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Father's Day run

The Plymouth YMCA celebrates over 50 years in the community with its Father's Day tradition, the 33rd Father's Day Run Sunday, June 17, at The Gathering in downtown Plymouth.

The event kicks off at 7:30 a.m. with the Detroit Tigers' Paws leading the start and the national anthem by Plymouth attorney John C. Stewart. The Father's Day Run offers an event for every age. Kids' ¼-mile Fun Runs, 7:30 a.m., 1M walk, 1-mile run at 8 a.m., 5K walk, 5K run, 8:15 a.m., 10K, 8:45 a.m. The unique Morse Dental Group, 18th MDG Triple, 10.3 Miles, offers start times to run all three races. Proceeds support the Plymouth YMCA "Strong Kids" Scholarship Campaign.

Register at www.active.com or for a printable registration form and more race information visit www.ymcadetroit.org/plymouth. Volunteers are needed; contact Cindy Morency at cmorency@ymcametrodetroit.org.

Food supply

The next distribution of emergency food by Plymouth Community United Way is scheduled for Thursday, June 21.

As of March 1, income guidelines were adjusted to allow more individuals and families to be served by TEFAP. The Emergency Food Assistance Program provides low-income Plymouth and Northville residents with canned and nonperishable items.

All recipients must be pre-registered. This is a supplemental food program so it may be used in addition to other assistance programs.

Distributions continue the third Thursday of each month from 9:30-11 a.m. at St. Kenneth Catholic Church in Plymouth Township.

For information and to register, call Pat at Plymouth Community United Way, (734) 453-6879, ext. 2.

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Plymouth steps up war on 'Spice'

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Striking back against synthetic marijuana, commonly known as K2, Spice and Bath Salts, Canton's elected leaders are expected next Tuesday to approve an emergency ban declaring the sale or possession of it as illegal.

"We want to get the word out to the community that you might as well start to remove it (from stores)," Public Safety Director Patrick Nemecek said. "It's going to be the law."

Plymouth Township Police Chief Thomas Tiderington, calling K2 "a huge problem" linked to horrific crimes across the nation, said state and federal laws would carry a bigger punch against the dangerous substance.

"I personally think that's the best way for this to happen," he said.

That said, Plymouth Township officials are "considering" adopting a local ban, Tiderington said. "The attorneys are looking at it."

Their comments came Tuesday amid a push by state legislators to strengthen legislation banning synthetic marijuana.

"We're getting numerous complaints that kids are buying it in Canton," Nemecek said.

Penalty phase

If adopted next Tuesday, the emergency ordinance would carry misdemeanor penalties of 90 days in jail and certain fines. Nemecek said police plan to conduct spot checks of local stores.

Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said the proposed ordinance is expected to receive the township board's approval.

Please see 'SPICE,' A5

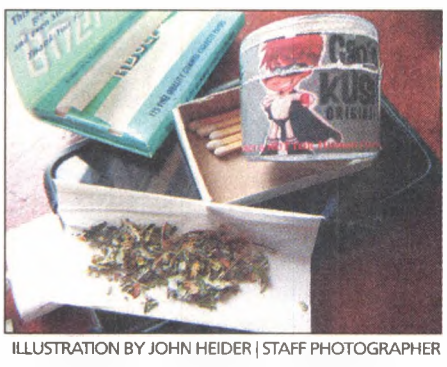

ILLUSTRATION BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A small vial of 'Cap'n Kush' is a legal incense sold at many party stores and gas stations in the area. Its effects mimic those of synthetic marijuana. In small letters at the bottom of the vial it reads "Product Is Not For Human Consumption."

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Karen O'Keefe and LaMonta Richardson at work in the Burns Elementary School cafeteria.

Reading is fundamental

Volunteers make a difference in Detroit schools

By Jill Halpin
Correspondent

When Becky and Gary Hurst walk into the classroom of Detroit's Burns Elementary School every Wednesday morning, they look into a sea of smiling faces, all wondering the same thing: Will you pick me?

"All of these little faces looking up at you, so excited and eager. They run up and give you hugs ... It is really something," said Becky Hurst, a Plymouth resident.

Becky and her husband, Gary, are retired elementary teachers from Novi Community Schools but they are still busy as educators. Now they have an equally important mission, joining ranks with a group of 20 other local volunteers who meet weekly with students at Burns to help them learn to read as was well as develop a lifelong love of literature.

Plymouth resident Karen O'Keefe has nearly the same experience each time she visits the school along with the Hursts.

"The students call, 'Ms. O'Keefe, pick me today.' They all love the extra attention and the one-on-one time. The hardest part for me is when I don't have enough readers to cover every child," O'Keefe said.

It is just one of the experiences that inspired O'Keefe to volunteer in the Detroit Public Schools and to grow and cultivate a dedicated group of local volunteers to provide reading support to students from Burns Elementary as part of the Detroit Reading Corps.

Aimed at helping young children develop a strong foundation in reading during their early elementary years, the Detroit Reading Corps formed as a response to declining student achievement within DPS.

Please see READING, A8

City OKs spending plan

6
7

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

The city of Plymouth has a spending plan for the fiscal year that begins next month.

The $20.3 million budget — actually the budgets for several different funds, each with their own revenue sources, for all aspects of city operations — was approved by a unanimous Plymouth City Commission vote on Monday.

The largest in the plan is the general-fund budget, at close to $7.3 million. The general fund pays for most public safety services, some administration and public works services, parks and property maintenance, elections and some capital purchases, among other expenses. General-fund spending is up 1 percent from the budget approved for the current fiscal year, though actual spending for this year is projected to come in at nearly $950,000 over what was budgeted.

Public safety, at almost $3.9 million, accounts for more than half of general-fund spending. The police department's budget is $3.14 million, while $743,120 is budgeted for firefighting and emergency medical service.

The next-largest budget to the general fund, two water and sewer-related funds, totals $4.8 million; most of that will come from water and sewer fees and will pay for water, sewage-treatment service, and the upkeep of Plymouth's water and sewer system.

Other major funds in the plan

Please see SPENDING, A2

Saxton hailed as 'great example'

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

A man who helped bring his family's Plymouth feed and grain store from farm and livestock days to the era of suburban subdivisions and backyard gardens is being remembered as a forthright business owner who valued sharing know-how, not just selling products.

William Saxton, active for decades at the Plymouth store that bears his name, died Monday at his home in Washtenaw County at age 86. He had been diagnosed with lung cancer about a year ago, said his son, Alan Saxton; he had already survived an earlier cancer diagnosis for about 25 years.

"He was a great example for us," said Alan Saxton, who runs Saxton's Garden Center on Ann Arbor Trail, a family business founded in 1928. "He was a moral guy, just a real gentleman to work with."

William Saxton worked regu-

Please see SAXTON, A4

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Bennett crafts write-in plan

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Former state Sen. Loren Bennett, a Canton Republican, said Monday he hopes to quickly raise $250,000 and mobilize 1,000 volunteers to wage what he concedes is a daunting write-in campaign to win the seat held by U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter.

"It's an uphill battle," Bennett said, but "I think I can win it."

He announced his 11th District GOP candidacy one day before McCotter ended his own write-in campaign Saturday, amid a Secretary of State probe of nominating petition irregularities and startling revelations that McCotter fell short of the signatures he needed to get his name on the ballot.

Bennett told the *Observer* he hopes to raise enough money to quickly assemble campaign literature for the Aug. 7 primary, and he said he needs to round up numerous volunteers.

"To me, it's going to be an army of volunteers who are willing to sit at the kitchen table (with voters) and educate them on what to do when they get their absentee ballots or go to the polls," he said.

Bennett

"This is an extremely rare event," Bennett said Monday. "I'm literally scrambling to find the volunteers. I'd say I need a minimum of 1,000. The absentee ballots go out in three weeks, so it's an extremely abbreviated campaign calling on people who have worked on my campaigns in the past and calling on leaders in all the (11th District) communities and asking for help."

Back in

Bennett was a state senator from 1995 to 2002. Prior to that, he served six years as Canton's full-time clerk and eight years as a part-time township board trustee.

Bennett was Republican gubernatorial nominee Dick Posthumus' running mate during Posthumus' unsuccessful bid for the state's top spot in 2002, and Bennett lost a bid for the Wayne County Commission in 2006 to Democrat Kevin McNamara.

For the past decade, Bennett has worked in the private sector as the lead contract administrator for Wixom-based J&B Medical Supply, which has grown from eight employees to 200 as it services government entities, companies and families. He has managed contracts and essentially served as the ombudsman between the company and its customers, and he said the company has saved taxpayers nearly $200 million through its services.

"I truly believe that's what the public is clamoring for, someone who is not a professional politician, but someone who knows how to meet a payroll," Bennett said.

Bennett decided on his write-in campaign before McCotter, R-Livonia, abandoned his. Bennett — and others — took a swipe at the incumbent.

"The people of the 11th District deserve more than just a representative who occasionally makes interesting speeches about conservative principles," he said. "A truly effective public servant must bring a competence to the job and a track record that demonstrates the ability to actually achieve the ideals he espouses."

Moreover, Bennett called it "astounding to me that an incumbent congressman cannot collect and turn in 1,000 valid signatures on a nominating petition."

Varied career

During his time in Lansing, Bennett said he chaired the Senate Natural Resources Committee and passed numerous pieces of legislation that promoted environmental cleanup in the private sector. He also chaired the K-12 Education Committee and served on the Appropriations Committee.

Bennett said he became involved in politics because former President Ronald Reagan "inspired a new generation to give of themselves to make their hometown better than they found it ..."

He said he worked alongside former Gov. John Engler and Posthumus to cut taxes and usher in charter schools. He also cited "real welfare reform" and needed changes to the tax structure.

McCotter, meanwhile, has pledged to work with the state in its criminal investigation into fraudulent nominating petitions.

Kerry Bentivolio, a retired teacher from Milford, is running as a Republican and will be on the ballot. Democrats Dr. Syed Taj of Canton and William Roberts of Redford Township will be running and are also listed on the ballot.

Taj and Roberts, a Lyndon LaRouche candidate, have said they remain focused on their party's primary rather than problems that sabotaged McCotter.

Bentivolio said in a prepared statement that he was "blessed to have a great team of grassroots volunteers."

The 11th Congressional District includes Auburn Hills, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Canton Township, a portion of Clawson, Commerce Township, Farmington, Highland Township, the city of Lake Angelus, Livonia, Lyon Township, the village of Milford, Milford Township, Northville, Northville Township, Novi, Novi Township, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, a portion of Rochester Hills, South Lyon, Troy, Walled Lake, Waterford Township, a portion of West Bloomfield Township, White Lake Township, Wixom and the village of Wolverine Lake.

AROUND PLYMOUTH

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

BLOOD DRIVES

Details: The American Red Cross sponsors blood drives at a variety of Plymouth and Canton locations over the next week.

Drives take place 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Friday, June 8, at the Canton Library, 1200 S. Canton Center; 7:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Sunday, June 10, at St. Kenneth Catholic Church on Haggerty north of Schoolcraft; 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Monday, June 11, at the Community Financial Credit Union; and 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Saturday, June 16, at Plymouth High School on Beck Road just south of Joy.

Contact: To make an appointment call Diane Risko at (313) 549-7052 or email Diane.Risko@redcross.org

HEISE HOURS

Date/Time: Monday, June 11, 3-4 p.m.

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main in Plymouth.

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

Contact: Residents are invited to call toll free 1-855-REP-KURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

YOYO CAMP

Date/Time: Monday-Friday, July 9-13, 10:30 a.m. to noon

Location: Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer in Plymouth

Details: The City of Plymouth Department of Recreation in cooperation with Duncan Toy Crew member Yo Jake will be hosting a summer YoYo/Juggling Camp for kids ages 8-14. Advanced registration is required at the Recreation Office or on-line at https://www.plymouthwebtrac.net/. The cost of the class is $45 for non-residents and $30 for City of Plymouth residents. The camp will help kids build fine motor skills, concentration, and self-confidence by learning simple juggling and YoYo tricks. Bring your own YoYo, juggling equipment, etc. or purchase at a discount price at camp.

Contact: For more information check out page 15 of the Spring/Summer 2012 Recreation Brochure at www.ci.plymouth.mi.us/recreationbrochure. You can also call (734) 455-6620 for more information.

DAY CAMP

Date/Time: June 18 through Aug. 10, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Location: Salvation Army of Plymouth, Main Street just south of Ann Arbor Road.

Details: The Salvation Army of Plymouth still has openings for its Summer Day Camp program. Cost is $60 per week per child. An optional before-care and after-care program exists for working parents. There are also scholarships available for families who cannot afford the full fee.

Contact: For more information about the program, contact Cassie Hull, Program Ministries Coordinator, at (734) 453-5464 ext. 25 or e-mail cassie_hull@usc.salvationarmy.org.

OUR CAMP OPEN HOUSE

Date/Time: Saturday, June 9, noon to 2 p.m.

Location: Northville Christian Academy, 41355 Six Mile, Northville

Details: O.U.R. Camp, Inc. (www.ourcampinc.org), a summer day camp for young children with developmental needs, hosts an open house where parents can register children for camp, meet the counselors and take a tour of the camp facilities. This event is free and open to the public.

Contact: Claudia Pietron, Board President, at (734) 718-5734, or Elizabeth Turbiak, Operations Director, at (734) 516-0488.

MOPS MEETINGS

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

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

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

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

BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ann Warne carries another flat of flowers for the downtown Plymouth street flower beds.

Garden club set for annual walk

The 17th annual "Flowers are Forever" garden walk in Plymouth, sponsored by the Trailwood Garden Club, a branch of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, takes place noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 26.

The gardens have a variety of features as well as many ideas that can be adapted to your own garden. Complimentary refreshments, raffle, and perennial sale will be at one of the gardens. Master Gardeners will also be available to answer gardening questions. Tickets are $8 pre-sale and $10 on the day of the walk. Tickets for children 12 and under are half-price; there is no charge for babes in arms. Strollers are not permitted.

For additional information, contact Darlene Rinke, (734) 459-7499 or Marilyn Detmer, (734) 454-4625.

SPENDING

Continued from page A1

include a waste and recycling fund of just over $1 million, a recreation fund of just over $1 million, major and local road funds totaling $581,000, a Downtown Development Authority operating fund of $860,570, an equipment fund of $684,210 and a building fund of $397,270.

Commission-watcher Michael Vaz, during a public hearing before the vote, asked about the projected $500,000 annual savings from two recent capital investments: the 2010 geothermal system at the Plymouth Cultural Center, which is supposed to save $100,000 a year on heating and cooling costs, and the purchase of equipment and upgrading of facilities for the Northville Fire Department's Plymouth Station. The city began a partnership with the department this year in hopes of saving $400,000 or more a year in firefighting and emergency medical service costs.

City Manager Paul Sincock answered that the savings are being allocated to repay the startup costs for those projects. The geothermal system cost about $1 million, money that came from the general fund and is being repaid by the recreation fund over a 10-year period. Startup costs for the fire department partnership were about $1.6 million, and the money came from a variety of sources, including a loan that is being repaid over five years, said finance director Mark Christiansen.

The budget passed Monday also set Plymouth's combined property tax rate at just over 16 mills, or $16 for every $1,000 of a property's taxable value.

When transfers between funds are taken out of the overall $20.3 million budget, total planned spending amounts to about $19.5 million.

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CORRECTION

A story in Sunday's *Observer* should have said Claire Swisher was nominated for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' Extra Miler Award by parent Karen Pakula.

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Sunset Street families see baby boom

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Standing, from left, Jamison Rozzi, holding Olive, Gina Szymczak, with Owen, Katy Sikes, and Amelia. Sitting, Inna Frazer, holding Boden, and Annie Gallant, with Jack.

Mom Inna Frazier and Boden.

There's been a baby boom on Sunset Street in Plymouth.

Five babies — three boys and two girls — were born within a three-month period to families in the area of Sunset and Penniman. Four of the newborns are on the same block, and three were born during the same week in May. The other two were born in March.

"There was no power outage," quipped one of the moms, Jamison Rozzi, in her back yard on Tuesday. She and husband Scott welcomed Olive Ruth last month and also have an older daughter, Charlotte, 6, and a son, George, 4.

It was Rozzi who predicted last August that she and neighbors Katy Sikes and Gina Szymczak would have children in quick succession. The three were at Rozzi's house, and all knew each had been trying to conceive.

"She said, 'I think it's going to be one, two, three,'" said Szymczak. "I thought, 'Oh, it was just a joke.'"

But Sikes gave birth to Amelia Dawn on May 21, Rozzi had Olive Ruth on May 24 and Szymczak delivered Owen Felix the next day — with Rozzi in the next room at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

"Not only are we neighbors here, we were neighbors at the hospital," said Szymczak, who with husband Adam also has a son, Parker, 4. Amelia was the second child for Sikes and husband Matt; they also have a boy, Maddox, 3.

Meanwhile, Inna Frazer, who lives on the same block, had had a boy, Owen Anthony, on March 8. She and husband Warner "Tony" Frazer also have a daughter, Addyson, 6, and Inna has an adult daughter who lives in Washington, D.C.

And Annie Gallant, who lives nearby, gave birth to Jack Bradley on March 10. She and husband Brad also have two daughters, Kate, 3, and Sarah, 2.

"I live on the next block, so I didn't even know this was happening," Gallant said of the population explosion.

But Szymczak had noticed the "It's a Boy" sign on the Gallants' lawn.

"I remember being pregnant and driving down the street and saying, 'Oh, another baby,'" she said.

The women agreed the second baby — or the third in three cases — is easier than the first.

"You know a little bit more what to expect," said Sikes.

The new arrivals have brought the families and their children closer on a street where, by the moms' count, there are 20 kids under the age of 12 on just one block. The children on the block spend a lot of time together — Maddox Sikes, Parker Szymczak and George Rozzi are good friends, and so are Addyson Frazer and Charlotte Rozzi — and the older ones walk to Bird Elementary together, the moms said.

"I love being able to walk downtown and walk the kids to school," said Rozzi, who has moved four times in the last 10 years for her husband's career.

"This is probably the best move we've had yet," said Rozzi, who grew up in Indiana.

All five moms like their neighborhood and its proximity to downtown Plymouth, and said they are among the local moms who take their children — and strollers — downtown and to Kellogg Park.

"Downtown Plymouth is dogs and babies," said Szymczak.

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New York photos highlight students' PCAC art exhibit

In late March, eighth-grade students traveled to New York, interacting with the city in ways they had never before imagined. Their cameras became their vehicles for recognizing and celebrating the elements that make each city unique, and ultimately what makes us each Americans.

Beginning with the opening night awards and reception Saturday, the results of that trip will be on display at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

The event, which kicks off the "Behind the Lens" exhibit featuring the work of Pioneer Middle School eighth-graders, starts with a reception 6-8 p.m.

Many of the photographers for this exhibit had never formally taken photographs.

"We challenged them to begin to explore, from behind the lens, the world in which they live," said Jeff Burda, the PCAC's executive director. "We were amazed by their enthusiasm, inquisitive attitude and willingness to travel and participate with us. The products offer a fresh view of things many of us have viewed a thousand times."

In planning this project, Burda said, educators were looking for a concept that could allow students to begin thinking of themselves as global citizens. This idea of individuals working together and choosing how they will live their lives is essential to global unity.

"We were hoping our students would become participants, rather than silent observers in the 'great conversation' taking place all around them," Burda said. "The conversation explores and attempts to answer the big questions of life: Who are we? What is the meaning of life? What is the good life? How should we treat each other? Why is peace so desirable, yet something that is difficult to achieve?"

Throughout the project, students were asked to think about and verbalize the answers to some weighty questions: What is an ideal community? What is the role of the arts in a community? What is an ideal traveler? How do the arts improve the quality of life? Why is New York City a place where the "Great Conversation" takes place?

The exhibit will feature more than 100 photos, and will see "Best in Show" and the top 10 finalists honored. The exhibit will run through July.

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SAXTON

Continued from page A1

larly at the store into his 80s, his son said, even showing up once or twice a week until about three weeks ago. Valerie Saxton, his wife of almost 65 years — their anniversary is later this month — still works there.

Farm supply roots

Saxton was born in Hazel Park in 1926 to Dean and Margaret Saxton. Dean Saxton, a Ford Motor Co. crane operator, launched Saxton's Farm Supply in 1928 and had stores in Redford Township and Northville, where his customers were farmers and he also sold oats to feed the horses racing at the nearby track.

He graduated from Plymouth High School, where he had met his future wife, in 1944, and, after a stint in the U.S. Navy during World War II — he was in flight school — attended the University of Michigan, where he studied business management and engineering and graduated later in the 1940s.

"He decided he'd come back and work for my grandfather," Alan Saxton said.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bill Saxton (right), with wife Valerie and son Alan when the Saxtons celebrated their 80th anniversary, lost his battle with cancer this week.

Dean Saxton had opened a Plymouth store in 1932, and opened the current location later in the 1930s.

Alan Saxton said his father helped transform the store from its farm-supply and livestock feed focus to more of a lawn-care and gardening center as farms turned into subdivisions. In the 1960s, he said, William Saxton saw the need to improve the showroom, and Saxton's expanded to its current configuration.

"The only thing that's absolutely, totally sure is change, and you've got to be adaptable," William Saxton said in a 2009 interview.

Alan Saxton said his father showed gentleness and patience, teaching his children how to use tools and giving them the chance to work at the store, though not insisting on it.

He prided himself on customer service.

"He was not the ... salesperson who'd sell you just anything to make a buck," Alan Saxton said, adding that his father preferred to educate customers about what they were buying. "It was important to him that in fact we sold them the right machine or tool."

Well-traveled

In his off hours, Saxton liked to play badminton — he was a nationally ranked doubles player at one time — and take out his sailboat.

"He loved to sail," Valerie Saxton said. "He didn't have the opportunity to do that as much as he would've liked to" because of the time he dedicated to the business, she added.

The sign out front of Saxton Garden Center reflected the loss of the family patriarch, who died Monday at the age of 86.

Saxton also liked to travel, both in the U.S. and abroad. "We've just been all over the place," said Valerie Saxton.

The two were in a flying club, she said, and their destinations included Australia, New Zealand and Greece. In 1972, she said, they took the family to Europe.

Saxton had been an active member of the Plymouth Optimists Club.

Alan Saxton said his father passed on values that served he and his siblings well in adult life.

"I'm pretty proud of the fact that he was able to be a pretty well-respected businessman and member of the community," he said.

Saxton is also survived son Craig Saxton and his wife, Heidi; son Christopher Saxton and his wife, Terry; grandchildren Nichelle Dominguez, Lauren Saxton, Christopher Saxton and Sarah Saxton; a brother, Dean Saxton; a sister, Margaret Saxton; and one great-grandson. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Karin Saxton.

A memorial service is planned for 11 a.m. Friday at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon. Visitation is scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday until the service begins; arrangements were handled by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main, Plymouth, MI 48170, or the Hospice of Michigan, Donation Processing Center, 400 Mack Ave., Detroit, MI 48201.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2405

CRIME WATCH

TV taken

A 48-inch television set was stolen from a Plymouth Township automobile dealership during a break-in last week.

Police say the TV was stolen from the customer waiting area at Hines Park Lincoln, which is on Ann Arbor Road at Massey Drive, on the night of May 29. Someone had thrown a large rock through the glass in a showroom door, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report.

Officers responding to an alarm at the dealership shortly before midnight found the door smashed and a rock on the showroom floor, police said.

An employee also responded to the scene, police said; nothing else was reported stolen.

Graffiti

The playground equipment at Allen Elementary School, on Haggerty north of Ann Arbor Road, was marked up with graffiti late last month.

The vandalism was discovered on May 29, a police report said, and had occurred some time since the afternoon of May 25, police said. Police said the graffiti was in black marker, and that a black marker was found at the scene.

Police said the markings did not appear to include gang graffiti.

Trailer burglary

A pair of shoes and a restraint system for race-car drivers were reported stolen recently from a trailer that was parked at a storage lot on Ann Arbor Road.

The burglary of the enclosed trailer took place between May 22 and June 1, the victim told police. He said he was fairly certain he had locked the trailer, but police found no signs of forced entry, a report said.

The investigation continues; police later found a website advertising, from the Plymouth area, a restraint device with the same serial number as the one reported stolen.

Vandalism or accident?

A roadside mailbox was knocked off its post outside a house in western Plymouth Township late last month.

The incident took place on Chandler Drive, east of Napier and north of Powell. It occurred some time after 10 p.m. May 30 and was discovered the next morning.

Police said the reporting officer found a vehicle's exterior mirror about 25 feet down the street and speculated the incident could have occurred when someone driving by clipped the mailbox with the mirror.

The victim told police a similar incident had occurred earlier in the month.

— By Matt Jachman

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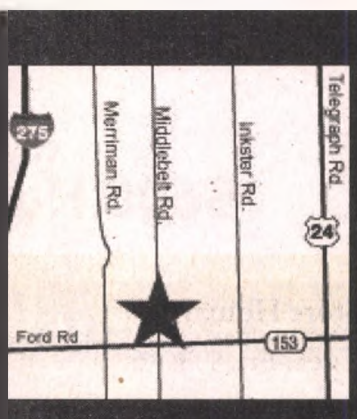

New twists, old faves back for Liberty Fest

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Annabelle Road will be one of the headline entertainment acts during the 2012 Canton Liberty Fest.

Liberty Fest, a popular community event that has helped shape Canton's summertime memories for two decades, returns to Heritage Park June 14-16 with new twists such as a dancing flash mob, a Guinness World Record attempt and longtime favorites such as carnival rides, classic cars and fireworks.

Jon LaFever, Canton Leisure Services recreation coordinator, said crowds of 50,000 people are expected as the three-day festival marks its 21st year.

"We're ready," he said. "We've got everything nailed down."

Now, organizers are hoping for favorable weather as throngs of families descend on picturesque Heritage Park 5-10 p.m. Thursday, June 14, 1-11 p.m. Friday, June 15, and 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, June 16.

Liberty Fest promises carnival rides, a Disney movie under the stars, the Beatles tribute band Shout!, food galore and an international stage celebrating everything from Bollywood dancing to songs of Spain.

"I think it truly is a great family event," Supervisor Phil LaJoy said. "There's something for everybody of all ages to do. It's an opportunity for folks to enjoy themselves and meet other people in the community. I think it's one aspect of the quality of life in our community."

New this year, organizers are attempting to break a Guinness World Record for the largest assembly of runners wearing Statue of Liberty costumes. The crowd will gather at 9:40 a.m. June 16 just south of the Heritage Park clock tower.

The event coincides with an 8 a.m. 5K race, an 8:30 a.m. 10K run and a 9:45 a.m. one-mile "fun run" — all starting near the clock tower, looping through neighborhoods and the Lower Rouge River Recreation Trail. Certain entry fees apply to help pay for recreation and trail improvements.

In another new venture, a dancing flash mob — a choreographed performance by a large group — is set to surprise festival goers with an attention-grabbing performance at an undisclosed time and location during the three-day event.

As usual, fireworks are set to erupt over Heritage Park at dusk June 16.

Here's a glimpse of some of the fun Liberty Fest attendees can expect. More details also are featured in an upcoming festival guide in the *Canton Observer* and online at www.cantonlibertyfest.com.

- America's Most Wanted Car Club, which has raised money to benefit local charities for over 20 years, will attend the festival June 16 to display classic cars from the 1920s through the 1970s. Proceeds from this year's event goes to Camp A.B.L.E., a summer camp for children with special needs, and the VFW Stand Down Project, which helps veterans in need. The club has its kickoff registration 5-8 p.m. June 15.
- Canton Firefighters Local 2289 Charity Foundation sponsors its spaghetti dinner 5-9 p.m. June 15 to raise money for the family of the late firefighter Ryan Swick, who died in May from cancer.
- Canton Lions Club, which has given over $200,000 to charity, sponsors its annual pancake breakfast 7-11 a.m. June 16 in the Heritage Park north pavilions.
- Kiwanis Club of Canton has its "Chicken and the (Fire) Works" dinners 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. June 16 — or until sold out. The club performs many community service projects in Canton and Plymouth to help children.
- Rotary Club of Canton, which supports charities such as the Plymouth-Canton clothing bank for needy students, hosts an adult beverage tent during Liberty Fest near the Canton LIVE! Stage.
- On June 15-16, festival goers can enjoy a petting farm, camel rides, exotic animal exhibits and birds during the "Take a Walk on the Wild Side" exhibit.
- On June 15, Disney's *The Muppets* will be shown under the stars on the big screen in the park amphitheater.

'SPICE'

Continued from page A1

"This would be a frontal assault on K2, Bath Salts and those kinds of drugs," he said. "We want to get this going and get it going quickly."

Canton Township Attorney Kristin Kolb is drafting the emergency ordinance for board approval. It would become effective upon passage.

The move comes after Nemecek, Tiderington and Northville Township Public Safety Director John Werth this week issued a joint statement announcing their offices are notifying nearly 100 businesses in western Wayne County that they could face criminal or civil penalties if they sell the increasingly popular yet highly dangerous synthetic drugs.

Over the last several weeks, the Western Wayne Community Response Team sent undercover officers into more than 25 gas stations, stores and markets throughout the three townships to buy the drugs.

Three store clerks sold the substance, and officials said one store clerk produced a product from below the counter labeled "Space Cadet/Blueberry" and allegedly told an undercover officer, "one hit will really mess you up."

Strength warning

Police officials didn't name the stores. Tiderington said police didn't want to advertise where the substances can be bought.

Officials had the substances tested by the Michigan State Police Crime Lab, which found they didn't contain any controlled substances. Yet officials warn that K2, Spice and other so-called synthetic drugs can be 500 to 2,000 times stronger than the actual illicit substances they mimic.

Authorities have said synthetic marijuana allegedly has been used by defendants in cases such as the April 16 beating death of Farmington Hills resident Bob Cipriano — a case that led to first-degree felony murder and other charges against Cipriano's son, Tucker Cipriano, and co-defendant Mitchell Young. Two other family members were severely beaten.

This week's joint statement by Nemecek, Tiderington and Werth states that many businesses are exploiting loopholes in federal regulations and state laws to sell the substances — primarily to young people — even though they are harmful and dangerous.

Stores in Canton, Plymouth and Northville townships are being advised by letter to "immediately cease and desist possession, manufacture, distribution and sale of these compounds."

Police officials are asking for voluntary compliance until laws are on the books. The three townships conducted the investigation of stores with help from the Wayne County Sheriff's Office and the Michigan State Police.

Any citizens who see any of the products in stores are asked to contact their local law-enforcement agency.

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McCotter's exit stuns GOP supporters

By Ken Abramczyk
Observer Staff Writer

Just under one year ago, Thaddeus McCotter ran for president, joining a field of candidates that included Mitt Romney, Rick Perry, Newt Gingrich, Ron Paul and Michelle Bachmann in seeking to win the Republican nomination.

When he ended that campaign in September, McCotter said he intended to run for another term as a congressman.

Now, it appears, McCotter's five consecutive terms as a Congressman are over.

McCotter is leaving politics, at least for now, with his decision Saturday to end his write-in candidacy for the seat he currently holds in the U.S. House of Representatives.

On May 29, McCotter announced he was going to run as a write-in after the Secretary of State's office notified him he lacked the minimum of 1,000 valid signatures to be placed on the ballot. Only 243 signatures out of 1,833 were found to be valid. The Secretary of State's office found that someone had duplicated and photocopied petitions of signatures.

Attorney General Bill Schuette's office is conducting an investigation into the signatures and petitions.

But McCotter changed his mind last week about the write-in campaign. McCotter issued a brief statement Saturday through Randall Thompson, his campaign spokesman.

"One can't clean up a mess multitasking," McCotter said. "Honoring my promise to the sovereign people of our community only allows me to finish the official duties of my present Congressional term; and aid the State Attorney General criminal investigation that I requested into identifying the person or persons who concocted the fraudulent petitions that have cost me so dearly. Honoring this promise does not allow me to continue a political write-in campaign. This decision is final, regardless of how swiftly the investigation is concluded."

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Supporters called Thaddeus McCotter's decision to end his write-in campaign for his U.S. House seat "a blow" to the district.

"To those who are unhappy at this news, I'm sorry; to those happy at this news, you're welcome," McCotter said.

The Observer asked Thompson via email whether McCotter has any other immediate plans, but has not received a reply. A Detroit newspaper indicated that Thompson said McCotter was not granting any more interviews on the topic and that McCotter was done seeking elected office.

Some local Republicans were left scratching their heads at the events of the last two weeks and mulled over the loss of one of their own to represent the district.

State Rep. John Walsh, R-Livonia, said the end of McCotter's term in Congress was a huge loss for the district.

"It was mind-boggling," Walsh said. "He is a good campaigner. He understand the rules. I just couldn't believe it.

"I applaud him for his decision not to run for the reasons that he has stated," Walsh added. "He is accepting full responsibility for what happened. He realized (the investigation) would be a big distraction if he were to run as a write-in candidate."

Tom Stroup, chair of the 11th District Republicans, said he has not spoken to McCotter recently. "There's no question that it's a big loss," Stroup said. "It's disturbing to me to hear what happened, that he doesn't even have a chance to be on the ballot because of a mistake or blatant fraud. I'm very disappointed."

Stroup awaits the investigation and a report from the attorney general's office. "We need to know what happened," Stroup said.

Stroup said he's always been a big fan of McCotter, and called him a brilliant individual. McCotter would meet with 20-30 Republican activists on occasion. "He would field questions from the party regulars and he would do it off the top of his head with no notes."

One former candidate, a Democrat, who ran against McCotter was surprised at what has transpired.

R. Karl Burnett, president of the Livonia Democratic Club and vice chair of the 11th District Democrats, ran against McCotter for Wayne County Commission and for U.S. Congress. Burnett called the turn of events an "abrupt and surprising" end of a career in Congress.

"His reaction to run was predictable," Burnett said. "A number of Republicans' reaction to it probably disappointed the Congressman. It's nearly an impossible task to run as a write-in."

McCotter's successful elections in races for two terms on the Wayne County Commission, one for state Senate and five for U.S. Congress "was a remarkable thing," Burnett said.

Former Attorney General Mike Cox said last week he believed that the signature fiasco showed that McCotter didn't want to serve in Congress anymore. Former state Sen. Loren Bennett of Canton declared his write-in candidacy on Friday before McCotter withdrew on Saturday, stating that the people of the 11th District "deserve more than just a representative who occasionally makes interesting speeches about conservative principles."

RYAN MILLER

Former Gallimore Elementary and West Middle School student Sandy Stenzel is among eight filmmakers chosen by Sprite to participate in a film competition spanning multiple colleges and universities across the United States.

Former P-C student among film winners

Eight promising filmmakers — including former Plymouth and Canton resident Sandy Stenzel — have been chosen by Sprite, through its Sprite Films program, to make a name for themselves in the film industry with the unique opportunity to participate in a film competition spanning multiple colleges and universities across the United States.

Sprite is providing a nationwide platform to shine a light on the aspiring filmmakers, and is also introducing the filmmakers to seasoned actor Tyrese Gibson, who will provide guidance and insight to ignite the film students' creativity and overall experience throughout the filmmaking process.

"Sprite Films is offering talented film students a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to share on America's stage their perception of being true to yourself, which is this year's program theme," said Karen Oettl, Brand Manager at Sprite. "The six winning scripts showcase the innovative spirits and intensely creative skills that these filmmakers encompass, and fans across the nation will have the chance to watch first-hand and vote for their favorite come Aug. 1."

The eight selected filmmakers, including Stenzel, will attend the gathering of the motion picture theatre industry at CinemaCon, April 25-26, 2012 in Las Vegas with Gibson. They will attend workshops sponsored by Universal Pictures and will have one-on-one face time with Gibson to discuss their film projects and future plans in the film industry.

The filmmakers are a diverse group of students from colleges and universities across the United States, including Stenzel, who attends UCLA.

Stenzel is a former Gallimore Elementary and West Middle School student.

The filmmakers' winning scripts will be produced into individual short films that will compete against one another in a contest that will run Aug. 1-31 on Sprite.com. Consumers can view and vote for their favorite film every day during the voting phase, and will be entered with each vote into the Universal Sweepstakes for a chance to win a trip to Universal Orlando Resort for four people – with hotel, airfare and park tickets included.

"The opportunity to showcase creativity and build upon filmmaking skills is so important to up-and-coming filmmakers today, and that's why I support the Sprite Films program," Tyrese Gibson said. "Sprite Films is really giving these film students the chance to not only gain exposure on a national stage, but also to lend support as they work towards their dreams in the film industry."

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Canton senior wins scholarship award

Steven Marion of Canton is the winner of a $500 scholarship awarded by Parkside Credit Union as part of the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* 2012 Academic All-Star Program.

Marion was among 11 members of the All-Star Team who competed in the competition, sponsored by Parkside Credit Union.

The participating students were asked to write an essay of 800 words or less and discuss "What advice do you have for your generation when it comes to developing smart saving and spending habits? Is your generation financially savvy? Is it important to be financially responsible in college?"

Parkside Credit Union, with its main office in Livonia and a branch office in Westland, has been a Michigan nonprofit organization since 1953. In addition to the Academic All-Star Scholarship, Parkside offers four other scholarships to students in an effort to promote and help finance higher education.

"This scholarship award, one of several offered by Parkside, is an important example of a local business serving local customers in a big way," said Susan Rosiek, *Observer & Eccentric* publisher, at the all-star awards ceremony late last month.

"Giving back to the community is very important to all of us at Parkside," said Heather Gatewood, marketing specialist. "We are proud to sponsor scholarships and programs that members of our community directly benefit from. We were particularly impressed with Steven's essay and know he will have no problem handling his finances through his time in college and beyond. We wish Steven all the best and congratulate him on his accomplishments."

Marion said he is honored by the scholarship and grateful to Parkside for its "commitment to higher education."

"It is through this support that I can afford to attend the University of Michigan," said Marion, who plans to study materials science and engineering at the U-M this fall.

Marion is the son of Michael and Diane Marion of Canton.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton High School senior Steven Marion receives a scholarship check from Parkside Credit Union Marketing Specialist Heather Gatewood. Marion won the $500 scholarship for his award-winning essay on how college students handle money.

Parkside, All-Star contest-winning essay

By Steven Marion
2012 All-Star

My generation is like any other that's just starting to be independent, so most of us haven't yet learned to be financially savvy. It is essential to be financially responsible in college; otherwise we could be paying for mistakes far into the future, and in today's difficult economy, we need all the budgeting expertise we can develop. If we learn careful saving and spending habits now, we can enjoy the rewards both during college and beyond.

Unfortunately, college costs are spiraling out of control. So many of us had to make enrollment decisions based mostly on what we could afford, both now and when repaying college loans; we'll need to be financially astute more than ever in order to repay these loans. In addition, there are other potential economic pitfalls for students, such as those associated with using a credit card for the first time. It's too easy to use plastic for that "important" purchase, especially if it "only" costs twenty dollars. The problem is that twenty dollar purchases can add up to hundreds of dollars in a month, thousands in a year. I think it makes sense to get a credit card only when there's enough income to repay the bills. As for learning good economic habits for this and other expenses, my generation is fortunate in that we have a lot of options.

My advice to my peers concerning these options is the same as it is for myself: pick the simplest and most efficient method possible – based on your own personalities and preferences – of setting up a budget and then following it. First, add the cash coming in from your savings accounts, part-time jobs, and so on, then subtract necessary expenses such as books, clothing, laundry detergent, and similar supplies for a semester. Then divide the discretionary income that is left over to create a weekly budget from which to pull out your weekly spending limit, though you may prefer a monthly target. This would be an "allowance" for extras, such as ice cream with friends. Finally, try to save the rest, if any is left over. The amounts will vary from person to person, but try to pick a reasonable limit and leave something in savings for unexpected occasions. Your parents will be a good source of information about this; they have years of experience and will have their own tips related to your specific economic conditions. For myself, I know that this probably will require a few adjustments after I've started school and have a better idea of the process.

The allowance limit should be flexible because someone might spend a little less one week and more the next, but it's a good idea to try to stay within it as much as possible. To help with this, students will want a system to keep track of expenditures. This is important in itself, because knowing how much they spend on extras is the first step toward successful budgeting. Those who love technology can easily find money trackers or smartphone apps online. I would test them out ahead of time. The point of using such apps is to simplify the process, so everyone needs to pick what works most efficiently for him or her. For those who like to write lists, it's even easier to just buy a small notebook that can fit in a pocket or backpack. One also could try keeping a weekly or monthly running total on an envelope that holds receipts, something that would work later for credit card use. Others might want to use their college debit cards and only take out money if the available amount was above a specific level. My strategy is even simpler: once a week, I'll take out in cash what I think is reasonable for spending over that time period.

Of course, tracking systems alone won't help anyone stick to a budget; this requires developing a financially responsible attitude. One must be continuously aware of the costs and benefits of all alternatives, which includes learning to wait for some things. This could be turned into a game: How far can I stretch $10? Is spending $6 on frozen yogurt today worth foregoing saving up for a hoodie with my college logo? Moreover, leisure doesn't have to be expensive, especially at colleges, since they offer hundreds of free events, and students from different backgrounds can meet and share ideas for fun.

If students learn to budget and keep track of expenses now, by the time they graduate they can live comfortably, hang out with friends, and maybe even have some left over for savings.

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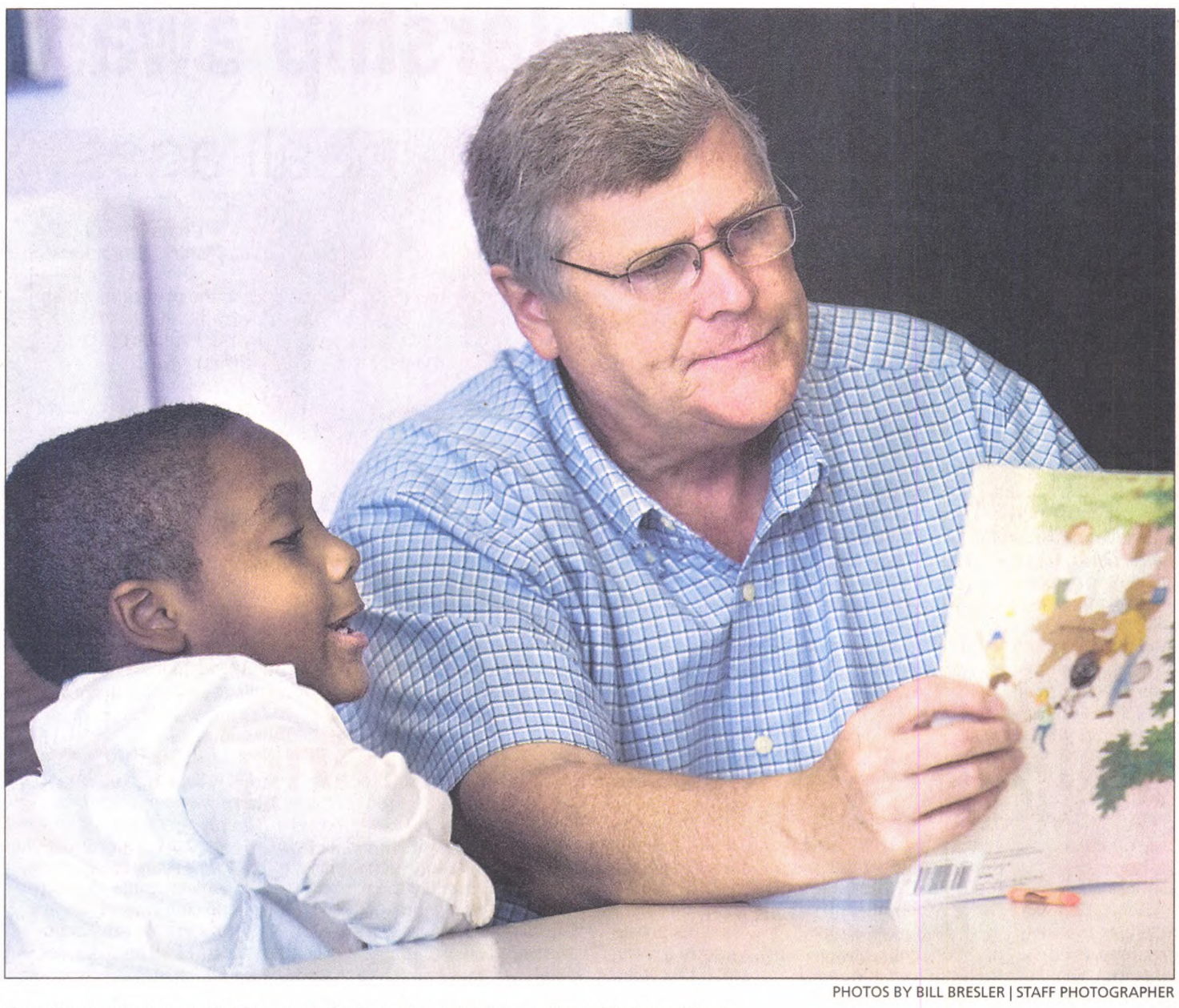


PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gary Hurst, who lives in the Plymouth-Canton school district, reading with Jamari Banks.

They make a difference

There are many people in the area lending their time and efforts to help young children learn to read. Becky Hurst of Plymouth said that volunteers within the local group working with students at Burns Elementary in Detroit come from a variety of backgrounds. Although there are some former teachers in the group, many are from different fields.

"We have stay-at-home moms, an attorney, a dental hygienist, a sales representative and more; they come from all walks of life," Hurst said, adding that not all of the volunteers are retired. "Many of these people are still currently employed. It only takes an hour or two to make a difference in the life of a child."

Local volunteers who care to make a difference in the lives of Detroit students include:

- Plymouth — Becky and Gary Hurst; Karen O'Keefe; Nancy Conzelman; Susan Wainwright; Kim Garland; Jackie Norris; and Michelle Dorigo.
- Canton — Jacquelyn Unis; Jan McLeod; Krista Moraw.
- Livonia — Deb Goin.
- Novi — Ellen Zatolokin; Robbi LeRoy; and Christine Gordon.
- South Lyon — Vida Chirgwin.
- Trenton — Susan Pengelly; and Mike Pengelly.
- Detroit — Sharon Neal.

— Jill Halpin, correspondent

READING

Continued from page A1

This group of citizen volunteers from throughout the metropolitan Detroit area has a singular focus: helping students learn to read by spending time tutoring them.

O'Keefe said she first became aware the Detroit Reading Corps and the needs of students at Burns though her job with Office Depot.

"I call on the Detroit Public School System and so I am in the schools a lot. I'm aware of the need and also of the programs that DPS is trying to put together to help students be successful," O'Keefe said.

Traveling through the school system, she said she also noticed the disparity of educational experiences her own children had attending Plymouth Canton Schools.

Saw the need

"I have always been involved in my children's classrooms, and when I saw the need in Detroit, it really hit home," said O'Keefe, the mother of two boys: one attending West Middle School and the other, a graduate of Canton High School and recent graduate of the University of Michigan.

"I would like every child in Detroit to have the same experiences and opportunities that my own children had," she said, adding that "these children are wonderful and deserve the best we can give them academically and socially."

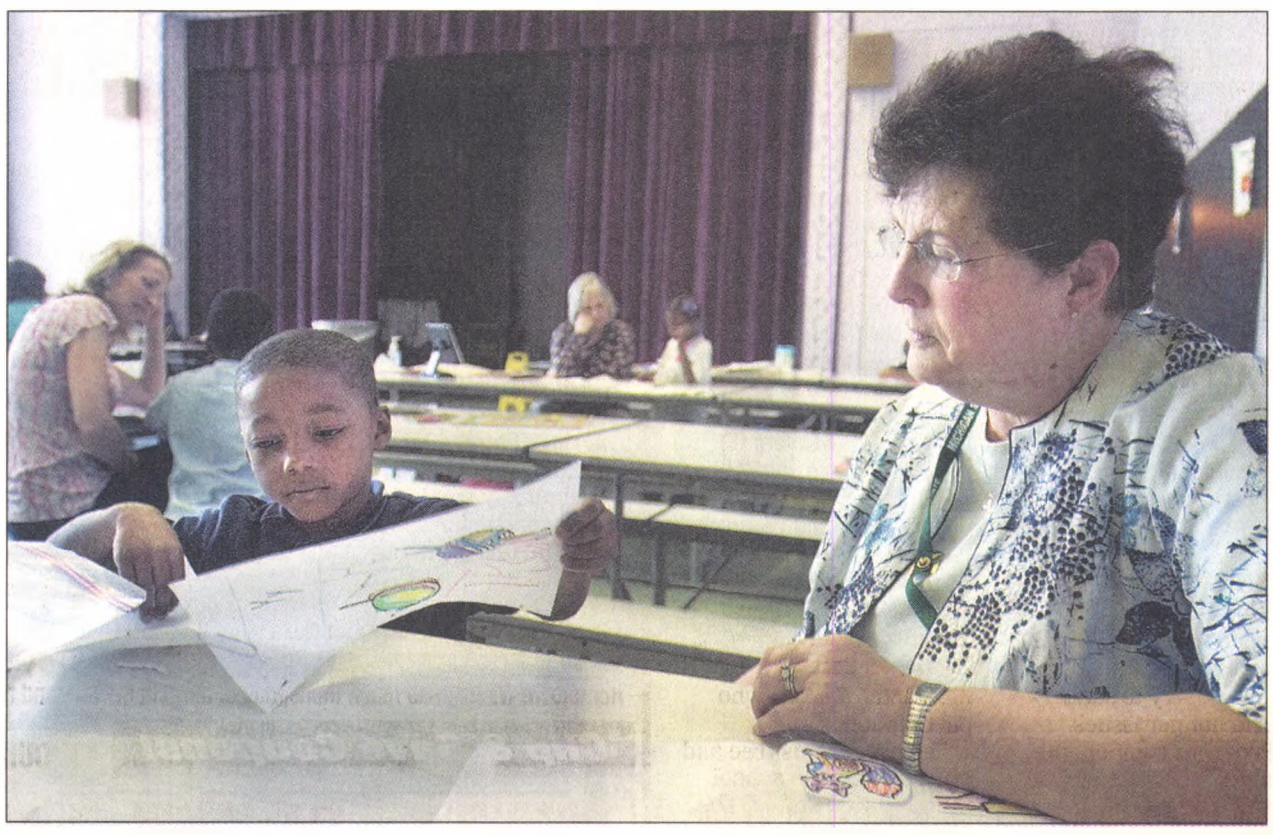
O'Keefe joined the Detroit Reading Corps in 2009, reading with children each week at the school helping them to build a strong foundation in reading and language.

She also found herself developing personal connections with students, encouraging them in other ways as well.

"I had one student who was missing school quite a bit, showing up late and it was affecting his performance in school. I was able to talk about how important it was for him to show up on time, how much I missed him when he was not there, just reinforcing the things he was hearing from his teacher. It helped resolve the situation," O'Keefe said.

Her initial experience was so positive, she added, that she started sharing it with others.

"I started talking about the kids and what a great experience it was to friends of mine and found myself 'recruiting' readers everywhere I went," she said.



Canton resident Jan McLeod works with Tyshon Heard.

Volunteer Krista Moraw and Laila Murphy, reading together.

Burns Elementary student Tyaenn Hadley plays a word/letter game with volunteer Susan Wainwright, who is from Plymouth.

K'Shawn Wells plays a word game with volunteer Rebecca Hurst. Plymouth resident Hurst and her husband, Gary Hurst, both volunteer.

Kim Garland of Plymouth works with Neubian Clark, a student at Burns Elementary School in Detroit.

Relying on personal connections and word-of mouth, she was soon able to develop a group of 20 volunteers from the area that meet every Wednesday morning at Einstein Bagels on Sheldon Road in Plymouth Township. The volunteers carpool to the school as a unit and work with students in preschool to second grade.

Made of up volunteers from Plymouth, Canton, Livonia, Novi, South Lyon, Detroit and Trenton, and from a variety of professions and backgrounds, the enthusiastic group has taken their volunteering to the next level, unofficially "adopting" the school as well, Becky Hurst said.

Not only do they read with the students, but they also take part in other school activities such as chaperoning field trips to local museums and helping with classroom parties at Valentine's Day and much more.

"We try to help the classroom teachers out in any way we can so that the students can be successful," said Becky Hurst, who was a first-grade special education teacher for 36 years in the Novi school district.

The group has had a largely positive impact at the school, said Darhonda Evans, academic engagement supervisor at Burns Elementary School.

"They have helped us make some great improvements," said Evans. "The students are eager to participate and that is the most important thing," she said. "They really are helping us bridge the academic achievement gap." Both O'Keefe and Hurst agree that volunteering has been equally rewarding for the volunteers, noting that while many of them did not even know each other prior to this experience they have become good friends.

Riding to the school together each Wednesday gives volunteers a chance to talk about ideas for working with the children and to compare notes on different approaches and encourage each other.

Becky Hurst said that in addition to meeting people within her own group, "It has been great to meet people from all around Detroit that want to help out, too, and make a difference."

O'Keefe said her focus is to grow the local group of volunteers to make sure that every child has someone willing to read with them, and she is looking for citizens interested in joining them, and "help make a difference in the life of a child."

Volunteers needed

There are 34 new preschoolers starting school in the fall, and that means new volunteers are essential.

The group is both easy-going and informal, with some volunteers acting as substitutes, filling in for those on vacation or unable to make it each week, she added. There is room for those wishing to make different levels of commitment as well.

"We can start a different day as well if we have the interest," if someone is interested in volunteering but unable to help on Wednesday, she said.

O'Keefe is so committed to the program that she also acts as a "liaison" of sorts with the school, helping interested volunteers with the necessary paperwork so that they can begin helping as soon as possible.

"This is an opportunity to help making reading fun for a child. It really is an awesome experience to see them smile and light up when we read with them. We would welcome anyone to come and observe. There is no experience necessary. Just decide to help a child."

The group meets at 8 a.m. and is usually home by 11:15 am, said Hurst. "It really is a short time commitment," she added.

Those interested in joining O'Keefe or those with questions regarding the program can e-mail Karen.OKeefe@officedepot.com.

"The most important part of the partnership has been getting to know the kids and supporting their efforts in whatever way possible. From my experience, they are eager to learn and thankful for any attention they receive."

These photos and others in photo galleries at hometownlife.com are available for purchase, contact Web Editor Larry Ruehlen at lruehlen@hometownlife.com for more information.

During River Day in Flodin Park, volunteers helped plant 10 flats of native species around the ox-bow area, removed several cubic yards of trash from the riparian corridor, placed mulch around area trees and weeded out invasive species along the trail and pond area.

Volunteers help make River Day a success

Canton Township officials were all about gratitude after some 200 volunteers showed up last weekend to participate in Canton's annual River Day.

During the event, which was held in Flodin Park, volunteers help plant 10 flats of native species around the ox-bow area, removed several cubic yards of trash from the riparian corridor, placed mulch around area trees and weeded out invasive species along the trail and pond area.

Volunteers were also treated to a children's bird house building tent and a live "Birds of Prey" wildlife exhibit presented by Leslie Science Center.

River Day was hosted by Canton's Engineering Services and Public Works Divisions and sponsored by WTUA, ITC, Leslie Science Center, Absopure, Heavenly Hot Dogs, Friends of the Rouge, Friends of the I-275 Trial, and Great Lakes Rain Barrels.

Officials said River Day is "a great opportunity to help preserve the quality of Canton's creeks and streams which form the upstream portion of the Lower Rouge River Watershed." Each year Canton's River Day event has a different focus and objective based on the location and sponsor donations.

To find out more about this event, call Engineering Services at (734) 394-5150 or visit www.canton-mi.org.

Library summer reading offers fun for all ages

By Julie Brown
Observer Staff Writer

The Plymouth District Library will be hopping Tuesday, June 26.

That's the day for the summer reading program kickoff, with family programs at 11 a.m., 2 and 7 p.m.

"This year, it's going to be Pippin Puppets doing 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' — sort of," said Carol Champagne, head of youth services. "It'll be very funny."

The library at 223 S. Main will again offer summer reading for preschoolers through adults. You'll need to sign up in advance, either at the library or, for the first time this year, online at www.plymouthlibrary.org.

Registration began June 1 and the official registration date is June 18, when school is out. The program continues through Aug. 11, Champagne said.

The children's theme is "Dream Big — Read," with an overall theme of "Night." Champagne's on the national committee to pick the theme.

"It gets pretty contentious on what the theme's going to be," she said with a smile.

The idea is to keep kids reading over the summer.

"Especially for the early readers," she said. "Just 20 minutes a day is all it takes. We really want to reinforce the idea that reading can be fun. Anything they read counts."

Kids can read outside the library collection.

Last year, just over 1,600 kids from birth to age 12 participated, with a couple hundred more teens and couple hundred more adults. The "Read to Me" preschoolers are the youngest.

"They get to check in with us each week and show us what they've read," Champagne said. Youngsters get stickers and small weekly prizes in the program, which overall is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

There's an Edge program for those between elementary age and teen, with all age levels having activities, "even the preschoolers." Edge kids will vie for a grand prize of admission for four to Cedar Point.

Teens also will have a prize drawing for the summer, with adult prizes as well.

Librarians emphasize that you shouldn't be intimidated by online signup starting.

"If they do need help, there's always somebody here who can help them," Champagne said, adding to call (734) 453-0750 and press 5. "We're kind of interested to see how that (online signup) goes."

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Free program helps students to develop leadership skills

Area high school students and teachers are invited to participate in a leadership program for the 2012-13 school year offered by *USA TODAY* Education called "Leadership Challenge."

The program was developed for the Lift a Life Foundation, the personal foundation of David Novak, current CEO of Louisville-based Yum! Brands, whose mission is to teach leadership skills to high school students, and the "Yum! Foundation," whose mission is to eliminate world hunger.

The program, a "leadership challenge to solve world hunger," is a service-learning-based initiative that seeks to accomplish both goals.

The "Leadership Challenge" was created by the Lift A Life Foundation and the *USA TODAY* Charitable Foundation to encourage students to hone leadership skills as they learn about and try to solve world hunger issues.

Program components include:

- In-classroom, standards-based curriculum on the topic of leadership will be provided to participating schools.
- Classroom and training activities will center on the challenge of "solving world hunger."
- Students work in teams to identify a hunger-related problem, develop a solution and execute their plan.
- Each participating teacher will receive "Taking People With You" leadership book.
- $500,000 will be awarded to winning teams to be applied to their choice of hunger projects.
- Teacher incentives included for those who participate.

The program is free and open to any high school in the United States. The program is designed to be implemented during the 2012-13 school year and participating classrooms will receive the electronic edition of *USA TODAY* to accompany the curriculum. The curriculum is easy to implement and requires minimal teacher preparation.

School principals and teachers can enroll or get more information at www.leadershiphungerchallenge.com.

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Livonia Public Schools
Opens the Prestigious International Baccalaureate Diploma Program to Out-of-District Students in Wayne County

Ten seats are open to students entering 9th grade in fall 2012
One seat is open to student entering 10th grade in fall 2012
Ten seats are open to students entering 11th grade in fall 2012
Limited Registration Window: June 1- June 29, 2012

Livonia Public Schools is opening its International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP) to Limited Schools of Choice students from Wayne County for the 2012-13 school year. This program is a two year college preparatory plan of study that takes place during a student's junior and senior year of high school. IBDP students are required to take IB exams in order to earn the highly acclaimed and internationally recognized IB diploma.

Registration will be open from June 1-June 29, 2012 at Franklin High School, 31000 Joy Road, Livonia, Michigan 48150 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday All candidates MUST meet the IBDP selection criteria.

For complete information on the IBDP program and application process, contact Franklin High School @ 734-744-2655 or go to http://www.livoniapublicschools.org/Franklin.cfm .

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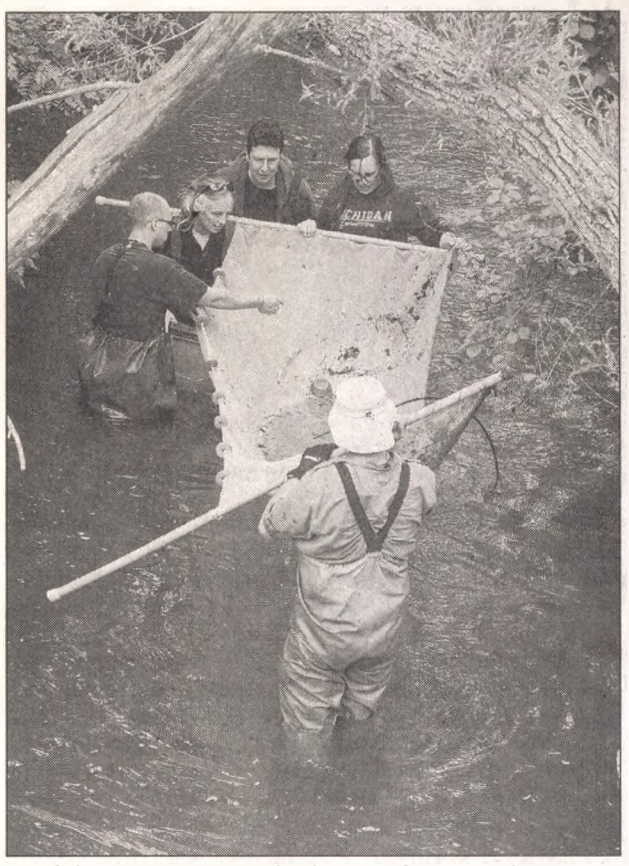
Tracking down an elusive minnow

College interns find endangered redside dace in Rouge River watershed

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sally Petrella of Friends of the Rouge takes a look at one of the many crayfish the net-survey team found last week in Northville's Johnson Creek.



The fish survey team checks their net for a sample on Johnson Creek last week. From left are Nick Lavigne, Sally Petrella, Deborah Hochberg, Kristina Blott, and Philip Kukulski (at bottom).

University of Michigan-Dearborn interns Kristina Blott of Northville (front in green waders) and Bob Muller of Royal Oak (far right) flank Sally Petrella of Friends of the Rouge, as they get ready to do a fish survey on Johnson Creek in Northville.

Philip Kukulski, second from left, dashes back and forth in the water to chase fish into a net held by other volunteers during the May 31 net-survey of Johnson Creek, a Rouge River tributary in Northville.

Most college students spend their time researching a project surrounded by books in a library or in front of a computer screen — not waste deep in a river chasing fish. But that's where University of Michigan-Dearborn students Bob Muller and Kristina Blott found themselves last week, as they were doing a fish survey in Northville's Johnson Creek.

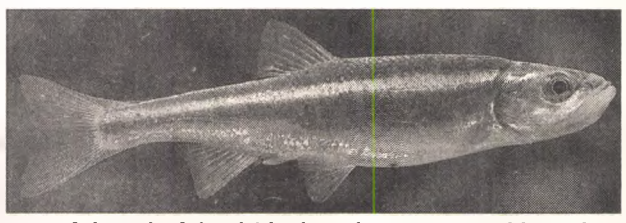
The students were surveying two sites on Thursday — in Fish Hatchery Park and a little downstream near Seven Mile and Hines Drive. The day was the culmination of eight separate days of doing fish surveys in the Rouge River watershed, as part of an internship the two are doing with Friends of the Rouge, an organization that promotes all aspects of the river. The main goal of their efforts has been to determine the status of fish populations in the Rouge watershed, and in particular to find the presence of a small minnow called the redside dace, which has traditionally been found in Rouge tributaries but is now an endangered species in Michigan.

The project has been a huge success. With the help of other Friends of the Rouge volunteers, Muller and Blott found the colorful redside dace at four different locations: in Minnow Pond Creek, Seeley Creek, and the Upper Branch of the Rouge – all in Farmington Hills – and in Johnson Creek near Five Mile and Ridge roads in Northville Township.

The presence of the fish, which hadn't been documented in the Rouge watershed since 2005, is something to cheer because the fish requires cold, clean water to survive and is a good indicator of good water quality — something not usually associated with the Rouge River.

"We've found them at quite a few sites, which is exciting because they haven't been found for several years," said Blott, a 26-year-old Northville resident, who hopes to become a fisheries biologist after graduating later this year. "They're not found in the nearby Clinton or Huron rivers. They're found specifically in the Rouge watershed. So we were quite thrilled to find them."

And the redside dace isn't the only fish they've found. During their various survey locations, the team has found and documented nearly 20 different species of fish. In Fish Hatchery Park, alone, they found numerous species, including blacknose dace, white sucker, bluegill, green sunfish, creek chubb, sculpin (another very sensitive fish), and more than a dozen brown trout, one of which that measured about 12 inches.



One of the colorful redside dace the team was able to document. The rare fish grows up to about 4.7 inches long.

You might say it was a good day on the river, and the team was in a celebratory mood after collecting such a diversity of fish.

Jeff Braunscheidel, senior fisheries biologist for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, came out to Fish Hatchery Park to check on the team Thursday. He was also happy to see the presence of pollution-intolerant species including the trout and sculpin, and he was thrilled to know the team had found the redside dace at the other locations. He said the data the team is putting together is important because it helps the DNR know where threatened species are present, which impacts how the department grant permits to developers in surrounding areas.

"It ensures a higher level of protection," he said.

At 64 years old, Muller, a Royal Oak resident, isn't your typical grad student. Yet, you would be hard-pressed to find anyone more passionate about fish, particularly the various minnow species found in Michigan. In fact, as happy as everyone else was about finding the trout at Fish Hatchery Park, Muller was a bit disappointed not finding any redside dace at the location. He thinks there is simple reason — the trout, which are stocked by the DNR, eat smaller minnows.

Still, Muller labeled their project a success.

"I've been incredibly pleased," he said. "I am astounded with the diversity we've found."

Now that the students are finished with their field work, Muller and Blott will add up all the data and put together a paper of their work, which will not only help them graduate from college but also be used by Friends of the Rouge and the DNR. Muller said once he graduates, he may even try to do a more comprehensive fish study of the Rouge River, which hasn't been done since 1995.

"I would like to extend this to cover the entire Rouge watershed, so in 20 from now if the water quality improves we can say, 'Wow, look how far we've come.' Or, if things get worse, we can see exactly where," Muller said. "If you don't stick your head under the water, you just don't know what's down there."

The Rouge River covers 466 square miles in three counties and 42 communities in the metropolitan Detroit area. To learn more about the Friends of the Rouge, visit www.therouge.org.

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Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on **Monday, June 18th, 2012 at 9:30 A.M.** at the Extra Space Storage facility located at:

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Purchases must be made with **cash only** and **paid at the time of sale.** All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

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BUSINESS

BRAD KADRICH, EDITOR
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IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

Great Lakes Trivia engages customers at local bars, restaurants and fundraisers.

Company makes trivia pay off

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

Great Lakes: Live trivia shows, private parties, fundraisers, team building events. We give away $25,000 annually through our trivia league tournaments.

Observer: How did you come to open your business?

Great Lakes: A bunch of us played trivia at some local bars and felt we could do better..

Observer: Why did you choose Plymouth?

Great Lakes: Most of the management and the owners live locally in or near Plymouth.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Great Lakes: The promotions and advertising we do for our partner venues is unrivaled. Amount of cash we give away through our league tournaments is some $25,000 annually.

Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Great Lakes: We have expanded from the Detroit metro area to include Toledo and Cleveland.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Great Lakes: We started in 2009 and have seen our business nearly triple in size. Everyone seems to have some extra spending money for drinks and food at their local watering hole. Plus, our game is free to play.

Observer: What's in store for the future of your business?

Great Lakes: We are planning to open a Chicago market later this summer.

Great Lakes Trivia doles out some $25,000 annually.

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Business name and address: Great Lakes Trivia, 139 W. Liberty, Plymouth
Your name: Keith Swayze, sales/marketing manager
Your hometown: Commerce Township
Business opened: March 2009
Number of employees: 50-plus
Your business specialty: We provide fun, engaging, live trivia shows for bars/restaurants in metro Detroit area, Toledo and Cleveland.
Phone: (734) 787-8588 | www.greatlakestrivia.com

PLYMOUTH CHAMBER CHAT

Chamber breakfast

Mary Kramer, vice president and publisher of Crain's Detroit Business, will be the featured speaker at the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce's Good Morning Plymouth breakfast 7:30-9 a.m. Wednesday, June 27 at the Red Olive Banquet Center.

As a foremost authority on the local business climate, Kramer will share her views about the future of our region, the hottest growth industries, attracting talented workers, utilizing our own resources and people, entrepreneurship, education and public policy. She also will leave plenty of time for questions and answers.

Cost is $12. RSVP no later than June 22 to teri@plymouthmich.org or call (734) 453-1540. Cancellations must be received 48 hours prior to the event.

Father's Day Run

The Plymouth YMCA will hold their annual Father's Day Run on Sunday, June 17. The run has been a Community Father's Day tradition for 33 years. Join the Y for a morning of fun and fitness. There is an event for every age, 0-99: Kids Fun Runs, 1M Run/Walk, 5K Run/Walk, 10K and the Morse Dental Group Triple, 1M. 5K, 10K (10.3 M).

Register at www.active.com or for more information visit www.ymcadetroit.org/plymouth.

Volunteers are also needed. Contact cmorency@ymcametrodetroit.org. Proceeds support the Strong Kids Financial Assistance Program.

Internet marketing

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce sponsors a search engine and internet marketing optimization workshop 8:30-9:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 26, at the chamber office, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth.

The workshop, presented by Terry Krieg and Mark Hutchins, focuses on website search engine optimization and internet marketing. This will be a great workshop for anyone who is looking to improve the visibility of their website. Combining an SEO-friendly website with an effective internet marketing strategy is one of the best ways to boost your company's online presence and increase sales.

To RSVP call the chamber at (734) 453-1540 or email teri@plymouthmich.org.

Shred It Day

Community Financial will again sponsor a Shred Day for anyone who needs to have confidential shredding of documents. The event takes place 2-4:30 p.m. Saturday, June 9, at their branches in Canton (6355 N. Canton Center Rd.) and Novi (23890 Novi Rd.).

Dressing up

Staffers at Dazzling Daniela held their grand opening Friday, June 1. The store is full of glitz and glamour as they specialize in dresses, shoes and accessories. They are located at 424 S. Main St., just south of Panera. Pictured is owner Daniela Kokalevski, her staff, staff from the Downtown Development Authority and members of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce's Ambassador Committee.

Golf openings

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce has openings available for the chamber's annual golf outing July 9 at Fox Hills.

The event will be on the championship level Golden Fox course and is a scramble that will include dinner and lunch. If you would like to participate or sponsor, call the chamber at (734) 453-1540.

The major sponsor of the outing is Victory Honda.

June events

- June 14 — 10-Member Connection, 8-9 a.m., Chamber Office
- June 26 — Workshop on "Website Maximization," 8:30-9:30 a.m., Chamber Office
- June 27 — Good Morning Plymouth breakfast. Speaker is Mary Kramer of Crain's Detroit Business, 7:30-9 a.m., Red Olive Banquet Center

Farmers market

The 2012 Farmers Market is now open.

The market features fresh produce, flowering plants, herbs, baked goods, meats, eggs, honey, BBQ & pasta sauces and a variety of craft items. They are open on Saturdays through October from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in The Gathering and the street in front.

PLYMOUTH BUSINESS BRIEFS

Senior management

Plante Moran, PLLC, announce Plymouth resident Jason Winters has been named a Senior Manager in the firm's Southfield office in the management consulting restructuring and operations improvement group.

Winters specializes in evaluating and developing business strategy and plans, identifying areas for profitability and cash flow improvement, and executing strategic initiatives. He has experience in a broad range of industries including manufacturing, distribution, service/retail businesses, as well as higher education and commercial finance.

Winters

A CPA, Winters has a bachelor of business administration degree in accounting and finance from the University of Michigan. Prior to his role at the University of Michigan, he had a total of 14 years of experience in public accounting, turnaround and restructuring consulting, and as a controller.

He lives in Plymouth with his wife, Julie, and their children, Lindsey, Rachel, and Natalie.

Business news

From the desks of the folks at the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority:

- Simply the Best Boutique at 577 Forest was scheduled to open Thursday, June 7.
- Simple Sandwich has a new website. Look for the menu and check for weekly specials at www.simple-sandwich.com
- Candy Trail will carry Blazo's fruit cups and 6-inch fruit pies. Call Sandy at (734) 737-9338 to put in an order.
- Forest Computer Solutions has six summer computer classes, beginning Wednesday, June 20, from 1-2:30 p.m. The first session is Shutterfly I. Setup a free account using Shutterfly, learn how to upload pictures, crop and frame them, and add your pictures to items such as mugs, coasters, blankets, and so much more.

The cost per session is $20. To reserve a seat call (734) 259-8611.

Preferred in Plymouth

First Preferred Mortgage Company, a Port Huron-headquartered full-service residential mortgage bank, has opened a location in downtown Plymouth at 863 West Ann Arbor Trail, and will host a ribbon cutting ceremony at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, June 8. Dan Sugg, vice president of retail mortgage at First Preferred Mortgage Company, made the announcement.

With the economic landscape in Michigan continuing to experience positive signs of improvement, First Preferred Mortgage Company is continuing to find talented mortgage professionals and add additional community locations. The Plymouth location is the third community location added in 2012, with three additional locations planned before year's end.

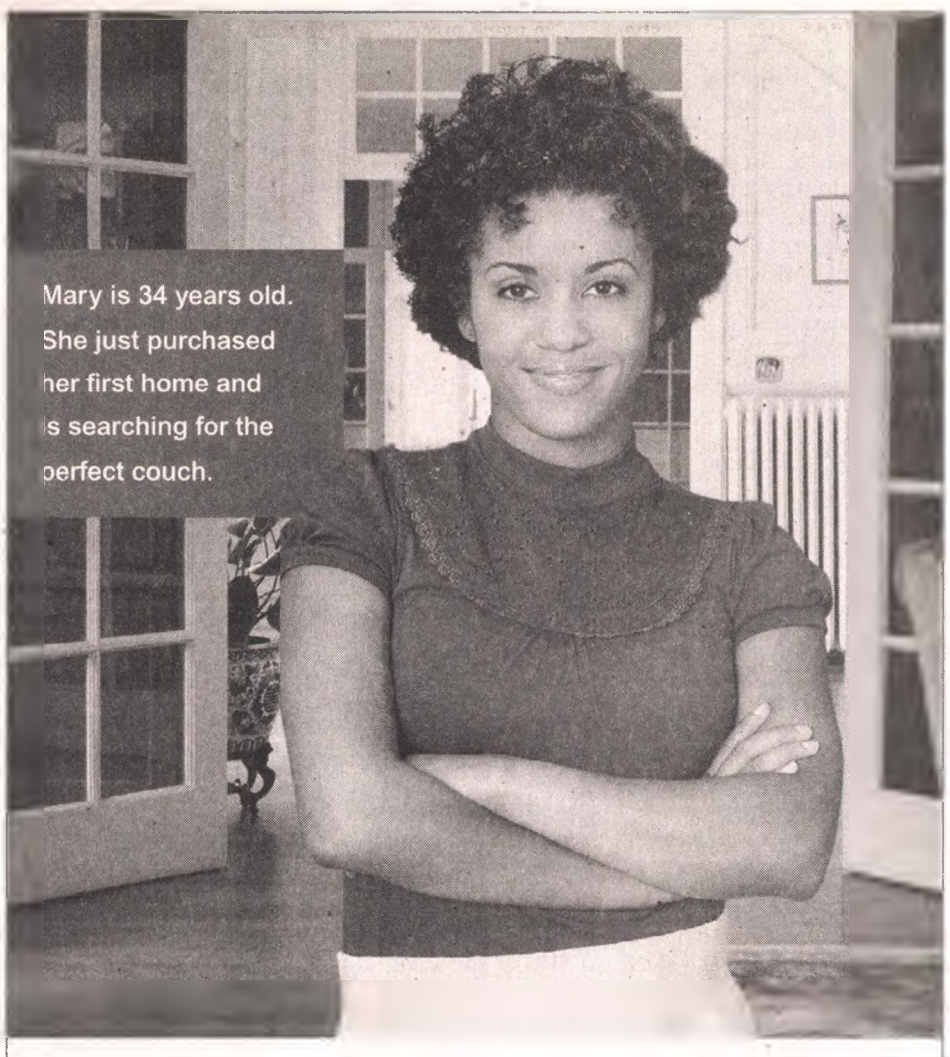
"We believe that buying a home is one of the most important decisions families make, so having community-focused branch locations, like our Plymouth office, is the best way to get to know community members, understand their needs and offer personalized service," said Sugg. "Many of our employees are Plymouth-area residents and they are happy to serve their hometown and work closely with the community."

To learn more about the Plymouth location, call (734) 233-3190 or email Dan Sugg at dsugg@firstpreferred.com.

Advance directives

"Five Wishes Advance Directives: Making Your Wishes Known" is a free event that explains to adults 18 years and over the importance of completing an advance directive document. The Five Wishes advance directive document will be provided free of charge to all attendees. Arbor Hospice staff will teach guests the steps needed to be in control of their health wishes, and how to talk with family, friends and doctors about their end-of-wishes.

Arbor Hospice's free community workshops will be held at the hospice office, 40500 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, June 14, July 12 and Aug. 9. All presentations are conducted from 6:30-7:30 p.m.



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OPINION

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

OUR VIEWS

McCotter's mess-up

Congressman's signature snafu a disappointment for Republicans

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter has let his longtime supporters and other Republicans down.

We don't know yet what the State Attorney General and Secretary of State will find in their investigation of the duplicate signatures found on nominating petitions and photocopies turned in by McCotter's campaign volunteers.

But the five-term Congressman from Livonia was ultimately responsible for submitting enough valid signatures in time for the deadline to get his name on the primary ballot. He shouldn't blame his staff. (One staff member approached an Observer employee for her signature outside the Livonia Civic Center Library the day before the petitions were due.)

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter

We weren't surprised when McCotter decided over the weekend not to run as a write-in for the 11th District. He appears to have lost support from his own party. Former State Attorney General Mike Cox, who once assisted McCotter by going door-to-door in McCotter's campaign for state Senate, said in an interview last week that McCotter didn't care about Congress anymore.

McCotter filed to run for Congress again after a failed bid for the Republican nomination for the U.S. presidency.

We suspected McCotter didn't care about Congress anymore when we heard constituents complain about McCotter not showing up at events in his district, including candidate forums, and not holding town hall meetings.

It's too bad this is the way McCotter's time in Congress will end, barring a run as an independent candidate. It's sad because he's typically been good to the auto industry and has represented his fiscally conservative constituents well.

McCotter often spoke of his desire to curb spending on a gradual level on Social Security and Medicare programs. He wasn't the Republican that some Tea Partiers would want, and many Dems despised him for his anti-Obama positions on everything from health care to the economy. Instead, he crossed the aisle when he felt it was necessary, most notably on the auto bailout with nearly the entire Congressional delegation from Michigan.

As the incumbent, McCotter would have been the front runner in the race and well-positioned to take the win in November. In fact, he was considered virtually a shoo-in for the new 11th House District, which runs through solid Republican territory across western Wayne County and into Oakland County. No doubt, some prominent Republican candidates backed off the race when McCotter decided to seek re-election.

Now the only Republican on the primary ballot is Kerry Bentivolio, a little known 60-year-old teacher from Milford.

Any Republican who runs as a write-in candidate will face an uphill battle. Write-in candidates, even those with solid name recognition, rarely get elected. Voters respond to the names on the ballot, and it takes a massive effort to get voters to resonate with a name they have to write in themselves.

Of course, it's possible that Democrats William Roberts or Syed Taj could win in November.

But whoever ends up winning will need to be a fast learner. Washington D.C., with all its big money, lobbyists and politics, can be daunting to a newcomer. And love or hate McCotter, his experience will be missed in Washington, but it also leaves a window of opportunity for a newcomer to make his or her mark on the 11th District.

PLYMOUTH OBSERVER
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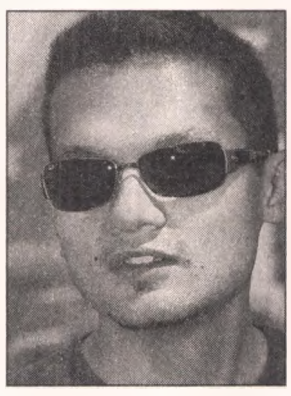
Brad Kadrich, *Community Editor*
Susan Rosiek, *Executive Editor*
Grace Perry, *Director of Advertising*

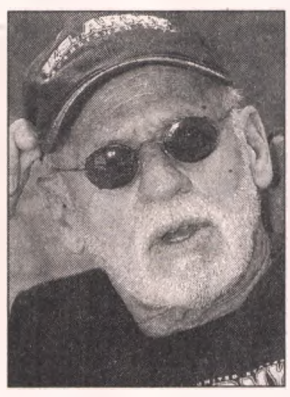
COMMUNITY VOICE

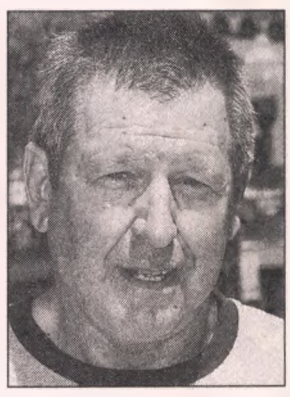
Have you seen any good movies lately that you can recommend?

We asked this question at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.

"I can recommend the old movies. 'The Third Man.' (I liked) the music and the angles it was shot in."
Benjamin Collins
Canton Township


"Last one I saw was 'The Five-Year Engagement.' It was filmed in Ann Arbor. ... It was funny. It's just a little cute movie."
Alfred Lim
Canton Township


"The movie that I saw was that Army picture. ... 'Word of Honor.' I was really impressed with it."
Pete Rakowski
Plymouth Township


"We watched 'Moneyball' with my son and I thought that was outstanding."
John Porter
Plymouth

LETTERS

Proud of region

I had the pleasure last weekend of attending the Chevrolet Belle Isle Grand Prix on its namesake island in Detroit. Despite the delays due to deteriorating track surface the race was very entertaining and a great event for the City of Detroit and our region. The huge crowds and abundance of advertising showed that our auto industry is well on its way to a full recovery.

These types of things make me proud of our region and our core industry. Events like the Indy Car races on Belle Isle show that our people and our core industry are capable of bouncing back despite what naysayers from around the country and even in our own backyard may say.

What also made me proud, amongst the roar of the race cars were their engines, half of the turbocharged V6's in the field were assembled in our very own Plymouth Township by Ilmor Engineering.

Plymouth Township has always had a healthy mix of industry, commercial businesses and residential development. Companies like Ilmor and our other automotive industries play a big part in that, which is why it's important to keep our township an attractive place to do business.

Part of this involves keeping taxes low by focusing less on temporary targeted incentives and more on keeping rates low for everyone. This way the free market decides what is best instead of the government picking and choosing who to entice.

Also important is making sure that we keep our young people in Plymouth. We graduate some of the brightest students from our three high schools and from universities around the state, keeping them around will give businesses yet another reason to locate themselves in Plymouth.

Andrew Justus
Plymouth Township

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:
Web: www.hometownlife.com
Mail: Letters to the Editor, Plymouth Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226
Fax: (313) 223-3318
E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com.
Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.
Deadline: Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

STAFF COLUMN

A century of life is cause for wonder

"Awesome" is one of the most overused words around, but sometimes it is the right word, and this is one of those times: 100-year-olds are awesome.

In 27 years of newspaper work, I've been fortunate enough to interview eight different centenarians, and I'm glad to report that stories on 100-year-olds never get old. Local government, school board news, elections, crime and high school sports may be staples of community news, but a century of life — *that* is a human interest feature that's hard to top.

Matt Jachman

I approach interviews with 100-year-olds with a certain reverence and — OK, I already used a form of the word — awe. The dramatic sweep of events seen and lived in such a life is not easy to convey, or for a stranger to understand, during a casual conversation of an hour or two.

My thoughts are prompted by my interview last week with Katherine Thompson, who will turn 100 on Sunday. Born at her parents' house in Detroit, Mrs. Thompson was a banker's executive secretary during the Great Depression, and later a homemaker and mother.

Probably no major city in the country has undergone the kind of boom-and-bust cycle that Detroit has in the last century, and the many of the details of Mrs. Thompson's life, from immigrant parents who made new lives in the city to a childhood home that's no longer on the map, seems tied to that story, even though she and her son, George, have lived in Plymouth Township for 35 years.

I'm still smiling at the answer Mrs. Thompson gave to one of those requisite questions for centenarians, something along the lines of "What do you make of your long life?" or "To what do you attribute your longevity?"

Her answer was fresh and succinct, with no pronouncements about the right diet, avoiding alcohol (or indulging moderately in a favorite drink, take your pick) or adhering to this or that belief system.

"I don't know what keeps you going," she said. "There's got to be something — I have no clue."

Mrs. Thompson was the third centenarian I've met already his year, and, in fact, seven of my eight interviews with 100-year-olds (or 100-plus; one woman was 102) have taken place within in the past three years.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Katherine Thompson reflects on her life at her home in Plymouth Township.

I did my first story on a 100-year-old in 1986. The woman was from Farmington, Ill., and I felt a kinship with her, as my father's mother (who made it to age 94 and would be turning turn 110 this year) lived in nearby Peoria, and I grew up vacationing there in the hot central Illinois summers

I have to fast-forward nearly 25 years before I did another centenarian story, but they've been coming in regularly since then. While this probably says something about how my beat and the type of assignments I get have changed, certainly increasing life expectancy has something to do with it: The number of centenarians in the country, estimated at more than 70,000 in 2010, about doubled since 1990.

Another notable, but probably not surprising, fact is that all eight of the centenarians I've written about have been women. Guys, though, can take heart in the story my colleague, photographer Bill Bresler, likes to tell of the 107-year-old man he photographed who was holding his walker over his head as he danced at his birthday party.

No discussion of local centenarians would be complete without a mention of Margaret Dunning, the Plymouth businesswoman, philanthropist and car collector whose century mark was the occasion of a big public celebration two years ago. Born on a farm in Redford Township, where she is said to have met Henry Ford, and from where she traveled with her father to deliver fresh milk to Detroit dairies, she is coming up on her 102nd birthday later this month, still exhibiting her antique Packard.

Happy birthday, Katherine, Margaret, and thanks to you and all the other centenarians whose stories, and examples, have added much to our lives.

Matt Jachman is a reporter for the Plymouth Observer. He can be reached at (313) 222-2405 or by e-mail at mjachman@hometownlife.com.

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SPORTS

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GIRLS SOCCER DISTRICT FINAL

Chiefs burst Northville's bubble

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

With pinpoint precision a towering 35-yard free kick by Canton's Gabby Epelman traveled over a wall of players into the top left corner of Northville's goal Saturday afternoon.

And with it, Epelman and her teammates stuck a pin in the top-ranked Mustangs' hopes of having a long, successful postseason — defeating Northville 3-2 in a Division 1 girls soccer district final.

Northville players built an early 2-0 lead, but could not protect it and dropped to their home turf in agony after losing their only game of the season (finishing 17-1-4).

Meanwhile, the triumphant Chiefs mobbed each other almost in disbelief.

"I can't believe we just won," said Canton senior defender Robyn Mack, who tied the game 2-2 on a penalty kick late in the first half. "We were definitely the underdogs coming in, everyone knew it. "We had nothing to lose. They didn't expect us to win but we came out and won."

Also in the middle of the mob scene was Epelman, whose free kick from the right side of the field sailed over the outstretched fingertips of Northville senior goalkeeper Kiki Hilmer with just 8:05 left for the tiebreaker.

It was virtually identical to her free kick taken about five minutes earlier. That time, Hilmer jumped up to stop the first shot and dove to block a rebound scoring bid.

Epelman said that's what she tries to do, even in practice. If her deep shot is stopped, there's the chance teammates at least will get a chance to score.

"I try to play it back post to my forwards and midfields," said Epelman, adding that she "felt on top of the world" when

Please see SOCCER, B4

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Canton sophomore Gabby Epelman (center) is mobbed by teammates after scoring what turned out to be the winning goal of Saturday's Division 1 district girls soccer final. At left is Northville's Sam Jarrett (No. 9).

CANTON BLANKS DEARBORN

In a non-conference girls soccer contest to open the regular season in late March, Canton and Saline hooked up to play a 1-1 tie.

Those teams will renew acquaintances 7 p.m. Friday when they meet for the Division 1 regional final at Saline High School.

Both teams were victorious in Tuesday's regional openers to advance.

Balanced scoring helped the Chiefs (16-2-3) defeat Dearborn 4-0 in Tuesday's first regional semifinal, with the Hornets (15-5-3) following up with a 5-0 victory over Livonia Franklin.

Senior Megan Trapp started the scoring for Canton, converting sophomore Rachel Winters' corner kick.

Canton went up 2-0 when senior Alex Bryden placed an 18-yard shot into the Dearborn goal and senior Ally Krause finished up her own rebound to make it 3-0.

Closing out the scoring was sophomore Taylor Dalian.

Dutch Lions stop Bucks

Joel DeLass scored on a penalty kick in the 97th minute as the USL Pro League Dayton (Ohio) Dutch Lions ousted the Michigan Bucks, 2-1, in the fourth round of the 99th Lamar Hunt Open Cup in a match played Tuesday at Oakland University.

Eli Garner opened the scoring for the Dutch Lions in the 12th minute off an assist from Gibson Bardsley, but Anthony Grant countered for the Bucks on an unassisted goal in the 55th minute.

The Bucks were the only Premier Development League team remaining among the final 16, which included eight Major League Soccer teams.

Last Friday, Grant scored twice, including the go-ahead goal in the 61st minute as the Bucks improved to 3-0 in the Great Lakes Division of the PDL's Central Conference with a 4-2 win over the host Cincinnati Kings in a match played at Northern Kentucky University.

Stefan St. Louis and Steven Miller also tallied goals for the Bucks, now 6-1 overall.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Earlier this season, Canton sophomore Kendyl Richter (No. 4) makes a nice flip to a teammate to force out Northville's Nicolette Thibodeau (No. 14). But on Saturday, the Mustangs got the best of things in a Division 1 district final.

Canton's 'mo' fizzles

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

SOFTBALL DISTRICTS

Catherine Porter hit homers to bookend the day for Canton's softball team at Saturday's Division 1 softball districts.

Porter's first fence-clearing blast of the day jump-started the Chiefs to an 8-4 nine-inning victory over Livonia Churchill in a district semifinal. Finishing it off with a three-run homer in the ninth was sophomore Kaitlyn Keys.

But all Porter's second homer did was keep the Chiefs from being shut out by Northville senior pitcher Laura Pond in the final — an 8-1 victory for the Mustangs.

"The kids played hard the first game," Canton head coach Jim Arnold said. "In the second game we hit the ball again, but it wasn't with the authority that we did the first game. ... We just could not carry it over."

Preceding Keys' clutch homer in the winning rally against Churchill was an RBI single by Megan Grant. A two-run double in the seventh by senior outfielder Jesse Larner sent the game into extra innings.

Those kinds of hits weren't plentiful against Pond, however, as the Mustangs (20-4) won their first district title since 2009. This marked their first year as part of the district

Please see SOFTBALL, B2

Kids' fishing

The Metro West Steelheaders of Livonia will host a Kids' Fishing Outing beginning at 9 a.m. with check-in and registration Saturday, June 9, at the Kensington Metropark Shore Fishing Area. Take I-96 to the Kent Lake Road exit and turn east to enter the park.

Free fishing gear, bait (Walt's Crawlers) and license will be provided for kids.

There will also be a free wildlife safari critter show at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at noon.

For more information, call Jim Robertson at (734) 420-0582 or email Jimerpi04@comcast.net.

This Eagle has landed

PCA's Zandee signs to play NAIA tennis at Taylor U

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

It literally will be many happy returns for tennis-loving Rachel Zandee.

The 17-year-old Plymouth Christian Academy senior recently signed to play the sport at Taylor University of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

"I'm very excited to go to Taylor University, it means a lot to be on the tennis team," Zandee said following a recent signing ceremony at PCA. "The girls have already accepted me. I've been to a few team dinners. They've welcomed me and I know it's going to be a fun season."

The Canton resident opted for a tennis scholarship with the Indiana-based college even though other varsity sports on her resume include soccer, volleyball and basketball.

Her favorite

Why tennis over the three other sports she plays?

"I love all aspects of tennis in that you can really challenge yourself to your fullest potential," Zandee said. " I've always loved tennis."

Zandee added that the sport has always been at the top of her list of faves, even though she really enjoys and is very good at her other varsity sports.

"I probably started (playing tennis) when I was 5, just messing around with my parents," she said. "And I focused in on it when I was a freshman and PCA got a team."

That year, it was Zandee's dad (Jim Zandee) and Mike Kwang who took charge of the fledgling coed program as co-coaches. They continue to helm the squad, which plays during the fall season with Kwang in the top role.

"Rachel has always been an outstanding athlete, very naturally gifted," Kwang said. "And on top

Please see ZANDEE, B3

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Plymouth Christian Academy senior Rachel Zandee (front row, center) recently signed to play tennis at Taylor University. Seated at left is Joyce Zandee (Rachel's mom) while PCA tennis coach Mike Kwang is seated at right. Standing are (from left) Jim Zandee (Rachel's dad) and PCA athletic director Rick Swilley.

Mustangs pound Churchill in final

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

BASEBALL DISTRICTS

Livonia Churchill encountered a runaway freight train in Saturday's Division 1-District 32 championship baseball final at Salem.

The Chargers, coming off a 5-3 semifinal victory earlier in the day against Canton, got slammed by Northville, the state's No. 2-ranked team in four innings, 23-6.

The Mustangs, who improved to 31-4 overall, led 5-2 after two innings before breaking it wide open by sending 18 batters to the plate with a 13-run, 10-hit inning in the third.

"You never expect any district game like that," said Northville coach John Kostrzewa, whose team advanced to the final with a tougher-than-expected 9-7 semifinal win over the host Rocks. "Usually any time you get to the state tournament, no matter who you're playing or what your record has been, we've learned in the past it doesn't matter. It's the team that executes when it comes right down to it. And for us, we hadn't been swinging the bats real well for three solid games in a row going back to the Brighton loss in the (KLAA) Association game."

With a stiff west wind blowing towards the outfield, any type of ball that got into the breeze was a threat to go out of the park.

The Mustangs jumped on Churchill starter Tyler Keeter for five runs in the first on an RBI infield single by Jeff Gertley and 2-run singles each by Branton Patrone and Trevor Maresh.

Keeter, who got the save against Canton, was lifted after one-third of an inning in favor of reliever Alex Tsakos, who fared no better allowing eight runs on seven hits.

Northville went score-

Please see BASEBALL, B3

Hawks prevail at PCA district

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Westland Huron Valley Lutheran owns 2012 bragging rights when it comes to girls softball on Cowan Road.

The Hawks rallied from a 2-0 deficit with a run in the sixth and two more in the bottom of the seventh Saturday to beat next door neighbor Lutheran High Westland, 3-2, in the Division 4 district final at Plymouth Christian Academy.

The victory puts the Hawks, now 20-5 overall into a regional semifinal matchup with Royal Oak Shrine beginning at noon Saturday at Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett.

The Warriors jumped out to a 2-0 lead with a pair of runs in the top of the fourth on an unusual sequence of events.

Hannah Conley singled, stoled second and came all the way home when the throw from the catcher sailed over the center fielder's head. The same exact scenario repeated itself when Emily Hahn singled, stoled second and raced home on another overthrow.

Huron Valley, however, pulled within a run in the sixth when Jessie Strauch tripled and scored on Anne St. John's sacrifice fly.

And down to their last out in the bottom of the seventh, Brooke Kuehn drew a walk and Strauch doubled her in to tie the game at 2-2.

Anne St. John then ripped a shot over the head of the Warriors' center fielder for a walk-off single and the victory.

"It was stressful, but our bats finally came alive early in the fifth inning," Huron Valley coach Eric Ruth said. "They hung in there and did not give up."

Winning pitcher Julie St. John limited the Warriors to two hits. The freshman struck out 10 and did not allow a walk.

Lutheran Westland starter Emily Hahn also went all seven innings, allowing seven hits. The freshman struck out six and walked two.

The Warriors advanced to the district championship game with a 15-0 semifinal victory over host PCA.

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Chiefs power way to district semi win

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

If chicks dig the long ball, then Saturday's Division 1-District 32 girls softball semifinal at Salem between Canton and Livonia Churchill was the place to be

Three different players cleared the fence as Canton ended the Chargers' 10-game winning streak with a come-from-behind 8-4 victory in nine innings.

Canton's Catherine Porter led off the game with a solo shot in the top of the first off Churchill starter Missy Sidor.

Catcher Casey Bias, who knocked in three of Churchill's four runs, then connected on a 2-run blast in the bottom of the fifth to give the Chargers a 4-1 cushion.

Canton, however, rallied with three runs in the bottom of the seventh to send the game into extra innings. The Chiefs drew a lead-off walk and took advantage of a Churchill error as Hannah Warren delivered an RBI double followed by Jesse Larner's clutch 2-run double to knot the count at 4-all.

In the ninth, Megan Grant's single scored courtesy runner Nicole Clark with the go-ahead run and Kaitlyn Keys crushed a 3-run homer to put Canton ahead for keeps, 8-4.

"We changed the batting order a little bit this game," Canton coach Jim Arnold said. "We put Kaitlyn Keys at the number two position ... the first couple of times it didn't work out, but when the time was right, she got a hold of one. That was awesome. That helped us out a lot. It put us up some runs and put the pressure on the other team."

Things certainly looked bleak for the Chiefs going into the seventh.

"We had to wake them up a little bit that one inning and finally they caught fire," said Arnold, whose team out-hit the Chargers, 13-7. "We can play. If we hit the ball we're O.K., but if we're not, they get down. They can't do that. They've just got to keep chipping away at them."

Warren and Jessica Webster each collected three hits for the Chiefs, while Grant added two.

Sidor also had an RBI single for the Chargers.

"We had them on the ropes, they had the eighth, ninth and lead-off hitters coming up," Churchill coach Steve Gentilia said of the seventh inning collapse. "We walked the lead-off batter that seventh inning, and we told the girls, 'We've got to get that first out.' Plus, she was a pinch hitter. You walk that one and that puts on a base runner, you make an error, and that's the nature of the game.

"It's a tough loss. It's hard to see the seniors go out on a loss like that. We've been firing on all cylinders and we played well today. But sometimes breaks don't happen. We finished 22-9 and it's still a good year. You look at this district – and I totaled up the wins – I think 118 wins total between all five teams. So any team in this district has got a chance to go make a run and do something. It's dependent on the breaks you get and the breaks you make."

Arnold, meanwhile, shuffled his two pitchers with Alyssa Boucher, the senior starter, going 6.1 innings. Warren also pitched 2.2 innings in relief.

"One's a little faster than the other," Arnold said. "The other has more movement and throw a little more junk. You try and keep them off balance and it seemed to work out pretty well."

Canton, however, couldn't sustain its momentum falling to Northville in the championship final, 8-1. Porter did hit another homer, but that was pretty much all the Chiefs (19-11) could muster against Northville pitcher Laura Pond.

SOFTBALL

Continued from page B1

that includes the three Plymouth-Canton Educational Park teams.

"This is not an easy district at all," Northville head coach Kary Couchman said. "Laura threw fantastic and I knew she had the ability to do that. She came out game after game and did it."

A homer by sophomore catcher Allie Chapekis and contributions from seniors such as Meredith Williams (triple, great diving catch) and speed demon Jennifer Buckingham helped spark the Mustangs.

Couchman said she urged her team to come out strong to perhaps catch the Chiefs in a bit of a letdown after the emotional victory over Churchill.

"They just got done playing a really tough game in extra innings with Churchill," Couchman said. "So when we came out in the first inning aggressive, I think that really helped us."

Taking the loss for Canton (19-11) was senior pitcher Alyssa Boucher, who gave up the first four runs before being relieved by sophomore Hanna Warren.

Looking forward

Co-captains Boucher and Larner played their final game for the Chiefs, following excellent careers.

But now, Arnold and his returning players (such as Porter) will look forward to 2013.

"Hopefully they learn from this lesson," Arnold said. "Our goal is always to have single-digit losses.

"There are a lot of teams that would like to be 19-11, but it's not what we're used to. We want to be better."

With Porter among returnees, Arnold already is confident the Chiefs will boast a potent offense next spring.

"Porter's done real well for us over the year," the veteran coach said. "She hit one earlier in the first game, the leadoff batter. And she saved the goose egg this time, she got one over the fence.

"So she had two home runs in district play and she's batting over .400."

Salem blanked

In the district opener Saturday, the Mustangs rolled to an 8-0 victory over the host Rocks — who, like Canton, could not get to Pond.

Only a bunt single by senior Bri Berberet kept the Rocks (21-14) from being no-hit by the Northville senior lefty.

"It was a tough draw," Salem head coach Bonnie Southerland said. "We knew we were going to have a tough game. We had been at Northville earlier in the year and had a couple close games, but their pitcher was right on today and my girls had a tough time hitting.

"But all in all we had a great season and I'm really proud of them. We got 21 wins this year and we never thought we'd even get close to that."

Salem will lose only four players from the squad, including Berberet, catcher Alexis Powell, Jenny First and Alyssa Meagher.

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Blazers win another D2 district title

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Andria Gietl's big day at the plate highlighted Livonia Ladywood's fourth straight Division 2 girls softball district tourney conquest Saturday at home.

The senior first baseman collected a total of six hits as the second-ranked Blazers improved to 36-3 overall by defeating Dearborn Divine Child for the championship, 4-0, after dispatching Livonia Clarenceville, 17-0, in the opening round.

The win moves the Blazers into a regional semifinal matchup beginning at noon Saturday at Dearborn Edsel Ford where they'll face the Detroit Crockett.

Gietl collected three hits against the Falcons, who finished 12-8 in the Catholic League. Her 2-run double in the fifth inning gave the Blazers a four-run cushion and some breathing room.

The Blazers tallied their other two runs in the second with pair of successful suicide squeeze bunts executed by Nicole Payne and Michelle Nelson.

Winning pitcher Briana Combs allowed just two hits and two walks while striking out 13 for the Blazers.

Sabrina Coleman took the loss for Divine Child, which advanced to the final with a 6-3 victory over South Lyon East.

In the other semifinal, Gietl tripled twice and singled, while Celeste Fidge and Allyssa Kashat contributed two hits apiece in a three-inning mercy rule victory over Clarenceville (14-15).

Combs, the senior right-hander headed to Cleveland State, was perfect striking out eight of the nine batters she faced.

Angela McAlpine (9-7) took the loss for the Trojans.

Ladywood, meanwhile, prepped for the district tourney by going 3-0 in the West Branch Invitational (May 26) beating No. 6-ranked Midland Bullock Creek (1-0), Tawas City (10-0) and Ogemaw Heights (15-0).

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D1 TRACK & FIELD STATE FINALS

Kavulich, Amado, Jones earn all-state honors

Salem's Joe Amado, shown competing at the recent Observerland Relays at Livonia Churchill, earned all-state honors in both hurdles events Saturday.

With his seventh-place finish in the 100-yard dash at Saturday's Division 1 state meet, Canton senior Ryan Jones earned all-state honors.

BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Shown running in the 2011 regionals, Salem's Kayla Kavulich finished seventh in the mile run at Saturday's Division 1 state meet to earn all-state honors.

The long road back for Salem's Kayla Kavulich had a satisfying end Saturday, as the sophomore earned all-state honors at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 1 Girls Track and Field Finals at East Kentwood.

Kavulich — who returned this spring after recovering from knee surgery — finished seventh in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 5:04.41.

That was Kavulich's personal best as well as records for Salem and Plymouth-Canton Educational Park (for girls mile run).

She wasn't the only all-stater from PCEP. Salem senior hurdler Joe Amado finished sixth in the 110 hurdles and eighth in the 300 hurdles with times of 15.07 and 39.96, respectively.

And Canton senior sprinter Ryan Jones came in seventh in the 100 dash with a mark of 16.27.

Division 4 boys

In Saturday's Division 4 boys state finals held at Jenison, Lutheran High Westland earned a top-ten finish with 19 points led by Jake Fairbairn, who was runner-up in the 300 intermediate hurdles (40.46).

Reading's Josh Jenkins took the title in 40.16.

The Warriors' Caleb Kempf placed third in the long jump (21-3.5), while Dawson Davenport added a fourth in the shot put (48.8.5).

Adam Abbott of Detroit Cristo Rey captured the long jump with a meet record 22-3.75, while Tomas Smith of Au Gres-Sims won the shot put with a throw of 51-5.25.

SPORTS BRIEF

MU golfer is All-Academic

Madonna University junior golfer Michelle Hall (Flushing) has been named to the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Capital One Academic All-America At-Large team along with being name to the group's College Division Academic All-America Second Team.

Hall, a business administration major, led MU to its second Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference championship in the last three seasons while capturing individual medalist honors for the second year in a row.

To be eligible for the Capital One Academic All-America Team, a student-athlete must be nominated by their school's sports information director as well as be a starter of key reserve, a sophomore academically and athletically as well as possess a 3.3 GPA or higher.

ZANDEE

Continued from page B1

of that, I've really enjoyed her attitude.

"She gets into the sport and really helps out with the team, she shows great leadership. I look forward to her future in college."

With the Eagles, Zandee has moved up the totem pole from No. 3 singles to No. 2 singles, where she was slotted her junior and senior seasons.

On the map

No matter where she is placed in the Taylor lineup, the exemplary student-athlete (4.0 grade-point average, National Honor Society) is eager to start her collegiate career.

"I'll always remember this day, I'm excited," she said, smiling. "Hopefully, it will be a really good four years at Taylor tennis."

PCA Athletic Director Rick Swilley said he will also remember that day, because Zandee's signing helps show other athletes at the small school what they can aspire to achieve.

"I think what it does is sets a standard for other athletes to shoot for," Swilley said. "You have a young lady who participated on the boys tennis team who is going to get a scholarship to attend college and to play in college.

"And that's a great thing, that just helps your program, it lets them know their efforts are going to be rewarded if they play well, and someone will see them and find them even at our school."

At Taylor, Zandee will study biology and pre-med courses, with hopes of continuing toward a career as a physician's assistant.

"I think it's a great choice. My son (Matt) also is there, they emphasize the Christian world view and we're glad to have her there," said Joyce Zandee, Rachel's mom. "We think she's going to grow and thrive there."

And it's not that far of a drive (under four hours) to go watch her compete, Jim Zandee said.

"We've been down there a few times," he said. "We'll be down there more now that we'll go watch her matches."

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BASEBALL

Continued from page B1

less in the top of the second and Churchill countered with a double from Connor Dwyer and a 2-run homer by Mike Rybinski to cut the lead to 5-2.

But that couldn't stop the bleeding as Northville took advantage of a pair of Charger errors to start the third and 16 batters later, the Mustangs had batted around twice highlighted by Matt Stojkov's 3-run homer and Billy Mitchell's 2-run triple to make it 18-2.

"I talked to Danny (Cameron), our catcher, and we were hitting some spots," Churchill coach Ron Targosz said. "He said that some of those pitches were balls and they were still spanking it. Give them a lot of credit. I don't think we played as well as we could obviously.

"We helped them out. The inning they scored the 13 runs – first two batters were errors – error by the first baseman and then an overthrow at first. They bunt the guy over and we get the out … who knows what happens? They may get one or two runs. We talked all year about not giving good teams extra outs. And they're an exceptional team, and even with some very good teams you can get away with it and get out of the inning. You give them an extra out … they made us pay."

Churchill tallied four runs off Northville reliever Bobby Sable in the third thanks to a bases loaded walk to Rybinski, an RBI single by Brent Ochodnicky and a 2-run single by Cameron to make it 18-6.

But the Mustangs were far from through as Matt Satterfield delivered a 2-run double and Brett MacDonald greeted Churchill reliever James Targus' first pitch for a 3-run bomb over the left field fence.

All told, the Mustangs collected 18 hits.

"Everybody contributed on the offensive end," said Kostrzewa, whose team advances to the Novi regional. "We had great some at-bats, put a lot of balls in play and put pressure on them. We really sat on our pitches and had good swings on them. To come out and swing the bats like that was very gratifying after we had struggled a little bit."

Churchill, meanwhile, ends its season at 21-10 overall.

"What I told the kids after you can't look at that last game and sum up the season," Targosz said. "We had our banquet Thursday night and I told them, 'We did some very good things.' You just can look at that one game as the season. That's what I told the team, especially the seniors who are not coming back. We had a pretty darn good season and beat some pretty good teams. We're a pretty good team, we just had a bad game."

CHURCHILL 5, CANTON 3: Dan Cameron's 2-run single in the fifth inning proved to be the difference Saturday as Livonia Churchill (21-9) ousted the Chiefs (20-13) in the district semifinal at Salem.

The Chargers took a 1-0 lead in the second inning when Jake Otto scored on a Canton infield error.

Brent Ochodnicky then contributed an RBI double in the bottom of the third to make it 2-0 before Canton's Nick Tata answered with a solo homer in the top of the fifth.

Churchill, however, scored three runs in the fifth as Alex Tsakos got things going with a single and later scored on another Canton error.

The Chiefs got a run back in the sixth when Weston Price scored on a fielders choice and tallied another in the seventh on JV call-up Nick Schnur's solo homer.

Ochodnicky, the Chargers starter, went five innings to pick up the victory. He allowed two runs on four hits, five walks and four hit batters. Tyler Keeter came on to earn the save.

Canton starter Ryan Bazner, who took the loss, allowed three earned runs on six hits. He walked two and struck out two. Reliever Mike Stafford struck out the side in the sixth.

NORTHVILLE 9, SALEM 7: The visiting Mustangs got off to a quick 5-0 lead courtesy of Salem's four errors in the third and went on to this district semifinal victory Saturday morning.

Host Salem (16-18) did make things interesting, however. In the third, the Rocks scored three runs with Kyle Penn (2-for-4) driving in two of them with a single.

After Northville tacked on three runs in the fifth for an 8-4 edge, the Rocks cut the lead to 8-7 in the bottom half of the frame on a three-run homer by Aaron Moore.

Scoring two runs for Salem was Demetrius Dunlap, both times after drawing walks. Other Salem hits were delivered by Alex Starr, Austin Siletti, Justin Sydlowski and Zak Widlak.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Canton's varsity girls soccer team celebrates after winning the Division 1 district championship with a 3-2 victory over No. 1-ranked Northville.

SOCCER

Continued from page B1

she saw the ball hit the mesh inside the goal post.

Practice pays off

Also happy was Canton head coach Jeannine Reddy, whose team won its second straight district title.

"She's great with those 30-40 yards on the outside free kicks, she always hits the back post anyway," Reddy noted. "At practice she sometimes hits those into the net, too.

"That's where we tell her to put it so whether either Robyn or Megan (Trapp) gets on it and it goes in I don't care."

Northville head coach Eric Brucker tipped his cap to Epelman on the free kick.

"She shot it upper 90 from 35 yards out," Brucker said. "As much as I'd love to say it was somebody's fault the girl put a perfect placement in."

Brucker, who said his talented team led by eight seniors was "absolutely crushed" by the loss, added that poor play against "dead balls" directly led to the defeat.

"We talked about the fact we can't allow corners," Brucker emphasized. "Their first two goals one was straight off a corner and one was a penalty kick. The game-winning goal, a 35-yard-out dead ball. We talked about it, we worked on it. It bit us. That's what happens."

The Mustangs opened the match with confidence, beating Canton to 50/50 balls and putting pressure on Chiefs senior goalkeeper Danielle Schendel.

It only took 6:33 for Northville to get on the board. A 40-yard rocket by junior Gabbie Guibord beat Schendel inside the right post.

About eight minutes later, Schendel's day came to a sudden close. Northville senior Mallory Weber made a slippery move through defenders around the top of the box, cutting in from the right side and blasting a low shot.

Schendel aggressively slid out to block it, but she inadvertently was kicked in the back of the neck on the play.

She was forced to leave the game, with junior Kaitlyn Jatczak taking over.

After Mack was called for knocking down a Northville player in the box, the Mustangs cashed in on a penalty kick with 15:35 left. Senior Sasha Gardner took one step and booted the ball past Jatczak into the left side of the goal.

Chiefs rally

That sequence seemed to fire the Chiefs up and they scored with 12:43 remaining in the half.

Sophomore Rachel Winters lifted a corner kick that senior Trapp — stationed near the left post — headed past Hilmer.

Then in the final four minutes, a brilliant block in front of the Canton goal by Winters kept the Chiefs down one goal.

Epelman also played a role in the equalizer. Her direct kick into the Northville box led to a penalty kick as Trapp was tripped up trying to field it.

Mack took the ensuing PK. The initial try was stopped, but the ball caromed right back to Mack, who chipped a low shot inside the right post.

"I didn't think that foul back there (against her) was a penalty kick, so I definitely had to get some redemption," Mack noted. "I'm glad I got the goal for the team, because we needed it and it shifted the momentum toward us."

After the game, Mack chuckled because she didn't know if second shots on penalty kicks were permitted.

"I didn't know if I could play it," she continued. "I just kicked it in case the play did count. I just kicked it, hopefully it didn't go over (wide) and luckily it did go in the net. So I was happy."

In the second half, the Chiefs came out with more bounce and played defense in waves to stymie the Mustangs.

"We just basically told them to play more composed, talk to each other and step to the ball," Reddy said. "And they did all those things."

Jatczak came up big when she had to and just about everybody came back to clear the ball out of trouble. Standouts included Mack, Trapp, Winters and senior Ally Krause.

Of course, the Epelman goal topped it all off.

"To get out of this district was the biggest test, I think," Reddy said. "I'm not going to say it's going to be easy (at regionals), but with four state-ranked teams in one district I give (the Chiefs) a lot of credit for getting out."

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GIRLS SOCCER REGIONALS

Hornets sting Pats in regionals

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

The euphoria of winning their first-ever girls district soccer title in school history quickly wore off for Livonia Franklin in Tuesday's Division 1 regional semifinal against host Saline.

It was back to reality as the Hornets got a goal just 44 seconds into the match from Abbey Sovitch and went on to post a 5-0 victory over the underdog Patriots.

After a sterling Cinderella tournament run, Franklin finishes with a 6-12-4 overall record. Meanwhile, Saline advances to Friday's regional championship matchup at home against Canton with a 15-5-3. (Canton advanced with a 4-0 win over Dearborn.)

"You could just feel it, it was a punch in the gut," Franklin coach Dean Kowalski said of the quick-strike Hornets. "Heads went down and you knew it was going to be a tough one. We got down in the district playoffs in both games and were able to battle back, but today clearly wasn't our day, and Saline was ready and took care of business."

In the 12th minute of the match, Franklin senior goalkeeper Lexi Smith stopped two point-blank shots and got a save on another ball by her defender, but Saline's Kristina Veal knocked home the fourth attempt on rebound to make it 2-0.

The Hornets then took advantage of a corner kick to score again before the half on the first of two Madison Phillips' two goals to make it 3-0.

"Initially we wanted to start off conservatively," Kowalski said. "We saw (Ann Arbor) Huron play Saline and we thought they were a little too defensive. And Saline got too comfortable offensively. We wanted to have the threat of our speed up top. We just couldn't get them the ball and we got behind early, and the game plan went out the window pretty fast."

Saline added two more goals during the second half to salt away the victory with one coming from Phillips and the other by Becky Sulkowski.

But it was the goal by Sovitch in the opening minute which catapulted the Hornets to victory and the regional final.

"That is huge, we have been scoring late in a lot of games," Saline coach Dana Restrick said. "So just scoring that early – just take a breath and relax and get settled into the game – was huge. After that I don't think we looked back and we got a lot of players some minutes and were able to rest some people. It was good."

While Saline keeper Hayley Reynolds was rarely tested by the Patriots' offense, Smith was under constant pressure on the other end and finished with 11 saves.

"She kept them in it," Restrick said of the Franklin senior standout. "She certainly made a lot of stops that other goalies wouldn't. She was good."

Kowalski hopes this is only the start of more trips to the regionals following upset wins last week in the district favorites Garden City and host Woodhaven.

"What I told the team is that we don't play a team like Saline if we don't win the district," Kowalski said. "We came a long way. We were able to send the seniors out with a district championship, which was awesome, specifically Lexi (Smith) and Emily McCullen. We're going to miss her (Smith) for sure and for sure our captain Emily McCullen, our right back. You don't replace players like that. But, they left a note on Franklin. When they come back here they know they were the ones that started championships for the soccer program."

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Bucks still perfect at Canton Cup

DAVE MCCAULEY

Spectators at Independence Park enjoy Michigan Bucks soccer action at the recent Canton Cup. The Bucks defeated Hamilton, 6-2.

The Michigan Bucks made their fifth consecutive appearance at the Canton Cup Memorial Day soccer tournament on May 26 and upped their tournament appearance record to 5-0 as they dominated the Hamilton FC Rage in a 6-2 victory in front of more than 1,300 fans and participants attending one of the country's largest youth soccer tournaments.

The Bucks left their weather perfect indoor stadium at Ultimate Soccer Arenas for this special event at Independence Park and for the second consecutive year had to battle Mother Nature and the elements much sooner than their opponent. Just six minutes into the match, lightning delayed the festive event for nearly 90 minutes after the crowd was greeted with a special Memorial Day World War II fly over, color guards and dual national anthems.

The break seemed to help the Bucks, who started only five of the eleven players that upset the Pittsburgh Riverhounds in the second round of the US Open Cup on Tuesday. With several new faces in the lineup, the team came out flat and looked a bit unorganized from the opening whistle.

"As much as you hate to start a game and stop so quickly, it actually worked to our advantage," said Bucks head coach Gary Parsons. "It gave us time to see how we lined up, how they were going to play us and we made the adjustments with our new personnel to go back and out restart the game as if we were starting fresh. The tactical changes worked, and the team responded with much more intensity on both sides of the ball."

In the 29th minute, Bucks leading scorer Tom Catalano lined up a free kick from just outside the box. Catalano put the ball on the ground underneath a leaping Bucks player positioned in the wall and slotted it perfectly in the lower corner for a 1-0 lead.

The goal was Catalano's third of the season and second from free kicks. Five minutes later Anthony Grant would play a perfect ball through to Zach Steinberger and he would notch his first goal of the season to make it 2-0 for the home team.

Highlight-reel worthy

Three minutes later, Nermin Crnkic would ignite the crowd with the goal of the game.

Tuesday night's hero Stew Givens launched a long throw across the penalty area where two players attempted to head the ball. When the ball would elude both players, the opportunistic Crnkic was already in mid-air where he met the throw with a perfect side volley from eight yards out, making the score 3-0.

Just before halftime, co-captain Simon Omekanda spotted Grant on a dead run through the middle of the park and put him in alone on Rage keeper Conor Hurley, who had no chance as the locals went into the halftime break up 4-0. In the 55th minute, Grant would record his second goal of the game, and the season, when he headed home a beautiful cross from Sebby Harris for a 5-0 lead. The team was caught napping in the next minute when Hamilton would convert a turnover into a counter-attack that would result in a goal by Stephen Powell. The Rage goal would ruin the shutout in the first appearance by keeper Sean Teepen.

The teams closed out the scoring by trading goals ten minutes apart. PDL all-time leading scorer Kenny Uzoigwe would continue his Canton Cup streak of scoring when he blasted a close-range shot in the near post top corner to make it 6-1 Bucks. Hamilton would finish the game's scoring when Mark Reilly would beat Teepen after the Bucks defense was caught flat on an offside trap.

Blazers toppled by Dexter

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Dexter played the role of spoiler Tuesday night as the Dreadnaughts knocked off No. 2-ranked Livonia Ladywood, 1-0, in the Division 2 regional girls soccer semifinal at Trenton.

Ladywood, the Catholic League champion, ends its season at 21-3-2 overall, while sixth-ranked Dexter, 19-2-2, advances to Thursday's regional final at Trenton.

Nicole Lucas scored what proved to be the game-winner in the 30th minute off a pinpoint through ball from Olivia Vollmers.

The Blazers outshot Dexter 13-5, but couldn't not get a ball past Dreadnaughts goalkeeper Sarah Silvasi, who made seven saves.

Ladywood outshot the Dreadnaughts 11-2 during the second half, but couldn't get on the board.

"We came out flat the first half," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker said. "We only had two shots on goal. The second half we played with a sense of urgency and dominated the game, but their keeper made two or three good saves and we couldn't get the equalizer."

Ladywood goalkeeper Sara Even had to make only two saves in a rematch of last year's regional final which Ladywood won, 2-0.

"We knew they (Dexter) would be good," Shingledecker said. "They're very good in the back and they have a great goalkeeper. We knew it would be tough to score and they played a solid first half. I just wish we had played with that sense of urgency like we did in the second half."

District champs

The Blazers encountered an all too familiar foe in winning its third straight Division 2 district title with a 2-0 triumph Saturday at home over Dearborn Divine Child, a fellow member of the Catholic League.

"This is the third year in a row we have played Divine Child in the district final and they always seem to give us a good game, and this year was no different," said Shingledecker, whose team outshot Divine Child 18-2.

Senior Kelly Capoccia notched her 24th goal of the season when she finished a breakaway on a through ball by Domenique Sarnecky in the 37th minute to make it 1-0 at halftime.

DeYana Walker added an insurance goal when she finished a rebound off a shot by Capoccia that hit the crossbar in the 58th minute.

Even made two saves to post the shutout for the Blazers (21-2-2), while Sam Cimino had for stops for the Falcons (6-13-2).

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

June

BIKE DAY

Time/Date: 11-11:30 a.m. registration, 1 p.m. Redford Township Unicycle Club performance, June 9

Location: First United Methodist Church of Garden City, 6443 Merriman, Garden City

Details: Safe cycling tips, repair/maintenance information and handouts, contests and hot dogs. No admission charge

Contact: Sue at sweber2@mrr.com or Lucia at (734) 425-5863

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 13 and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, June 23

Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty, Canton

Details: Free clothing to anyone in need

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

Hear patriotic music and show tunes, along with a tribute to veterans at the "O, America," concert June 10 at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Northville.

CONCERT

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday, June 10

Location: Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville

Details: "O, America" patriotic concert features a variety of patriotic music, show tunes, and a stirring tribute to honor veterans who have served in all branches of the military. No ticket is needed and childcare is available through four years of age. O, America will be Carole Halmekangas' last concert as director of music for the church. She steps down as director after 45 years of music ministry.

Contact: (248) 374-4740

COURAGEOUS LIFE SERIES

Time/Date: June 10, 17 and 24

Location: Kenwood Church of Christ, 20200 Merriman, Livonia

Details: A screening of the movie, "Courageous" kicked off the series on June 3. It also will be shown at 6 p.m. on June 10 and 24. Series topics are "Courageous Versus Complacent," June 3; "Warriors Versus Wimps," June 10; "Fighters Versus Flyers," June 17 and "Team Players Versus Lone Rangers," June 24

Contact: (248) 476-8222

GARAGE SALE

Time/Date: 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 9

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

Details: "Great Expectations Church Wide Garage Sale," will include such items as clothing, furniture, electronics, and more. The sale will be held in the church parking lot

Contact: (734) 404-2480; www.cantoncf.org

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., Thursday, June 7, 14, 21 and 28

Location: Our Lady of Victory Parish, 133 Orchard Dr., Northville

Details: The "Grieving with Great Hope" workshop offers a prayerful, practical and personal approach for individuals who are mourning the loss of a loved one. Speakers will include the Rev. Denis B. Theroux, as well as John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization. Registration forms are online at www.goodmourningministry.net or call the parish office.

Contact: The church at (248) 349-2621, www.olvnorthville.org

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 29-30

Location: In the thrift store at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford

Details: All items, except those marked firm, priced over $1 are 50 percent off the price marked; bake sale

Contact: (313) 534-7730

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 5 p.m. social hour, 6 p.m. dinner, Wednesday, June 13

Location: Corsi's Italian Restaurant, 27910 W. Seven Mile, three blocks west of Inkster Road, in Livonia

Details: Cost is $14 and includes dinner, beverage, dessert, tax and tip. Pay exact amount at the door. Cash bar available. After dinner enjoy cards, games, and conversation until 9:30 p.m. No walk-ins. RSVP by June 6

Contact: Carol at (248) 946-0300 or Pat at (248) 545-8348 or Cookie at (248) 357-2183

ONGOING

CLASSES/STUDY

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month

Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia

Details: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun.

Contact: Pastor Scott Sessler at (734) 673-2485 or e-mail to pastorscott@emmanuel-livonia.org

Men's Bible study

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.

Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

Contact: John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491

New Life Community Church

Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 am. Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays.

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville

Contact: (734) 846-4615

Nicole's Revival

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Monday-Friday

Location: YWCA Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand River, west of Beech Daly, Redford Township

Details: KJV Scripture Reading, Communion and Prayer

Contact: (313) 531-1234

Our Lady of Loretto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Scripture study

Contact: (313) 534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the first and third Tuesday.

Location: School library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Catholic author and bible scholar, Gary Michuta, leads a study of Letter to the Hebrews. The sessions are open to all, regardless of their faith or parish affiliation

Contact: (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200, or www.livoniastmichael.org

Ward Presbyterian

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays

Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville

Details: Learner's Bible study is held

Contact: (248) 374-5920

CLOTHING BANK

Canton Christian Fellowship

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. fourth Saturday and 5-6:30 p.m. second Wednesday

Location: 41711 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty

Details: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank offers free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need

Contact: (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org

FOOD BANK

New Hope Church

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only

Location: 44815 Cherry Hill, Canton

Contact: Call Pastor Ranay Brown to schedule an appointment at (734) 270-2528.

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, MOPS; 7-8:30 p.m. first and third Thursday, MOPSnext. Both programs run September-May

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners; MOPSnext supports mothers of school-aged children. Contact: Rebekah Creeden at (734) 522-6830 for MOPS and Susan Magner at (248) 478-3643 for MOPSnext details.

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays

Location: 24800 West Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.

Contact: Amy at (313) 937-3084 or Kristen at (734) 542-0767

Peace pole on display at Farmington Hills church

The Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington Hills recently rededicated its "peace pole" after completing handicap accessibility renovations to the church.

The peace pole, which sports the word "peace" carved in 12 different languages, is on public display near the main entrance of the church at 25301 Halsted, Farmington Hills. It was restored and replanted after the construction was completed.

It was originally dedicated in 1996 in memory of Sunday school teacher Heather Hicks, who was involved in a fatal automobile accident.

More than 200,000 peace poles have been dedicated around the world since the peace pole project began in Japan in 1955. The nonprofit World Peace Prayer Society's mission is to unite people across the world through the universal saying: "May peace prevail on earth."

For more about the Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington Hills, visit www.uuFarmington.org or call the church office at (248) 478-7272.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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

DONOVAN, PFC JOHN A.

Age 22, of Plymouth, died during World War II on April 23, 1945 in the South Pacific. He was born Nov. 21, 1923 in Ann Arbor to John S. & Nora (Fitzgerald) Donovan and enlisted in the US Marine Corp after graduation from Plymouth High School in 1942. He served as a radio operator on a Mitchell bomber when he was killed in an airplane crash on April 22, 1944 (declared dead April 23, 1945). His remains were found last year on Espiritu Santo Island. He is survived by his sister Josephine Demianenko and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, a sister: Patricia and three brothers: Joseph, Phillip and William. Mass of the Christian Burial with full military honors will be 10AM Friday at Old St. Patricks Catholic Church in Ann Arbor. Arrangements by Niblack Funeral · Home Dillingham-Liverance Chapel.
www.niblackfuneralhome.com
"For With God All Things Are Possible"
Vivat Jesus!
Thank you John for giving the ulitimate gift to protect America's Freedom!

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ENTERTAINMENT

Music's in the air

Michigan Philharmonic performs outdoors in Plymouth, Milford this month

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

The Michigan Philharmonic plays at Kensington Metropark last year. They'll return to the park June 22.

It was a cold and windy day last June when the Michigan Philharmonic performed its first concert at Kensington Metropark in Milford.

A week later, an impending thunderstorm forced the symphony to cancel its debut summer holiday concert in Plymouth's Kellogg Park after just four songs.

But the two outdoor programs, along with first-time appearances at Canton's Liberty Fest and the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House in Grosse Pointe Shores, drew enough listeners — even in dicey weather — to prompt another try at summer programming this year. The symphony will return at 8 p.m. Friday, June 22 to Kensington and at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 30 to Kellogg Park to perform its "An American Salute" concert. Last year's Kensington Metropark concert also led to a new venue — Lake St. Clair Metropark in Harrison Township — where the symphony and the U.S. Navy band will perform a military tribute concert in conjunction with a War of 1812 bicentennial commemoration, Friday, Sept. 7.

"We're hoping for good weather this year. If it's a nice day people like to come early and take advantage of all the cool stuff at the park," said Beth Stewart, symphony executive director, referring to the Kensington concert. "If the weather is good, you can get 10,000 at a concert there. We think it's worth it."

Stewart said the symphony is working with Scott Lorenz, hot air balloon pilot, to fly over the park during the concert, which will be heralded by a trumpeter.

"There's a whole group of canoers and kayakers who paddle to the symphony. They have a whole group that comes across the lake to hear the concert. There will be a number of sailboats on the water to listen to the symphony," Stewart added.

Tall ships will be on display and available for tours when the Michigan Philharmonic plays its War of 1812 concert in September. A naval commander heard the symphony at Kensington last year and booked the group for the celebration at Lake St. Clair.

"He contacted the (Huron-Clinton) Metroparks and they were delighted to work with him. It was funny because right away he said 'I was at a concert with the Michigan Philharmonic and I want to use them.'

"We'll take the core of the American Salute concert and change it up. We're adding some things, Anchors Aweigh and more medleys with the naval band."

Big plans

Playing a large outdoor venue like a Metropark can be challenging. Every musician is miked and the organization supplies its own sound system. But Stewart hopes the concerts, which can attract thousands of listeners, help to grow audience beyond its Plymouth-Canton roots. She envisions the symphony touring the state within a few years and says the organization will reach out to underserved areas in the downriver communities.

The 2012-13 line-up includes a series of concerts at the Seligman Center for Performing Arts in Beverly Hills, along with a variety of venues in the Plymouth area.

"The new thing in classical music circles is that people want to hear classical music in unusual places," Stewart noted.

The Italian American Club in Livonia, Penn Theatre in Plymouth, the Carr Cultural Arts Center in Detroit, and Inn at St. John Chapel in Plymouth are among its concert venues next season.

The symphony will repeat its Friday night Seligman Center performances on Saturday night at the Village Theater in Canton.

"The ideas was that we could repeat a concert for a fraction of the cost it takes to do it the first time ... we could expand geographically in areas thought beneficial to us and far enough away from our home market so we wouldn't siphon off audience, but build new audience," Stewart said.

"We've got big plans here. We have the program and the drive to back it up and make it happen."

For more about the Michigan Philharmonic's summer concerts and its 2012-13 season visit michiganphil.org.

OUTDOOR CONCERTS

The summer music season is underway. Here's a sampling of local outdoor concerts:

- **Concerts in the Park:** 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 26 through July, in Handy Park, located on Capitol between Inkster Road and Beech Daly, north of Plymouth Road, in Redford, features the Redford Symphony Orchestra and other performers. www.redfordtwp.com
- **Music from the Heart:** 7 p.m. Thursday, July 12-Aug. 30, at Larry J. Nehasil Park, located at Five Mile and Farmington Road, in Livonia: Sinjon Smith, July 12; TJ Thomas and Kentucky Strait, July 19; Blue Lakes International Exchange, July 26. Visit www.ci.livonia.mi.us for a complete list.
- **Music in the Air:** 7 p.m. Friday, through Aug. 31, at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth: Motor City Soul, June 8; The BluesCasters, June 15; The Shawn Riley Band, June 22; Al Jaquez and Friends, June 29. For July and August performers, visit www.downtownplymouth.org
- **Music in the Park:** Noon, Wednesday, June 20-Aug. 22, at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth: Guy Louis, Chautauqua Express, June 20; Tom Seley & the Troublemakers, June 27; Noah Reimer, July 11; Beverly Meyer, The Music Lady, July 18; Gemini, July 25. For a complete list visit www.plymoutharts.com
- **Rhythmz in Riley Park:** 7 p.m. Friday, through Aug. 24 in Riley Park, 33113 Grand River Ave., Farmington, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills: The Luddites, June 8; The Back-Beats, June 15; Union Avenue Band, June 22; The Paisley Fogg, June 29. For more bands visit downtownfarmington.org.
- **Stars in the Park:** 7 p.m. Thursday, June 21-Aug. 23, in Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile in Farmington Hills: FBC Concert Band, June 21; Lookin' Back, June 28; Shout, July 12; FCB Big Band, July 26; Visit www.ci.farmington-hills.mi.us for more performers.
- **Summer Jazz Concerts:** 7 p.m. Friday, along Ford Road in Canton: Penny Wells, July 6; Nate Harasim, July 13; Alexander Zonjic, July 20; Demetrius "Krayon" Nabors, July 27. See leisure.canton-mi.org for more.
- **Thursday Night Concerts:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 14-Aug. 2 in Heritage Park, : Fifty Amp Fuse, June 14; Saline Fiddlers, June 21; Metro Jazz Voices, June 28, Air Margaritaville, July 5. Visit leisure.canton-mi.org for a complete list.

See a movie and help homeless animals

Livonia-based Guardian Angel Animal Rescue will benefit from an outdoor family movie night Friday, June 8 at Walled Lake Veterinary Hospital, 1501 Maple, Walled Lake.

The film, Hotel for Dogs, will start at 9 p.m. Admission is by donation.

Guests should bring blankets — no seats will be available — and may purchase hot dogs, pop and popcorn on site.

Non-aggresive, leashed dogs may attend the show.

Guardian Angel Animal Rescue is a nonprofit, no-kill rescue organization. For more information call the Walled Lake Veterinary Hospital at (248) 624-4829 or visit gaarmichigan.org

Art

ART IN THE SUN
Time/Date: 3-9 p.m. Friday, June 22, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday, June 23; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, June 24
Location: Downtown Northville
Details: Outdoor art festival with works by more than 85 artists from across the country. The event includes a children's art area, miniature art hunt in downtown businesses and musical entertainment.
Contact: www.northvillearts.org or (248) 344-0497

CITY GALLERY
Time/Date: Through June 29; gallery hours are 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday
Location: At the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: The Colored Pencil Society of America presents works by members of its Detroit chapter
Contact: (248) 473-1856

GALLERY@VT
Time/Date: Through May; gallery hours are 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday and during public performances at the theater
Location: 50400 Cherry Hills Road, Canton
Details: Art of Peggy Kerwan
Contact: (734) 394-5300; visit cantonvillagetheater.org.

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE
Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through June 24; Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville
Details: "West of Center" 4th Annual All Media Show
Contact: (248) 344-0497 or e-mail to arthouseoffice@northvillearts.org

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL
Time/Date: Reception and awards 6-8 p.m. Saturday, June 9; exhibit runs through July
Location: 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth
Details: "Behind the Lens 6" includes more than 100 photos taken by Pioneer Middle School 8th graders during a trip to New York City
Contact: (734) 416-4267

VISUAL ARTS ASSOCIATION OF LIVONIA
Time/Date: Through June 28; reception runs 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 7
Location: Livonia Civic Center Library, 33000 Civic Center Drive, east of Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Spring Art Exhibit, "Artistic Expressions," includes watercolor, oil, acrylic, pastel and mixed media art work, juried by Nancy Wolfe of Eastern Michigan University. Awards will be given at the reception
Contact: (734) 838-1204; www.vaalart.org.

Hollywood in Michigan

Filmmaker Tim Greene will talk about what it takes to "break into entertainment" after the screening of three film shorts, 3-4 p.m. Saturday, June 9, at In the Truth Book Store, at Northland Mall, located north of Eight Mile, west of Greenfield in Southfield. Detroit actress Aliyah Royale and singer Beth Griffith will join Greene at the workshop. The film shorts, "The Re-programmers," "Supa Kidz" and "73-year-old Rappin Granny," were shot in Detroit and Southfield with local actors and crew. More than 50 prizes will be given away during the free event.

"Paws for a Rest" by Angela Helt is among the colored pencil works on display through June 29 at City Gallery, in the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills.

Comedy

ANN ARBOR SUMMER FESTIVAL
Time/Date: 5 p.m. and 8 p.m., Wednesday, July 4
Location: The Power Center, E. Huron at Fletcher in downtown Ann Arbor
Details: Song parodies and sketches by political satirists, The Capitol Steps. Tickets are $30-$50
Contact: (734) 764-2538 or A2SF.org

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: Steve Lott, through June 8; Mark Poolos, June 13-16; Davin Rosenblatt, June 20-23
Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

Dance

ANN ARBOR SUMMER FESTIVAL
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Sunday, June 24
Location: Power Center, E. Huron at Fletcher in downtown Ann Arbor
Details: Pilobolus performs styles ranging from playful to intense to gravity-defying. Tickets $30-$50; kids, $10
Coming up: Circa performs a fusion of acrobatics, aerial stunts, tumbling and contemporary dance, 8 p.m. July 6-7 at the Power Center; tickets $25-$45 for adults, $10 for children
Contact: (734) 764-2538 or A2SF.org

FOOD

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

Serve dips, salsa and finger foods at grad party

Graduation season is here and it's time to celebrate.

Create a memorable party for the grad in your life with crowd-pleasing, tasty appetizers. Include a salsa bar and corn chips for dipping.

For more recipes visit www.spiceislands.com

Beau Monde Dip

Sun Dried Tomato Deviled Eggs

Sun Dried Tomato Deviled Eggs

10 large eggs, hard boiled, peeled
⅓ cup mayonnaise
2 tablespoons heavy cream
2 teaspoons white wine vinegar
1 teaspoon sugar
⅓ cup finely minced sun-dried tomatoes, oil packed
¾ teaspoon basil, sweet
¼ teaspoon paprika
⅛ teaspoon salt

Halve the eggs lengthwise. Remove yolks and place in a large bowl; mash with a fork. Add mayonnaise, heavy cream, white wine vinegar, sugar, basil, paprika and salt; stir until smooth. Reserve 2 teaspoons chopped tomatoes. Stir in remaining tomatoes into egg yolk mixture.

Spoon filling (using 2 spoons) into the egg white halves. Garnish each with reserved chopped tomatoes. Cover; chill 1 hour.

Beau Monde Dip

⅔ cup mayonnaise
⅔ cup sour cream
1 tablespoon chopped green onion
1 tablespoon parsley
½ teaspoon Spice Islands Beau Monde Seasoning
½ teaspoon dill weed

Mix mayonnaise, sour cream, green onion, parsley, Beau Monde Seasoning, and dill weed in a small bowl.

Cover and chill a minimum of 30 minutes to blend flavors.

Garden Salsa

Garden Salsa

10 cups fresh tomatoes, skinned and chopped
¾ cup corn starch
2 cups chopped onions
1-½ cups chopped green bell pepper
⅔ cup chopped banana or Anaheim peppers
⅔ cup chopped jalapeno peppers
1 ¼ cups white vinegar
⅓ cup sugar
2 ½ tablespoons onion salt
2 tablespoons chili powder
1 tablespoon garlic powder
2 teaspoons cayenne pepper
1 teaspoon celery seed

Place 1 cup of tomatoes in a medium bowl with cornstarch; blend with wire whip. Set aside.

Combine remaining tomatoes, onions, peppers, vinegar, sugar, onion salt, chili powder, garlic powder, cayenne pepper and celery seed in a large stock pot or Dutch oven. Simmer on medium low heat 20 minutes. Add corn starch/tomato mixture, stirring constantly to avoid lumps. Continue simmering an additional 10 minutes or until salsa reaches desired constancy.

To can:

Fill clean pint jars with hot salsa, leaving ½-inch headspace. Wipe rims clean if necessary. Place lids on top, then firmly screw on bands. Process in boiling water canner for 20 minutes.

To freeze:

Ladle hot salsa into pint freezer containers, leaving ½-inch headspace. Place lids on containers. Refrigerate up to 3 weeks or freeze up to 6 months.

Recipe Note: To easily skin tomatoes, place whole tomato in boiling water for 15 to 30 seconds. Remove with slotted spoon. Skin will easily peel off!

Chipotle Roasted Salsa

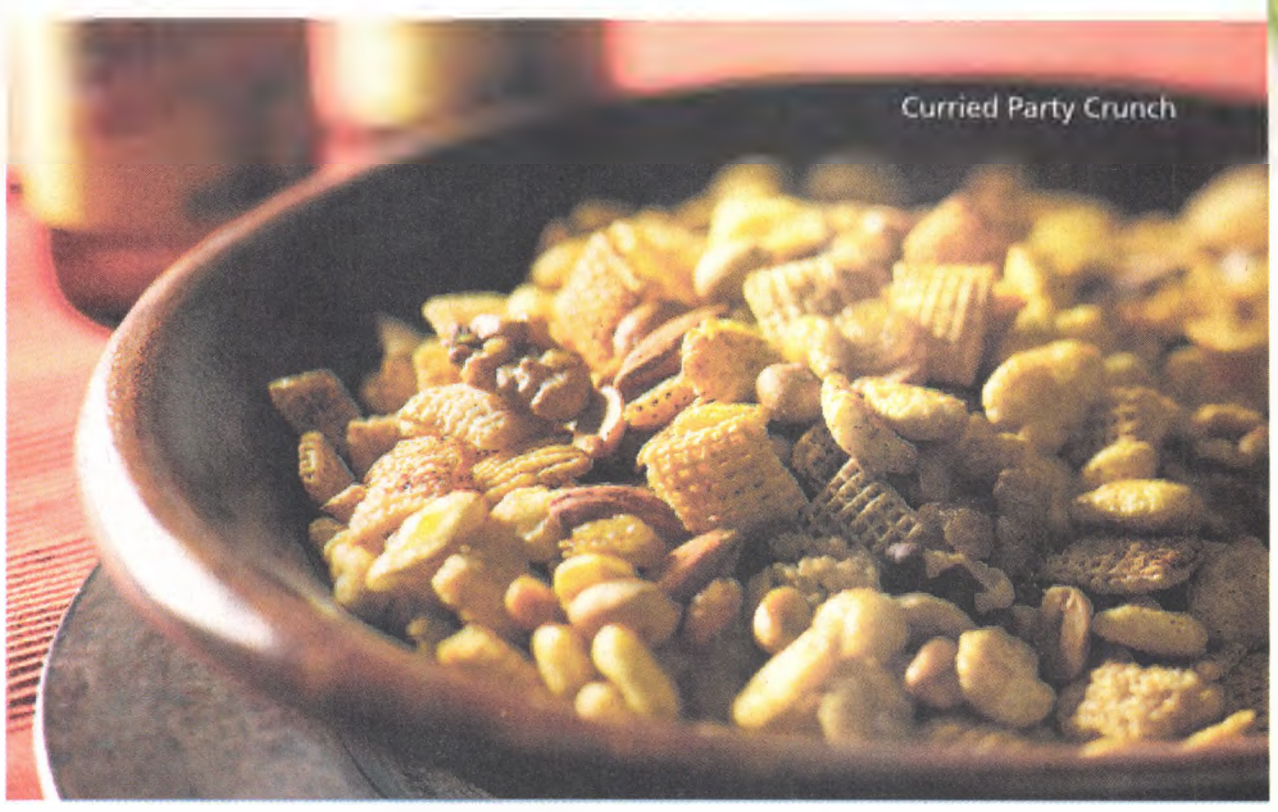
4 large Roma tomatoes, halved and seeded
3 poblano or Anaheim peppers, quartered and seeded
1 red onion, quartered
4 tomatillos, halved
4 to 5 garlic cloves
1 tablespoon olive oil
Spice Islands Chipotle Chile Adjustable Grinder
1 lime
¼ cup chopped fresh cilantro

Preheat grill to high heat.

Toss tomatoes, peppers, onion, tomatillos and garlic with olive oil in a large bowl. Generously grind chipotle chile seasoning over vegetables. Place vegetables on grill pan. Grill on high heat, turning once, for 15 minutes until vegetables are tender and blackened. Remove from grill and cool 5 minutes.

Process vegetables in food processor until coarsely chopped. Add fresh squeezed lime juice and cilantro. Grind additional chipotle chile seasoning to taste. Chill for at least an hour.

Fruit Salsa with Cinnamon Chips



Curried Party Crunch

Curried Party Crunch

½ cup golden raisins
1 ½ cups sweet crunch corn cereal
1 ½ cups corn and rice cereal squares
½ cup peanuts
¼ cup whole almonds
¼ cup walnut halves
2 tablespoons Mazola Vegetable Plus! Oil
¼ teaspoon curry powder
¼ teaspoon chili powder
¼ tablespoons turmeric
¼ teaspoon coriander, ground
¼ teaspoon ginger, ground
¼ teaspoon cloves, ground
1 teaspoon salt

Preheat oven to 250°F.

Mix together raisins, cereals and nuts in a large bowl. Drizzle oil over all, and stir to coat. Mix spices and salt together in a separate bowl; sprinkle evenly over cereal mixture and stir gently. Transfer mixture to a 15- by 10-inch pan. Bake for 20 minutes, stirring once halfway through baking time. Cool. Store in an airtight container.

Sweet Fruit Salsa with Cinnamon Chips

Sweet Fruit Salsa:
2 tart green apples
1 kiwi fruit
½ cup red seedless grapes
1 cup fresh strawberries
1 small orange
2 tablespoons brown sugar
1 teaspoon Spice Islands Cinnamon, Ground Saigon
⅛ teaspoon nutmeg, ground
2 tablespoons apple jelly
Cinnamon Chips:
¼ cup sugar
2 teaspoons Spice Islands Cinnamon, Ground Saigon
10 (8-inch) flour tortillas
1 tablespoon melted butter or margarine

To prepare salsa:

Finely chop apples, kiwi, grapes and strawberries and place in medium bowl. Grate orange peel to measure 1 teaspoon. Squeeze juice from orange. Add juice and grated peel to chopped fruit. Stir together brown sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg and apple jelly in small bowl. Add to fruit; toss gently to mix. Refrigerate 1 hour to mix flavors.

To make cinnamon chips:

Preheat oven to 400°F. Mix sugar and cinnamon in small bowl. Brush one side of tortillas with melted butter. Sprinkle cinnamon sugar mixture on tortillas. Cut each tortilla into 8 wedges (as you would a pie) and place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake for 5 minutes, or until golden. Cool.

Recipe Tip: Substitute 1 ¼ teaspoons Jamaican jerk seasoning for cinnamon and nutmeg in the salsa.

REAL ESTATE

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Speaking up: Rally in Washington, D.C., promotes homeownership

Local Realtors participated in a rally recently in Washington, D.C., to make their voices heard on behalf of homeowners, real estate investors and those who aspire to homeownership.

At the Rally To Protect the American Dream, Realtors from every state in the country — including many from Michigan — joined invited members of Congress to demonstrate their commitment to preserving access to homeownership and robust real estate investment. The rally was put together by the National Association of Realtors.

"Michigan Realtors turned out in force in Washington, D.C., to send a message to our elected officials," said Tony Schippa, president of the Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors and a Realtor with Coldwell Banker Preferred in Plymouth. "The message was that protecting homeowners' and prospective homeowners' real estate rights is not only vital to Michigan's economic recovery, but to the nation's recovery, as well."

Schippa was part of a Michigan-based contingent that included dozens of Realtor representatives from the Plymouth and Novi areas as well as Bloomfield and Birmingham; in all, nearly 100 GMAR members were there. Also in attendance were representatives from the area's three local Women's Council of Realtors chapters.

"This local Realtor turnout is especially important because there are still homeowners in our communities who own property throughout the state," Schippa said. "Plymouth Realtors are equally beholden to property owners in Cadillac or Grayling. We speak with a loud voice because we have to."

Real estate pros gathered for a rally recently in Washington, D.C., with southeast Michigan well represented. The rally was organized to boost homeownership.

Working toward home affordability takes a multi-step approach for area Realtors. Toward that end, Realtors are advocating better access to affordable financing, reform of the secondary mortgage market, improved liquidity in residential and commercial lending, and preservation of the tax benefits associated with homeownership.

The rally was part of NAR's weeklong Midyear Legislative Meetings, during which Realtors and guests meet with members of Congress, federal regulators and industry experts to address pressing real estate issues and public policies in support of private property rights, homeownership and housing issues.

"It went great. It was awesome," Schippa said after the May 17 rally, with over 13,000 agents attending.

"It was just an awesome event."

He said the industry pros gathered in front of the Washington Monument. They were there in part for the press and public. "It will really come down to what the long term will be," Schippa said of long-term impact on the housing market.

"The enthusiasm from the agents was just overwhelming." People attending wore mostly blue T-shirts, with other color shirts for NAR staff and those on political action committee.

"You start looking when you buy a home how much goes back to the community." Buying a home creates jobs, Schippa said, ranging from furniture stores to gardeners and contractors.

The website for the GMAR is www.GMARonline.com.

O&E staff writer Julie Brown contributed to this report.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Feb. 27 to March 2, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON
50321 Black Horse Ln $325,000
1866 Century Ct $145,000
45765 Drexel Rd $178,000
46489 Killarney Cir $150,000
264 N Village Way $85,000
43300 Oakbrook Ct $191,000
1997 Peerce Ct $62,000
820 Pheasant Woods Dr $253,000
329 S Village Way $85,000
596 Sorel Dr $200,000
4134 Strathmore Ln $105,000
1221 W Crystal Cir $166,000
48102 W Oxford Ln $40,000

GARDEN CITY
31560 Bridge St $60,000
28840 Hennepin St $151,000
28428 Leona St $80,000

LIVONIA
15076 Arcola St $79,000
29817 Barkley St $97,000
28618 Bayberry Park Dr $121,000
8900 Danzig St $128,000
17568 Deering St $63,000
18339 Floral St $75,000
15921 Foch St $86,000
30553 Grandon St $128,000
31307 Kendall St $118,000
19851 Louise St $55,000
10001 Marie St $133,000
29410 Oakview St $120,000
31660 Pembroke St $90,000
17462 Rexwood St $148,000
31616 Saint Martins St $122,000

NORTHVILLE
19634 Aqueduct Ct $85,000
22697 Cyprus Dr $50,000
52386 Ferndale Dr $50,000
48696 Freestone Dr $110,000
48738 Freestone Dr $110,000
48808 Freestone Dr $110,000
519 Horton St $329,000
15629 Johnson Creek Dr $130,000
15653 Johnson Creek Dr $125,000
15677 Johnson Creek Dr $126,000
15701 Johnson Creek Dr $125,000
15725 Johnson Creek Dr $135,000
15749 Johnson Creek Dr $129,000
15786 Johnson Creek Dr $135,000
50652 Livingston Dr $343,000
19800 Marilyn St $165,000
40540 N Northville Trl $385,000
48852 Rainbow Ln N $294,000
48876 Rainbow Ln N $323,000
18161 Shoreline Ct $515,000
44669 Spring Hill Rd $455,000
16924 Warwick Ct $370,000
16966 White Haven Dr $235,000

PLYMOUTH
800 Arthur St $85,000
12217 Deer Creek Run $435,000
39564 E Ann Arbor Trl $100,000
41261 E Ann Arbor Trl $100,000
50403 Fellows Hill Dr $525,000
9169 Hackberry Ave $162,000
50626 W Fellows Creek Ct $540,000
50903 Weston Dr $365,000
1411 Woodland Pl $330,000

REDFORD
9343 Columbia $70,000
19433 Glenmore $23,000
14195 Mason Dr $139,000
14252 Mason Dr $148,000
14323 San Jose $18,000

WESTLAND
35790 Castlewood Ct $52,000
7414 Manor Cir $28,000
35044 Markey St $12,000
2440 S Brandon St $52,000
765 S Hawthorne St $66,000
1855 S Parent St $48,000
35436 Schley St $45,000
1536 Woodbourne St $20,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Feb. 13-17, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS
125 Charrington Ct $225,000

BIRMINGHAM
514 Chesterfield Ave $358,000
820 Pleasant St $1,760,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS
699 E Fox Hills Dr $19,000
1791 Huntingwood Ln $73,000

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP
219 Barrington Rd $150,000
5607 Westwood Ct $160,000

COMMERCE TOWNSHIP
3137 Greenlawn Ave $60,000
4221 Lake Pointe Ln $243,000

FARMINGTON
23233 Farmington Rd $108,000

FARMINGTON HILLS
29490 Ashford Pkwy $168,000
30719 Country Ridge Cir $298,000
29125 Glencastle Dr $45,000
29924 Highmeadow Rd $160,000
29184 Leesburg Ct $187,000
32260 Tall Timber Dr $188,000
35258 White Pine Trl $140,000
37762 Windwood Dr $235,000
29796 Woodbrook St $122,000

FRANKLIN
30150 Cheviot Hills Dr $345,000
26030 Romany Way $727,000

Lathrup Village
18859 San Quentin Dr $130,000

MILFORD
54300 Belcrest Dr $183,000
510 Bellevue $104,000
1539 Morgan Ln $40,000
1571 Morgan Ln $50,000
1737 Morgan Ln $45,000
699 Telya Rdg $180,000

NOVI
40611 Lenox Park Dr $240,000
23710 Meadowbrook Rd $113,000
27850 Middleton Dr $157,000
25228 Sutton Ct $50,000
23496 Winthrop Ct $198,000

SOUTH LYON
25536 Coach Ln $40,000
26085 Cornell Dr $50,000
57710 Deere Ct $259,000
26464 Mallard Ct $60,000
204 Maplewood Ct $47,000
61190 Saddlecreek Dr $297,000
26355 Shumans Way $223,000
26431 Shumans Way $50,000
257 University Ave $55,000
446 Whipple St $13,000

SOUTHFIELD
29327 E Chanticleer Dr $80,000
21727 Hidden Rivers Dr N $25,000
29790 Red Leaf Dr $50,000
25322 Saint James $72,000
18406 Westhampton Ave $30,000
18437 Westland Ave $41,000

WHITE LAKE
204 Decca Dr $46,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Real Estate Career

Learn about the $50,000 income guarantee Thursday, June 21, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. For more information, contact Mike Workman at (734) 459-4700 or mworkman@kw.com.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation. Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Participants will discuss what they have learned. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate. Members are free, guests $20, which will be applied to their membership

Any questions or concerns, call Wayde Koehler, (313) 277-4168.

Oakland Investors

Buying Real Estate at Sheriff's Sale featuring Oakland County Sheriff representative and Trott & Trott Foreclosure Attorneys, sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, June 14, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, John R just north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members; $20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742 (www.REIAofOakland.com).

Free Foreclosure Tours

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

On Facebook

RE/MAX has launched a new Facebook page for customers and the public to get direct answers for their real estate questions from RE/MAX experts. The new site is a chance for the public to ASKREMAX and get clear, expert answers in real time. Visit www.facebook.com/ASKREMAX.

Finance Seminar

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

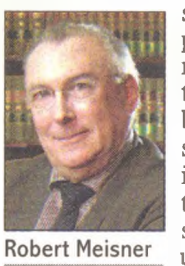
Skate ban: Heed lawyer's advice

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: Our association is thinking about banning skateboarding in the common areas. Do you think that poses a problem?

A: It may pose a problem in that HUD may take the position that since there is no safety-related justification for the regulation (assuming that is the case), such a regulation would be familial discrimination and would subject the individual directors to liability as well as the association. In any event, I would be very cautious about imposing such a ban without getting a legal opinion from your association attorney and, perhaps, talking to your liability carrier.

Q: What is your experience in dealing with short sales as a vehicle to avoid foreclosure?



Robert Meisner

A: I could write several pages of a response to that, but to suffice it to say that short sales, under certain circumstances, may be a good way out for the home seller. In any event, you should use a real estate agent or firm that specializes in short sales and an attorney who can advise you as to the programs and different policies regarding short sales being offered by the financial institution that holds your mortgage or others. The attorney may also be able to advise you as to the ramifications of failing to make mortgage payments and buying a second home before the short sale of the first home has been approved. There are also federal incentives available for some owners and banks for selling a home at a loss rather than allowing it to move into foreclosure. Information is available at homeaffordable.gov where you can click on "explorer programs" tab. Short sales may also be beneficial to the lender to ensure the safety of its security and to expedite the process of recouping its losses.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition, available for $9.95 plus $1 shipping/handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for $24.95 plus $5 shipping/ handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com.

This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

VOICES & VIEWS: COMMENT ONLINE
hometownlife.com

Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

1 Ill temper
4 Summer getaway, perhaps
8 Motel vacancy
12 Coral formation
13 Range in Asia
14 A Great Lake
15 Full of striking incidents
17 ISS people
18 Four-door model
19 Classified
21 Kilmer of films
23 Airport closer
24 Agrees to
28 Vacation spot
32 Frost victim
33 River tamer
35 Mother rabbit
36 — Downs (racetrack)
39 Cruise ship fare
42 Links org.
44 Scribble down
45 Dante locale
49 Pilot's aid
53 Futile
54 Not simultaneously (hyph.)
56 Colleen's home
57 Potentially disastrous
58 KGB counterpart
59 Slide downhill
60 "L'—, c'est moi"
61 Dutch airline

DOWN

1 Applies frosting
2 Go wild about
3 Got a load of
4 Midafternoon refresher
5 Politico Landon
6 Claw badly
7 Dish with saffron
8 Back out
9 Kind of surgeon
10 River to the Seine
11 Honey wine
16 Cathedral part
20 Fishing float
22 Soho co.
24 Homer Simpson's dad
25 Tea holder
26 Investment options
27 Weaken gradually
29 Oklahoma town
30 Small worker in a big organization
31 Laugh syllable
34 Mil. rank
37 Raised the lid
38 Boss, briefly
40 Frozen dessert
41 Remain in one place
43 Battery terminal
45 Noted lithographer
46 Do perfectly
47 Kind of drill
48 Don't count — —!
50 Wharf
51 Indigo shrub
52 Paper quantity
55 Geologic time period

Answer to Previous Puzzle

■	G	U	S	H	■	Q	T	Y	■	M	A	E
F	U	R	R	Y	■	U	R	E	■	U	R	L
R	I	G	I	D	■	A	U	T	U	M	N	S
O	D	E	■	E	L	I	C	I	T	■	■	■
M	E	S	S	■	E	N	E	■	T	O	A	D
■	■	■	E	D	I	T	■	M	E	R	C	I
E	N	T	E	R	S	■	B	A	R	R	E	D
C	O	O	K	S	■	P	A	C	E	■	■	■
O	M	N	I	■	E	O	N	■	D	A	D	S
■	■	■	N	A	P	L	E	S	■	L	E	A
M	O	N	G	R	E	L	■	E	M	B	E	R
A	L	I	■	F	E	E	■	L	A	U	R	A
P	E	P	■	S	S	N	■	L	I	M	E	■

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

Want more puzzles?
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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

Word Search — Oral Care

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

Brushing, Cavity, Dental, Dentist, Drill, Examination, Floss, Fluoride, Hygiene, Instruments, Mouth, Nitrous, Oral, Orthodontist, Xray

Sudoku — CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

Word Search — CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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HOMES

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LIVONIA: 3 bdrm, 1½ bath brick ranch, attached garage, appli. incl. water & lawn main. $1200/mo.+ dep. Call John Mon-Sat. 9-5. **248-478-7019**

WAYNE: 3 bdrm, hardwood floors, fresh paint. Lg. yard. 4259 Winnifred. $800 Sec. & Rent. **734-626-0971**

WESTLAND: Exc area! New carpet & paint. Clean 3 bdrm ranch, bsmt, 1.5 bath, c/a. No pets! $885. **734-591-9163**

WESTLAND: New 2 or 3 bdrm duplex, new carpet & paint, some with appli. Fenced. **313-418-9905**

WESTLAND: Pretty 2 bdrm ranch, Appliances included, 1.5 car garage, No pets, Immed. occ. $595/mo + sec. **Agent: (734) 522-2429**

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Clean, peaceful home, large room. $120/week.
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Homes For Rent

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$199 MOVES YOU IN
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OE08778971 V2

For The Best Auto Deals..Check Your Classifieds!

Wanted To Rent

Looking for Room to Rent: Living with kid's, teenagers, or animals, okay. Hobbies incl sports, trains, model kits. Will pay $250-$300/mo. **Rob: 734-564-8674**

SERVICES

hometownlife.com

Asphalt/Blacktop/Sealing

DJ'S BLACKTOP DRIVEWAYS
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BEST CHIMNEY & ROOFING CO. -New & repairs Sr. Citizen Discount. Lic & Ins **248-557-5595, 313-292-7722**

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TOTAL DECK CARE: Cleaning, Staining, Repairs. Free Est. Best Rates. Prompt Srv. Also Painting Srvs. **248-739-1001**

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Any Size Job. Licensed.
Free Estimates. **734-259-9326**

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Any home service, available 24 hrs, low rates, Lic/Ins. (248) 767-9346

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A-1 HAULING
Move scrap metal, clean basements, garages, stores, etc. Lowest prices in town. Quick service. Free est. Wayne/Oakland. Central location. 248-547-2764, 248-559-8138

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New & previous gardens, $35 & up. Troy Built equip. 32 yrs. exp. **Call Ray: 248-477-2168**

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Garages

SUNRISE BUILDING CONTRACTORS
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• Garages • Siding
• Additions • Dormers
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All Home Improvements!
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Call today for a Free Estimate!

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Driveways, garage floors, porches, awnings, railings, brick work.
We also build garages!
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Call today for a Free Estimate!

THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	(734) 459-0782	3.5	0	2.75	0	J/A
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	(800) 593-1912	3.5	0	2.875	0	J/A
AFI Financial	(877) 234-0600	3.5	0	2.75	0	J/A/F
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	3.5	0	2.875	0	J/A
BRINKS Gold Star Mortgage	(888) 293-3477	3.375	0.375	2.75	0	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Gold Star	(800) 991-9922	3.3	0.5	2.75	0	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	4	0.25	3.125	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	4	0	3.375	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	4	0	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage	(888) 293-3477	3.375	0.375	2.75	0	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	3.625	0	3	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Gold Star	(888) 293-3477	3.25	1	2.625	0.5	J/A/V/F

Above Information available as of 6/1/12 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a $200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at **www.rmcreport.com**.

Key to "Other" column - J= Jumbo, A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported.

All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders.Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032

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BUY & SELL

hometownlife.com

Antiques/Collectibles

ANTIQUES & ART ON THE LAWN AT THE BARN ANTIQUES Sat., June 9,10-6 & Sun., June 10, 11-5. Refreshments available for purchase. 48120 Eight Mile, Northville. For more Info. 248-349-0117. Limited Vendor SpaceAvailable.

Auction Sales

AUCTION ON-SITE
Sat., June 9, 11am
Corrigan World Wide Moving System
Contents of:
"75 to 100" Storage Crates
45200 Grand River Ave.
Novi, MI 48375
Lots of Treasures
"Kid Rock"
signed Fender Guitar
"Marlon Young"
signed Guitar.
Antique Furniture;
Collectibles;
Household Items; Tools;
Appliances; Furniture;
Crates Are: 8x7, 8ft high.
Cash/MC/Visa/Discover
Bank Debit Cards
No Checks
Viewing at 9am
Joe Carli,
Professional
Auction Service
734.451.7444
jcauctionservices.com

Rummage Sale/ Flea Market

BETHEL COMMUNITY CHURCH: 8980 Middlebelt. June 7-9, 9-5pm. Choir robes, church pews, furniture, clothes and lots of other stuff.

CHURCH RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE June 7, 8, 9, 9-3pm. Lighthouse Worship Center, 19827 Middlebelt Rd., Livonia

Estate Sales

Another Bernard Davis Estate Sales 313-837-1993 Moving Inventory Jo's Art Gallery, 19376 Livernois, Detroit 48221. June 7-9, 8:45am-4pm and 10th 12pm-5pm. For more info go to **estatesales.net** SEE YOU THERE!!!

ANOTHER ESTATE SALE BY ENCORE Fri-Sat, June 8-9, 10-4pm. 30261 Buckingham, Livonia; 2 blks W of Middlebelt, 1 blk N of I-96. Furniture and lots of household, bsmt and garage misc. Our #'s at 9:30am Fri.

Large Estate Sale - Northville Thurs, Fri & Sat 9-4pm. 44855 Thornapple Lane. Btwn 6 Mile & 7 Mile, off Sheldon. Antiques & more!

Livonia ESTATE SALE BY NANCY Fri-Sun., 10-4pm. 16609 Marsha Newburg & 6 Mile, enter at Mallory Dr. Off 6 Mile, enter at Laurel Park S **Contents Of Home:** Furniture, Waterford crystal, Bronze, art, expensive clothing (size 4-6), Coach purses, new shoes (sizes 5-7), basement loaded. Too much to list! check craigslist for photos!

LIVONIA ESTATE SALE: 18775 Canterbury. Furniture, dinnerware, collectibles, dolls & teacups. June 8-10, 9-5pm.

MILFORD- 6/14-6/17, 9-6pm. Estate sale. Antiques and vintage items. 7 rooms of furniture, household items, tools, & much more! 814 Abey Lane, off Milford Rd btwn 59 and Commerce

REDFORD: ESTATE SALE Fri. & Sat. June 8 & 9, 9-5. 16678 Lola Dr. S. of 6 Mile. Tools, lots of good household.

Garage/Moving Sales

BIRMINGHAM MOVING SALE! 451 Pilgrim June 6, 7, 8, 9am-5pm.

Household Goods

BEDROOM SET: Full dresser with hutch, mirror and night stand. Call after 5pm, 734-266-0453

CURIO CABINET, pine, lighted w/key, collectibles incl Gone with the Wind, Wizard of Oz, Red Wings & many others. Exc. cond. $650/best. **Westland: 734-467-6352**

DINING ROOM SET: Driftwood, table and 6 chairs, china cabinet, good cond. $500. Call: (248) 380-1744

DINING TABLE & CHINA CABINET: Cherry wood, 6 chairs, table pads, like new, $1,500/best. (248) 473-6488

DRYER/COMPUTER DESK Electric Hotpoint Dryer, 3 yrs old $175. Full size black computer desk w/hutch $150. 734-828-7044

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER With glass doors. Call after 5pm, (734) 266-0453

FEATHER WEIGHT SEWING MACHINES: Black and white, $300-$350. Call: 248-642-7484

HUTCH & SERVER- Bernhardt china hutch & server, cherry wood . $400. (248) 462-2782

LEATHER COUCH & CHAIR: Cognac, like new, originally $2000, only $500! **Call: (734) 420-0402**

MISC ITEMS- Refrigerator $135, Stove $95, Retro Refrigerator $5, Dryer $85, Propane Dryer $85. Dehumidifier $55, twin mattress & box set $45, Wheel barrel $10; queen box spring $20, (2) Air Conditioners $35 7 $85, Roaster with stand $35. 248-465-0262

Exercise/Fitness Equipment

EQUIP- Elliptical, Weslow Momentum 220X, $150/best. Excercise & weight machine Weider Pro 4300, $350. 248-462-2782

Lawn, Garden & Snow Equipment

FORD 1972 TRACTOR gas, w/back brake, new starter, 2 new front tires. Asking $4800/firm. **248-437-1935**

LAWN MOWER: TORO 20" Cordless Electric Mower, like new, used 1 season. $200 w/attachments. **248-557-7857**

Lawn, Garden Material

LAWN MOWER Craftsman 42" Auto Riding Lawnmower. All new tires, runs very well. Have a service so don't need anymore. $450. 734-828-7044

Cats

CAT/KITTEN ADOPTIONS Every Sun. 12-4pm at Pets Supplies Plus, 43665 Ford Rd., Canton **(734) 595-3646**

CATS - SMALL: Fixed rescues, Too loving homes. 248-738-4901, 248-214-9898

Lost - Pets

LOST: Cockatiel, gray w/yellow face and orange cheeks. Metal band on 1 leg. Name is Patch. Call: 734-354-3249 and have them contact Joanne.

GARAGE SALES

hometownlife.com

Garage/Moving Sales

BIRMINGHAM: Moving Sale! 2 families! Furniture, collectibles and household items. Thurs-Sat, June 7-9, 9-5pm. 1220 South Bates Street.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS: Treasure Sale! 2 sales at the Bowers School Farm, 1223 Square Lk. Rd. Sat. 9-3:30pm. Antiques, collectibles, furniture, jewelry, plant sale. Benefits Barton Farm House & School Farm.

CANTON ANNUAL SUB SALE The Ravines Subdivision S of Joy, W of Beck. Thurs-Sat., June 7th-9th, 10am-4pm. Something for everyone! Furniture, household items, remote control boats, & fishing supplies.

CANTON CHERRY HILL VILLAGE ANNUAL SUB WIDE GARAGE SALE - 25+ Homes Participating! Don't miss this! Location: South of Cherry Hill and Denton Rds in Canton. When: June 8-10; hours: 8 am-5pm. Maps available on site!

CANTON MOVING SALE: Thurs-Sat, 6/7-6/9, 9-4p. 45426 Augusta Dr, W/Canton Ctr, S/Cherry Hill. Misc. items, clothes, etc.

CANTON SUB SALE- Nottingham Forest. N. of Ford Rd. W. of Lilley. E. of Morton Taylor. June 7-9, 9am-?

CANTON VISTAS OF CENTRAL PARK S. of Cherry Hill, W. of Beck. Subwide Sale. June 7, 8 & 9, 9-4pm. Furniture, household, clothing, misc.

CANTON: Forest Brook Sub Sale June 7, 8 & 9, 9am-5pm. Corner of Sheldon & Palmer.

CANTON. 43041 Ryegate. Children's books, toys, household items, dance costumes, misc. Thurs. & Fri. 9-4. Sat. 9-1.

COMMERCE TWP Household/Estate Sale. Fri. June 8, 9-4. 3852-3838 Cheryl Dr. Tools, country, collectibles, infant & toys, clothes, yard + much more. W. of Benstein, N. of Bass Lake, E. of Sleeth.

FARMINGTON HILLS June 7-9, 9am-5pm. 22161 Colgate, 3 blocks W of Middlebelt, between 9 Mile and Grand River. Cleaning closets and cupboards of 30 years accumulation. Antiques and collectibles, furniture and so much more! 248-320-8774

FARMINGTON HILLS- Indoor/ outdoor furniture, antiques trunks, Lionel train set, x-mas decor, sports equip., washer, prof photos, desks, TVs, motorcycle, camping equip., guitars, clothes, misc household, sports memorialbila & toys. River Pines Condos, 9 Mile & Drake. Multi garage sale. Fri & Sat June 8th & 9th, 9-5pm

FARMINGTON HILLS- Multi family! Tons of stuff! Sat. & Sun, June 9th & 10th. 9-5pm. 22127 West Brandon, 9 Mile & Middlebelt.

Farmington Hills- Woodbine Sub-wide sale! 10 Mile/ Middlebelt. June 7-9th. 9-5pm. Lots of homes participating! Bdrm furn, tools & tons more!

FARMINGTON Chatham Hills Sub Wide Sale. Thur-Sat, June 7-9, 9am-5pm. S. of Grand River btwn. Drake & Halstead.

GARDEN CITY 28912 Cambridge - Sofa, chairs, tables, twin sleeper sofa, office suite, misc items. Thurs.-Sat., June 7-9, 8am-5pm. 734-427-1905

GARDEN CITY- Moving out of state. Furniture, vinatge stove, pressure washer, nice clothing, linens, decor, dishes, etc. 6/7-6/9; 10-4pm. 6542 Sunset St, btwn Middlebelt & Merriman, N of Ford.

GARDEN CITY: Thurs-Sat, 9-5. Coke, M&M's, scrapbook case, clothes, housewares, books, ceiling fan, TVs, Longaberger. 28469 Donnelly St. S of Ford, W of Harrison.

Garage/Moving Sales

LIVONIA - 7 Mile & Merriman, Hidden Pines Annual Garage Sale. Something for everyone! June 8-10th, 9am-5pm.

LIVONIA - DEER CREEK ANNUAL SUB SALE! Fri-Sat., June 8-9, 9-4pm. Numerous homes open Thurs., June 7. Rain or Shine. ½ mi. W. of Farmington Rd., S. of 8 Mi, or N. of 7 Mi, W. of Gill.

LIVONIA - SMB Estates Sub-Wide: 22+ Homes. Off Yale, 1 mile W of Farmington, btwn 5 Mile & Schoolcraft. Thurs.-Sat., June 7, 8, 9, 9-4pm.

LIVONIA ANNUAL SUB SALE!
BROOKWOOD ESTATES
ALMOST 100 HOMES
6 Mile & Merriman
Sat-Sun, June 9-10th
Some sales start Friday
Concessions

LIVONIA BIG, QUALITY! 18643 Comstock - 6/7-6/9, 9-4pm. Gardening, Electronics, Kitchen, Camping. Furniture, Ladders, Books, Games, much more! S of 7, E of Newburgh.

LIVONIA BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE - SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 9am-3pm. Farmington Rd., between 7/8 Mile. Small kitchen appliances, O gauge trains/accessories, bathroom cabinets, counter tops, sinks/faucets, lighting fixtures, washer/dryer, marble tables, furniture, baby clothing/toys, golf clubs,tools, household items ,etc.

LIVONIA Garage Sale - Wide variety, many like new! Furniture, decor, tools, clothes, toys, electronics and more! June 7-9th, Thurs & Fri., 9am-4pm & Sat., 9am-1pm. 19200 Gary Lane, N of 7 Mile.

LIVONIA GARAGE SALE: On Crown St., off Joy Rd btwn Wayne & Newburgh. June 7-9.

LIVONIA HUGE Garage Sale - June 7-9, 9am-5pm. 34544 Navin, between 7 & 8 Mile, W of Gill. Antiques.

LIVONIA HUGE SUB SALE 40+ Homes - June 7/8/9 (Thurs-Fri-Sat) S. of Plymouth btwn Wayne & Levan. Furniture, Appliances, Tools, Antiques, Bikes. Lawnmowers, Golf Clubs, Longaberger, Partylite, Drums, Jewelry & So Much More! "The Best Sub Sale in Livonia!"

LIVONIA MOVING SALE- WE'RE DOWNSIZING! 15050 Golfview Dr, S/E 5 Mile & Levan. 6/7-6/9. Furniture, household items, quilt shop fabric.

LIVONIA Wide Variety! Antiques, records, collectibles, furniture, toys, clothes, misc household, games/game systems. June 13-16, 9am-5pm. 9126 Newburgh, North of Joy.

LIVONIA- Multi-family sale! Kid's bikes, riding toys, & car bed; exc cond. Lots of other misc. 6/8 9-5pm, & 6/9 9-4pm. 11767 Roselinda Dr., just W Newburgh Rd off Plymouth

LIVONIA: 36344 Fairway Dr. Golf Ridge Sub. 8 Mile & Newburgh. Thurs-Sat., 9am-4pm. 30 years! Furniture, household & auto parts.

LIVONIA: Collector baseball cards, comic books, antiques, furniture, tons of jewelry, crystal, tools, Thurs-Sun. 9178 Pere, btwn. Joy/Ann Arbor Rd

NEW HUDSON- Workshop of tools, all kinds, power woodworker tools, yard tools, furniture & household goods. June 8 & 9th; 10-6pm. 30261 Grace-Rae; W of Milford Rd off Pontiac Trl

NORTHVILLE - Huge Garage Sale! 9563 Currie Rd. **All proceeds to Homeward Bound Pet Rescue League.** Thurs-Sat, June 7-9, 9-5pm.

NORTHVILLE TWP. GIGANTIC Sub-Wide Garage Sale! Woodland South Condos, SW corner of Sheldon & 6 Mile. June 7, 8 & 9, 9-4pm.

NORTHVILLE- Blue Heron Pointe Condo Community Garage Sale - Sat., June 9th 8am-4pm. W. side of Beck Rd, btwn 6 & 7 Mile. Furniture, books, clothing, appliances, & misc.

NORTHVILLE: Garage Sale. Sat., June 9, 9am-3pm. 869 Pond Island Ct. Pheasant Hills Sub. N. of 8, E. of Beck. Sports equip, dishes, clothes, books.

NORTHVILLE: Huge Barn & Lawn Sale. Antiques, Collectibles & Flea Market Goods. Children s activities & Faerie Days Projects. Sat. June 9, 10-6. Sun. 6/10, 11-5 48120 Eight Mile **248-349-0117**

NOVI - SUB SALE Briarwood Village 10 Mile & Beck Rd. June 7, 8 & 9 9AM - 4PM

NOVI GREENWOOD OAKS SUB GARAGE SALE - W. of Beck, N. of 10 Mile. Thurs.-Sat., June 7, 8, & 9. Starting at 9am each day!

NOVI Sat., June 9th, 9am-4pm ONLY! Over 20 Houses - Lochmoor Village/Abbey Hills, 11 Mile, E of Beck. All baby/kids items & much more!

NOVI Subdivision Garage Sale - June 7-10. Knightsbridge Gate Sub, off of Napier, between Grand River and 10 Mile.

NOVI ~ Addington Park Sub Sale. July 7-9, Thurs-Sat, 8-5pm. S. of 10 Mile, W. of Taft.

NOVI: Huge Garage Sale. 25511 Abbey Dr. S. of 11 Mile, E. of Beck. June 7-9, 9-3pm. Lots of house & kitchenwares, framed pictures, decorative items, linens & DVD players.

PLYMOUTH Sat., June 9, 9am-4pm. Quality exercise equip., luggage, books, CDs, DVDs, children's costumes & lots of household. 47122 Beechcrest Dr., Plymouth

REDFORD 17701 Denby, btwn 6 & 7 Mile, E. of Inkster. Thurs-Mon, June 7th-June 11th, 9am-5pm. Lots of good stuff

SOUTH LYON: Subdivision Garage Sale Thur-Sat., June 7-9, 9-5pm. Orchard Edge Estates. Silver Lake & Pontiac Trail.

WESTLAND DEERHURST CONDO ASSOC. SALE. Central City Pkwy. Btwn Ford & Warren. Fri. June 8, Sat. June 9, 9-4pm.

Garage/Moving Sales

WESTLAND MOVING SALE!! 32701 Bertram. Contemporary Furniture, Office, Sectional, Kitchen Table, Bedroom, collectibles, tools, clothing, antiques, household items, etc. June 8-10, 15-17. EVERYTHING MUST GO! MAKE OFFER! 734-674-0941

WESTLAND- Community Sale! Abbey's of Westland Condos. S of Ford Rd on Carlson Rd. 6/7-6/9, 9-4pm. Household, furniture, tools, misc & more!

WESTLAND- Huge 5 family sale! Fri & Sat; 9-5pm. 35546 Columbia. Fireproof safes plus home & office goods!

WESTLAND- Multi family sale. Lots of Christmas items, toys, kids clothes, & misc. Thurs-Sat., 10-5pm. 33760 Tawas, N of Warren, E of Wayne.

WESTLAND-BIG SALE! June 7-8, 9am-4pm. Furniture, house and baby items. 2128 N. Marie, W. of Newburgh, S. of Ford Rd. overpass.

WESTLAND: 36135 Traditions Dr., S of Carlson, E of Marquette. 6/7-6/9, 9-4pm. Longaberger, Hallmark, plus sized clothing & misc.

WESTLAND: BROOKFIELD VILLAGE ASSOC. SUB SALE June 7-8th, 9am-4pm. Located on Cherry Hill & John Hix Rd.

WESTLAND: Fri-Sun, 10-5pm. 35750 Glen St., off Wayne Rd, btwn Cherry Hill & Palmer. Lg size ladies clothing, toys, household goods, Texaco & Hess collectibles and TY animals.

WESTLAND: Huge Barn Sale! Something for everyone! 1421 S. Venoy, 48186. Sat, June 9, 8-3pm. All proceeds benefit trip to Bulgaria.

WHITMORE LAKE Fri. & Sat., June 8 & 9, 10-4pm. 200 Barker Rd at US-23. Furniture, exercise equip, household goods, much more!

WIXOM – TENT SALE! Up to 75% OFF Kitchen & Bath Faucets, Sinks, Tubs, Toilets, Vanities & More. Brand Names Starting @ $25 Rain or Shine. Shower Stalls start @ $100 Etna Supply 29949 Beck Rd. Wixom June 9-10, 9-4pm

Observer & Eccentric Hometown Weekies Classifieds
Just a quick call away...
1-800-579-SELL

JOBS

careerbuilder.com

Help Wanted-General

ASPHALT LABORER Needed, exp. required. **Copeland Paving Call: (248)305-6020**

ASSEMBLY POSITIONS: Manufacturer in the Plymouth Canton area has openings in its assembly department for reliable individuals with good work history & reliable transportation starting at $10 per hour. The positions will start as temporary for the successful candidate to learn and demonstrate the ability to keep pace with assembly operations. Must have good attention to detail and be able to work successfully with others. Company will provide training with the opportunity to become a direct hire with excellent benefits for good performers. Send resume in confidence to the Observer Eccentric including your telephone number and reasons you should be considered. **oeresume@hometownlife.com box# 1901**

Banking
MEMBER SERVICE REP
Permanent part-time position with set schedule (M-W-F) for one person Northville area credit union branch office. Customer service experience req'd. Work schedule accommodates at home parents/caregivers. Send resume w/salary requirements to HR Manager at **cu.jobs@yahoo.com**

Help Wanted-General

CARPENTER With exp in commercial to start immediately. Must be exp'd in drywall, framing, doors and hardware. Opportunity for advancement. 401K, medical, vacation, holidays. Must have tools and reliable transportation. Email resume to: hr@aimconstruction.com Fax: 248-476-4277

CDL A/B DRIVERS Local Route Delivery Apply in Person M-F from 8am-5pm Arctic Glacier Ice 1944 McGreggor, Ypsilanti

CHILDCARE PROVIDERS For infants, toddlers & pre-schoolers. **Call: 248-471-1022**

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

DELI COUNTER PERSON Good pay. Southfield Call Sid: **(248) 860-4499**

DIRECT CARE STAFF Work with developmentally disabled adults. Westland. **(734) 722-4580 x9**

DIRECT CARE WORKER PT positions avail. Positive attitudes a must. Must have clean driving record. Starting $7.61/hr. **(734) 341-1629**

DIRECT CARE WORKER PT positions avail. Positive attitudes a must. Must have clean driving record. Starting $7.61/hr. **(734) 394-5620**

DIRECT CARE: Make a difference! Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want to! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, getting places etc. Many locations, many shifts! If you are at least 18 years old, have a valid Michigan's Driver's License & are CLS, Inc. trained, call our **Job Line 734-728-4201, 0#**

Driver
Shuttle Bus Driver
Part time
For Senior Living Facility in Plymouth. Must have clean driving record and CDL with P endorsement. Fax resume: 734-453-1150 Email: activities@ivplymouth.com No phone calls please.

Help Wanted-General

DRIVER/ STOCK PERSON
Part-Time
Needed for auto paint store. Will train.
Apply in person to: Painters Supply & Equip. 1054 W. Ann Arbor Rd. Plymouth.

Drivers:
BLACK HORSE CARRIERS
has openings in the Plymouth area: Dedicated route, Home daily, 5 day work week. Average $900 plus a week. Driver unload. These full-time positions come with full Benefits, 401K and paid vacation. If you have 3 yrs. Exp. and a Class A CDL with a clean MVR.
Call 630-299-9956 or email to paul.korbal@blackhorsecarriers. com EOE. Drug Testing is a condition of employment

FIRE EXTINGUISHER/ SYSTEMS SERVICE TECH: 3 immediate positions to be filled. Call: (313) 255-0055

Kindergarten Teacher in Oakland Co., MI to teach kindergarten level & provide teaching Strategies that support & facilitate the unique growth of individual student. Create a classroom environment that is conducive to learning & is developmentally appropriate. Prepare lesson plans that reflect best practices & accommodates individual needs. Guide the learning process toward the achievement of curriculum goals & establish clear objectives for all lessons, units & projects. Employ a variety of instructional techniques consistent with best practices. Strive to implement, by instruction & action, Montessori philosophy of education & instructional goals and objectives. Assess student learning through observations & authentic performance. Providing frequent student feedback to parents & conducting bi-annual Parent Teacher Conferences. Maintain student portfolios & documentation. Provide overall supervision & management of classroom. Maintain & improve professional competence. Req: Bachelors in either Education or English or its foreign academic equivalent & Montessori Early Childhood Education Credentials from American Montessori Society or any suitable combination of education, experience, and/or training. Resumes to Red Hill Associates dba Red Hill Montessori, 29001 W 13 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334 Attn: Director

LANDSCAPE, LAWN CARE & TREE REMOVAL LABORER Part-Time. $7.50-$10/hr. Must have driver's license & ride to & from work. Must know how to use zero turn, walk behind & weed whip. **(248) 755-5654**

Lawn and Landscape Farmington Hills based company hiring for landscape and lawn laborers and supervisors, turf, tree & shrub techs and supervisors. Competitive wages based on skill and exp., benefits available. **Call (248) 474-7403 or email humanresources@greenlawngroup.com**

LAWN CREW CHIEF Full-Time. Immediate opening. Salary based on experience. Must have valid Driver's License with clean driving record. **Call: (248) 626-3212**

LEGAL SECRETARY Experienced individual for Senior Partner. Must have knowledge of Workers Compensation law, MS Word & Outlook ('03 or newer). Woodward/ 11 Mile area. Fax resume to Mrs. Evans 248-548-6738

Mill Operator/ Prototrak Gage experience needed. Excellent benefits. **(248) 474-5150 sales@birdsalltool.com**

Help Wanted-General

PAINTERS, Full-Time. Starting at $10-$12/hr based on exp. Reliable, Responsible. Good Transportation. **Call after 7pm. 248-933-8954**

PAINTERS: Sub-Contractor Work. Exp'd, Int./Ext. Call btwn 10 & 4. Mon-Fri. (248) 557-7055 or email: chrzky@aol.com

RECLINER/LIFT CHAIR Reclines and lifts person to standing position. Excellent condition, Beige. Canton area. $200/best. Must sell! After 5pm call 734-968-3659

Service Application Engineer For diesel engine manufacturer in Plymouth, MI. Requires two (2) years experience providing test field management to customers for diesel engine test automation systems including overseeing instrumentation, equipment calibration & testing methodologies; coordinating software rollouts and testing procedures; troubleshooting software and hardware testing issues; assisting in system operation and preparing test runs; reviewing progress reports and recommending and implementing improvement measures. The position is located in Plymouth, MI with 15% travel. Send resume to: AVL Powertrain Engineering, Inc. Attn. Jordan Phillips, 47519 Halyard Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170-2438. Please indicate SAE in subject line.

STYLISTS Canton area unisex salon seeking talented stylists. Lic stylists only. Stylist with additional talents (waxing, makeup appl. preferred). Call 734-459-0109 desiodist1@gmail.com

VETERINARY Technician/Assistant & Groomers needed for busy vet hospitals in Dearborn and Southfield area. Email resume: michiganvet@yahoo.com

Help Wanted-Dental

Dental Assistant, Exp'd. PT position in a private, fast-paced group practice located in Livonia. Seeking a candidate with superior patient service skills who demonstrates a hard-working, focused attitude with great attention to detail. Dental assisting exp. & the ability to explain dental treatment to educate patients is imperative. Our ideal candidate must be able to work in a team-oriented approach, be highly self-motivated and have mastered all necessary dental assisting skills. Orthodontic exp a plus. Must be avail to work evenings & a Sat. rotation. **Please send resume to: moreinfo@preferred dentalgroup.com**

Help Wanted-Medical

Busy specialty practice is looking for:
RN
Full-Time. Previous nursing experience in an outpatient setting is preferred. Minimum of 2 years exp. required. Must be willing to travel btwn Livonia & Novi.
Please send resumes to: **asutphen@procaresystems.com**

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

ECHO TECH Needed for Southfield imaging company. Exp. required. Vascular and general ultrasound experience a plus. PT or FT positions with benefits available. **Submit resume to: careers@diagnostic management services.com**

MEDICAL ASSISTANT: Part-time for immediate opening in Livonia Allergy. Exp. preffered. Non smoking office. Fax: 248-478-8425

Medical Patient Coordinator Part-time for Plastic Surgery office. Must have minimum 5 years medical experience, strong computer knowledge, excellent phone protocol and patient skills. **Fax resume: 248-647-1799**

OPTOMETRIC ASSISTANT Exp'd. **Assistant** needed for pre-testing, contact lenses & eye glass dispensing. **Please resume to: assistant4eyes@aol.com**

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT Part-time opening for an experienced Physician Assistant for a busy family practice in Livonia, MI. Physician assistant will join 2 board certified family practice physicians. Applicant must be a graduate from an accredited PA program, NCCPA certified and possess a Michigan PA licensure. Duties will include all aspects of patient care. Part time hours Tuesday, Wednesday and possibly ½ day Thursday. Must also be available to cover vacation weeks for physicians. E-mail cover letter and CV to **LMCCAREERS@AOL.COM**

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage

Head Cashier/Assistant Mgr: Mature person. Hrs. 9-3, Mon-Fri. Apply 1-4, Mon-Fri at Coneytown in Renaissance Center, ask for Patricia

Help Wanted-Domestic

CAREGIVER NEEDED Live-in care giver needed for 84 yr old woman in her Redford Twp home. $80/day plus room and board incl. 6 days/week. Caregiver would have own bdrm & own bathroom. 84 yr old is mentally sharp and walks with a cane. Needs assistance with meal preparation, showering and light housekeeping. Please call Colleen at 248-302-8041

Position Wanted

CAREGIVER I am blessed to have exp. as Live-In Caregiver and I love my work. **248-224-7461**

Childcare/Baby-Sitting Services

New Born & Toddler Daycare Provider 20+ yrs. exp. Have a CDA, certified in CPR & 1st Aide. Your home in the Livonia area. 313-543-7706

Attorneys/Legal Counseling

DIVORCE $75.00 www.CSRdisability.com CS&R 734-425-1074

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AIRLINES ARE HIRING - Train for high paying Aviation Career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified - Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 877-891-2281

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1FAFP55U73A204586
2001 PONTIAC
1G2NF52E01M581637
2007 DODGE
1B3HB48B67D561981
2002 FORD
1FAFP55U12G270837
1999 OLDSMOBILE
1G3G62RCXX4108451
1998 PONTIAC
1GMDX03E4WD310718
1999 DODGE
1B7HC16Y8X5291861
1992 CHEVROLET
1G1JC1441N7143643
1991 BUICK
1G4CW54C511647324
2000 MITSUBISHI
6MMAP57P0YT005151
1998 DODGE
1B3ES42Y7WD729108

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WE PAY TOP DOLLAR For Clean USED CARS
AVIS FORD
(248) 355-7500

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CHEVY SILVERADO EXT CAB
2x4, Pewter, 92K
$6,995
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FORD F-150 2010 · L2T9463A, Auto, A/C, Full Power, Only 30K Miles $22,988
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Extended cab, 4x4, gray, 78K, $15,995
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(734) 453-2500

GMC SIERRA 2007 EXT CAB
Black, 2x4, Must Go. $9,995
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GMC SIERRA 2011
Blue Flame, 13K, leather, and 4WD! Just like new! Call for price! 888-372-9836
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AWD light blue great van $9,995
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Bright White! PL,CD & Cloth! Comes With Warranty! Only $7,995! 888-372-9836
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Tan Almond, LT, DVD, and remote start! Great family fun! Reduced to $10,997! 888-372-9836
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Burgundy 86K $12,495
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Loaded, clean & sharp. Blue Book Value $14,000. Asking $12,900.
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Candy Apple Red, 31K, touring, and power options! Ready for an adventure! Reduced to $15,879! 888-372-9836
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Sharp Silver, XR, Leather and Remote Start! Very Spacious Interior! Only $17,495! 888-372-9836
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Bright White, G3500, LT, and 15 passenger! Room for everyone! Reduced to.... $24,995! 888-372-9836
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15 passenger, 43K, $18,895
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P21468, Certified Pre-Owned, V8, Full Power, Only 8,000 Miles!
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P21485, 4CYL, FWD, Moon, Only 30K, Showroom New, $17,988 certified
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Pacific Blue, XLT, 4WD, and remote start! Engineered for fun! Reduced to $10,777! 888-372-9836
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GMC ACADIA SLE 2009
Black, like new 20K certified $24,595
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GMC TERRAIN SLT 2012
FWD, only 26,000 miles. $27,995
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

HUMMER H3 2009
33K silver, roof must see $24,995
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

MERCURY MARINER PREMIER 2010
1176100A, Certified Pre-Owned, 4CYL, FWD, Leather, Moon Roof, $19,988
DEALER
734-421-1300

MERCURY MOUNTAINEER
Premier, Burg, AWD, Loaded. $12,795
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

MERCURY MOUNTAINEER V6 PREM 2008
4 Dr., air, alarm, auto, pl, cruise, CD, anti-lock brakes, pw, full service history, 1 owner, ps, am-fm stereo, sunroof, leather. Garage kept running boards, full leather, garage kept, heated seats, 3rd row seating, tow pkg, 72k miles, white color, 6 CD stereo. $17,000. 313-670-1721

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JAGUAR X58 2000
1 owner beautiful, only $8,995
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MINI COOPER S 2008
Clubman silver 31K $17,995
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC
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SMART ForTwo 2008
Blue Flash, Auto, Glass Top and Passion! Get In and Have Some Fun! Just $9,795! 888-372-9836
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FIREBIRD 1991 Convertible
V8, white w/black interior, auto. Exc. cond. $7800/best. (248) 210-3845

FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE 1966:
289 V8, $11,500 or best offer. Call: (248) 473-6488

Buick

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Gold, leather 2 owners $6,495
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ENCLAVE CXL2 2008
Brown 86K nice $19,995
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Buick

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White, leather, very nice $15,995
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Runs great! $3,995
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12C6013B, Leather, Full Power, Only 10,000 Miles, Perfect. $23,988
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Silver, Like New! $27,995
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Chevrolet

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4 Dr., air, Auto, pl, cruise, CD, anti-lock brakes, pw, ps, am-fm stereo. $2400. 248-778-6141

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Summer Sand, Auto, CD and Power Options! 35th Anniversary Edition! Only $7,995! 888-372-9836
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CORVETTE 1996 LT1- 28,000 miles, black/black leather. Removable top. Loaded! Exc. cond. $17,000. 248-672-4711

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Sateen Gray, 10K, LT & remote start! Stop in Cruze out! Reduced to $19,997! 888-372-9836
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HHR 2008
Rally Red, alloys, leather, and sunroof! Ready for summer cruisin'! Reduced to $10,973! 888-372-9836
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IMPALA 2007
12C8008A, Leather, Moon Roof, Chrome, Inspected &Warranted. $15,488
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Ruby Red, LT, remote start, and OnStar! Sleek and stylish! Only $13,987! 888-372-9836
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Silver, certified 39K $13,995
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Van burgundy cloth, great family van $12,495
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SEBRING 2003
Auto, A/C, Power, Super Clean. $4,988
North Bros. Value Lot
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Dodge

CALIBER SXT 2007
Auto, Full Power, Only 27K Miles, $12,988
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Hemi, V8 Gray, Very clean-runs great $9,995
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NITRO SXT 4WD
6 CYL, Full Power, Alloy, Fully Inspected & Warratied. $13,488
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Ford

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Auto, A/C, Full Power, Only 48,000 Miles, $4,988
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734-261-6200

EDGE LIMITED 2010
12T1149A, Certified FWD, Vista Roof, Chrome, 24K, Spotless, $24,988
North Brothers Ford
734-421-1300

Ford

FOCUS 2012
12C8940A, Certified Auto, Air, Full Power, Only 10,000 Miles, $18,988
DEALER
734-421-1300

FOCUS SE 2010
12C8691A, Certified Auto, Air, Full Power, Only 6,000 Miles. $15,988
DEALER
734-421-1300

FUSION SPORT 2011
12C6008A, Certified Pre-Owned, FWD, Leather, Moon Roof, NAV, $23,988
NORTH BROS. FORD
734-402-8774

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Auto, A/C, Full Power, Priced To Move, $7,988
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Stunning Silver, limited, chrome, and sync! Top to bottom loaded! Reduced to $24,977! 888-372-9836
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Exc. cond. 4WD, cruise control, 82,000 miles, $9000 or best offer. **248-464-9499**

HONDA PILOT
EXL, silver, loaded, must see $29,459
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Blue, loaded, very nice $13,495
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LIBERTY 2009
Shadow Black, 4WD and pan. sunroof! Make some trails! Reduced to $16,733! 888-372-9836
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Lincoln

MKX 2009
Maroon Sunset, navigation, chrome, sunroof, etc! Loaded all-around! Reduced to $26,977! 888-372-9836
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12T1082A, Leather, Moon Roof, Navigation, Priced To Move $26,988
NORTH BROS. FORD
734-421-1300

Mazda

MAZDA 3 2010
Silver, auto $12,995
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(734) 453-2500

MAZDA 6
Auto, A/C, Leather, Moon, 38K, Spotless. $11,288
North Bros. Value Lot
734-261-6200

Mercury

GRAND MARQUIS 1997: 1 owner, loaded, new tires & rims, really good cond., $3900. **Call: (734) 953-4235**

SABLE 2004
Great kid car $7,995
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Pontiac

G5 2009
Jet Black, GT, Leather & Sunroof! Drive Excitement! Only $14,995! 888-372-9836
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G6 2007
Silver Storm, convertible, GT, and remote start! Ready to impress! Just $16,995! 888-372-9836
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G6 2008
Black, Great Kid Car! $10,795
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

G6 2009
12T9567A, Auto, Air, Full Power, Fully Inspected & Warranted. $13,488
North Bros. Value Lot
734-261-6200

G8 2009
Gray, roof, leather 49K $21,495
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

G8 2009
Grey Stone, remote start, and certified! One gr-8 G8! Reduced to $21,333! 888-372-9836
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Pontiac

GRAND AM GT 2002
Silver, must see $7,995
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Saturn

AURA XE 2007
Red, 39K $13,395
BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

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FWD, XR, very nice $19,995
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(734) 453-2500

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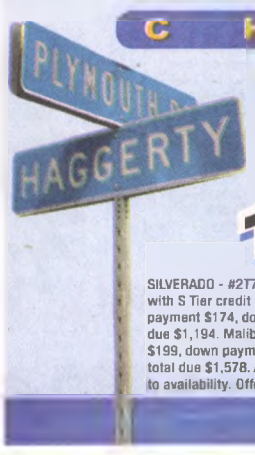

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JUNE 2012

woman

Summer Fashion Trends

ONE HUNDRED+ WOMEN *who care*

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Share how and where you network with Woman readers

Networking. No surprise that women do it differently when compared to our male counterparts. The Mars and Venus dichotomy still rings true.

At a recent dinner, a friend noted that women feel more comfortable than men in using the softer side of networking: book clubs, running clubs, exercise and fitness classes, knitting circles — even charitable organizations.

"Women network in a variety of ways — different ways," she said.

Susan Rosiek

I think she's right. A couple of months ago, I was invited to the Wine and Slippers Book Club. Friend and fellow former hockey mom Lisa Powers, a Canton resident, hosted the meeting that featured a discussion of *Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles, a sort of "*Sex and the City* 1930s-style" as described by one reviewer. The book was a great choice and provided a jumping-off point for the period food and drinks (martinis) served. Women have even transformed the one-time beverage of choice for men's networking. The traditional dry gin martini has been replaced with a variety of colors and flavors of vodka.

Although the book spurred a lot of discussion, we easily drifted into conversation about job changes and other business opportunities. Book group member Carol Zimmerman, a former teacher, told us about her entree into the private sector by launching her own personal chef business, Everyday Edibles. Zimmerman's culinary talents are aimed at people who may be too busy to prepare healthy and delicious meals.

Another woman told of recently starting a new job and offered some tips to a fellow book club member on a job lead. The group, composed of women from Plymouth, Northville, Canton and Superior Township, finds the book club concept a casual, fun and effective way to make networking work for them.

So I am asking you to share: How do you network? How has it changed over the years? What techniques have worked for you?

Women from Canton, Northville, Plymouth and Superior Township are members of the Wine and Slippers Book Club. Lisa Powers of Canton (with mink stole seated) hosted a recent discussion of 'Rules of Civility' by Amor Towles.

We will use your feedback for an upcoming story in *Hometown Life Women.*

Email me at srosiek@hometownlife.com.

You may very well be inspired in the power of networking by reading about "100 Plus Women Who Care Motown" inside today's issue. This group dedicates itself to supporting the Detroit community by contributing to local charities as a group to increase the impact of donations. Women from Beverly Hills, Northville, Milford, Birmingham and Royal Oak are making a difference. Find out how it works in today's edition of *Hometown Life Woman.*

As always, I welcome your comments.

Susan Rosiek
publisher/executive editor

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Quick tips to simplify your summer self

By Barbara Deyo
Guest Columnist

We waited long enough for the warm weather, and now it's flat out hot. The last thing we want to do is spend time in front of the mirror applying stuff that's going to melt off anyway. So what's a girl to do?

Barbara Deyo

Fake it 'til you make it, of course. Here are some easy, time saving things you can do to make your summer filled with fun in the sun instead of time in front of the mirror.

Lighten up

When the temperature rises, the best thing to do with your makeup is — use less! I like to use the rule of thumb to follow the weather, just like you would clothes. When it's colder, wear more, when it's warmer wear less! Switch to an oil-free, sheer tint to even out the skin. Skip the powder. Your skin will thank you. Use a bronzer on your cheeks and finish with a pop of colored gloss on your lips for a fresh every day look.

Bat your eyelashes

If you have never had an eyelash tint, especially if you are blonde, I promise you it will change your life. It takes about 20 minutes, costs about 30 bucks and last about 30 days. What's so great about it — it colors the hair from root to tip, so you actually see all of your precious lashes, including the bottoms. And no need for mascara on those sweltering days. Just get up and go.

Protect what mama gave you

Don't forget to use extra sun protection. Opt for physical sunscreen, such as titanium dioxide, rather than chemical sunscreens. It's easier on the skin and acts as a barrier, rather than absorbing rays, therefore making it longer lasting. Unfortunately, this creates another problem: loading up on SPF, along with increased sweating leads to congestion in the skin. Karen Edwards, Deyo's resident skin expert, recommends deep cleansing facials to rid the skin of this build up. "This helps to alleviate bumps and breakouts," Edwards explains. "Avoid Retinal and acid based products during the summer months, as they thin the skin, making it more prone to sun damage. Resume in the fall when you are outdoors less." She suggests regular maintenance via monthly facials, as well using Source Vital Algae Deep Cleanse and Silt Scrub a couple times a week to keep the pores clean and fresh.

Buy a pony

A pony-tail holder, that is. Think simple and sleek for summer. If Chanel can rock it on the runway, you can certainly wear it out on the town. "Braids are always in," says hair stylist Robbie Collis. "There are so many different ways you can wear it, and it's perfect for day 3 hair." Short hair? No problem. Slick it back. Start with wet hair, add some styling product with soft hold and comb it back. Finish with some hair spray to hold it in place. Bottom line, you don't have to worry about your hair "growing" throughout the day from the humidity.

And my last piece of advice: When in doubt … spray tan! It always makes life a little easier.

Barbara Deyo, owner of Deyo Studio for face and body is an internationally acclaimed makeup artist, having groomed the faces of Paul McCartney, Bob Seger, Kerrie Washington, Shaun Robinson and more. She has been named Best of the Best by Allure, Hour, Real Detroit and WDIV. Deyo Studio is located at 576 N. Old Woodward Ave, 2nd floor in Birmingham. For information call (248) 203-1222 or visit www.deyostudio.com.

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Vibrant colors take center stage in summer fashion

This designer Lanvin calf skin leather shopping tote in bright coral features a comfortable shoulder strap with tasteful studded detailing. Available at Tender in downtown Birmingham.

Target's Merona floral print bamboo scarf can help make a big color statement when added to any outfit without making a big impact on your wallet. Available in red/purple at local Target stores and at target.com, the scarf regularly retails for $14.

Kohl's Floral Ruched Sheath by Suite 7 dress offers a sleeveless splash of pink for summer in a bold flowery print. The figure-flattering dress can be worn both casually with flats or paired with heels for a dressier look. Available at some Kohl's Department stores throughout the Detroit area as well as online at Kohls.com. The retail price is $120.

Color, color and more color is this summer's signature look, as blacks, grays and browns fade into the background to make way for more vibrant hues.

Local fashion experts from department stores and main street boutiques stress the importance of making a big splash with bright colors such as corals and greens this season.

"Coral is really the hot color this season," said Karen Daskas, co-owner of Tender, a luxury boutique in downtown Birmingham. Tender is recognized worldwide for a unique selection of the most coveted designers.

"You are definitely not going to be seeing a lot of black — it's been pushed aside by all of the more colorful offerings this spring and summer," she said. "What you'll be seeing is lots and lots of color — in shades ranging from pales to brights."

Using bright colors, including neons, to accent purses and sandals are also big this summer, showing up in scarves, purses and even on jeweled sandals at local Kohl's stores.

Prints both large and small, are also making a big comeback.

If you are someone who avoids prints, try mixing a smaller print with a solid

Please see FASHION, 9

Coral is a hot color for summer

This Simply Vera Vera Wang tank in today's hottest shades of corals and pinks features a bold, geometric print. It regularly retails for $40 at some local Kohl's Departments stores and at Kohls.com.

This cotton, hand-made lace dress by designer MiuMiu in bold burgundy lined in tan is seen paired with a whimsical print boot, combining two of the seasons latest fashion trends. Available at Tender in downtown Birmingham.

Bold, bright colors pair orange paisley print pants with a bright turquoise top and cutaway jacket. Turquoise shoes complete the outfit. Pants available at Tender in Birmingham for $990. Jacket and shirt available upon request.

Prints large and small are making a big comeback this year.

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Bloomfield woman designs yoga apparel made from recycled plastic

Bloomfield Hills designer Julie Geisinger has introduced a new Earth-friendly, made-in-the-USA style of free to be yoga tees® line.

The newest addition, along with all current styles, is available now for sale at freetobeyogatees.com under the shop tab. The newest arrival in the unisex style is an earthy color, heather bark. The new style holds to the free to be yoga tees® standard — the shirts are soft, high-quality, chemical-free and feature custom design work printed with water-based ink. However, unlike the other styles in the free to be yoga tees® line (which are made from organic bamboo) the newest addition is made from 50 percent organic cotton and 50 percent recycled plastic bottles.

Here's how it works. When a bottle is recycled, it gets melted down and spun into polyester fibers for textiles (in this case, clothing). This fabric, known as RPET, is then blended with the organic cotton and a T-shirt is born, Geisinger explained.

"When you purchase a organic cotton RPET blend free to be yoga tee, you are promoting recycling, helping to grow the market for recyclables, supporting energy savings and, believe it or not, helping to reduce our dependence on foreign oil," said Geisinger, a young entrepreneur who in addition to working on the yoga tees also manages J.M.G. Productions LLC, an events-marketing firm.

Bloomfield Hills designer Julie Geisinger has introduced a new Earth-friendly, made-in-the-USA style of free to be yoga tees® line.

Currently, 10 percent of U.S. oil is used to make plastics like soda and water bottles. And about 70 percent of those bottles end up in landfills.

"While doing research on RPET, I found some fascinating data that helped solidify my decision to add this style to the free to be yoga tees® line," said Geisinger, who graduated Michigan State University in 2003 with a bachelor's degree in communications with an emphasis on mass media, a specialization in public relations, and minors in business and social relations.

"I hope this gives more people the incentive to recycle. We can make a difference," said Geisinger, 31, who said she "came up with the idea of designing yoga T-shirts while in a yoga class one day."

"I was just really inspired by the effects yoga had on my life and decided I wanted to create something

Please see YOGA TEES, 18

WOMEN *who care*

Founders Nancy Sullivan of Northville, Molly Williams of Bingham Farms and Karen Rashid-Balow of Birmingham.

Angela Napolitano of Plymouth and Treger Strasberg of Birmingham listen to the presentation by Janet McAuliffe of Beverly Hills on behalf of the charity Alternatives for Girls.

Marina Pesserl from Royal Oak, Suzanne Bante from Rochester Hills and Dru Szczerva from Bloomfield Hills enjoy the buffet.

Stacey Gasior from Milford enjoys friends and conversation at the May 8 meeting.

Claudia Malone from Bloomfield made a presentation on behalf of the charity Generation of Promise.

PHOTOS BY STEVE CANTRELL

Savvy businesswomen raise funds for charity — fast

By Jill Halpin
Contributing Writer

It has been said that when women put their minds to something, they can accomplish almost anything. However, when over 100 of their friends and co-workers join those women, the results are amazing.

That's exactly the result last month when more than 150 women attended a fundraising event for "100 Plus Women Who Care Motown," raising thousands of dollars for a local charity in a matter of minutes and changing the lives of many in need along the way.

The event, held at George Matick Chevrolet in Redford Township, was the second ever for the new nonprofit fundraising group founded in late 2011 by three local women looking for a quick way to make a big impact locally.

It was a definite success for the group, raising $15,400 for City Mission, a group seeking to break the cycle of generational poverty in the Brightmoor community of Detroit. The mission addressed the educational, physical and spiritual needs of children through mentoring relationships and outreach programs that make life-change possible, said group co-founder Nancy Sullivan of Northville.

"We are so pleased that so many of us were able to contribute to such a deserving group," said Sullivan, a business development manager with Conestoga-Rovers & Associates, an environmental engineering consulting firm in Plymouth. "It is really an honor to be able to help them."

Nicole Aikens, executive director and founder of City Mission, said she was "blown away" by the size of the donation. "For them to choose us … we know that there are so many worthy organizations out there doing good work. We really feel blessed. It is amazing that all of these people want to support us," she said.

The large donation was especially helpful, she said, because it allowed for future planning that will enable the Mission to be more effective in its work.

"Now we can plan through the year and know that we will have the funds available for summer programming," Aikens said.

Spread the word

The 100 Plus Women organization not only provided the ability for larger, lump sum donations, it also helped to "spread the word" and create an awareness of groups in need, Aikens said.

"Now all of these people who have never heard of us know who we are, and have learned what we are about," she said. "There is a lot of power behind that."

Spearheaded by Sullivan along with longtime friends Karen Rashid-Balow of Birmingham and Molly Williams of Bingham Farms, the group's fresh slant on raising both funds and awareness for charities across the metropolitan Detroit area has many charitable organizations sitting up and taking note.

Unlike some other fundraisers, 100 Plus Women Who Care Motown focuses on raising cash quickly with absolutely no overhead costs, little effort on the part of the donors and big results.

The 60-minute fundraiser works like this:

First, each attendee places her name with the name of an organization she would like to help in a big hat. After 10 minutes or so of networking and noshing on appetizers provided free of charge by supporters, three names and corresponding organizations are picked from the hat.

The three chosen attendees are invited to give a five-minute presentation as to why their organization should receive the donation, followed by a five-minute questions and answer period.

Attendees then vote on their favorite presentation/charity and the winning charity is announced after ballots are counted. Typically, each attendee donates $100 per event, which goes directly to the winning charity.

"There is absolutely no overhead," said Rashid-Balow. "Everything is donated directly to the charity."

Rashid-Balow, a financial adviser with Raymond James in Beverly Hills, said she first heard about "100 Plus Women Who Care," a fundraiser started by a Jackson, Mich., woman, at her firm's sales meeting for female financial advisers.

She herself was seeking a way to balance family and career while still giving back to the community, she said, and this seemed like a great way to do exactly that.

The idea of gathering a large group of like-minded women was also particularly appealing, she said, and approached both Williams and Sullivan, who quickly joined her efforts to start up a similar fundraiser.

"There is such a power in numbers," she said,

Please see CARE, 16

Sudoku

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

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

Level: Beginner

							2	
6			8	3				
		4			6			3
					7		4	6
		5			3	2	9	
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Level: Intermediate

				9	3			
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Level: Advanced

Answers found on page 18

Big hair is back, color trends are warm, rich

Trying out a new hairstyle can be, well, hairy, but the trends for summer 2012 have something for everyone, according to local stylists.

"Definitely long waves are really going to be prominent this season," said Dean Sadler, owner of Dean Sadler Hair and Makeup Studio in Plymouth.

"Women are definitely going longer — very loose waves," he said of the bigger, but definitely not permed look. The style has changed from the smooth, streamlined Victoria Beckham look of a few years ago to bringing back waves with more volume, he said.

One of the bigger looks is the modified Farrah, he said, referring to the late Farrah Fawcett's famous 1970s hairstyle. "The Farrah revival is a hit," he said.

But Farrah hair can be a slippery slope as it was a precursor to the "big" permed hair styles of the 1980s, Sadler said. But the current styles are not permed like they were in the '80s, he said.

Another difference in today's styling is that more than 80 percent of clients get their hair colored now as compared to only about 30 percent in the 1980s, Sadler said.

CHRISTOPHER RAINONE

A long style with shorter layers and a soft natural balayaged highlight. Hair and makeup by Jeannie Jachman.

"I think there are two dominant trends in hair color right now, one is a toned down version of the ombre with balayaged (hand painted) highlights; very organic and bohemian," said Jeannie Jachman, master stylist at the Studio for Hair in Farmington Hills. The ombré is a technique in which the hair graduates to another color at the ends, usually a lighter color.

Pop of color

"The other is bright pops of color which can be achieved with salon color or with temporary methods like chalking or sprays that can be stenciled on," she said.

Pastel colors with products such as hair chalking are popular, according to Jachman. Eufora, a brand used at the Studio, has also launched sprays this spring in colors such as blue, pink and purple. It's a way to add fun, punchy color, she said.

The trend now is for lots of highlights

Please see HAIR, 15

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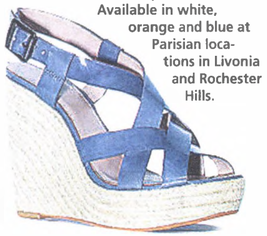

This sassy "Hattie" Espadrille wedge by designer Vince Camuto offers a glamorous yet casual look wrapping the foot in rich patent leather. Available in white, orange and blue at Parisian locations in Livonia and Rochester Hills.

For a dressier look, the "Gemma" wedge sandal by Franco Sarto presents a sophisticated look in gleaming black patent leather. It is also available in Celeste Blue at local Parisian stores in Livonia and Rochester Hills.

The "Carla" sandal by Orthaheel, is shown here in metallic bronze. The Orthaheel brand is fashionable while promising "well-being with every step." It is particularly good because it can help eliminate heel and arch pain, said Alex Kozarian of Hershey's Shoes. Available in bronze, black and gold at Hershey Shoes with locations in Garden City and Novi.

FASHION

Continued from page 6

for a new look, Daskas advises.

"Prints really are really big this season," she added.

Lace, once reserved for dressier occasions, is now being used more casually on everything from skirts and shirts to dresses.

"It can be done dressy or casual — it depends on what works for you and your lifestyle," Daskas said.

— By Jill Halpin

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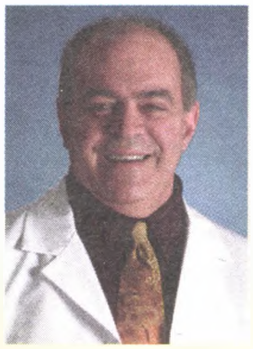

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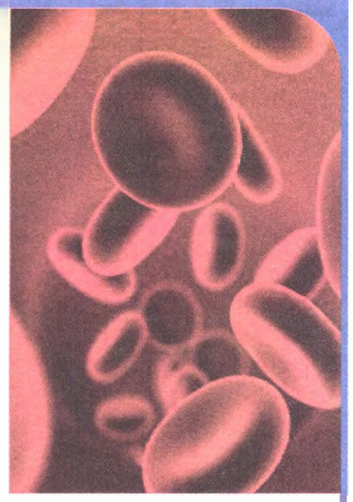

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PHOTO BY SCOTTIE MAGRO FROM SEEDS STUDIO PHOTOGRAPHY

This style is a pink and blonde ombre with a geometric style influenced by Vidal Sassoon. Hair and makeup in these photos by Jeannie Jachman.

SCOTTIE MAGRO

A short geometric Vidal Sassoon-inspired cut with pops of bright color.

JIM WILSON

A peekaboo highlight that can be worn like balayage.

HAIR

Continued from page 12

underneath versus on the crown of the head as in traditional highlighting, Sadler said.

Blondes are more of a satin color or soft blond with accents of warm rich tones. All highlights are underneath in the ombre style, he said,

Jachman is also seeing the ombre technique done in a softer palette. When the ombre style first became popular it made the hair look like it was dipped, but now it has evolved and is a sweeping softer natural look, she said.

"That's the really cool thing that has evolved about style, everyone can express themselves in a beautiful way," she said. "The color trends contrast between vivid and natural but the common thread is a soft sweeping effect.

"Long hair with shorter layers further enhances these color trends especially when dressed with loose curls. A versatile haircut will help you achieve many different styles by changing the texture from straight to curly and adding braids can create interesting details too," she said.

CHRISTOPHER RAINONE

A textured and braided uphair style with hair and makeup by Jeannie Jachman.

Ombré highlights

The advantage to ombré highlights is they don't need to be touched up as often as they grow out more naturally. "You're flipping it," Sadler said of the traditional highlights painted on in stripes using a brush and foil. "There's no striping — that's gone," he said.

Doing ombré with blondes, reds and browns is really strong, he said.

Also, the hot colors tend toward brown, rich tones. "Rich brown tones are the look. Goth is dead," he said.

Also out, according to Sadler, are feathers hanging and purple or pink stripes underneath. "Stop it," he said.

Jachman is also seeing longer styles with shorter layers so that you have a lot more movement in the hair.

She also suspects that since the recent death of Vidal Sassoon, there may be a revival of his five point signature haircut.

More edgy women are going to go really, really, really short, Sadler said.

But there really is a huge movement to longer hair and curls, he said.

"I'm from Hollywood. I'm still in connection with my L.A. friends," Sadler said "It's a really cool time for fashion," he said because so many things are in style. "Pretty much anything goes right now," he said.

Summer also brings weddings and other events that may call for an updo.

The Princess Bridal updo is dead in the water, Sadler said. The trend is toward low rises in which the bulk of the hair is at the nape and at the side of the nape, Sadler said. Very romantic is in, he said. "The princess was more severe, but now everything is waves. Romance is in," he said.

Jachman is seeing updos with tons of beautifully textured finishes. "Gone is the basic ponytail," she said. Now it's about knotting, braiding and weaving to create something unique, she said.

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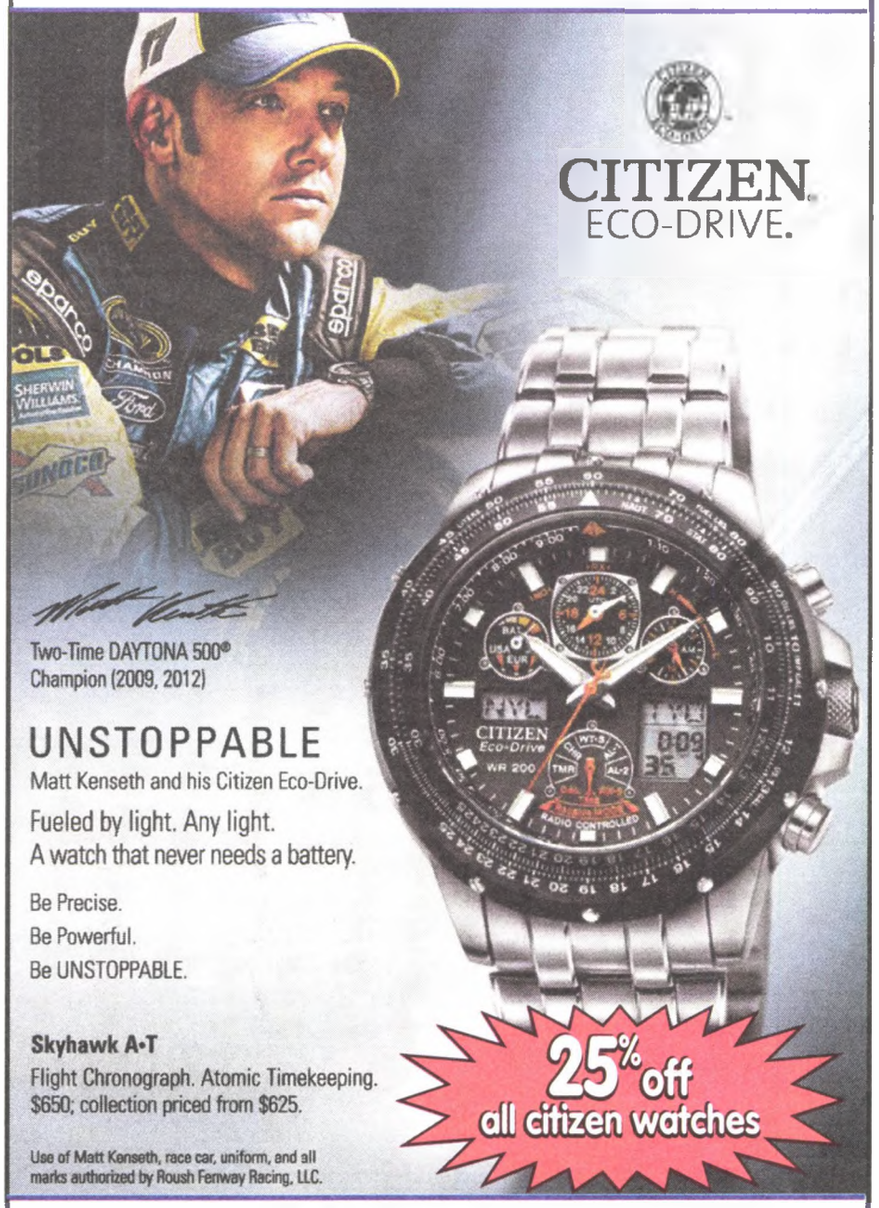

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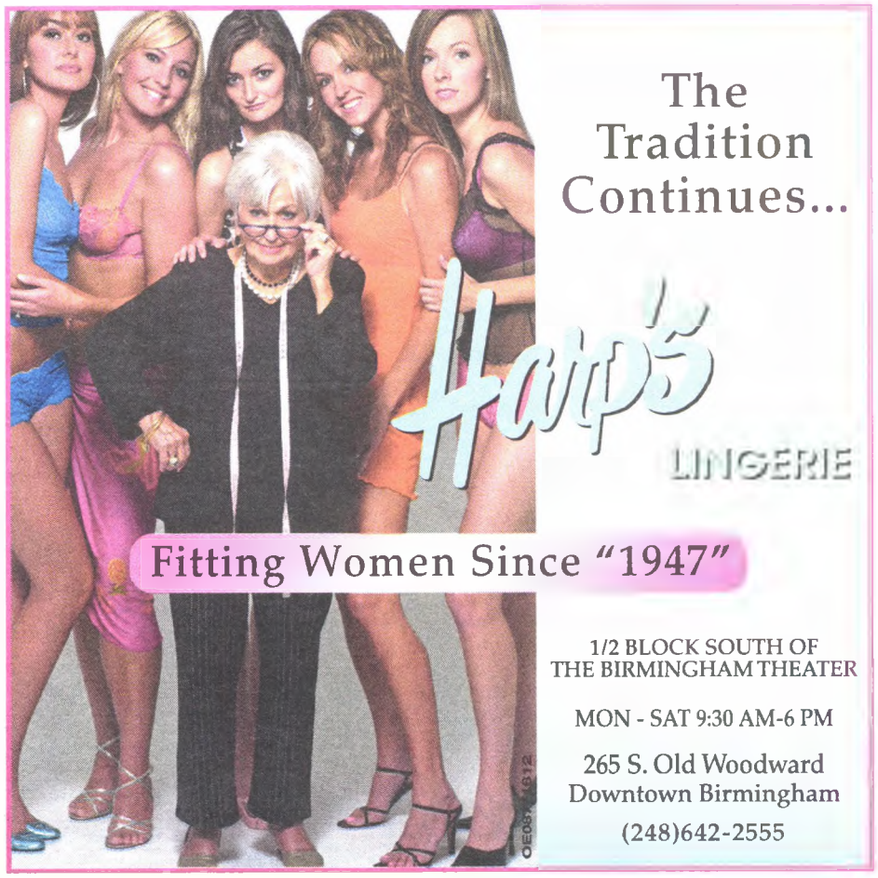

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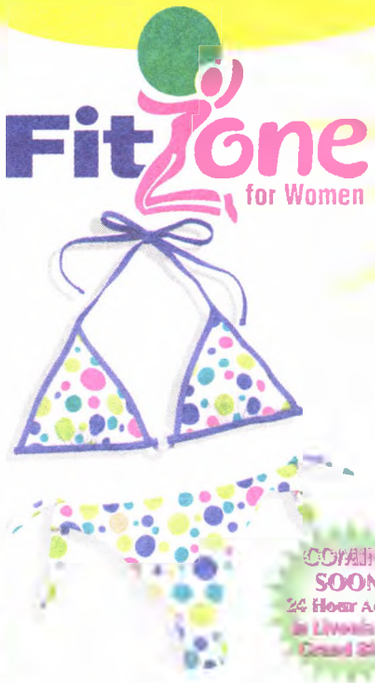

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Janet McAuliffe made a presentation on behalf of the charity Alternatives for Girls.

CARE

Continued from page 11

adding that theability to provide large sums of money to charitable organizations quickly is a cornerstone of the fundraising group.

The group quickly got busy spreading news of their impending fundraiser through e-mail after laying down the basic ground rules, Rashid-Balow said.

New members welcome

"Our group is open to everyone, but to be a full member with the ability to both vote and present your charity, you must commit to donating $100 four times a year," Rashid-Balow said.

Each member does not have to present a charity unless they wish to do so, she added.

Word of mouth and recent publicity about the group in local media outlets throughout the metro Detroit area has helped the group grow quite rapidly, and new members are always welcome.

Marina Pesserl of Royal Oak, a first-time attendee at the May event, said that she heard about the organization on WDET.

The low overhead aspect of the organization, something she considers very important, intrigued her. "I thought the idea was genius," she said.

"I am always looking for ways that I can contribute to the community. It makes me feel good that the money is going directly to a charity instead of going towards the cost of producing expensive brochures," Pesserl said. "With this, I know where my money goes and it that it makes a direct impact."

The group's first fundraiser in February, held at Fleming's restaurant in downtown Birmingham, was attended by more than 130 women and raised $13,100 for Welcome Inn, a Royal Oak homeless shelter based at Unity Church that was just on the verge of shuttering its doors in the middle of the winter due to lack of funding.

The large donation was "simply a miracle," said Dru Szczerba, executive director of Welcome Inn.

"I had just come from a meeting that very evening where we found out that we were $15,000 short and we needed to raise the money quickly to continue our operations. I was feeling so low and then the phone rang ..." she said.

The funds allowed Welcome Inn to continue its operations as well as replace a bus used for transporting the homeless to work, job interviews, medical appointments and much more, Szczerba said.

"To be given that kind of money, just when we needed it, it was definitely God working for us. The timing was just too out of this world."

For Sullivan, general manager at George Matick Chevrolet, it was simply serendipitous.

"I still can't believe the way it all came together. They had this great need and we were able to help them, right then when they needed it most. It really is paying it forward," she said.

Organization co-founder Williams said the ability to present the needs of charitable community organization to eager ears is also a bonus.

"The great thing is that we are all

Please see CARE, 17

Nancy Sullivan of Northville explains the rules to meeting guests.

CARE

Continued from page 16

learning about local charities, and spreading the word. Even if a charity doesn't win, perhaps someone in the crowd will hear something that resonates with them and support them down the road," Williams said.

Pesserl agrees, "This is also a great opportunity for women to educate ourselves about the other charities that are out there and the needs within our communities," she said.

"Everyone always says, 'How can I help?' Well, here it is: a way to help out and make sure the money stays in the community," said Cheryl Ruskowski of Bingham Farms, attending the event for the first time in May.

The group, now up to 152 members and growing, is already planning its next event scheduled for Aug. 8 at Western Golf and Country Club in Redford Township.

Ruskowski attributes the success of the organization to the power of women: "When there is a great cause and you put great people together, great things can happen."

For those interested in learning more about how to become a part of 100 Plus Women Who Care Motown, go to www.100pluswomenmotown.com.

Patty MacEachern from Birmingham enjoys a conversation with fellow volunteers at the end of the event.

Sarah Zimmerman of Bloomfield Hills made a presentation on behalf of City Mission which won the donation on May 8.

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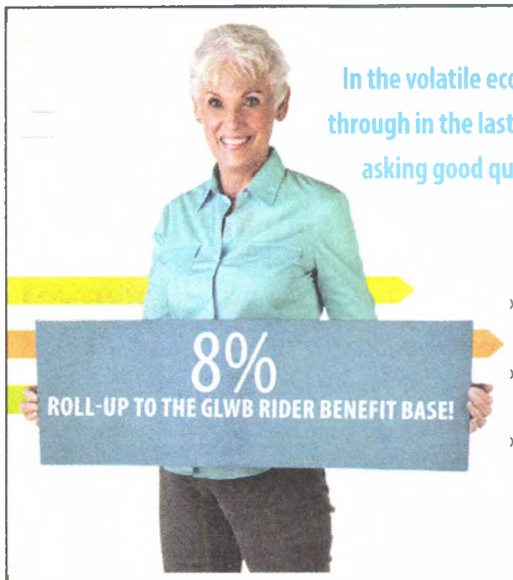

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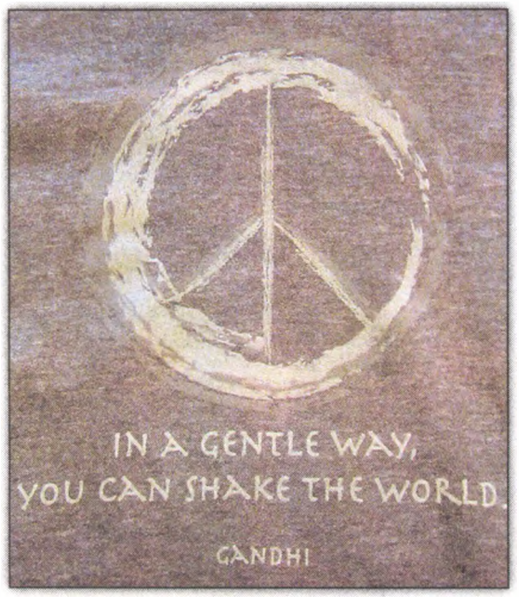

The Michigan-based line features unique sayings and designs.

YOGA TEES

Continued from page 8

that just might inspire someone else," she added. "The idea sort of morphed into reality over time, and it continues to evolve today. While they are called 'yoga tees,' they really can be worn anytime — not just in a yoga class — and by anybody."

Founded in June 2010, free to be yoga tees, yoga apparel & state of mind offers designs for both men and women. The Michigan-based line features unique sayings and designs allowing yogis to express themselves in a fun way beyond the mat. Made in the USA, the Earth-friendly tees come in a variety of styles and colors, and are made from certified organic bamboo. Visit freetobeyogatees.com for more information. Select styles are on sale now at Art-is-in Market at Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi.

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Sources: Environmental Protection Agency, Earth911 & Napcor

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

Intermediate

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

Advanced

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

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