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ENTERTAINMENT, B7



**Father's Day Run**

The Plymouth YMCA hosts its traditional 33rd annual Father's Day Run on Sunday, June 17. The run features events for every age, 0-99: Kids Fun Runs, 1M Run/Walk, 5K Run/Walk, 10K and the Morse Dental Group Triple, 1M, 5K, 10K (10.3M).

Register at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com) or for more information visit [www.ymcadetroit.org/plymouth](http://www.ymcadetroit.org/plymouth).

Volunteers are also needed. Contact [cmorency@ymcamedetroit.org](mailto:cmorency@ymcamedetroit.org). Proceeds support the Strong Kids Financial Assistance Program.



BILL BRESLER  
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Georgia Randinitis and the rest of the Trailwood Garden Club members will be on hand for the annual Garden Walk June 26.

**Garden walk**

The annual Trailwood Garden Club garden walk takes place Tuesday, June 26, (rain or shine) from noon to 8 p.m.

Master Gardeners will be available to answer gardening questions. Tickets are \$8 pre-sale or \$10 the day of the walk, with children 12 and under half price. Little gardeners carried in arms are free. Strollers are not permitted in the gardens.

Tickets can be purchased at Saxton's Garden Center, Backyard Birds or by calling Darlene Rinke, (734) 459-7499, or Marilyn Netmer, (734) 454-4625.

**Band concert**

The Plymouth Community Band will begin its Thursday performance schedule today (Thursday) in Kellogg Park.

The concerts start at 7:30 p.m.

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**Problems prompt review of city bar's operations**

By Matt Jachman  
Observer Staff Writer

A Plymouth bar and restaurant is under scrutiny by city officials, who could vote as early as Monday to recommend the state yank its license to sell alcohol.

The Plymouth Roc on Ann Arbor Road — not to be confused with a similarly named bar downtown — is the subject of a 6 p.m.

Monday meeting before the Local Liquor License Review Committee, which is made up of three Plymouth City Commission members who could take the issue to the full commission that evening.

The Roc, which operated as Boulders until late 2009, faces allegations that it twice sold alcoholic drinks to minors, stayed open past the mandatory 2 a.m. closing time, failed to report an

assault and battery that took place there, and served two patrons who were later arrested with high blood-alcohol content under Michigan's "super drunk" law. In addition, a man was found passed out behind the wheel of a running vehicle in the Roc parking lot early on March 30, a police report said. He was awakened, police said, and walked to a nearby restaurant to wait for

a ride. One of the Roc's owners said the establishment takes the charges seriously and has increased security and taken other steps to comply with city and state regulations.

**Would be a first**  
Police Chief Al Cox said the

Please see REVIEW, A4

**Ready to roll**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Faculty member Barb Lehmann congratulates graduate Christine Edgerton during Canton High School's commencement ceremony Sunday at Eastern Michigan University. Find the list of Canton grads and more photos on Page A9, and the Plymouth High School grads and photos on Page A11. Salem High School's photo page will run Sunday, June 17. You can also find galleries of all three high school graduations at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

**Custodians march to save jobs**

By Brad Kadrich  
Observer Staff Writer

Christine Siepierski wanted to be at Tuesday's Plymouth-Canton Board of Education meeting, where many of her custodial brothers and sisters were demonstrating in effort to convince board members not to privatize their jobs.

Ironically, Siepierski had to work. So there was her daughter, Melissa, carrying a sign at the corner of Canton Center and Hanford, along with dozens of other union members, staffers and supporters.

"I'm here for my mom," Melissa said. "She couldn't be here, so I'm here for her."

Tuesday's demonstration came amid the board's deliberations on the 2012-13 budget. Part of that consideration is the idea of privatizing custodial jobs. District officials have already received RFPs from private vendors for that service, a move they say — if they make it — could save some \$1 million, mostly in pension and health care costs.

**Not on us**

But a number of supporters spoke up Tuesday, urging the board not to balance its budget on the backs of its employees.

"Every single person goes above and beyond the expectations of what they're paid for," said Kathy Ladenberger, who has been at Salem High School for 16 of the 21 years she's worked in the district. "It's not a business. It's not designed for private companies to come in and make money off taxpayer dollars. It's designed

Please see MARCH, A3



Melissa Siepierski was on hand to support her mother, Christine, a Plymouth-Canton custodian.

**Relay cashes in for cancer research**

By Brad Kadrich  
Observer Staff Writer

Colleen Markey's mother died of lung cancer. Her father had been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma before being killed in a car accident. And her sister is a breast cancer survivor.

It's safe to say if Markey, a Canton resident, never hears the word "cancer" again in her lifetime, it'll be too soon.

That's why Markey was out with her friend, Mary Beth Matera of Rochester Hills, and the rest of her team, the "Marvelous Markeys," walking the path at West Middle School Saturday during Plymouth's annual Relay for Life.

"We're walking for everybody," said Markey, whose sister couldn't make the walk but was in attendance for support purposes. "We need to fight cancer. My sister's been fight-



Janet Durante (left) of Plymouth braved the 90-degree heat Saturday to walk the Plymouth Relay for Life with Diane and Marissa Martz of Farmington Hills.

ing for 12 years, and we're going to help."

Nearly a dozen teams signed on for the 24-hour Relay, an American Cancer Soci-

ety benefit to help fund cancer research. That's down from previous years for the

Please see RELAY, A2



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## RELAY

Continued from page A1

four-year-old event, but Rachel Leas, the ACS community representative for Plymouth, said she expected the event to pass the \$35,000 mark in donations (final figures weren't yet available at press time).

"We're small, but we're mighty," Leas said. "This event has a rich history of raising upwards of \$70,000. There've been some really good leaders in the community. It's a good cause."

At the tender age of 14, Ashlee Mahoney of Livonia finds herself in much

the same position as Markey. Ashlee has lost a great-grandmother and two grandmothers to cancer.

Walking with others from her church group at First Baptist Church of Garden City, Ashlee said she believes fundraisers like the Relay really help. "Raising money like this helps them cure it," Ashlee said. "It helps people find ways to get through it."

Zumba instructor Susan Swanson of Farmington Hills led daughter Taylor and Novi resident Brianna Hamilton in a Zumba demonstration that had walkers bouncing to the music. Swanson said she



Zumba instructor Susan Swanson of Farmington Hills (right), along with Brianna Hamilton of Novi and daughter Taylor Swanson, lead a Zumba demonstration during last weekend's Plymouth Relay for Life at West Middle School.

does a variety of similar community events.

"I think it's really important to give back to the community," Swanson said. "It's a really important cause, and they raise a ton of money."

Ken and Nancy Little of Plymouth have served on the organizing committee for all four years

of the Plymouth Relay. Ken Little said the fact this event embraces those afflicted with all sorts of cancers makes it a meaningful event.

"It's not just breast cancer, it's all cancers," Little said. "It affects more people."

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(313) 222-8899



Walkers took a break from the trail to take part in a Zumba demonstration during Plymouth's Relay for Life, although no one is sure how much of a "break" it was with temperatures hovering around the 90-degree mark.

## Fitness club closing, but firm eyes new site

By Matt Jachman  
Observer Staff Writer

A popular Plymouth Township fitness club is closing its doors at the end of the month, even as its parent company explores options for building a new location down the street.

L.A. Fitness on Ann Arbor Road, which had been a Bally Total Fitness club until December, will be closing for good at 2 p.m. Friday, June 29, according to members. A manager there confirmed the closing but said he could not provide details, and calls to the L.A. Fitness corporate offices in California were not returned.

Meanwhile, township Supervisor Richard Reaume, who exercises at that location, said L.A. Fitness has approached township officials about building a new 45,000-square-foot facility and is eyeing a site on Ann Arbor Road and Haggerty, just south of township hall.

"They're still in the planning stages at this

time," said Reaume.

Formal plans would need to be approved by the Planning Commission and the Board of Trustees, he said. Reaume said he had heard L.A. Fitness had been planning a new location in the Plymouth-Canton area and appears to be zeroing in on that site.

The current township L.A. Fitness began as a Vic Tanny and later became a Bally Total Fitness club. It was one of 171 Bally clubs around the country that were sold to Fitness International, an L.A. Fitness affiliate, late last year.

Reaume said he was surprised at news of the location's closing.

"If you're going to build a new building in the area, why would you close the old one before you build it?" he said.

L.A. Fitness has a number of other locations in the Detroit area, including one on Plymouth Road west of Middlebelt in Livonia.

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# Walk to raise money to fight nerve disease

A walk in West Bloomfield next weekend will raise money to combat a nervous system disorder that can lead to cancer, hearing loss, blindness, learning disabilities, epilepsy, bone deformities and chronic pain. Neurofibromatosis,

which causes tumors to form on the nerves, affects about one in every 2,500 people. The second annual Great Steps for NF Walk is scheduled for Saturday, June 23, at the West Bloomfield High School track. Proceeds will go

to NF Inc. Michigan for research into neurofibromatosis and to raise awareness of it. Last year's walk drew about 150 participants and raised more than \$8,000. This year's event will include a silent auc-

tion, and vendors who will donate proceeds will be on site. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., and the event will conclude around noon. The fee is \$15 for walkers 13 and up and \$10 for children 12 and under. Same-day registration is

available for an additional \$5 on the morning of the walk. Would-be walkers can register online by going to [www.nfsupport.org](http://www.nfsupport.org) and clicking on "Events" or by calling (248) 681-3703. Cash and checks will be

accepted, although cash is preferred for processing purposes. Checks can be made payable to NF Inc. Michigan. West Bloomfield High School is at 4925 Orchard Lake Road, north of Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

## MARCH

Continued from page A1

for public education." Brodie Killian, the district's executive director for finance, said the move would help patch a budget deficit originally projected to be nearly \$6 million which still stands, as of Tuesday, at \$3.1 million. District officials said the move, which they stressed

is only being considered as negotiations with the custodians continue, could bring as much as a \$2 million swing in the budget. It could help the district earn another \$52 per pupil in state aid money (nearly \$1 million) if they meet seven-of-eight "best practices" criteria set by Gov. Rick Snyder. The district could also save some \$1 million, mostly in pension and health care benefit costs.

"We realize it's a painful decision," Killian said. "But realizing our financial situation, we aren't left with many options." Not all of the demonstrators were custodial workers or members of their union. There were plenty of secretaries, some teachers and other staffers on hand to lend support.

**We are family**  
Jolie Valentine, a librarian for seven years at

Hoben Elementary School, said she walked the line because custodians are "part of our family, part of our community ... we have to stick together." "They go above and beyond (what's expected of) their jobs all the time," Valentine said. "I don't want to be in a building where I don't know the custodians, where I don't know the secretary. We're family."

Ladenberger said this year's privatization discussion comes a year after the custodians' union gave up \$1 million in concessions preparing for the 2011-12 budget. She pointed out her union has lost some 40 jobs in the last five years. A request for another \$1 million befuddles Ladenberger. "We're one of the groups that's always worked well with (the board)," she

said. "We've given up \$2 million; last year, we gave up 21 custodians for \$1 million in savings. This year, they're saying if you don't give us \$1 million, we'll privatize. I consider this bullying." Board members will meet in a budget session Monday. They're expected to pass the 2012-13 budget at their June 26 meeting.

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## REVIEW

Continued from page A1

incidents from which the allegations stem all occurred between March 23 and April 19; meeting minutes indicate the Roc has been the subject of other liquor review committee meetings because of alcohol-related incidents.

"We've never done this before," said Cox of the commission's possible vote to recommend a license be canceled. The city came close to such a move about 12 years ago, Cox said, but the issue was resolved when that license was sold.

Since the LLLRC meeting May 7, the chief added, police have received no other reports of problems related to the Roc.

John Mourselas, a partner in the Roc, said problems have been addressed.

"I take very seriously what is happening in my place," Mourselas said, adding he is optimistic about the outcome of Monday's LLLRC meeting.

Mourselas said the Roc recently purchased an electronic identification verification machine, and has four security employees working on busy nights, including two who check IDs. Servers have undergone additional training in how to spot patrons who've had too much, and a manager thought to be responsible for some of the problems, including staying open past closing (a police report indicated patrons



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Plymouth ROC may lose its liquor license.

were still drinking at 3 a.m. one night in March) was fired, Mourselas said.

### Reports disputed

"Under my control and my partner's control, we try the best we can," he said. "We would not jeopardize the security of our community and our youths for profits."

Mourselas said he has doubts about the allegations that the Roc served minors, saying there may have been other reasons minors ticketed for underage drinking told police they had been there, and noting that a police report of one incident says an open bottle of vodka and a cup of vodka were found in the car in which the minors were riding, and the Roc does not sell packaged liquor. In addition, he said, three recent attempts by underage decoys to buy alcohol at the Roc were unsuccessful,

he said. The decoy operations were also mentioned in LLLRC meeting minutes.

Mourselas agreed the Roc failed to report an assault, but said it was thought to have been minor, was broken up immediately, and that the combatants knew each other.

"We stopped it right away and we told them they had to leave," he said. "We felt it wasn't so serious to report to the police."

But Cox said even the most minor assaults should be reported to police so that the parties can at least be identified, even if no one wants to press charges. In that case, the chief said, a woman who said she was head-butted by another woman decided she wanted to file charges the next day, but police had to close the case because the alleged assailant could not be

identified.

A police report on the April 19 incident says the victim didn't know the other woman's last name and had no visible injury.

The Roc was on the agenda for the City Commission's June 4 agenda, following the May 7 LLLRC meeting, but was rescheduled for the June 18 LLLRC meeting in order to give the establishment's newly hired attorney, Keith Kecskes, time to review records and police reports.

The LLLRC is made up of Mayor Dan Dwyer and Commissioners Ed Hingelberg and Meg Dooley. Their decision Monday could send the issue to the full commission for a vote on whether to recommend that the Michigan Liquor Control Commission revoke the Roc's license.

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## CRIME WATCH

### Party problem

A woman was cited early on June 3 for hosting a house party at which a minor was suspected of drinking alcohol.

Police were sent to the party, on Donovan Boulevard north of North Territorial and west of Ridge, shortly before 1 a.m. on a report of parked vehicles crowding the street and teenagers milling about, according to a police report. A responding officer reported that a number of vehicles were illegally parked in marked no-parking zones.

At the front door, the officer encountered two women who did not answer the door, then a man with bloodshot eyes and slurred speech who appeared intoxicated, and then a woman who said she was the homeowner and that the man was 19, the police report said. She said she was hosting an after-prom party, and that she was the only person there over 21, police said.

Asked about alcohol, the woman responded she wasn't aware that minors were drinking; when the officer asked if he could come in and verify there weren't underage drinkers present, she declined, and he issued her a ticket, police said.

The woman objected, saying she didn't do anything wrong, police said. She is due to appear in 35th District Court on Tuesday, June 26.

Before leaving the area, police ticketed illegally parked vehicles.

### Poolside pilfering

A township man recently reported the Memorial Day theft of his Rolex watch and his daughter's

i-Pad.

The incident took place at a private pool in a condominium complex in the area of Ann Arbor Road and Sheldon, a police report said. The man said he went swimming with his daughter at about 5 p.m. on Memorial Day and had left the items under a towel on the deck. When he returned to it about a half-hour later, he said, the items were gone.

The man reported the pool area was crowded that day.

### Ring stolen

A wedding band with a half-carat diamond was reported stolen June 6 from a house on Dogwood Drive, south of Five Mile and west of Haggerty.

The complainant told police there had been about 30 workers at the house over the previous two weeks.

### Sign theft

Four aluminum Coca-Cola signs were reported stolen Monday from a vending trailer being stored in the township.

The trailer was at a lot on Haggerty near Five Mile, a police report said. It had been left unlocked.

The theft took place between Saturday night and just after noon Monday, the victim told police.

### Vehicle vandalism

A brick was thrown through the rear window of a Buick Century parked outside a house on Elmhurst Avenue, east of Sheldon and just north of Joy Road, one morning earlier this month.

The incident occurred between 1 a.m. and 7 a.m. June 2.

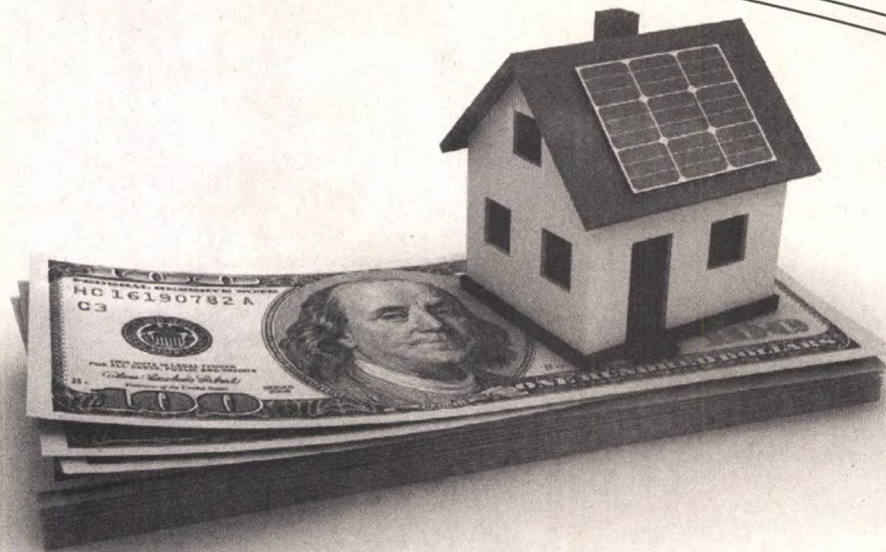
By Matt Jachman

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# Canton ushers in Liberty Fest

By Darrell Clem  
Observer Staff Writer

Canton employees and residents are expecting a rousing community celebration as Liberty Fest ushers in carnival rides and games, entertainment, a classic car show, an international stage celebrating Canton's diversity, palate-pleasing food and numerous other activities.

Jon LaFever, Canton Leisure Services recreation coordinator, said crowds could swell to 50,000 visitors over three days. "The weather is supposed to be great," he said.

Liberty Fest happens 5-10 p.m. today (Thursday), 1-11 p.m. Friday

and 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday.

Connie Xenakis, past president of America's Most Wanted Car Club, said scores of classic cars from the 1920s to modern head-turners are expected 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday on festival grounds.

"I'd like to see 200 cars," Xenakis said. "Good weather doesn't hurt, either."

The car club is raising money from entry fees, 50/50 drawings and blind auctions for Camp A.B.L.E., a special-needs children's camp, and the VFW Stand Down Project for disadvantaged war veterans.

Jeanie Deraniyala, a Canton resident and

businesswoman, plans to represent Sri Lanka as the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage revives its International Festival 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Saturday.

"I will be having a tent for Sri Lanka to depict history, culture and heritage," she said. "There are tents for India and China (and other countries)."

Kaya Dobson, Canton Leisure Services event coordinator, said details of a dancing flash mob remain top secret amid plans to surprise festival goers at an undisclosed time and location.

"I would say we have about 150 to 200 (dancers)," Dobson said.

"We're excited that there's so much of a turnout."

Janet Ott, Canton Kiwanis Club secretary, said Chicken and the (Fire) Works food sales happen 11 a.m. Saturday until dinners are sold out. Hungry patrons can fill up on items such as roasted chicken, baked beans and Awrey's double-chocolate frosted brownies by paying \$8 in advance or \$10 on site.

"Our main fundraising project is buying dictionaries," Ott said.

The club last bought dictionaries for third-graders in Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, three charter schools and Canton-based Walker-Winter Ele-

## FLOW OF TRAFFIC

Driving near Heritage Park becomes more difficult as Canton's 21st Liberty Fest happens today (Thursday) through Saturday, drawing as many as 50,000 people and ending with a crowd-wowing fireworks display. To ease traffic congestion, Public Safety Director Patrick Nemecek has issued the following temporary traffic orders:

- Starting 11 a.m. Friday, parking is prohibited along Canton Center between Cherry Hill and Palmer.
  - On Saturday, Canton Center between Cherry Hill and Palmer closes 10:30-11:30 p.m. for the fireworks show, and Summit Parkway closes 8 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. from Canton Center to Glangary Boulevard.
- The traffic orders will be lifted after fireworks traffic has cleared.

mentary of the Wayne-Westland district. Kiwanians, who meet 6 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of each month at Summit on the Park, plan to sell their dinners in Heritage Park and for curbside pickup outside the Canton Public Library.

For more, go to www.

libertyfestbbq.com.

For much more on the entire festival, revisit the Liberty Fest guide in last Sunday's edition of the *Canton Observer* or go online to [www.cantonlibertyfest.com](http://www.cantonlibertyfest.com).

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(313) 222-2238

# Cassis hopes voters write her onto ballot, into Congress

By Ken Abramczyk  
Observer Staff Writer

Nancy Cassis laughs when she is reminded of what she told the *Novi News* in December 2010 after she had reached the end of her term limits in Lansing as a state lawmaker.

At that time, she said she would never rule out a future in politics, though it appeared she reached the end of her eligibility as a state representative and senator. Now, in an improbable turn of circumstances, she's running for U.S. Congress on a write-in campaign, seeking the Republican nomination in the primary election on Aug. 7.

"I could not have dreamed what would have happened," said Cassis, 68.

Cassis' decision to run follows U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter's inexplicable signature duplication in nominating petitions, which were turned in on May 15. Only 243 signatures out of 1,833 that were obtained were found to be valid, far short of the 1,000 signatures required.

The Secretary of State's office notified McCotter of the duplications and informed State Attorney General Bill Schuette in a pre-investigation report. McCotter said he requested that Schuette investigate the signature duplication and inconsistencies, an investigation that is continuing.

On May 29, McCotter announced he was going to run as a write-in, but on June 2, McCotter decided to end his write-in candidacy and his five terms in Congress, which left Kerry Bentivolio of Milford as the only Republican candidate on the ballot.

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, one of those Republicans involved in the interviews with Cassis, said he never met Bentivolio, but added that he did not agree

with Bentivolio's views outlined on his campaign website.

GOP leaders interviewed Cassis last Thursday, along with four other prominent Republicans. Cassis emerged as the unanimous choice of the group that day to be supported as a write-in candidate.

## Back into politics

For Cassis, the campaign represents a move back into politics, which ended in December 2010, after eight years in the state Senate, six years in the state House of Representatives and nine years on the Novi City Council. She also worked as a school psychologist for the Novi Community Schools district until she was elected to the state House in 1996.

Cassis didn't consider a congressional run until she was approached by leaders within the last several days.

"The 11th District was thrown into disarray at a very crucial time," Cassis said. "It became apparent that people started to come forward and the party sought me out at that time."

As a fiscal conservative, Cassis accepted the write-in candidacy to continue to serve the Republican Party. She called the unanimous support of GOP leaders "very, very gratifying" for her.

She knows she has a challenge ahead of her. Not only do voters need to support her, they need to check a box, and write her name in on the ballot. "It's a two-step process, and we'll be educating people to do that," Cassis said. Cassis said

she and her campaign will be checking with the Secretary of State's office whether voters can use stickers on the ballot.

Cassis believes her 14 years as a state lawmaker gives her strong name recognition in one-third of the district. The 11th District covers her hometown of Novi, and communities of her former district of Highland, Milford, White Lake, South Lyon and others, extending eastward to Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and Troy, and south into the city of Farmington and the western Wayne County communities of Canton Township, Livonia, Northville and Northville Township, Plymouth and Plymouth Township.

Cassis and her husband have decided to spend up

to \$200,000 of their own money on the campaign. "I believe that if you put your own money in it, that you've made that investment, similar to a student going to college," Cassis said. "If that student pays for that tuition, they are more likely to be determined and committed to their goals."

## 'A whirlwind'

When asked about money from the Michigan Republican Party or the Republican National Committee, Cassis said the campaign will be looking at fundraising "at all levels." On Monday, she had not yet set up a campaign website.

"The last 72 hours have really been a whirlwind," Cassis said. "The good part of all this is I've been

a seasoned campaigner at a grassroots level."

Cassis said she is up to the challenge of a write-in campaign.

"Over the years I've been known as a fiscal hawk, tax cutter and principled conservative," Cassis said. That experience gives her a platform and a record to send her to Washington.

The election isn't about her, but families, children and grandchildren, and "restoring economic prosperity, ensuring a strong military defense, reducing government intervention in our lives, supporting private enterprise and small business," Cassis said.

Cassis said her experience in education and in Lansing qualifies her to serve. She points to

her lead in opposing the Michigan film credits and supporting more transparency in government.

"I've taken a strong stance against these giveaways," Cassis said of the film credits. "I respect our governor (Rick Snyder) for taking a strong stance and limiting these giveaways and funds for Hollywood."

Cassis said she does not know Bentivolio very well. She expects she will run her campaign on her legislative record. "He doesn't have the experience that I do as an elected official," Cassis said. "You have to have the respect and trust from constituents."

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# Gardens coming up roses for walk

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

"All Gardens Great and Small" is the theme for the Garden Walk of the Gardeners of Northville & Novi (The No-No's). This year's event is 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 16, based at the Northville Art House, 215 W. Cady St., and self-guided.

The garden club is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, said Barbara Krabbenbos of Livonia, handling publicity for the event, which is held every other year. The club supports Art House garden beds as well as the butterfly farm at Maybury State Park.

Participants on June 16 will enjoy a tour of four gardens in Northville and four in Novi. They're clustered together, Krabbenbos noted, which will make touring easier.

"It varies from year to year," she said of attendance. "I hope we have a lot of interest. Each garden is really unique." Organizers like to recognize gardeners' hard work.

Sue Taylor of Northville Township is founder of the Northville Art House and will have her family home on the walk. A glass blowing studio from Ypsilanti will be displayed during the event, with sales to benefit the Art House.

Taylor and her husband have had their garden in the event before. "The yard has changed enough," she said. "It was fun."

The garden club meets at the Art House and Taylor wants to support them. She said she and her husband have done a



Northville Township resident Sue Taylor's garden features a small stream and pond. The home's garden will be part of the June Garden Walk. Taylor has been working nonstop on the garden since beginning residence there 15 years ago.

lot of work on their garden.

The garden walk will include vendors, refreshments, a 50-50 raffle, free used garden and recipe books and access to the Northville Art House.

Tickets at \$10 (cash or check) may be purchased in advance and also on the day of the walk at:

- The Northville Art

House, 215 W. Cady Street (located behind the Northville post office)

- Gardenviews, Northville (East Main Street, downtown Northville)
- Dry Cleaning Shoppe, Northville (Custard Time Plaza at 7 Mile, west of South Main Street)
- Wild Birds Unlimited, 47760 Grand River, Novi (West Market

## LOCAL GARDEN WALK

The eight gardens are:  
22618 Brook Forest, Novi, "Everything's Coming Up Roses"  
22605 Brook Forest, Novi, "Family Treasures"  
22658 Heatherbrae, Novi, "Where the Wild Things Are"  
22636 Heatherbrae, Novi, "A Rose By Any Name"  
350 Wing, Northville, "Magnificent Sanctuary"  
222 Fairbrook, Northville, "Backyard Mini-Park"  
18153 Edenderry, Northville, "Bavarian Eden"  
18154 Shadbrook, Northville, "Northern Exposure," with Baron Glass Works displayed.

Square Shopping Center, on Grand River Avenue, west of Beck Road

- Backyard Birds, Plymouth (627 S. Main Street, downtown Plymouth).

Those attending are asked not to bring strollers or wagons. Public restrooms will be available at the Northville Art House. It is a rain or shine event.

The club, part of the Michigan Garden Clubs Inc., hosts monthly speakers. Members also give nonperishable and canned goods to the food banks of Northville Civic Concern and also the Novi Food Bank.

New members are welcome. For more information, visit the club's website: <http://gardeners-northville-novi.org>.

[jbrown@hometownlife.com](mailto:jbrown@hometownlife.com)

## 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](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com).

### BLOOD DRIVE

**Date/Time:** Saturday, June 16, 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

**Location:** Plymouth High School on Beck Road south of Joy

**Details:** The American Red Cross sponsors a blood drive.

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

### JAZZ @ THE ELKS

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, June 26, 7-8 p.m.

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

**Details:** It's another exciting night of great American jazz as Jazz @ The Elks presents the Terry Lower Quartet featuring Terry on Keyboard, Russ Miller on Reeds, Jim Ryan on Drums, and Ray Tini on Bass. The \$10 donation includes hors d'oeuvres.

**Contact:** For more information, call (734) 453-1780 or visit [plymouthelks1780.com](http://plymouthelks1780.com)

### 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](mailto:cassie_hull@usc.salvationarmy.org).

### 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](mailto:stekmops@gmail.com), or visit [www.stekmops.org](http://www.stekmops.org).

### DIABETES SUPPORT

**Date/Time:** 2nd Thursday of the month (first meeting March 8), 2-3:30 p.m.

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

**Details:** The Plymouth Lions Club is sponsoring a new Adult Diabetes Support Group. Fern Vining, a registered nurse, certified diabetes educator and Plymouth Lion, will be the group facilitator. There is no charge to attend. Topics for discussion will focus on understanding diabetes and self management strategies.

**Contact:** Call Fern Vining at (734) 454-0859.

# Demolition of Novi Expo Center begins

By Nathan Mueller  
Staff Writer

The excavators took their first swings Monday afternoon at the Novi Expo Center, signifying the start of the redevelopment of the long vacant, 25-acre property.

The facility, which can be seen from I-96 and Novi Road, was built in 1966 and was the original home of Adell Industries where owner Frank Adell invented, developed and built automotive door guards which are still used today by the Big Three.

It most recently was used as a convention center to host various shows, as well as the Motorsports Hall of Fame, but has mostly been vacant for the last seven years since former president Blair Bowman built his own convention center — Suburban Collection Showplace — just down the road in Novi.

Novi Mayor Bob Gatt called the parcel the "most prime piece of property in the city of Novi."

"That is the best place in the city to build, and I'm hoping we can get something we can all be proud of," he said. "It was an eyesore, and just the fact that it is going to

be torn down) is going to make it better."

Kevin Adell owns the Novi Expo Center and, according to spokesman Mort Meisner, plans for commercial development could be announced in the coming weeks.

"Whatever goes here will be successful," he said.

The building also has some unique history as Mohawk Liquor made Kahlua there from 1981-92 and the late Jimmy Hoffa, a close friend of Adell's, was known to take bathroom breaks at the building on his way to Lansing.

"Maybe he'll be in the rubble," Meisner joked.

Ara Topouzian, economic development director for the city of Novi, said the Commercial Rehabilitation Act, PA 210, which could give the property owners a 100-percent tax abatement for up to six years, is a major incentive for redevelopment.

"Because of the size of the footprint, there is a lot of potential," he said.

Demolition of the building is expected to cost \$100,000 and will take six to eight weeks to be completed.

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## PLYMOUTH CHAMBER CHAT



### Grand opening

Owners and staffers at PartyMax of Michigan recently cut the ribbon on their location at 39600 Schoolcraft. Pictured is owner Roger Ygeal, his staff and members of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors Committee in front of an inflatable obstacle course. Party Max has a large inventory of event products and services for local customers with everything from tents to bounce houses to food and concession products. Party Max serves hundreds of weddings, graduation parties, company picnics, and family reunions every year. They can be reached at (734) 727-4757.

### 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](mailto:teri@plymouthmich.org) or call (734) 453-1540. Cancellations must be received 48 hours prior to the event.

### 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 market-

ing 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](mailto:teri@plymouthmich.org).

### 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 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.

attracted participants from across the state, was organized by wholesale roaster Tom Isaia, owner of Coffee Express in Plymouth Township.

Espresso Elevado's winning drink, the Gardenia Latte, "has a unique, buttery, sweet aroma and flavor evoking the island gardenia flower" and was the result of experimentation as the shop was developing a spring drink lineup, Pilarz said. Last year's winning drink was Coconut Lemongrass Latte.

Both drinks are on the menu at Espresso Elevado, where coffee is made in individual cups instead of brewed in coffeemakers and set out on the counter in air pots. The shop also sells bags of whole-bean coffee and brewing accessories.

Espresso Elevado is at 606 South Main on the corner of Main and Wing Street. For upcoming workshops, roasting events and cuppings, see the shop's Facebook page or its website, [www.espressoelevado.com](http://www.espressoelevado.com).

## Plymouth coffee bar wins state latte contest

Open just 15 months, Espresso Elevado, the Plymouth coffee bar and small-batch roaster, snared its second first-place win at last month's Motown Throwdown latte competition.

"Our drinks are hand-crafted with real and imaginative ingredients, so they just taste better," said Espresso Elevado owner Teresa Pilarz.

The competition took place during the Michigan Coffee Conference in Ann Arbor in May. The annual event, which

### New look

Owners at Dick Scott Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram recently unveiled their new look at a grand reopening. Here is a picture from the Grand Reopening ribbon cutting at the dealership located at the corner of Main and Ann Arbor Road. They remodeled their dealership to the updated look of Chrysler dealerships around the country. Pictured cutting the ribbon are Jason Scott, Nicole Scott, Dick Scott, their staff and members of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce's Ambassadors Committee.



## Galaxy tablet performs well for price

By Jon Gunnells  
Guest Columnist

The Samsung Galaxy 7.7 tablet is an impressive piece of machinery that is an Apple logo away from being the next big product. But because it is a Samsung product, it's likely a product you haven't heard of.

The Galaxy tab is a slim, seven-inch touchscreen tablet that operates on the Android Ice Cream Sandwich platform and retails for \$249. And at that price point, it's the best performing tablet this tech guy has seen.

With solid navigation and built-in app features, executing simple tasks like performing a Google search or surfing YouTube is easy for either MAC or PC users.

It also has a screen that rivals that of the iPad. With this tablet, Samsung utilizes what they call, Super Amoled (active-matrix organic light-emitting diode) technology on a screen with a 1200 x 800 resolution that has 197 pixels per inch. All of that technology speak may sound confusing, but I can summarize for you: the screen is awesome and will be great for watching movies or viewing pictures.

While the screen is similar to the iPad, the navigation is not. Unlike the iPad, the Galaxy tab offers a default search bar on the home screen so there's no need to download or keep a useless web browser like Safa-



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

hand corner of the device much like a PC.

One of the best features is the camera. It has both rear and front facing lenses so you can take pictures, use your tablet for Skyping or just hold it up and pretend it's the most expensive seven-inch mirror ever.

In terms of apps, the tablet comes pre-loaded with the stuff you will use the most like social networking tools, weather and more. One downside to the weather app though, is like Apple products, it does not offer hour-by-hour forecasts. The app offers a link to a site where users can get more information but the site is not optimized for tablet usage. The end result is a clunky page that will turn you off in seconds.

But unless you are buying a tablet for weather information, don't let my assessment of the device deter you. The other important features functioned appropriately as pages loaded fast. I used the device courtesy of Verizon and it had a 4G connection as well as my wifi connection. Depending on your wireless connection or wifi, page load speeds may vary.

ri on your device. It also features key information such as battery life, wifi signal and time on the bottom right

The Galaxy tab has 8GB of storage, HD video capabilities, photo and video editing softboards and more. It supports a multitude of video and audio formats and has a 1.4GHZ dual-core processor which is better than my last laptop. Samsung estimates the built-in battery offers up to 50 hours of music play or 10 hours of video play. For more information visit [Samsung.com](http://Samsung.com) or check out your nearest Verizon Wireless.

### Tech notebook

• This column often discusses a way to save on your cell phone bill but none of them involve buying an unlimited iPhone plan until now. Cricket Communications recently announced an all inclusive data, text and voice plan for the iPhone for \$55 per month. There is a catch: the phone will cost \$499 for a 16GB 4S and more for models with more storage. But if you keep phones for a long time, the \$50 plus per month you could save will outweigh the up front cost.

• You can avoid murky water this summer just by downloading a new guide called the Swim App. The app allows users to browse a directory of the cleanest and dirtiest beaches. Check it out in your appstore.

Jon Gunnells is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. He can be reached at [jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com). Follow him on Twitter @GunnSh0w.

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## OUR VIEWS



# Old Glory

### This Flag Day, show you're proud to be an American

At the end of the Vietnam War, the United States was in a funk. Our psyche was bruised and battered by the politics of war and the antiwar protests. Waving a flag was the last thing on our minds. But in the 1980s, a miracle happened at Lake Placid, N.Y. The U.S. Olympic hockey team beat the Soviets. We had something to be proud of and we waved the American flag with gusto.

It was the turning point we needed to reinvigorate our patriotism. We rallied around the flag as we sent our troops off to fight in the Persian Gulf War in the 1990s. And in the aftermath of 9/11, we couldn't get enough of the red, white and blue. Everywhere you looked there were flags, flown to show that even in the face of a great tragedy, we stood united.

On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress decided our flag would have 13 red and white stripes and 13 stars on a field of blue. Two hundred and thirty-five years later, that flag represents 50 states joined together in the belief that we are "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Today is Flag Day, a day to fly the flag and reaffirm our belief in liberty and justice and to observe our nation's unity. Today is the day to look at our flag and see what it embodies - truth, freedom, honor and justice.

It represents the United States of America, it represents us.

Today is Flag Day, but let everyday be such. Display the flag proudly and show your dedication and commitment to our country. Stand up and be proud to say, "I am an American."

## Celebrating dear old dad and all he does

Let's face it, dads don't always get the attention that mothers do. And that's OK, because dads don't necessarily need a bouquet of flowers or a greeting card to let them know how much they are loved and appreciated. For most fathers, a simple hug and heartfelt "thank you" is enough.

On Sunday, we will be celebrating Father's Day and all that fathers do — both for individual families and society as a whole. And dads sure do a lot. When many of us think of dear old dad, we associate him with teaching us how to throw a ball, catch a fish, drive a car, write our first check, and a thousand other little (and big) things that have stuck with us for a lifetime. Fathers are one-half of an important foundation from which most people learn how to become productive members of society.

If you want to realize how truly important dads are, simply take a look at the households where there is no father, which is not hard to do, because in today's America there are way too many families where the father is missing.

In fact, the number of children growing up in this country with no father present is roughly 19 million. And the statistics associated with such a scenario are alarming. For example, some studies indicate nearly 40 percent of those children are living in poverty. They are also at a dramatically greater risk of drug and alcohol abuse. Sexual activity and teen pregnancy are also more likely among children with no father around. And fatherless children are twice as likely to drop out of school, and have a far higher probability of getting in trouble with the law.

Men who abandon their families have become a serious problem for our nation. At the same time, we also realize there are many families out there missing a father and it isn't by choice. Perhaps an accident or illness took the father from them. In some cases, another strong male figure has stepped in to provide a good example and love like a father can. Those men should also be celebrated Sunday.

We know Father's Day is perceived by many as one of those greeting card holidays. Whether or not you buy a card or the proverbial tie for your dad isn't really important. Celebrating him and all the fathers out there for everything they do is — not only on Father's Day, but every day of the year.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### School is out for the summer. Would you like to see Michigan adopt a longer school year with a shorter summer break, and some other breaks, as some European countries have?

We asked this question in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.



"I am in favor of that. ... I think the paradigm we use is archaic. ... Europe doesn't use this model, they use a year-round model."

**Ginny Kerwin**  
Canadian Lakes



"We're both ex-teachers. ... If you talk to the businesses, they're going to say no. ... From an educational standpoint, yes. ... Selfishly, no. I used to like having my summers."

**Kristen Malloy**  
Canadian Lakes



"I think it's a good idea. ... The kids think I'm crazy. ... That summer drain, that's what I'm concerned about with my kids."

**Michele McElroy**  
Canton Township



(Shakes head no.) "I like summer. ... It's warm."

**Alaina McElroy**  
Canton Township

## LETTERS

### Being inspired

Sometimes you get to meet the most inspirational people in unexpected places. That was the case for me recently.

The New 88.1, the student radio station at PCEP, hosts a show called Community. Longtime Plymouth resident Debra Madonna is the host of the show. Debra always brings in very interesting people as guests but this recent guest was one of the best.

She introduced us to Kyle Slavin. Kyle is graduating from Starkweather Alternative High School and he won the Damaris Starkweather Scholarship for his art. His enthusiasm and passion for his artwork was contagious. I was especially impressed because he took time to praise the many teachers he had at Starkweather.

There are many misperceptions of the students at Starkweather. I know I had some of those wrong ideas. But I have to say that every student I've ever met at Starkweather has been inspiring.

I'm also inspired by the excellent teachers I work with at PCEP. So many people want to peddle in misrepresentations of the teaching profession. But the teachers I work with every day are committed to their students, passionate about teaching

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

**Deadline:** Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

and worth every penny they make. As are the secretaries, custodians and other support staff members that make education possible.

Thanks to the Schulte family for starting the Damaris Scholarship and to the Plymouth Community Arts Council for supporting it. Thanks to all of the great teachers at Starkweather for inspiring students like Kyle. And thanks to Kyle Slavin for making my day a little bit better.

I want to wish the staff, administration and students of Starkweather the best as they move to their new building. I hope this new building will provide you with the best opportuni-

ties to learn and grow as students.

**Bill Keith**

WSDP station manager

### Help wanted

For the past two years, several military veteran organizations, dog clubs and area residents have come together to restore a forgotten War Dog Memorial/Pet Cemetery located at Milford and 11 Mile roads, two miles south of I-96. We will continue our efforts until we have brought this hallowed ground back to its original condition. I can't think of a more fitting way to honor these fallen K-9 soldiers that saved so many lives than to ensure their legacies and sacrifices by cleaning up and maintaining their resting place.

On Saturday, May 19, 11 a.m. we will start this year's cleanup day. We need lawn mowers, weed whackers, racks, wheelbarrows and chain saws.

To enable us to continue our efforts, funding is needed. Your generous contribution would be greatly appreciated. To make a contribution send to: AMVETS-Post 2006, P.O. Box 48, Highland, MI 48357. Tag check for "War Dog Memorial Fund." Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**Phil Wettlauf**

War Dog Memorial/Pet Cemetery Restoration Team project director

## STAFF COLUMN

# Looks are deceiving for Plymouth Relay

Many things weighed heavily on my mind as I left Plymouth's Relay for Life event Saturday at West Middle School, but one thing was foremost:

Next year, we've got to make this better.

For four years, the Littles have labored over the Plymouth Relay, working hard to build an event to rival the larger, more popular event held a few weeks earlier south of here, in Canton. And there they were again Saturday, in 90-degree weather, with committee member Cindy Ash and American Cancer Society liaison Rachel Leas and others, fighting to raise as much money as possible for cancer research.

They did pretty well, too, for what is — compared to other relays — a fledgling event. The first couple of years it was at Central Middle School, the last two years at West Middle School, hoping to take advantage of a site closer to popular roads.

Leas said the event, which drew 10 teams, is likely to raise some \$36,000, though final figures aren't yet available. That's certainly laudable, though it's far short of the \$79,000 goal they'd established for the event. And that's after the Plymouth committee lost sever-

al people to out-of-state jobs and had a harder-than-usual time finding sponsors, though the tried-and-true supporters like Johnson Controls were surely there.

Nobody connected with the Plymouth event cares to be compared to the Canton event, a huge undertaking where booths and tents line the picturesque shores of the man-made ponds in Heritage Park. That event has hundreds of walkers and dozens of teams and raises a quarter-million dollars every year. And the Plymouth folks couldn't be happier for that success.

It's just that they want to be thought of on their own merits, on their own successes and their own efforts. And they deserve to be. The differences are stark, but most of that is the fault of no one. After all, Plymouth doesn't have a picturesque park to have its walk.

Township noise ordinances prohibit noise at Plymouth Township Park after 10 p.m., and the Relay for Life is a 24-hour event that features music and activities throughout the night. Kellogg Park would be a cool place to have it, but the presence of that kind of event right in the middle of downtown likely wouldn't work all that well.

Though some of the differences are obvious, they pale in comparison to the key similarity: The passion.

Talk to Colleen Markey of Canton — whose mother died of lung cancer and whose dad had non-

Hodgkin's lymphoma when he was killed in a car accident, and whose sister is a breast cancer survivor — and you know the dedication is the same.

Talk to 14-year-old Ashlee Mahoney of Livonia, who lost a great-grandmother and two grandmothers to cancer, and you know the passion is the same.

And if you talk to Leas and the Littles, you know this: The determination to succeed remains undaunted. Leas, despite the lowered numbers and the unmet expectations, vows to build an event that rivals the bigger Canton Relay.

If you talk to the Littles, they've already shrugged off the low turnout and started focusing on next year's event. It may move back to Central Middle School, or they may find another venue, but that's the point: It will happen.

When I got there Saturday and saw maybe 10 people walking the track I had the same reaction someone sitting at one of the tables had: This is sad.

Then it really hit me: The perseverance to continue in the face of that kind of adversity isn't sad at all.

It's the best reason of all to help make it work.

**Brad Kadrich** is community editor of the Plymouth and Canton Observers. He can be reached via e-mail at bkadrich@hometownlife.com

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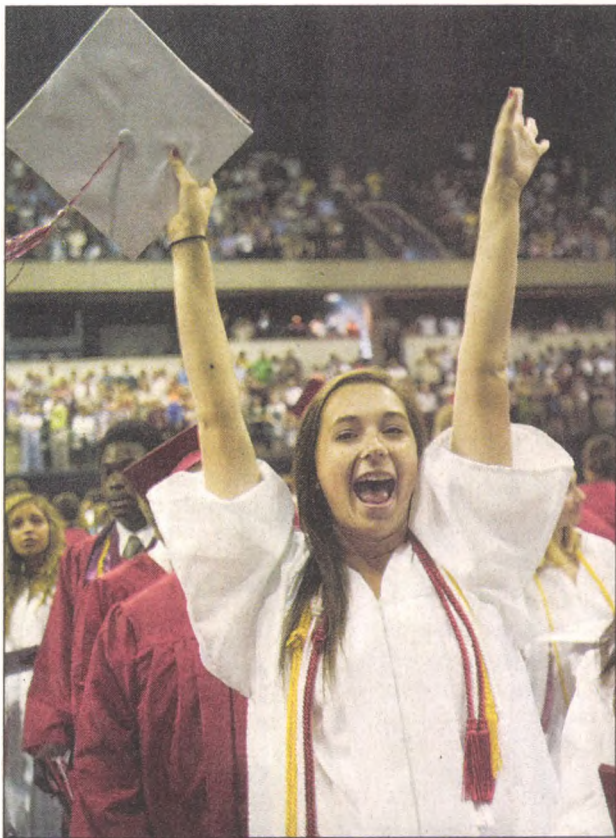


# School's out for Canton High School grads

The Class of 2012 at Canton High School may have been channeling Alice Cooper during commencement exercises Sunday at Eastern Michigan University.

Class members surely singing "School's out!" included:

- Summar S. Abdelnour
- Hayley Elizabeth Ackerman
- Kyle T. Adams
- Robert L. Alaniva
- Carissa Ann Alcalá
- DeQuan Ramon Alexander-Douglas
- Kartlyn Paige Allard
- Alexandria Marie Alonzo
- Noor K. Ameiche
- Mutahir Siddiqui Anas
- Nichaporn Chuen-Imsap Andrew
- Eli E. Ansara
- Maaz Mateen Ansari
- Nour Arafat
- Kimberlin LeAnn Ash
- Claire Elisabeth Babala
- Melanie Ann Baker
- Taylor Thomas Baker
- Julia Bao
- Alexandra N. Barman
- Mitchell Evan Barman
- Nicholas James Barton
- Ryan A. Baugh
- Paul J. Baumgart
- Ryan Joseph Bazner
- Julia Maria Beard
- Austin Robert Beaudoin
- Samuel Michael Bednarz
- Justin Edward Bekker
- Marina Alexa Belfiore
- Caitlin Noelle Bellamy
- Michele Jean Bellovary
- Katherine Anne Benner
- Cheyenne Chase Bennett
- Kayla Dee Berendt
- Nathan Mark Bergeson
- Bryan M. Berinti
- Kalyn Marie Berinti
- Gihan Y. Beydoun
- Maanas P. Bhatt
- Krunal K. Bhavsar
- Vaughn W. Birchler
- Jennifer Lynn Bird
- Daniel Bruce Bis
- Erind Bisha
- Daniel Mayer Blanchard
- Sarah D. Blue
- David Lewis Blythe
- Michael Connor Boes
- Denisa Brooke Boguszewski
- Jason Thomas Bohl
- Matthew W. Bohr
- Alicia Renee Bonanno
- Alyssa Jordan Boucher
- Kevin Allen Bouton
- Cassandra Mae Bowen
- Stephanie Grace Bower
- Christina LaSchon Bradley
- Lauren Elizabeth Branson
- Meaghen Marie Brideau
- Stevie Ann Brown
- Alexandra Faye Bryden
- Kevin Lamar Buford
- Austin Tyler Burack
- Alison Vivian Butala
- Chance Michael Caballero
- Bryanne Mc Kenzie Caldwell
- Jared A. Calvert
- Brett T. Carlson
- Kayla Christine Caron
- Lucas Eldon Carpenter
- Danielle Alicia Carrier
- Alexander C. Casab
- Kirk C. Casab
- Alyssa Briana Castle
- Laura M. Castle
- Ciara Apolto Catalla
- Stefanie Anna Cesario
- John Arthur Chadwick
- Kristen Allyssa Childs
- Joshua John Choroba
- Ryan G. Christenson
- De'Jana'e Lee Clark
- DeQuan Andrew Clark
- Mitchell Richard Clinton
- Adriane Nicole Cohen
- Leigh Taylor Collins
- Marcus Steven Collins
- Faye Emily Collyer
- Michael William Conklin
- Bradon D. Conley
- Lindsay Victoria Conrad
- Hayley Elizabeth Cook
- Casidee Breanne Cooper
- Krista Elizabeth Cortelli
- Matthew Louis Courter
- Kelsey Breanne Courtney
- Zachary David Cox
- Kelsey Marie Crager
- Spencer D. Craig
- Anna Lynn Crosby
- Randy F. Daoud
- Shawn Evan Davies
- Sarah C. Dean
- Kevin Anthony DeFrain
- Joseph Benedict DeBrocco
- Pamela Nicole DeLeeuw
- Margaret Isabel DeLoy
- Jared Conrad DeWendt
- Hemal Raghuvir Dholakia
- Michael Ding
- Joshua Tyler DiStefano
- Anne M. Distelrath
- Khoi D. Doan
- Ziyue Dong
- Alyssa J. Downs
- Amanda May Druckenmiller
- Nicholas Andre Dunklee
- Elizabeth D. Eastman
- Melissa Ebert-Schmidt
- Samantha Marie Eckert
- Christina Marie Edgerton
- Alexander J. Eimers
- Alicia H. Elhaouli
- Jamie Leigh Emens
- Emily Nicole Erley
- Brelon Alan Evans
- Mostafa Mohamed Fawaz
- Miles David Felton
- Michael D. Fini
- Dana Renae Fishel
- Michael David Fluegemann
- Erin Elizabeth Flower
- Allison Katherine Fries
- Nicole Emily Fude
- Dustin A. Fuoco
- Connor William Furgason
- Justin Gallerani
- Amanda Admoon Galyana
- Julian R. Gamboa
- Anna Rose Genrich
- Lulu N. Ghannam
- Moleca Ghannam



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Lindsay Conrad is a happy Canton graduate.



School board President Dr. John Barrett presents Alan League with his diploma.



Mitchell Pepper makes sure he won't lose his name card.

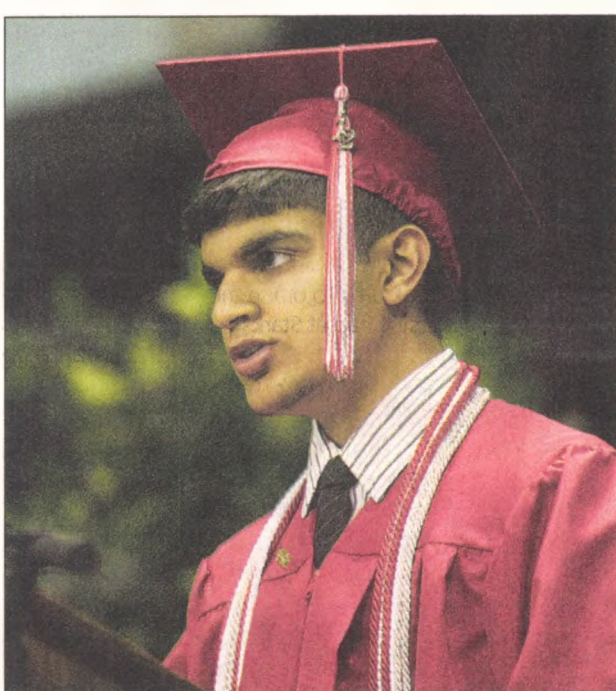


Canton seniors listen to speakers.



The procession begins. Daniel Blanchard and Nick Dunklee enter the arena of Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center.

- Emily Katherine Gibson
- Harman Singh Gill
- Jordan M. Gilliam
- Jeremy Brian Ginnard
- Shane M. Ginnard
- Angela Gjolaj
- Jacob M. Glover
- Lucas Vincente Gonzalez
- Jessica Gayle Goodbred
- Andrew C. Gorski
- Matthew David Gran
- Trevon M. Gray-Ward
- Andrew David Green
- Taylor James Greenshields
- Chelsea Jennifer Grigg
- Brandon Gregg Grillo
- Katherine Diane Grimes
- McKenzie Anne Haack
- Mehdi Hadwan
- Alan Surya Halim
- Bria Nichelle Hall
- Kerstin A. Hall
- Ariel Nicole Hamby
- Rabee Omar Hamdan
- Alexandra Candice Hamric
- Matthew D. Harris
- Josef Richard Hartsough
- Brianna Alexis Hasty
- Edward Hatcher, Jr.
- David P. Heintzelman
- Devonte Courtez Henderson
- Nathan E. Hendges
- Tyler Scott Henker
- Conner A. Hicks
- Curtis Higgins, Jr.
- Dana N. Hoerman
- Kristen P. Hollingsworth
- Amber R. Holly
- Tyler Lee Hooper
- Larry Donald Hoppe
- Hayley Elizabeth Cook
- Chelsea Groshek Hull
- Jaraad Bin Huq
- Sean Mitchell Hyde
- Ferras I. Isa
- Jacob Paul Jackson
- Saif M. Jafri
- Christian V. Javier
- Justin Villanueva Javier
- Shad Jawadi
- Jay F. Jin
- Kelsey Erin Johnson
- Robert Allen Johnson III
- Cedric Earl Jones
- Ryan Jerrale Jones
- Kelsey Victoria Joseph
- Samantha Nicole Juback
- Cody Robert Kahrs
- Kyle James Karriker
- Matthew Aaron Kempfer
- Amanda Nicole Kilgore
- Ryan Lonnie Kilgore
- Brian Gene Kingsley
- Kyra Nicole Kinsella
- Christopher A. Kitzman
- Samantha Michelle Kitzman
- Kristin Marie Klavon
- Emmanuel P. Kovacs
- Kurt R. Kowalski
- Alana Joanne Kramer
- Allyson Payne Krause
- Joshua C. Kreza
- Shean Robert Krolicki
- Lindsay Michelle Krug
- Alexander Stephen Krul
- Rebecca M. Krupp
- Kevin Sean Kullen
- Vaibhuv Lall
- Nicholas C. Landin
- Anna Marie Lang
- Austen James Langley
- Kevin Joseph Langlois
- Carson Billington Lankford
- Nicholas Allen LaPere
- Megan Michelle Larkin
- Jesse Sue Larner
- Kristen Virginia Larsen
- Aaron Louis Laurentius
- Alan Tate League
- Jonathan M. Lee
- Trae J. Lee



Senior class co-president Maaz Ansari.

- Ian James Lefebvre
- Shelby Lynn Lefferts
- Blake A. Lelo
- Andrew J. Lessel
- Dimitrion Theron LeVanseler
- Ayana Lanae Lewis
- Joshua Phillip Lewis
- Olivia Gabrielle Lewis
- Mitchell John Lewiston
- Sydney Marie Liedel
- Rachel Marie Lincoln
- Amber Lynn Linebarger
- Jonica Marie Lister
- Kaylie Megan Lobb
- Darby Looole
- Demetre Anthony Lopez
- Jacqueline M. Lough
- Stephanie Rivera Lyle
- Jackson Robert Lytle
- Robyn K. Mack
- Earl Frank Madison
- Veronica Shay Magnuson
- Gabrielle Susan Malec
- Steven William Marion
- Zachary Joseph Marsh
- Lauren Ann Martin
- Lindsey Anne Mason
- Alexander David Masson
- Lindsey Marie Mattson
- Stephen Patrick Maude
- Joshua James Maxam
- Shawn Tyler May
- Zachary John McArdle
- Ian Patrick McCormick
- Gregory James McCurry
- Jonathan P. McMillan
- James Arthur Meadows
- Zachary Michael Merillat
- Nicole Ashley Merrivether
- Jessica E. Meyer
- Travis Dennis Michalak
- Tim Mijnsbergen
- Marina Angela Milad
- AJ Miles
- Alexander M. Miller
- Rylie Elizabeth Miller
- Jeffrey E. Molchan
- Valerie Grace Morrison
- Jalilah S. Muhammad
- Kristen Elizabeth Muir
- Christian Phillip Munch
- Navkiran Kaur Munday
- Kaitlin Ann Munoz
- Rebecca Muresan
- Roxana Muresan
- Dale Myiesha Murphy
- Kaitlyn Hope Murphy
- Kristin Eileen Murphy
- Steven Patrick Murphy
- Nicholas S. Murray

- Alexandra Marie Myers
- Crystal M. Nance-Panek
- Tyler Trong Nguyen
- Brandon R. Nickerson
- Mitchell Albert Nickert
- David William Nikolits
- Ann Elizabeth Noetzel
- Jennifer Lynette Nyberg
- Derek Schmitt O'Flynn
- Marissa Kim O'Hara
- Amer H. Odeh
- Nneka Angel Okoli
- Michael David Olah
- Tyler J. Olmsted
- Sydney Ryan Orman
- Janelle Kate Osinski
- Paige Evelyn Osler
- Marcus Blake Owens
- Jacqueline Elizabeth Paetzold
- Shelby Anissa Palmer
- Marisa N. Paponetti
- Spencer J. Parks
- Erik James Partin
- Kayleigh Marie Pascual
- Ami J. Patel
- Arjun D. Patel
- Bhavin K. Patel
- Devang Piyush Patel
- Keshav Rajesh Patel
- Komal R. Patel
- Krunal D. Patel
- Mayur V. Patel
- Rishi K. Patel
- Rebecca Jee Paul
- Mitchell Clayton Pepper
- Nicholas James Perez
- Katelin Liana Perpich
- Alyssa Jeanette Peters
- Cory Michael Peters
- Christa Nicole Phelps
- Alanna Mercy Phillipose
- Cayla O. Phillips
- Christopher D. Pierce
- Anthony John Pillitteri
- Nicole Elizabeth Ann Pilmer
- Justin Brandon Pingston
- Kaitlyn Emily Piper
- Julie Rose Podorsek
- Brigitte Poirier
- Alexandra Lauren Poma
- Mitchell Ryan Posuniak
- Collin Emsley Potter
- Sean R. Powell
- Jessica Lindsay Powers
- Morgan Leah Prebenda
- Luke Richard Price
- Steven P. Price
- Angeles Quesada
- Carol Lynne Radiwon
- Shamseen Rahman



Graduated seniors find their friends and families as they begin the recessional, their final steps of high school life.

- Clinton Lucas Randall
- Natalie Ann Rapson
- James Elliott Ratcliff
- Rachel Lauren Raupp
- Randolph Charles Recheonie
- Ta'jai Amani Reed
- Ryan Scott Reitenga
- Kevin Michael Rempe
- Bryan O. Ren
- Abigail Marie Rice
- Daniel P. Richardson
- Meg Michaela Riley
- Evan J. Rinke
- Jonathan Karnig Rizzo
- Rebecca Marie Roberts
- Wayne Ten Roberts
- Sarah Kathleen Robinson
- Donovan Austin Romanko
- Andrew Grace Roraback
- Andrew James Rutherford
- Alyssa Rose Sacka
- Gurleen K. Saini
- Bella Anne Sainsbury
- Meghan C. Salmeto
- Lauren Michelle Samples
- Dev Karn Singh Sandhu
- Rachael Daisy Santilli
- Kelsey Lee Saunders
- Matthew David Schacht
- Stephen G. Schacht
- Danielle Marie Schendel
- Brandon M. Schlieger
- Courtney Elizabeth Schmidt
- Mikayla Victoria Schnettler
- Danielle Marie Schooley
- Ryan Paul Schwinke
- Alicia Kay Scott
- Devang Therese Seely
- Amanda Mae Seruga
- Terrell D. Sewell
- Maxwell A. Sexton
- Anam Shah
- Kinari M. Shah
- Sarav S. Shah
- Aftab Basha Shaik
- Janani K. Shanmuga
- Christopher James Sielski
- Adrian Mihai Simion
- Paige Marie Simon
- Bhavneet Singh
- Gursimran Singh
- Sarban Singh
- Jonathan Keith Sitko
- Zachary S. Smilo
- Adam Ian Smith
- Jenna Kaye Smith
- Jenna Lauren Smith
- Jordan Foster Smith
- Amanda Marie Sockow
- Ajay Raj Sohmshetty
- Craig David Solarz
- Emily Kathryn Southern

- Celia Marie Staniak
- Chase Hunter Steele
- Alexandra Marie Stephens
- Anju Sudarsana Kurup
- Akeem Oluwadamilare Sulaimon
- Amanda Marie Sweet
- Harinder Singh Syan
- Nicholas Vincent Tata
- Eric James Taylor
- Jacob Mathew Taylor
- Duggan E. Tear
- Gurpreet Kaur Thiara
- Freya Sorrell Thodesen-Kasparian
- Shantell M. Tillman
- Jillian M. Tomilenko
- Frances Carole Topalian
- Megan Alise Trapp
- Jordan Elizabeth Tubaro
- Mariah Joyce Tucker
- Brittany Morgan Turbyfill
- Matthew A. Turnbull
- Alaina M. Turner
- Kimberly Frances Tuttle
- Lukas Aaron Underwood
- Alena Barbara Valetti
- Edison C. VanAuken
- Meghan Marie Vance
- Michael John VandeGuchte
- Derek Jacob Voight
- Andrew Christopher Wade
- Jacqlyn Bebe Waite
- Kevin Michael Waite
- Emily M. Wakenell
- Derek Anthony Walker
- Caroline Kay Wall
- Tessa Susan Warner
- Devante Binns Watkins
- Ryan M. Weaver
- Melissa J. Webster
- Nicole Marie Webster
- Joshua Gregory Wendel
- Austin Mark Werthman
- Megan Nicole Wherrett
- April B. White
- Sarah Michelle Wiggins
- Chloe Audra Williams
- Christa Mae Williams
- Maddison Arija Williams
- Brittany Paige Wilson
- Julian Christopher Wilson
- Elena Christine Winberry
- Grace G. Wine
- Tyler William Wingham
- Drew Cameron Wioncek
- Hannah Elizabeth Wojcik
- Hayden Walker Young
- Erin Kay Zaluzec
- Megan Lynn Zarem
- Neil S. Zech
- Victor T. Zhang
- Zihao Zhang
- Andrew N. Zourob

## CHERISED MEMORIES

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.



# Proposed law would let families get help for addicts

By Karen Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

Mark Garofoli of Livonia thinks a proposed new law that would let families file a court petition to force their loved one into substance abuse treatment is way overdue.

Had it been on the books in Michigan a year ago, it may have saved his son's life.

"I think it's something every state should have," he said, adding House Bill 5689 mirrors a law in Florida.

Garofoli's son, Mark, committed suicide at age 22, slashing his wrists in the family garage. Addicted to heroin, he could no longer think rationally and had walked out of a rehab facility in Memphis, Mich., just two weeks prior.

Because he was over age 18, there was nothing his parents could do to force him to stay.

"For us as a family it was unacceptable that we couldn't get our son the help he needed," Garofoli said. "Under the current law, our hands were tied because he was an adult."

Garofoli told his story last summer to state Rep. John Walsh, speaker pro tem of the Michigan House, over coffee at Panera Bread.

### A moving meeting

"It was one of the most moving meetings I've had since I've been in office," Walsh said in an interview last week.

On May 24, one year to the day Mark died, Walsh introduced House



FILE PHOTO

Mark and Carol Garofoli hold a portrait of their son Mark. They said their son's story could be any child's story.

Bill 5689, legislation he authored allowing families and others to file a petition for involuntary substance abuse treatment for individuals regardless of age.

The longest a person could be held for is 72 hours, long enough to break the cycle, get the drugs out of the person's system and initiate treatment, said Brett A. Visner, Walsh's legislative director.

Under the proposed law, a petition for involuntary drug treatment may be filed by a spouse or guardian, any relative, a private practitioner, the director of a licensed service provider or the director's designee, or any three adults who have personal knowledge of the individual's substance abuse.

The bill is currently in the House Judiciary Committee, which Walsh chairs, and he expects to begin holding hearings on

### INVOLUNTARY DRUG TREATMENT BILL

A petition for involuntary drug treatment may be filed by a spouse or guardian, any relative, a private practitioner, the director of a licensed service provider or the director's designee, or any three adults who have personal knowledge of the individual's substance abuse. The longest one can be held is 72 hours.

Criteria for involuntary admission:

- The individual has lost the power of self-control with respect to substance use
- and either of the following:
  - A. The individual has inflicted, or threatened or attempted to inflict, or unless admitted is likely to inflict, physical harm on himself or herself or another
  - B. The individual is in need of substance abuse services and, by reason of substance abuse impairment, his or her judgment has been so impaired that the person is incapable of appreciating his or her need for such services and of making a rational decision in regard thereto; however, mere refusal to receive such services does not constitute evidence of lack of judgment with respect to his or her need for such services.

it in the fall.

Walsh said he thinks the bill has a high chance of becoming law, but it will take time to educate other lawmakers about it.

### Online petition drive

"We're depriving somebody of their liberty," Walsh said. "We have our job cut out for us; we have to make sure people are comfortable with it."

Walsh said he worked for nearly a year on the legislation, consulting with probate court judges, family attorneys, the Michigan Department of Community Health and others. He said 38 states have some form of involuntary treatment law. Walsh patterned his bill after the Marchman Act in Florida.

Walsh called the proposed law "very thoughtful and necessary."

"It's remarkable how many people have a brother, a sister, a niece, a father, a friend that they know about that they wish they could just help."

Garofoli is trying to get the word out about the proposed law and drum up support for it. He has an online petition he is trying to get signed by as many Michigan residents as possible saying they support the measure ([www.change.org/petitions/in-memory-of-mark-garofoli](http://www.change.org/petitions/in-memory-of-mark-garofoli)). His initial goal is 3,000 signatures. During the first week, he received 300. He's hoping people help out by mentioning it on their Facebook pages.

"Everyone knows someone that this affects," he said. "We've got to do something."

ksmith@hometownlife.com  
(313) 222-2098

# Northville ponders Scott purchase

By Lonnie Huhman  
Correspondent

Northville Township could purchase the former Scott Correctional Facility from the state of Michigan — for \$1 — but there are pros and cons to owning it.

The township would obviously have a say in how the location at Five Mile and Beck roads could be developed. However, it would also have another demolition project, which would involve the expense of tearing down a sizable barbed-wire enclosed prison.

Like the former Northville Psychiatric Hospital Seven Mile property, it will be costly. But the benefits could be big if the area is converted into a gateway into the community.

After a closed session meeting on June 5, Trustee Mindy Herrmann made a motion to move forward, which the board unanimously approved. It authorizes the township attorney and Supervisor Mark Abbo to enter into negotiations for a purchase agreement, to be approved by the Board of Trustees, for the purchase of the former Scott prison property in the amount of \$1.

Abbo said the motion was passed in order to give the board time to perform some due diligence and better research the property's value and potential.

According to Abbo, the state passed legis-

lation pertaining to the property that states the local government (Northville Township or Wayne County) has 60 days to enter into a purchase agreement and 120 days to close it. This countdown started on May 23 when the state officially presented the offer to the township.

"Many, many uncertainties associated," said Abbo. "Whether this would be a good transaction for the township or not, we don't have the answer for that yet."

Demolition costs and cleanup are the major concerns.

The board believes the location is a prime spot and cited the proximity it has to the freeway and neighboring cities as reasons of its attractiveness to businesses and companies. It could also add to the push along that corridor for technology firms.

Abbo said the evaluation process will also include thinking about what the township wants to do with the remainder of its properties west of Beck Road, which includes the former Detroit House of Corrections property of 150 acres and 30 acres at the corner of Ridge and Five Mile roads.

The township has maintained that the 35-acre property should be used in a way that would benefit the surrounding community with commercial, retail or residential development and no longer be used as a prison.

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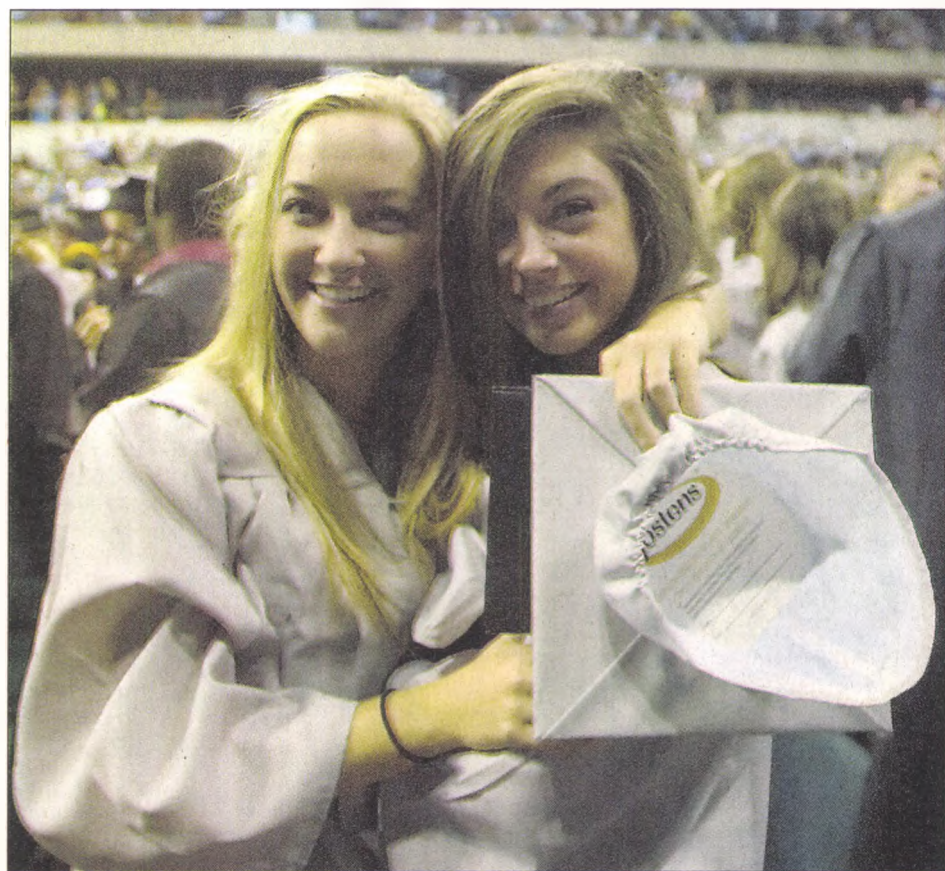


# Plymouth High Class of '12 flips its tassels

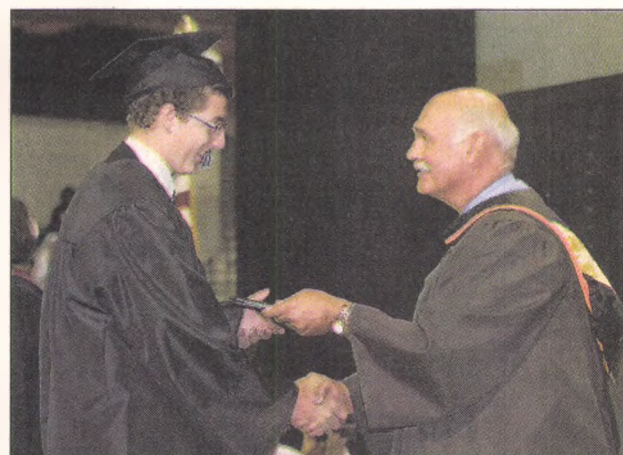
The Plymouth High School Class of 2012 bade farewell to high school in a commencement ceremony Sunday at Eastern Michigan University.

Members of the class are:

- Hassan Houssam Abdallah
- Roy Davonn Abernathy, Jr.
- Faris Deniro Abraham
- Anuraag Sai Aekka
- Stacey Jenae Agar
- Rizwan Ahmed
- Ahmed Abdul-ezaz Allie
- Michael Vincent Ambrose
- Brandon Anthony Ammons
- Eleanor Marie Anderson
- Kelsey Grace Anderson
- Navaira Anjum
- Gina Maria Annarino
- Lianna Danielle Arbuter
- Samantha Marie Arsenault
- Mariam Fatima Asadullah
- Alicia A. Ashton
- William Andrew Askew II
- Philip Frazier Atkins
- Shaun Ryan Austin
- Mohamed Hussein Ayache
- Nicholas Edward Ayoub
- Naureen Roshan Ayub
- Ni'Chelle Brianna Baker
- Porsha Jeanette Banks
- Jessie Bernard Barnes III
- Melanie Kate Barno
- Katherine Evelyn Bartek
- Kendra Caitlyn Bartkowiak
- Dalyla Camille Bates
- Nicholas Raymond Batt
- Amber Joanne Beattie
- Lauren Olivia Beauregard
- Raleigh Edward Belanger
- Baru Kenyatta Belin II
- Michael John Bell
- Everett Lee Benedict
- Madison Lynn Bennett
- Caitlin Roc Berdijo
- Clarissa Marie Berg
- Jessie Nicole Bergquist
- Victoria Marjorie Berlanga
- Andrew Ronald Berner
- Burhan Maqsood Bhatti
- Hufsah Shamila Bhatti
- Chirag M. Bhushan
- Jacob James Billings
- Erica Corin Bingham
- Kenzo Stephen Bird
- Rachel Rose Bissonnette
- Jonathan Paul Blomberg
- Valerie Elizabeth Bolterman
- Edward Miles Borninski
- Malcolm X Le'Roi Bostic
- Adam Tarek Boudjemai
- Kathryn Nicole Bowen
- Matthew Theodore Bracey
- Emilie Anne Bracken
- Taje Larenz Brannon
- Megan Elizabeth Brewer
- Evan Robert Brezovsky
- Robert John Brigham III
- Ryan Patrick Bristle
- Nathan Frederick Brocci
- Nicole Lynn Brodzik
- Aaron Matthew Brown
- Ijee Ikia Brown
- Christopher W. Bryden
- Emma Catherine Buchele
- Matthew James Bugajski
- Emily Joy Bullock
- Amelia Anne Burdette
- Jordyn Julia Burdick
- Rachel Nicole Burnard
- Alyssa Danielle Burris
- Mishaal Abid Butt
- Evan Michael Caccavelli
- Nicholas Michael Cadeau
- Nicholas Ramon Calderon-Wertzt
- Caitlin M. Caragay
- Bridget Anne Carroll
- Hayley Morgan Cason
- W. Maxwell Cassidy-Guilliom
- Stewart Edmund Caswell
- Sarah Rose Chapman
- Steven W. Cheung
- Priyadarshini Chidambaram
- Lauren E. Chipman
- Jeremy Robert Cigile
- Brandon Joseph Congdon
- Kellie Noel Connelly
- Alyssa Rochelle Conrad
- Kendall Elizabeth Cook
- Aaron Michael Cunningham
- Owen Ross Cunningham
- Carly Christine Curvin
- Zachary Amadeo D'Agostino
- Lawren Kathryn Dame
- Daniel Joseph Danes
- Jorrie Ann Davis
- John Domenick Deal
- Lindsay Victoria Dean
- Matthew Stephen DeClaire
- Evan Connor DeFoe
- Tia Renee DeNoyer
- Craig James DeWachter
- Avalon Alexis Dewaele
- Alexander William deWeever
- Sarah Elizabeth Dillon
- Ryan Austin DiRezze
- Mary Elizabeth Dombkowski
- Chawna Sharise Dorsey
- Christina Renee Dreyer
- Nicholas Joseph Durak
- Avinash H. Dutt
- Jalen Aaron Eason
- Austin Robert Ebeling
- Daniel Steven Edgerton
- Brian Duncan Eggenberger
- Nicholas Michael Eiben
- Christopher James Elliott
- Atalaya Dione Ellison
- Emily Kathryn Engle
- Caitrin Hope Engstrom
- Reagan Faith Engstrom
- Sara Marie Enna
- Susannah Jean Estoker
- Alexandra Nicole Ethier
- John Russell Etienne
- Aaron Donald Evans
- Hayley Elise Ewing
- Thomas Michael Fafalios
- Kenneth Nicholas Fanelli
- Alanna Katherine Farrugia
- Alexandria Marie Felts
- Megan Blake Fenner
- Jeremy Dylan Fisher
- Justin Hale Fitchett
- Phillip Michael Flesch
- Eshon S. Flowers
- Jake Bradley Fountain
- Jacob Robert Fowler
- Donte Marcus Fox
- Deondre Reinel Frazier II
- Nicole Erin Freda
- Daniel James Furlong



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Caitrin Engstrom and Brittany Guajardo had a big hug for each other at Sunday's graduation ceremony.



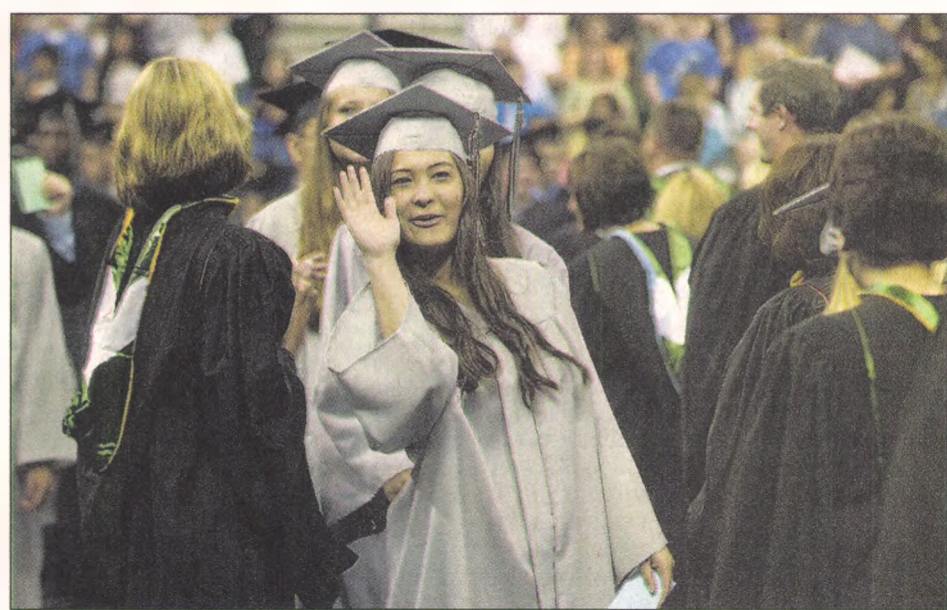
Robert Lowe accepts his diploma from board Treasurer Barry Simescu.



Caleb Kellark and Roy Abernathy Jr. before the processional.



Senior class president Rachael Hille speaks to her classmates.



Seniors march into the arena of the Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center for Plymouth High School's 2012 Commencement.



The tradition of tossing caps at the end of the ceremony.

- Allison Maxine Gall
- Zachary Paul Gambrell
- Kayla Nichole Garber
- Rafael B. Garza
- Jessica Lee Gaskin
- Derek Joseph Gielarowski
- Tyler Roger Goble
- Matthew Nicholas Goertz
- Andrea Lynn Gonzalez
- Nisha Gopal
- Lindsay Mae Gortlitz
- Taylor Loretta Grantham
- Ian Thompson Green
- Jack Coleman Griffin
- Bridget Marie Grobosky
- Brook Renee Grobosky
- Aaron Joseph Gromaski
- Elyse Nicole Gryniwicz
- Brittany Pamela Guajardo
- Brendan James Gudenburr
- Angela Mary Gudzinski
- Richard Frank Guglielmi
- Jihan Ibrahim Hakkani
- Manal Ibrahim Hakkani
- Stephanie Lauren Hall
- Mohammad Ahson Hamid
- Christopher Micheal Hannum
- Kevin Andrew Hansen
- Samin Haris
- William Patrick Harrington
- Brie'Annah Kay Harris
- Harpreet Kaur Hehar
- Joshua Michael Heinze
- Allison Charlene Heuer
- Ashley Elizabeth Hileman
- Bryan Michael Hill
- Jesse S. Hill
- Katelyn Marie Hill
- Rachael Mae Elisabeth Hille
- Michael Anton Himmelspach
- Lindsay Pauline Hirshman
- Kevin Patrick Hoffman
- Alyssa Janelle Hope
- Natalie Christine Howard
- Travis James Iacovacci
- Nicole Kathryn Ineich
- Andrea Lynn Jablonski
- Austin Robert Jackson
- Stacey Lynne Jedele
- Madeline Jean Jeffers
- Brett Bohan Jia
- Alison Ilene Johnson
- Evan William Johnson
- Christopher Spencer Jones
- Jaylin Marqeth Jones
- Kelsey Marie Joppich
- Katie Marie Justice
- Princejit Singh Kapoor
- Vasso Christo Karapatsakis
- Kelly Lynn Karst
- Benjamin Charles Karsten
- Jaspreet Kaur
- Calley Brooke Keithler
- Caleb LaRoy Kellark
- Amanda Lee Kne
- Rebecka Elaine Knox
- Nicholas Earl Kooztz
- Sarah Rose Koppelberger
- Robert Gerard Korstjens
- Kristyn Mary Kosmyna
- Katie Marie Kowalski
- Benjamin Michael Kramer



Elyse Gryniwicz flips her tassel to signify that she is now a graduate of Plymouth High School.

- Justin David Kreger
- Brooke Alyse Kreza
- Penny Mei-Yun Kuang
- Bora Kwak
- Samantha Marie LaBelle
- Maryam Lakhani
- Joseph David Langell
- Brandon Philip LeBlanc
- Callie Marie Lehr
- Emily Anne Lehr
- Rebecca Lynn Levergood
- Heidi Lewis
- Adam Christopher Liakos
- Luiza Wilhelmina Lica
- Kelli Jeffery Lightfoot
- Steve Lin
- Jessica Paige Linderman
- Kyle Owen Linfood
- Jennifer Meili Liu
- Abigail Jean Livingston
- Benjamin Shikany Lloyd
- Amanda JoAnne Lopez
- Robert Charles Lowe
- Victoria Elizabeth Lowe
- Ryan Gerald Lowney
- Joseph Lloyd Lubig
- Shannon Lynn Lubin
- Madison Marie Macek
- James Christian Maciag
- Erin Alexandra MacKenzie
- Matthew Stephen Macko
- Lindsey Marie Madaj
- Zain Umar Mahmud
- Blake Collin-Michael Mallia
- Marcus Manuel Mallia
- Aspasia Manettas
- Constadina Manettas
- Anna Rose Marchesano
- Isaac Andrew Marsh
- William Alan Marshall, Jr.
- Molly Faye Martin
- Todd Alan Maslyk
- Timson Mathew
- Benjamin Patrick Mathison
- Stephanie Eling Matsui
- Asia Jayne McArdele
- Betty Jo McGarry
- Richard JaLaun McGinnis
- Joshua Michael McGowan
- Lucas Ross McKinney
- Devin Juan McMillian
- Kenneth Mitchell Meiers
- Rene Adalberto Mejia
- Ashley Nicole Melnick
- Katherine Anne Mercieca
- Jacob Lacory H. Merrill, Jr.

- Kaylee C. Sistek
- Tiarra Shantelle Skinner
- Sean David Sniatacz
- Daniel James Smith
- Joshua Gregory Smith
- Madison Olivia Smith
- Marilena Olivia Soberal
- Steven Thomas Sochacki
- Jennifer Lynn Sochacki
- Anna Catherine Spangler
- Nicholas Michael Spunar
- Joseph LeRoy Stacey
- Natalya Renee Elizabeth Stallworth
- Kevin Lee Standifer
- Cody W. Staub
- Zoe Lynn Stelmazsek
- Lindsay Leona Stemberger
- Nathan Edward Stemberger
- Robert William Stolz
- Grace Kathryn Stover
- Jordyn Olivia Strahm
- Rachel Anne Sturtz
- Emma Sugiura
- Fitim Sulejmani
- Seema I. Sutariya
- Nicole E. Swartz
- Michelle Huq Talukder
- Amy Tam
- Kathryn Lynn Tavierne
- Christopher Dennis Teeters
- Steven Michael Thomas
- Eric Thomas Thompson
- Justin Edward Thompson
- Neellesh Tiwari
- Nicole Nancy Traitses
- Zachary Evan Treder
- Michael Jeffery Turk
- Lauren Nicole Turner
- Siera Rose Tyl
- Kiera Kyanne Tyson
- Alyssa Ann Uller
- Elizabeth Theresa Urquhart
- Zachary Louis Valine
- Jasmanjit Singh Virk
- Kristin Jean Wagner
- Paul Anthonie Walker, Jr.
- Shaakira Janai Walker
- Shourey Charles Walsh
- Samantha R. Walsh
- Angela Tian-Tian Wang
- Melissa Sue Wang
- Corey Anthony Watkins
- Katelyn Ilene Watson
- Alexis Taylor Weatherly
- Kayla Paige Weber
- Shu Wei
- Cory M. Welch
- Craig Leon Whatley II
- Davon Julian White
- James Donald Peyton Wilburn
- James Dylan Willey
- Chyna Shanice Williams
- Jack Thomas Knowles Wilson
- Zachary Allen Wilson
- Michael Lawrence Wolf
- Paige Alexandra Wright
- Edward Ayhancan Yashin
- William Matthew Yoder
- Nicholas Koji Yoneda
- Said Jaafar Youssef
- Tyler Michael Zaleswski
- Lyndsay Marie Zelenak
- Brett William Zeuner
- Aaron Mingyang Zhang
- Xiaoxiong Zhu
- Bryan Emery Zinn
- Kimberly Ann Zoia

## CHERISHED MEMORIES

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.





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All Natural Fresh Never Frozen Baby Back Ribs (3 pack) <b>\$3.99</b> lb. <i>Save \$1.00</i> Spare Ribs (2 pack) <b>\$2.99</b> lb. <i>Save \$1.00</i>	Amish Country Fully Cooked Bratwurst <b>2/\$7</b> pkg. <small>All Varieties - Italian, Hawaiian, Cherry, etc.</small>
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Individual Sugar Maple Salmon Planks & Salmon Kabobs <b>\$7.99</b> ea.	American Coldwater Lobster Tails <b>\$8.99</b> ea. 6 oz. <b>\$14.99</b> ea. 9 oz.

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Guy Fieri BBQ Sauces & Wing Sauces <b>\$2.99</b> ea. <i>Save \$1.00 ea.</i>
Pretzilla Pretzel Buns <b>\$3.99</b>
Lays Potato Chips <b>2/\$5</b> <small>All Varieties ~ Excludes Baked Lays</small>
McCormick Grillmates <b>2/\$4</b> <small>All Varieties</small>
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McClures Bloody Mary Mixer <b>\$5.99</b>

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Cherry Pie <b>\$11.99</b> <i>\$2.00 off</i>
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Joe's Banana Bread
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Small <b>\$2.99</b> <i>Save \$1.00 each</i>

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**\$9.99** *Save \$5.00 a bottle*

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Herb Roasted Beef Tenderloin <b>\$18.99</b> lb. <i>Save \$1.00 lb.</i>
Buffalo Chicken Pasta Salad <b>\$4.99</b> lb. <i>Save \$1.00 lb.</i>

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## Upbeat coach connects with kids

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

As a pastor and counselor at Berean Baptist Church in Livonia, Jerry Dorman basks in the spirit and spreads the good word to others.

"I've learned a lot of lessons over the years about how to talk to people, especially with the counseling profession, dealing with people that way," Dorman said. "Ministry is all about knowing how to talk to people."

To anybody watching him coach the 12-Under Mets Little League team of the Greater Canton Youth Baseball Softball Association, it's evident he doesn't need pews and stained glass to do that.

From the minutes leading up to the first pitch all the way to handshakes with opposing players, the Canton resident is dialed in and doling out instruction in such a way that even parents can't help but smile.

• "Remember that," Dorman said, helping one of the players work on his swing. Then with a pat on top of the helmet, he added "you're awesome."

• Another Met fouls off a pitch, but the coach responds with a friendly, "C'mon buddy!" The boy smiles and immediately has the look of confidence.

• "Angry eyes, angry eyes," said the coach to another batter, reminding him of the need to maintain sharp focus at the plate.

• Even when something goes awry, Dorman keeps



Coach Jerry Dorman (right) talks to his Mets U12 Little League baseball team prior to a recent contest at Plymouth Township Park. Dorman is an expert communicator and motivator who also keeps things fun for the boys.

PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

the mood on the upswing with "No problem."

His way with words and people are undeniable.

"If they don't do something exactly the way he wanted, he finds something positive to tell them," said Holly Byars, one of the parents enthralled with Dorman's positive impact. "It's just the confidence level. It's amazing what he's done for these kids as a team."

According to another Mets parent, Krisan Arbanas, the coach clicks with the kids because there are "no nega-

tive comments. Even if there's something they did wrong, he finds something on the bright side for them to focus on, to improve."

### Doesn't want credit

Of course, Dorman wants none of the praise coming his way from Mets parents — who credit him for how their

kids have learned to win under his wing since taking the team over in 2011.

Following the Mets' 15-2 win over the Indians last week at Plymouth Township Park Field No. 3, their record improved to 10-0. But one gets the feeling the atmosphere around Dorman and his squad wouldn't be much different if it had a losing

record.

"I can't separate who I am from what I do, no matter what it is, no matter what I'm doing," Dorman said. "I have to think of it in terms of what does it mean to live in light of what Christ has done for me."

"What does the gos-

Please see COACH, B4



Exchanging a fist bump before the game are Mets coach Jerry Dorman and player Jacob Kalinowski (No. 15). In the background is Kevin Swope (No. 18).



Teammates welcome Nicholas Arbanas (center) after he hit a three-run homer over the fence in left during the first inning.

## 'Cats to hold baseball clinic

The annual Plymouth Wildcats Youth Baseball Clinic is slated for 12:30-3:30 p.m. both Tuesday and Wednesday, July 17-18, at the Plymouth High School varsity baseball field.

The clinic is for "young aspiring athletes" looking to "improve their baseball fundamentals by receiving age-appropriate instructions from the 2012 Plymouth Wildcats baseball coaching staff and varsity players."

There will be individual stations for pitching, hitting, catching, infield and outfield play and radar gun readings.

Boys and girls entering grades two-five are invited to register. The camp is limited to the first 100 to sign up. Register ASAP at [www.baseball.plymouthwildcats.com](http://www.baseball.plymouthwildcats.com).

Camp cost is \$20 if pre-registered and \$25 the day of the clinic. Cost includes a snack. T-shirts will be available for purchase at the clinic.

## Irish's Yanik makes NCAAs

Notre Dame University sophomore Megan Yanik (Livonia Ladywood) competed in two events during last week's 2012 NCAA Women's Outdoor Track and Field Championships hosted by Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

Yanik, a native of Plymouth, was 20th overall in the 400-meter hurdles (June 6) with a time of 59.75.

She was also a member of the Fighting Irish's 4 x 400 relay team which finished 19th (June 8) with a clocking of 3:37.97.

For former MHSAA Division 2 state champion in both the 100 and 300 hurdles (2010), Yanik took 11th in the NCAA East Prelims after placing fourth Big East Championships in the 400 hurdles.

She also helped the Irish to a third in the Big East Championships in the 4 x 400 relay.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Madi Lewis (No. 14), shown squaring off with Kylie Knight of Salem earlier this season, won 2012 Gatorade Player of the Year honors for girls soccer in Michigan.

## Lewis scores Gatorade prize

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

Madi Lewis would like nothing better than to drink in a championship for the Plymouth Wildcats' varsity girls soccer team sometime over the next two years.

But for now, she'll make do with recently winning the prestigious Gatorade Player of the

Year Award for prep girls soccer in Michigan.

Lewis just concluded an outstanding sophomore season for the Wildcats with 24 goals and 25 assists to spark Plymouth to the KLAA South Division championship.

"I think the person-

Please see LEWIS, B5

## Work pays off for Houston, Troher

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

Wearing the blue and white for the Salem Rocks, the backfield of Marcus Houston and Nick Troher wreaked havoc on many KLAA defenses last fall.

That tandem is having another kind of success, as Houston and Troher recently signed national letters of intent to play college football. Houston will play at William Penn University in Iowa while Troher is set to compete at Albion College.

"Being able to sign to play college football is a great accomplishment," Houston added. "I credit the Salem coaching staff for training me for the next level."

"My success at William Penn will encourage football players to join the Salem Rocks football team."

With an almost identical reaction to signing at Albion, Troher emphasized that he is "very excited to play college football. It's been a dream of mine since I started playing in sixth grade."



Salem's Marcus Houston (center) is flanked by proud parents Irene and Anthony Houston following the 2012 graduate's recent signing to play football at William Penn University.



Recently signing with Albion College to play college football is Salem's Nick Troher (right), shown with (from left) his mom Athena Troher and Rocks varsity football coach Kurt Britnell.

Troher also gave a big assist to Salem's coaches for his college opportunity.

"I had a lot of coaches that believed in me

and set high expectations that motivated me every day," Troher noted. "My running back coach junior year, Mike Kerul, helped me a ton."

"He worked with me over the offseason and taught me a lot of useful things as a running

Please see RECRUITS, B2





MARTY SCENDEL

## Stalwart seniors

Eight seniors on Canton's regional champions girls soccer team are key reasons for the squad's ongoing success. Those players and their coach are shown celebrating following Friday night's 2-0 win over Saline in the Division 1 regional final. From left are Gabby Malec, Robyn Mack, Kalyn Barinti, Megan Trapp, Ally Krause (with trophy), head coach Jeannine Reddy, Kerstyn Hall, Alex Bryden and goalkeeper Danielle Schendel.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**BOYS DIVISION 1 GOLF STATE MEET**  
Friday, Saturday  
(The Meadows in Gr. Rapids)  
Teams include Plymouth, Canton.

**GIRLS SOFTBALL STATE SEMIFINALS**  
at BATTLE CREEK  
Friday, June 15  
Ladywood vs. Wayland Union  
Bailey Park, 1:30 p.m.  
**LIVONIA COLLEGIATE BASEBALL LEAGUE**

**Friday, June 15**  
(at Bicentennial Park)  
Bulls vs. Red Sox, 5:45 p.m.  
Cobras vs. Rams, 8:30 p.m.  
(at Ford Field)  
Pride vs. Outlaws, 5:45 p.m.  
Steel vs. Blue, 8:30 p.m.  
**Saturday, June 16**  
Rams vs. Steel (2), noon.  
Cobras vs. Outlaws (2), 5 p.m.  
(at Bicentennial Park)  
Red Sox vs. Pride (2), 5 p.m.  
**Monday, June 18**  
(at Ford Field)

(at Bicentennial Park)  
Blue vs. Outlaws, 5:45 p.m.  
Rams vs. Pride, 8:30 p.m.  
(at Ford Field)  
Steel vs. Bulls, 5:45 p.m.  
Cobras vs. Red Sox, 8:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday, June 20**  
(at Bicentennial Park)  
Bulls vs. Outlaws, 8:30 p.m.  
(at Ford Field)  
Cobras vs. Steel, 5:45 p.m.  
Blue vs. Pride, 8:30 p.m.  
(at Birm. Seaholm H.S.)  
Red Sox vs. Rams, 6 p.m.

## RECRUITS

Continued from page B1

back." The 5-9, 185-pound Troher, described by Salem head coach Kurt Britnell as a quiet leader, said he had seven colleges interested in bringing him on board. "Of those seven, Albion was the only one that interested me," Troher explained. "I did debate for a good four months whether to take the spot at Albion or to walk-on at Grand Valley State. "My decision was based on how the Albion coaching staff made me feel a part of a family."

**Temporary setback**  
Although Houston said he is thrilled about the chance to play D-II football, a broken leg suffered toward the end of the 2011 season probably cost him a chance to play at a D-I school.

Houston had interest from Wayne State University and Ferris State University before the injury prematurely ended his prep career. "Perhaps it may have cost me a shot at a Division I school (but) I think everything balances out in the end," Houston said. "I see the injury as a temporary setback, just a part of what athletes go through in the course of a career."

Now about 90-percent recovered, the 5-8, 170-pound Houston can't wait to put his smooth and elusive moves to the test against college defenders. As far as Britnell is concerned, Houston has

## SO LONG, SALEM

**About Houston:** Marcus Houston recently signed to play football at William Penn University. The 2012 Salem High School graduate was a three-year starter for the Rocks at running back and cornerback. He amassed over 2,200 yards of offense along with 17 touchdowns. On defense, he collected four interceptions. His parents are Anthony

and Irene Houston. **About Troher:** Nick Troher recently signed to play football at Albion College. Also a 2012 Salem grad, Troher started two seasons for the Rocks at fullback. He tallied 600 yards of total offense and five touchdowns. Troher, holder of a 3.2 grade point average, will continue playing running back at Albion. His mom is Athena Troher.



BILL BRESLER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Staying low to the ground and keeping his balance during a 2011 game is Salem running back Marcus Houston (No. 3).

the ability to do just that. "I've never seen a back with the vision, quickness and burst as Marcus displays," Britnell said.

"Wish we could have him another year."

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# Quarter blues

## Saline halts Stevenson baseball run

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

The good karma Livonia Stevenson had accumulated throughout the state baseball tournament disappeared in Tuesday's Division 1 quarterfinal held at the University of Michigan's Ray Fisher Stadium.

The Spartans, coming off a thrilling regional conquest just two days earlier at Grosse Pointe North, couldn't solve Saline starter Brent Vaccaro, who pitched the Hornets to a 5-1 victory.

Vaccaro, a senior right-hander, went seven all innings allowing just five hits while striking out seven and not issuing a walk as the 30-10 Hornets earned their fourth Final Four trip in five years this Friday in Battle Creek.

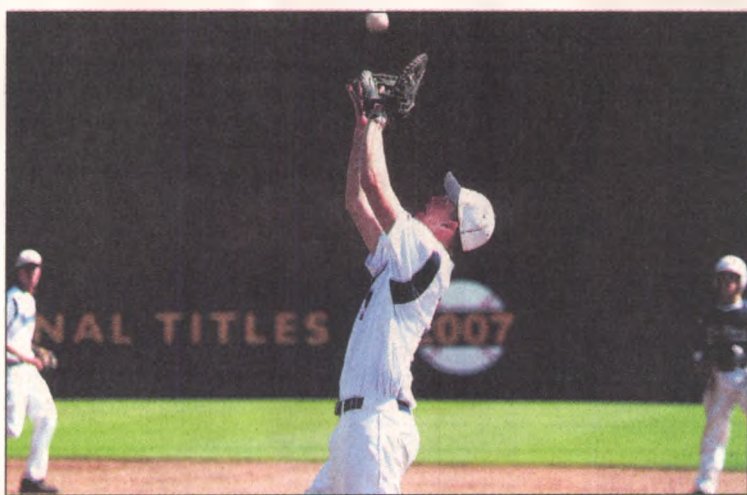
Stevenson bows out at 28-12 overall.

"He's been consistent like that all year," said Saline coach Scott Theisen of Vaccaro. "He's able to hit his spots. Sometimes he gets in trouble when he's up, but he did have good velocity and good command of two, sometimes three pitches, and that really helped."

Saline took a 1-0 advantage in the top of the first inning off Stevenson starter Jake Semak thanks to a double by Gage Hammond followed by an RBI single from Andrew White.

The Spartans evened the count at 1-1 in the bottom of the fourth.

Chris McDonald led off with a single, took second on a tag after Saline catcher Patrick Price made a diving grab of a pop foul at home plate, and later scored on an throwing error by the Saline second baseman (off



WILLIAM ARCHIE | DETROIT FREE PRESS

Stevenson's Nick Lagerstrom coralls this pop fly during the second inning in Tuesday's Division 1 baseball quarterfinal against Saline at the University of Michigan's Ray Fisher Stadium.

the bat of Mike Kanitra).

In the bottom half of the inning, Stevenson right fielder Brandon Jurczynszyn made key defensive play when he rifled pinpoint, one-hop throw to catcher Mike Vomastek at home plate to nail Saline runner Stefan Hastings, who was trying to score from second on a single by Trent Theisen.

The Spartans then made their most serious offensive threat of the game in the fifth when they loaded the bases with one out after Semak was hit by a pitch, Vomastek reached base on a throwing error and Travis Harvey singled.

But the threat stalled when Vaccaro got Chris McDonald on a strikeout and Nick Lagerstrom on an infield popout.

"We made a few mistakes behind him, and really, he didn't get himself into that jam," Scott Theisen said. "They (Stevenson) hit a few balls and got some base hits out of it. We felt comfortable that he was going, and going well. We didn't want to have to go to Justin (Goike) and the two runs we got in the sixth really helped."

Saline took the lead for keeps with a pair of runs in both the fifth and sixth innings.

Courtesy runner Brandon

Gordon scored what proved to be the game-winning run when he eluded a rundown at third following an errant throw by the Stevenson catcher after Andrew White had singled.

Mike Hendrickson then doubled home White to make it 3-1 after five innings.

The Hornets then added two more in the sixth on three hits against Stevenson reliever Mike Kanitra, including a sacrifice fly off the bat of Trent Theisen followed by an RBI triple by Hauck. The Saline rally was aided when the Spartans failed to cover a bunt by Hammond with no outs in the sixth.

"We had them in a rundown - it was just a miscommunication," Stevenson coach Rick Berryman said of the fifth-inning error. "You either go after them and shorten the distance, so you stay on the bag and the catcher runs them back. One was thrown to the bag and one was running at them to shorten the distance ... and is was just a miscommunication."

"But regardless, that cost us a run and not covering first cost us a run, but we still lose 3-1."

Stevenson, meanwhile, was out-hit 10-5, as Vaccaro retired the final eight batters he faced

to close out the victory.

"The pivotal part and the big changing part of the game was when we had the bases loaded," Berryman said. "It's obvious, we put them away if we get a hit with the bases loaded. With our fifth and sixth hitter we don't get the big hit and they (Saline) just knit-picked away with runs. We hit the ball well. We didn't hit pop-ups. I think we had six line drive outs to outfielders."

But it was the key base knock which eluded the Spartans all afternoon.

"We still need to get what I call 'the hit' that scores the runs," Berryman said. "But I'm proud of them. We hit with them, but they're a good team. But when you get a day like today the momentum swings - we get that hit with the bases loaded, it's a whole different momentum switch."

It was Stevenson first quarterfinal appearance since 2002 and the Spartans could be poised for another run next season as only McDonald, Lagerstrom, Justin Small and Peter Michalak graduate.

"We had a school record for wins (28) and that's nothing to be ashamed of and were among the final eight teams in the state - that's pretty good," Berryman said. "And we only have four seniors."

Meanwhile, Saline is knocking on the door once again after being state tournament bridesmaids four times (2010, 2009, 2008 and 1998). They will face Hudsonville beginning at 1 p.m. Friday at Nichols Field in Battle Creek in one semifinal. The other matchup pits Warren DeLaSalle and Howell.

"Throughout the season we've played a formidable schedule and I think we've been battle tested," said Theisen, whose team has outscored five state tournament opponents by a combined 51-4. "That's part of the scheduling that we've built."

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## Blazers cruise in regional

Piece of cake. That was the story Saturday as Livonia Ladywood garnered its third Division 2 regional girls softball title in four years with a 13-0 mercy rule triumph over Center Line in the final Saturday at Dearborn Edsel Ford.

Ladywood earned a bye into the Edsel Ford regional final after semifinal foe Detroit Crockett pulled out of the tourney on Wednesday.

The Blazers, who improved to 35-3, had little trouble with Center Line, which reached the final with a 4-2 win over Melvindale.

Senior pitcher Briana Combs did not allow a hit in tossing her ninth no-hitter of the year. She struck out 13 and walked only one as the Panthers were only able to get two balls in play during the five innings.

Offensively, Ladywood mounted a 15-hit attack with Celeste Fidge leading the way with two hits and four RBI.

Carli SanMillan and Michelle Nelson also added two hits apiece.

**SHRINE 6, HVL 1:** Royal Oak Shrine (20-8) took advantage of five Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (20-6) third-inning errors to score five runs en route to a Division 4 regional semifinal victory Saturday at Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett.

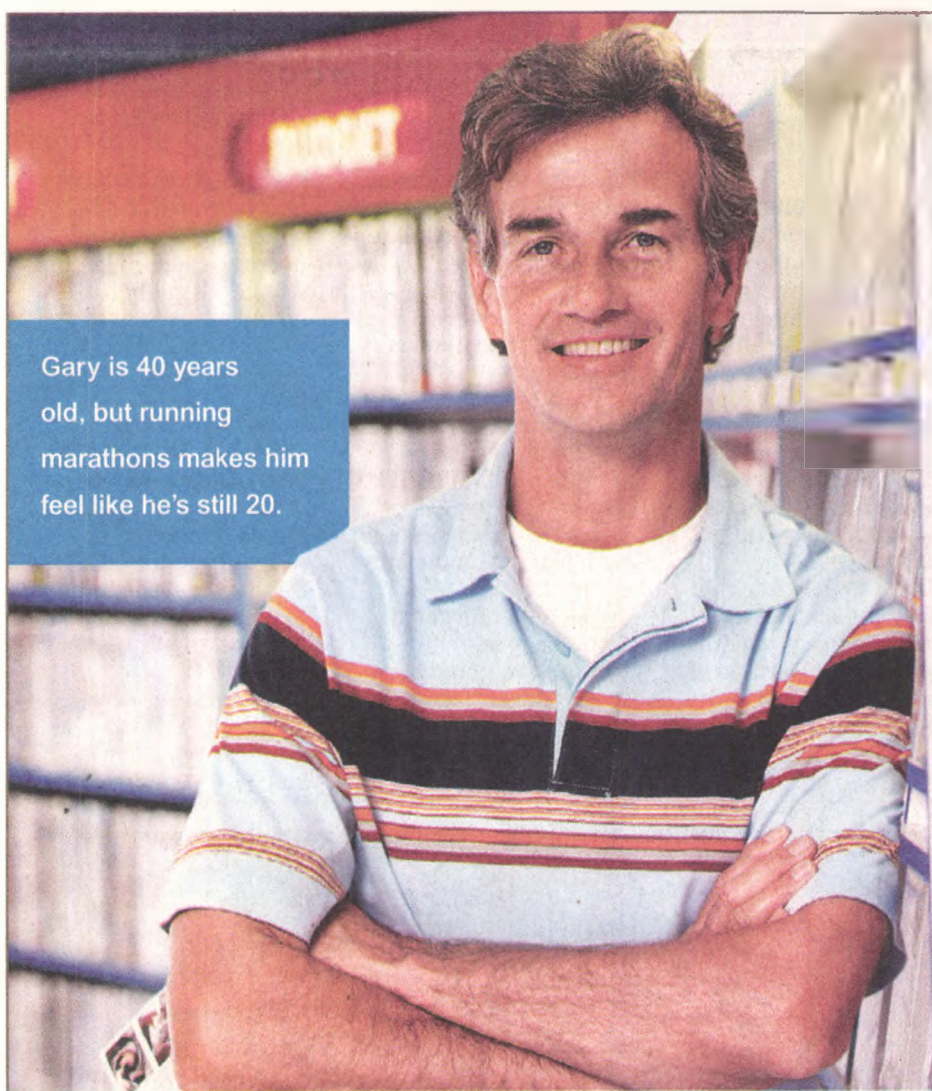
Winning pitcher Brittney Stuart held the Hawks to one run on four hits and two walks. She struck out four.

Losing pitcher Julie St. John allowed just two hits and all six runs were unearned. She struck out five and walked only two.

Freshman Ann St. John was the Hawks' top hitter going 2-for-2 with one run scored.

"We had a horrible third inning," said HVL coach Eric Ruth, whose team committed a total of seven errors. "We couldn't string a bunch of hits together. Most of our hits came with two outs."

In the regional final, Allen Park Inter-City Baptist improved to 27-7 overall with an 8-0 win over Shrine.



Gary is 40 years old, but running marathons makes him feel like he's still 20.

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# COACH

Continued from page B1

pel look like in everyday life, even on the baseball field. And that's why I don't even want to take credit for the positive approach, or the upbeat spirit, or the way I love coaching these boys."

One of the boys on the team is his 12-year-old son, Jared — the reason Jerry is coaching the Mets in the first place.

And first place is exactly where the Mets have been ever since the Dormans joined the fold, drafted to helm a team of East Middle School boys hailing from the same neighborhood near Cherry Hill and Lotz roads in Canton.

In 2011, the team went undefeated before losing in disappointing fashion in the playoffs.

## Sweet sequel

Virtually all of those players returned in 2012, requesting Dorman to be their coach. And the wins have continued.

"Last year was just by accident," Dorman said. "I said my son was playing ball again and I wanted to coach him and I put my name out there in the league. I begged them to let me coach."

"And then I said just give me a team. They gave me guys I'd never met before. And we put 12 guys together that we're just outstanding. Just guys that really wanted to learn the game. They were eager."

Among those players were Brad Byars and Nicholas Arbanas.

Last year was so much fun, they couldn't wait to get back out on the field this spring.

"This year we did all request him again. Last year we just sort of happened upon him," Holly Byars said. "We were undefeated, and a couple of the kids had never played ball before. By the end of the season, my son was considering trying to move up to a travel team this year, but he just loved the coach so much he wanted to stay with this team."

## Bringing it

Just a couple of weeks ago, Brad — the smallest kid on the team, weighing in at 90 pounds — enjoyed a big moment to win a game.

"We were losing 10-2," Dorman said. "We picked up five runs in the next to the last inning, we did it right within the time limit (1:45) so we could play one more inning and then the dramatics in the last inning were incredible. "And Brad polished it off with a two-run homer



Jared Dorman, the head coach's son, steams into third base during the Mets-Indians game.



Coach Jerry Dorman has his usual positive message for Gage Bitzer (No. 21) before the Mets took on the Indians on June 7. After the game, Mets players mobbed Gage and showered him with Silly String — to celebrate his 13th birthday.

to win the game."

Nicholas Arbanas also is swinging a hot bat. Against the Indians, he drove a three-run homer over the left-field fence to set the tone. He also blanked the Indians until the fourth and collected three other hits along the way.

"Nick loves baseball, absolutely adores baseball," Krisan Arbanas said. "His skills have improved dramatically the last couple years. His goal is to be a professional baseball player."

If he does, he might

someday point back to the years spent playing for Dorman as a turning point in his development.

Dorman wouldn't accept credit for that. But he (and Mets assistant coaches Kevin Swope and Josh Utley) would love to see any of his players keep climbing the baseball ladder.

And continue growing as young men, too.

## It's all good

"I really believe in a positive approach," Dorman said. "I love coaching kids this age because

they just soak it up like sponges, it's really kind of encouraging to see.

"I don't believe in yelling and screaming, I don't believe in calling out mistakes. I believe in improving and encouraging the positive aspects of what's going on, and telling them where they can make differences and where they can make changes."

Many coaches do the fist bump and helmet thump to encourage their players. But Dorman also spreads good will with opponents such as Paul



Rounding third base and headed for home during the first inning is Brad Byars of the Mets U12 Little League team. At right is an unidentified player for the Indians.

## JERRY & THE METS

**Who:** Jerry Dorman of Canton is head coach of the GCYBSA 12-Under Mets Little League baseball team, now off to a 10-0 start. He is in his second year coaching the team and had similar success with the same group in 2011.

**Why success:** Parents say the positive approach to coaching by Dorman, along with assistant coaches Kevin Swope (a Westland police officer) and Josh Utley, has a lot to do with the way the Mets have been a juggernaut the past two seasons. "Kevin and Josh are the finest assistant coaches with which I've coached," Jerry said. "Honestly, I am already trying to secure them for next year."

**Service time:** Dorman is a pastor and counselor at Berean Baptist Church in Livonia. He has 29 years of service in ministry, with the past 16 at Berean.

**Family:** He and his wife Colette (also a counselor at Berean) have three children — Eric (age 24), Brendan, age 22 and Jared, age 12.

**Coach Dad:** Dorman has coached all three of his teams in various baseball leagues over the years.

"I love it. I coached one of my older sons years ago in the Livonia league, at the same age, for two or three years and I loved it.



Jerry and Colette Dorman of Canton both are counselors at Berean Baptist Church in Livonia.

I couldn't get back into coaching any sooner than last year, being able to do that with Jared is just outstanding. I love it," Jerry said.

**Opposing view:** On the other side of Field No. 3 at Plymouth Township Park, Indians 12U head coach Scott Wright talked about coaching young baseball players in good times and bad.

"I enjoy watching the boys learn the game, watch their development over the course of a season, from the beginning when they can't seem to do anything right do the end of the season when they're making the plays they should be making," Wright said. "To see them make a good play and see the look on their face, it's worth a million dollars."

Fphister of the Indians. After Paul singled, Dorman congratulated him.

"That was a really good hit Paul, with authority," Dorman said to the youngster, perched at first base.

A few moments later, with a chuckle, he added to nobody in particular, "I want to pick Paul off."

Following the game, he talked about kibitzing with players on the other team.

Well, don't forget it's Little League.

"I feel we're out here to encourage baseball," he said. "I'm not out here

saying my team's great and your team isn't. I applaud good play all over the field. I like that.

"And it's rubbed off on my parents, because I hear them doing the same thing. Congratulating other team's players."

Looks as though the Golden Rule is part of Jerry Dorman's teaching vernacular, whether it's Sunday or not.

At least in the GCYBSA, maybe it's helping to launch a new kind of golden age.

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## Flying Cards

The Canton-based Great Lakes Cardinals 12U travel team won a recent tournament in Flat Rock. The Cardinals (18-6-2 for the season) won all four games in the tourney, defeating teams from Dearborn Heights, the downriver area, Niagara Falls, Ont. and Ohio. Pictured after the tourney victory are (front row, from left) Sean McCormack, Turner Donlin, Ryan Young, Lou Baechler, Joe Supernois, Danny Lanava, Ben Kandah, Sam Brusca; (middle row, from left) Parker Selby, Connor Ziparo, Billy Flohr, Dominic Dimaya; and (back row, from left) coaches Bill Flohr, Mike Brusca, Angelo Lanava, Jeff Dimaya and Sam Kandah.



## Shark attack!

The Motor City Riversharks 11-and-under travel baseball team — which consists of residents of Canton, Plymouth and Wayne — won the Total Baseball Invitational June 9-10 by going 4-0. The Riversharks upended the Waterford Angels, 17-3, in the title game. The team has also registered a pair of runner-up finishes in tournaments this season and leads its division in the Kensington Valley Baseball & Softball Association. Pictured are (front row from left) Ben Wright, Chris Savage, Jack Savage, Cal O'Donnell, Martino Zaia, Harrison Jarvis, (back row from left) assistant coach Mike Zaia, Dylan Savage, Liam Radomski, Ben Albin, Brandon Boyd, head coach Bill Boyd, Joe Watson, Ryan Berger, Jeremy Armstead and assistant coach Jim O'Donnell.

## SPORTS BRIEF

### Moldovan 1st in SEMTA 16s

Livonian Bianca Moldovan, a ninth-grader at Livonia Stevenson High, captured the Girls 16 singles title Monday in the finals of the Southeastern Michi-

gan Tennis Association Muthig District Qualifier with a victory over Mollie Fox of Bloomfield Hills in the championship match held at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.



# Blazers survive Elite 8 test

By Dan O'Meara  
Observer Staff Writer

After a bad start, there was a good ending for Livonia Ladywood in the Division 2 quarterfinal softball game Tuesday evening at Novi.

The Blazers overcame a 2-0 deficit in the first-half inning to defeat St. Clair, 4-2, and advance to the Final Four for the third time in four years.

Ladywood (36-3), a state semifinalist last year and finalist in 2009, will play Wayland Union beginning 1:30 p.m. Friday at Bailey Park in Battle Creek.

"We've been shooting for it since last year when we lost in extra innings," Blazers coach Scott Combs said, adding he was raised in the Cereal City and his parents still live there. "Battle Creek is a special place for us, and we're looking forward to it."

St. Clair started the game with four straight hits — the last one being a two-run single by opposing pitcher Brittany Schweiger.

Ladywood senior pitcher Briana Combs retired the next three batters and settled down after that. The Saints had only two more hits in the game.

Combs, who walked two and hit one batter, had just three strikeouts and relied on her defense, which had just one error, in the seventh inning.

"Some days when your pitcher is not as sharp as she should be — she was a little under the weather — you have to stay tough," Scott Combs said. "She limited them to two that first inning, and she shut them out the rest of the way."

"You're not going to have your best stuff 35 times a year. You have to get people out without striking them out, and that's what I was proud of

her for doing. "You couldn't throw anything up and outside in this wind, or somebody was going to pop it over that right-field fence. So we had to throw a lot more inside and work that way."

### Winning rally

The Blazers broke a 2-2 tie and won the game with two runs in the sixth inning.

Celeste Fidge, who was outstanding on defense at third base, started the rally with a hard shot off the foot of Schweiger for a hit.

Carli SanMillan followed with a bouncer through the middle for another safety. When the catcher threw wild to first base on Andria Gietl's bunt, Fidge came around to score.

Following a sacrifice bunt by Allyssa Kashat to advance the runners, Michelle Nelson put down another bunt for a hit that scored SanMillan.

"We bunted the ball and put pressure on them, and we're a tough lineup to get out for six or seven innings," Combs said.

"We've been practicing small ball a lot, and you need it because the pitching is just going to get better. You have to scrap for runs; you're not going to get 10."

After the fast start by St. Clair (28-9), the Blazers got a run back in the bottom of the first. Lauren Hayes hit a lead-off double and, following a passed ball that put her on third, scored on a groundout by Fidge.

Ladywood tied the score in the fourth after Fidge reached on a fielder's choice. Pinch runner Christina Meyer advanced two bases on a SanMillan single and scored on Gietl's hard grounder through the left side.

"It was a rough first inning, but we're a seven-inning team," Briana Combs said of the Ladywood comeback. "I was struggling a lot. My knee has been pretty sore, but I just battled through it. My team was behind me and picked me up."

"I've been there before (first inning). Obviously, it shakes you up, but I just had to keep battling to get three outs and get us up to bat. I knew we'd be fine."

St. Clair threatened in the seventh with runners at first and second with two outs. Fidge, who made a difficult catch on a foul ball near the fence earlier, speared a line shot by Bailey Dembinski to end the game.

"I was standing on third base and thinking, 'Here we go again,'" St. Clair coach Kevin Mahn said. "Then we hit a bullet down to third. That third baseman is a heckuva player."

"They've been highly ranked all year; (Combs is) the Gatorade Player of the Year. We put the ball in play and hit the ball against her. We have nothing to be ashamed of."

"Nothing surprises me with this group of girls. They've been doing this all year. I expected us to battle and play tough, and I fully expected us to win. It just didn't work out."

The Blazers had eight hits off Schweiger, who struck out seven and didn't walk anybody. The first seven batters in the Ladywood lineup had a hit with SanMillan being the only one with two.

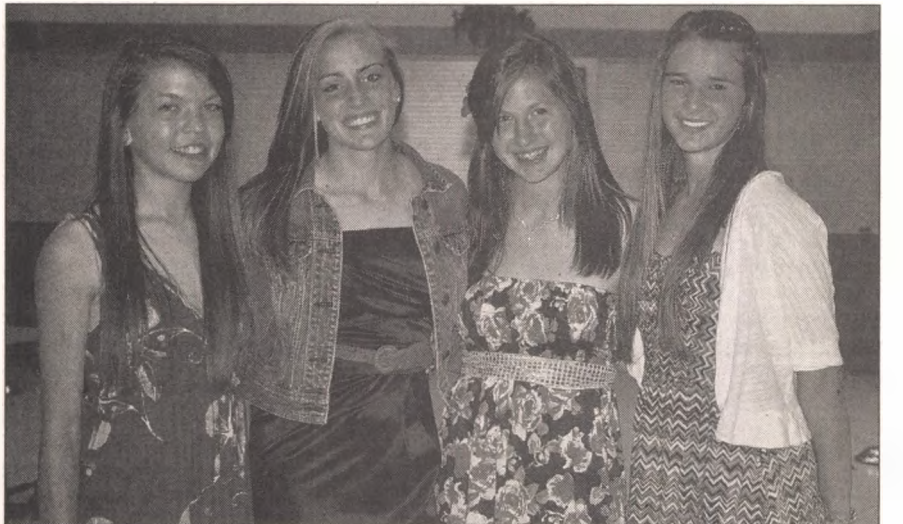
The season continues for the Blazers, and Briana Combs will make her third start in a semifinal game Friday.

"I'm really excited," she said. "We've been looking forward to this all year. We just have unfinished business; so we'll see."

### PREP SNAPSHOTS



Salem sophomore Kayla Kavulich (second from left) proudly accepts her medal for finishing seventh in the 1,600-meter run at the recent Division 1 girls track and field state meet at East Kentwood High School. Kavulich set a new Plymouth-Canton



Salem's 1,600-meter relay team qualified for the recent Division 1 girls track and field state meet. From left are Elizabeth Tripp, Kayla Kavulich, Kati Binsfeld and Nancy Krutty.



Members of Salem's state-qualifying 3,200-meter relay team include (from left) Elizabeth Tripp, Kayla Kavulich, Adrianna Beltran and Rebecca Lopez.

## Michigan Bucks continue winning ways, 4-0

The first-place Michigan Bucks chalked up another three points Tuesday night with a 4-0 Premier Development League victory over the host Chicago Inferno at Wheaton (Ill.) College.

The Bucks, now 5-0-1 (16 points) in the Great Lakes Division of the PDL's Central Conference, jumped out to a 2-0 first-half lead on goals by Stefan St. Louis and Tommy Catalano

before putting it away in the second half on goals by Zack Steinberger and Sebbie Harris.

Goalkeeper Sean Teepen notched his third shutout of the season in four starts.

The loss drops the Inferno to 3-5-1 (10 points).

The Bucks return to PDL action 7:30 p.m. Friday to face Forest City London (Ontario) in a key Great Lakes clash. For

ticket information, visit [www.buckssoccer.com](http://www.buckssoccer.com).

**BUCKS 1, FIRE 0:** In front of nearly 800 fans Saturday night at Novi-Detroit Catholic Central High School, Nate Boyden headed home the game's only goal off a Stew Givens throw-in at the 24 minute mark to give the first-place Michigan Bucks (4-0-1) a victory over the Chicago Fire (3-2-1) in a PDL Great Lakes Division match.

Goalkeeper Adam Grinwas earned the shutout for the Bucks, who were coming off a

0-0 deadlock Thursday night in Toronto against the host Lynx.

"We played some very nice soccer in the first half and probably should have had more than just a one goal lead," Bucks coach Gary Parsons said. "But our second half was sluggish, to say the least. "We allowed them to start playing and to get into a rhythm and it could have cost us. These guys are too good once they get into the flow, so we had to try and get back to our game plan to close this thing out."

## LEWIS

Continued from page B1

al awards are great," said Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich about Lewis' honor. "But she's shooting for the state championship, and she wants to be on the national team. (But) I think she's hon-

ored by it."

Lewis, a 5-5 forward who did not play high school soccer her freshman year due to being on the Michigan Hawks club team, topped a field of outstanding Gatorade candidates such as Canton's Ally Krause and Northville's Mallory Weber.

Recipients are chosen based on "athletic pro-

duction and impact," "high academic achievement and exemplary personal character."

Lewis, who has verbally committed to play soccer at the University of Michigan, carries a 3.83 grade point average and has volunteered with the Michigan Humane Society along with being a member of the Washt-

enaw County 4-H Club.

"She's got a great work ethic, she's committed to improving her game and she's one of the most dynamic players I've ever seen," Neschich said. "She wants to win championships, Madi's a team player."

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June

**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

**COURAGEOUS LIFE SERIES**

**Time/Date:** June 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. June 24. Series topics are "Fighters Versus Flyers," June 17 and "Team Players Versus Lone Rangers," June 24

**Contact:** (248) 476-8222



Kenwood Church of Christ in Livonia will screen the movie, "Courageous," on June 24. This is a scene from the film, which tells the story of four police officers who are also fathers, hoping to raise their children in a God-honoring way.

**GRIEF SUPPORT**

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m., Thursday, June 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. Thursday-Saturday, June 28-30

**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:** 2:30 p.m. Sunday, June 24

**Location:** St. Columban Church, 1775 Melton, north of 14 Mile between Woodward and Coolidge in Birmingham

**Details:** The peer group celebrates its 10th anniversary. Includes Mass, refreshments and fellowship. Enter from the rear of the building before 2:30 p.m.

**Contact:** Gerry at (586) 795-0477

July

**MOVIE NIGHT**

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 18

**Location:** Bixman Hall at the church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

**Details:** "The Way" will be screen. A brief discussion will follow the film. Admission is free and refreshments will be served

**Coming up:** See "Monsignor Quixote" at Summer Movie Night, 6:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 25 at the church

**Contact:** RSVP at (734) 425-5950

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 a.m. 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.livoniast-michael.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

**PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE**

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. Sunday

**Location:** Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

**Details:** All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service. All Creatures ULC describes the gathering as non-denominational and Christian. Water is available for dogs

**Contact:** (313) 563-0162

**PRAYER**

**Nardin Park United Meth-**

**odist Church**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesday

**Location:** 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests.

**Contact:** (248) 476-8860

**St. Edith Church**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday

**Location:** 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back of the church.

**Details:** Music, singing, prayer

**Contact:** Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656 or Geri at (734) 464-8906

**St. Michael Lutheran Church**

**Time/Date:** 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday

**Location:** 7000 Sheldon, Canton

**Details:** Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.

**Contact:** (734) 459-3333

**St. Michael the Archangel**

**Time/Date:** 10-11 a.m. Saturdays

**Location:** In the church rectory conference room, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

**Details:** St. Monica's Prayer Group is open to all women who want to support one another in praying for their children, regardless of age.

**Other prayer sessions:** 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. third Wednesday, includes parish prayer and Eucharistic adoration, with Benediction service following.

**Contact:** (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200

**PRESCHOOL**

**Ward Preschool**

**Time/Date:** 2011-12 school year

**Location:** 40000 Six Mile, Northville

**Details:** Enrolling now for children turning 3, 4 and 5 years old by Dec. 1.

**Contact:** (248) 374-5911 or e-mail carol.nowacki@wardchurch.org

**SINGLES**

**Detroit World Outreach**

**Time/Date:** 4-6 p.m. Sunday

**Location:** 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; room 304

**Details:** Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated. Occasionally includes guest speakers; open to the public and visitors are welcome.

**Contact:** The facilitator at (313) 283-8200; lef@dwo.org

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**GERMAN, ROBERT**

We lost an honest man on June 9, 2012 - just two weeks shy of his 75th birthday. Bob was surrounded by his loving kids Jerilyn German Petersmark (Frank), Dr. Beth German (Dr. Martin Garber), Amy German (Matthew Draving), Mary Ansbro (Peter), and Jonathan German (fiancee Carolina Floegel). Grappa to Caitlin, Christopher, Joseph, Samuel, Benjamin, Sarah, Nathan Robert, Evan and Ella. Also Tom Coyne, Joseph's dad. Kay (Kohler), the love of Bob's life for over 56 years, passed in November 2010. Bob's wish was to be cremated. Funeral Mass at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd, Livonia, MI on Friday, June 15 at 9:30 am (visitation at 9:00 am) and luncheon at 11:00 am. Please honor Bob's life by offering a kindness to a stranger.

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## Livonia native makes professional opera debut



By Sharon Dargay  
O&E Staff Writer

Jesus Vicente Murillo was at the right place at the right time.

Arbor Opera Theater needed a bass singer to play Colline in Puccini's *La Bohème*. Murillo, a junior at the University of Michigan, was ready to make his professional debut.

"How I heard about the heard about the part was I went to a showing of opera in a small black box theater. It was horrible weather that day. No one showed up," said Murillo, a graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and its Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) program. "I was sitting in the audience, maybe there were 12 of us and who is sitting behind me but the director of *La Bohème*."

Murillo overheard the director say he was in desperate need of a bass singer to play Colline after the actor originally hired for the part had dropped out.

"It was serendipity. I was right there. I turned around and said may I audition for you?"

Murillo will make his professional opera debut in the role Thursday, June 4 in the Lydia Mendelssohn Theater in the Michigan League Building, 911 N. University, on U of M's central campus in Ann Arbor. Performances continue at 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 15-16 and at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 17.



Jesus Murillo (center) portrays Sir Marmaduke in "The Sorcerer" at the University of Michigan.

Tickets range from \$22-\$55. Students and senior citizens pay \$15. Call the Michigan Union ticket office at (734) 763-8587.

### His role

*La Bohème* looks at young Bohemians living on the edge in the 1840s in Paris, France and focuses on Mimi and Rodolfo. Colline, a philosopher, sells books to pay his living expenses. In a last ditch effort to save his friend, Mimi, who needs medicine, he sells his coat.

"He sings the coat aria. It's a very famous aria from the opera," Murillo noted. "He sings goodbye to the coat and talks about having the coat all his life. It has so many memories."

"It's a fabulous role. I love it. Its breathtakingly beautiful moments still get me. It's such an honor to do it. I'm the youngest person in the cast by far and the rest are well-established professionals."

The fast-paced rehearsal process was unlike

anything Murillo had experienced in the theater. "The first day of rehearsal everyone had to come memorized. Everyone was completely off book. The first day of rehearsal we staged the first act."

The show is a major step forward in his career.

"What's different about this one is it's grand opera. In the past I've done mostly Gilbert and Sullivan light opera and musical theater," he said. "This is a full Pucci-

ni score. It's much more challenging and expressive, the pinnacle of operatic theater."

### Young singer

Murillo, who hopes to pursue a doctorate degree in vocal performance and teach on the college level, began singing at age 8 while at Adams Elementary School in Livonia. Through his school years at Riley Middle School and Churchill High School, he landed more than 12 lead roles

in musicals. He also sang classical music in the Ann Arbor Boy's Choir.

Although he performed in musicals while in CAPA, opera was a perfect fit for his rich, bass vocal tones.

"My voice is too heavy for musical theater," he said. "I have an operatic voice. It was natural to go the operatic route."

Two years ago Murillo placed first in the Classical Singer Regional Competition at U of M and made his operatic debut at the Detroit Opera House as the lead in *The Very Last Green Thing*. He studied Italian opera and diction on a scholarship in Piobbico, Italy last year and has performed in *The Mikado*, *The Elixir of Love*, *The Sorcerer*, *Carmina Burana* and *The Marriage of Figaro* while at U of M.

Murillo also served on the executive board of the Gilbert and Sullivan Society at U of M.

"I'm still taking a lot of classes, but trying to get more stage performance."

With four resident opera companies in Ann Arbor and many performance opportunities at the University of Michigan, Murillo isn't worried about getting stage time.

"I really want to thank all the teachers that helped me in my life. I wouldn't have gotten anywhere without my teachers. I want to dedicate this performance for them."

## Audition set for five-women cast

The Farmington Players will hold auditions for *The Dixie Swim Club*, 1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 17, at its Barn theater, 32332 W. 12 Mile, located just west of Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills.

The play tells the story of five southern women, all former members of their college swim team, who meet every year for a long weekend in North Carolina. The ages portrayed in the comedy are 44, 49, 54 and 77.

Audition registration will begin at 12:30 p.m. Call backs, if necessary, are set for 7 p.m. Monday, June 18.

Rehearsals will begin the second week of August.

Mandatory dates are Sept. 23 and 30; and Oct. 1-3, 5-7, 12-14, 19-21, and 25-28. For more information, contact Tim Timmer at (248) 568-7159 or e-mail to [dixieswimclub@farmingtonplayers.org](mailto:dixieswimclub@farmingtonplayers.org).

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Fireworks burst over the river during the spectacular Target Fireworks display in Detroit. The show is Monday, June 25.

## Fireworks light up the night

Get ready to "ooh" and "aah" your way through spectacular pyrotechnic displays this weekend.

Pick from two dazzling shows Saturday, June 16. Catch the Salute to America Fireworks at 10 p.m. Saturday, June 16 at Kensington Metropark near Milford or watch the annual Liberty Fest Fireworks at dusk in Canton.

Arrive before 5 p.m. and pay \$5 for entry at Kensington Metropark, located north of I-96 at the Milford Road exit. Vehicle entry after 5 p.m. is \$10. Admission is free with an annual permit. For more information call (810) 227-8910.

See Liberty Fest Fireworks at Heritage Park, located west of Canton Center and south of Cherry Hill. Or pick an alternate — and possibly less

crowded — viewing site, such as Freedom Park, located at the southwest corner of Sheldon and Palmer Roads, and Griffin Park, located on Sheldon between Cherry Hill and Saltz.

Livonia Spree's annual fireworks caps the six-day event at 10:20 p.m. Sunday, June 24 at Ford Field, located at Farmington Road and Lyndon. Steve King & the Dittilies will perform from 7-11:15 p.m. on ball diamond #1 on the Spree grounds. Some nearby roads, including Farmington Road between Schoolcraft and Five Mile, will close beginning at 7 p.m.

Head to downtown Detroit Monday, June 25 for the annual Target Fireworks over the Detroit River. The show is scheduled to start at

10:06 p.m.

Fireworks cap Sparks in the Park, Saturday, June 30, at Milford High School, 2380 S. Milford Road, Highland. Vendors with handmade products and locally grown produce will be on hand beginning at 4 p.m. Live entertainment and children's activities will start at 5 p.m. The Novi Concert Band will play patriotic music during the fireworks, which will begin at 10 p.m.

Plymouth Township Fireworks start at dusk, Tuesday, July 3 at Hilltop Golf Course, located on Ann Arbor Trail between Sheldon and Beck roads.

Westland Summer Festival's fireworks show starts at dusk, Wednesday, July 4, at the City Hall grounds, located at Ford Road and Carlson.

## Film festival focuses on Michigan theme

See comedies, dramas, documentaries and animation, all with a Michigan twist, at the second annual Reel Michigan Festival, Saturday, June 23 at Northville Art House, 215 W. Cady, Northville.

Tickets are \$5 for movies only, \$10 for movies and an after party at the Northville Art House and \$20 for an all day movie/party pass. They're available 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday at Northville Art House or at the door.

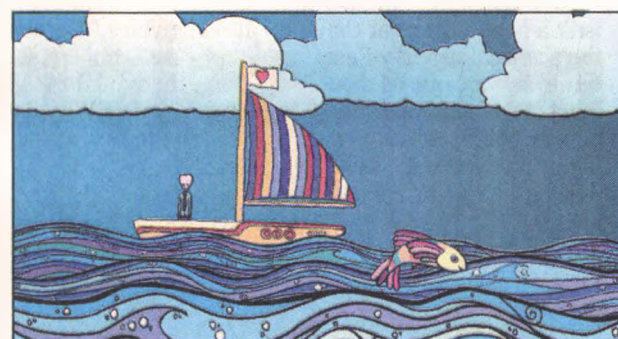
Michigan-native actor/writer Ian Minicuci will be the guest host. He is best known for his work with Ed Helms and John C. Reilly in the hit comedy *Cedar Rapids*. A veteran of 48 Hour Film Challenges, Minicuci has won awards for his work on both sides of the camera, including on-camera work in the Best Genre award-winning *California Dreamin'* and as co-writer for his work in the 2011 short *Apples and Acid*.

The after party will give guests a chance to mingle with filmmakers. Food and wine will be served and prizes will be awarded to filmmakers in several categories.

Here's the film line-up:

### Noon-2 p.m.:

*Me and My Bees*, by Charlotte Atkinson, 2:25, student/documentary  
*Tollgate Children's Garden*, by Lauren



A frame from the animated film, "Heart shaped man" by Kristen Miller and Roland Orzabal

Atkinson, 2:52, student/documentary  
*Holy Car*, by Mike N. Kelly Tonino Zaccagnini (producer), 13:07, comedy (language)  
*Corvettes on Woodward*, by Roy Oberg, 14:18, documentary  
*The Date*, by Chris Raby (director) and Philip Swanson (producer), 16:00, drama  
*Autorama*, by Roy Oberg, 10:55, documentary  
*Eddie's Casket Shop*, by Mike N. Kelly and co-producer Rich Jackson, 7:15, comedy (adult content)

### 2-4 p.m.:

*Heart shaped man*, by Kristen Miller and Roland Orzabal, 4:11, animation  
*Forgotten Fur*, by Susan Green, 21:11, documentary  
*Eternal Love Lost*, by Joey Harlow, 15:15, drama  
*Sherome*, by Michael G. Peterson, experimental  
*Amendment*, by Tom

Nahas, 40:00, drama

### 5-7 p.m.:

*Internet Guide to Debit Card Purchases*, by Terence Cover, 4:23, comedy  
*The Tank 2*, by Scott Galeski, 25:00, drama (language)  
*Pgad Felcher*, by Michael G. Peterson, 22:17, student/drama (language)  
*The First Time I Committed Suicide*, by Malcom X Johnson, 11:20, drama  
*One Door Closes*, by Michael Sneed, 18:17, comedy  
*Disorder*, by Jared Carlson, 7:47, student/action  
*Stuntman*, Aaron Greer, 17:15, student/comedy  
*The Last Broadcast Chapter One*, by Michael G. Peterson, 16:00, student/horror (language)  
*The Eve of Zurock*, Michael G. Peterson, horror  
 10:03, by Michael Sneed, drama  
*Thieves*, by J.G. Barnes, 14:01, sci-fi/thriller

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# Paddle a canoe, pet a camel, hear live music at Liberty Fest

Canoeing on the big pond isn't a new feature at Canton's annual Liberty Fest, but it may be one of the least known attractions.

"The people who know about it flock to it," said Jason Lombardo, recreation specialist for Canton Leisure Services. "It is isolated from the carnival activity. It's a nice time. It can get you away from the hustle and bustle."

Heaven Canoe Rental in Milford will rent canoes and kayaks during the three-day festival, Thursday-Saturday, June 14-16 at Heritage Park, located west of Canton Center and south of Cherry Hill. Paddling on the pond will be available all day Friday and Saturday. Festival hours are 5-10 p.m. Thursday, 1-11 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday.

Cost for canoe and kayak rides is \$7 per person. All riders must wear life jackets. Lombardo said the pond, at its deepest, is about 10 feet.

"They will have staff there who can get in the water and help out. Some people get out there for

the first time and end up doing circles," Lombardo said. "It's (canoeing) something that you don't get to do every day. Why not take advantage of it at the festival?"

The west end of the pond will be home to birds, camels and other animals that visitors can meet close-up during the festival. Catch Disney's *The Muppets* movie under the stars Friday in the nearby amphitheater.

Other Liberty Fest highlights:

- Fifty Amp Fuse rocks the Canton LIVE! Stage 7:30-10 p.m. Thursday, while the Amphitheater Stage features a Zumba party. Annabelle Road, Deep Fried Pickle Project — with music for kids — and Dymond Harding take the Canton LIVE! Stage on Friday. Earth Angels, Olympian Chung Do Kwan and Silver Sounds will perform on the Amphitheater Stage on Friday. International music and dance runs from 11 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Saturday on the Canton Live! Stage, followed by Big Will and the 360 Degrees Band. On Satur-

day, the Amphitheater stage will offer a dance and vocal showcase at noon, Canton Chiefettes at 1:30 p.m., Central City Dance at 2 p.m., singer-songwriter Pat Predd at 3:30 p.m. and the group SHOUT! with a Beatles tribute at 8 p.m.

• America's Most Wanted Car Club displays cars and trucks 5-8 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Saturday.

• The Liberty Run on Saturday will attempt to set a Guinness World Record for the number of runners and walkers dressed in Statue of Liberty costumes. The 5K will start at 8 a.m.

• A traveling 911 memorial will be on display 2-8 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday at Canton Fire Station #1.

• The Marketplace will feature artisans, crafters, community groups and local businesses.

• The carnival will be open 5-10 p.m. Thursday, 1-10 p.m. Friday and 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday.

• Fireworks wrap up the festival on Saturday.

— Sharon Dargay

## GET OUT!

### 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 business 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

#### 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:** 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

**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.

**Contact:** (734) 838-1204; www.vaalart.org.

### 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:** Mark Poolos, through June 16; Davin Rosenblatt, June 20-23

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



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## Plymouth eatery will crown Shepherd's Pie champ

By Sharon Dargay  
O&E Staff Writer

Peas, carrots, onions, ground beef and mashed potatoes — how fast and how much can you eat?

If you can put away a couple pounds worth in less than eight minutes, you might have a shot at this year's championship title in Shepherd's Pie eating at Sean O'Callaghan's in downtown Plymouth.

The third annual contest runs 7-9 p.m. Thursday, June 14, at the restaurant, 821 Penniman.

Co-owner Sam Khashan hopes to line up about 20 pie-lovers to down the hearty, stick-to-your-ribs comfort food.

"We see a lot of contests on TV and the Food Channel. We had never seen anything with regard to an Irish theme," Khashan said, explaining why he and his brother, Kevin, created the annual event. "It took off the first year. A lot of people signed up and came in to watch it."

"Last year's champion will be in it again this year. Last year's champ ate 6 pounds 6 ounces. That's almost like competitive eating."

Contestants will compete in two groups. The winner of each group will go fork-to-fork for the championship title, which comes with a trophy, \$100 cash, T-shirt, and bragging rights. All contestants will walk away with a prize.

Walk-in registration will be accepted if any spots in the line-up are available at event time. Spectators are welcome to watch the action. Happy hour will run all night.

"We'll play some fun music leading up to it, like a boxing event," Khashan said. A Michael Buffer-style announcer will make sure the competitors' stomachs get ready to rumble.

"It's a heavy dish — mixed vegetables and ground beef."

The gastronomic athletes will eat the same kind of Shepherd's Pie served in the restaurant.

Mashed potatoes top the mixture of beef — which is simmered in a Guinness demi-glace — and braised vegetables.

Khashan will watch the competition but won't participate in the fast eating event.

"I'm not that crazy," he said. "One (pie) is max for me."

## Bake your own Shepherd's Pie

You can enjoy Shepherd's Pie at home with this easy-to-make version courtesy of Kraft Foods:

### Easy Shepherd's Pie

- 1 pound ground beef
- 2 cups hot mashed potatoes
- 4 ounces (½ of 8-ounce package) Philadelphia Cream Cheese, cubed
- 1 cup Kraft Shredded Cheddar Cheese, divided
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 cups frozen mixed vegetables, thawed
- 1 cup beef gravy

Heat oven to 375°F. Brown meat in large skillet; drain. Mix potatoes, cream cheese, ½ cup Cheddar and garlic until well blended. Combine meat, vegetables and gravy; spoon into 9-inch square baking dish. Cover with potato mixture and remaining Cheddar. Bake 20 minutes or until heated through.

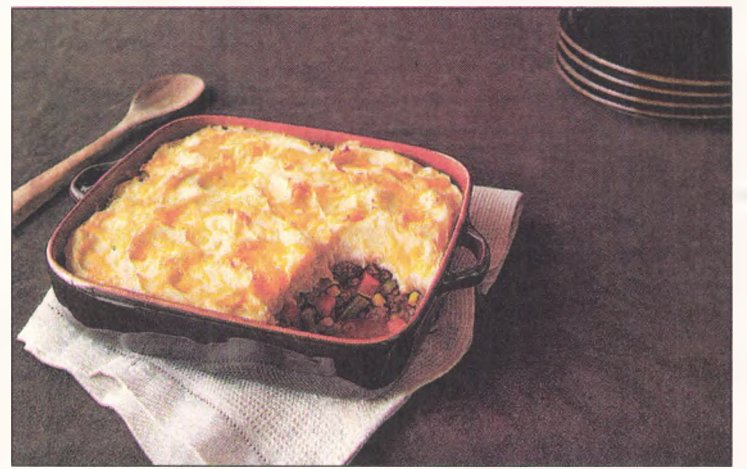


PHOTO COURTESY OF KRAFT FOODS

### Easy Shepherd's Pie

Healthy Living: Save 70 calories and 9 grams of fat, including 5 grams of saturated fat, per serving by preparing with extra-lean ground beef, Philadelphia Neufchatel Cheese and Kraft 2% Milk Shredded Cheddar Cheese.

Barbecue Shepherd's Pie:

Prepare omitting the garlic and substituting ¾ cup Kraft Original Barbecue Sauce mixed with 1/2 teaspoons onion powder for the gravy.

Note: If using instant mashed potatoes, omit the milk when preparing the potatoes.

## CITY BITES

### Festival food

CANTON — Liberty Fest, Thursday-Saturday, June 14-16 in Heritage Park, will offer several ways to dine and donate to a worthy cause at the same time this weekend.

• Proceeds from the Canton Firefighter's annual spaghetti dinner will help victims of house fires. Rose's Restaurant will cater the dinner, which will be served 5-9 p.m. Friday. Cost is \$7 for teens and adults; \$5 for children, 5-12; and free for children under 4.

• The Canton Lions Club's annual pancake breakfast benefits local Lions Club charities. Breakfast will be served 7-11 a.m. Saturday, in the north pavilion at the park. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children.

• The Canton Kiwanis Club's "Chicken and the Works" barbecue benefits several community projects including the Club's efforts to give dictionaries to every third grader in Plymouth and Canton; baby showers for Mott Children's Hospital; and its "adopted" schools, Walker Winter Elementary and Farrand Elementary. The chicken hits the grill 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday. Dinner consists of a half roasted chicken, chips, baked beans, roll and butter, brownie, pop or bottled water and costs \$8 before the barbecue and \$10 at the dinner. "To go" dinners with curbside service also will be available. For more information call (734) 710-1224.

• All proceeds from the Canton Rotary Club Fundraiser will benefit the Rotary Foundation, which supports many local charities. The group will sell a rice bowl with chicken or vegetables and a choice of four sauces, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday. Cost is \$8.

### Wine tasting

LIVONIA — Sample the wines of the Merryvale Estate, 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, June 20, at d.vine fine wines, 17386 Haggerty. Merryvale is a family-owned winery that has turned Napa Valley grapes into world flights for the past 25 years. Cost is \$20 for Wine Club members and \$25 for non-members. For reservations call (734) 432-3800. No reservations are required for Ladies Night, 5-9 p.m. Tuesdays; Wild Wednesdays, 5-9 p.m. Wednesdays; and Swinging Saturdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Saturdays. Flights are \$10 on Tuesday and Saturday. The next Wild Wednesday, June 27, will feature Ben Eberlein, sommelier from Fox Distributing with wine trivia.

### Ice cream and cake

PLYMOUTH — Stop by Three Dog Bakery through Sunday, June 17 to help celebrate the store's one-year anniversary under Gary Atkinson's ownership. He'll have doggy ice cream — Lickety Split — for canine patrons and cake for their two-legged pals. The bakery is located at 550 Forest; (734) 453-9663.

### Thai cuisine

FARMINGTON HILLS — This month's "Porch Party" at the Longacre House will feature traditional Thai dishes, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, June 15. Discover dances and music of Thailand, along with rice whiskey. The event is designed for ages 21 and over. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required. Pre-register at \$15 or by tickets at the door for \$20. (248) 477-8404 or visit www.longacrehouse.org.

## Decorate a cookie family for Dad

What better way to spoil dad on Father's Day than with a dessert made just for him? A sweet treat is a great way to say "thank you" to the most important man in your life. And, since it's his day, choose one that reflects what he loves most of all — his family.

The celebration experts at Wilton have created a fun and memorable recipe just for the occasion — Dad's Perfect Family Cookies. They're sure to put a smile on Dad's face.

Start with a basic buttery sugar cookie dough; roll and cut with boy, girl, dog and cat cutters. When the cookies are baked and cooled, it's time to paint the family portrait.

Kids will love decorating cutouts in each family member's likeness — remember to decorate Dad using his favorite colors. Use Color Flow Icing — special icing that makes it easy to outline and color almost any design — to "dress" the cookies. Or for a convenient, ready-to-use option, try Cookie Icing — simply heat in the microwave and squeeze onto cookies. Add personal touches with sparkling sugars, sprinkles, and other candies for outfits, buttons and jewelry.

Use these amazing cookies as fun place cards, or serve as dessert after Dad's celebratory meal. Pour him a cold glass of milk and let him relax and enjoy his special treat.

For more fun baking and decorating ideas, visit [www.wilton.com](http://www.wilton.com).

### Dad's Perfect Family Cookies

- 2 ¾ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
- 1 ½ cups granulated sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 ½ teaspoons vanilla extract
- ½ teaspoon almond extract
- Large and small boy and girl cookie cutters
- Dog and cat cookie cutters
- Color Flow Icing Mix
- 4 cups (about 1 pound) sifted confectioners' sugar
- Assorted Icing Colors
- Mega Sprinkles Tote
- Assorted Colored Sugars



Dad's Perfect Family Cookies

Preheat oven to 350°F.

In medium bowl, combine flour, baking powder and salt. In large bowl, beat butter and sugar with electric mixer until light and fluffy. Add egg and extracts; mix well. Do not chill dough; divide into 2 balls. On floured surface, roll each ball into a circle approximately 12 inches diameter by 1/8 inch thick. Dip cookie cutter in flour before each use. Bake same-sized cookies together on ungreased cookie sheets 8 to 11 minutes or until cookies are lightly browned. Cool completely.

Prepare Color Flow Icing with confectioners' sugar, following package instructions. You can substitute Cookie Icing if you prefer. Tint portions of icing a variety of colors with icing color. Outline cookies and "clothing" with full-strength icing; fill in with thinned icing. Immediately position sprinkles and sugars. Let set. Add hair, facial features, shoes, clothing and other details using full-strength icing. Let dry overnight.

Makes about 2-½ dozen cookies.

Variation: Substitute Cookie Icing for tinted Color Flow Icing. Decorate as directed above.

Courtesy of Family Features

## Satisfy your inner turophile

Is cheese a big part of your life? Do you enjoy it as a snack, an appetizer, a tasty, gooey ingredient in cooking? Do you know your Gouda from your Gruyere? You just might be a turophile — a true lover of cheese.

The taste gurus at The Laughing Cow offer this easy-to-make recipe for White Cheddar and Orange-Fig Filo Triangles to help satisfy your inner turophile. For more recipes and snack ideas, visit [www.TheLaughingCow.com](http://www.TheLaughingCow.com).

### White Cheddar and Orange-Fig Filo Triangles

- 1 package frozen filo dough (found in the grocery store freezer)
- ¼ cup butter, melted
- 1 jar orange-fig spread (such as Dalmatia)
- 6 rounds of Mini Babybel White Cheddar cheeses, shredded



White Cheddar and Orange-Fig Filo Triangles

Preheat oven to 350°F. Open fillo dough and unroll it carefully (it's very fragile). Keep the sheets covered with a piece of plastic wrap until ready for use.

Place one sheet down on your work area and paint with melted

butter using a pastry brush, taking care not to tear it too much. Place another sheet of fillo right on top of the first. Using a pizza cutter or a large knife, cut the dough crosswise (the short way) in to 6 strips. At the base of each strip, place a ½ teaspoon dollop of fig spread and a pinch of shredded cheese. Then, fold the bottom corner of each edge up to meet the opposite side of the edge and continue, American flag style, until the strip is folded into a triangle.

Place the six triangles on a cookie sheet. Continue until all fillo dough has been used. Then, paint all the triangles with the remaining melted butter and bake until golden, about 10 minutes. Don't worry if some of the filling leaks out, that's fig caramel.



## Red Cross offers tips for water, grilling safety

In summer, there are many things to remember — packing, grilling, and heading to the pool. But, it is also important to remember to be safe. At the Red Cross, officials are always looking out for your safety.

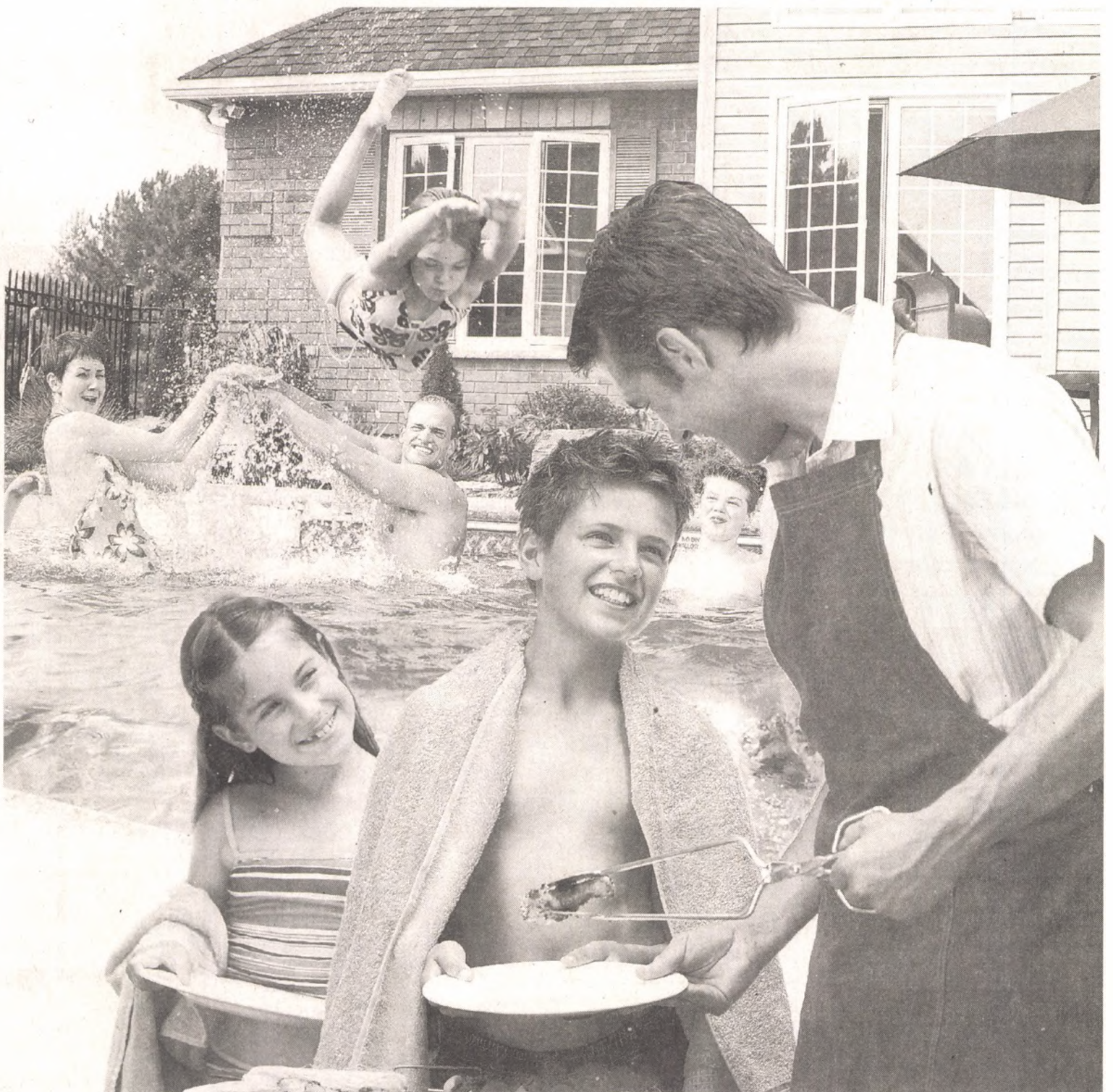
Learning to swim is one of the best steps someone can take to be comfortable and safe around water. People can contact their local aquatic facilities to get information about Red Cross swimming classes. Home Pool Essentials <<http://www.homepoolsentials.org>> (<<http://www.homepoolsentials.org>>) is an online safety course for pool and hot tub owners.

Other safety tips include:

- Swim only in designated areas supervised by lifeguards. Always swim with a buddy; do not allow anyone to swim alone.
- Prevent unsupervised access to the water. Install and use barriers around your home pool or hot tub.
- Maintain constant supervision. Always stay within arm's reach of young children even when lifeguards are present.
- Know what to do in an emergency. If a child is missing, check the water first. Know how and when to call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number.
- Have appropriate rescue equipment, a phone, life jackets and a first aid kit near the pool.

The onset of grilling season often results in injuries and fires due to careless cooking practices. The Red Cross offers steps people can follow to help stay safe while enjoying those tasty cook-out treats:

- Never grill indoors.
- Always supervise a grill when in use, and make sure everyone, including pets, stays away from the grill.



- Keep the grill out in the open, away from the house, the deck, tree branches, or anything that could catch fire.
- Use the long-handled tools especially made for cooking on the grill.
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when coals have already been ignited.

- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions when using grills.
- Be ready to close the lid and turn off the grill to cut off the fuel if necessary.
- Keep a fireproof pan under the grill to catch any falling ash or grease.

For full information on how to be prepared and to help stay safe this summer, visit [redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) <<http://www.redcross.org>>.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies more than

40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American pub-

lic to perform its mission. For more information, visit [redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) <<http://www.redcross.org>> or join the blog at <http://blog.redcross.org> <<http://blog.redcross.org>>.

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 9-13, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

**CANTON**  
41507 Haggerty Woods Ct \$112,000  
4348 Hunters Cir E \$62,000  
2449 Knollwood Dr \$68,000  
44656 Meadowcreek Ln \$130,000  
1591 Mulberry Ln \$150,000

2096 S Cavalier Dr \$147,000  
44477 Savery Dr \$27,000  
42726 Versailles Rd \$165,000  
GARDEN CITY  
33021 Barton St \$83,000  
32120 Brown St \$40,000  
28411 Warren Rd \$40,000  
LIVONIA  
31628 Arizona St \$80,000  
9610 Brookfield St \$105,000  
14628 Fairway St \$115,000  
18549 Gillman St \$40,000  
36557 Kingsbury St \$131,000  
10219 Laurel St \$102,000  
15537 Loveland St \$136,000

18307 Mayfield St \$185,000  
20285 Milburn St \$63,000  
35148 Orangelawn St \$96,000  
19555 Stamford Dr \$185,000  
14012 Sunset St \$155,000  
28707 Westfield St \$57,000  
16752 Woodside St \$205,000  
31748 Wyoming St \$88,000  
NORTHVILLE  
44745 Aspen Ridge Dr \$280,000  
22766 Poppleton Dr \$50,000  
39649 Springwater Dr \$120,000  
39488 Village Run Dr \$235,000  
PLYMOUTH  
197 Arthur St \$265,000

13080 Graefield Cir \$280,000  
553 Jener Pl \$173,000  
40120 Newport Dr \$92,000  
42420 Revere Ave \$125,000  
640 Starkweather St \$287,000  
REDFORD  
19636 Brady \$27,000  
12858 Centralia \$27,000  
17409 Centralia \$42,000  
25515 Elsinore \$22,000  
13525 Salem \$52,000  
26415 W Seven Mile Rd \$14,000  
25814 W Chicago \$50,000  
13584 Woodbine \$20,000  
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7396 Affeldt St \$44,000  
7358 Central St \$15,000  
32062 Clare Ct \$11,000  
8057 Coventry St \$32,000  
35418 Farragut St \$28,000  
33611 Hazelwood St \$29,000  
1930 Knolson St \$60,000  
35710 Manila St \$35,000  
7590 Manor Cir \$24,000  
7836 N Henry Ruff Rd \$75,000  
37160 Riviera Dr \$208,000  
1700 S John Hix St \$65,000  
30471 Steinhauer St \$32,000  
637 Van Lawn St \$20,000

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the weeks of Feb. 20-24, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

**BEVERLY HILLS**  
20605 Smallwood Ct \$380,000  
**BIRMINGHAM**

1127 Derby Rd \$57,000  
753 N Eton St \$59,000  
1544 Ruffner Ave \$116,000  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS  
4361 Pine Tree Trl \$370,000  
790 W Long Lake Rd \$140,000  
515 Fox Hills Dr N \$52,000  
1046 Stratford Pl \$179,000  
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP  
1795 Cedar Hill Dr \$290,000  
1415 Echo Ln \$379,000

4014 Nearbrook Rd \$330,000  
4520 Walnut Lake Rd \$425,000  
FARMINGTON HILLS  
22278 Arbor Ln \$182,000  
29972 Richmond Hl \$110,000  
21944 Tredwell Ave \$90,000  
30056 W 12 Mile Rd \$39,000  
MILFORD  
900 Deep Valley Dr \$350,000  
3060 Stone Meadow Dr \$1,210,000  
NOVI

51159 Brompton \$45,000  
24545 Cavendish Ave E \$395,000  
31110 Centennial Dr \$118,000  
24736 Highlands Dr \$150,000  
40607 Lenox Park Dr \$285,000  
51122 Mayfair Ter \$250,000  
41931 Ridge Rd E \$185,000  
SOUTH LYON  
60475 Nine Mile Rd \$315,000  
113 Eagle Crest Dr \$166,000  
23812 Lyon Ridge Dr \$61,000

23456 Prescott Ln E \$61,000  
26393 Shumans Way \$60,000  
SOUTHFIELD  
19965 Butternut Ln \$98,000  
25070 Champlain Dr \$33,000  
18662 Greenwald Dr \$40,000  
17315 Lincoln Dr \$60,000  
WHITE LAKE  
888 Suchava Dr \$65,000

### REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

#### Real Estate Career Seminar

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](mailto: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 Wayne 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](http://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@add-edvaluerealty.com](mailto:Georgia@add-edvaluerealty.com) or visit [FreeForeclosureTour.com](http://FreeForeclosureTour.com).

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@add-edvaluerealty.com](mailto:Georgia@add-edvaluerealty.com) or visit [FreeForeclosureTour.com](http://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](http://www.facebook.com/ASKREMAX).

#### Finance Seminar

Learn how to finance your purchase and rehab projects in and around Detroit. Hear from an expert in the lending business, Trent Dalrymple, who has more than 25 years of experience. Real estate and investment professionals are welcome. Seating is limited so call (248) 547-3006, or sign up at [www.metro-mi.com](http://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.



# Challenging fun for ALL ages

# Thursday

## PUZZLE CORNER

### CROSSWORD PUZZLER

#### ACROSS

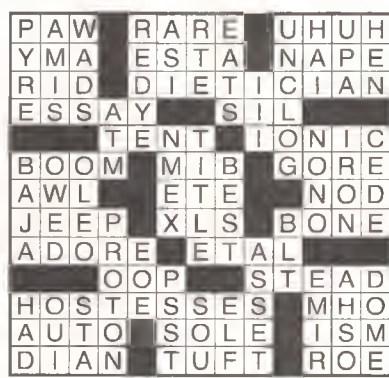
- 1 Dart about
- 5 Long March leader
- 8 Mo. expense
- 12 Pro follower
- 13 Mademoiselle's date
- 14 Compete at Indy
- 15 Opposite of nadir
- 16 Spacious indoor mall
- 18 Light refractor
- 20 Custom
- 21 Hung open
- 23 Eggs, to Ovid
- 26 Mr. Bacharach
- 29 Railroad car
- 31 Lady —
- 32 Mineo of old films
- 33 Polite address
- 34 Black-market
- 36 Ferry chaser
- 37 Cloudy region
- 38 Tasty
- 40 Rx givers

- 41 Plains tribe
- 45 Spanish-moss bearers (2 wds.)
- 49 Nudges
- 51 Haik wearer
- 52 Golly!
- 53 Reading desk
- 54 Hunger for
- 55 Naval off.
- 56 Comic-book mutants (hyph.)

#### DOWN

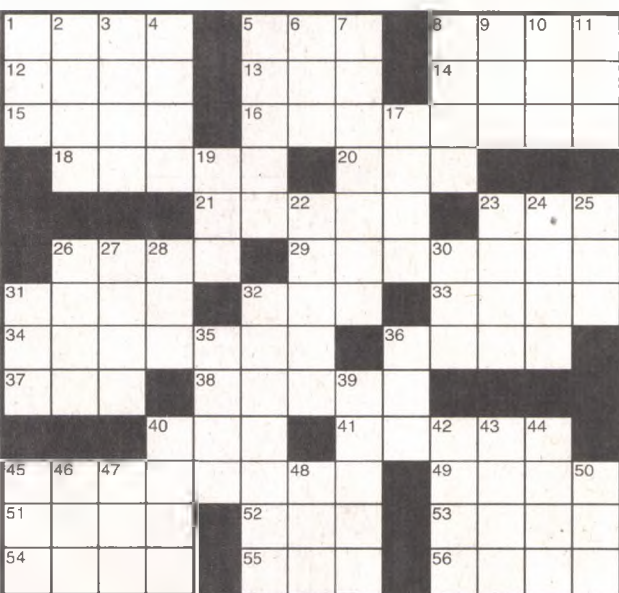
- 1 Monastic title
- 2 Reindeer herder
- 3 Centurion's route
- 4 Urban cruiser
- 5 Volcano emission
- 6 "I — — Rock" (Paul Simon)
- 7 Gulf rig (2 wds.)
- 8 Heavy hydrogen discoverer
- 9 Pothole filler

#### Answer to Previous Puzzle



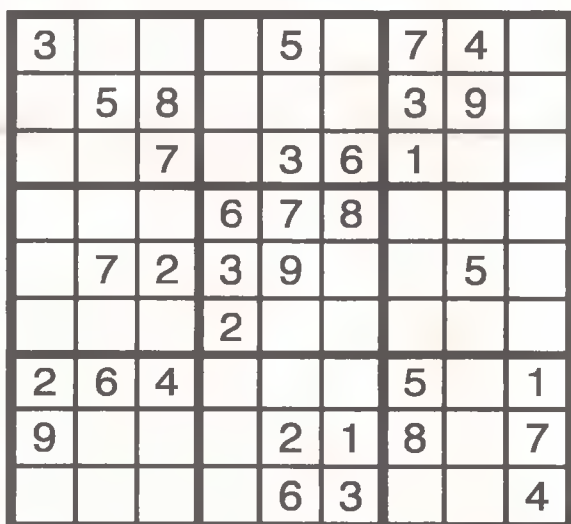
8-31-11 © 2011 UFS, Dist. by Univ. Uclick for UFS

- 10 Here, in Le Havre
- 11 Meadow
- 17 Take on cargo
- 19 Bilko's rank
- 22 Church ranking
- 23 Whittish gem
- 24 Scatoppine base
- 25 Jacket feature
- 26 Refuse to go on
- 27 Like many gargoyles
- 28 "Norma —"
- 30 Outback bird
- 31 PX frequenters
- 32 Pizza topping
- 35 Scope lead-in
- 36 Workout venue
- 39 Painter Grandma
- 40 Financial obligation
- 42 Comet rival
- 43 Mia of soccer
- 44 Xavier's ex
- 45 Ordinance
- 46 S&L offering
- 47 FedEx truck
- 48 Purview
- 50 Daughter's brother



Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at [QuillDriverBooks.com](http://QuillDriverBooks.com)

## SUDOKU



#### 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:

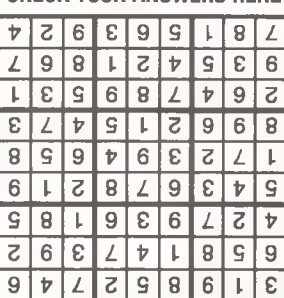
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric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

### Word Search — Invention

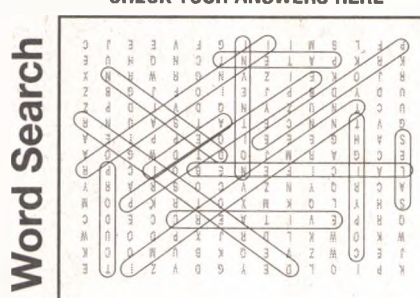


- Beneficial
- Copyright
- Creative
- Design
- Engineer
- Idea
- Improvement
- Innovator
- Invention
- Patent
- Produce
- Product
- Prototype
- Registered
- Sales

#### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



#### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



# HOMES

apartments.com  
HomeFinder.com

#### Homes



**MILFORD - BRING OFFER! MOTIVATED SELLER!!**  
Taxes non-homesteaded. 2012 extraordinary renovation with over \$250k investment in improvements offers granite throughout, extensive crown moldings, 5.1 stunning new designer baths, chef's kitchen, hardwood flooring.  
Jean Wells at (248) 872-6110 Coldwell Banker Weir

#### Open Houses

**By Owner**  
LIVONIA  
9060 Hanlon, 48150  
Open house Sun 1-4pm.  
Move-in ready 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, 1266 sq ft ranch offers 2 car gar., kit w/new granite counters & birch cabinets. Updated baths. New plumbing, electrical & furnace. \$129,900  
Call Don 734-762-9276

#### Apartments

CANTON: 1 bdrm, appliances & carpet, \$550 includes heat.  
PLYMOUTH: 1 bdrm, \$575.  
Year Lease. 734-455-0391

FARMINGTON HILLS  
Maple Ridge  
23078 Middlebelt Rd.  
Spacious 2 bdrms, C/A, \$300 sec. 50% off 1st 3 mo. w/ approved credit.  
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#### Manufactured Homes

**SUMMER SAVINGS!!!**  
Early Summer Special!!!  
3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Home For Sale \$599/Month\*  
\*All Appliances + Deck + Shed + Central Air Academy/Westpoint Canton, MI  
888-658-5659  
www.academywestpoint.com  
Own this home for only \$599 per mth. Includes site rent \$8,262/20, includes tax, fee, 16.5% APR, 12% on 3 yr + Expires 6/30/12. Financing arranged through Sun Home Services. MMLS #332675

#### Commercial/Retail For Sale

COMMERCIAL BUILDING with apt. 7262 Huron, Lexington, MI 48450. See more on Zillow.com or call: 810-300-3756

#### Apartments

FARMINGTON HILLS ANNGIE APTS. 1/2 off sec. dep. if qualified FREE HEAT! 1 bedroom \$505. 9 Mile/Middlebelt 248-478-7489

FARMINGTON PLAZA APTS Spacious 2 bdrms avail. C/A, heat included. (248) 478-8722

GARDEN CITY: 2 bdrm, upper unit, heat & water incl., quiet, clean. Mo to mo lease. SPECIALS! (248) 474-3005

GARDEN CITY: Lg 1 & 2 bdrm. Appl., heat/water Free. \$560 & \$600 + security. 734-464-3847, 734-513-4965

LIVONIA: HEAT/WATER INCL! Spacious 1 bdrm, wood floors, balcony, \$735/mo. 734-516-0541

#### WESTLAND \$300\*

Moves You In! Spacious 1 bedroom Private entry On-site maintenance Hurry, won't last! 734-721-6699 EHO \*call for details

#### WESTLAND

Hickory Woods Apts. \$224 MOVE IN! 1 Month Rent Free (for qualified applicants) 1 Bdrm-\$550 2 Bdrm-\$650 FREE GAS & WATER (734) 729-6520 \*Short term leases available.

#### Duplexes

REDFORD: Updated 2 bdrm, 1 bath, private bsmt, new carpet, great cond., safe area, no pets. Share gar. \$750 incl water. Sec 8 ok. 248-790-7848

#### Homes For Rent

DEARBORN HEIGHTS 3 bdrm brick ranch, bsmt, fenced yard, garage, \$850/mo. + security. (248) 661-9062

LIVONIA SCHOOLS- immaculate 3 bdrm ranch, 2.5 heated gar. No smoking/cats. \$1050 + 1/2 mo. sec. 586-291-9675

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

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

WESTLAND: Super cute updated 2 Bdrm, C/A, bsmt, appli, deck, new paint, carpet, hwd. \$700/mo. Sect 8 welcome. Agent, 734-646-4957

#### Mobile Home Rentals

FARMINGTON HILLS Own Or LEASE \$575 OR LESS

• Site Rent Included  
• 3 Bdrm, 2 full baths  
• All Appli. • We Finance  
• New & Pre-owned avail.  
Little Valley  
248-231-0801  
www.LVHomes.net

#### Vacation Resort/Rentals

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PRESQUE ISLE, MI Cabins on Grand Lake, near Lake Huron. Boats, firepit. (248) 918-1057 wishingwellcabins.com

#### Rooms For Rent

GARDEN CITY: Furnished rm, cable TV, internet access, a/c, microwave, fridge. No dep. \$100/wk. 734-421-2326

LIVONIA: Furnished, kitchen privileges, cable, washer/dryer, all utilities. Retired male preferred. \$360/mo + \$100 deposit. (734) 469-4902

REDFORD: Clean, peaceful home, large room. \$120/week. 313-281-8129

#### Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease

REDFORD TWP. OFFICE SUITES 2 Locations Beautifully redecorated. Great rates incl utilities. CERTIFIED REALTY INC. (248) 471-7100

#### 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-\$330/mo. Rob: 734-564-8674

## Reach

even more potential employees with an Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Recruitment Package!

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\*Offer valid on select homes only. Expires 6/30/12. WAC  
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OE08778971 V2

www.hometownlife.com

### Homes

### 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	0.5	2.75	0	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Gold Star	(800) 991-9922	3.3	1	2.75	0.5	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	3.75	0	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage	(888) 293-3477	3.375	0.5	2.8	0	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	3.875	0	3.125	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Gold Star	(888) 293-3477	3.25	1.375	2.625	1	J/A/V/F

Above Information available as of 6/8/12 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](http://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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prices! 734-341-6947

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Sr. Citizen Discount. Lic & Ins.  
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Plaster Repair. All jobs wel-  
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**FAMILY ELECTRICAL**  
City cert. Violations corrected.  
Service changes or any small  
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**A-1 HAULING**  
Move scrap metal, clean base-  
ments, garages, stores, etc.  
Lowest prices in town. Quick  
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Clean-ups, landscaping, seed-  
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& lawn irrigation systems, low  
foundations built up. Weekly  
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29 yrs exp. Lic & Ins. Free Est.  
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INSTALLATION.**  
Clean ups, hedge trimming  
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New & previous gardens. \$35  
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Wallpaper Removal • Int  
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**Leak • Roof Repairs**  
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Member BBB 30 yrs exp. Lic  
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Stamps**

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Age Comic Book Auction  
Saturday, June 16th @ 12  
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SHAFTS: Adam's Irons 3, 4, 5  
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**CATS:** Fixed rescues & 2 male,  
9 wk old kittens, must stay  
together, need loving homes.  
248-738-4901, 248-214-9898

**KITTENS:**  
6 wks. old. To good homes.  
Call: (248) 887-4566

**Dogs**

**BULL MASTIFF  
TERRIER MIX PUPPIES:**  
Parents on site, shots,  
wormed, \$300. 734-516-4169

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**LOST:** Cockatiel, gray w/yel-  
low face and orange cheeks.  
Metal band on 1 leg. Name is  
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and have them contact Joanne.

**CAREGIVER**  
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Call Eva: (248) 474-7105

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Premier, Burg, AWD, Loaded.  
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pw, full service history, 1  
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DEALER  
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