enforce. Fast forward to today. They have become mainstream — more and more people are getting them - and are enforceable.

habitation agreement be drafted by a qualified attorney. Unfortunately, when parties try to draft their own agreements, they sometimes fail to dot all of the i's and cross all of the t's. The problem is the agreement may become unenforceable and if there is a dispute, the parties end up in court, exactly where they don't want to be. In addition, I recommend that each party seek their own attorney for advice. If there is only one

I recommend that a co-

flict of interest. As adults, we have responsibilities and must recognize that even though we enter a relationship with good intent, things do happen. That is why, in a case such as this, it makes sense to discuss the various issues

attorney involved, it may

lead to allegations of con-

involved and resolve them ahead of time. Then, if the relationship does not work, both parties can move on with their lives.

Whether a prenuptial agreement or a co-habitation agreement, I recognize that these are difficult issues to discuss. However, we are adults. If you are going to have a relationship with someone, it seems to me you should be able to discuss difficult issues with each other. After all, if you cannot discuss those issues now, maybe it's a sign that you ought to move a little slower in regards to your relationship.

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

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Earth Day cleaning set for trail

Join the Friends of the I-275 Metro Trail for an Earth Day trail cleanup on Sunday, April 22. With more and more Michiganders choosing a "green" mode of transportation, the Metro Trail promises to be a busy place during the upcoming season, so the Friends are working hard to spruce up the trail.

The group will be working in Canton Township on the section of trail north of Van Born. Volunteers should meet between 9 a.m. and noon in the driveway on the north side of Van Born just east of I-275. There is no Van Born exit, so get off the freeway at either Michigan

Avenue or Ecorse and take Haggerty or Hannan to Van Born - then look for the Friends'

Volunteers will be working on litter cleanup and clearing out winter washouts, so bring flat shovels, scrapers, pick-up sticks, stiff-bristled brooms and metal leaf rakes. A gas-powered leaf blower and tools for pruning vegetation would be a big help, organizers said.

For more information call Dave Duffield at (248) 994-3074 or visit the Friends of the I-275 Metro Trail on Facebook.



THE LUCKY ONE (PG-13)
11:15, 1:50, 4:10, 6:55, 9:15
FRUSAT LS 11:35
CABIN IN THE WOODS (R)
12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50 THREE STOOGES (PG) 12:10, 2:15, 4:25, 6:50, 9:00 FRI/SAT LS 11:45 AMERICAN REUNION (R) FRI-TUE 11:30, 2:05, 4:35, 7:10, 9:35 FRI/SAT LS 12:00 WED 11:30, 2:05 TH 11:30, 2:05, 9:35 MIRROR MIRROR (PG) 11:40, 2:00, 4:40, 7:05, 9:25 THE HUNGER GAMES (PG-13)

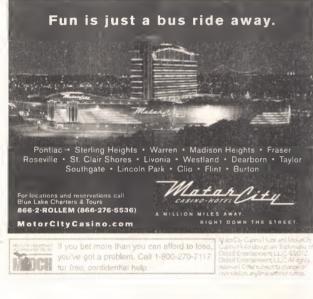




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Eating out benefits St. John's Veterans Project

By Sue Mason Observer Staff Writer

With a plan to double their efforts, organizers of the St. John's Veterans Project are getting a jump on fundraising with a dine to donate program at five Buffalo Wild Wings locations in four southeast Michigan counties.

The goal is to double the amount of care boxes the Westland group provides to patients at the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor, homeless veterans in a shelter and troops on active duty overseas, an increase that will require even more money - \$10,000, according to volunteer Laurel Mills.

"We're now in our sixth year, our name has gotten out there more and more," the Redford resident said. "We're getting more people involved and we're starting earlier this year."

Twenty percent of total food sales at five Buffa-



St. John Lutheran School students packed the boxes and helped get them ready for delivery.

lo Wild Wings locations in Westland, Novi, Ferndale, Warren and Port Huron between 11 a.m. and midnight May 21 will be donated to the project. To get a flier, contact Anna Schaffer at (734) 560-

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 22, 2012

zy_dreamer1592@yahoo.

The project is manned by adults and students at St. John's Lutheran Church and School in Westland. The grassroots effort last year provided 125 care boxes for the patients at the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor and 100 gently used coats with matching handmade scarves, gloves and hats and care packages for the homeless veterans and provide messages of support plus some necessities to 26 soldiers on active duty.

"The plan for 2012 is

to increase the amount of active troops and veterans that we are able to give necessities to," Mills said. "We are hoping to make 300 boxes this year for the VA hospital, increase the amount of coats, hats and gloves to 200 and add one more active troop to the list of who we send necessities."

The shoe-sized boxes include T-shirts, underwear, lip balm, sun block, candy, gum, beef jerky and toiletries. The packages for the homeless include flip-top cans of soup and meat, plastic silverware, magazines, crossword puzzle books and other necessities. Those boxes are packaged and delivered at Christmas by the students and adults, however, the clothing, including socks, is delivered to the homeless veterans in September, Mills said.

The project was started five years ago by Kendra Schaffer after hearing from her son that patients at the hospital don't get a lot of visitors and have

PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE

CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

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7:00 PM

limited toiletries. Over the years, the project has "just blossomed," getting to point where volunteers are now organizing yearround.

"In the past, we wouldn't do anything until around August with the coats and then it was rush, rush here and there, so we said let's start early," Mills said. "We wrapped up last year's project in January by sending the last boxes overseas, and then started in February on this year."

The St. John's Veterans Project is a 501(c)3 charity. Contributions are 100-percent tax deductible and 100 percent of the donations go to the project. All of the money raised goes to pay for buying boxes and packaging materials and the overseas shipping cost. More information also can be found on the project's Facebook page at facebook.com/stjohnsveteranproject.

> smason@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6751

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH LEGAL NOTICE

0722 or by e-mail at cra-

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Tuesday, May 8, 2010 Westport Fuel Systems, Inc.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2012, during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider the request of Westport Fuel Systems, Inc. for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for land and building improvements, machinery, equipment, furniture, and fixtures located at 14900 Galleon Court, Westport Industrial Park, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

The request of Westport Fuel Systems, Inc. is on file in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall where it is available for public perusal from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. During the public hearing any resident of Plymouth Township or members of the Legislative Board of any affected taxing unit in the Township shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments addressed to the Clerk will

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday May 8, 2012, will be held in the Town Hall at the Charter Township of Plymouth, 9955 N Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, Michigan 48170. Phone Number 734-354-3224. Following the public hearing, the Board may decide on the request by resolution.

Joe Bridgman, MMC

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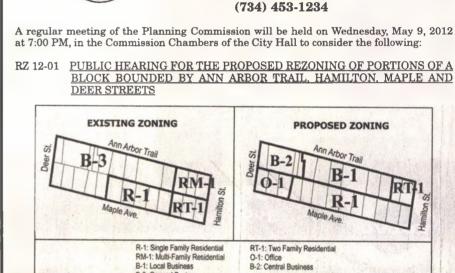
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All interested persons are invited to attend. Written comments will be received by the City of Plymouth Building Department during normal business hours.

B-1: Local Business B-3: General Business

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator 201 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170 (734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

Publish: April 22, 2012



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	Closed	\$15 off Massages, Facials & Full Pedicures	\$20 off Mai Tai Seasonal Pedicure	Fifty-Minute Massage & Elemental Nature Facial for \$100	20% off AVEDA Bodycare	FREE Brow Wax with any Hair Service	15% off ASHKA Gift Cards (up to \$100 per guest)	
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	Closed	Memorial Day	Express Pedicure & Manicure for \$50	50% off Makeup Lessons	20% off AVEDA and Youngblood Makeup	*All of these offers are subject to availability and are not with other offers. Each deal is valid only for the date list. Please mention offer when scheduling. One deal perd per guest. Abuse of deals or an attempt to use multiple on the same day by the same person or within a family restrict use of the deal. Exclusions may apply to each indicated the control of the deal. Please inquire by calling or visiting to understand exclusions associated with the particular deal you plan to these offers may be withdrawn at any time.		

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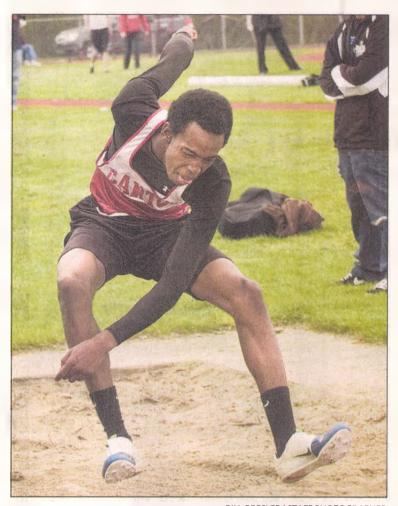
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SECTION B. (CP) SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2012 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS

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

2012 PCEP CITY TRACK MEET



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Jamal Dixon finishes first in the long jump during Thursday's

Chiefs keep Park trophy

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

Canton's varsity boys track and field team got a leg up on their campus rivals Thursday to capture the annual City Meet at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park for the second consecutive year.

The Chiefs strength in relays and sprint events. along with across-the-board depth, sparked the team to a first-place finish with /9 points.

Salem and Plymouth trailed with 55 and 41 points, respec-

"I knew that we had a really good shot at coming first," Chiefs head coach Bob Richardson said. "But Salem never gave up and they made it close near the end.

"Plymouth had some guys that stepped up also. They came close, because we were ahead by quite a bit more ear-

Please see TROPHY, B2



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Runners from Salem, Canton and Plymouth kick off the girls 3,200-meter relay begins during Thursday's City Meet at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Back-to-back 'Cats

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

In the spectrum of girls track and field at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, it looks like black again is the dominant color.

· Plymouth's black-clad Wildcats won Thursday's City Meet with 81 points, well ahead of Salem (49.5) and Canton (44.5) — teams that don blue and red uniforms, respectively.

Wildcats head coach Ricky Styes put a "colorful" spin on his team earning its second consecutive City Meet.

"Anytime the black school, the red school and the blue school get together, we know the girls are going to find an extra gear," Styes said. "The Salem girls did that last night, the Canton girls did that last night and our girls did that last night."

Those colors also can be found prominently displayed on the track and field leader board, on the back side of the football scoreboard at PCEP.

Plymouth now has captured

Three of a kind



Plymouth's Brianna Lax (left) takes the baton from Marina DeBiasi in the 3,200 relay.

three of the meet championships over the past decade or so, since the Wildcats came into existence. The first victory came in 2007.

"We like that trophy to be in our trophy case, that's for sure," Styes said.

The Wildcats scored across the board, which the coach stressed was crucial to the victory.

"We scored in every event yesterday," Styes said. "Which doesn't happen a lot, especially at a meet with three great teams in it."

Of one of the girls expected to excel, Becka Knox, showed her versatility with wins in the long jump and 200-meter

Please see 'CATS, B2

'Cats Gerou blanks Salem in KLAA opener

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

Sparkling defense, timely hitting and the pitching of junior Elaine Gerou proved more than enough as Plymouth's varsity softball team bested Salem 4-0 in Wednesday's season opener for the host Wild-

Going the distance, scattering five hits and striking out seven, was Gerou — who got tougher as the KLAA crossover progressed.

"She (Gerou) really started snapping," Plymouth head coach Val Canfield said. "Her pitches started moving."

Taking a tough loss for the Rocks was Emily Marcero, who pitched into the fifth inning. In that inning, the Wildcats scored three times to break open a close game.

"Marcello did very well, but we didn't help her a little bit defensively," Salem head coach Bonnie Southerland said. In the fifth, which began with

Plymouth up 1-0, Kayla Rebain

singled, moved to third when the

Rocks threw the ball away on a sacrifice bunt and scored on catcher Brooke Senkbeil's second RBI single of the day.

Allison Raylean, who reached first on the error, advanced two bases to score on a routine groundout by Gerou. Against reliever Kristin Zink, a single to left by Bri Giordano (2-for-3, double, RBI) scored Senkbeil.

Early chances

"We gave it a pretty good show. the first four innings I was very pleased with," Southerland said. "We just have to work on a few things, but that's probably the best pitchers we've faced so far. The girls have to adjust to some of the different pitches and we'll be fine.

"But we bobbled the ball a couple times and I think that made a dif-

Two days after pounding Dearborn Edsel Ford into the ground for a doubleheader sweep, in Salem's first games of the season, the Rocks (2-1) hit the wall against Gerou's laser-beam control.

Salem's best chances to score came early. In the second, an infield single by Alexis Powell and walk to Elliott Mitchem opened the inning. But Gerou struck out the next two batters and induced another to pop out.

Then in the third, with one out, Kristine Zink grounded a single up the middle and Marcello beat out a bunt. Both runners moved up a base, but second baseman Giordano fielded a grounder and threw to Senkbeil, who applied the tag on the sliding Zink trying to score.

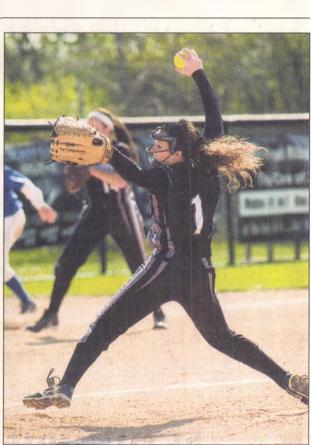
The Wildcats (1-0) struck first in the bottom of the third, with Kayla Rebain reaching second on a misjudged fly ball, moving to third on a sacrifice bunt and scoring on Senkbeil's liner to center.

"She (Senkbeil) is a very smart, aggressive player," Canfield said. "That's why I love that she's our leadoff. She really sets the tone for the team."

Salem managed only three base runners the rest of the contest.

Please see SOFTBALL, B4

PLYMOUTH



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Delivering the ball toward home plate Wednesday is Plymouth junior pitcher Elaine Gerou.



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CANTON

'CATS

Continued from page B1

"We know she's going to go out and perform at a high level and score points," Styes said. "She's been doing that since she was a freshman at the school and she's going to do that in all the meets we have coming up."

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 22, 2012

But Plymouth enjoyed some pleasant surprises, too. Freshmen Asia Tate and Anna Lukens placed first and third, respectively, in the 100 dash.

"That doesn't happen very often," he said. "Both girls ran great races."

Another key was the performance of junior Natalie Puckett, who earned wins in the 100- and 300-meter hurdles. Her time of 48.88 seconds in the latter set a new Plymouth record.

"Natalie Puckett ran well in both hurdles, she set the school record in the 300 hurdles, which was a real pleasant surprise for us," Styes said. "She just works hard and keeps constantly improving and all her hard work is starting to pay off."

All three schools featured exceptional performances.

Fast facts

Salem sophomore standout Kayla Kavulich coasted to victories in the 400-, 800-, and 1,600-meter runs. But she placed fifth in the 200 dash, behind Knox and three Canton runners.

"Kayla's a great runner," Styes said. "She was probably the most talented girl on the track vesterday.

"She's a very dangerous weapon and I think us being able to beat Salem with a runner like that on the track speaks for our depth."

Canton excelled in the sprint relays, with Alena Valetti and Milena Mandelli



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stepping it up in the 100-meter dash Thursday are Canton's Alana Valetti and Salem's Chineze Mbanugo.

part of both the victorious 400- and 800meter relays.

In the 4-by-400 relay, Salem's quartet of Adrianna Beltran, Kavulich, Nancy Krutty and Dana Blankenship finished in first.

But the Wildcats did earn first-place points in the 3,200 relay, thanks to the teamwork of Marina DeBiasi, Brianna Lax, Nicole Traitses and Rachael Hille.

'Our 4-by-8 ran a great race," Styes said. "Salem always puts out a good 4by-8, so anytime you can beat them, something good happens."

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

YMCA event April 28 promotes 'Healthy Kids'

Plymouth Family YMCA is celebrating Healthy Kids Day from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday with a free community event at First United Methodist Church.

The event is for kids and families in Plymouth Township and will feature activities such as 10and-under tennis, face painting, a bounce house and an appearance by the Plymouth Township Fire Fighters.

More than 1,900 Ys

across the country are taking part in the celebration, meant to kick start physical activity and learning throughout the summer - a critical outof-school time for kids.

Healthy Kids Day, a national initiative of the Y to improve the health and well-being of kids, is filled with fun, active play and educational activities that will help parents improve their kids' lifestyles for the

long term.

Research shows that without access to activities that stimulate the mind and body, kids are more prone to gain weight and fall behind academically over thesummer months.

For more information, contact Rebecca Mubaraz of the Plymouth Familv YMCA at (734) 453-2904 or via e-mail at rmubaraz@ymcametrodetroit.org.



TROPHY

Continued from page B1

On the way

Richardson said his team is off to a good start after its goal to finish undefeated in 2012. "So they're all happy that they're 4-0, because we got two victories tonight."

The Chiefs had a number of multiple winners, but at the top of that list was Miles Felton. He won the mile- and two-mile

Canton sprinters also piled up the points, both in individual events and

Ryan Jones won the 100 dash and

See meet times on next page.

of the winning 400meter relay team along with

was part

Colby Morris, Zach Smilo and Demetre Lopez.

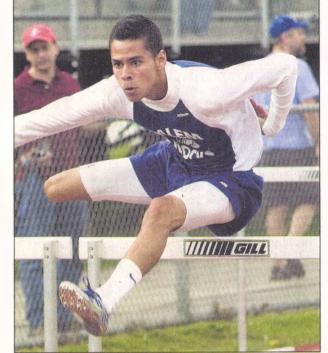
The team of Morris, Smilo, Kevin Buford and Kenny Scott also finished first in the 800 relay.

Extra effort

According to Salem head coach Kyle Meteyer, the Rocks had a number of standout showings but could not overcome Canton's depth.

"Points-wise we were right with the Chiefs through the field events until the 4-by-200 where we were disqualified for an illegal baton exchange," Meteyer said. "Things went downhill from there, but I was still happy with our effort until the very last event."

Examples of effort he was thrilled about includ-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Clearing another hurdle during the City Meet is Salem's Joe Amado.

ed Chris Dierker and Kevin Mack, in the 200- and 400-dashes, respectively, scoring from the slower, second varsity heat.

"By finishing hard, they were able to overtake the times of runners from the faster heat," Meteyer said. "Thus placing them in the meet."

As usual, the Wildcats had stellar performances in distance events.

"We were very good in the distances," Plymouth head coach Jon Mikosz said. "We won the 4-by-8, we took three of the four spots in the mile, three of the four spots in the 800."

What hurt the Wildcats was losing top sprinters William Askew II and Alex Rogers for part of the annual showcase for the three Park teams. Both were hampered by

injuries, Mikosz said.

"And Max (Rogowski) ran four events (Tuesday at Livonia Franklin) so he's pretty tired coming back a day later to run this," the coach added. "So our main focus this week was on Franklin, but we still take this seriously.

"You got all three schools here, so it's definitely a big motivating factor."

Canton hosted the meet, which Richardson said required dedicated efforts from a number of people from all three high

"We had a lot of people helping us to make this a successful evening," he noted.

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

Not just any day at the Park

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

The annual City Meet is kind of a conundrum for the athletes from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park

Yes, the girls and boys on track teams from Canton, Plymouth and Salem want to prevail and carry winning pride — and a nice trophy, of course - back to their respective school.

But since friendships are involved, it's OK to cheer on their "rivals." At least to a certain point.

"The city meet always brings out the real competitive side of everyone," said Plymouth senior Rachael Hille, during Thursday's event. "We all go to school with each other, and we're all friends. But when it comes to track, everyone wants to win it.

"It's one of the few things that you just want to get that trophy and have that hype that you're the City Meet champs.'

Salem junior Chris Dierker said competing against campus rivals ups the ante.

"It means a lot because we see them every day, so we want to beat them," Dierker said. "Guys want to win and get bragging rights."

As far as Canton senior sprinter Ryan Jones is concerned, there's nothing better than the City Meet. "Plymouth is our rivals,

Salem is a good team," Jones noted. "Last year (at the City Meet) I got beat in the 100 because I underestimated a couple

"But this year I just gave them everything I have. I always have fun at all of (these), everybody competes. At the end of the day everybody (at the Park) is still family, so I like it."

Extra incentive

According to Salem junior Nancy Krutty, the meet is definitely kind of a two-sided coin.

"City Meet's kind of fun," Krutty said, "because it gives us a chance to see what the Park has as a group, even though we're all competing against each other it makes us do our best each

"And it really brings our team together, and we like to cheer on each other and everyone else in the Park.'

With a smile, Krutty added that the unique makeup of PCEP adds spice to the proceedings.

"You don't want to be the last one in the Park," she noted. "... It's not really consequences, but it makes you work a lot harder during the season which is a good thing.

"But it (last place) is just not a place you want to be."

Freshmen such as Canton's Jocelyn Moraw and Salem's Jamyra Wilson both said they were enjoying their initial foray's into the meet.

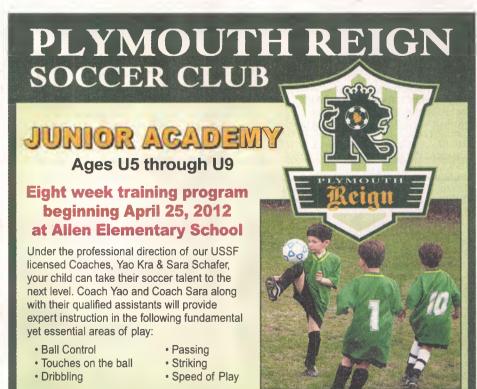
"Everybody knows people from the different schools, so you're cheering for people on the other teams, too," Moraw said. "You're wishing everybody the best."

Plymouth senior Derek Gielarowski described the meet as "just phenomenal, seeing everybody that you know from all the schools. Just having the rivalry that there is is just enough drive to get you to run the best race."

For those who come up short?

"You hear about it, because everybody knows," he added, with a wry smile.

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Training will be offered once a week with the option to train twice a week. For more information please visit our website: www.plymouthsoccer.net or contact us by email: president@plymouthsoccer.net or secretary@plymouthsoccer.net

www.plymouthsoccer.net

All-Observer boys ultra-tough 'strike force'

FIRST TEAM

Elliot Arnold, Sr., Wayne: The senior repeats as a firstteam all-Observer selection after bowling a pair of 300 games this season and winning the Division 1-Region 5 individual singles crown.

Arnold also combined with teammate Zack Huffman to win the Clarenceville Doubles Tournament and posted his high series with a 300-277-577 two-game set at the Wayne County Championship.

Arnold averaged 220 or better in all four of his years at Wayne, including a personal best 230.85 during his junior

"Elliot was a great guy to have around," Wayne coach Bob Jawor said. "He was the ultimate teammate, very humble, but also very confident in his ability. He never seemed to have a bad day, and the Wayne program will miss him.'

Davis Vandercook, Sr., Farmington-Harrison: Vandercook capped a four-year varsity career by leading the OAA with a 222 average. He also led his team to the OAA White Division championship and its first appearance in the state finals. He is a two-time state qualifier. Vandercook had a high game of 279 and series of 517 this season. He was named to the All-OAA first team twice and made the second team in 2011.

"Davis is the best leader our program has had," coach Dennis Hermani said. "He has been a starter for four years, and he willed our team to first place in the league this year.

"His competitiveness and desire to compete at the highest level rubbed off on our first-year varsity bowlers to make this season our best ever. As a coach, I will miss his dedication, leadership and passion to impart his knowledge of the game to his teammates."

Zack Huffman, Sr., Wayne: The senior averaged 201 during season and was Division 1-Region 5 individual runner-up to teammate Arnold, who he combined with to capture the Clarenceville Doubles Tourna-

Huffman spent two seasons on the Wayne JV squad before moving up to the varsity during his junior year where he averaged over 200.

He helped Wayne reach the Division 1 state team tourney after the Zebras captured the

regional. "Zack was a very consistent player, keeping the ball in play, and one of the best spare shooters on the team," Jawor said.

'He was a pleasure to have on the team, keeping the team loose, and always good for a David Nikkila, Sr., Salem: The senior captain enjoyed an

excellent season for the Rocks, culminating with an 11th-place finish at the MHSAA Division 1 individual finals at M-66 Bowl in Battle Creek.

Nikkila (203 average) qualified for the Round of 16 with a six-game tally of 1,198, highlighted by a 233 score.

In the Round of 16, he fell short by 25 pins (326-301) to

55; 3. Plymouth, 41.

Dev Sandhu (C), 37-9.



Elliot Arnold Wayne

Michael

Richards

Canton



Vandercook Farm-Harrison

Kevin Williams

Salem



Zack Huffman

Thomas

Brusseau

John Glenn



Wayne



David Nikkila Salem

Aaron Radner

N. Farmington



Steven Cadwell Salem

Plymouth



Jimmy **Bowling** Salem



Eric Thompson





John Glenn

2011-12 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS BOWLING

FIRST TEAM

Elliot Arnold, Sr., Wayne Davis Vandercook, Sr., Farm.-Harr. Zack Huffman, Sr., Wayne David Nikkila, Sr., Salem Steven Cadwell, Soph., Salem Jimmy Bowling, Jr., Salem

SECOND TEAM

Michael Richards, Soph., Canton Kevin Williams, Jr., Salem Thomas Brusseau, Sr., John Glenn Aaron Radner, Sr., North Farm. Eric Thompson, Sr., Plymouth Steven White, Jr. Glenn

THIRD TEAM

Alex Champagne, Jr., Canton Tommy Ruark, Sr., John Glenn Collin Jump, Sr., Farm-Harrison Brandon Congdon, Sr., Plymouth Rob Korstjens, Sr., Plymouth Kameron Caldwell, Jr., N. Farm. Matt Bracey, Sr., Plymouth

> **COACH OF THE YEAR** Karl Brubaker, Canton

HONORABLE MENTION

Salem: Joseph Mirskey, Nolan Rudis: Plymouth: Evan Grimme. Ryan Riva; Canton: Kurt Kowalski, Josh Pozan, Gary Barnett; John Glenn: Mitch Dean, Daniel Ammons, Mark Kassab; Wayne: Kody Wojewski; North Farmington: Eric Horwitz, Alex Zazaian; Farmington-Harrison: lan Elliott, Kyle Jump, Juwan Teamer; Clarenceville: Mike Uren, Kyle Kissandi.

Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's Jeff Conflitti.

Another highlight for Nikkila was his performance at the D1 regionals at Westland Lanes. He bowled three 200 games while amassing a total of 1,154,

good for seventh place. "David was the team captain and took his responsibilities seriously," coach Kathie Hahn said. "The team will miss his leadership."

Steven Cadwell, Soph., Salem: Cadwell was a big-time performer in the clutch for the Rocks, and he advanced all the way to the Final Four of the D1 finals before losing 353-320 to

Lake Orion's Kevin Lang and finishing third. In the qualifying block, Cadwell finished 15th with a 1,184 tally to just make the cut - but he obviously made the most of the situation with his

outstanding showing at the In the Round of 16, the cocaptain defeated Dustin Rose

of Brownstown Woodhaven

(371-359) and then knocked off Jackson's Drake Csage in the second round by a 360-345

At the D1 regionals, he came in 10th with a 1,120 total, throwing a 208 game along the way.

'For a sophomore he shows very positive leadership skills and helps the younger bowlers," Hahn said. "He is a strong role model for the other bowlers. We are looking for two more strong years from Steven."

Cadwell averaged 195 and had a high game of 257, winning 17 of 24 match points.

Jimmy Bowling, Jr., Salem: The third member of the Rocks to reach the Round of 16 at the D1 finals, Bowling finished ninth in the qualifying block, with a 233 opening game spearheading his six-game total of 1,221

In the Round of 16, Bowling couldn't keep his hot streak alive. He was defeated 429-306 by Adam Young of Utica.

Bowling's strong season his first on the Salem varsity also featured a sixth-place finish at the D1 regionals. He finished with a total of 1,157, highlighted by a 230 game.

'Jimmy shows great leadership skills," Hahn said. "We are looking forward to a strong senior year from him.'

His high score for the season was a 279 and he averaged 188.

SECOND TEAM Michael Richards, Soph.,

Canton: Like several of his teammates, Richards had a strong individual season while contributing to the Chiefs' run in the D1 state team competition - where Canton ended up as the runner-up.

Richards qualified for the D1 individual finals by rolling a 1,142 score at the regionals, good for eighth place.

In the qualifying block at the finals, he slipped to 43rd with a total of 1,064.

"Michael Richards had a strong season," coach Karl Brubaker said. "He earned a varsity spot after starting the season on the JV squad. He was one of out most steady players all year."

Richards averaged 189, with highwater marks of 235 and 468 for a game and series, respectively.

Kevin Williams, Jr., Salem: Williams just missed qualifying for the D1 finals, finishing 11th at regionals with a score of 1,114 (just six short of 10th

In Game 4 at regionals, he lit it up with a 225 score.

The third-year varsity bowler carried a 201 average with his best game of the season being a 279.

As the team's anchor bowler, he won 22 of 24 match points. "Kevin is an extreme asset to

the boys varsity team," Hahn said. "He is a leader and a very gifted bowler.

"We are also looking for a strong senior year from Kev-

Thomas Brusseau, Sr., John Glenn: The senior captain and son of Glenn coach Ron Brusseau enjoyed a highly productive season with a 210 average, including a 277 high game and a 496 two-game set.

On Jan. 19, Brusseau helped the 2011-12 Glenn squad post schools records for match game (1,271), two-match game totals (2,317) and meet total (2,767).

A four-year starter who helped Rockets to a 14-1 dualmatch record and its third straight KLAA Central Division title, Brusseau will continue his bowling career at the University of Northwestern Ohio where he'll study automotive technol-

Aaron Radner, Sr., N. Farmington: Radner had a solid junior year for the Raiders, hitting a 204 average with a high game of 262 and making the All-OAA second team. In the league singles tournament, he qualified second and finished fourth in match play. He was voted the MVP of his team. Radner was 11th in the Drakeshire Lanes regional and missed going to state by one

"Aaron was brought up to the varsity in the middle of his sophomore year," coach Mike Horner said. "He saw what was necessary to succeed at that level, and he spent last summer and fall working on his game. The results were very apparent this season as he placed near the top in every tournament we entered. He is extremely coachable, a hard worker and a great team leader."

Eric Thompson, Sr., Plymouth: The senior was one of a trio of Wildcats contending for a spot in the D1 finals (the top 10 at regionals qual-

Thompson came in 16th with a total of 1,074. Teammates Rob Korstjens and Matt Bracey placed 14th and 15th, respectively, with scores of 1,097 and 1,079.

But Thompson also had a consistently strong season as Plymouth's anchor bowler. He averaged 209 and

earned selection to the All-KLAA team for the second year in a row. And at the Mercy Tournament, he placed third with a 706 tally.

Thompson also contributed to the Wildcats victory at the Wayne County Tournament, where the team compiled a score of 4,069 (including bak-

"It was a real joy coaching all the kids and especially coaching my son," coach Tammy Thompson said.

He will join the United States Coast Guard after

graduating. Steven White, Jr., John Glenn: The junior posted a season average of 210, including a game-high 282

and a two-game total of 496. White also helped the Rockets to a school record 2,317 two-match game total and a

meet best total of 2,767. Glenn finished the year with its third straight KLAA Central Division crown and a 14-1 dual meet-record. The also captured the Farmington Early Bird and Mercy Tournament championships.

COACH OF THE YEAR Karl Brubaker, Canton:

The fourth-year Canton head coach and lifelong bowler in metro Detroit probably nev-



Karl Brubaker Canton coach

er was part of a season quite like the one the Chiefs enjoyed during 2011-12. After finish-

ing 7-7 overall and 6-6 in the **KLAA Central** Division during the regular

season, Canton stepped it up during the MHSAA Division 1 team tournament and nearly captured the championship at M-66 Bowl in Battle Creek.

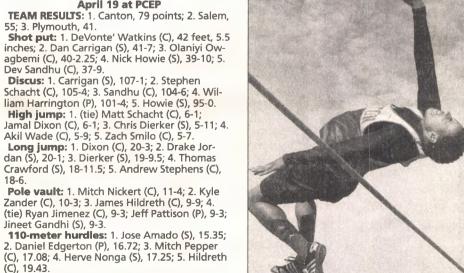
The Chiefs defeated regional champion Wayne Memorial 1,284-1,232 in the quarterfinals and then bested Utica (1,314-1,145) to qualify for the championship match against defending champion Macomb Dakota.

But that's where the title march came to a halt as the Chiefs were defeated by a 1,305-1,105 count.

Still, Brubaker and firstyear assistant coach Doug Spicer were thrilled with how a young squad meshed to truly become a team to be reckoned with.

"Many of the young men stepped up this season for us and made it a very enjoyable vear." Brubaker said.

PREP TRACK & FIELD RESULTS



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Akil Wade concentrates mightily as he competes in a field event on Thursday.

Doxtader (S), 2:10.55. **1,600:** 1. Felton (C), 4:34.43; 2. Rogowski (P), 4:35.85; 3. Derek Gielarowski (P), 4:39.55; 4. Brandon Dalton (P), 4:46.59; 5. Nick Eiben (P),

3,200: 1. Gielarowski (P), 9:59.24; 2. Steven McEvilly (S), 10:04.18; 3. Zane Berlanga (P), 10:20.11; 4. Jeff Molchan (C), 10:22.12; 5. B. Dalton (P), 10:31.78.

400 relay: 1. Canton (Morris, Smilo, Lopez, Jones), 44.45; 2. Salem (Drake Jordan, Nonga, Thomas Crawford, Homrich), 45.18; **800 relay:** 1. Canton 'A' (Morris, Smilo, Kevin Buford, Kenny Scott), 1:33.01; 2. Canton 'C', 1:38.99; 3. Plymouth (William Askew II, Bunting, Josh Dennard, Alexander Rogers), 1:42.11; **1,600 relay:** 1. Plymouth, 3:36.50; 2. Salem (Minshew, Crawford, Amado, Daniels Kairies), 3:36.57; **3,200** relay: 1. Plymouth (Eiben, J. Dalton, Rogowski, Gielarowski), 8:38.89; 2. Salem (Doxtader, Minshew, Alex Creekmore, McEvilly), 8:44.33; 3. Canton, 8:49.33.

> 2012 CITY MEET GIRLS RESULTS **April 19 at PCEP**

TEAM RESULTS: 1. Plymouth, 81 points; 2. Salem, 49.5; 3. Canton, 44.5. Shot put: 1. Amber Warren (Canton), 32 feet, 8 inches; 2. Rebecca Falzon (Salem), 31-7; 3 Tione Johnson (Plymouth), 31-1; 4. Chyna Williams (P), 30-5; 5. Taylor Bickers (P), 28-5. **Discus:** 1. Williams (P), 106-4; 2. Johnson (P), 100-6; 3. Dana Blankenship (S), 92-5; 4. Kristina Righter (S), 92-1; 5. Jess Bihn (P), 91-9. **High jump:** 1. Taylor Rieckhoff (P), 4-8; 2. (tie)

Morgan Tilley (S), 4-6; Kristen Muir (C), 4-6; Emily Freiburger (P), 4-6; 5. (tie) Sarah Martin (S), 4-3; Allison Walker (S), 4-3; Chelsea Carmody (C), 4-3; Kelly Whalen (S), 4-3; Jocelyn Moraw (C), 4-3; Chineze Mbanugo (S), 4-3. Long jump: 1. Becka Knox (P), 16-1.5; 2. Pia Simon (C), 16-0; 3. Reagan Engstrom (P), 15-4; A. Shannon Shaver (P), 14-11.5; 5. Jamyra Wilson (S), 14-9. Pole vault: 1. Engstrom (P), 10-9; 2. Rieckhoff (P), 10-3; 3. (tie) Nancy Krutty (S), 9-9; Jane Mc-Curry (P), 9-9; 5. Emily Lang (C), 9-3. 100-meter hurdles: 1. Natalie Puckett (P),

17.21; 2. Maddie Albers (C), 18.07; 3. Shaver (P), 18.23; 4. Rachel Falzon (S), 18.99; 5. Katie Lawera (C), 19.47.

300 hurdles: 1. Puckett (P), 48.88; 2. Marina Milad (C), 50.16; 3. Simon (C), 52.61; 4. Rachel Falzon (S), 52.66; 5. Shaver (P), 52.85. **100 dash:** 1. Asia Tate (P), 13.54; 2. Alena Valetti (C), 13.60; 3. Milena Mandelli (C), 13.77; 4. Anna Lukens (P), 13.82; 5. Wilson (S), 13.86. **200:** 1. Knox (P), 26.96; 2. Moraw (C), 28.28; 3. Valetti (C), 28.68; 4. Mandelli (C), 28.86; 5. (tie) Kayla Kavulich (S), 29.22; Hannah Dembny (P),

400: 1. Kavulich (S), 59.92; 2. Adrianna Beltran (S), 1:02.11; 3. Knox (P), 1:04.32; 4. Rachael Hille (P), 1:05.27; 5. Emily Freiburger (P), 1:06.11. **800:** 1. Kavulich (S), 2:26.11; 2. Adrianna Beltran (S), 2:29.92; 3. Katie Grimes (C), 2:30.14; 4 Nicole Traitses (P), 2:31.68; 5. Hille (P), 2:34.49. **1,600:** 1. Kavulich (S), 5:26.77; 2. Muir (C), 5:30.29; 3. Marina DeBiasi (P), 5:35.62; 4. Traitses (P), 5:38.45; 5. Shannon Flynn (S), 5:42.81 **3,200**: 1. Alejandra Beltran (S), 12:24.93; 2. Brianna Lax (P), 12:32.28; 3. Flynn (S), 12:43.61; 4. Natasha Stevenson (S), 12:45.99; 5. Rebecca Lopez (S), 12:49.89.

400 relay: Canton (Caitlin Wakefield, Valetti, Mandelli, Simon), 53.82; 2. Plymouth (Lukens, Dembny, Tate, Katie Salanga), 54.19; 3. Salem (Tilley, Wilson, Rachel Falzon, Mbanugo), 54.85; **800 relay**: 1. Canton (Milad, Valetti, Mandelli, Moraw), 1:52.81; 2. Plymouth (Paige Slominski, Lukens, Bihn, Salanga), 1:54.78; 3. Salem (Mbanugo, Rachel Falzon, Alex Tucker, Krutty), 1:57.10; **1,600 relay:** 1. Salem (Adrianna Beltran, Kavulich, Krutty, Blanken-ship, Elizabeth Tripp), 4:17.38; 2. Plymouth (Hille, Freiburger, Holly Stark, Knox), 4:20.72; 3. Canton (Milad, Greer Roberts, Bridget Alaniva, Moraw), 4:25.86; **3,200 relay:** 1. Plymouth (DeBiasi, Lax, Traitses, Hille), 10:04.99; 2. Salem (Tripp, Kavulich, Lopez, Kathryn Binsfeld, Adriana Beltran), 10:16.39; 3. Plymouth, 11:02.33.

Jamal Dixon (C), 6-1; 3. Chris Dierker (S), 5-11; 4. Akil Wade (C), 5-9; 5. Zach Smilo (C), 5-7. **Long jump:** 1. Dixon (C), 20-3; 2. Drake Jordan (S), 20-1; 3. Dierker (S), 19-9.5; 4. Thomas

Pole vault: 1. Mitch Nickert (C), 11-4; 2. Kyle Zander (C), 10-3; 3. James Hildreth (C), 9-9; 4. (tie) Ryan Jimenez (C), 9-3; Jeff Pattison (P), 9-3;

2012 CITY MEET

BOYS RESULTS

April 19 at PCEP

Jineet Gandhi (S), 9-3. 110-meter hurdles: 1. Jose Amado (S), 15.35; 2. Daniel Edgerton (P), 16.72; 3. Mitch Pepper (C), 17.08; 4. Herve Nonga (S), 17.25; 5. Hildreth (C), 19.43 300 hurdles: 1. Amado (5), 41.38; 2. Nonga

(S), 43.02; 3. Shean Krolicki (C), 43.23; 4. Pepper 43.94; 5. Edgerton (P), 45.75. **100 dash:** 1. Ryan Jones (C), 11.41; 2. Colby Morris, 11.57; 3. Steven Homrich (S), 11.67; 4

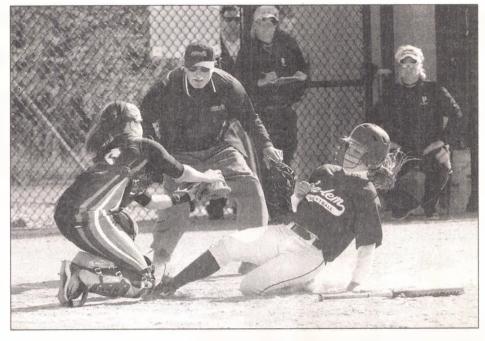
200: 1. Homrich (S), 23.13; 2. Morris (C), 23.19; 3. Dierker (S), 23.77; 4. Jones (C), 23.84; 5. I'van Rhodes (S), 23.87.

400: 1. Lucas Bunting (P), 51.48; 2. M. Schacht

Demetre Lopez (C), 11.79; 5. Drake Jordan (S),

Kevin Mack (S), 53.26; 5. Chase Minshew (S), 800: 1. Miles Felton (C), 2:01.19; 2. Max Rogowski (P), 2:02.68; 3. Evan Johnson (P) 2:08.52; 4. Jonny Dalton (P), 2:09.56; 5. Riley

(C), 51.60; 3. Colin McCormack (S), 52.63; 4.



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 22, 2012

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth catcher Brooke Senkbeil (left) tags out Salem's Kristin Zink as the runner tries to slide into home plate.

SOFTBALL

Continued from page B4

Marcero reached on an infield error in the sixth and Powell singled off the glove of shortstop Lindsay Lutton to put Gerou into a jam. But she stopped the trouble right then and there.

A single to center by Lexi Epley in the seventh only delayed the inevitable outcome by one bat-

Other Plymouth hits included Giordano's leadoff double off the centerfield fence in the second, a two-base hit to leftcenter by Brittney Miller in the fourth and singles in the sixth by Kayla Rebain and Raylean.

Despite the four-run differential, Canfield was impressed by the Rocks.

'Salem did a great job keeping our batters off balance," she said. "We had a hard time getting at her (Marcero) until the third."

Plymouth's busy opening week continued with Friday's home doubleheader against KLAA South Division contender Livonia Churchill and Saturday's Farmington Hills Mercy Tournament. On Monday, the Wildcats visit Novi.

Salem was slated to visit Northville Friday for a

PLYMOUTH 7, CHURCHILL 2: On Friday, a five-run fifth inning carried the host Wildcats (2-0, 1-0) to a KLAA South Division win over Livonia Churchill (2-2, 0-1) in a game that was stopped by rain after six innings.

The second game of the double-header will be made up at a later date. Brittney Miller went 2-for-3, including a 2-run double in the fifth inning to lead Plymouth's eight-hit attack. Winning pitcher Elaine Gerou gave up five hits, struck out two and did not allow a walk.

Soggy loss for Plymouth

Livonia Churchill will have to wait another day to complete its rain-shortened baseball doubleheader with host

But the Chargers earned a 5-3 victory in the opener as senior left-hander Brent Ochodnicky went all seven innings, scattering six hits and three walks while striking out eight.

The Chargers, who improved to 4-1 overall and 2-0 in the KLAA's South Division, were tied 2-2 with the Wildcats (4-2, 0-1) before play was suspended with a make-up date yet to be determined.

Ochodnicky, a Madonna University signee, gave up one earned run and held a 4-3 lead through five innings in the opener before a 25-minute rain halted action.

Casey Sudz and Tyler Goble each had two hits for Plymouth.

Wildcats starter Justin Thompson gave up four earned runs on seven hits and three walks in four innings. He struck out four before giving way to Brian Schmid.

CANTON 6, NOVI 2: Michael Stafford was the pitching and hitting hero for Canton in Wednesday's victory over visiting Novi. Stafford smacked a tworun homer in the sixth inning to support his five-inning, no-hit pitching performance. He struck out eight Wild-

The Chiefs scored three times in the first to get off to a solid start, with Ryan Bazner's two-run single the key hit in the frame.

The victory upped Canton's record to 5-1 overall and 1-0 in the KLAA South

On Tuesday, Greg McCurry singled in the bottom of the seventh to drive in the winning run in a 4-3 victory over Grosse Pointe North.

Bazner pitched five innings, with Jake Miller finishing with a scoreless seventh to earn the win.

Bill Adams and Alex Cole each chipped in with two hits.

PCA 3, BAPTIST PARK 1: Plymouth Christian Academy pitcher Daniel Slater fanned 12 batters and gave up just one hit in Tuesday's victory over Taylor Baptist Park.

The Eagles broke a scoreless game with two runs in the third. Slater doubled and scored on Daniel Jipping's triple. Jipping later scored on an error.

PCA tacked on a run in the seventh. Matt Read reached base on an error. stole second and third base and came in on an errant throw.

HVL 17, MACOMB 0: Winning pitcher Alex Harris went 2-for-3 with a pair of doubles and five RBI Thursday as Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (2-1, 2-1) rolled to a five-inning mercyrule victory over host Warren Macomb Christian (0-3 MIAC Red).

Harris struck out seven and did not allow a hit while issuing a walk during his four-inning stint.

Andrew Reas also added two hits for the Hawks, while James Farhat and Keaten Wasburn had the lone hits for Macomb

Steven Billings, charged with seven runs on seven hits and a walk in 3.1 innings, took the loss for the Crusaders.

OAKLAND CHRISTIAN 4, HVL 1: Rafael Eigenmann went 3-for-3 with a double and two RBI to spark Auburn Hills Oakland Christian (3-3, 2-1) to a MIAC Red Division victory Tuesday at Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (1-1, 1-1).

Winning pitcher Collin O'Connor went all seven innings, scattering six hits while striking out 12.

HVL losing pitcher Ryan Schaffer gave up four runs on six hits. He struck out six and did not allow a walk.

Alex Harris went 2-for-3 and knocked in the lone run for the Hawks.

GIRLS TENNIS RESULTS

DUAL MATCH RESULTS CANTON 6 LIVONIA FRANKLIN 2 April 19 at Canton

No. 1 singles: Carolyn McCullen (LF) defeated Janani Shanmuga, 6-0, 6-2; No. 2: Jenny Pagador (LF) def. Hannah Ferree, 6-4, 6-3; No. 3: Hayley Cook (C) def. Natalie Mays,

No. 1 doubles: Sydney Leidel-Erin Fowler (C) def. Jamie Buchanczenko-Kayla Buchanczneko, 6-3, 6-7, 6-1; No. 2: Maddison Johnson-Emily Erley (C) def. Morgan Witherspoon-Anna Mozota, 6-4, 5-7, 6-3; No. 3: Claire Babala-Jennifer Ghandow (C) def. Sarah Godsinzki-Laura Corp, 6-3, 6-2; No. 4: Jamie Emens-Kinari Shah (C) def. Kelsey Sitarski-Madison Eisenhower, 6-2, 6-3; No. 5: Alexis Madau-Jasmine Henry (C) def. Amanda Lyon-Allison Karczynski, 6-1, 6-2.

Franklin's dual match record: 1-3 overall, 1-2 KLAA South Division.

PLYMOUTH 8 LIVONIA FRANKLIN 1 April 17 at Plymouth

No. 1 singles: Carolyn McCullen (LF) defeatee Lindsay Stemberger, 6-1, 6-1; No. 2: Keerthi Chekuri (P) def. Jenny Pagador, 6-2, 6-3; No. 3: Kirthi Duraiswamy (P) def. Natalie Mays, 6-2, 6-2; No. 4: Miranda Cerny (P) def. Kelsey Sitarski, 6-0, 7-6 (7-1)

No. 1 doubles: Sarah Mitchell-Erin MacKenzie (P) def. Jamie Buchanczenko-Kayla Buchanczenko, 6-3, 6-3; No. 2: Marlowe Susselman-Sarah Gamble (P) def. Morgan Witherspoon-Anna Mozota, 6-1, 7-5; No. 3: Sarah Dillon-Katie Bartek (P) def. Sarah Godsinski-Laura Corp, 6-1, 6-1; No. 4: Lauren Chipman-Ellie Anderson (P) def. Naomi Hedeen-Madison Eisenhower, 6-2, 6-2; No. 5: Carly Curvin-Lindsey Dean (P) def. Amanda Lvon-Allison Karczynski, 6-0, 6-2 Franklin's dual match record: 1-2

overall, 1-1 KLAA South Division.

CANTON 9 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 0 April 17 at John Glenn

No. 1 singles: Janani Shanmuga (C) defeated Sara Aulidge, 6-1, 6-2; No. 2: Hanna Herree (C) def. Shaina Jones, 6-1, 6-1; No. 3: Hayley Cook (C) def. Montana Graszak, 6-1, 6-2; No. 4: Maddison Johnson (C) won by forfeit.

No. 1 doubles: Sydney Leidel-Erin Fowler (C) def. Ashley Ilonze-Brea Stewart, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Kristen Hollingsworth-Emily Erley (C) def. Jasmine Ivey-Tiana Grafton, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Claire Babala-Jasmine Henry (C) def. Victoria Silva-Donaji Castro, 6-0, 6-0; No. 4: Jamie Emens-Sinari Shah (C) def. Ann Koulou-Myesha Hines, 6-2, 6-0.

Glenn's dual match record: 0-6 overall, 0-2 KLAA South Division.

Plymouth dominant in 3-0 week

Not only did Plymouth's varsity girls soccer team score a bushel full of goals in a trio of victories last week, opponents were unable to put a single ball past goalie Kylie Robb. The Wildcats (4-1-2) blanked

Saline 3-0 on Friday to cap off the stellar week. All three goals came in the first 20 minutes of play, with

Madi Lewis netting two of them and Zoe Foster the other.

That win followed 8-0 routs of Westland John Glenn and Livonia Franklin, on Tuesday and Thursday, respectively.
"I don't feel like we were tested this week," Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich said. Saline's always had a good team, but they didn't have a good showing tonight." Against the Rockets, Lewis,

Megan Peplinski and Amanda Lopez each scored twice. Lewis and Lopez each added two more against Franklin, with Stephanie Sheridan also scoring twice.

Neschich said the team will gear up for a big week in the KLAA South with games Tuesday against Canton (at PCEP) and Thursday at Livonia

CANTON 5, CHURCHILL 0: On Thursday, four first-half goals carried host Canton to a KLAA South Division girls soc-cer win over Livonia Churchill (1-3-1, 1-1). Ally Krause paced Canton (2-

0-3, 2-0) with a pair of goals. Goalkeeper Alexis Tszfaro-glou made 11 saves in setback, while Rachel Blackney stood out as an outside defender and Rosie Rowland earned kudos as an outside attacking

forward Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit missed the game due to illness.

NORTHVILLE 5, SALEM 2: The host Rocks fell behind 4-1 at halftime and were unable to rally in a KLAA Central Division girls soccer matchup. In the first half, Nancy Krutty scored on a scrum in front of the Northville goal, with Katelynn Krause assisting. Ali Eggenberger played well in net, making 10 saves.



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Salem falls twice; Wildcats win big

Salem's varsity girls lacrosse team dropped a pair of contests, falling 6-4 Wednesday to Waterford United and 12-8 Monday at Dexter.

In the loss to Waterford, the Rocks put offensive pressure and 20 shots on the opponent goalie. But only Bridget Kerwin, Lauren Harber and Jenna Carter (two goals) found the back of the net.

"Jenna is becoming very consistent getting to the goal and playing the field with a sense of emergency by getting to ground balls and playing uptempo all the time." Salem coach Dave Medley said.

Against Dexter, Salem trailed 8-4 at halftime and came on short in a late attempt to catch up.

Kiersten Vala and Carter led the offense with three and two goals, respectively. Netting her first varsity goal was Kerwin.

PLYMOUTH 16, SALINE 10: Senior Katie Hill scored seven goals and picked up a season high nine draw controls while Haley Swanson netted six goals.

Collecting single tallies were Shannon Lubin, Jordyn Burdick and Claire Cox. "Although we had a ton of

shots on goal and were able to score a bit, I thought we won the game by dominating on draw controls and ground balls," coach Bob Hill said.



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Garage sale season

Be a savvy seller when turning trash into treasures

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Margaret Martin remembers the garage sale vendor with just one item.

"We had a guy sell a boat on a trailer," said Martin, program supervisor for Westland Parks and Recreation, including its annual community garage sale. "He rented a \$20 spot and sold the boat in an hour and went home. The guy who bought it from him hooked it up and left. Everyone was happy."

Martin, who has overseen the community sale for 16 years, said vendors typically sell a mix of merchandise, not just one item.

"We do see a lot of toys, games, a lot of kitchen supplies, china, silverware, glasses and smaller furniture. This is truly a garage sale and highend items rarely sell well."

She said 20 percent of the vendors are professional sellers. Another 10 percent use the event, held in a city parking lot on Ford Road, for fundraising. The rest are individuals and families.

"Some are repeat folks, but they are just cleaning out their basements. You rent your spot, show up that day and have a good time."

The city has begun renting parking lot spaces for \$20 each for the sale that runs 9 a.m.-4 p.m. May 12. Call (734) 722-7620.

Permits, signs

In other communities the residential garage sale season is underway, as homeowners haul items from the basement, closets and the attic into their



driveways and backyards.

"We're doing a few right now, but not too many," said a spokeswoman at the Livonia clerk's office, which sells garage sale permits. Livonia residents may hold two sales annually and must buy a \$5 permit for the first sale, and spend \$10 for the second sale. Sales must be four weeks apart. "We only get a few who do the second sale in a year."

Garden City and Redford also require permits for sales. Westland, Canton and Plymouth don't. All communities, however, regulate garage sale signs. None permit signs on the city right-of-way between the curb and sidewalk.

"It is an ordinance violation to post signs on utility poles. It's subject to a \$50 fine," noted a spokesman for Plymouth's code enforcement department.

Complying with city sign and permit regulations is key to a successful sale at home. All of the communities post at least some information online.

Pricing, display and organization are important, too.

Church sale

"We price our stuff quite low.

We might want to put a few things on racks. We have ladders to hang clothes on," said Carol Napier, who coordinates Good Hope Lutheran Church's annual sale. It runs Thursday-Friday, April 26-27 at the church in Garden City. "We might price a few things that

Most clothing items are grouped on tables. All blue jeans, for example, are displayed together.

are super nice a little higher."

Items that are too worn often end up in the garbage, rather than a display table, Napier said.

Martin also suggests that garage sale vendors consider which items are likely to sell and which should be tossed.

"People don't want to buy garbage," Martin said. "If you were going to throw it in the dumpster anyway, that's probably where it should go.

Collectors

But Napier cautions against discarding all old or damaged items too quickly.

"If it's old or cracked there may be a collector for it anyway," she said, recalling two green Pyrex bowls that she rescued from the trash during a previous sale at Good Hope.
"I put 50 cents on them. Those bowls were right out the door."
Another time, she priced "an

ugly-looking platter" at \$10.
"Everyone said it was too
high, but I said, we can always
come down in price."

That's what many vendors do at Westland's community garage sale. They often negotiate with customers and drop prices as the sale proceeds.

"Put up signs that say prices are negotiable," Martin said. "Some people do grab bags that sell for a nickle. They put 10 items in a bag. It's a mystery, like buying a lottery ticket. You can do that with little things, like white elephant stuff. Those tend to be kind of fun."

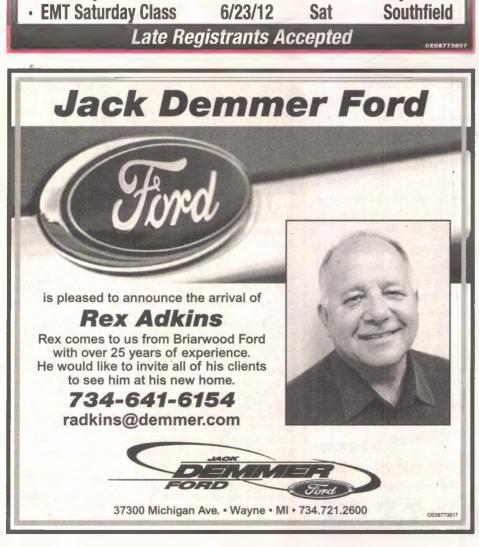
Martin's other suggestions for a successful sale:

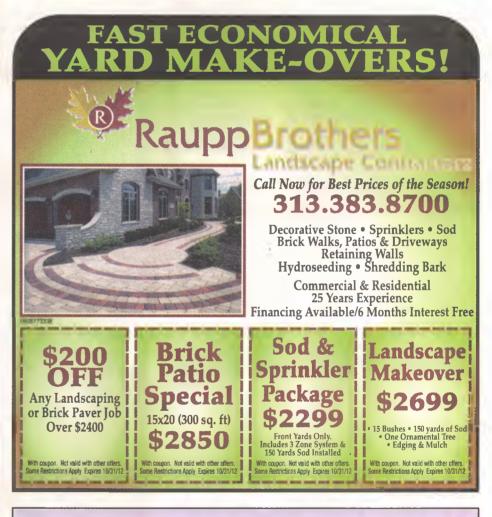
- Organize the display so customers can see items clearly.
- Make sure items are clean.Put price tags on every-
- thing.

 Make sure to have tarps on

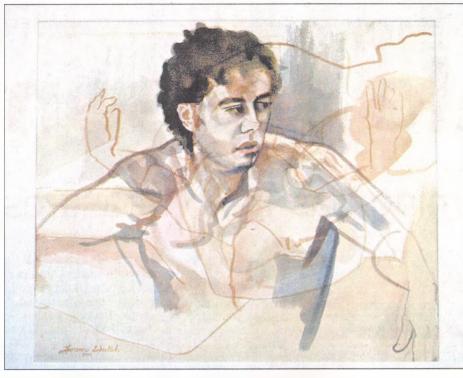
Please see SALE, B6











Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 22, 2012

"Genesis" is among the works by Larry Sekulich, who will critique art by members of Three Cities Art Club on May 7.

Get work critiqued at Canton art club

Artist Lawrence Sekulich will critique art work for members of the Three Cities Art Club from 7-9 p.m. Monday, May 7 at Canton Township Hall, 1150 Canton Center Road, south of Cherry Hills Road, in Canton Township.

Non-members can pay a \$25 membership fee that night and participate in the event, which is free for members.

Sekulich received a B.S. degree in art education and an M.Ed.

degree in art therapy from Wayne State University. He taught art for 32 years in Garden City Public Schools and has been awarded two Gilroy and Lilian P. Roberts Foundation scholarships. His work has been exhibited in more than 30 juried groups, invitational and solo shows. He also published numerous articles demonstrating the relationship of fine art to numismatics, the study of coins

Artists may bring one or two pieces for Sekulich's critique. He'll give constructive suggestions for improved techniques to attain desired results.

Light refreshments will be served. Membership is open to

adults, 18 and older. For more information, e-mail to Marilyn Meredith at marilynmeredith@wowway.com or call (313) 231-3939. Visit online at www.threecitiesartclub.org

REUNIONS

CENTERLINE **CLASS OF 1977**

35-year reunion, 7:30 p.m. Aug. 18 at Ernie's in Clinton Township. \$25 per person. E-mail to clhs1977@hotmail.com

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

ANNAPOLIS CLASS OF 1982

For information about the 30-year reunion on Saturday, Oct. 20, at Fr. Patrick O'Kelley Knights of Columbus in Dearborn, visit the "AHS Class of 82" page on Facebook, or contact Diane Goodreau at dianeschofield@sbcglobal.net or (313) 363-0523; Jim Linaras at godofouzo@ yahoo.com; or John Zadikian at zman6754@aol.

DETROIT CODY

CLASS OF 1962

Looking for Classmates from January and June graduations for 50th reunion, 6 p.m. Sept. 29, at the Holiday Inn, 17123 Laurel Park Dr. North, Livonia. Call Neal and Barb Gehring at (248) 568-2254; NGBG@comcast.net.

DETROIT MACKENZIE

CLASS OF 1962

50th reunion, Friday, June 1. For more information e-mail mackenzie1962@gmail. com or phone Mavis (Higgins) Farrand at (734) 675-5675 or Sandy (Turnbull) Dillaha at (734) 281-8595

DETROIT MUMFORD

CLASS OF 1962

50-year reunion, 6:45 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25, at the Somerset Inn, Troy. Make reservations at www.mumford62.com.

FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1962

The 50th class reunion will be held Saturday, Sept. 22 at Farmington Hills Holiday Inn, 37529 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills; (248) 477-7800. The \$60 per person cost includes a welcome reception from 2-5 p.m. and an evening dinner dance with cash bar. Cocktails will be at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Reservations deadline is Sept. 1. For more information call Michele Cook Hoffmeyer at (602) 290-6006 or e-mail to russmichele@yahoo.com. Check Classmates and Facebook FHS Class of 62 Reunion pages for more information.

CLASS OF 1967

Organizers of the 45th reunion on July 21 are looking for classmates. Send your e-mail address to Susan (Himmelspach) Whittaker at S_whittaker@comcast.net or Fred Gregg at fredge1@ comcast.net to receive a reunion packet.

GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL EAST

CLASSES OF 1968-1973

Reunion Sept. 22. Looking for classmates. Check out the "Garden City High School (East) Reunion 2012" on facebook. Or e-mail to Cindy Eads Frens at irish4200@ hotmail.com, Debi Cassidy Haller at debi.

haller@gmail.com, Doris Fugaban Williams at doris1226@wowway.com, Lee A Gilligan at ee.gilligan@att.net, Sue Cook at stasselmyer@

charter.net. SuzieWright Rogiero at suzierogiero@yahoo.com, Jackie Kalifut at jackieideson@

gmail.com or Jeff Fordell at jeffreyfordell@ **LINCOLN PARK HIGH**

CLASS OF 1962

50-year reunion for January and June graduates is set for 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Sept. 15, at the Marriott Hotel, located at Six Mile and I-275 in Livonia. For more information or to RSVP e-mail Marilyn Roy Snyder at Marilyn@ MarilynJSnyder.com, or call (586) 215-9445.

NORTHVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1971-75

The classes are joining together to celebrate with a reunion on Aug. 4. Reunion organizers are searching for classmates from those years. Send your name, address, phone and e-mail to nhs40yearreunion@gmail.com. The organizers will send more details after receiving your information.

PONTIAC CENTRAL

CLASS OF 1962

Informal social gathering, 6 p.m., Friday, Sept. 21 and reunion, 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, both at the Radisson Hotel, 30475 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. For more information call Bob or Marilyn (Coffing) Pomeroy at (248) 625-5301. **REDFORD THURSTON HIGH SCHOOL**

CLASS OF 1962

Looking for classmates for reunion on Sept. 8. Contact: nikkiwestberg@yahoo.com or Sue (Hughes) Morman at (734) 414-9941 for more information.

CLASS OF 1972

40th class reunion planned for 6:30 p.m. Saturday, May 12 at Mama Mia's restaurant, located on Plymouth Road west of Inkster Road in Livonia. Dinner served at 7 p.m. Advance payment is \$23 per person and includes a two-course dinner with "fixens" and a cash bar. To reserve a spot, send your check payable to Rick Bennett, 42021 Waterwheel, Northville Township, MI 48168. Or pay via PayPal and send to rickben-

nett@peoplepc.com **WAYNE MEMORIAL**

ALL CLASSES

Wayne High Schools Alumni Association 28th All Class Reunion Banquet will be held 5-10 p.m. Friday, May 18, at Wayne Tree Manor, 35100 Van Born, Wayne. Dinner served at 6 p.m. The organization will honor the class of 1962. For more information call Wanda Boice at (734) 326-777 or www.waynehighalumni@aol.com

CLASS OF 1957

Looking for classmates for the 55th class reunion to be held May 19. For more information, contact Wanda Putman Boice at boice@aol.com or pollygirl219@aol.com. Or call Richard Smith at (248) 747-6817.

CLASS OF 1962

Looking for classmates for 50th class reunion on May 19. E-mail to Judy (Ramsey) Oleson at joleson@sbcglobal.net or call her at (586) 268-1663 or e-mail to Kathy (Quinn) Hayes at





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Spring session starts the week of April 23rd. Sign up for classes now! With a mission centered on balance, the Y brings families closer together, encourages good health and fosters connections through programs like swim lessons, tennis, sports, martial arts & gymnastics.

Join us for Healthy Kids Day, Saturday, April 28th from 1-4 pm.

Ready for a day chock full of laughs, play, and learning? Healthy Kids Day is just around the corner! Come experience how the Y brings families together at this free event that is open to the community.

Explore, Play & Grow at Y Summer Day Camp!

Camp, like many Y programs, is about learning skills, developing character and making friends. Few places are as special as camp, where kids become a community as they learn both how to be more independent and how to contribute to a group as they engage in physical, social and educational activities.

Sign up for Summer Day Camp in April & take 80% off your Day Camp Registration Fee

*Weekly camp deposits required. You must register for δ weeks or more of camp to receive discount.

LIVONIA FAMILY YMCA

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Everyone is welcome. Financial assistance is available The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit strengthens communities in Southeastern Michigan through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. The YMCA is a United Way Agency.



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"Most people with cardiac problems are able to rehabilitate and return home," said Stuart. "That's our goal - when somebody needs more care than what is able to be delivered at home."

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SALE

Continued from page B5

hand in case of rain. • Put up a canopy. It must be free-standing if used at the Westland community garage sale. Martin said a protective canopy can attract customers on drizzly or hot, sunny days. Never leave the mon-

- ey box unattended.
- Have plenty of change or single bills on hand.
- · Ask a friend or family member to help you sell. When you need a quick break you'll have someone on hand to watch "the store" while you're gone.

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HERE'S NOTHING WRO

Medical practice today is better than it was 20 years ago, but is still far from perfect. A physician could see a patient with knee pain, examine the patient and find nothing wrong with the knee. The doctor would then obtain weight bearing x-rays of the knee meant to bring out abnormalities that would be missed if the person was just resting on his or her back on the x-ray examination table. Despite such care, the x-rays could show nothing wrong.

Because knee x-rays only show bone structures, the physician would next order an MRI of the knee, looking for a tear in the meniscus or in the anterior crutiate ligament. These structures do not show up on x-rays or CT scans, but MRI imaging give a clear picture of their state in the knee joint. However, the result could be that the MRI finds no change that could explain the person's knee pain.

The doctor cannot conclude that nothing is wrong with knee, and the person just imagines the pain or exaggerates a minor discomfort. The better explanation is that the physician cannot find the cause. One possible next step is to refer the patient to a specialist or a colleague who can provide a fresh look or bring more experience to the problem.

The alternative is to the follow the patient. With information at hand, the physician knows the patient does not have a fracture, tumor, infection or other knee problem that requires immediate treatment to prevent residual deformity. The physician is on safe ground to encourage the patient to remain active, for experience shows that time and use will provide the answer.



Diane Ault, owner of Diane's Dream Brides, checks over one of the dresses that will be modeled at Showroom of Elegance.

See bridal fashions at Canton jewelry boutique

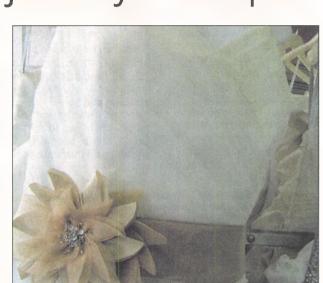
Brides-to-be will view wedding dresses in a "strolling" fashion show Saturday, April 28, at Showroom of Elegance in

"We're doing an unconventional fashion show. The average show has models walking down the aisle or on stage. We wanted to make it more mix and mingle," said Meghan Giersdorf, marketing and event specialist. "The models will walk among the guests."

Giersdorf said the more informal show enables guests to observe how gowns flow as the models walk throughout the room, rather than in a

straight line on a runway. "Mix and Mingle: Strolling Bridal Fashion Show and Mini-Expo" will run from 1-4 p.m. at Showroom of Elegance, a fine jewelry boutique, 6018 Canton Center Road.

Diane's Dream Brides of Livonia will provide



Brides-to-be will find dresses like this one from Diane's Dream Brides of Livonia, at Showroom of Elegance's Mix and Mingle: Strolling Bridal Fashion Show and Mini-Expo, in Canton.

the fashions. Vendors will include You're the Bride, an event planning service, Nerdy Girl Cakery, Thomas' Catering, Precious Memories Photography and more. Some will offer samples and special giveaways.

Every guest will take home a "swag bag" of gifts.

Admission if free. RSVP is recommended but not required. Call (734) 207-1906.

- Sharon Dargay

Fictional story is rooted in reality

omeone in the house remembers that they need a certain article of clothing ready to wear the next morning. It's late, nearing bedtime and you, being the ever loving woman in the family, rush to the washing

machine to get the job

By the time the washentered into dream land. You meanwhile put the item into the

Appliance **Doctor**

Joe Gagnon

er shuts off, everyone has their heads tucked onto to their pillow and have stayed up just to clothes dryer so it will be ready for wear in the morning. Finally, you are tuckered out and hit the sack your-

self, realizing that all will be well in the morning. The dryer will take care of the clothing item and since it's perma press, all you have to do is let it tumble for a few minutes when you get up and it's ready to go. But in the middle of the night all your efforts go up in flames.

What happened during that first solid hour of sleep gave you an education you never want to relearn. Your clothes dryer which has been trouble free for the past five or 10 years was clipping right along when a small piece of lint went through the heat chamber and landed right on the clothing as it was tumbling. Just that little bitty piece of lint turned the whole night upside down. Suddenly the flames were leaping out of the back of the dryer through the vent louvers and up the wall. The items of clothing, which for years had fallen behind the dryer and under it, were giving evidence to the missing sock syndrome. Any items lying on top of the washer and dryer were also giving way to 2,000 degrees of heat along with the back wall shelf he built for storing towels and laundry products.

That smoke and fire alarm that you put off installing above the washer and dryer certainly would have helped in this situation, but that was far on the to-do list. By the time a smoke detector in the hallway sounded the alarm the whole house was

filled with smoke and you could hear the crackling of the flames in the laundry room.

In your panic and screaming you didn't know the condition of other family members and all you could think about was yourself. You looked at the bedroom window and knew that was your only way out but in this moment of brain power you realized that the ongoing fire had consumed all of the air in the house and the moment you opened the window, you would be engulfed in flame and surely die, so you shut the bedroom door. You climbed out the window and landed in the bushes and although badly bruised and cut, you managed to roll your shocked body away from the building. You could hear the sirens and fire trucks pulling up in front of the house and finally saw another human being standing beside you. You woke up a few days later in a hospital bed to discover that family members had died in that fire. You've recovered since then and life has gone on but never the same. For the rest of your life you never turn on a clothes dryer without sitting beside it.

With the official figure reported by the Consumer Product Safety Commission being 16,000 fires per year from clothes dryers, you can add another 20,000 of so that are not reported. It is time for every homeowner in America to wake up and recognize the importance of cleaning the dryer vent line, using the correct type and taking the dryer apart and cleaning the inside of the cabinet. The above story is not really make believe, it probably relives itself every day. Do you really want to live it for yourself? Take action

Wait, I almost forgot an important part of the story. The fire department estimates that it would take 11 minutes from the time the fire starts to the time you'd jump out the window. Stay tuned.

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

SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social **Security Disability** benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperi-enced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.



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

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

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

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

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

benefits

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

www.ssdfighter.com







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

April

AUCTION

Time/Date: 6-10 p.m. Saturday, April 21

Location: St. Mary Parish Activity Center and School, 34516 Michigan Avenue, Wayne

Details: St. Mary 1st Annual Auction A Night on the Town will include a silent auction, live auction and more. All proceeds benefit the St. Mary Parish and School. Tickets are \$25 and include a strolling buffet. dessert and two beverages. Pre-registration is a must Contact: auction@stmarywayne.org

BLOOD DRIVE

Time/Date: 1-7 p.m. Friday, April 20

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland

Details: Walk-ins are welcome

Contact: (734) 722-1735 **CELEBRATING FAMILY** Time/Date: After all Masses, April 28-29

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 22, 2012

Location: St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: View large LEGO displays and browse a Catholic bookstore display during this free event titled Celebrating Families: Building Blocks of Society

Contact: (734) 425-5950 **CLOTHING BANK**

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, April 28

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

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

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.,m. Saturday, April 28 Location: St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farming-

ton Road, Livonia

Details: A choral celebration of love and springtime featuring motets, madrigals, sacred choral classics. and love songs. Donations accepted at the door

Contact: (248) 349-8175 **CONCERT**

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, April 29

Location: St. James Episcopal Church, 355 W. Maple, at Chester in Birmingham Details: The St. James

Choir, soloists and Michigan Sinfonietta present Part One of Bach's "Mass in B Minor." Freewill offering.

Contact: (248) 644-0820

GRIEF SUPPORT Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. April, 23,30, May 7 and 9

Location: Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth

Details: Deacon Bob Irvin, the Rev. John Riccardo, as well as John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization, will present "Grieving with Great Hope." Registration forms are online at www. goodmourningministry.net or call the church. The series began April 16

Contact: (734) 453-0326; olgcparish.net

POMEGRANATE GUILD Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday, April 22

Location: In the community room of the Prentis Apartments located on 10 Mile, east of Greenfield Road in Oak Park

Details: The group will lead a community-wide needlecraft workshop teaching the techniques of cross stitch, needlepoint and huck embroidery. \$5 materials fee

Contact: Judy Galperin at (248) 661-5337

PARENTING SERIES

Time/Date: Dinner, 5:30 p.m., followed by the series, 7 p.m., Wednesdays through May 23

Location: First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, Northville

Details: "Have a New Kid by Friday!" is the new parenting series by Kevin Leman. Cost for dinner is \$5. The series began April 18 Contact: (248) 348-7600

PARENTING STRATE-

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, April 22

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

Details: "Spring into Summer: Strategies for Keeping Your Child on Track this Summer" is a workshop designed to help parents create engaging activities for their children during the summer. They'll learn about reading activities, everyday math, summer camps and free fun trips. The workshop will include suggestions for kids of all ages with plenty of time for questions and answers

Contact: RSVP by April 18 by calling (734) 404-2480 or e-mail to info@cantoncf.org

RETREAT

Time/Date: April 20-21 Location: Embassy Suites, 19525 Victor Parkway, Livonia

Details: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church presents a women's retreat. Guest speaker is Suann Dibble.

Cost is \$85 per person Contact: Barb Karowich at (734) 480-1644 or visit www.christoursavior.org

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, April 27 and 9:30 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 28

Location: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile between Newburgh and Haggerty, in Livonia Details: \$2 bag sale on Saturday

Contact: (734) 464.0211 **RUMMAGE SALE**

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, April 21

Location: Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, at Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Donations of slightly used but-still-ingood-condition items are being accepted and can be dropped off 9 a.m.-3 p.m. weekdays. No admission for the sale and all profit: will benefit the adult day ninistry and other ministries within the church

Contact: (734) 464-0990

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 r.m. Thursday-Friday, April 26-27 Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 286:10 Cherry Hill Road, Garcen

Details: Gently-used tems at bargain prices

Contact: (734) 427-3660

RUMMAGE, BAKE SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 r.m. Friday, April 20 and 9 a.m.noon, Saturday, April 21 Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, near 12 Mile and Farmington Road, Farmington Hills

Details: The Women' League's sale includes a \$3 bag sale and a \$6 bag sale on Saturday. In addition to clothing and baked goods, sale items will include small appliances, furn ture, books, linens, bedding, dishes and other household goods, toys and jewel y

Contact: (248) 553-3380 VIRTUAL DEMENTIA **TOUR**

Time/Date: 10-11:30 i.m. and 1-2:30 p.m. Saturclay, April 28

Location: Riverside Pirk Church of God & Adult Day Ministry, 11771 Newburgh, at Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Audra Fyre, marketing director of Arden Courts of Livonia presents the tour, which is an effective way to put yourself in the shoes of a person suffering with dementia. No charge, although don ations may be made to Adul Day Ministry. RSVP by Apr I 13 Contact: (734) 855-4056

May

CINCO DE MAYO

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Saturday, May 5 Location: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: The dance is aimed

at adults with developmental disabilities, special needs and their caretakers. Admission is free and snacks and refreshments will be served. **Contact:** For reservations call (248) 442-8822

CONCERT

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Sunday, May 6

Location: Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 Fort,

Details: The Fort Street Chorale performs Dvorak's "Stabat Mater." Tickets are

Contact: (313) 961-4533;

www.fortstreet.org **GRIEF SUPPORT**

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 23

Location: Holy Family Parish, 24505 Meadowbrook,

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. Bob La Croix as well John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a Catholic bereavement organization. Register by calling the church or visiting Good Mourning Ministry's

Contact: (248) 349-8847: www.holyfamilynovi.org

GRIEF SUPPORT

Web site.

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m. beginning Tuesday, May 1 for six weeks

Location: Congregation Shaarey Zedek, 27375 Bell, Southfield

Details: No charge, nonsectarian community service of SPACE for Changing Families, National Council of Jewish Women Greater Detroit Section, is aimed at those who have lost a spouse or partner. Registration required

Contact: (248) 355-9936 or e-mail Space@ncjwgds.org

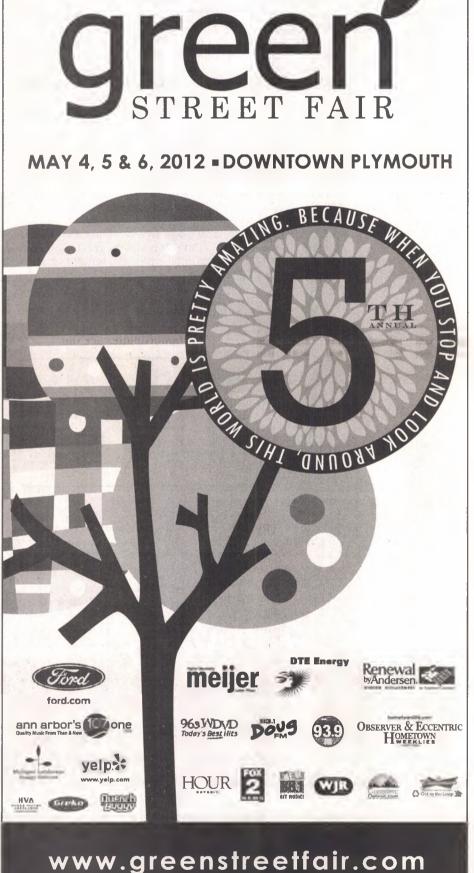
GUEST SPEAKER

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Saturday, May 19

Location: Grace Lutheran Church, located on Warren Road between Beck and Canton Center, in Canton **Details:** Radio host Bob

Dutko of WMUZ, 103.5 FM's "The Bob Dutko Show" is the quest speaker. Dutko also hosts a nationally syndicated talk show called "Defending the Truth with Bob Dutko." No admission charge, although freewill donations will be accepted

Contact: (734) 414-7422







B9

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 29; Once Upon a Time: Prints and Drawings that Tell Stories, through May 13; Plant (3D), a three-dimensional investigation of the abandoned Packard auto plant in Detroit, runs through April 29 Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.

org **JAZZ FESTIVAL**

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Sunday, April 22 **Location:** VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia

Details: Gary Schunk Trio performs at this benefit for the Michigan Jazz Festival. Tickets are \$15. Send a check payable to the Michigan Jazz Festival, 20457 Maplewood, Livonia, MI 48152-2022

Contact: Midge Ellis at (248) 474-

Comedy

GO COMEDY!

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays through Sundays Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Fern-

Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays

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

JD'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m.

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

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

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB OF LIVONIA Time/Date: 8 p.m. 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: Michael Kosta, April 25-28; Vince Morris, May 2-5

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

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: John Caparulo, April 26-28; Kevin Mcpeek, May 3; Norm Macdonald, May 4-5; Kathleen Madigan, May 10-12

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak Contact: (248) 542-9900, www. comedycastle.com

Dance

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, May 5 and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 6 Location: Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit

Details: Complexions Contemporary Ballet dances to pop, jazz, gospel and blues music. Tickets are \$30. \$40, and \$50, available at the music hall box office or at www.ticketmas-

Contact: (313) 887-8500

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; 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

Contact: Joe Castrodale, club president, (248) 968-5197

POLKA BOOSTERS

Time/Date: Doors open at 1 p.m.; dancing from 2-6 p.m. Sunday, April

Location: Msgr. Hunt K of C Hall, 7080 Garling, Dearborn Heights Details: Admission is \$15 and includes beer, wine and pop. Food will be available for purchase. Music by Squeezebox Band with Mollie and Ted Lange and Bobbie Earl

Contact: Terry at (734) 422-1901 or Joanna at (313) 561-8389

Film

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Sunday, April 22 Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "One For the Money," \$3 Coming up: "Secret World of Arrietty," 7 p.m. Friday, April 27; 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, April 28-29: "Albert Nobbs," 7 p.m. and 9:10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 4-5 and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, May 6; "Safe House," 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 11-12 and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, May 13

Thursday classics: April 26. Box office opens at 6:30 p.m., with screenings at 7 p.m. All seats \$3 Contact: (734) 453-0870; www. penntheatre.com

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.

Exhibits: "Mixing Metaphors: The Aesthetic, Social and Political in African American Art includes more than 90 works by 36 artists, through June 3: "Moving to His Own Beat - Fela: The Man, the Movement, the Music," celebrates the life and music of Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, through June 17; "The Chris Webber Collection: Exceptional People During Extraordinary Times, 1755-Present," includes rare artifacts collected by Detroit native Chris Webber, through September; "Witness: The Art of Jerry Pinkney," through Sept.

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

exhibit. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, 6-17 Contact: (734) 455-8940 **U-M KELSEY MUSEUM OF**

ARCHAEOLOGY

runs through May 6

Details: "Ration Stamps & Bomb-

ers, WWII at Home" is the current

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

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" - explores the story of the site's excavation, which was initiated by the University of Michigan in the 1920s and 1930s

Coming up: "Monsters and Myths" runs 1-3 p.m. Saturday, May 19. Visitors will learn about the mythological beasts that inhabited the ancient world through activities designed especially for children aged 5-12, such as a monster hunt throughout the galleries, a Greek mythology discussion, a make-your-own-monster workshop and a design-your-owncyclops headband session and more Contact: www.lsa.umich.edu/ kelsey; (734) 764-9304

Music

THE ARK

Arbor

Time/Date: James Hunter, April 22; Lambchop and Kelly Jean Caldwell, April 23; Johnny Winter, April 25; Dougie MacLean, April 26; Horse Feathers, April 27; Heywood Banks, April 28; Caroline Herring, April 29 Location: 316 South Main, Ann

Contact: (734) 763-8587; www. theark.org

BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: 7-9:30 p.m. the third Saturday of the month; sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m.

Location: JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth **Details:** The show includes open

mic performances and a featured performer. Admission is \$5. Annual memberships are \$25 for individuals and \$50 for families. Members

may attend monthly concerts free of charge.

Contact: Mike Mullen at (248) 719-3464 or e-mail to mjmmullen@ yahoo.com

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last Tuesday of the month

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres. Ron Kischuk and Friends, with Kischuk on trombone, Chuck Shermatero on keyboard, Marion Hayden on bass and Judy Cochill on vocals, performs April 24. Proceeds from Jazz at the Elks goes toward special needs and disadvantaged children and veterans

Contact: (734) 453-1780 or e-mail to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

Time/Date: 7 p.m. April 30 **Location:** The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road,

Details: "Celebrates the music and dance of China. Tickets are \$8 adults; \$4 for youth Contact: (734) 451-2112; (734) 394-5300, ext. 3; www.michiganphil.org; www. canton-mi.org/village theater/

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN Time/Date: 8 p.m. Monday, Friday,

Saturday

Location: 884 Penniman, Plymouth **Details:** Open mic on Monday; live music Friday-Saturday. Americana, folk, rock, pop, country and soul by solo singers, duos and bands Contact: (734) 454-0178

PLYMOUTH ORATORIO SOCI-ETY

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, May 6 Location: First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial, Plymouth

Details: The group sings Maurice Durufle's "Requiem," and Mozart's "Ave Verum Corpus" and "Regina Coeli" at this 26th season concert. The Michigan Sinfonietta Orchestra and Mary Ann Balduf, organist, joins the singers. Richard Ingram conducts. No tickets are needed. A free-will offering will be taken.

Contact: (734) 455-8353

Employment

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ACCOUNTING Professional firm in Novi is seeking an individual with 3-5 yrs work exp to perform off site fringe benefit compliance audits. The ideal candidate should possess strong analyt ical and math skills as well a proficiency in Exce skills are required. Payroll and ence is helpful.

Please email resume

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Fax: 734 451-9549 hr@humaneticsatd.com

Carpenter/Laborer Smaller home improvement company. Pay depends on exp. 248-474-1830

CLEANERS NEEDED F/T, M-F from 4:30pm to 1:00am in the Farmington Hills area \$9.00 per hr Call (734) 642-0081

CLEANERS, Full-Time for area homes, \$10/hr, start No nights/wkends. Car req. Plymouth. 734-812-5683

Counter Help Call 248-349-2080

Help Wanted-General

DELIVERY/DRIVER Camfil Farr, a leading glob-al Air Filtration Company is seeking an individual for our Livonia, office to deliver to the Metro Detroit area. In this role, you will be responsible

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Help Wanted-General

LEGAL

SECRETARY Oakland County Law Firm seeks Legal Secretary with a minimum of 5 years law ighly organized, detail-riented, accurate with MS Office and able to work in a fast paced environment Minimum 4 days per week. Salary negotiable and benefits available

Fax resume to Attn: Kelly at (248) 646-7747. kelly@gaggoslawfirm.com

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Hein Wanted-General

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E0E

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mbondle@plim.org Attn: Clinical Nursing

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ANDREJCIW. SHIRLEY L

Age 77 April 11, 2012. Beloved wife of the late Russell. Dear mother of Denise (Jack) Campbell, John, David (Marjie) and Marybeth (Dan) Bochel. Grandmother of Jack Jr., Joseph, Amber, Olivia and D.J. Sister of Corrine Molinari. Visitation Friday 12 noon until the 2:30pm funeral service at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., Garden City (between Ford Rd. & Cherry Hill). Family suggests memorials to the Alzheimers Association.

www.Santeiufuneralhome.com

DALE, RODNEY A.

APRIL 10, 2012 Beloved husband of Ruth. Dear father of Rhonda and Gregory. Dear brother of Catherine and Frances. Also survived by 5 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild. Funeral Saturday, 3 p.m. at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 7707 Middlebelt Road (at Ann Arbor Trail). Family will receive visitors Saturday, Noon-6 p.m. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with

the family at griffinfuneralhome.com

DOLSON (ZIELINSKI) TERRY LYNN

Age 54. Passed away March 27, 2012, in Florida, formerly of Wayne, MI. Beloved daughter of Wanda (Putnam-Zielinski) Boice, adored wife of Daniel Dolson. loving mother of Stacey (Chris Culver) Black, Danielle (Matt) Howard and Justin Dolson. Devoted grandmother of Samara and Gabriel Kassab, Drake and Kennedy Culver, MacKenna, Malachi and Matthew Howard. Cherished sister of Toni (Larry) Stacy, James (Cari) Zielinski and Joseph (Kimberely) Zielinski. Survived by many loving Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, Nieces, Nephews & friends. Predeceased her father Henry Joseph Zielinski, stepfather Edgar R. Boice and grandson James Daniel Ramsey. Celebration of Life Visitation for family and friends on Saturday, April 28, 2012 between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., at The First United Methodist Church, Three Towne Square, Wayne, MI (South entrance). In lieu of memorials, contributions may be made to the family of Wanda Boice.

GORMAN, MICHAEL LEYDEN

Age 68, April 15, 2012, of Westland. Survived by his girlfriend, Alice Seward. Loving father of Traci Vargas and Mike (Ericka) Gorman. Proud grandfather of Dakota and Madisan. Dear brother of Sharon (Roger) Baker, Tim (Judy) Gorman and Patricia Hall. Visitation Fri., 2-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh Rd. (btwn Ford & Cherry Hill), Westland. In state Sat., 9 AM until 9:30, Funeral Mass at St. Richard Catholic Church 35637 Cherry Hill Rd. (btwn Newburgh & Wayne), Westland. Interment Glen Eden Lutheran Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to The Capuchins. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

HANRAHAN, ISABELLE M. (nee O'Donnell)

Age 95 April 15, 2012 of Farmington Hills, Formerly of Center Line, Mi. and Bayonne, N.J. Beloved wife of the late Richard. Caring mother of Patricia (Richard) Rathburn, Lois (late Ken) Saxe, Ann Calvo and John (Susan). Grandmother of Megan, Matthew, Isabela, Brendan, Patrick, James and Kealani. Visitation Thursday April 19 2-8 PM with 6 PM. Rosary at Rudy Funeral Home 25650 Van Dyke, Center Line, MI. Instate Friday 9:30 AM at St Clement Catholic Church 25320 Van Dyke, Center Line for a 10 AM Mass. Burial St Clement Cemetery Memorials to Parkinson Foundation appreciated.



MacDONALD, COLIN F.

Age 83, April 19, 2012. Beloved husband of Sarah. Loving father of Duane and Gary MacDonald and Colleen Mazzola. Dear grandfather of Lenora Pettit, Andrew, Dominic and Colin Mazzola. Visitation at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Sunday from 1-9 p.m. with a Rosary Service at 7 p.m. In state at St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, Monday from 9:30 a.m. until Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. Memorial contributions may be directed to Henry Ford Hospice. Please share a memory at www.rggrharris.com.

MOFFITT, **JOHN STEVEN**

August 16, 1962 - April 13, 2012 Born in Redford Township. Survived by sons Sean Michael Moffitt and Patrick Steven Moffitt, sisters Hollie M. Archdale, Kathi L. Moffitt and Laurie J. Moffitt and grandchildren. Beloved brother, may you rest in eternal peace.

MORRISON, DAVID ALLEN "TURK"

Age 61, formerly of Westland, died April 13, 2012. Beloved husband of Carolyn A. Morrison; loving father of Mary (Brian) Heick, Fowlerville, Brian (Mary Beth) Morrison, Fenton; beloved Papa and G Pa to Brandon "Bubba". Ashley, Tyler, Adam "Pud" and one on the way; three brothers, Robert Morrison, Jr., Brighton, Morrison, Whitmore Lake, William Morrison, TX; sister, Mary Kinnear; mother-in-law, Mary Faye; many nieces and nephews. Born January 14, 1951 in Detroit, son to Robert and Margaret (Haugh) Morrison. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and retired from Ford Motor Company in 2006 after 37 years. Services 1 PM Tuesday, April 17, 2012 at Sharp Funeral Homes, 1000 W. Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Visitation 2-9 PM Monday and 12-1 PM Tuesday. Contributions to Wounded Warrior Project. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com



MORSE, ELAINE P.

April 18, 2012, Age 71. Loving mother of Sean (Jessica) and the Christopher Grandmother of Christopher and Catherine. Sister of Jeanne Perkins. Dearest friend of Elizabeth Harris. Family will receive friends Monday (April 23) 3-7 p.m. and Tuesday (April 24) 3-7 p.m at A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 2600 Crooks Road (between Maple & Big Beaver). Memorial Service Sunday (May 6) at 2:30 p.m. at the Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Memorial tributes to Baldwin Public Library or Birmingham Historical Society or Birmingham Unitarian Church or Seedlings Braille Books. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

ATDEMOND

RATCLIFFE (WALTER) **RUTH NAOMI**

Age 76. From Happy Valley, Oregon. Born on March 6, 1936 in Garden City, Michigan.

SANTTI,

year resident of Garden City, passed away in Springfield Missouri at the age of 86. He was preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, Sally. 2 Sons in Law, Steve and Doug Fox and a Great Granddaughter, Emma Baker. He is survived by 2 sisters, 5 children, 13 Grandchildren and 13 Great Grandchildren. Graveside Service with Military Honors, Saturday, April 28 at 11:00AM -Parkview Cemetery, 5 Mile and Farmington in Livonia.



GEORGE EDWARD April 1, 2012 Age 78. Beloved husband of Claudia (nee Gage) for 28 years. Dear father of Sara Lynn Snyder and Elizabeth Jane "Beth" Snyder Dierkes (Charles). Loving step-father of Charles Alexander "Alec" Brooks (fiance Katrina), Claudia Cecelia "Cary" Jarnac (Scott). Cherished grandfa-ther of 10. Brother of Mary Elizabeth Snyder Casey (Edward James, III). Also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. Memorial service Wednesday, April 25th 11:00 a.m. at Christ Church Cranbrook, Lone Pine west of Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. Memorial tributes to the Beaumont Foundation. A.J. Desmond & Sons (248) 549-0500.

View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com ALDESWOND SON



STIGLICH, **RUTH**

Age 91 of Plymouth, passed away on April 13, 2012. Born in Litchfield, Michigan to parents Rex and Mabel Rossman. Beloved wife of 67 years to Martin J. Loving mother of Martin R. (Catherine) Stiglich, Ralph E. Stiglich and Ronald F. (Lynn) Stiglich. Proud grandmother of Larissa and Seth Michael Stiglich. Dear sister of Wayman (Peggy) Rossman and Albert Rossman. Ruth was an expert seamstress, she enjoyed playing golf, gardening, playing bridge with her friends, dancing, snow sking and especially spending time with her family. Throughout her life Ruth was a devoted caregiver to many close family members in their own time of need. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2012 at 12:00pm from the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home 280 South Main, Plymouth. Visitation will begin at 10:00am until time of service. Share memories at schrader-howell.com



WARRICK, JO ANN McCLUNG

Born August 3, 1928 and died April 15, 2012 in Madison, Wisconsin. For many years, Jo Ann taught private piano and group piano in her homes in Madison and Birmingham MI. Over the years she performed and sung with hundreds of children in concerts throughout the region. She was chief consultant and lecturer for "Green Frog Productions," taught and performed early childhood music seminars and entertainment programs for many preschools around the Midwest, and served as Admissions Director of the Edgewood Campus School. Her hobbies included music (piano, organ and autoharp) and theatre (performing in over 35 musicals for The Village Players in Birmingham, Sun Prairie Civic Theatre and MATC). Jo Ann was born and raised in Madison. attending Randall, Nakoma. West Kappa Gamma sorority member), and Katharine Gibbs School in Chicago. She married George R. Warrick, Jr. in 1953 and moved to Birmingham MI where Jo Ann took time off to raise a family. After George's passing in 1975, Jo Ann returned to UW Madison to complete her BS in 1985 (where she received the "Outstanding Returning Adult Student Award"), and a Masters of Education from National College of Education in Evanston, IL. Because of her interest in musical comedy she found time to attend "clown school" at George Washington University in Washington, DC in 1978. Jo Ann is survived by her three children: Jim McLeod-Warrick of Boston, Kit Rittman of Madison and Sam Warrick of Minneapolis, and seven grandchildren. A memorial gathering will be held at a later date. Memorials may be made to: Humane Society of Madison in honor of Jo Ann's many canine companions.

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Milestones

Felczak-Berberich

Michael and Shirley Felczak of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Jenna Mary Felczak, to Tyler David Berberich, son of Robert Berberich and Dana George Berberich of Camarillo, Calif.

The bride-to-be is a 2002 graduate of Adlai E. Stevenson High School in Livonia. She earned a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and sociology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 2005. She also earned a master of arts degree in clinical psychology in 2008 from Roosevelt University, Chicago, Ill., and a doctorate degree in clinical psychology in 2011, also from Roosevelt

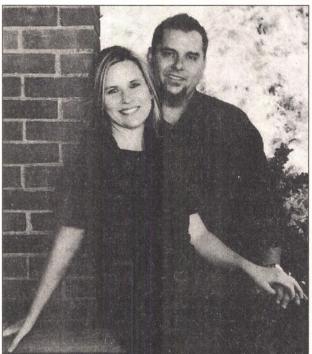


University. She is completing a post-doctoral fellowship at the Chicago Children's Advocacy Center in Chicago, Ill.

The groom-to-be is a 2001 graduate of Concord High School, Concord. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in criminal justice in 2005 from Michigan State Univer-

sity and a juris doctorate degree in 2008 from Chicago-Kent College of Law, Chicago, Ill. He is an associate attorney with Horwitz, Horwitz and Associates, Ltd. in Chicago, Ill.

An August 2012 wedding is planned at the Illinois Beach Resort, Zion,



Steele-Szymanski

Jamie Marie Steele and Paul Szymanski, Jr. announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Bernard Steele and Gloria Matuszewski of Northville, received BA and MA degrees from Michigan State University. She teaches first grade at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish School.

Her fiance, son of Paul and Sandra Szymanski, Sr., of Livonia, graduated from Wayne State University. He is a principal at Detroit Edison Public School Academy.

A July 2012 wedding is planned at Sweetest Heart of Mary in Detroit.

Area resident to mark 107th birthday

Gladys Gotts of Ypsilanti, formerly of Plymouth and Canton, will celebrate her 107th birthday May 4.

She was born May 4, 1905 to Herman and Ethel Kincaid in Silverwood. Her parents bought a Superior Township farm when Gladys was a girl. She and a girlfriend rode horses to the old Ypsilanti High School on Cross Street in Ypsilanti and sometimes rode in their horse-drawn buggy.

Gladys married Percy Gotts in 1923. They farmed with his parents on North Ridge Road in Canton. Around 1940, after the death of Percy's father, the couple took ownership of the 80

Melons and sweet corn grown on their farm were sold at Detroit's Eastern Market. A dairy herd provided milk. A cash crop of sugar beets that Percy forked out of the ground was delivered to a

mill in Mount Clemons. Percy and Gladys had three daughters. The oldest, Betty DeKarske, died in 1980; Dorothy Richards, 79 lives two miles from where she was born and sees her mother several times a week. The youngest daughter, Joyce

Gyde, 72, lives in Texas. Gladys has four liv-



Gotts

ing grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren One granddaughter is deceased.

The Gotts farm was outfitted with one of the early Delco electrical generating systems. The main kitchen was converted to this power source. A large back room kitchen, equipped with a pot-bellied stove, served for summer cook ing. Dorothy Richards says she believes her mother's happiest years were spent on the family farm.

Her life changed when Percy died of heart dis-

ease in 1955. Gladys stayed in the old house until 1973. The farm's sale led to the development of the Knollwood Memorial Park Cemetery. A succession of

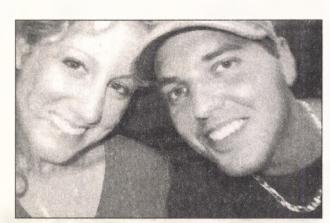
addresses never quite satisfied Gladys' yearning for the farming life. As recently as 2005, when she was 100 years old, she still lived alone in her condominium in Plymouth.

When she broke her hip in a fall, she moved to Superior Woods Healthcare Facility where she remains as an active resident.

Ilievski-Hicks

Kire and Nada Ilievski of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Victoria, to Joseph Hicks, son of Charlie and Sue Hicks of Trenton.

The bride-to-be earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from Madonna University. Her fiance holds a bachelor's degree in information technology from Eastern Michigan University.



A September 2012 wedding is planned at St.

Mary's Orthodox Church in Sterling Heights.

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



Walking for preemies

March of Dimes holds its largest fundraiser — March for Babies — April 28 in Westland and April 29 in Detroit, Dexter and Troy. With one in eight babies born premature in the Detroit area, walk organizers hope to raise significant funds to support research and educational programs aimed at helping moms have healthy babies. Last year March for Babies in Metro Detroit raised \$1.4 million. Walkers can register at 8 a.m. and begin a six-mile walk at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 28 at Nankin Mills, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail in Westland; (248) 359-1550. The walk will begin at 9 a.m. Sunday, April 29, at Wayne State University in Detroit and at 10 a.m. April 29 at Hudson Mills MetroPark, 8801 Territorial Road in Dexter and at Somerset Collection, 3100 W. Big Beaver, Troy. Register for any of the walks online at www.marchforbabies.org.

Improve your health at camp, in a seminar

Better Living Seminars will offer both its 33rd annual Health Camp and "Motivation to Move" seminar next month.

The camp, May 13-20 at Camp Au Sable near Grayling, is designed to help participants make life-enhancing, lifestyle changes.

Professionals with expertise in various health fields lead camp programs.

Nutrition experts will help campers plan healthy and delicious meals that can lower the risk of heart disease, cancer, obesity and diabetes. Vegetarian meals are served at the camp. The camp exercise specialist will assist each individual in developing a personal exercise program. The weight control seminar will start participants on a safe and effective path for weight management.

The live-in program, with its fresh air, 24-hour support, healthy food and fun activities, also aims to help individuals stop smoking.

Campers may attend morning and evening seminars of their

choice. Afternoons are free for various activities and crafts. Horse back riding, canoeing, golfing, hiking, ceramics, card stamping, and basket weaving are some of the available choices. All cabins are clean and heated and full service motor home hook-ups are available. Cost is \$495 for the week and \$895 with an accompanying spouse.

Call (248) 349-5683 for brochure and application.

Better Living Seminars, which is a non-profit health education corporation, also will offer its "Motivation to Move" seminar 2-7 p.m. Sunday, May 20, at the Metropolitan Adventist School and Church campus, 15585 Haggerty, in Plymouth.

Robert Sweetgall, America's leading advocate of walking for wellness, will lead the seminar. Sweetgall has walked 11,208 miles through all 50 states in a year and has authored 17 books on physical activity, walking and wellness. Sweetgall has appeared on NBC's

Today, Regis & Cathy Lee and Evening Magazine. In his former life, Sweetgall was an overweight Brooklyn boy nicknamed "Butterball." Motivated by a family history of heart disease, he gave up his \$100,000 12-year career with Dupont, to take his health message on the road by walking the talk across America.

The first part of the seminar, "The Ten Healthiest Things Educators Can Do For Themselves & Their Students," will run 2-4 p.m. The second half, from 5-7 p.m., will focus on personal wellness, longevity and renewal. It will include information on Nordic walking and other activities for reducing weight, stress, heart disease and diabetes risk, low back pain and the rate of aging.

Cost is \$10. Teacher and other professionals seeking CEU credit pay \$20.

Light refreshments will be served.

Registration is required. Call (248) 446-9176.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

April

AUTISM TATTOO

Get an autism-related tattoo this month at American Pride Tattoos and the store will donate \$20 or 20 percent of the cost of the tattoo - whichever is greater - to Autism Speaks. All of the companies stores are participating in the campaign to raise awareness and support those with autism spectrum disorder. Stores are located at 155 E. Commerce in Milford and 27815 Woodward Ave., in Berkley, in addition to Waterford, Clarkston, and Pontiac.

CANCER SCREENING

The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Center, 4100 John R. south of Warren, north of Mack, in Detroit, will conduct free oral, head and neck cancer screenings, 1:30-4:30 p.m. Friday, April 27. A simple 15-minute screening exam can help determine if further follow-up is needed to help detect oral, head and neck cancers in their earliest stages. Space is limited to the first 100 who register. Some of the warning signs of oral cancers include a sore in your mouth that doesn't heal or increases in size; lumps or white, red or dark patches in your mouth; persistent pain in your mouth; a lump in your neck or thickening of your cheek; difficulty chewing or swallowing, moving your jaw or tongue, swelling or pain in your jaw; soreness in your throat or feeling that something is caught in your throat; pain around your teeth or loosening of your teeth; numbness in your mouth; changes in your voice or bad breath. Pre-register by 5 p.m. April 26 for screening and complimentary valet parking. Call (800) 527-6266. Onsite registration will be permitted if space is avail-

At Botsford Hospital



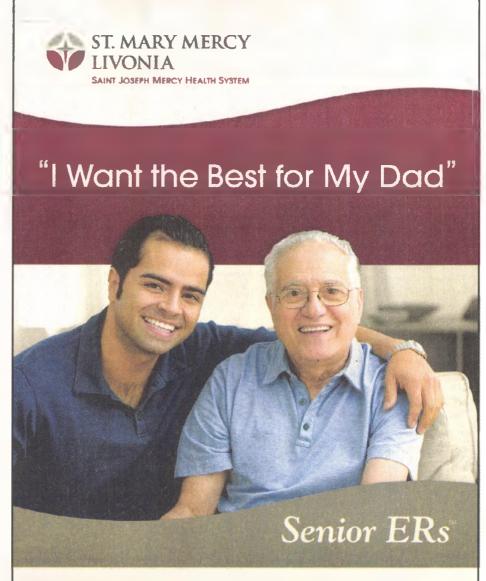
Dr. Amit R. Mohindra, M.D., who is board-certified in oncology, hematology and internal medicine, has joined the medical staff at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills. After receiving his medical education in India, Mohindra completed an internal medicine residency and a hematology and oncology fellowship at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. He has clinical interests in anemia, bleeding disorders, leukemia, lymphoma, bone marrow/stem cell transplantation, and transfusion medicine. He sees patients at his practice, located at 14555 Levan, Suite 112 in Livonia; (734) 779-2123.

ST. MARY MERCY

• First-time parents can get the basics of breastfeeding and baby care 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 28 in classrooms 1 and 2 at the hospital. A St. Mary Mercy Hospital pediatrician will discuss infant illness and child immunization. Parents will learn breastfeeding techniques including positioning, pumping, storage and breast care. This class is open to anyone who cares for an infant. Fee is \$50 per couple. Register by calling St. Mary Mercy Hospital's Marian Women's Center at (734) 655-1162, or register online at stmarymercy.org and click on "classes and events.'



stjoeshealth.org



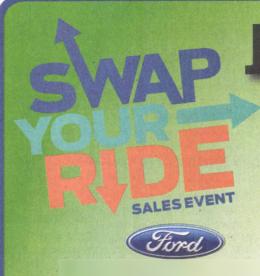
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What are employers asking your references?

Debra Auerbach. CareerBuilder Writer

References are often the last step in the screening process before an employer extends an offer. While every company has a different policy on references, most still ask for them. What a reference says, or doesn't say, can sometimes make the difference between getting an offer or not. Greg Szymanski, director of human resources at Geonerco Management in Seattle, says that when employers contact references, they're looking to determine if the candidate is the person who presented himself in the interview. "Often what's not said is more important than what is said. And hesitations and dancing in a reference's answers are very telling.'

The questions employers are asking

Employment verification:

The standard questions a hiring manager will ask are ones related to your employment. The employer will want to verify that you did indeed work with this reference, the dates of your employment and the reference's relationship to you (boss, peer, etc.). Sean Milius, president of the Healthcare Initiative, an affiliate of global recruiting firm MRINetwork, says employers also want to know why you left. "It is very important that their story matches that of the candidate," Milius says. "If the candidate says it was a 'mutual parting,' but the reference says they were let go or laid off, there will be a problem. The candidate should always be truthful when asked why they left, as the potential employer will check out their story."

Workplace performance: After a hiring manager asks the basic questions, she might dig a little deeper into your work performance. Common performance-related questions will cover strengths, areas for improvement, ability to work in a team and biggest accomplishments. Sunil Phatak, director of U.S. recruiting at IT staffing and consulting firm Akraya Inc., says the following questions on both hard and soft skills are also often asked:

- · What would you say is his strongest attributes? · How would you describe her interpersonal skills?
- · What would you say motivated him most? · Would you rehire or recommend her for rehire?

Personality and wellroundedness:

Szymanski notes that while work-performance questions provide important insight, they don't always give a complete picture of the candidate. "If you want to know what the person is like, you have to ask questions that get at that information in a different way." For instance, an employer may ask, "Would you trust the reference to watch your children if you were away on vacation?" Or, "Would you take the candidate to dinner at a nice restaurant with your parents/spouse/significant other?" "The more personal/ nonwork-related questions are often useful, not for what the reference says, but [for] what the reference doesn't say and/ or the manner in which the reference provides an answer or doesn't answer," Szymanski

Who the references are matters, too

Sure, a reference's answers hold a lot of weight, but who the reference is can be just as telling to a hiring manager. If

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Middlebelt.

the only references you can provide are your mom, your sister and your best friend, it might raise a red flag with the

potential employer. "Most employers would prefer that a job seeker choose a former manager or supervisor as a reference," Phatak says. "This is because managers are usually able to deliver a relatively unbiased opinion and are much less likely to be swayed into giving a positive referral if one isn't truly deserved. A manager is also a good pick for a reference because a positive referral from him will hold more weight than one from a coworker who is similarly ranked. Job seekers should also select references who worked with them for at least a year, have a good understanding of their abilities and can attest to their positive attributes."

Setting your references up for success

While you likely won't know the exact questions a hiring manager plans to ask your

prepare them for the call. The first thing you should do is tell your references that they are one. While that may seem obvious, it's not always done, and the last thing you want to do is have your references be blindsided by the hiring manager's call. Even if you've used certain references in the past, don't just assume they'll be available or willing to serve as one again. The best approach? Ask your contacts first before giving their information to the employer.

Phatak says that if you've done a good job of selecting your references, they'll know you and your work style well enough that they won't need any coaching on the answers. He does suggest that you share the basic job description with your references and refresh them on the position you had and contributions you made while working together. "This is especially helpful if a lot of time has passed since you last worked with them. You don't want your references to be

caught off-guard and failing to recall what it is you even did on their team."

Szymanski shares this metaphor to summarize the use of references during the hiring process. "Reference checking is one spoke in the wheel of talent acquisition. If you can get as many spokes in the wheel as you can, your hiring will get better. Reference checking is not perfect, but if used in conjunction with other spokes, reference checking can be useful in verifying/ confirming what you already know or breaking ties between two or more closely matched candidates."

Debra Auerbach is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and its job blog, The Work Buzz. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.



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- Fountain treat
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- 15 Attempts to arouse public support
- 17 Bygone despot 18 Rita of "West
- Side Story" 19 Teahouse mat
- 21 Fleur-de-22 Vexation
- 23 Having plenty to spare 26 Light aircraft
- 30 kwon do 31 Chap
- 32 Stand-up comedian's
- 33 Violent storm
- 38 Acid rain
- forte
- 47 River deposit pacts
- 48 Diplomatic 50 Consumer gds. 51 Skippers' OKs

39 Boat imple-

40 Slight breeze

43 Slushy bever-

ment

- 52 Deadly snake
- 53 Run like crazy 54 Auto mishap
- 55 Sweetie-pie

DOWN

- Whitecaps 2 Logician's connector
- Roulette color
- Stinker
- 5 Low voices 6 Recline
- Grumpily
- 8 Flew fast 9 Bear in the sky
- 10 Criticize
- 24 Might 25 Kind of rally 11 Garr of 'Tootsie' 26 Six-shooter

Answer to Previous Puzzle

YOGA

DOES STORM MODELS TEE

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LAMPREYBERN

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POLLSTER

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23 Legal rep

AWOL ROVE

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TOO

- 16 Let slip 20 "Exodus" char-

- - 29 Army off. 31 Green light
 - (hyph.) 34 Room warmer 35 Make a

for example

27 Turtle-to-be

28 Bleacher

shout

- choice
- 36 Most unusual 37 Persia, today
- 39 Recurrently 40 Cellar, briefly
- 41 Merry go-round 42 Joy
- Adamson's pet
- 44 Nile god 45 Guadalajara
- cash 46 Cable channel
- 49 Humorist Bill

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Then you'll love

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1

6

2

7

3

Level: Beginne

9

5

2

9

5

4

6

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2

8

1

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7

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7

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6

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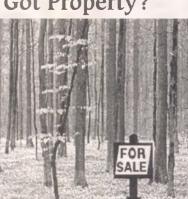
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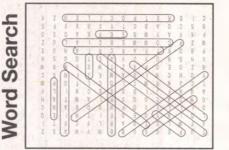
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LIVONIA: 4/26-4/28. Thurs & Fri 10-4pm, Sat. 8-3:30pm. 19669 Gary Ln, N of 7, W of Farmington. Teaching materials, childrens books & misc. household items. Proceeds to heact!! benefit ministry.

MILFORD GARAGE SALE Upright freezer, crib/mattress, bikes, much misc. Thurs.-Sat., Apr 26-28. Milford, off Martin-

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REDFORD GAR/ESTATE SALE: Tools, cabinets, desks, households kitchen owl items clothing. Thurs-Tues, April 19-24, 9-6pm. 16731 Norborne

Household Goods Garage/Meving Sales

St. Paul's Lutheran Church 30623 W. 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills, 48334, Btwr Orchard & Middlebelt. Sat April 28, 9am-4pm.

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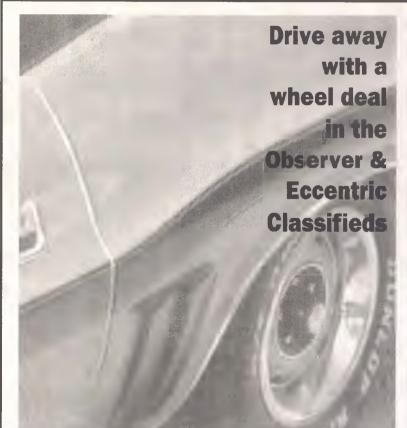
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C5

Car Report

LEXUS DEALERS STAFF UP WITH SPECIALISTS WHO EXPLAIN TECH

By Dale Buss

Lexus has long been known as the king of customer service in the auto industry. It annually leads J.D. Power's customersatisfaction rankings. And last year when supply-constrained Lexus couldn't come through with enough of the right vehicles to hold on to its lead in the U.S.



Dale Buss

luxury market, the brand and its dealers instead focused even more on doing right by the customers they already had.

Now, believe it or not, Lexus is

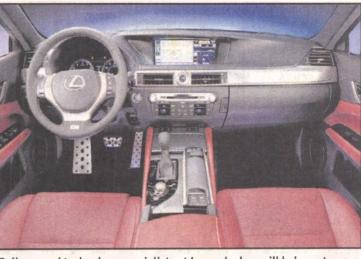
extending itself even more on behalf of its customers. The Toyota-owned upscale marque is taking a page from Apple and creating its own Genius Bar of sorts.

Brand executives are borrowing an idea also feathered out by a handful of progressive dealers and are training cadres of hundreds of Lexus "vehicle delivery specialists" and "vehicle technology specialists" who are going back to their employing dealers, charged with holding the hands of longcoddled Lexus customers like they've never been held before.

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Many of Lexus's 230 U.S. dealers will staff up their sales departments by as much as 20 percent as part of this ambitious, sweeping initiative, Vincent Salisbury, training manager of the company's Lexus College brandeducation enterprise, told me.

By the end of June, he said, Lexus plans to have about 2,400 people pass through two-and-ahalf-day training sessions in California, either learning to take on one of the full-time specialist roles or to apply the new customer-service knowledge and techniques in their positions as salespeople.



Delivery and technology specialists at Lexus dealers will help customers figure out interior features like these in the GS 350 F Sport.

"We're focusing on improving the delivery process, so [dealers] are hiring for new positions aimed at improving customer satisfaction, according to the wants and needs of the customer," Mark Templin, Lexus division's general manager, explained. "It's like the Apple Genius Bar concept. We'll be dedicated to helping the customer understand the advanced technology of the new vehicles.'

Specifically, the idea is for fulltime hand-holders, and newly enlightened salespeople, to make sure that Lexus owners and buyers don't get overwhelmed and confused by the waves of new technology now appearing in one new Lexus model after another, especially in the area of digital infotainment. The brand known for a quarter-century as a customer's favorite can't afford to fall off that perch, especially as it fights BMW and Mercedes-Benz this year to gain back its salesvolume leadership of the American luxury-auto market.

These legions of delivery and technology specialists take over from salespeople once purchases are complete. They'll use a half hour, an hour or more to walk through the features of the Lexus vehicle and, especially, to encourage and answer customers' questions about technology, including navigation and digitalaudio systems, Bluetooth connectivity, the Enform telematics system, phone pairing, "smart-access" keys, personalized seat and mirror settings and myriad other amenities that make today's automobiles a technological marvel - or nightmare.

One reason the specialist idea is popular with customers, Salisbury said, had gone under-appreciated until now: They want to be able to show off the gee-whiz technological features of their new Lexus to loved ones, friends and work associates, but many are afraid to try because they don't feel fluent in the language and

"This makes it more fun for them," Salisbury said. "They can go, 'I've got this new luxury car, and see all the great things it can do!""

It might seem like piling on for Lexus to attempt to add to its customer-service renown with this new initiative. But the ramifications of infotainment technology mean that even this brand can't rest on its laurels. Lexus's customer-service phone lines got about 5,000 calls in 2009 about navigation, audio and other infotainment technologies, Salisbury said; but by last year, that number had skyrocketed to about 13,000 calls. That was one reason the new initiative makes sense for Lexus.

"Technology issues are easier to explain at the dealership when you're with a real live person as opposed to doing it over the phone," Salisbury said. "That's what's really driving this."

Templin "stressed that this is such an important initiative because it's going to elevate customer service, and in the luxury market, especially, technology is just escalating so quickly that customers are complaining they don't understand how the features work," Salisbury explained. "Yes" it's a big investment by dealers, many of whom will be adding the full-time equivalents of several employees to cover the new needs.

'But customers have a real love for these people because they're teaching them," Salisbury said. "They feel like they've learned so much, and they have a greater investment in the vehicle, and [brand] loyalty improves significantly."



Lexus's new GS 350 F Sport.



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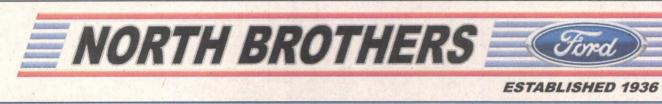
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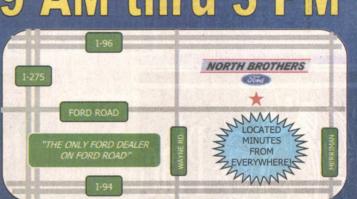
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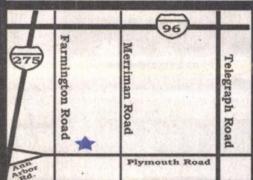


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